



Annual Report 2007

Highlights of the Year

- EuroMedlab 2007 Amsterdam, 17th IFCC - FESCC European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, 60th National Congress of the Netherlands Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, June 3-7, 2007 Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- The 2007 IFCC/Abbott Distinguished Award for Contributions in Molecular Diagnostics was presented to Professor Ulf Landegren, from Uppsala, Sweden, during the EuroMedlab 2007 Congress in Amsterdam
- The 5th IFCC Clinical Molecular Biology course was held in Milan in July 2007
- IFCC/Beckman Coulter course on Flow Cytometry, September 2007
- 11th APCCB, Oct. 14-19, 2007, Beijing China
- IFCC-ADA-EASD-IDF Consensus Statement on the Worldwide Standardization of the Hemoglobin A1C Measurement
- IFCC Statement on the use of ISO 15189 in the accreditation of medical laboratories
- Abbott Laboratories' annual sponsorship for the IFCC VLP program
- IFCC promotional brochure in English, Chinese, Italian, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish
- IFCC Milestones Booklet
- Joint IFCC-"Labs are VitalTM" campaign, sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics Laboratories, was launched at EuroMedlab in Amsterdam
- The 7th FESCC (now EFCC) Continuous Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry "New trends in diagnosis, monitoring and management using molecular diagnosis methods", September, 2007, Dubrovnik, Croatia

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE IFCC, DEC 31, 2007



The Executive Board of the IFCC this year continued to work on the Vision developed last year for the IFCC.

If you remember from last year we decided to concentrate on:

- 1) Developing integrated projects so that the work that is done by the Scientific Division (SD) in establishing reference methods and materials will be integrated with the other Divisions. The Education and Management Division (EMD) will assist with educational materials understanding these reference methods and new standards and materials. The Communications and Publications Division (CPD) will be sure that information about these changes will be posted on our web site and disseminated as widely as possible. The Congress and Conference Division (CCD) will ensure that meetings contain sessions devoted to the newest work from the SD. Thus, the loop will be completed.

I am pleased to tell you that the Past President, Professor Mathias Müller, is spearheading this effort. The work is starting on a project related to pharmacogenetics, and another will be started next year on screening for renal function.

- 2) Improvement of public relations is of high priority. We must work, through CPD, to make members of our Member Societies are fully aware of IFCC activities.

According to current WHO data, fully 80% of diagnoses is based on laboratory results. We need to work with physicians to enable them to understand our role in their success with patient diagnoses and therapies. Likewise, we need to make the global community of present and future patients understand our role.

I delighted to announce that we, through the leadership of Dr. Ellis Jacobs, the Chair of the Communications and Publications Division (CPD), and his team are working together with Abbott Laboratories and their "Labs are Vital" program to ensure that the knowledge of what IFCC does not only reaches our Members, but also the general public. We are also striving to be timelier and more thorough with getting information re our programs on our web site, www.ifcc.org.

In addition, Dr Albert Fraser, the Chair of the Congress and Conference Division, has worked well with CPD in getting a large variety of meetings announced on our web, and

has been active in encouraging the use of auspices and the IFCC logo to get information about these widely distributed.

- 3) Education. We should develop educational programs that involve, not only our Member Societies, but clinicians and patients as well. We must continue to develop many specialized educational programs, such as the one in evidence-based medicine and in analytical quality.

I am extremely happy to tell you that late last year we obtained a substantial grant from Abbott Diagnostics to allow us to expand our Visiting Lecturer Program to developing countries in a major way. That effort is now well underway under the leadership of Ms. Janet Smith, the Chair of the Education and Management Division, and her team.

- 4) Assisting Developing Countries should be a priority. One of the critical needs of those of our Member Societies that qualify as developing countries is improvement of analytical results and helping these nations learn about new and better approaches to our discipline.

As I mentioned above, to this end we have strengthened our VLP and we have also obtained a very generous grant from Ortho Clinical Diagnostics Inc. (OCD), to allow us to hold a biannual specialized program at a low registration fee, so that it is easier for persons to attend. We have also obtained a grant from Roche Diagnostics Gbmh to enable persons from developing countries to apply for travel grants to our meetings.

- 5) Reflect better the fact that the term "Laboratory Medicine" is part of the name of our organization. We should seek areas in which we can expand our scientific activities, such as in Microbiology and Virology. The SD should set up Working Groups to deal with these expansions.

This part of the vision is being looked at, but as yet I have nothing definite to report.

How has your President spent her time? I have been very involved with raising corporate monies to either strengthen existing programs or to add new ones.

