



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR MEDICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Affiliated with the International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine

Minutes from AC meeting, Reykjavik, Iceland, 16 - 17 June 2002.

- Present: Dov Jaron (President)
Joachim Nagel (Vice President)
Heikki Terio (Secretary General)
Joe Barbenel
Walter Chang
Didier Geiger
Fernando Infantosi
Myoungho Lee
Jos Spaan
- Invited: Alan Murray (MBEC Editor)
Ratko Magjarevic (IFMBE News Editor)
Makoto Kikuchi (Chair New Initiatives Committee)
- Absent with notice: Janie Fouke
Jean-Pierre Morucci
Marc Nyssen
Mladen Poluta

1. **Opening.**
Dov Jaron opens the meeting and welcomes all the AC members and the invited persons.
2. **Approval of the agenda and matters arising.**
The following new items were proposed to be added to the agenda:
8.4. Welcome package
14.6.7 Modification to Bylaws for US Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
14.22 Membership Committee report
15.5 Report from Proteom Group Europe
Jos Spaan moved to approve the agenda with the additions. Joachim Nagel seconded and the agenda was approved with the additions unanimously.
3. **Approval of minutes**
AC meeting in Pula, Croatia, June 10 - 11, 2001.
Fernando Infantosi moved to approve the minutes. Didier Geiger seconded. The minutes were approved with one abstention.
4. **Officer's Reports**
 - 4.1 **President's Remarks**
President Dov Jaron briefed his report, [attachment 1](#). He discussed the progress that has taken place since the last Officers' meeting.
 - 4.2 **Report from the Officers' meeting in Sydney, January 26-27, 2002.**
Minutes from the meeting were distributed in advance to the AC-members. They are also available on the homepage.
 - 4.3 **Secretary General's Report**
Secretary General Heikki Terio briefed his report, [attachment 2](#).
 - 4.4 **Treasurer's/Finance Committee Report**
Treasurer's report, which included the report from the Finance Committee (item 14.3) was discussed by the AC-meeting, [attachment 3](#).
Mladen Poluta suggests in his report that an interim committee or task force would be

established to critically and constructively review the activities of the various IFMBE structures. Dov Jaron will ask if Richard Kirsner could chair this group.

It was also noted that several countries are in substantial arrears. Fernando Infantosi moved that Mladen Poluta send letter to the Societies that are in arrears and tell the Societies that they will be excluded from the Federation if they do not pay. Jos Spaan made a friendly amendment to this motion stating "after making sure the Societies really are in arrears". This letter will contain also an invoice of the back dues. Myoungho Lee seconded. The motion was approved.

5. Reports on Action Items

The list of action items was distributed to the AC members prior to this meeting. This list is attached ([attachment 4](#)) with the updated status of the items. A new list of action items is made based on this list.

6. Budget 2003

Mladen Poluta submitted a proposal for 2003 Budget. It was noticed that the submitted draft budget 2003 did not contain more than one item with a budget request, namely the £2000 request from CORAL/Latin America liaison. Therefore, most of the budget 2003 items have the same sum as the budget 2002. The income from the MBEC profit share was presumed to follow the trend from the previous years and therefore it was proposed to be raised to £50000. Joachim Nagel requested £5000 for the Awards Committee activity prior the WC2003. The lump sum of £5000 for other committees was reduced to £2000. The Regional Liaison for Africa was proposed to get £1000 and £1500 was allocated to cover conference losses. There were no requests of conference loans for 2003. Joachim Nagel moved to approve the 2003 budget ([attachment 5](#)). Fernando Infantosi seconded. The budget for 2003 was approved with 7 votes. There were 2 abstentions.

7. IOMP proposal to change the time cycle of the World Congress for Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering.

The IOMP Secretary General sent a letter the 31st of May to the Presidents of IFMBE and IUPESM to inform them that the IOMP Council is considering a proposal to change the time cycle of the World Congress (WC) for Medical Physics and Bioengineering ([attachment 6](#)).

Jos Spaan said that it is not in IFMBE's interest to change the period of WC. Fernando Infantosi said that it is unacceptable and Joe Barbenel said that the IFMBE AC can discuss the disadvantages and advantages of changing the WC period, but it is not for us to discuss the reasons and objectives that IOMP has for the proposal. One disadvantage is that the term of 4 years is too long time between the General Assemblies. The term for Officers and AC members would be too long too. The IOMP plan to arrange a Medical Physics Conference in Europe in 2005 jeopardises the 2006 WC in Seoul. The proposal jeopardises also the IUPESM membership of ICSU.

It was also concluded that changing the normal interval between World Congresses (strictly General Assemblies) would require an amendment to Bylaw 1a) of the Constitution of IUPESM. It would, therefore, require approval by two-thirds of those voting at the 2003 WC unless an emergency GA was called.

A straw vote was carried out and all AC members present were against the IOMP proposal.

Jos Spaan was asked to draft an official letter from IFMBE AC to the IOMP Council, which explains the IFMBE standpoint in this matter. Joe Barbenel was asked to call to Keith Boddy, the former IUPESM President, and discuss with him this matter.

8. IFMBE Membership

8.1 New National Societies (France, Venezuela, New Zealand)

The Société Française de Génie Biologique et Médical (SFGBM) had sent the correctly filled application form and the statutes in French to the Secretary General, who had distributed the document to the Constitution and By-law committee. In the

cover letter, Alain Herment the secretary of SFGBM, announced that the English version of the statutes will be sent soon to the Secretary General via Niilo Saranummi. However, the statutes did not arrive before the AC meeting. Heikki Terio was asked to send a reminder to the representatives of SFGBM and ask them to send the English version. After the English version has been distributed, the Constitution and By-law Committee can revise it and ask the AC recommend to the GA to admit SFGBM as a member. This vote will be made by e-mail.

The Venezuela Bioengineering Society (SOVBE) has not filled out the official application form and therefore the Constitution and By-law Committee has not been able to review the application. Heikki Terio was asked to contact the Venezuelan secretary and ask him to fill the form out and send it back. Thereafter the Constitution and By-law Committee can review it and ask the AC to recommend to the GA to admit Venezuela as a member. This vote will be made by e-mail.

During the Officers' meeting in Sydney in January 2002, Richard Kirsner did not see any reason why the New Zealand Branch of the Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers can not form their own society. Dov Jaron asked Richard Kirsner to contact the New Zealand Branch and tell them that it is most appropriate for them to form their own society and become member of the IFMBE. Joe Barbenel was asked to contact Richard Kirsner and ask him about the results of the discussions between Richard Kirsner and the representatives of the New Zealand Branch.

8.2 **Multiple national members**

The consensus of the AC after the meeting in Pula was that IFMBE should be able to admit multiple national societies. The Constitution & By-law Committee was asked to prepare a proposal, which does not threaten the existence of the current member societies and which clarifies the representation of the nation in the General Assembly. Joe Barbenel submitted a proposal for modifications to IFMBE by-laws according to the consensus from the Pula meeting.

During the following discussion, it was concluded that the AC is in principal in favour to accept multiple societies from the same country to become a member. Joachim Nagel pointed out that we should inquire what is the opinion of the current member of IFMBE before accepting new national member. This was also the unanimous view of the AC. Jos Spaan pointed out that the dues should be calculated such that the societies are treated individually. This was accepted unanimously.

The consideration of this item was postponed to next day (June 17) and the members of the Constitutions and By-law committee present were asked to make the necessary amendments to the wording submitted. The re-written proposal ([attachment 7](#)) was accepted unanimously and the AC makes a recommendation to GA to approve the proposal. It will be sent to the delegates in GA for vote.

8.3 **Individuals (in countries with no BME society)**

The motion from the Officers' meeting in Sydney was discussed and the AC was positive to the principle to accept individual membership. It is important to check out the background of the individual applying the membership. Jos Spaan said that we should use some other word instead of "individual" for example "affiliated individual membership".

The motion was as follows;

There are two situations when it might be well founded;

- 1) There is no affiliated National society of the country
- 2) When the individual's interest is outside of the scope of the National society.

In the case when a person applying for individual membership of IFMBE comes from a country, which is affiliated with IFMBE, the person should give an explanation why he/she is not a member of the National Society. IFMBE must be aware that it can be accused of competing with the National Society.

Individual members can not become AC-members or Officers, but they can become members of the Academy. Each case of the individual membership will be re-evaluated periodically, for example every 3rd year. The membership will be terminated when a National Society, whose scope covers the interests of the individual member is founded. The result of the vote was 8 in favour of the principle and one abstention. The AC a

recommends the GA to approve this proposal. It will be sent to the delegates in GA for vote.

8.4 Welcome package

Myounggho Lee explained the content of the Welcome package. The package for new members should contain all the official IFMBE documentation, description of the responsibilities of the membership, information about the activities on the regional and international level, routines for how to propose candidates to different IFMBE awards, positions in committees and AC and information about the Journal MBEC and IFMBE News. Moreover, a new part of the package for example for developing countries should contain exemption of membership fees for the first two years and for following two years reduction of the fee with 50%. After the four-year period, the membership fee would be paid according to the common rules.

The discussion about the dues was postponed.

9. Web access of the Journal

Alan Murray showed the web pages for the free trial on the Internet. Information for the free trial must be spread widely and fast. Therefore e-mail lists from previous conferences should be used (WC2000, Medicon'01, EMBEC'02 etc). This information will be given also during the Secretaries Committee meeting on Thursday, June 20. It is also possible that the access is working on the Internet during the conference NBC'02.

10. IFMBE logo

The new logo was shown and Dov Jaron asked everybody to use it.

11. Activating the IFMBE Academy

The AC discussed the budget request and what the Academy does with the membership fee it is collecting. It was not clear what is the purpose the Academy will use the requested money (see [attachment 8](#)). The AC did not have any other comments and the proposal was not approved. Dov Jaron will contact Åke Öberg for discussion and clarification.

12. IFMBE web

The situation with the web was briefed in the item 4.3., [Secretary-General's Report](#).

13. Division Reports

13.1 Clinical Engineering - No report was available.

13.2 Health Care Technology Assessment - No report was available.

14. Committee Reports

14.1 Missing committee charters

There are still some committees that have no charter. Heikki Terio was asked to send a reminder again to the chairpersons of these committees. He was also asked to send a list of committees and chairpersons to Dov Jaron.

14.2 Federation Journal Committee

14.2.1 MBEC Journal

Allan Murray submitted a Editor in Chief's Report, [attachment 9](#).

14.2.1.1 Request by PPL to eliminate advance payment and to revise the FJC account

The background is explained in the Treasurer's Report, [attachment 3](#). Jos Spaan proposed that IFMBE would maintain the original system with the advance payment.

The FJC account, travel expenses, should be managed by IFMBE and PPL should propose a way to account for this expenditure, but it must not reduce the total allocation to IFMBE from the profits of the Journal. Brian Brown, the chair of FJC, Mladen Poluta and Dov Jaron will discuss this together with Robin Mellors-Bourne, Director of Publishing at PPL.

14.2.2 Cellular Engineering Journal - See attachment 8.

14.2.3 IFMBE News

Ratko Magjarevic, the new Editor, submitted a report, [attachment 10](#). He will ask the Secretaries, who attend the Secretaries Committee meeting to see that there is a link from the Societies web to the IFMBE News web.

14.2.4 Marketing of the Journal

The Journal is marketed during the conference in Reykjavik with free copies of the Journal, leaflets and information about the free trial of the electronic version of the Journal. Dov Jaron renewed the request to everybody to provide us with names of people who can influence the libraries, institutions, departments, and others to subscribe the Journal. The National Secretaries should also be reminded during their meeting.

14.3 Finance Committee - See the Treasurer's report, [attachment 3](#).

14.3.1 Closing the Dutch account

During the Officers' meeting in Sydney Mladen Poluta pointed out that the information from the Dutch account is still insufficient and it was proposed that the account should be closed down and the funds would be transferred to the U.S. account. Jos Spaan commented this by saying that if the AC requests to close the account he will do that. However, the interest rate on the account is high (3,5%) and the account is now in Euros, which is relatively strong for the moment. These facts speak against closing this account. The AC felt that the Euro-account should not be closed, but Mladen Poluta should receive regular information about the account and he should have an Internet access to the account. Jos Spaan will check if it is possible to get an Internet access. He will also mail to Mladen Poluta and ask him what information he wants and how often he would like to get it.

14.4 Strategic Planning

Didier Geiger will check the Strategic Plan on the web and propose updating of the document.

14.5 Publication & Publicity

Joachim Nagel explained the current situation with the IFMBE/IOMP IoPP Book Series "MEDICAL SCIENCE SERIES". A new contract with the publisher has been negotiated. Approval by Series Editors is pending, thereafter the new agreement can be signed by IOPP and IFMBE. Purpose of the current negotiations is to improve the benefits of the book series for IFMBE, to change the title of the series to include BME, and to reactivate the series.

Jos Spaan said that he would deposit the royalties from the current sales to the Dutch account. Joachim Nagel has asked the IoPP to give detailed information about the royalties, but he must send them a reminder.

Jos Spaan told that the editorial board has received two new book proposals; 1) Electrical Impedance Tomography and 2) Monte Carlo calculations in nuclear medicine: Therapeutic applications. Both these titles received favourable reviews and will probably be published.

Joachim Nagel asked everybody to spread the word about the IoPP among colleagues who are seeking for a publisher.

14.5.1 Conference Proceedings

After setting up the Proceedings series with MEDICON 2001 as the first issue, additional conferences have agreed to have their proceedings printed as issues within the IFMBE series. These are:

- 1) The 12th Nordic Baltic Conference on Biomedical Engineering and Medical Physics, June 18th-22nd, 2002, Reykjavik, Iceland
- 2) The 4th International Workshop on Biosignal Interpretation, June 24-26th, 2002 Villa Olmo, Como, Italy
- 3) EMBEC'02, the 2nd European Medical & Biological Engineering Conference, December 04-08, 2002, Vienna, Austria
- 4) International Congress on Biological and Medical Engineering, incorporating the 5th Asia Pacific Conference on Medical and Biological Engineering and the 11th International Conference on Biomedical Engineering, December 04-07, 2002, Singapore.

No decision has been reached yet for the World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, August 24-29, 2003, Sydney, Australia.

Negotiations are going on with publishers to print and market the proceedings, creating some additional income for IFMBE. As an additional feature, E-Proceedings may be established either through the publisher or the new IFMBE homepage.

14.5.2 IFMBE web editorial board

Joachim Nagel pointed out that links to the IFMBE homepage should be provided by *all* IFMBE member societies. However, the problem is that there is still some Societies that do not have a web. He also urged establishing the new IFMBE homepage.

14.6 Constitution & By-law

Joe Barbenel submitted a report for the Committee, [attachment 11](#). The items 2 and 3 in the report have been discussed under other items during this meeting.

14.6.1 Revoke voting right for society in arrears

Joe Barbenel and the Committee had prepared a proposal, [attachment 12](#). This proposal was approved unanimously. The AC recommends the GA to approve this proposal. It will be sent to the delegates in GA for vote.

14.6.2 Email vote - add voting on web

In the AC meeting in Pula it was decided that the closing date for the mail ballot be reduced to thirty (30) days. The reason for this change was that the discussion and votes can now be handled by email and there is no need to wait for 60 days, which is the current rule. This motion, which was approved unanimously, was sent to the General Assembly for decision.

Marc Nyssen moved in Pula that IFMBE should begin to conduct voting by secure web server and associated technology within 1 year and that the Secretary General will propose an implementation. This motion was approved unanimously.

As a result of this vote 16 votes were received and all were in favour. However, it was now pointed out that there was no information justifying the change, i.e. that the voting will be carried out either by e-mail or in the future on the web. Since this change will cause amendments both to the Constitution and Bylaws and since there was inadequate response the AC decided to conduct the voting again adding an additional motion dealing with the form of mail. The first motion that will be sent to the Delegates of the General Assembly is as follows: To conduct businesses between session of the General Assembly all kinds of mails, including e-mail, regular mail and voting on the web can be used. The second motion is: The closing date for all forms of mail ballots will be thirty days (30 days) from the date in the heading or announced on the web.

14.6.3 Vote change to 30 days email vote - See previous item.

14.6.4 Filling vacated position on Council

Joe Barbenel and the Committee had prepared a proposal, [attachment 13](#). 8 members were in favour and 1 abstained. The proposal was approved. The AC recommends the GA to approve this proposal. It will be sent to the delegates in GA for vote.

