

CORAL Liaison Report – 2002 / 2003 and Latin America 2004 Conference Report

A. Fernando C. Infantosi

The 13th Annual AdCom Meeting of CORAL, the Latin American Regional Council on Biomedical Engineering, an organization co-sponsored by the IFMBE and IEEE/EMBS, took place in Monterrey (México), in 6th November 2002, during the 25th Mexican Congress of Biomedical Engineering in November 2002. Delegates of national biomedical societies from Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico attended this meeting. Also, members of the EMBS chapters from these countries and observers from Colombia in CORAL XIII.

As IFMBE liaison, Prof. Fernando Infantosi made a report of the Federation activities and the Sidney' 2003 World Congress. The former president of CORAL, Prof. Monzon, informed about the 25th Annual International Conference that will be held at Cancun (Mexico) in September 2003. Delegates of the national societies reported on the biomedical engineering activities that had taken place in their countries for the last year and about the future national conferences.

The 18th Brazilian Congress on Biomedical Engineering was held in São José dos Campos, São Paulo, September 2002. For this bi-annual event, 505 papers were published, 345 of those being full papers and 160 abstracts. Some 500 attendees were present. It was a four-day long meeting, with papers distributed in 22 thematic sessions. Seven invited lecturers from Brazil and abroad, such as Prof. B.C. Wilson (Canada) and Prof. J.R. I Mas (Spain), delivered short courses. During the conference, an equipment fair with 25 expositors was organized. This fair contributed to a high exposure of the biomedical engineering field among the general public. In November 2002, the Mexican Congress on Biomedical Engineering will be held in Monterrey, Mexico. The V Congress of the Cuban Society of Bioengineering was held in La Habana, in February 2003.

The **3rd Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering**, a joint event with the XIX Brazilian Congress on Biomedical Engineering, will be held from 22 to 25 September 2004, in João Pessoa, Paraíba, Brazil (<http://www.sbeb.org.br>). Although sponsored by the Latin American Regional Council on Biomedical Engineering (CORAL) and the Brazilian Biomedical Engineering Society (SBEB), the need of support from IFMBE and EMBS was emphasized. This Congress will gather Biomedical Engineering scientists from the Americas and other continents, presenting their latest research results. In organizing this meeting, we are aiming to repeat the success of the two previous Latin American Congresses on Biomedical Engineering held in Mazatlán (1998) and Havana (2001).

Strategically located at the most easterly point of the Americas, João Pessoa is privileged by beautiful beaches, with transparent and warm waters, in addition to its rich cultural and historical assets. We invite professionals in Biomedical Engineering and Medical Physics to participate in this important event, and to bring their contribution to the further development of our discipline in Latin America. Come to share your scientific expertise with us and enjoy our beautiful João Pessoa.

In order to promote the 3rd Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering and EMBS 25th Annual International Conference **special issues of the Brazilian Journal on Biomedical Engineering** dedicated to Latin America will be published in 2003 and 2004. In these issues the best papers will be awarded with free registration to the Conferences. The call for papers has been already published in the last issues of RBEB, informing the rules and the important dates.

The **4th Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering** will be held in the Margarita Island - Venezuela in 2007, and so it will be hosted by the Venezuelan Society of Biomedical Engineering. In order to promote this event special issues of the Argentinean or Mexican biomedical engineering journals dedicated to Latin America will be published in 2005 and 2006.

The CORAL electronic **Bulletin of Clinical Engineering in Latin America** is under construction. The first issue of it is already available (<http://www.ieb.ufsc.br/latingclin>).



Strategically located at the most easterly point of the Americas, João Pessoa is privileged by beautiful beaches, with transparent and warm waters, in addition to its rich cultural and historical assets. Founded in 1585 it is the third oldest city in Brazil and, according to the United Nations Organization, the second greenest city of the world. It has a population of 600 thousand inhabitants and the people are known for its joy and hospitality. Come to share your scientific expertise with us and enjoy our beautiful João Pessoa. Bring your contribution to the further development of our discipline in Latin America.