I was deeply involved with working with the Scientific Division over the resistance by clinicians from many countries to the implementation of the new recommendations regarding the measurement of HbA1c. I worked with the Executive Director of the American Diabetes Association to have a "summit" meeting in Milan with key players on both the scientific and clinical side to develop an agreement about how we should proceed.

I have visited many Member Societies during 2007. These include Egypt, Tunisia, Croatia, Turkey, China and Uruguay. I have been very impressed with their enthusiasm and their willingness to learn new areas of Laboratory Medicine, ranging from management issues to pure science, exciting new areas such as In Vitro Fertilization and to what the future holds for our discipline.

I have worked extensively with the very efficient IFCC office to plan The General Conference and to work on the logistical side of the first OCD Conference. The Chair of the Scientific Division, Prof. Mauro Panteghini, has organized an excellent scientific program.

I have interviewed some candidates for positions in the office, and daily I deal with about 40-60 e-mails, which all need to be answered.

It is also a pleasure to work with a very helpful, supportive and enthusiastic Executive Board, as well as with the Division Chairs who keep all the activities of IFCC running very effectively. It was a great pleasure to see the large number of publications that emanated from the work of the Scientific Division under the leadership of Professor Mauro Panteghini.

I hope to see the National Representatives from all our Member countries and all our Corporate Members at the General Conference in Turkey next April, as well as at the International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine in Fortaleza, Brazil in late September.

I wish you all a successful and healthy 2008.

Best wishes,
Jocelyn M. B. Hicks,
President IFCC

EXECUTIVE BOARD (EB)

The Executive Board had its first meeting of the year in Washington DC, USA, from March 15 to 16 2007. We were happy to be the guests of AACC who hosted the meeting in the AACC Office. The second meeting was held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, June 1-3, 2007 prior to the EuroMedlab 2007, 17th IFCC - FESCC European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, 60th National Congress of the Netherlands Society for Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine.

The third EB meeting was held in Beijing, China, October 12-13, 2007 prior to the 11th APCCB Congress held in Beijing, Oct 14-19, 2007, giving the EB Members the opportunity to attend the congress. IFCC Divisions and Committees organized several symposia at the Congress. The Beijing EB was a budget-planning meeting in which the Chairs of Divisions joined the EB to report on their year's activities and to present their budget proposals for 2008. The full detailed annual reports of the Divisions follow later.

EuroMedlab 2007 Amsterdam was a very successful congress. The opening ceremonies of the Congress were honoured by the presence of Her Majesty Queen Beatrix. There were 3284 participants, 2092 of which represented full registrations, coming from 81 different countries. There were 93 exhibitors at the exhibition. During the Congress, in addition to the IFCC EB meeting, the Divisions and many Committees also held their meetings. In addition they organised several symposia at the Congress.

The joint IFCC--"Labs are VitalTM" campaign, sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics Laboratories, was launched during EuroMedlab Congress. IFCC was invited to be a partner in this campaign. The main goal of this campaign is to promote the value of the laboratory professional in the eyes of the health care system and the general public. You will find more detailed information about "Labs are VitalTM" in the CPD report below.

EB discussed on several occasions during the previous year how to enhance public relations and how to activate IFCC membership in the activities of the Federation. For this purpose Communications and Publications Division developed an IFCC promotional brochure which has been published in several different languages (English, Chinese, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish), and other translations are planned. The IFCC Milestones Booklet was also updated and distributed at EuroMedlab Congress in Amsterdam.

Membership

The Montenegrin Association of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (MACC) was approved unanimously as a new Full Member by the IFCC membership via a mail ballot. MACC is now the 77th Full Member within the IFCC. They are warmly welcomed into the Federation.

A letter was sent to National Representatives of the Full Members and to the Presidents of the Full Members asking for the annual reports of the National Societies. 33 reports were received to be included in the IFCC Annual Report 2007, which is available on the IFCC website www.ifcc.org.

Significant milestones were reported for a number of National Societies:

The Norwegian Society of Medical Biochemistry celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2007 and the IFCC plaque was presented to the Society at the EuroMedlab 2007 Congress in Amsterdam.

The Finnish Society of Clinical Chemistry and Nederlandse Vereniging voor Klinische Chemie en Laboratoriumgeneeskunde celebrated their 60th Anniversaries. IFCC President Jocelyn Hicks sent her greetings to these Societies on behalf of the IFCC and these letters were handed to the representatives of these Societies at EuroMedlab 2007 Congress in Amsterdam.