14.6.5 AC member missing meetings - See previous item.

14.6.6 Revised wording for new membership fees

It was pointed out that the wording and the table showing the new membership fees is unclear and can cause misinterpretation. Following wording is from the information letter written by Dov Jaron: *The new dues structure, which will become effective with the 2002 dues, is as follows. For societies with up to 31 members, the annual dues are \$2.00 per member. For societies with membership between 32 and 316 members, the dues are \$2.00 per member for the first 31 members and \$1,75 per member thereafter. For societies with membership between 317 and 3162 members, the dues are \$2.00 per member for the first 31 members, \$1.75 per member between 32 and 316 members and \$1.25 per member thereafter. For societies having more than 3163 members, the dues are the same as for societies with membership up to 3162 members and \$0.50 per member above 3163. The breakpoints were selected to be consistent with the method for selecting delegates to the General Assembly. This wording should be used.*

- 14.6.7 Modification to By-law for US IRS**
Joe Barbenel and the Committee had prepared a proposal, [attachment 14](#). The AC recommended that this proposal be sent to GA for approval.
- 14.7 National Secretaries Committee**
Marc Nyssen had submitted a report from the Secretaries Committee, [attachment 15](#).
- 14.7.1 Email exploder for national society members**
The AC requested Marc Nyssen to ask each national secretary start to use an e-mail exploder/list server to distribute the information from IFMBE.
- 14.8 Conference Committee**
Fernando Infantosi reported that the Committee has discussed how to improve the Policies and Procedures. Within less than 6 months they can finish the updating. IFMBE will hand over an information package to congress organisers, which contains all the information needed. He pointed out that it is essential that the congress organisers have a liaison person to IFMBE AC.
- 14.8.1 Uniformity of the arrangements** - See 14.8
- 14.8.2 Regional conferences** - See 14.8
- 14.8.3 Budget** - See 14.8
- 14.8.4 Loans** - See 14.8
- 14.8.5 Surplus** - See 14.8
- 14.8.6 Proceedings** - See 14.8 and 14.5.1
- 14.8.7 Liaisons to new conferences**
Ratko Magjarevic was appointed as liaison to the MEDICON'04 and Fernando Infantosi was appointed as liaison to CORAL meeting in 2004.
- 14.8.8 WC2003**
Dov Jaron reported that things are going fairly well with the conference. There is no report from the organisers so far, but he sends a reminder to them. Dov Jaron asked volunteers to chair/arrange special session or just to chair a session. Please contact him.
- 14.8.9 WC2006** - See above.
- 14.8.10 Latin America 2004**
Fernando Infantosi briefed the situation with the 3rd Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering, which is organised by CORAL and hosted by the Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering. This congress will be held in João Pessoa, Paraiba 2004. He referred to the [attached](#) budget (attachment 16).
- 14.8.11 ESEM**
Joe Barbenel told that the conference in Belfast had very loose connection with IFMBE. No further ESEM-conferences are known.
- 14.8.12 Nordic Baltic Conference 2002**
The secretary of the Icelandic Society, Stefan Sigurdson was invited to tell the AC about the Nordic-Baltic Conference. He submitted also a revised budget and told that due to higher costs for printing and lower income because few participants the calculated surplus of ISK 650000 turned to a deficit of ISK 626400.
- 14.8.12.1 The deficit**
Stefan Sigurdson described how the organiser hoped to manage the deficit, but he was afraid of that they would not be able to cover the whole amount. Therefore, he requested financial help from IFMBE. Dov Jaron said that the AC will discuss the request and inform Stefan Sigurdson later about the discussion.
Joachim Nagel was in favour sharing some of the deficit, but we need first see the final accounts. Jos Spaan moved that IFMBE would cover half of the deficit up to \$3000. This means that IFMBE covers at maximum \$1500. Walter Chang seconded. The motion was approved with 6 votes against 1, 2 abstentions.
It was agreed that Fernando Infantosi would analyse the accounts before we pay.
- 14.8.13 EMBEC 2002**
Helmut Hutten has informed regularly the Officers and AC-members of the progress of the Conference. The congress seems to get well along.

- 14.8.14 Asian-Pacific Conference**
Walter Chang submitted a report, [attachment 17](#). The attachment is shortened. Full length report is available from the IFMBE archive.
- 14.8.15 Biosignal Interpretation**
The IFMBE Officers meeting in Singapore, December 2001 came to conclusion that IFMBE is very willing to cosponsor the 4th Biosignal Interpretation (BSI) meeting. Sergio Cerutti, the chair of this meeting was asked to send a letter to Dov Jaron with a copy to Heikki Teriö with a formal request. Sergio Cerutti requested financial support with \$1250. However, he did not attach a budget.
Dov Jaron proposed at the Officers' meeting in Sydney that the Officers approve in principle a contingent to the 2002 budget, which allows the request from Sergio Cerutti for the Biosignal Interpretation. Dov Jaron's proposal was accepted, but Sergio Cerutti must put forward a budget for the Workshop.
Sergio Cerutti sent the requested budget on June 10, [attachment 18](#). The line item "Sponsors" includes the \$1250 support requested from IFMBE.
Even if the Officers were in principal in favour of supporting the BSI meeting, the AC felt that IFMBE can not support the BSI meeting.
- 14.8.16 Other Conferences** - No other conferences were reported.
- 14.9 International Liaison Committee**
Nandor Richter had submitted a report, [attachment 19](#).
- 14.10 ICSU Liaison**
Jean-Pierre Morucci had submitted a report, [attachment 20](#).
- 14.11 IFMBE Nominating Committee**
Jean-Pierre Morucci had submitted a report, [attachment 21](#). A call for nominations will be presented at the Secretaries Committee meeting on Thursday, June 20 and it is also ready for mailing to the membership. The positions open are Vice-President, Secretary-General, Treasurer, and four ordinary Council members. The Council members who have completed their terms are Walter Chang, Janie Fouke, Jos Spaan, Joe Barbenel.
- 14.12 Education Accreditation** - No report was available
- 14.13 International Academy**
Åke Öberg had submitted a report, [attachment 22](#).
- 14.14 Industry** - No report was available
- 14.15 Development** - No report was available
- 14.16 New Initiatives**
Makoto Kikuchi briefed the report he submitted [attachment 23](#). He wanted also hear from the AC what the Working Group should work with, and what direction the WG should focus on. AC felt that the scope and the aim for the WG described in the charge and the report are well in the line with AC's intentions. The reported activities for 2001 and the activities under consideration are dealing with emerging areas of BME and well worth focusing on. AC is very keen to hear the results of WG's further discussions and what recommendations it will bring to the AC in the next meeting.
Makoto Kikuchi was asked to include somebody from US into the WG.
- 14.17 Women in BME** - No report was available
- 14.18 History Book** - No report was available
- 14.19 Merit Award**
Joachim Nagel told that a Call for Nominations for the IFMBE and IUPESM awards to be conferred at the Sydney 2003 World Congress with a deadline of May 31, 2002 has been published repeatedly since December, 2001 on:
IFMBE homepage since December, 2001,
IFMBE News (November 2001 and March 2002 issues),
IFMBE Journal (requested in December, but not yet published),
Message to all member societies with the request to inform their members about the Call for Nominations has been sent. A request has been sent to BMES to inform the BMES members by email. The email was sent on June 07, 2002, after the deadline had expired. A request was sent to EMBS to inform the EMBS members. However, it has not been published so far.

Only a very small number of nominations have been received by the deadline May 31, 2002, indicating that the Call did not reach the BME community. Therefore, the IFMBE Merit Awards Committee has decided to extend the deadline until August 31, 2002, and to start another campaign to advertise the opportunity for nominations.

14.20 Otto Schmitt Award - See item 14.19

14.21 Zworykin Award - See item 14.19

14.22 Membership

MyoungHo Lee briefed the parts of his report that has not been discussed earlier during the meeting ([attachment 24](#)).

15. Regional Working Groups interim reports

15.1 Asian-Pacific

Walter Chang submitted a report, [attachment 25](#). He and MyoungHo Lee described also the proposal to start a working group in Physics and Bioengineering in Oriental Medicine, [attachment 26](#).

Walter Chang was asked to negotiate with IEEE/EMBS as equals about co-operation in the region. The region is large and there is thousands of members.

Joachim Nagel said that the WG should work to increase the visibility of the Asia-Pacific conference in order to attract more people from the region to attend it. The conference should be a large conference, like a "world conference of BME" between the World Congresses.

Makoto Kikuchi said that this is a very good time to develop the Asian-Pacific conference to a real, big conference.

Walter Chang will contact the members of the WG for discussion and development of the conference.

15.2 Developing Countries

Mladen Poluta had submitted a combined report for Developing Countries and for Africa/ICHTM, item 15.3. ([attachment 27](#)).

15.3 Stipends for delegates from developing countries to attend the 2003 World Congress

In the report ([attachment 27](#)) Mladen Poluta proposes that IFMBE would offer 4 [travel support](#) stipends for WC2003 in Sydney. It was pointed out that it is unclear how the stipends are funded and who would do the judgement.

Joachim Nagel was against the proposal since it was brought up too late and he considers that we need to get more details.

MyoungHo Lee made a new proposal in which we would consider to give an award for the best paper of a regional conference. This award could be a travel stipend to the WC2003. Jos Spaan liked MyoungHo Lee's idea and he said that it could be combined with Mladen Poluta's proposal. MyoungHo Lee will contact Mladen Poluta and discuss this further.

15.4 Coral

Fernando Infantsi briefed the parts of the CORAL report ([attachment 28](#)) that have not been discussed earlier during the meeting.

15.5 Protem Europe

Niilo Saranummi had submitted a report ([attachment 29](#))

16. Scientific Working Groups interim reports

16.1 Cellular Engineering - No report was available

16.1.1 Report on Aachen conference (technical and fiscal)

We had unfortunately not received a written report from the Aachen Conference. But, Dov Jaron had discussed with Gerhard Artman about the return to IFMBE of 10% of the registrations fee. Artman requested that he return only 5% and that the other 5% be used for activities of the CE Working Group. This was tentatively approved at the officers meeting in Sydney. The AC approved the request from Gerhard Artman.

16.2 Neuroengineering - No report was available (at the conference but the Secretary-General received it later and it is attached these minutes, [attachment 30](#)). Dov Jaron told that the WG

has a web site. He asked also everybody to let Karen Moxon, the Chair of the WG to know who can be members of the WG.

16.3 **Physiome** - No report was available

17. Co-operation with other organisations

17.1 IEEE/EMBS - No report was available

17.2 ESEM - No report was available

18. Next meeting site

Next AC meeting will be held August 21-22, 2003 in Australia prior the WC2003 in Sydney. More details and the place for the meeting will be announced later.

19. Adjournment

Dov Jaron
President

Heikki Teriö
Secretary General

President's report

The Federation is continuing to encourage new subscriptions to the Federation Journal, Medical and biological Engineering and Computing. To do so, we have sent promotional packages to each National Secretary with a request to have them mailed in their own countries. Each National Secretary received a package of pre-addressed envelopes ready to be mailed. The President is asking those secretaries who have not done so yet to forward the envelopes to the members of their societies. IFMBE is also providing free access through the internet to the journal. The IFMBE web site contains information on how to register in order to gain access. Free access will be available through the end of this year at which time the offer will be evaluated. We hope that individuals will find information in the IFMBE journal useful for their research as well as for applications in their jobs and decide to subscribe to the journal once the free trial ends.

Discussions with IEEE/EMBES to start a joint journal on cellular engineering fell through and these discussions are now terminated. We are still in discussions with the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES), which publishes the Annals of Biomedical Engineering. The BMES appointed a new editor for the Annals this year and discussions between IFMBE and BMES have been temporarily suspended until the new editor has an opportunity to assess the situation. Meanwhile, we are working to strengthen the Cellular Engineering section of our Journal. A special issue with papers from the Aachen conferences in June 2001 will be published.

IFMBE appointed a new editor for our newsletter, the IFMBE News. We are very pleased to have Professor Ratko Magjarevic of Zagreb, Croatia as the new editor and encourage all our national members, working groups and divisions to send Professor Ratko news of their activities. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Niilo Saranummi for his enormous contributions as past editor. The IFMBE News is now published on the web and, if a paper copy is needed, it can be downloaded by any IFMBE member as well as other individuals with interest in the activities of the Federation. Having the newsletter available on the web provides for a much wider distribution than was possible with the limited number of paper copies that were sent to the National Secretaries who then had to mail it to their members.

After numerous meetings and communication with all of IFMBE's European affiliated societies, the protem group for European activities has drafted the statutes for the new European organization that would represent the biomedical engineering community across Europe. The tentative name for the new organization is the Alliance for Medical and Biological Engineering and Sciences. It is anticipated that the statutes will be finalized before the EMBEC meeting, which will be held in Vienna in December 2002. It is also expected that the new organization will select its initial set of officers at that time. Once the Alliance is official, it will become a transnational member of IFMBE. The Protem group has also been active in applying for funds to support activities of the European Biomedical Engineering community and a proposal to the EU for "BME Cartography for Europe" received favorable review. We are waiting and hoping for a funding announcement.

We have tried repeatedly to communicate with the French society, which managed the World Congress in Nice, to collect money owed to the Federation. Our many letters have gone unanswered. We are very disappointed to find out that a professional society would behave in such an unethical fashion by holding funds which do not belong to them and by choosing not to respond to our letters.

IFMBE is very pleased to see its Conference Proceedings launched. We now have 2 proceedings as part of the series and hope that every regional conference of the IFMBE would become a participant in the series. This should generate extra income for the conference as well as for the IFMBE.

The delegates to the General Assembly of the Federation will be receiving in very short order a number of resolutions for a vote. The Administrative Council urges all delegates to respond to the ballot promptly and hopes that the voting on each resolution would be to support the recommendations of the AC.

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Secretary General's Report for period June 2001 - June 2002.

IFMBE has the status of Non Governmental Organisation in official relations with UN, WHO and UNIDO. This means that the Federation has possibility to arrange workshops, seminars, and other activities together with UN organs. We are also invited to take part in UN, WHO and UNIDO meetings where we have the possibility to make remarks and initiate co-operation projects. Every third year the Secretary General of IFMBE writes a report, which is sent to WHO in Geneva for evaluation. The WHO liaison person is Dr. Andrej Issakov, who received this report last autumn. He thanked especially the author since the report was written in "WHO style" and he did not have to edit it. The report and the IFMBE NGO status was evaluated at the 109th session of the WHO Executive Board and it decided to maintain the IFMBE in official relations with WHO. In making the decision, the Board commented the efforts of the IFMBE in support of the work of WHO. The Executive Director of the WHO External Relations and Governing Bodies, Dr. A. Asamou-Baah thanked especially IFMBE members for their continuing interest in working with WHO. He also hopes that the activities planned for the next three years between Dr. Issakov and us will be as fruitful.

I have been in contact with Dr. Issakov during the spring and we have decided to meet in Geneva for further discussion and planning the co-operation. This discussion will result in an updated document describing the co-operation.

One problem that has to be solved is the distribution of UN information material, which still is sent to old IFMBE officials. The correct information about the new contact persons and their addresses has been given for years ago. This is a serious problem because the invitations to different UN meetings and information requests from IFMBE will be delayed.

We have problems, not only with the addresses that WHO use, but also with the addresses that we are using to our membership. It is a severe problem that we do not have correct address information to officers of the National Societies. Another matter, which is causing major problems for the work within Administrative Council and the Federation, is the time delay AC-members, committee chairmen, and national secretaries have in responding to the e-mails from the Officers. The President pointed out this in his report at the Officers' meeting in Sydney. I will again take this matter up at the Secretaries Committee meeting on Thursday, June 20 and urge everybody to react faster.

Organising meetings and conferences have become a very large, world-wide business. The Professional Congress Organisers keep track on the IFMBE conferences, regional as well as international. The information they request is about the dates, contacts, and topics of the conference and this information is published in their calendars. The organisers regularly send requests for update, which I usually respond within a month. But, these enquiries are not of a high priority. However, the calendars, which are distributed internationally are still one way of marketing the conference and IFMBE. Recently, there have been several requests from countries where we do not have members like Puerto Rico and Malaysia. Puerto Rico will probably never have a BME society, but the site would still be a possibility for a regional meeting. Sometimes we also get help from the persons contacting us from the PCOs like in the case of Malaysia and Thailand. The persons, who I corresponded with, promised to try to make contact with persons who might be interested to start a new society in Malaysia or know something of the Society in Thailand, to which we have lost the contact. This help is highly appreciated.

The development of the IFMBE web has not proceeded as planned. The proposal for a new layout in "www.webmaster.se/jenny", which was presented in Pula, was reviewed in Sydney and we decided on a new structure. The company that does the work was informed and when

I asked for few weeks ago the status of the project, I heard that the person who was responsible for the development had finished. The new person who had taken over the former person's jobs was not informed about the IFMBE project. This is why we still do not have the "**Project Office**", which functions as a kind of office on the web where all types of documents are made available to the colleagues of the project. However, I have made some changes to the new proposal according to the decision in Sydney. ([Back to item 12](#))

Request for membership information has been sent to Mongolia, Uruguay, Malaysia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina. I have also had discussion in Tbilisi, Georgia with person who visited the EMBEC99 meeting in Vienna. They have some internal problems, but they think that in near future they will start a BME Society and then they will apply the IFMBE membership.

Just few days ago, I received a fax from Cairo, Egypt. Prof.Dr. Osama Hassan, the Head of Biomedical Engineering department and the Dean, Prof.Dr. Hazem Saker of the Al Shorouk Academy, The Higher Institute of Engineering wrote that the Institute is organising the first international Conference on Clinical Engineering - Egypt. The main topic is "Safety in Hospital Environment". This conference is held on February 17-19, 2003 in Cairo. They want to organise this conference in co-operation with IFMBE through:

- 1) Inviting distinguished speakers who are experts in the fields of
 - Clinical Engineering Management
 - Medical Informatics, security and patient safety
 - Economics and cost-effectiveness of Clinical Engineering programs
- 2) Co-sponsoring the conference and related exhibition on medical equipment and educational and training material
- 3) Publishing the proceedings of the conference
- 4) Preparing for the establishment of local and/or Pan-Arab society for Biomedical (Clinical) Engineers.

This proposal could also be discussed with WHO.

Dr. T.G. Krishnamurthy from India sends every now and then activity reports from the Clinical Engineering Society of India. This society has been a member of IFMBE for a long time ago, but because of lack of money the Society no longer a member. In every letter, Dr. Krishnamurthy sends his regards to the colleagues in IFMBE.

Stockholm 2002-06-12

Heikki Terio
Secretary General

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IFMBE TREASURER'S REPORT

Administrative Council Meeting, Reykjavik – June 2002

(AGENDA ITEMS 4.4 & 13.3)

Income and Expenditure

The budget adopted at the Sydney Officers' Meeting in January is attached (Attachment 1) as is the draft 2003 budget. A number of IFMBE structures did not submit budget requests for 2002 and only a handful have done so for 2003, despite our decision at WC2000 to implement 3-year "rolling" budget requests. My suggestion is that – as was done in Pula – category allocations be made at this stage, with individual line item details completed, as these become available. Additional income is an amount of \$ 1,470 being 5% of the registration fees (a further 5% is due, as per the 2000 agreement) for the Cellular Engineering Conference held in Aachen in July 2001. **A detailed income and expenditure statement for 2001 will be submitted to Council members by the end of June.**

As mentioned in my report to the AC in Pula: "It has been of concern for some time that budget allocations often remain unspent, or only partially spent. While it makes the financial picture look brighter, it implies that in many cases planned activities have not in fact been implemented." It is suggested that an interim committee or task force be established to (i) critically and constructively review the activities of the various IFMBE structures and (ii) submit a report for consideration by the Administrative Council.

There have been unacceptable delays with processing of some reimbursements – these are regretted and all outstanding requests will be processed within the next 2 weeks. I now have a new assistant who will hopefully ensure that reimbursements are handled and processed promptly.

MBEC / IFMBE News

We have received correspondence from Robin Mellors-Bourne, Director of Publishing at IEE/PPL concerning the profit share from the publication of the MBEC Journal and associated royalty (an advance against profit share) that the IFMBE should have received in 2001. Due to an oversight these were not paid but this will be corrected shortly (and will be included in the 2001 Income and Expenditure Statement).

The question was asked whether IFMBE actually requires an advance payment for 2002 and into the future, or whether our cash position is such that we could receive the full annual profit share retrospectively. Another issue raised was the current practice of payment of federation Journal Committee (FJC) expenses. IEE/PPL pay an annual lump sum (UKP 7800) into an IFMBE account which is then used to refund travel expenses to FJC members. The IEE/PPL auditors/tax assessors are not happy with this, as they do not like large payments of "expenses" without any evidence that this is what the money is used for. IEE/PPL are now at risk of being fined by the UK Inland Revenue over this matter. There seem to be two alternatives -- one would be for IEE/PPL to receive the claims from FJC members and pay them directly, the other would be to review all the payments made to IFMBE and roll some together in a simplified structure. Dov Jaron has replied on these issues (I support his response) and has undertaken to raise this issue for discussion. ([Back to item 14.2.1.1](#))

Reserves

The reserves of the IFMBE as at 31 March 2002 were as follows:

Account	Balance	Currency
Lloyds TSB Fixed Deposits	226,024.	£
Lloyds TSB Main a/c	27,499.	£
Lloyds TSB Subs a/c	15,934.	£
Lloyds TSB Journal a/c (FJC editors)	9,345.	£
Lloyds TSB Call Deposit 1	46,290.	£
Lloyds TSB Call Deposit 2	1,805.	£
ABN-AMRO a/c	63,244.	Euros

The balances for the two US-based accounts were not at hand at time of preparation of this report and should be included in the above table (Dov Jaron to provide details).

US Account (JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT)

The account at JMS has been used for a number of transactions since it was opened. The early difficulties experienced seem to have been largely overcome, provided the full details for incoming transactions are supplied (JMS does not have direct access to international transfers and monies need to be first deposited into a JMS account at PNC bank and then transferred across). A separate account has been created for receipt of membership dues.

Membership Dues

Membership dues notices were sent out late in 2001, once the PNC/JMS account route had been put in place, giving member societies the option of paying their dues in US\$ (thus far it seems that most have stayed with the previous arrangements, i.e. depositing into the Lloyds account or sending a bank cheque to the Treasurer). A number of societies are in substantial arrears. The following table excludes those countries that have not paid their 2001 dues (Argentina, Canada, Cuba, Czech Republic, Germany, Latvia, Poland, South Africa and Yugoslavia) – these will be sent final reminders soon.

Country	No. of Years not paid (2001 and prior)	Country	No. of Years not paid
Bulgaria	3	Iceland	4
Colombia	5	Japan	3
Cuba	2	Norway	4
Denmark	2	Slovenia	3
France	2	Spain	4
Greece	3	Thailand	2
Hong Kong	4	USA	3

[NB: The above are presented in good faith with the information at our disposal. Should an error have been made the society concerned is requested to contact the Treasurer with details of any queries they may have.]

The accuracy of the membership numbers continues to be a concern, although a number of societies have provided their current/updated numbers. Could I make a request to the attendees at the Secretaries Committee Meeting that each society – if they have not done so – pay their outstanding dues and advise what their updated (most recent) membership numbers are. Note should also be taken

of the new US account into which membership dues should be paid, and the correct and complete details to be included with such payments (details available on request from the Treasurer).

Academy

Åke Öberg has requested financial support to facilitate expansion and greater activity of the Academy. This is supported in principle. This item should be discussed and an appropriate amount allocated for the remainder of 2002 as well as for 2003.

Conference Support

There has been a request via Joachim Nagel's committee for an amount of Euros 1,250 for publishing the proceedings of the 2001 Biosignal Conference – this was approved at the Officers' Meeting in Sydney contingent on receiving a copy of the meeting budget from Sergio Cerutti.

Mladen Poluta
IFMBE Treasurer
15 June 2002

[Back item 4.4](#)
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A List of Action Items February 2002.		
	Dov Jaron	
1.	E-mail balance of the account to Mladen (every 2-3 months)	Status : Done
2.	Send a letter to committee & division chairs (cc. to Mladen, Heikki)	Status : Done
3.	Send final logo to Heikki, Richard, Mladen	Status: Done
4.	Send new JMS Account for membership fees to Mladen	Status: Done
5.	Find letter from French Society applying for membership in IFMBE; send a copy to Heikki	Status: Done
6.	Letter to Åke/Academy - participating in IFMBE activities - yearly addition - geographic & disciplinary breadth - list of members to be listed on web (CV, picture) - a plan of activities	Status: Done
7.	Letter to Council members for suggestion of a chair of the Industrial Liaison Committee	Status: Done
8.	Address of Eugene Echstein to Heikki.	Status: Done
9.	E-mail to Willis to appoint the Committee	Status: Done
10.	PowerPoint presentation about IFMBE to Heikki	Status: Done
11.	Kevin; number of fellows for 1999, 2000, 2001 to generate invoice	Status: Done
12.	Geselowitz: History book IFMBE (Saito, Kirsner, Schwan)	Status: Done
13.	Solve problems, together with Mladen with money transactions between Lloyds and U.S. bank account	Status: Done
14.	Send a letter to Gerhard Artmann and ask him to send a request to the AC to use the last 5% from the Aachen conference for European Activities	Status: Done
15.	Contact Eugene Echtstein and ask him to become a member of the Strategic Planning Committee. Inform Didier Geiger about this.	Status: Done New contact
16.	Proposal how to market the Journal. Send list of names & addresses of professors, departments, institutions, and libraries to Keith Ison.	Status: Done
	Mladen Poluta	
1.	Contact Niilo for discussion about the guidelines & duties for the Resource Group.	Status:
2.	Send Dov what information he should write down for promoting the IFMBE Journal in Korea.	Status:
3.	Write to Åke Öberg and ask him to send a budget for IABME	Status:
4.	Solve problems, together with Dov with money transactions between Lloyds and U.S. bank account	Status:
5.	Send the societies that have not paid until March a letter, signed by Dov, requesting payment	Status:
6.	Write Fernando and ask him to come with a budget for the	Status:

	Brazilian conference in 2004	
7.	Write to Jos and ask him to close the Dutch account. Send a copy to Marijke	Status:
8.	Contact Enrico Nonzaita and ask him to help Adriana Velazquez with the Clinical Engineering Division. Inform Adriana about this.	Status:
9.	Write a report of the activities from WG Developing countries to the next AC-meeting	Status:
10.	Contact Barry Allen/Nigel Lovell and ask their assistance to reserve space on the WC2003 for the ICHTM	Status:
11.	Proposal how to market the Journal. Send list of names & addresses of professors, departments, institutions, and libraries to Keith Ison.	Status:
	Heikki Terio	
1.	Send a new note to the NS asking about the promoting letter	Status: Done
2.	Send a reminder to those chairpersons who have not sent the committee charter yet	Status: Done
3.	Send a note to the NS to remind them to inform their membership about the new issues of the IFMBE News	Status: Done
4.	Send a reminder to Joe Barbenel about the action items that need to be done	Status: Done
5.	Place a list of countries with the number of members on the web	Status:
6.	Inform Marc that the SC should discuss the individual membership during the meeting in Reykjavik	Status: Done
7.	Send the membership application forms to Jean-Louis Coitroix	Status: Done
8.	Send a message to Stefan Sigurdsson in Reykjavik and ask for his assistance in organising the AC meeting there. Ask him also to increase the IFMBE visibility on the conference documentation	Status: Done
9.	Implement the ideas for the web improvement discussed in the Sydney meeting	Status:
10.	Contact Håkan Elmqvist and ask him to become as the chair of the Industry Committee	Status: Done
11.	Check with the Swedish manufacturer of the pins how much 25000 pins would cost and how long time it would take to make them	Status: Done
12.	Check with Liu DePei if it would be possible to make the pins in China.	Status:
13.	Combine Dov's IFMBE presentation with your own to one presentation.	Status:
14.	Ask Susana Llanusa Ruiz if she could become the chair of the Ad hoc group Women in BME	Status:
15.	Proposal how to market the Journal. Send list of names & addresses of professors, departments, institutions, and libraries to Keith Ison.	Status:
	Walter Chang	
1.	Write, together with Fernando a manual to the IFMBE regional congress organisers	Status:

2.	Proposal how to market the Journal. Send list of names & addresses of professors, departments, institutions, and libraries to Keith Ison.	Status:
	Myoungho Lee	
1.	Write a plan how to approach new presumable member societies.	Status:
2.	The Membership Committee should prepare a proposal to the AC for a "Welcome package" for new members. Contact Keith Ison for discussion.	Status:
3.	Make a proposal how to calculate the number of delegates form a country that has more than one member society.	Status:
4.	Proposal how to market the Journal. Send list of names & addresses of professors, departments, institutions, and libraries to Keith Ison.	Status:

	Richard Kirsner	
1.	Contact the New Zealand Branch and tell them that the Officers consider that the most appropriate for the New Zealand BME is to form their own society and become member of IFMBE	Status: Done
2.	Proposal how to market the Journal. Send list of names & addresses of professors, departments, institutions, and libraries to Keith Ison.	Status:
	Joe Barbenel	
1.	Develop a procedure, which make it possible for countries that like to become members of IFMBE, to waive the formal decision from the General Assembly and become as associate members during at most 3 years.	Status:
2.	Make a proposal to accept more than one society from one and the same country as a member.	Status: Done
3.	Proposal how to market the Journal. Send list of names & addresses of professors, departments, institutions, and libraries to Keith Ison.	Status: Done

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IFMBE - AC Meeting, Reykjavik - 17
June 2002

**Statement of Income & Expenditure
(corrected)**

(NB: figures in British Pounds Sterling)

	2000 Actual	2001 Budget	2001 Actual	2002 Budget	2003 Budget
INCOME					
Membership Dues	6 968	8 000		9 000	9 000
PPL (MBEC Profit Share)	37 526	51 850		45 325	50 000
Interest from Investments	11 770	13 500		14 000	14 000
Conference Loan/s Repaid	1 100			2 000	2 000
Conference Surplus/Fee*					
WC2000	18 855				
CellEng - Keele	7 238				
TOTAL INCOME	83 457	73 350	0	70 325	75 000
EXPENDITURE					
Administration					
President	1 460	7 200		8 000	8 000
Secretary-General	16 000			25 000	25 000
Secretariat		10 000			
Administrative Council		12 000			
AC Meeting Chicago	16 190				
AC other					
Website	700	4 100			
Treasurer	300	1 500		1 500	1 500
Sub-total 1	34 650	34 800	0	34 500	34 500
Committees					
Secretaries (MN/WC)	2 100	2 000		2 000	2 000
Publications & Publicity (JN)	0	2 000		2 765	2 765
International Liaisons (NR)	1 270	1 100		1 100	1 100
Awards (JN)		0		0	5 000
<i>Ad Hoc Committee</i>					
Euro BME (NS)	2 403	5 000		5 000	5 000
<i>Ad Hoc Committees - Other</i>		5 000		5 000	2 000
Women in BME (AV)	0				
ProfEduc Issues (JB)					
Strategic Planning (?)					
Development (DG)					
New Membership (ML)					
Sub-total 2	5 773	15 100	0	15 865	17 865
Divisions / Working Groups					
Clinical Engineering (PH/AV)	1 460	3 880			
HCT Assessment (JP/SS)	819	2 050			
Cellular Engineering (FK/JS)	0				
Asian-Pacific Activities (WC/ML)	0	650			
European Activities	0				

Developing Countries (MP)	500	2 500			
Dev. Countries in Transition					
New Initiatives (MK)	0				
Sub-total 3	2 779	12 000		12 000	9080
Regional Liaisons					
CORAL/Latin America (FI)	1 000	1 000			2 000
AFTH/Africa (MP)	500	1 000			1 000
Sub-total 4	1 500	2 000	0	2 000	3 000
Other					
IUPESM Subscription	2 500	6 897		6 897	6 897
IFMBE News	7 964	1 000		4 000	4 000
Conference Grants (LACII, Havana)	0	2 000			
Conference Losses	0				1 500
IFMBE Academy	0				
IFMBE History	0				
Women in BME	0				
Professional/Education					
Sub-total 5	10 464	9 897	0	10 897	12 397
Loans					
2nd Latin American BME Congress (Havana)	0	2 000			
EMBE 2002		3 050		3 050	0
WC2003 Sydney	17 120				
Sub-total 6	17 120	5 050	0	3 050	0
Miscellaneous					
Auditor	515	800		300	300
Bank Charges	156	260		260	260
Currency Charges	58			50	50
Other	50				
Sub-total 7	779	1 060	0	610	610
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	73 065	79 907	0	78 922	77 452
Excess: Income over Expenses (to reserves)	10 392	6 557	0	-8 597	2 452
FJC TRAVEL					
Income	7 600	7 600		7 800	7 800
Expenditure	7 463	5 000		4 000	7 800
Excess: Income over Expenses	137	2 600	0	3 800	0
Reserves as at 1 Jan '01: GBP42,000					

Balance Sheet (as at March 2002)

Current Assets

Lloyds TSB Fixed Deposits	226 024	
Lloyds TSB Main a/c	27 499	
Lloyds TSB Subs a/c	15 934	
Lloyds TSB Journal a/c (FJC Editors)	9 354	
Lloyds TSB Call Deposit 1	46 290	
Lloyds TSB Call Deposit 2	1 805	
ABN-AMRO		63 244 —
US Account (\$48,000 as at June 2001)		45 000 \$
Sub-Total 1	<u>326 906</u>	

Accounts Receivable

Membership Dues
WC2006 Loan
LACII Loan

Sub-Total 2

Total

Liabilities: None

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IOMP Proposal for new term for WC

Dear Jean-Pierre and Dov,

This letter informs the Presidents of the IFMBE and IUPESM that the IOMP Council will be considering a proposal to change the time cycle of the World Congress for Medical Physics and Bioengineering. IOMP requests input on this IOMP decision from IFMBE and IUPESM. The proposal is based on more than 6 months of careful study by the IOMP Executive Committee and officials of the IOMP.

The IOMP Executive Committee first requested and received a long term evaluation of the IOMP budget from a newly configured and highly experienced IOMP Finance Committee. This committee reviewed past performance of IOMP income sources and the present level of budgetary commitments. The Finance Committee report raised significant concern for long term IOMP financial solvency. After consultation with IOMP official responsible for primary expenditures the IOMP EXCOM voted unanimously to recommend the following changes to the IOMP Council to improve income results:

(a) To change the IOMP + IFMBE (WC Meetings with Engineers) to every 4 yrs instead of 3 yrs, starting with WC 2009 to be postponed to WC 2010, 2014, .. etc.

(b) To add the IOMP + IOMP Chapter (World Congress for Medical Physics) to every 4 yrs, starting with 2004, 2008, 2012, .. etc.

Budget predictions recommend making a change as soon as possible but because of time constraints the 2004 WC for Medical Physics will probably be delayed to 2005. Europe is suggested as the venue for the first meeting to minimize impact on the combined WC Seoul Congress in 2006.

The IOMP Council requires some time to consider the proposal but we expect a decision before the end of June. The IOMP President, Osckar Chomicki, will inform you in writing as soon as a decision is available. In the interim IOMP requests that the IUPESM CCC consider the option of a 4-year Congress cycle beginning in 2010. Thank you in advance for your consideration and evaluation of the IOMP proposal.

Sincerely,

Gary D. Fullerton, PhD
Secretary General IOMP

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MODIFICATIONS TO IFMBE BYLAWS TO ALLOW MULTIPLE MEMBERSHIPS FROM A SINGLE COUNTRY

The expansion of Biomedical Engineering activities has given rise to new areas of activity. IFMBE believe that it must be responsive to these changes in order to best represent Medical and Biological Engineering and the interests of its Member Organisations.

The development of some rather specialised areas of application has led to the formation of groups with specialised interests, not associated with the National Societies. IFMBE believe that such fragmentation is undesirable and makes it very difficult to present Biomedical Engineering as a coherent discipline. The danger of fragmentation was recognised in Bylaw 8, which allows such groups to become members of IFMBE by affiliating with the National Society. This appears to have been a rather ineffective mechanisms and IFMBE propose that there be a simpler method to allow multiple membership from a single country. The proposed amendments to the Bylaws also recognise the consequences of such multiple membership.

Changed Bylaws 8 and 12, with changes **highlighted**.

8 Membership

a) Members

Members of the Federation under Article 4 of the Constitution must present evidence that they are carrying on one or more of the following activities in an area relevant to Medical and Biological Engineering: holding regular meetings, publishing a journal meeting professional standards, and maintaining study groups. Such an organization must be formed on a non-profit basis, must maintain high ethical standards, must have a constitution and By-law or other official certification of its organization and operation, and must present a census of membership. The Secretary-General shall assemble a dossier on each application, and shall submit it to the Administrative Council for comment and review. The completed application shall be submitted to the General Assembly by mail and shall require for approval a majority vote of those members of the General Assembly responding within sixty days.

When, because of the size of the country or for other good reasons, there are several organizations in the field of Medical and Biological Engineering in a single country wishing to become Members of the Federation, the Federation may accept as a Member an affiliation of these societies **or the Federation may accept as Members more than one organisation from that country. The additional applicant must provide good reasons why they should be admitted in addition to the National Society. The National Society shall be asked to comment on the application of the additional Member and shall do so within 30 days.** In order to be eligible for Membership an affiliation must have a president, secretary, treasurer, and a constitution. Both the number of Delegates at the General Assembly and the subscription dues would be the numbers of the total membership as if the affiliation were a single society. **In those countries in which there are more than one organisation which are Members of the Federation, the subscription dues of each organisation shall be based on the number of members of that organisation; the number of Delegates at the General Assembly shall be based on the number of the total membership of all organisations in that country that are Members of the Federation.**

A Transnational organization shall not be considered for membership if its election would bring the number of delegates for Transnational organizations above the limit of 25% of the total number of delegates to the General Assembly.