The Professional Scientific Exchange Program (PSEP) is an important program, which provides scholarships for young colleagues to be trained in science, new technologies, and management. In 2007 three scholarships were granted to recipients from Nigeria, and Spain. The training of these scholars took place in the US and in the UK. The PSEP program is very important for young scientists and for their future in the field. The EB wishes to promote this program among the National Societies and requests them to encourage their young colleagues to use the opportunities of PSEP program. The program enables new competencies for young colleagues that will be beneficial for both their home institutions and the profession in their country. Please, view the IFCC website for more information (<http://www.ifcc.org>).

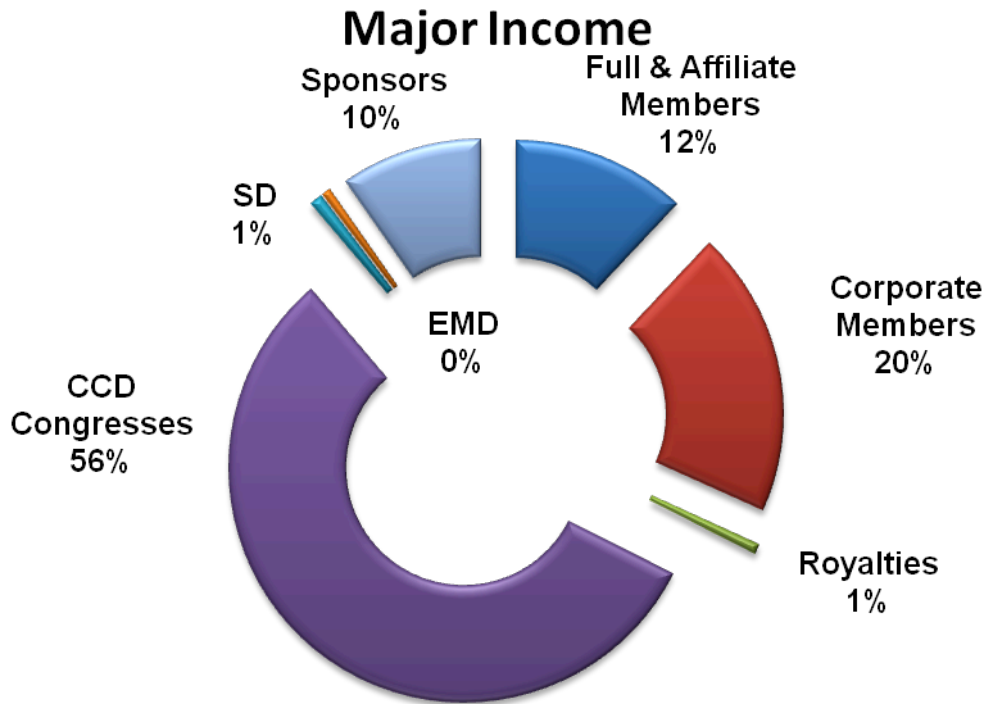
Päivi Laitinen

Secretary IFCC

TREASURER'S REPORT 2007

For the second year running IFCC assets did not do well due to the volatile market in US and Europe. Thanks to EuroMedLab in Amsterdam which was a big success scientifically and financially. The income from EuroMedLab had secured sizable income to the IFCC. The Executive Board of the IFCC focused this year on projects which would have long term effect on the performance of IFCC activities in various fields especially in developing countries and a budget line was created to support such activities.

Again, this year we were very successful in Full & Corporate member payments. Most corporate and Full Members have paid their annual dues for 2007.