12 Delegates to the General Assembly

The number of delegates which may represent each Member Organization at the General Assembly shall, to the nearest integer, be equal to the common logarithm of the number of individual members in that organization, as follows:

Number of Members	Number of Delegates
31 or less	1
32 to 316	2
317 to 3162	3
3163 and above	4

In those countries in which there are more than one organisation which are Members of the Federation, the total number of Delegates at the General Assembly would be based on the number of the total membership of all the organisations that are Members of the Federation. The distribution of the number of Delegates within this total number shall, to the nearest integer, be in direct proportion to the number of members of the individual organisations.

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2002-06-12

International Academy for Medical and Biological engineering

Application for economical support, Sydney activities

The International Academy hereby apply for economical support for the program activities at the World Conference in Sydney, Australia, August 2003.

The following activities are planned:

1. A series of tutorials, "Cellular engineering for beginners", in which this new field is presented to young researchers, interested to enter the field. The lectures will be held by Fellow of the Academy, if possible.
2. A workshop concerning educational matters similar to the one held before the Chicago conference is planned. We hope to get support from other sources, the European Union and the Whitaker Foundation for this activity.
3. A reception for young faculty for all over the world in order to create international contacts and collaboration is planned.

We estimate the cost for these activities to USD 4000.

Linköping 2002-06-12

P. Åke Öberg

Chairman

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ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL, IFMBE, REYKJAVIK,
ICELAND: JUNE 2002

MEDICAL & BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING & COMPUTING

EDITOR IN CHIEF'S REPORT

1. Summary

The journal remains healthy with good submission rates. This year started well with a record 30 papers submitted in January and the submission numbers have remained well up for the subsequent months. The Impact Factor has risen steadily since 1996. We need to continue to target Bioengineering Departments in universities and hospitals, to encourage them to take out a library subscription.

2. MBEC Submissions (excluding *Cellular Engineering* submissions)

Submissions

The following is a summary of submissions (excluding all Subject Reviews and *Cellular Engineering* papers) from 1997:

	<i>Received</i>	<i>Accepted</i>	<i>Published</i>
1997	162	82 (51%)	82
1998	176	81 (46%)	81
1999	214	85 (40%)	85
2000	206	104 (50%)	104
2001	172	(75	51 at 17.5.02)
2002 (Jan - mid-May)	105		

A total of 172 papers was received in 2001 (down on the previous two years). A breakdown of these figures is given in Appendix I. In contrast 105 papers have been received up to mid-May 2002.

Acceptance rate

The acceptance rate for papers received in 1999 was 40% and for 2000 was 50%. For the 172 papers received in 2001, 75 have been accepted and 7 are being revised. If all these are accepted, the maximum rate would then be 48%.

Time to first decision

Editorial decisions on *MBEC* papers are made in under 3 months for over 80% of papers. First decisions have been made on all *MBEC* papers received before March 2002, and on all but four *MBEC* papers received before April 2002.

Time to publication

Approximately 65% of papers are published within 9 months of first receipt. Nearly all are published in 12 months. There is recent concern, however, over delays in the published issues being distributed (attributable to delays in proof production and the date at which the journal is passed-for-press). For example, the January 2002 issue did not appear until early March, with subscription copies arriving as late as 26 March to UK addresses. Further (hopefully one off) problems resulted in the March 2002 issue appearing even later, on 17 May, with subscription copies on 20 May.

In the November 2001 issue, all but two papers were first received in or after December 2000; all were received in their final form between July and September 2001. Of the 18 papers in the January 2002

issue, all but three were first received in or after February 2001; they were received in their final form between August and November 2001 (14 of those being between October and November). In the March 2002 issue, all papers were first received in or later than April 2001; they were in their final form between November 2001 and February 2002.

Subject reviews

A review was submitted in March 2001 and was published in the November 2001 issue: ‘Cellular engineering of vascular bypass grafts: role of chemical coatings for enhancing endothelial cell attachment’ (Salacinski H J, Tiwari A, Hamilton G, Seifalian A).

Another review was submitted in May 2001 and published in January 2002: ‘Progress towards automated diabetic ocular screening: a review of image analysis and intelligent systems for diabetic retinopathy’ (Teng T, Lefley M, Claremont D).

A number of other reviews have been agreed, but none is yet in press.

3. Cellular Engineering submissions

Submissions

Cellular engineering papers have been incorporated in *MBEC* as a separate section since the beginning of 1998. This section is edited by Professor Åke Öberg. Submissions from 1997 (excluding reviews) are as follows:

	<i>Received</i>	<i>Accepted</i>	<i>Published</i>
1997	42	35 (83%)	35
1998	15	10 (67%)	10
1999	11	11 (100%)	11
2000	5	5 (100%)	5
2001	4	(3	0 at 17.5.02)
2002 (Jan - mid-May)	9		

After a period of eight months with no submissions of cellular engineering papers, this has now picked up with four papers in the last four months of 2001; three more were then received in February and six in March 2002. In 2001 only three scientific papers and one review were published.

Submission rate

The overall submission rate had continued to fall, with only five papers received in 2000 and four for 2001. The IFMBE AC has put a new Working Group in place. It is hoped that this effort will help. The Working Group is chaired by Professor Gerhard Artmann, University of Applied Sciences, Aachen (Dept of Cell Biophysics and Bioengineering), and he has also joined the Board of the journal.

Future of the Cellular Engineering Section in MBEC

As it was no longer possible to sustain a separate section for *Cellular Engineering*, from 2001 Cellular Engineering papers were incorporated fully into *MBEC*, and *Cellular Engineering* papers are now a subgroup, comparable to all other groups. There is no separate Editorial Board for *Cellular Engineering*. The IFMBE AC wants us to continue to give *Cellular Engineering* a high profile in spite of these difficulties. We continue to display “Incorporating Cellular Engineering” on the front cover.

4. Journal issues

The majority of papers published fall into the category of ‘Scientific Paper’, with between 15 and 20 papers per issue.

5. Impact factor

As previously noted, the Impact Factor for 1999 had risen again and had crossed the threshold of 1.0. It was noted that the Impact Factor had risen by 0.47 between 1996 and 1999. The figures available for 2000 showed no effective change. We can all help by ensuring that researchers are aware of recent relevant papers in *MBEC*. The Subject Indexes for *MBEC* are available on the worldwide web at <http://www.iee.org/Publish/Journals/ProfJourn/MBEC> and then click "subject index". The Subject Indexes in booklet form for papers published in *MBEC* for 2000 and 2001 (relevant for citations in 2002) are also sent out to authors and referees. The latest booklet covering the first three issues of 2002 is in preparation.

6. Subscriptions

Library subscriptions continue to fall by about 5% each year. Only 89 members of IFMBE purchased a personal subscription in 2001.

Personal letters have now been written to contacts in universities/departments/etc in specific countries. The value of this is still to be assessed. However, it was noted that in the UK and Sweden, two of the main countries targeted, the number of library subscriptions increased. The IFMBE AC agreed that this campaign should be extended, and the matter was raised at the Regional Representatives Meeting.

Overall, the journal is financially healthy, but the fall in library subscriptions must be halted. Members of IFMBE are asked to help by ensuring that their departments subscribe at the library rate.

7. On-line version of MBEC

The on-line version of *MBEC* is now available and was demonstrated at the Chicago 2000 and Pula 2001 meetings. A login and password are available for it to be seen at the Nordic / Baltic Conference in Reykjavik, Iceland. Those who subscribe this year will also have access to 2000 and 2001.

The June 2001 meeting of the IFMBE AC decided to encourage as many IFMBE members as possible to use the on-line version of *MBEC*. It was hoped that this would increase the visibility of *MBEC*, and hence also increase library subscriptions. PPL have agreed to free access for individuals who register on the IFMBE web site. This was seen as a marketing strategy. Marc Nyssen had the necessary software running and tested by the end of 2001.

8. Marketing

The publishers are now regularly providing publicity material for all IFMBE conferences. We aim to establish a single contact person for each conference. However, we are not receiving information on all meetings which are IFMBE meetings.

9. Medline

The current version of Medline includes papers up to the January 2002 issue of *MBEC*.

10. Special Issues

Discussions are underway on producing the following Special Issues:

Integrative models of the heart, the cardiome project: Special Editors Jos Spaan, Fumihiko Kajkya.

Bio-optics: Åke Öberg (to mark his retirement from Professorship in Biomedical Engineering)

Cartilage repair: Alicia el Haj and Åke Öberg

Biosensors: Donald G Buerk

Neuroengineering: Karen Moxon

Selected papers from MEDICON (title to be agreed): Ratko Magjarevic

Notes on guidance to editors of Special Issues have been prepared and circulated.

11. Deputy Editor

Professor Åke Öberg has indicated his wish to retire, and a new Deputy is being sought. I wish to record my thanks for the help and support of Åke Öberg.

Alan
Murray,
Editor in Chief

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Ratko Magjarevic
IFMBE News Editor
Ratko.magjarevic@fer.hr

June 14,2002

IFMBE News

EDITOR'S REPORT

General Remarks

I have started editing the IFMBE News from the March issue 2002, i.e. I have edited the latest two issues. The number of contributions has slightly increased. The interest of the affiliated societies to publish information on developments within their societies or BME community is low, with exception of information on scientific events. The News are still published with a delay, i.e. aprox. 15 days after the end of the month foreseen for publishing of the issue.

March Issue 2002

The March Issue had 27 contributions.

The reports were collected till March 20, the editorial work was finished and the contributions sent to PPL on March 27, the web version (HTML) was published on March, and the PDF versions (in colour and printable) on May 5, 2002.

May Issue 2002

The may Issue has 20 contributions.

The reports were collected till May 12, the editorial work was finished till May 27, the web version (HTML) was published on May 14, and the PDF versions will be published as soon as PPL's graphical editors find time to do the job.

July Issue 2002

Call for contributions will be opened till July 4. I intend to send the files to PPL till July 10.

The Dynamics of publishing

Since the time (delay) form collecting and editing the contributions to their first (i.e. HTML) version publishing on the Internet is aprox. two weeks. I will successively move the ending date for collecting contributions for the News forward to the end of the months preceding the publication month of the issue.

The content and Form of Contributions

Approximately the half of the contributions come form authors who **intended** to write a report for the IFMBE News. The other contributions are not primarily intended for the news and therefore need a lot of editing, usually even re-writing ion a suitable form for the news. Though I am aware that those contributions could be rejected, the number of received reports (in my opinion) does not allow it.

I intend to write instructions for sending of contributions that should be published at the IFMBE News Internet site and in each printable issue of the news.

The Latest Statistics for Webpage Hits

April 2002: 5572

March 2002: 5434

February 2002: 5076

(Data from PPL)

Ratko Magjarevic

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Report of Constitution & By-law Committee

for AC meeting, Iceland

1. Membership

The committee appointed in Chicago was J.C.Barbenel (Chairman), J.Spaan, and A.Infantosi. Following repeated failure of J.Spaan to respond to communications, R.Kirsner was added to the membership of the Committee by D.Jaron, President.

2. Amendments to By-law

The Committee was requested to prepare the following amendments:

2.1 Multiple Membership from a Single Country

2.2 Replacement of Members of the Administrative Council

2.3 Arrears of Membership Subscription

3. Applications for Membership of IFMBE

An application for Transnational Membership was received from The Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine. The membership was largely Australian with a few members from New Zealand. After discussion it was decided that the conditions for Transnational Membership in Article 4 of the Constitution were not satisfied and the C&B Committee recommended that the application be rejected.

The Statutes of the Venezuelan Bioengineering Society have been scrutinised by the C&B Committee, but no application for Membership of IFMBE has been submitted. The General has been asked to seek clarification.

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Arrears of Membership Subscription.

Bylaws 28 (Membership Subscription) and 30 (Termination of Membership) relate to the Membership Subscription and the action to be taken if National Member Societies are in arrears. In particular, Bylaw 30 says that if the National Member Society is in arrears for 18 months then “unless there are exceptional circumstances, the Administrative Council shall recommend to the General Assembly the termination of the Membership.”.

The Administrative Council believe that the current Bylaws are unduly restrictive and recommend that an additional, lesser sanction than termination be introduced but the possibility of termination of Membership be retained for arrears of longer duration. This requires modifications of Bylaws 28 and 30.

Changed Bylaws 28 and 30, with changes **highlighted**

28 Membership Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions from Members are based on the number of individual members in their organization. Before 1st September each year each Member organization shall inform the Treasurer of their membership numbers. The amount payable shall be in accordance with the current table appended to the By-law and available from the Treasurer on request. Before January 1st of each year the Treasurer shall send to the secretary of each Member Organization a request for payment of the appropriate dues based on the most recent information, and a request for information about changes in the number of individual members. In case of difficulty because of special circumstances, the Administrative Council is empowered to determine a subscription for that Member

If for any reason the annual subscription of a Member in any year has not been paid by 1st June, the Member shall be notified by the Treasurer that the subscription is in arrears. If the subscription in arrears has not been paid by 1st December of that year, the matter shall be reported to the Administrative Council by the Treasurer. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, the Delegates of the National Organisation shall forfeit the right to vote in ballots while the National Organisation remains in arrears; such Delegates shall be allowed to attend the General Assembly and take part in discussions.

30 Termination of Membership

- a) Should a Member Organization wish to resign it must give six months notice to the Secretary-General in writing and shall be responsible for the annual subscription until the effective date of the resignation.
- b) **If for any reason the annual subscription of a Member in any year has not been paid by 1st June of the year following the first request for payment** unless there are exceptional circumstances, the Administrative Council shall recommend to the General Assembly the termination of the Membership.

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Replacement of Members of the Administrative Council.

It has become apparent that some elected members of the Administrative Council do not attend meetings of the Council and do not give reasons for their absence. This absence hampers the activities of the Council and Committees. It is therefore proposed that the Bylaws be modified to allow the replacement of non-attending member of the Administrative Council.

This will require that changes be made to Bylaws 19 (Term of Office of Officers and Members of the Administrative Council), which defines the term of office of elected Members of the Administrative Council, and to Bylaw 27 (Administrative Council). Bylaw 18, paragraph h) defines the mechanism for replacement.

Changed Bylaws 19 and 27, with changes **highlighted**.

19 Term of Office of Officers and Members of the Administrative Council

b) An elected Council member shall **normally** hold office from the end of the Ordinary General Assembly which elected him/**her** until the end of the second succeeding Ordinary Session of the Ordinary General Assembly. Normally four members shall be elected at each session of the Ordinary General Assembly and no member may be re-elected as a Council member immediately upon the completion of his term.

27 Administrative Council

h) If an elected Council member fails to attend 2 consecutive meetings of the Administrative Council without reasonable excuse, his/her position is to be declared vacant.

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Suggested Amendments to IFMBE Bylaws to accord with the Internal Revenue Code (USA)

Reason for Amendment.

IFMBE has an interest bearing bank account in the USA and accordance with the US Internal Revenue Code means that IFMBE will not pay tax on the interest. The necessary words to comply with the code will form a single additional Bylaw, the wording of which is given below.

31. U.S. Tax-Exempt status

IFMBE is organized exclusively for scientific purposes under 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

No part of the net earnings of IFMBE shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that IFMBE shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the Constitution. No substantial part of the activities of IFMBE shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and IFMBE shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, IFMBE shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal taxes.

Upon the dissolution of IFMBE, assets held in the United States shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR MEDICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING
SECRETARIES' COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Committee Meeting held at Pula, Croatia
on Thursday, 14th June 2001

Secretaries present:

Prof. Dr. Ir. Mard NYSSSEN (Chairman), Belgium

Dr. Walter CHANG (Co-Chairman), Taiwan

Doc. dr. sc. Ratco MAGJAREVIC, Croatia

Dr. Stelios CHRISTOFIDES, Cyprus

Prof. Jiri HOLCIK, Czech Republic

Prof. Kalju MEIGAS, Estonia

Dr. Akos JOBBAGY, Hungary

Prof. Stefan SIGURDSSON, Iceland

Mr. Patrick PENTONY, Ireland

Prof. Marcello BRACALE, Italy

Dr. Gon KHANG, Korea

Prof. Laura ROA, Spain

Dr. Hans BLATTMAN, Switzerland

The following were invited to attend as Guests and Observers:

Prof. Dr. rer.nat. Joachim NAGEL (Vice-President), Germany

Dr. Heikki TERIO (Secretary-General), Sweden

Mr. Mladen POLUTA (Treasurer), South Africa

Prof. Alan MURRAY (Editor MBEC) United Kingdom

Keith COPELAND (Honorary Member), United Kingdom

Prof. Dr. Hermann GILLY, Australia

Prof. A. Fernando INFANTOSI (A.C. Member), Brasil

Dr. John GADE, Denmark

Prof. Didier GEIGER, France

Dr. Thordar HELGASON, Iceland

Dr. Javier REINA-TORINA, Spain

Mr. Reginald GEORGE, United Kingdom

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Marc Nyssen welcomed everyone, stressing again the importance that Secretaries should meet and present their annual reports.

2. ROLL CALL. Those present signed the attendance sheet. Apologies for absence had been received from Japan, The Netherlands, Finland, and ESEM (European Society for Engineering n Medicine).

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING IN CHICAGO

Gon Khang said Korea had not been listed. Keith Copeland replied that the attendance sheet had not been signed. Marc Nyssen reminded that Secretaries' Reports should be submitted electronically.

The Minutes were approved.

5. IFMBE OFFICERS' REPORTS

SECRETARY GENERAL: Heikki Terio said that since Chicago, stationery had been updated and the list of countries now included Ireland and Yugoslavia. No more printed directories are available: these are now on the "web". He asked everyone to notify changes and remained that societies should make an annual report. Hermann said there was difficulty in receiving the "Home Page".

TREASURER: Mladen Poluta said the Administrative Council had met in Pula. Expenditure for 2001 had been GBP80,000 against an income of GBP54,000 - a deficit of GBP26,000. The Chicago Conference had yielded a surplus. For 2002 an expenditure of GBP78,000 was anticipated with an income of 53,000 - a deficit of GBP25,000. A three-year 'rolling' financial plan was under consideration. Reserves were healthy. Main bank account remained at Lloyds in U.K. There was now a bank account in the USA for those who wished to pay in US dollars. The IFMBE News, now on the

'net' had initially cost more. The cost of IFMBE fees for Affiliation to ICSU had increased from GBP2,500 to GBP6,500. The contribution to IUPFSM had increased to GBP10,000. Membership fees had not changed since 1992. Therefore, it was proposed to double the membership fees to cover increasing costs, except for small societies who would be charged 2 US dollars per member (approx. GBP1.50).

It was noted that more than half the Federation's income was derived from the Journal MBE&C whilst Societies' fees accounted for only 15%. The Council was not able to support all the projects it would wish and it was advocated that new sources of income should be sought such as WHO and other organisations. Hermann Gilly asked what the revised fees would be. Keith Copeland remained that the original logarithmic scale of fees was a distinct advantage to larger societies.

EDITOR OF JOURNAL. Alan Murray reported that some authors took a long time to revise their papers. Normal publication time was 9 months. The publication of the Journal of Cellular Engineering had ceased because of lack of subscriptions and papers. This had now been incorporated in the main journal. Library subscriptions had fallen. The President had sent personal letters to heads of departments in the United Kingdom, USA and Sweden to promote the Journal. The Journal went 'on-line' in 2000. Subscription cost for personal copies of the Journal was GBP74. Stefan Sigurdsson said he subscribed to several American Journals for 50 US dollars. Marcello Bracale said that 25 members of his society paid a subscription fee which included the Journal. Joachim Nagel suggested that the IFMBE consider a new journal of Cellular and Tissue Engineering. Keith commented that a Cell and Tissue Engineering Society existed in the U.K.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Joachim Nagel reported that the IFMBE was seeking to co-operate with the IOMP to produce a series of books to increase awareness of our subject. The first in this series would be the Proceedings of MEDICON 2001. A publicity booklet would be produced to increase awareness of the IFMBE. An interactive 'web' site would be initiated to administrative purposes. There followed discussion on a number of matters. All Secretaries were urged to contact their Academies of Science to recover fees paid to ICSU. In this respect, Keith Copeland, several years ago, had visited the Royal Society who at that time had not heard of IFMBE, IOMP or IUPESM!! There had been an enquiry from Saudi Arabia (no society) for individual membership. Marcello proposed such acceptance but he depreciated duplication of effort. Keith commented that as far back as 1973 he had advocated the formation of Divisions within the IFMBE to encourage some special topic societies which were then being formed to come under the 'umbrella' of the Federation. Working Group activities required a representative from each country. It had been suggested that membership cards should be issued.

6. NEW FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

One application had been received from Venezuela. Fernando spoke in support: they had 50 members and had held six or seven conferences. Application would be put to ballot before Sydney. Marc mentioned possible future applications from Malaysia, Mongolia and Bosnia & Herzegovina.

7. REPORTS FROM IFMBE BODIES

Heikki Terio said that no reports had been received from Clinical Engineering or Health Care Technology Divisions. It was mentioned that Sam Sideman (Israel) would be Chairman of HCTA. At Chicago committees for Industry, Development and Neuro-Engineering had been formed.

Marcello recommended that committees should always meet at IFMBE events. He objected to committees meeting at 'alien' events.

8. MEMBER SOCIETIES REPORTS

8.1. AUSTRIA:

Hermann Gilly reported that there was a deficit of government money, but the society had new links with industry. The society had lost money with EMBC 1999 in Vienna.

8.2. BELGIUM:

Secretary, Marc Nyssen, said membership was 65. A one-day annual conference was organised and sponsored by their Academy of Sciences.

8.3. BRAZIL:

Fernando Infantosi reported of membership of 263. He tabled a comprehensive report (Attached)(Annex A)

8.4. CROATIA:

Secretary, Ratko Magjarevic, said their main efforts had been devoted to the present conference, but meetings on equipment and a 'Round Table' had also been held. Their Ministry of Health had made a contribution to the conference and the Minister said she would attend the Closing Ceremony. Working

groups had been set up with the Ministry of Health and standards established. Slovenian and Croatian societies will publish jointly in their own languages. Marc thanked Ratko and his colleagues for providing organisation for the conference (Applause).

8.5. CYPRUS:

Stelios Christofides reported a membership of 36. A seminar had been held on June 2, and a 'web' site had been established.

8.6. CZECH REPUBLIC:

Jiri Holcik said there was an active membership of 50. Since Chicago, several national seminars had been arranged on Biological Signal Processing, Modelling and Analysis of Biological Systems and Protocols used in Medical Information systems. Jointly with the Slovak Society, annual seminars were arranged on problems in BME education in both countries. A journal is published, "Physician and Technology". An attempt has been made to liaise with the Association of producers of medical equipment and to encourage co-operation between universities and industry.

8.7. DENMARK:

John Gade said membership was 230 plus 27 company members. There were working groups for: Anaesthesia & Intensive Care; Point-of Care Technology; Image Analysis and Clinical Engineering. Meetings are often arranged jointly with medical societies. Visits are arranged to member companies.

8.8. ESTONIA: Kalju Meigas said their membership was 72. Their A.G.M. had been held in October 2001. A report was tabled (Annex B)

8.9. FRANCE:

Didier Geiger tabled a report explaining the French arrangement and composition of their Society. (Annex C)

8.10. GERMANY:

Joachim Nagel explained that their society had become associated with VDF (association of Electrical Engineers similar to IEEE) resulting of an increase in membership from 600 to more than 1,000.

8.11. HUNGARY:

Akos Jobbagy reported a declining membership because other societies were interested in Biomedical Engineering. Membership was about 196.

8.12. ICELAND:

Secretary, Stefan Sigurdsson reported 65 members. Preparations were being made for the Nordic/Baltic conference in Reykjavik in June 2002. Disciplines of members varied. There was collaboration with industry but no Biomedical Engineering education in Iceland.

8.13. IRELAND:

Patrick Pentony tabled a report (Attached). Membership was 80 to 100. Education degree courses existed but advice was required about training. A registration scheme for health -care officials would be completed by the end of the year (Annex D).

8.14. ITALY:

Marcello Bracale tabled a comprehensive report (Attached). Membership 130. There was involvement in Telemedicine and a conference would be held in Genoa in 2002, also a meeting on education, one on Cellular Engineering in June 2002 as well as a meeting in Padua on Biotechnology.

8.15. KOREA:

Secretary, Gon Khang reported 800 members including students. There were two satellite societies. Endeavours were being made for collaboration with neighbouring countries: a joint symposium with Japan on 'Artificial Organs'; symposium at Kyongju, Korea in May 2001 on 'Medical Imaging'. A third symposium will be in Kyoto and others are anticipated in China and Taiwan. A journal in Korean and English abstracts is published six times a year. It is hoped to publish a journal in English to encourage international collaboration.

8.16. SOUTH AFRICA:

Mladen Poluta emphasised the many difficulties with membership of 200 but only between 20 and 30 active. Centres of activity were long distances apart, making it difficult to arrange meetings - a two-year conference interval. There is a Clinical Engineering Society. The University of Cape Town will set up a course to improve performance of health care technology practitioners. There is only a small Medical Instrument Industry. There is collaboration with WHO and the Department of Health had approved an audit of equipment and staff. Setting up policy for health technology was now under approval by the Cabinet. A graduation scheme for Biomedical Engineering had commenced.

8.17. SPAIN:

Laura Roa reported a membership of 150. The annual conference had been held at the University of Cartagena with an attendance of 200. The next conference would be held in Madrid. An annual report is attached. (Annex E)

8.18. SWEDEN:

Heikki Terio announced membership as 1012. He had confirmed that Bertil Jacobson designed the Federation's Logo for the conference in Stockholm in November on Health Care Management.

8.19. SWITZERLAND:

Hans Blattman tabled a report (Attached) and said the Swiss society had few members but was endeavouring to encourage close association with industry. The main activity had been to prepare the application for the World Congress in 2006 to be a collaborate event by the societies of the United Kingdom, Germany and Switzerland and to be held in Lausanne, Switzerland. (Annex F)

8.20. TAIWAN:

Walter Chang tabled a report (Attached) indicating a membership of 1,196 of whom 438 were active, 243 students and 53 group members. There had been three conference: December 2000 Taipei General Assembly attendance 2000; May 2001 Taichung on Chinese Medicine and Pharmacy; June 2001 Taipei Biomedical Technology. 42 certificates had been awarded for Clinical Engineering and 46 for BMET.

9. FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS

After Sydney Marc said he would have completed his term of office as Chairman of the Secretaries' Committee. Thoughts should, therefore, be given for candidates for Chairman and Co-Chairman. The Secretary-General and Treasurer would have served six years. Keith reminded that the Constitution allowed for a further term for the Secretary-General.

10. MATTERS FROM SECRETARIES AND NEW INITIATIVES.

Marcello Bracale suggested a Working Group for Telemedicine should be initiated.

11. FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

The next Nordic/Baltic Conference would be held in Iceland at Reykjavik University Conference at the end of June 2002.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

12.1. Heikki Terio mentioned there was a project by a German organisation to help Nepal.

12.2. Mladen Poluta said a project would commence the following March for Health Technology which would be funded by the British Government.

12.3. Keith Copeland drew attention to a highly irregular matter, which has persisted regarding the World Congresses. When it was agreed to combine the triennial conferences of the IFMBE and IOMP an agreement was drawn up stating:

(i) Responsibility for publications would alternate between IFMBE and IOMP.

(ii) Title of Conference announcements would also alternate, thus: "World Congress of Biomedical Engineering & Medical Physics" "World Congress of Medical Physics & Biomedical Engineering". This agreement has NEVER been adhered to and must be corrected forthwith for the 2003 Sydney Congress.

13. NEXT SECRETARIES' COMMITTEE MEETING

It was agreed this would be held immediately before the Conference in Reykjavik.

14. CLOSING

Marc Nyssen closed the meeting, thanking everyone for attending and hoping secretaries would communicate with one another frequently during the coming year.

Minutes prepared by Keith Copeland, Honorary Member

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3rd. Latin American Conference on Biomedical Engineering

Budget

5th june 2002

	Direct resources US\$	Corporate Sponsors US\$	Total US\$
REVENUES			
Registration of 350 participants (US\$ 150)	52 500		52 500
Registration of 250 students (US\$ 70)	17 500		17 500
Registration of 30 acc. persons (US\$ 40)	1 200		1 200
			0
Exhibit Booth Rental	4 000		4 000
Corporate Sponsors		12 600	12 600
Grants Received		6 000	6 000
	75 200	18 600	93 800
EXPENSES			
Scientific Program (invited speakers...)	6 500	8 500	15 000
Rental of Convention Center	16 500	3 500	20 000
Bus Shuttle and Transport	4 800		4 800
Rental of Audio Visual Equipment	1 500	1 600	3 100
Promotion and Publicity	3 000		3 000
Congress Digest (Printing and CD)	13 000	5 000	18 000
Postage/Telephone	4 500		4 500
Administrative Expenses (personnel.. etc)	5 000		5 000
Preparative costs	3 500		3 500
Social Program (including coffe breakers)	6 000		6 000
Miscellaneous	6 500		6 500
Unexpected	4 400		4 400
	75 200	18 600	93 800

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Report on: The 5th Asia Pacific Conference on Medical and Biological Engineering

The International Congress on Biological and Medical Engineering incorporating the 5th Asia Pacific Conference on Medical and Biological Engineering and the 11th International Conference on Biomedical Engineering will be held on the 4th to 7th December 2002 at the Mandarin Singapore. The theme for this congress is : The Bio-Era: New Frontiers, New Challenges

This congress is jointly organised by the Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Engineering, National University of Singapore and the Biomedical Engineering Society (Singapore). It is endorsed by the International Federation of Medical and Biological Engineering and the IEEE Engineering in Medicine & Biology Society

It has the sponsorship of the following organizations:

Nanyang Technology University
 Nanyang Polytechnic
 Ngee Ann Polytechnic
 Singapore Polytechnic
 Temasek Polytechnic
 Institute of Materials Research & Engineering
 Kent Ridge Digital Lab
 Economic Development Board
 Biomaterials Network
 The International Faculty for Artificial Organs

The congress has the financial support of the following organizations:

Biomedical Research Council, Agency for Science, Technology and Research
 Office of Life Sciences, National University of Singapore
 Lee Foundation
 Singapore Tourism Board
 CalendarOne

Call for Papers:

The call for abstracts will be divided into the following topics

Artificial Organs	Biomedical Instrumentation	Micro Biomedical Engineering Systems
Bioethics	Cardiovascular Bioengineering	Neural Systems Engineering
Bioengineering	Cellular Engineering	Physiological Control
Education	Computational Bioengineering	Rehabilitation Engineering
Biosignal Processing	Dental Bioengineering	Respiratory Mechanics
Biomolecular Engineering	Drug Delivery	Robotics in Surgery
Bioinformatics	Medical Imaging	Tissue Engineering
Biomaterials		
Biomechanics		

*Closing date for Abstracts submission : 1st June 2002

*Notification of acceptance : 1st July 2002

*Closing date for submission of full papers : 1st September 2002

Abstract Submission:

Papers submitted may be selected for oral or poster presentation. Intending authors are requested to submit an abstract of not more than 250 words. The abstract should state the main points of the paper and describe clearly new and significant results obtained.

Congress Awards

Historically, the conference has attracted very high quality papers from authors who have demonstrated innovation and excellent research in biomedical engineering. We intend to recognise their contribution to science and engineering in the advancement of medical & healthcare. The coming congress will see three categories of awards being presented, namely Young investigators Award, Outstanding Paper Awards and the ICBME Honorary Awards. A select committee comprising internationally renowned reviewers will serve as ICBME 2002 Awards Panel.

Invited Speakers

Congress Opening Lecture

Lim Louis	The BioEra: New Frontiers, New Challenges
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PLENARY

Chien Shu	Molecular Basis of Mechanotransduction
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Hoffman Allan	History of Biomaterials Development and Where We will be Heading
----------------------	--

Jaron Dov	Biomedical Engineering in the 21 st Century
------------------	--

Kajiya Fumihiko	Functional Imaging from Molecule to System by Synchrotron Radiation
------------------------	---

Liu Edison	Genome Biology and the Future of Medicine
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Nerem Robert	Advances in Tissue Engineering
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Woo Savio	Contribution of Biomechanics to Clinical Practice in Orthopaedics
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KEYNOTES

An Kai Nan	Gliding Characteristics of Tendon
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Bodem Friedrich	What can Computerized Electromyography do for Biomechanical Research and Orthopaedic Diagnostics
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Pearcy Mark	New Frontiers in Bioengineering and the Implications for Spinal Biomechanics
--------------------	--

Paul John P	Joint Replacements – The Wear Problem
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Liu De Pei	Regulation of Alpha and Beta-Globin Gene Cluster Expression by BAC Mediated Transgenic Mice
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Cao YiLin	Recent Advances in Tissue Engineering
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Ikada Yoshito	Recent Progress in Tissue Engineering
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Johnson Peter	Tissue Analysis Systems: New Approaches for Drug Development and Tissue Engineering
----------------------	---

Wintermantel Eric	Therapeutical Bioengineering: The Materials Impact
--------------------------	--

Chang Guan-Liang	Retrieval Study on HA-Coated Acetabular Cups
-------------------------	--

Milthorpe Bruce	Strategies for Replacement of Load Bearing Bone
------------------------	---

Artificial Organs

Umezu Mitsuo	Biomedical Engineering Approaches to Evaluate a Function of Artificial Organs
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Chandran K B	Atherosclerosis and Vascular Mechanics: Recent Developments
---------------------	---

Einav Shmuel	Vascular Hemodynamics and Bioengineering
---------------------	--

Singh Megha	Blood flow Visualization in Mesenteric Microvessels
--------------------	---

Yoganathan Ajit P	Fluid Dynamics of the Fontan Circulation
--------------------------	--

Thakor Nitish	Neural Engineering: An Engineer's Contact with the Brain
----------------------	--

Rajagopalan Gunaretnam	The Singapore BioMed Grid Project: Building the IT Infrastructure for Biomedicine
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Kim Sun I	Virtual Reality Technology for Psychotherapy and Rehabilitation
------------------	---

Mak Arthur FT	Bioengineering for Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation: from Research to Service
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Zhang Yuan-Ting	Tele-healthcare and E-Medicine in the New Century: Opportunity and Challenge
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Chan Francis H Y	On-line Detection of Atrial Fibrillation
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Kikuchi Makoto	Recent Biomedical Technology Integrating with Genetic and Cellular Engineering
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4th International Workshop on Biosignal Interpretation
Villa Olmo Como, June 24th-26th, 2002

Preliminary Budget

INCOME

Registration fees	€ 26,600.00
Sponsors (external Scientific Institutions and Industrial partners)	€ 8,500.00
Total income	€ 35,100.00

OUTCOME

Villa Olmo Bill	€ 10,920.00
Printing of Proceedings	€ 3,600.00
Advertising	€ 1,000.00
Social Event & Dinner	€ 9,420.00
Coffee-Breaks and Aperitifs	€ 4,320.00
Invited Speakers	€ 4,400.00
Local Committee	€ 1,400.00
Total outcome	€ 35,060.00

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REPORT

International Governmental Organizations Liaison Committee (ILC) (Period 2001. June - 2002. May)

(Prepared to the IFMBE Administrative Council meeting, Reykjavik-Iceland, 16-17 June 2002.)

1) **List of ILC members**

Name of the ILC members, and the organisation(s) to which he/she is assigned to liaise:

Ulf BOSTROM, IEC, CENELEC-TC62

Didier GEIGER, UN-UNESCO, Paris

Hiie HINRIKUS, WHO-Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen)

Gideon KANTOR, Ph.D., WHO-PAHO, Regional Office for the Americas/Pan American Sanitary Bureau, Washington

Depei Liu, Ph.D., Co-chairman ILC, Asian-Pacific liaison

Marc NYSSSEN, European Union, Brussels

Nandor RICHTER, chairman ILC, UN-UNIDO, Vienna; WHO-HQ, Geneva

Heikki TERIÖ, ex officio, international liaison

2) **Liaison activities**

Members have been asked to work strongly by their own initiatives. Furthermore they are expected to represent the IFMBE based on the information and tasks provided for by the Administrative Council.

In key words the activities of the members:

Hiie Hinrikus participated in the WHO Regional Meeting for Europe, 10 September 2002. Madrid - Spain. She presented a good statement, which is enclosed in Annex 1. of this report.