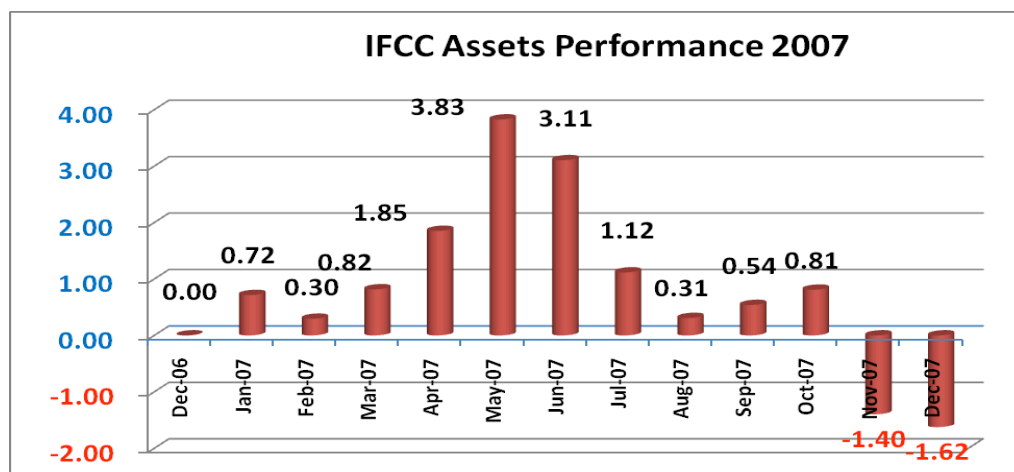


Supporting divisions was a major goal for the Executive Board of IFCC and as you can gather from the figures most of the expenses were allocated to cover activities of the IFCC Divisions. IFCC supported two regional congresses, EuroMedILab in Amsterdam, the first week of June 2007 and the Asian Pacific Congress in Beijing, the first week of October 2007. The support was through sponsorship of IFCC officers who participated actively in both Congresses by giving excellent lectures.



The IFCC Financial Advisory Committee is pleased with the present Auditors, Humphreys & Gates, who perform professional auditing of IFCC accounting.

Our banks, Dresdner Bank & Credit Suisse in Switzerland and Banca Intesa in Italy are co-operating well with our office and they manage our accounts with high standards and professionalism. Online banking has facilitated our task and made it easier to make transactions and to quickly understand our current status.



Looking forward for 2008 I am hoping we will see increased income from the upcoming congresses. More focused spending on key goals will be the aim of IFCC during 2008.

Ghassan Shannan
Treasurer

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Members of the 2006-2008 Awards Committee conducting the nominations and selection of awardees were: Chairman Vladimir Palicka (IFCC Vice-President, CZ), Carl Burtis (USA), Rosa Sierra Amor (ME), Mohamed Shaarawy (EG), Christopher Lam (HK).

1. Professor Christopher Lam (HK) resigned as member of the Award Committee.
2. Professor Tsutomu NOBORI (Japan) was approved as a member of the Award Committee.
3. Due to ending of sponsorship, the IFCC Award for Advancements in Near-Patient Testing was removed from the list of IFCC Awards.
4. The following two new awards were approved by the IFCC EB:
 - IFCC Robert Schaffer Award for Distinguished Achievements in Advancing the Science of Standards in Laboratory Medicine. [(supported by U.S. National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) and by the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI)]
 - IFCC Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Practice of Laboratory Medicine and Patient Care. (supported by Ortho Clinical Diagnostics)
5. The 2007 IFCC/Abbott Distinguished Award for Contributions in Molecular Diagnostics was bestowed on Professor Ulf Landegren, Uppsala, Sweden. This Award was presented at the opening ceremony of EUROMEDLAB 2007 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
6. Calls for nomination for 6 IFCC Awards were repeatedly distributed to all IFCC National Representatives, National Society Presidents and Corporate Members. Nominations will

be considered by Award Committee during IFCC General Conference in Antalya. Awards will be presented during ICCS in Fortaleza, Brazil.

Federation Awards include the following:

1. IFCC Distinguished Clinical Chemist Award (supported by Siemens Medical Solutions Diagnostics).
2. IFCC Henry Wishinsky Distinguished International Services Award (supported by Siemens Medical Solutions Diagnostics).
3. IFCC Award for Distinguished Contributions in Education (supported by Beckman Coulter).
4. IFCC Distinguished Award for Contributions in Molecular Diagnostics (supported by Abbott Molecular Diagnostics).
5. IFCC Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Practice of Laboratory Medicine and Patient Care (supported by Ortho Clinical Diagnostics).
6. IFCC Robert Schaffer Award for Distinguished Achievements in Advancing the Science of Standards in Laboratory Medicine (supported by the U.S. National Institute for Standards and Technology and Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute).

Vladimir Palicka
Chair Awards Committee

FULL MEMBER SOCIETIES

ARGENTINA

CONFEDERACIÓN UNIFICADA BIOQUÍMICA DE LA REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
CUBRA IX	Sep 26 to 29 Villa Carlos Paz Cordoba	Biochemical and clinical laboratory

AUSTRALASIA

AUSTRALASIAN ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS (AACB)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
RCPA AACB Chemical Pathology Course	12-16 February 2007	Clinical and technical laboratory medicine
AACB Scientific Education Seminar	13 April 2007	Analytical Quality
AACB Chromatography &	16-18 July 2007	Separation techniques in

Mass Spectrometry Meeting		lab medicine
AACB Scientific Education Seminar	16 August 2007	Analytical Quality
AACB Annual Scientific Conference	24-27 September 2007	Various clinical and technical topics
The Business Pathology	7-9 November 2007	Lean, IT, management workforce, networks