Nándor Richter participated in the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) General Assembly in December 2001, in Vienna. The organisers appreciated the presence of IFMBE. (The seat allocated to our one member delegation was in the immediate vicinity of the Holy See and the Palestine Liberation Organization). The main topics on the agenda were far from IFMBE's interests, however, our participation was important to raise the visibility of our organisation.

Nándor Richter met with the World Health Organization Headquarters representatives in June 2002 in Berlin. WHO representatives and I participated on a meeting of the Notified Bodies and this gave opportunity to talk with Andrei Issakov and Peter Heimann. (Issakov's present title is: Dr. Andrei Issakov, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D., Coordinator, Service Outcome Department of Health Service Provision, Evidence and Information for Policy Cluster, World Health Organization). Peter Heimann became staff member of the WHO Headquarter. His is stationed in Cape Town - South Africa, where his office is in the premises of the Medical Research Council of South Africa). His official title: Scientist, Department of Health Service Provision). Their main concern is to develop and promote the Essential Healthcare Technology Project. WHO puts emphasis on "Quality of Care", and accreditation of healthcare facilities is highlighted in this program.

Dr. Issakov stressed the importance of the co-operation with IFMBE. He still thinks that clinical engineering is the main field of our co-operation. In WHO the reorganization period is over and Dr. Issakov thinks that the visit in the future of the IFMBE delegation could be useful.

Suggestion: Based on the experiences of the past two years let me repeat the following sentences from the former report submitted in Pula in 2001.

Past experiences showed that members of this Committee felt rather isolated because of the lack of sufficient information on the activities in the Federation and its AC. Therefore we suggest to consider a quarterly distributed "executive summary" type of information that would be given to members of this (and other) IFMBE Committees. This may be composed from the reports of the AC and other incoming materials.



Nándor Richter, Chairman
International Governmental
Organizations Liaison Committee

Attachment 1

Statement of Prof. Hiie Hinrikus at the 51. WHO Regional Meeting for Europe, 10 Sept. 2002. Madrid - Spain.

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING – CHALLENGES IN EUROPE

All the colleagues collected here at the fifty-first session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe have one main objective – to improve the quality of life of the people of Europe.

This is clear that the use of statistics of life expectancy, mortality, diseases and fix the situation *post factum* does not improve the situation. We have to collect information about major determinants of health (environmental, nutrition etc), monitoring and decreasing the risk factors and to protect the people. We should select the way of prevention and early detection of diseases. To achieve this purpose we have to do emphases on development of knowledge and technical bases for this.

To protect people and to provide health service quality is not possible without technology and equipment based on modern knowledge and scientific achievements.

Medical and Biological Engineering (BME) integrates physical, mathematical and life sciences and engineering principles for the study of biology, medicine and health systems and for the application of technology to improving health and quality of life. It creates knowledge from the molecular to organ systems levels, develops materials, devices, systems, information approaches, technology management, and methods for assessment and evaluation of technology, for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease, for health care delivery and for patient care and rehabilitation.

International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE) is a world-wide organisation incorporating Biomedical Engineering (BME) societies from 46 countries and 2 transnational organisations as affiliated members. IFMBE is affiliated to the International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine (IUPESM), member of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) from the year 1999.

30 from the IFMBE member national societies are located in Europe. Since late 1999, an IFMBE appointed Ad Hoc Committee has been looking into the issue of how the European medical and biological engineering community should be bringing together and catered for.

Meeting on the formation of a **new European umbrella organisation** in the area of medical and biological engineering and science between the representatives of 20 IFMBE affiliated European national societies (*Austria, Croatia, Czech Republik, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, UK, Yugoslavia*) and two transnational societies (*IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society and European Society on Engineering and Medicine*) was held in Vienna 26-27th August.

The participants recommend the formation of a non-governmental non-profit European umbrella organisation **European Alliance on Medical and Biological Engineering and Sciences (EAMBES)** and ask the IFMBE affiliated European national societies, EMBS, and ESEM to endorse its formation in accordance with the discussions that took place in Vienna, 26-27th August 2001.

The objective of the new umbrella organisation is to improve the health, wealth and well-being of the people of Europe by the application of medical and biological engineering and science.

The objective will be achieved by:

- serving, promoting and developing science, engineering and education (policies and programmes) at European and national levels;
- establishing liaisons with European governmental and non-governmental organisations;
- improving the quality of European BME education and training, co ordination and accreditation of programmes and to contribute to the establishment of appropriate programmes, to and enhance transnational mobility for education training and employment (which is implicit in the Bologna declaration);
- improving intersociety activity and co-operation in Europe within the BME and related areas;
- assisting in the development of BME and BME societies in those countries, predominantly in Central and Eastern Europe, who still have an inchoate BME community and service;
- promoting co-operation between academic, industry and scientific research institutions and users (hospitals, operators, patients);
- promoting public awareness of BME and recognise individual and group achievements and contribution to the field of BME.

The membership should include the whole European MBE community:

- the European IFMBE affiliated National Societies;
- European transnational organisations;
- Academic and research institutions,
- Industry and commercial organisations,
- College of Fellows

The new organisation should add value and to create awareness of MBE in Europe. IFMBE European national societies are looking for close co-operation with all organisations in the field of medical and biological engineering and science and related areas in formation of the European alliance to achieve our common objectives.

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Report on activities linked to the International Council for Science (ICSU)

I. 2002 Annual Report of the International Union of Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine sent to ICSU.

THIS REPORT IS GIVEN IN ANNEX 1.

II. ICSU Grant Programme Statement and Schedule for 2003.

Objectives of the Programme: The ICSU Grants Programme specifically aims at supporting relevant scientific initiatives of the ICSU "family" to promote international scientific and technological activities that contribute to the benefit and well-being of society. UNESCO and US National Academy of Sciences provide significant support to the ICSU Grants Programme and guidance on priority issues of concern to their organisations, and benefit directly from its scientific initiatives and results. The Programme is open to ICSU International Scientific Union Members and International Scientific Associates, ICSU's Interdisciplinary Bodies and Joint Initiatives. As a new initiative of the Committee on Scientific Planning and Review (CSPR), beginning with the Grants Programme for 2002, those eligible bodies are particularly encouraged to involve ICSU National Scientific Members and National Scientific Associates, particularly those from developing countries, in their proposed activities. The ICSU Grants Programme is a competitive grant programme. Grants shall be awarded to proposals for new initiatives that aim to design and develop innovative interdisciplinary and/or international scientific programmes.

IUPESM collaborative Grant Programmes

As a consequence of the contacts during the Paris meeting in February 2001, we have submitted for consideration by ICSU in 2001 two collaborative Grants Programmes without success. With the same partners we have submitted in 2002 two new collaborative Grant Programmes:

1) Title of the activity: The Lung Physiome: modelling from gene to whole organ.

The proposed research programme intends to develop a Lung Physiome database and strategic plan. The database will be a repository for current data, models, and resources that relate to pulmonary research. Information will be archived using machine- and platform-independent markup languages, so that data and models can be easily accessed and used by any interested group. The strategic plan will be developed in close collaboration with a broad range of research groups that have an interest in the pulmonary system. The strategic plan will detail the priorities and process for developing the Lung Physiome as a detailed, comprehensive resource on all aspects of pulmonary structure and function, from gene to whole organ.

In the current project it is proposed to develop the infrastructure and detailed strategic plan necessary to develop the equivalent Lung Physiome. Respiration is a physiological process of vital importance that requires the integrated function of many organ systems, such as the lung, the musculo-skeletal system, and the circulation. In this process the lung is especially critical because it forms the interface between organism and environment. Development of a Lung Physiome is therefore of particular interest at this stage of the general Human Physiome Project as it involves modelling at various organisational levels, it will be the first comprehensive attempt at covering the range of data from gene to whole organ, and its method of development will allow a natural extension into other organ systems such as the musculature.

The Lung Physiome will ultimately incorporate and unify existing pulmonary imaging, structural, functional, and genetic data and mathematical models at each level of structural or functional detail into a database for the lung. The database will provide the means to construct anatomically- and biophysically-based, quantitative and predictive mathematical models of aspects of the pulmonary system. Such models will combine emerging genetic knowledge with systems physiology to enable respiratory disease processes and the effects of therapeutic interventions, whether through drugs or mechanical means, to be modelled and examined *in silico*. Potentially, a wide range of lung disorders could be investigated through computer simulation, allowing the efficacy of clinical treatment or drug therapy to be evaluated *in silico* using detailed mathematical models. Development of a Lung Physiome therefore has great significance to human health, healthcare delivery, physiological and clinical research, and the healthcare industry.

This project is piloted by IUPS -International Union of Physiological Sciences

2) *Title of activity: E-learning environment in telecommunication for developing countries.*

This project is piloted by URSI (International Union of the Radio Science)
The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has launched in 2001 an Internet Training Centres Initiative for Developing Countries. The main objective of this program is to ensure that growth in Internet offers maximum benefit to the global community. The program provides students in developing countries with access to affordable and relevant training through an e-learning environment. Capacity building is one of the most important factors to bridge the Digital Divide between North and South.

The International Union of Radio Science (URSI) and IUPESM (IFMBE+IOMP) can make an important contribution to this program. They have or can easily create e-courses that could be of use in the ITU Internet Training Centres. By participating to this program URSI and IUPESM will contribute to the dissemination of information to the developing countries.

III. Block Grant

Each of the Member Unions of ICSU has been awarded in 2002 with a \$5,000 grant to be used in any of the five areas allowed in the Grants Programme 2002 (i.e. Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, Capacity Building and Science Education, Science/Policy Interface, Dissemination of Information on Science and Technology, and Emerging Science and Technology -- Creation of New Knowledge);

The availability of this Block Grant has permitted to pursue an action, proposed previously by Keith Boddy, IUPESM past President, on improving Public Understanding of Science, including political decision makers and opinion formers especially (but not only) in Developing Countries. . A brochure entitled "Physics and Engineering in Health Care" has been realised thanks to the co-operation with Brian Diffey and written in terms readily understandable by the lay person .This brochure will be available in the very near future on the IUPESM and ICSU web sites as well as a hard copy brochure

The IUPESM Council has agreed that IPEM handles the administrative aspects of the brochure. IPEM will store copies being provided for IUPESM, IOMP and IFMBE to be called upon as desired. Keith Boddy will ask the Presidents of ICSU's National Members to consider sending one copy of the Brochure to the Minister of Health in their country. A letter would accompany the brochures to be distributed by ICSU to 'family' Members.

IV. Rio meeting

The International Council for Science has invited its Scientific National and Union Members, Scientific Associates, Interdisciplinary Bodies, Joint Programmes and Policy and Advisory Committees, as well as co-operating organisations, to attend its 27th General Assembly. The Assembly is being jointly organised in Rio de Janeiro by ICSU's National Scientific Member in Brazil, the Brazilian Academy of Sciences (*Academia Brasileira de Ciências (ABC)*).

Dov Jaron has kindly accepted to represent IUPESM to this 27th General Assembly

The programme is given in Annex 2

V. World Summit for Sustainable Development

ICSU has been officially invited by the United Nations to serve as the "Organising Partner" for the International Scientific and Technological Community (IS&TC) for the extensive preparatory process underway for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa in early September 2002.

You will find in Annex 3 the letter from ICSU and in Annex 4 the contribution from IUPESM. Nandor Richter has accepted to insure the liaison with this Summit and to be the focal point person for IUPESM.

VI. Project Working group within ICSU

As there are several Interdisciplinary Bodies already established within ICSU on a range of topics. Keith Boddy has suggested that IUPESM proposes to ICSU the establishment of a 'Sciences in Health Care' Group or Interdisciplinary Body, as none currently exists. Contacts will be taken in a near future with the headquarters of ICSU in Paris.

J.P.Morucci

June2002

Annexe 1

**Annual Report for 2001 of the
International Union of Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine**

J.P.Morucci
President IUPESM

Introduction: The principal objectives of IUPESM are: (a) to contribute to the advancement of physical and engineering science in medicine for the benefit and well being of humanity, (b) to organize international cooperation and promote communication among those engaged in health-care science and technology (c) to coordinate activities of mutual interest to engineering and physical scientists within the health care field, including international and regional scientific conferences, seminars, working groups, regional support programs and scientific and technical publications; (d) to represent the professional interests and views of engineers and physical scientists in the health-care community.

Membership: The founding Constituent Organizations of the IUPESM are the *International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering* and the *International Organization for Medical Physics*. National Members are any countries having adherence with any of the Constituent Organizations. The number of National Members of IOMP is 70 and that of the IFMBE is 44. An overlap in membership between the Constituent Organization results in a total National Membership of 80.

Vital Statistics:

2 Constituent Organizations
80 National Organizations
Consultative status at IAEA, PAHO and WHO
Greater than 40,300 Individual Members
Regional scientific meetings and Educational courses
2 journals, 2 electronic newsletters and Internet web pages
80 sponsored specialty libraries in Developing Countries

Organizational Matters:

Virtual meetings of the 11-member IUPESM Administrative Council are held on a quarterly basis using electronic communications to manage ongoing affairs. Minutes of these meeting are posted on the IUPESM home page <http://www.iupesm.org/>. The General Assembly is informed of Administrative Council actions by e-mail announcements to delegate mailing lists. The 200-member General Assembly meets presently on a triennial basis at each instance of the World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering. Dues and income from meetings are collected by the Secretaries General of the IUPESM, IOMP and IFMBE. At present the collective financial assets of the IUPESM and its two member organizations is in excess of \$500,000. The financial assets of

several of the member societies exceed these levels by one or more orders of magnitude. Projects of common interest with these national members allow the IUPESM to leverage projects significantly beyond the budgetary limits of the Union. The Secretariat of the IUPESM presently resides with the Secretariat of the IOMP in San Antonio, Texas (USA) while the Secretariat of IFMBE is in Sweden.

Activities Undertaken during 2001:

As following the venue in July 2000 of our World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, Chicago (USA) with more than 4600 attendants including about 900 students and 1100 exhibitors we are preparing actively our 2003 World Congress in Sydney.

National Conferences or Workshops with International Participation

"Forum: Medical and Biomedical Engineering of the 21st century" (Tokyo)(January 29, 2001);International Conference on Radiological Protection of Patients (Malaga, Spain)(26-30 March 2001); International Symposium on Electromagnetics in Biology and Medicine (Tokyo., Japan)(on April 2 – 4, 2001);Sixth Biennial Conference of the European Society for Engineering and Medicine Belfast(Northern Ireland)(3-5 May 2001);Medicon. Pula (Croatia).(12-15 June 2001).;Congress "Medical Physics 2001" (Moscow, Russia)(18-22 June 2001); European Congress of Medical Physics and Clinical Engineering (Belfast, N. Ireland)(12-15 September 2001; 2nd Congress Iberolatino Americano y del Caribe de Fisica Medica (Caracas, Venezuela)(16-19 October 2001); First Asia Oceania Congress of Medical Physics (Bangkok, Thailand)14-16 November 2001

Graduate Education Programs in Medical Physics as an aid to both students and professionals are organized in 19 countries all over the world. The IOMP medical physics education programs during the year 2001 The Internet international listing of graduate education programs initiated in 1999 is now completed.

Work continues on a Global On-line Medical Physics Textbook and an on line Encyclopedia of Biomedical Engineering. A special focus is given on building a global communications network for all the members of the Union.

Conclusion and future plans:

The Union has established Key Programmes, which are complementary to and symbiotic with those of ICSU. They include Public and Governmental Understanding of Health Sciences; Education, Training and Continued Professional Development for the 21st Century and Global Biomedical Information Networking for Developing Countries; Evidence Based Health Technology; and Medical Equipment Evaluation.

IUPESM has created *an ICSU Liaison Committee* whose duties are to:

- build on established excellent relations with the ICSU Secretariat
- establish and maintain a good working knowledge of existing and proposed programmes within ICSU
- determine principal and secondary interests of other Unions and bodies within ICSU and generate a spirit of collaboration
- identify areas of potential future collaboration, especially global projects
- stimulate and consider programme proposals within IUPESM (IFMBE and IOMP) as candidates for grants either from ICSU itself or other international bodies, such as UNESCO, WHO, European Union, with the support (and stature) of ICSU
- formulate grant proposals and recommend priorities to IUPESM Council
- participate in ICSU Committees and activities

- contribute “populist” articles on various aspects of Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering
- prepare proposals and contributions to be made at the ICSU General Assemblies.

IUPESM is establishing collaboration with other members of the ICSU family on these and related projects.

Annexe 2



Annex2

**27TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE (ICSU)
and Associated Meetings**

Hotel Rio Othon Palace
Av. Atlântica, 3264, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Tel: (+55 21) 2525 1500, Fax: (+55 21) 2522 1697

20 to 28 September 2002

SECOND CIRCULAR

Please note that the dates of the Associated meetings, which appeared in the First Circular, have been slightly modified. The dates of the General Assembly remain the same.

DATES OF MEETINGS

Friday, 20 September

09:00-18:00

SCFCS meeting (*closed meeting*)

SCRES meeting “ ”

Saturday, 21 September

09:00-18:00

International Conference on Primary Science and Mathematics Education, organized by the ICSU Committee on Capacity Building in Science (CCBS)

Joint SCFCS and SCRES meeting (*closed meeting*)

Sunday, 22 September

09:00-18:00

ICSU CCBS International Conference (*continues*)

CDSI/ICSU Press meeting (*closed meeting*)

Monday, 23 September

09:00-18:00

ICSU CCBS International Conference (*continues*)

Executive Board (*closed meeting*)

Tuesday, 24 September

09:00-18:00 Union and National Members' Fora (*parallel sessions*)
19:30-20:30 Formal Opening of the General Assembly
20:30- Formal Reception offered by Brazilian hosts

Wednesday, 25 September

09:00-13:00 Parallel Scientific Fora, including one on Science in Brazil
14:30-18:00 Unions' business meeting
National Members' business meeting
Evening Nominations Committee meeting (*closed meeting*)

Thursday, 26 September

09:00-18:00 General Assembly
Evening Resolutions Committee meeting (*closed meeting*)
COSTED EXCOM (*closed session*)

Friday, 27 September

09:00-18:00 General Assembly
Evening Resolutions Committee meeting
19:30- Dinner offered by our Brazilian hosts

Saturday, 28 September

09:00-18:00 General Assembly
18:30- Brief meeting of new Executive Board directly after the GA

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DOCUMENTATION

As many documents as possible pertaining to the General Assembly will be sent in advance, in order to facilitate preparations for the meeting.