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
11 th Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry	14-19 October 2007	Sponsored Symposium on Quality Control and Quality Assurance
		Prof. Leslie Burnett and Dr. Renze Bais: Attendance at APFCB Council, and Observer at APFCB Executive Board
		Prof. Sam Vasikaran elected at APFCB Chair of Laboratory Management Committee
		John Joseph elected Secretary of APFCB Laboratory Management Committee
17 th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Malaysian Association of Clinical Biochemists	9-11 August 2007	One day workshop on Quality Assurance

Regional relations

AACB/RCPA Quality Assurance Programs joint sponsorship of national External Quality Assurance Program for emerging nations: Invitation to present to Vietnam Department of Science and Technology (Hanoi, March 2007)

- Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry (APCCB), Beijing: Participation in Asia and Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry (APFCB) Council, and presentation of Symposium on Quality Control (October 2007)

- World Health Organisation (WHO): commissioning of Quality Assurance Program and Training for emerging nations: presentation in Philippines (October 2007) and Vietnam (November-December 2007)

International relations

International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC):

- o Professor Howard Morris nominated as IFCC Vice-President
- o Professor Sam Vasikaran elected to EMD, Committee on Clinical Laboratory Management, and also to the Chair of the Laboratory Management Committee of the APFCB
- o Ms Sue Matthews elected to the Working Group on Communications and Public Relations
- o Ms Janice Gill elected to EMD, Committee on Analytical Quality
- o Professor Hans Schneider elected to SD, Committee on Standardisation of Markers of Cardiac Damage
- o Ms Jill Tate elected to Chair, Working Group on Standardization of Cardiac Troponin I Assays
- International cooperation meetings held with AACCC & ACB at San Diego meeting July 2007
- International Standards Organisation: Dr Graham White attended ISO TC212 WG2 meeting in Paris in September 2007

Additional information

With funding from the Australian Government, the AACCB successfully launched Lab Tests Online Australasia on August 10, 2007

BELGIUM

SOCIETE BELGE DE CHIMIE CLINIQUE (BVKC/SBCC)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Innovations in Clinical Laboratory Management and Diagnosis	May 24th 2007	Laboratory management
Annual joint symposium of the Belgian Society of Clinical Biology and of the Belgian Society of Clinical Chemistry	October 13th 2007	Clinical Biology and the Elderly

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
3 rd Euregio Conference of	March 23th 2007	One session (chairman and

Clinical chemistry and Laboratory medicine (Aachen, Germany)		speakers) organized by the Belgian Society of Clinical Chemistry
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BRAZIL

SOCIEDADE BRASILEIRA DE ANÁLISES CLÍNICAS (SBAC)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Annual meeting of SBAC's staff (deliberative body)	June, 09	- Presentation of the educational political and administrative projects of each regional of SBAC - Presentation of the educational administrative projects politics of SBAC in national level - Decisions on WorldLab IFCC 2008
Occasional meeting of SBAC's staff (deliberative body)	Mach, 14	- Presentation of the course of the educational political and administrative projects of regional of SBAC - Presentation of the course of the educational administrative projects politics of SBAC in national level - Decisions on WorldLab IFCC 2008
Occasional meeting of SBAC's staff (deliberative body)		- Presentation of the course of the educational politics and administrative projects of each regional of SBAC - Presentation of the course the educational administrative projects politics of SBAC in national level - Decisions on WorldLab IFCC 2008
Regular meetings of SBAC's mini staff (organizing board)	monthly	- Presentation of the course the educational administrative projects politics of SBAC in national level - Decisions on WorldLab IFCC 2008

Education

Courses in the headquarters of SBAC: 09 courses in the average of one per month

Courses in SBAC's regionals: 34 courses in the average of 3 per month

Events in regional congresses: 130 events, between courses, mini-courses, practice laboratories, conferences and lessons.

Events in national congress: 250 events, between courses, mini-courses, practice laboratories, conferences and lessons.

Published books: 01, Heading: Biosecurity in the Clinical Laboratory; Author: Souza, Mateus Mandu

Participation in international congresses and events: 18 in the whole world

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
14 th Meeting of the Asociación Mercorsur de Normalización	02 and 03/07/2007	Presentation of projects and other courses already assigned to the CSM-20
AACC Annual Meeting & Clinical Lab Expo 2007	15 to 19/07/2007	Stand for spreading of Worldlab IFCC 2008
IX Congresso Nacional Bioquímico	26 to 29/09/2007	Stand for spreading of Worldlab IFCC 2008
VI Congresso Uruguayo de Bioquímica Clínica	26 to 28/10/2007	Stand for spreading of Worldlab IFCC 2008
15 th Meeting of the Asociación Mercorsur de Normalización	22 and 23/11/2007	Presentation of projects and course of others already assigned to the CSM-20
XVIII Congreso Latinoamericano de Bioquímica Clínica	28/11 to 01/12/2007	Stand for spreading of Worldlab IFCC 2008

Regional relations

- *American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC)*
- Asociación Mercorsur de Normalización (AMN)
- Confederación Latinoamericana de Bioquímica Clínica (COLABIOCLI)
- Confederación Unificada Bioquímica de la Republica Argentina (CUBRA)

International relations

- IFCC - International Federation of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine
- APFCB - Asian and Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry
- CSLM - Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine
- AEBM - Asociación Española de Biopatología Médica
- AEFA - Asociación Española de Farmacéuticoa Analistas
- SEQC - Sociedad Española de Bioquímica Clínica y Patología Molecular
- Foundation the Quality Meetings Antwerp (Belgium)
- Associação Portuguesa de Engenharia da Saúde
- EQUALM - Quality Assurance and Control in Laboratory Medicine

Additional information

SBAC (Sociedade Brasileira de Análises Clínicas - Brazilian Society of Clinical Analyses) specifically possesses two programs directed toward the laboratory quality:

- PNCQ (Programa Nacional de Controle de Qualidade - National Program of Quality Control) possesses about 3.200 participating laboratories. With this number, the PNCQ is the biggest supplier of assays of proficiency for laboratories of clinical analyses of Latin America
- DICQ (National System of Accreditation) is the main program of Accreditation of labora-

tories in Brazil, possesses about 70 accredited laboratories.

- SBAC also publishes, for 38 years, the Brazilian Magazine of Clinical Analyses with scientific articles.

BULGARIA

BULGARIAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL LABORATORY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Congress of Bulgarian Society of Clinical Laboratory	20-22.09.2007	Clinical Laboratory

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
XV Meeting of Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation	4-7.09.2007	Lecture, posters

Regional relations

Balkan Federation of Clinical Laboratory

International relations

EFCC, IFCC, EQALM

CANADA

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTS

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
52nd Annual CSCC Conference	June 8-11, 2008	"Toxicology on the Rock"

Education

CSCC Education Roundtables – 14 roundtables offered for the season; 1 every second

week for 1 hour. Roundtable participants are sent the slides and then follow along by conference call.

CSCC Critical Care Lectureship – Jan 31, 2008 – The Role of the Laboratory in Emergency Toxicology (A Clinician's Perspective). Speaker Dr. Roy Pursell, Medical Director of the Drug and Poison Center of British Columbia.

CSCC Travelling Lectureship – Dr. Michael Astion, Director, Reference Laboratory

Services and Rapid Response Laboratory, Associate Director, Immunology Division, and Associate Professor, Department of Laboratory medicine, University of Washington was the guest lecturer. His topic was "Putting Power into Patient Safety: Interventions in the Clinical Laboratory". Dr. Astion visited 5 cities across Canada in the period September 11-26, 2007.

Regional relations

CSCC has 7 Provincial Sections – British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia. Each Section holds its own meetings and small conferences. The Sections report to the Society annually and have the opportunity to submit for limited financial help with their programs if required.

International relations

CSCC has an International Exchange Grant which is used to support CSCC members travelling to other countries for meetings, or to support people from other countries to travel to Canada. In 2007 CSCC supported two visitors to Canada:

- Dr. Monica Spalvieri, Buenos Aires, Argentina attended the 51st Annual CSCC Conference in Toronto Ontario in June 2007. Dr. Spalvieri then stayed on in Toronto and observed at some laboratories, under the guidance of local clinical chemists

- Dr. Lorena Ivanova Stefan of Romania, visited Canada in the summer of 2007. She spent three weeks at Dynacare Kasper Medical Laboratories under the supervision of Mr. Trefor Higgins. She worked on protein electrophoresis and HPLC in the analysis of biological fluids.

Several CSCC members have been invited speakers at conferences worldwide during the year.

Additional information

The CSCC sent 7 nominations this fall for different Committees of the IFCC including one for the presidency of the Executive Board. In 2007, the CSCC also nominated one of its member to one of the IFCC awards. Of all these nominations, only one was accepted by IFCC and one will be completed next Fall in Fortaleza.

CYPRUS

ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL LABORATORY DIRECTORS, BIOMEDICAL AND CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTISTS

International relations

Members in EPBS and EC4.

Additional information

Our National Meetings are held monthly every 2nd Thursday of the month where the committee discusses matters of the agenda that is being send in advance to all members of the committee. The major topics discussed is the implementation of the National Health Scheme and how is going to affect the clinical Laboratories in the private sector and the services provided and the Law that is implemented for the registration of the Clinical Laboratories. Other matters that where discussed during the meetings is the External Quality Control for chemistry, haematology and immunology and the participation of the Clinical Laboratories of our Association in one of the international schemes for example Biorad / REQAS.