VOTING

Provision is made in the Statutes to allow those Members unable to attend the Assembly to vote, either by proxy or in writing prior to the Assembly. Voting slips will be sent with the relevant documentation.

HOTELS

The price of rooms at the Hotel Rio Othon Palace has changed, as follows.

Price of room per night in US Dollars

HOTEL	<i>Location</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Double</i>	<i>Triple</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>
Rio Othon Palace *****	Copacabana	117	117	165	Included
California Othon *****	Copacabana	60	60	85	Included
Savoy Othon ***	Copacabana	50	50	70	Included

The above rates are subject to 5% VAT and daily room tax (US\$3 at Othon Palace and US\$1 in the other hotels).

PAYMENTS

As stated in the First Circular, in order to obtain special prices for accommodation, reservations must be processed by Grahn Operator but payment should be made directly to the hotel by each participant upon departure. In order to reserve a room, credit card information should be indicated on the

Registration Form. Cancellations must be received at least 72 hours in advance of arrival date in order not to be charged for one night. Further information may be found on <http://www.compassturismo.com.br/events/icsu>.

REGISTRATION FORM

Kindly return the Registration Form by either telefax or email to Ms Bianca Amar, Grahn Operator (see page 4 for further details), with a copy to the ICSU Secretariat by **3 June**. All persons wishing to participate in the General Assembly (regardless of whether they need a hotel room or not) must return a Registration Form, in order to obtain a GA file.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

The opening reception for the General Assembly will be in the evening of 24 September at the Hotel Rio Othon Palace, and there will be a final dinner on 27 September. Both these events are being generously hosted by the Brazilian Academy of Sciences.

TEMPERATURE

The temperature in Rio at the end of September is between 24° to 30° during the day and 18° to 23° in the evening.

VISAS

If you require a letter from the local organizers in order to obtain a visa, kindly so indicate on the Registration Form

SCIENTIFIC FORA

The scientific fora are an essential component of the GA and aim to offer the participants a choice of highly exciting presentations and discussions on issues of strategic importance for ICSU, as well as of broad interest to the ICSU constituency.

A Chair and one Rapporteur will be identified for each session. There will be 4-6 speakers per session, (20 minutes each), followed by a 30-minute coffee break. The remaining 70-110 minutes will be for discussions on prepared topics and final summing up by the Chair.

Each session should, through the Rapporteur, develop a brief summary report for presentation to the GA Plenary. In addition, these reports will be made available via the ICSU web site and form the basis for articles in the new *Science International*.

Topics :

1. *Science in Brazil*
2. *Science for Sustainable Development*
3. *Energy*
4. *Ensuring Global Access to Scientific Data*
5. *Capacity Building for Science or Strengthening Science in Developing Countries*

KEY DATES FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY PREPARATIONS

23 May Final date for receipt of items for inclusion in the Draft GA Agenda

- Nominating Committee's slate of nominations for Officers to be sent to Voting Members
- 03 June Registration Form due at Grahn Operator and ICSU
- 23 June Third Circular and List of Participants with hotels reserved distributed
- General Assembly Agenda and Timetable and additional documentation distributed
- 23 July Final date for receipt of resubmission of names, or additional nominations of candidates for Officers, and for nominations for Ordinary Members of the Executive Board
- 23 August Full list of nominations for Officers and Ordinary Members of the Executive Board sent to Voting Members
- 25 September Union and National Members to establish slate of 6 names each for Ordinary *p.m.* Members of Executive Board
- 26 September Union and National Members slates for Ordinary Members of Executive Board to Assembly.

ADDRESSES FOR FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

ICSU Secretariat

Maureen Brennan
 51, boulevard de Montmorency
 75016 Paris, France
 Telephone: (33 1) 45 25 03 29
 Telefax: (33 1) 42 88 94 31
 E-mail: maureen@icsu.org

Local Organizers

Marcia de Castro Faria Graça Melo
Academia Brasileira de Ciências

Rua Anfilóbio de Carvalho 29
 20030-060 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
 Tel.: (55 21) 220 4794
 Fax: (55 21) 532 5807

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Ms Bianca Amar
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**TO: ICSU National Scientific Members, Associates and Observers
ICSU Scientific Unions
ICSU Interdisciplinary Bodies and Joint Initiatives
ICSU Scientific Associates**

FROM: Larry R. Kohler, Executive Director, ICSU

DATE: 7 September 2001

RE: ICSU Preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Dear Colleagues,

I am very pleased to inform you that ICSU has been officially invited by the United Nations to serve as the “Organising Partner” for the International Scientific and Technological Community (IS&TC) for the extensive preparatory process underway for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa in early September 2002.

The most important responsibilities for the IS&TC are the following: first, the preparation of a **16 page report for the United Nations** providing a detailed review of two major themes: the progress achieved by the IS&TC in follow-up to Chapters 31 and 35 of Agenda 21 and the future priorities and commitments by the IS&TC for the future; and second, the **fielding of delegations from the IS&TC for major multi-stakeholder dialogues at PREPCOM II and IV and at the Summit.**

In order to carry out this important facilitating role, the ICSU Executive Board has established a **“Consultative Group for the International Scientific and Technological Community” (CGST)** to oversee and facilitate the preparations for the WSSD. The Executive Board has invited the following key international scientific institutions to serve on the CGST: World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO), Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Inter-Academy Panel (IAP), and International Social Science Council (ISSC). ICSU also has asked the United Nations to name the WFEO as a co-organising partner for the WSSD. I have attached a brief document that describes the CGST in more detail.

In addition, the ICSU EB has established an **ICSU-WSSD TASK FORCE** to ensure that ICSU provides its own targeted, relevant and visible contribution to the IS&TC preparatory process. I have attached a brief document outlining the role of the TASK FORCE. The following people have been appointed to serve as the ‘Core Group’ of the TASK FORCE: Anne Buttimer (President-IGU); Gordon McBean (ICSU-ACE), Bedrich Moldan (Secretary-General-SCOPE and past Chair of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development), Berrien Moore III (Chair of the SC-IGBP), Qian YI (ICSU-EB-CAST China). Professor Shem Wandiga (President Kenyan Academy of Sciences and ICSU-ACE) has been asked to serve as Chair of the TASK FORCE.

At this time, I am seeking, on behalf of the ICSU-EB, your full support and active participation in this extensive preparatory process. **I would urge you to appoint a focal point person within your organisation to enable us to ensure that you are kept fully informed and hopefully actively involved in the work of the Task Force and this WSSD process.** As noted above, our first major commitment is to prepare the 16 page Report for the United Nations by 1 December 2001. I would recommend that you and your colleagues carefully examine Chapters 31 and 35 of Agenda 21. It is available at the following web site: www.un.org/esa/sustdev/agenda21text.htm and I have also attached a brief document entitled AGENDA 21 and Science that provides a summary of the objectives of these two key Chapters. The Task Force will be sending out a draft preliminary outline

of the Report within the next few weeks to assist you in identifying relevant and precise contributions from your organisation. In the mean time, the objectives and activities identified in Chapters 31 and 35 already provide very useful guidance concerning the issues upon which we may wish to report on the progress achieved in implementing Agenda 21 since 1992. As regards possible future priorities and commitments—these may be much more focused and reflect your own strategic plans. Let me stress, however, that this relatively short UN report will need to focus on a limited number of issues—otherwise the IS&TC will not be able to have a focused impact on the WSSD process.

Based on my past experience within the RIO Process and the CSD, I believe it will be necessary for the IS&TC report to focus on 4-5 clusters or themes related to progress achieved and similarly 4-5 clusters or themes related to future priorities and commitments. This would also facilitate the identifying of experts for our delegations to the dialogue sessions as we will have the opportunity to have 10 delegates at PREPCOM II that will discuss progress achieved and 10 delegates to PRECOM IV that will discuss future priorities and commitments. With five themes for each dialogue session—this would enable us to propose an IS&TC delegation of one developed and one developing country scientist for each theme.

We would particularly appreciate receiving your views, experience and suggestions regarding the need to strengthen linkages between science and policy, governments and international organisations. A further objective for this ICSU initiative is to promote and encourage governments to include representatives of the scientific community on their national delegations to the PREPCOM and Summit.

The opportunity for the International Scientific and Technological Community to play an independent and highly visible role in the WSSD process is a unique and extremely valuable platform to enable us to ensure that the role and relevance of science and technology to the achievement of sustainable development is better understood, recognised and supported in future by governments, international organisations, other major groups and society.

I look forward to receiving your nomination of a focal point and to collaborating with you and your organisation in this challenging and timely—but unfortunately also severely time-constrained—exercise.

Very best regards,
Larry R. Kohler

Annexe 4

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR PHYSICAL AND ENGINEERING SCIENCES IN MEDICINE

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: HEALTH CARE

In considering Sustainable Development and Public Understanding of Science and Technology, Health Care is not always highlighted and particularly the contributions made to it by Physical and Engineering Sciences.

As infectious and endemic diseases decline in Developing and Emerging Countries, medical conditions such as cancer, circulatory diseases and physical/mental disabilities increase in significance. There is consequently a greater necessity for the associated expertise and support of Medical Physicists and Biomedical Engineers in both diagnosis, such as imaging and physiological

measurements, and in treatment, particularly radiotherapy and also in aids to everyday living for people with disabilities. These professionals are also prime contributors to essential developments in fields such as telemedicine and information technology.

A major problem in Sustainable Development is that generally the number of Medical Physicists and Biomedical Engineers per head of population is far fewer in Developing Countries than in Industrialised Nations (often by orders of magnitude). In addition, their professional status and roles may be poorly recognised or understood. An associated difficulty is limited opportunities to remain up to date in these rapidly advancing fields.

Health Care is of direct interest and personal benefit to the public. An opportunity, therefore, exists to improve and stimulate Public Understanding of Science and Technology by illustrating the many applications being made internationally to improve wellbeing, explained in non-technical, readily understandable language.

As a member of ICSU, the International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine (IUPESM) is contributing to Sustainable Development by providing Regional Training Courses for Developing Countries and supporting their participation in World Congresses. Global Biomedical Information Networking is being established for them, including an on-line Medical Physics Textbook and a Biomedical Engineering Encyclopaedia. As a contribution to Public Understanding of Science and Technology, IUPESM has produced an illustrated brochure entitled "Physical and Engineering Sciences in Health Care", which is available on the Union's web site (www.iupesm.org) and, with the assistance of a grant from ICSU, in printed form. The Union is seeking collaboration with members of the ICSU and United Nations families in order to promote and extend these contributions to Sustainable Development and Public Understanding.

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Report of the Nominating Committee_Iceland.June 2002

Membership

- 1 Chairman appointed by the President :J.P.Morucci
- 2 Three members appointed by the Administrative Council: N.Richter (Vice Chairman);J.Barbanel; M.Lee
- 3 Four other members, co-opted by the Chairman and the three members appointed by the Council: H.Hutten; M.Kikuchi; M.Valentinuzzi; Z.Yang.

Honorary Life membership

According the motion in Pula:

Approval of Honorary Life Members by AC

During the Officers' meeting in Singapore, December 2000 Dov Jaron wanted to have an endorsement from the Officers for his proposal to revise the Constitution & Bylaws so that the AC can approve the recommendations of the nominating committee and inform the General Assembly of the selection. This way, the Honorary Life Members can be informed in advance of the Congress and participate in the ceremony to honour them.

Jos Spaan moved to leave the Constitution as it is and to carry out a vote in advance so that a decision is made before a General Assembly meeting. Jean-Pierre Morucci seconded.

The motion was approved unanimously.

It means we have to have a mail ballot before WC 2003.

Marc Nyssen has been contacted to solicit nominations for Honorary Life Member from the National Secretaries of the Member Organisations. This will be done during the Secretaries meeting in Reykjavik and later by email.

Nominations for Council and Officer positions.

The 7 open positions are :

Vice President/President elect

Secretary General

Treasurer

4 members

Heikki Terio has been officially solicited –as according our By-Laws-to contact, in liaison with Marc Nyssen ,the National Secretaries and request the names of their individual members which they would wish to have considered for nomination for Officer or Council membership.

A call will also be published in IFMBE News.

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**Annual report,
International Academy for Medical and Biological Engineering 2001/2002-08-06**

1. New Members

Four new fellow of the Academy have been elected:

Professor Colin Roberts, United Kingdom

Professor Akira Kamiya, Japan

Professor Jean-Louis Coatrieux, France

Professor Zibin Yang, china

With these new elections the Academy have 40 fellows

2 Continued recruitment of new members

The recruitment of new Fellow continues. The goal is to become 50 fellows at the World Conference in Sydney, following the recruitment decision taken at the Chicago Conference. The Secretary, professor Saranummi, has studied the international distribution of the present fellow to assure a reasonably even international representation. The recruitment committee chaired by Prof. Robert Nerem is active in this task.

3. Program in Sydney

The Academy is planning a series of lectures (tutorials) in which the field of Cellular Engineering will be presented to tentative young newcomers to this new discipline of biomedical engineering. Lecturers will be chosen from Fellow of the Academy if possible.

A reception for young international faculty is planned provided that the economical support for this is given by the IFMBE Administrative Council.

A workshop on educational matters similar to the one held in Chicago is also planned. We are looking for economical support form the Whitaker Foundation and from the European Union for this activity.

4. Newsletter

The second annual newsletter was distributed in January 2002 and so was the protocol from the business meeting held in Pula, Croatia, June 13th 2001 with 5 fellows present.

5. Next meeting

The next business meeting will be held at the Nordic-Baltic meeting in Reykjavik, Iceland, June 2002 or at the EMBEC 02 meeting in Vienna.

Linköping June 2002-06-12

P. Åke Öberg
Chairman

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New Initiatives Working Group report to the IFMBE/AC

(Reykjavik, June 16/17, 2002)

Working Group members are as follows;

Chairperson: Prof. Makoto Kikuchi (Japan)

Co-chair: Prof. Joe Barbenel (UK)

Members: Prof. ZiBin Yang (China)

Prof. Helmut Hutten (European Activities)

Prof. Walter Chang (Asian- Pacific Activities)

Prof. Joachim Nagel (Vice- President)

Aim

This group should investigate the new areas which IFMBE should dealing with in near future and how the federation could facilitate the work on these new areas, and also should identify other areas and how we could work for these.

Activities in 2001

The new area that should be considered was neural engineering, and finally the new “WG in neuroengineering” (Chairperson: Dr. Karen Anne Maxon) has been established in 2001. Different initiatives such as “WG for Telemedicine”, and “WG for Developing Countries” have been discussed in the Secretaries Committee in Pula.

Under consideration

Since the members of this WG shall be reflected the geographical distribution and scientific interests, practical issues of IFMBE constituent societies and organizations as far as feasible, we should consider the necessity for additional member from America.

The work should be harmonized with the work of the AC especially on the new issues and future direction of the federation. With welcoming the input from not only the AC but also Secretaries Committee, WG expect there should be more co-operative and effective activities.

Makoto Kikuchi

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Membership Committee[Myoungho Lee]

1. Write a plan how to approach new presumable member societies

Status: done

- a) Individual members drawn from several countries and/or;
IFMBE Website (& Newsletter) advertise, for 'the individual members acceptable' who have a major interest in the field of medical and biological engineering.
Recommendable Affiliated Societies; Related Societies of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Automation and Control System Engineering, Biomechanic Engineering, Bioinformatics, Clinical Engineering, Biomedical Materials, Biotechnology, etc.
- b) National Societies or Sub-groups thereof and/or;
IFMBE Website (& Newsletter sending) advertise & Individual Recommendation for National Societies who have sub research groups related on medical and biological engineering.
Recommendable Affiliated Societies; Related Societies of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Automation and Control System Engineering, Biomechanic Engineering, Bioinformatics, Clinical Engineering, Biomedical Materials, Biotechnology, etc.
- c) Groups of National Societies from two or more Countries;
IFMBE Website (& Newsletter sending) advertise & Individual Recommendation through the Regional Meeting or Conference.
Recommendable Affiliated Societies; Asia-Pacific Conference on Medical & Biological Engineering, Nordic Baltic Conference on MBE, European MBEC, North American [USA/Canadian] Conference, Latin American MBE, etc

2. The Membership Committee should prepare a proposal to the AC for a "Welcome Package" for new members. Contact Keith Ison for discussion.

Status: done

Welcome Package for New Members;

- a) Routine Package; Including like Constitution, By-law, Procedures & Policies, Membership Responsibilities, Activities of Regional and International Level, how to propose candidates for different IFMBE awards and positions in Committees and AC, information about the Journal and IFMBE News,etc.
- b) New Package;
Exemption of Membership Fees-
 - for the first two years, nothing payment
 - for the second two years, 50% payment
 - from the fifth year, 100% payment

Expenditure Supporting for International Student Paper Contest Attendants- for 4 years

3. Make a proposal how to calculate the number of delegates form a country that has more than one member society.

Status: done

a) If any countries who have applied for membership in the Federation those have more than one member society- First of all, after arithmetic summation of all members who are registered in their own societies, the number of delegates must be calculated the sum by bye-law in the IFMBE.

For example, If ABC country/society #1: 1,459, #2: 340, #3: 580
total sum: 2,379

Present Bye-Law,	31 or less	1
	32 to 316	2
	317 to 3,162	3
	3,163 to above	4

The number of ABC country's delegates: 3

If improving	100 or less	1
	101 to 316	2
	317 to 2,000	3
	2,001 to 3,162	4
	3,163 to above	5

The number of ABC country's delegate: 4

4. Proposal how to market the Journal. Send list of names & addresses of professors, departments, institutions, and libraries to Keith Ison.

Status: done (sample in Korea)

- a) professors
- b) departments
- c) institutions
- d) libraries

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Asian-Pacific Working Group Report

The Asian-pacific Working Group Meeting of The International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering was held on December 13, 2001, at Chung Yuan Christian University.