In January 2007 during the Annual General Meeting our Association celebrated 20 yaers since its establishment.

In December 2007 we had the elections for a new committee but the General Assembly voted unanimously for the past committee to remain for another two years in action since we go through a transitional period of many changes that will follow in the near future.

During the year of 2007 an appointed committee by our National Committee held 4 meetings for the creation of our National Registry for the EC4.

CZECK REPUBLIC

CZECH SOCIETY OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
8 th Congress of Czech Society of Clinical Biochemistry	23.-25.9.2007, České Budějovice	Nephrology, pharmacogenomics, toxicology, new analytical techniques, coagulation
Atherosclerosis 2007	12 - 14. 9. 2007, Prague	Atherosclerosis – diagnostics, treatment and prevention
35 th Congress of the International Society for Oncodevelopmental Biology and Medicine – ISOBM	15.-19.9.2007, Prague	Tumor markers
Vitamins 2007	19.-21.9.2007, Prague	Antioxidants and human health
VI th Conference of Monoclonal Gammopathy	9.10.2007, Hradec Králové	Free light chains – methods of determination and their clinical significance

Education

Cooperation on study programs on Faculties of medicine, cooperation with Institute of Post-graduate Studies (IPVZ).

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Routine analysis of nucleic acids	17.-18.1.2007, Pardubice	Detection of nucleic acids
Pathobiochemistry and clinical chemistry of liver diseases	31.1.2007, Olomouc	
Automation of clinical laboratories	7.2.2007, Olomouc	Advanced automation of clinical laboratories
Regional meeting	4.4.2007, Olomouc	Endocrinology
Nejedly's Kladno	19.4.2007, Kladno	Metabolism and nutrition
Regional meeting	11.5.2007, Prostějov	
Regional meeting – South and East Bohemia	23.-25.5.2007, Trutnov	
Regional meeting – North Moravia	11.-12.6.2007, Žermanice	
Inborn errors of metabolism	27.6.2007, Olomouc	Diagnostics of IEM
Theory and routine of reference values in clinical chemistry	3.10.2007, Olomouc	
Regional meeting – Region Vysočina	26.10.2007, Třebíč	Novelty in laboratory medicine
Working day of section of laboratory technicians	22.3.2007, Prague 18.10.2007, Kladno 1.11.2007, Prague	Autoimmunity Varia Nutrition
Special analysis in clinical laboratory	14.11.2007, Brno	Special techniques and material in clinical laboratory
Regional meeting	12.-13.12.2007, Karlova Studánka	Varia

International relations

- Participation on Euromedlab 2007
- our representatives participated on committee meetings (L. Sprongl – EC4 Accreditation and ISO Working Groups, J. Racek – EC4 Register Commission)

Additional information

- approval of national guidelines – cardiac markers, laboratory testing in GP ambulances, internal quality control
- preparation for contract of Lab test on line.
- new web pages of Society (www.cskb.cz)

DENMARK

DANISH SOCIETY OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
No 394	27/03	Kidney Function, biochemical markers
National Congress	15/11 – 17/11	Iron metabolism Molecular Diagnostics Metabolic syndrome and inflammation Coagulation Calciummetabolism

Education

Arrangements by Danish Society of Clinical Biochemistry, Education Committee:

Immunology and Inflammation, 22/5 – 24/5

Organization and Management, 20/11 – 22/11

Haematology, 21/11 – 23/11

Arrangements in collaboration with Danish Society of Cardiology and Danish Society of Thrombosis and Haemostasis:

Antithrombotic treatment in Cardiovascular Diseases, 25/9 – 26/9

Arrangements in collaboration with Danish Society of Thrombosis and Haemostasis:

Thrombosis and Haemostasis, 8/10 – 10/10

International relations

Scandinavian Society of Clinical Chemistry.

Danish Society of Clinical Biochemistry is represented in the board by the president and a member appointed by the Danish board.