The attendants included Prof. Chow, Daniel from Hong Kong, Dr. Goh, James C.H. from Singapore, Prof. Kao, Tsair from Taiwan, Prof. Kirsner, Richard L.G. from Australia, Prof. Lee, Myoung-ho from Korea and Prof. Tsujilka, Katsuhiko from Japan. Prof. Chen, Y.T., director of Institute of biomedical sciences, Academia Sinica, made an opening speech of “Translation of the Genomic Medicine into Clinical Reality: Challenges of Pompe Disease.”

The purpose of this meeting is to provide a further communication for the members in Asian-pacific area and to improve the cooperation in the field of biomedical engineering, which is becoming increasingly important.

We hope to build a membership database on the website of each society via trying to organize new regional conferences in Asian-pacific area to encourage the research in Asia. Therefore, we may be able to promote and increase the relationship in developing the biomedical engineering among Asia-pacific region.

On the other hand, it is also important to encourage and organize more national society to become the member of IFMBE. Therefore, we may share the research results of the related field. And finally, we also want to propose a working group on Physics and Bioengineering in Oriental Medicine. It has become a trend that more and more medical research involved the application of oriental medicine. This will be a very advanced development in biomedical engineering and we have great expectation in it.

[Photo (left to right): 1. Prof. Kao, Tsair; 2. Dr. Huang, David Y.C. ; 3. Prof. Tsujilka Katsuhiko; 4. Prof. Lee, Myoung-ho; 5. Prof. Chang, Walter H.C.; 6. Prof. Kirner, Richard L.C.; 7. Prof. Goh, James C.H.; 8. Prof. Chow, Daniel]

The photo is not included in order to save space Secretary-General comment.

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Asia-Pacific Working Group(draft)

Oriental Medicine Engineering

1. Motive

In the Asia-Pacific Region, traditional medicine is widely practised in most countries and areas. The market for traditional medicine products in the Region has expanded significantly over the past decade. More and more governments in the Asia-Pacific Region have taken or plan to take actions to promote the proper use of traditional medicine and to ensure the safety of users of traditional medicine.

Traditional medicine has been discussed at several regional and subregional meetings in recent years and was the subject of the technical briefing during the forty-ninth session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific in 1998. Meetings of ministers of health of Pacific island countries in 1997, 1999, and 2001 discussed traditional medicine and made a number of recommendations designs to improve the practice of traditional medicine in Pacific island countries.

Very recently NIH officially offers to make a special research plan about alternative medicine including oriental traditional medicine.

2. Current Situation

Traditional medicine is practised in the most countries and areas of the Asia-Pacific Region. There are no reliable data on the extent of the use of traditional medicine in the Region, but there is evidence that in several countries and areas 40% to 60% of the population uses traditional medicine. Traditional medicine also plays an important economic role in many countries. There has been increasing academic and industrial involvement in traditional medicine during the last decade.

3. Draft Regional Strategy for Traditional Medicine

The draft regional strategy for traditional medicine is designed to ensure that traditional medicine in the Asia-Pacific Region is used appropriately, contributes to building healthy populations and communities, and combats ill healthy. The regional strategy identifies seven strategic objectives for the period 2001-2010 according to WHO:

- to develop a national policy for traditional medicine;
- to promote public awareness of and access to traditional medicine;
- to evaluate the economic potential of traditional medicine;
- to establish appropriate standards for traditional medicine;
- to encourage and strengthen research into evidence-based practice of traditional medicine;
- to foster respect for the cultural integrity of traditional medicine; and
- to formulate policies on the protection and conservation of health resources.

4. Actions Proposed

The Asia-Pacific Working Group is asked to endorse the regional strategy for traditional medicine as a framework for the development of traditional medicine at regional and national levels, is asked to approve oriental medical data and standards based on scientific and engineering concepts.

5. Supporting Infrastructure for traditional Medicine in the Asia-Pacific Region

Australia, Cambodia, China, Hongkong, Fiji, Japan, Macao, New Zealand, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Island, Taiwan, U.S.A., Viet Nam, etc.[20]

6. Issued Dates

December 13, 2001 Asia-Pacific Working Group Meeting (Taipei, Taiwan)
January 26-27, 2002 IFMBE Administrative Council Meeting (Sydney, Australia)
June 16-17, 2002 IFMBE Administrative Council Meeting (Reykjavik, Iceland)

7. Future Prospect

The 1st International Symposium on Oriental Medicine Engineering November 2002
The 2nd International Symposium on Oriental Medicine Engineering November 2003
The 1st Asia-Pacific Conference on Oriental Medicine Engineering November 2004

Conference Period: two years [2004, 2006, 2008, 2010....]
three years [2004, 2007, 2010....]

[Walter Chang & Myoungho Lee]

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ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING, REYKJAVIK – JUNE 2002
(AGENDA ITEMS 14.2 & 14.3)

**Combined Reports: Working Group for Developing Countries /
Africa Region / ICHTM**

Further to the report tabled at the AC Meeting in Pula, I am delighted to report that the **International Centre for Healthcare Technology Management (ICTHM)** is now a reality. The vision was implemented thanks to a £30,000 grant from the British Government's Department of Foreign Investment and Development (DFID), formerly ODA. The internal (phase I launch) took place on May 29th. The full launch will take place next month (July). You are all invited to visit the ICHTM, join as members and provide your valued suggestions and comments. The temporary URL (the final URL will be www.ichtm.net) is <http://137.158.18.245>.

The ICHTM will become a baseline activity of the WG/DC as well as a significant support for the activities of the IFMBE's Clinical Engineering and Health Technology Assessment Divisions. It will also link up closely with the IUPESM Regional Development Committee under Helmut Hutten and with organisations such as the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the International Society for Technology Assessment in Healthcare (ISTAHC). On this last point, the ICHTM was discussed at the recent ISTAHC meeting in Berlin, both at the IFMBE DHTA's Board Meeting and at a special session addressing Developing Country issues. Your suggestions for new/additional linkages would be welcomed.

Since one key requirement for DFID support was that the needs of developing (poorly- or under-resourced) countries be addressed, the ICHTM will have a related focus. In the African Region, it will have as a partner the African Federation for Technology in Healthcare (AFTH), an umbrella body for Healthcare Technology Management-related activities in this region. It will also promote (e.g. CORAL for Latin America) and facilitate the creation of similar alliance / umbrella-bodies in other regions.

I would also appreciate the Council's consideration of two motions tabled for the Pula AC Meeting but not discussed at the time:

1. Conference Travel Support

It is proposed that the IFMBE, at the time of the 2003 World Congress, offer 4 travel support stipends of £ 1,000 each and cover the cost of registration. The four beneficiaries should represent the African, Asian, Central European and Latin-American regions, with one per region. The stipends will be awarded on the basis of the scientific value of the proposed contribution (submitted paper) by the individual. In addition, there should be a £ 1,000 award for the best technology innovation concept from a young researcher in a developing country. (NB: If approved, these items would have to be added to the draft 2003 budget).

2. It is requested that Clinical Engineering, Healthcare Technology Management and/or Health Technology Assessment sessions be held on the same day or in the fewest days possible at all IFMBE sponsored and/or supported conferences, and that daily registration be allowed.

Mladen Poluta

Chair: IFMBE Working Group for Developing Countries

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CORAL Liasion REPORT - 2002

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, will take place in Chile, during the 1st Chilean Congress on Biomedical Engineering in August 2002. It was a decision taken in the last meeting hold in 24th of May 2001, in Havana, Cuba, during the **2nd Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering**. It was a very successful event with more than 567 attendees, being 294 from Cuba and 91 from Mexico. A total of 349 papers were accepted for presentation, 75 of them from Brazil. There were two important awards, one for Biomedical Engineering in honor to Professor Angel Zapata and the other for Clinical Engineering, named Robert Morris both of them to remember their extraordinary life and work.

Delegates of national biomedical societies from Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico and Venezuela attended the meeting. Also, members of the EMBS chapters from these countries and observers from Colombia, Peru and Chile participated in CORAL XII. The next CORAL AdCom from January 2002 to December 2004 was elected, resulting in the following composition: **President: Antonio Fernando CATELLI INFANTOSI, Vice-president** (President 2005-2007) **Susana LLANUSA RUIZ, Secretary/Treasurer: Oscar YÁÑEZ SUÁREZ, Members-at-large: ARGENTINA and VENEZUELA.**

As IFMBE liaison, Prof. Fernando Infantosi made a report of the Federation activities and the Sidney' 2003 World Congress. The former president (1999-2001) of CORAL, Prof. Monzon, informed that the EMBS AdCom decided that the 25th Annual International Conference will be held at Cancun (Mexico) in September 2003. Delegates of 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 will be held in São José dos Campos, São Paulo, September 2002. For this bi-annual event, organized by the Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering–SBEB, nearly 450 papers were submitted and some 600 attendees were expected. Several keynote speakers have been invited, special topic workshops have been planned and also an exhibition has been organized. In October 2002, the Mexican Congress on Biomedical Engineering will be held in Monterrey, Mexico. The V Congress of the Cuban Society of Bioengineering will be held La Habana, on February 2003. For this bi-annual event the Society is organizing the National Award. The Society has also created a dynamic web site in order to promote the participation of their members in a virtual community, in order to increase sharing of knowledge and experience.

The activities related to the **3rd Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering**, organized by CORAL and hosted by the Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering, to be held in João Pessoa, Paraíba - Brazil (September 2004), was then reported. The First Announcement was then distributed to all participants. The need of financial support from IFMBE and EMBS was again emphasized. It was decided that 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 the 3^d Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering and EMBS 25th Annual International Conference the **special issues of the biomedical engineering journals dedicated to Latin America** were approved and the best papers will be awarded (also with free registration to the Conference). The special issue of the **Brazilian Journal on Biomedical Engineering** will be published in 2003 and the Argentinean or Mexican Journal in 2004. The call for papers has been already published in the Brazilian Journal on Biomedical Engineering, informing the rules and the important dates.

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To: IFMBE Administrative Council

Ref: Progress Report

Members of the Protem group:

Joe Barbenel
 Marcello Bracale
 Enrique Gomez
 Helmut Hutten
 Dov Jaron
 Ratko Magjarevic
 Joachim Nagel
 Christian Roux
 Niilo Saranummi (chair)
 Jos vander Sloten
 Jan Wojcicki

Milestones

<i>Time</i>	<i>Milestone</i>
<i>November 99</i>	Vienna, 1 st EMBEC meeting
<i>November 99</i>	Appointment of the ad-hoc committee
<i>March 00</i>	London, 1 st meeting of the committee, creation of an action plan
<i>June 00</i>	Questionnaire sent out on MBE educational programs
<i>July 00</i>	Chicago, 1 st meeting with the European national societies, 2 nd meeting of the ad-hoc committee
<i>October 00</i>	Patras, TEMPERE workshop and 3 rd meeting of the committee
<i>January 01</i>	Schiphol, 4 th meeting of the committee
<i>April 01</i>	Brussels, meeting of the WG and meeting with ESEM representatives and EU officials
<i>June 01</i>	Pula, Workshops on the “one voice” and “accreditation”
<i>June 01</i>	Submission of proposal for COST Action
<i>August 01</i>	Vienna, meeting with the European national societies
<i>August 01</i>	Disbanding of the ad-hoc committee & creation of a Protem group
<i>October 01</i>	Protem group meeting in Eindhoven
<i>February 02</i>	Protem group meeting in Amsterdam
<i>April 02</i>	Protem group meeting in Warsaw

Vienna Resolution

Delegates of IFMBE affiliated national societies and of ESEM and IEEE-EMBS met in Vienna, August 26-27th, 2001 at the invitation of the IFMBE appointed ad-hoc committee charged with analysing the situation of medical and biological engineering in Europe. There

were 29 delegates in attendance representing 22 IFMBE affiliated societies and organisations. Additionally six countries replied to the invitation but were not able to send a delegate to the meeting. Considering that there are over 30 IFMBE affiliated national societies in Europe in addition to ESEM and IEEE-EMBS the turnout was very good.

The Vienna meeting was convened with the objective to discuss the establishment of a new umbrella organisation for medical and biological engineering in Europe, specifically its aims and objectives, membership, constitution, structure and financing and to decide on the next steps in taking this initiative further. At the end of the meeting the participants agreed to unanimously to the resolution below:

We the participants recommend the formation of an IFMBE affiliated European umbrella organisation and ask the IFMBE affiliated European national societies, EMBS, and ESEM to endorse its formation in accordance with the discussions that took place in Vienna, 26-27th August 2001.

The meeting further decided to establish a Protem group to take care of the next steps as described in the minutes. This group is charged with working in close collaboration with the European societies. The composition of the Protem group is the following¹:

Joe Barbanel, UK
Marcello Bracale, Italy
Helmut Hutten, Austria
Dov Jaron, IFMBE
Ratko Magjarevic, Croatia
Joachim Nagel, Germany
Christian Roux, IEEE-EMBS
Niilo Saranummi, Finland (chair)
Jos vander Sloten, ESEM
Jan Wojcicki, Poland

Endorsement of the Vienna resolution

September 13th, 2001 the Protem group sent a letter to all European IFMBE affiliates asking for their endorsement of the resolution if at all possible by the end of the current year. By the end of 2001 all 30 societies and transnational organisations responded favourably by endorsing the resolution.

Protem group activities

The group has organised itself into small ad-hoc WGs. The main activity has been the drafting of the *Constitution and By-law of EAMBES* (statutes for short). These are nearing a stable stage and we expect to be able to release them for wider commenting shortly. The driving principle in drafting the statutes has been to support the creation of an *inclusive* organisation for all biomedical engineering interests in Europe. Joe Barbenel chairs this subgroup.

The intention is to ask the European IFMBE affiliated national societies and transnationals to endorse these once they are ready to be made public.

¹ Nicolas Pallikarakis (Greece) was appointed on the group but later asked to be withdrawn because of personal reasons. The chair was authorised to add 1-2 persons from the Central and Eastern European countries to the group (which has been done).

Parallel to this the group intends to establish *contacts with non-IFMBE affiliated European societies and organisations* in order to initiate a dialogue with these and to invite them to become members of EAMBES. This specific activity has not progressed on par with the previous one and the group must increase its activity in this area in order to have a balanced approach in addressing European biomedical engineering interests.

A third activity deals with the accreditation and biomedical engineering education programs in Europe. A book about national BME education programs is in preparation. It is planned to be ready for the 2nd EMBEC conference where a track program on this topic is also planned. Joachim Nagel chairs this activity.

A web site has been created but has not yet been made public (www.eambes.org). Enrique Gomez chairs this activity.

The 1st European BME Forum is in planning for the 2nd EMBEC. A tentative program exists but the speakers have not yet been confirmed.

As a business planning activity a proposal was written for the COST Action and submitted in June 2001. The proposal was not received very favourably and we were requested to make a number of major changes. These suggestions were considered to be impractical for our purposes and we abandoned the COST project.

Early 2002 another proposal was written for the Life Sciences program of the EU. This was done based on several contacts and discussions with Commission representatives. That proposal (CHART) received a favourable evaluation and has been retained for contract negotiations. However, we have not yet been informed when the project can start. The funding requested is 100 000 .

Next steps

The primary task is to finalise the statutes and then a dialogue with both IFMBE affiliated and non-affiliated European BME societies and organisations. The aim is to bring these discussions to a conclusions before the 2nd EMBEC in order to be able to announce that there is “enough support” for EAMBES and based on that the organisation can be formally be created.

Niilo Saranummi
Chair

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Progress Report on the IFMBE Working Group in Neuroengineering

Submitted by Karen Moxon

July 14, 2002

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ITEM 1: List of Participants

IFMBE Working Group Members as of January 5, 2002. No changes to the group have been made since our January 5, 2002 report.

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Item 2: Definition of Neuroengineering

We have refined our definition of neuroengineering to be inclusive but separate from the field of neurosciences. We are in the process of finalizing the following definition. :

1. Neuro-electronic Interfaces:

- Electrode technology (both in-vivo and in-vitro)
 - Stimulating electrodes
 - Recording electrodes
 - Neural Prosthetics
 - Neural Rehabilitation

2. Neural Tissues Engineering

- Electrode tissue interfaces
- Neural regeneration, growth and guidance

3. Signal Processing

- Imaging
- EEG Rhythms
- Field Potentials
- Evoked Potentials
- Spike train analysis:
 - Examples:
 - Information theory
 - Population analysis
 - Non-linear and non stationary time series analysis
 - Dynamical Systems analysis

4. Computational Modeling

- Single Cells
- Networks of Cells
- Neural Systems

5. Applications of Neuroscience to Engineering

Neuromorphic Engineering – including artificial retinas, cochleas, noses, etc. and applications in robotics

Connectionist Neural Networks and Applications

Artificial Networks

Neuromimetic Models

Neural Computing

Item 3: MBEC Special Issue on Neuroengineering

We have decided it best to finish our definition of neuroengineering (Item 2) and then tackle the Special Issue. We hope to complete the above definition by end of July. We will then use this as an outline for the special issue. We expect to prepare a one-page flyer describing the content type and some confirmed contributions (from within our group) to give a flavor of the Special Issue. Once the details with the publisher are sorted out we can then distribute this flyer to potential authors and thereby find out how much interest there would be in contributing.

Item 4: Face to Face meeting of the Working Group

It has been suggested that the best venue should be the World Congress in Australia to be held in August of 2003. There has been no enthusiasm for the Meeting in Austria or Singapore.

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Item 5: Stated Objectives of the Working Group

To assist with the definition of the working group we have developed two objectives for the group. We are in the process of developing goals to meet these objectives. The first three goals are outlined above in items 2, 3, and 4.

1. To raise awareness among the scientific and engineering community of the advances of neuroengineering
2. To examine the education structure of neuroengineering programs and make recommendations

Item 6: Bulletin Board to Enhance Communication Among Participants

We have implemented a bulletin board to enhance communication among the participants. There were several problems with maintaining good communication within the group, distributing information and maintaining timely feedback. The bulletin board lets members post information directly and has been divided into five discussion groups:

1. Defining Neuroengineering	0 3 public, unlocked
2. MBEC Special Issue	1 3 public, unlocked
3. Meeting Schedule	0 2 public, unlocked
4. Membership	0 2 public, unlocked
5. Working Group Objectives	0 1 public, unlocked

Members can login in, read messages posted and reply immediately to any message or post a new message. We expect this to enhance communication considerably.

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