Education arrangements:

"the professional role in a Clinical Chemistry laboratory". Ystad 30 August – 2 September 2007

ESTONIA

ESTONIAN SOCIETY FOR LABORATORY MEDICINE

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Seminar	March 08, 2007	Introduction to cytogenetics and prenatal screening for chromosomal aberrations.
Seminar	May 30, 2007	Personal view (J.Ihalainen, Finland) on computerizing and automatization of a medical lab. Rapid diagnostics of sepsis. Virus markers in blood. Thomas plot in

		cases of Fe-deficient anemias.
Summerschool	August 23-25, 2007	Overview of the laboratories and laboratory medicine in Estonia; issues of verification of diagnostic laboratory tests in clinical virology; management of diabetes.
Seminar	December 7, 2007	Coagulation, stem cells, digital morphology

Education

Advance training:

1. Leading problems in diagnostic haematology.
2. Laboratory tests in screening of the diseases.
3. Summerschool (see above)

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Joint meeting of the societies of family and laboratory medicine (Riga)	November 11-12, 2007	Lecturer

Regional relations

ESLM is the member of Baltic Association of Laboratory Medicine (BALM).

On October 1-5, 2007 BALM organised a course on quality management and statistics which was held in Jurmala, Latvia (lecturers Anders Kallner and Prof Elvar Theodorsson). There were 25 participants from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Slovak Republic.

BALM is also organising IX Baltic Congress in Laboratory Medicine to be held in 2008 in Jurmala.

International relations

ESLM is a full member of the IFCC and EFCC.

ESLM is also participating in the work of EC4 Register Commission.

FINLAND

FINNISH SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY (FSCC)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
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Spring meeting	28.-29.3.2007	Metabolic diseases, Immunochemistry, Intensive care, Legislation
Fall meeting	8.-9.11.2007	Clinical physiology, Diabetes, Urine analyses, Toxicology, Paraproteinemias

Education

Both annual meetings (spring and fall) were organized in cooperation with the Finnish association of clinical biochemists.

In the spring meeting the topics of the lectures dealt with Laboratory diagnostics of metabolic diseases, Immunochemical analyses, Laboratory tests in intensive care units and Changes in health care legislations. The total number of participants was 100, of which 14 were lecturers.

In the fall meeting the topics of the lectures were Clinical physiology, Diabetes, Urine analyses, Toxicology and Paraproteinemias. The total number of participants was 100, of which 14 were lecturers.

During the year 2007 FSCC has continued to financially support the participation of its members in several international meetings.

Regional relations

FSCC is a member society of the Nordic Society for Clinical Chemistry (NFKK = Nordisk förening för Klinisk kemi). At the moment, the chairman of FSCC, Jarkko Ihalainen, is also the chairman of NFKK. Another Finnish member in the board of NFKK during year 2007 has been Päivi Laitinen.

Klinisk Biokemi i Norden is a journal published by NFKK. The journal had 3 numbers year 2007 and it was freely distributed to all members of the NFKK member societies.

The 31st Nordic Congress in Clinical Chemistry will be held in June 2008 in Helsinki, Finland. Year 2007 has been time of active preparations for the congress.

International relations

Päivi Laitinen from Finland continued as the secretary of IFCC.

Kari Pulkki was the national representative of FSCC in IFCC. Kari Pulkki was also elected to the board of EFCC, the new European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine.

In the beginning of year 2007 FSCC made an agreement on educational collaboration with the St Petersburg branch of Russian Association for Medical Laboratory Diagnostics (RAMLD).

FRANCE

SOCIETE FRANÇAISE DE BIOLOGIE CLINIQUE (SFBC)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
SFBC Scientific Meeting - Journées Internationales de Biologie - Paris	6-7-8 November, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The vascular tree, a metabolic organ- Updates in Clinical Chemistry (inhibin B, hs CRP, PTH and vitamin D)- The use of cardiac markers in liberal practices- Mass spectrometry applied to small molecules : new applications in Clinical Biology

Education

- Educational Committee chaired by Prof. J.P. Bali (Montpellier)
 - ✓ Continuous medical education through SFBC scientific meeting sessions
- Evaluation of Professional Practices Committee (C-EPP) : chaired by Dr N. Jacob, SFBC General Secretary
 - ✓ Topics of EPP actions in 2007 : tobacco use markers, hs CRP, gonadic peptides, markers of glomerular function
 - ✓ Candidature of SFBC for obtaining National Agreement as "EPP" validating society.

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Euromedlab Amsterdam 2007	June 7 – 9 th , 2007	Participation to International Advisory Board – Invited speakers

Regional relations

- Participation in EFCC activities
 - ✓ Contribution to statutes of newly created EFCC
 - ✓ Contribution to EC4 register and ISO 15189 implementation
 - ✓ Participation in International Advisory Board of Euromedlab 2007 Amsterdam and 2009 Innsbruck Meeting.
 - ✓ Participation in Advisory Board of SwissMedLab Montreux 2008 and International Symposium BSCC/BVKC/ SFBC Brussels Meeting 2008.

International relations

- Coordination by SFBC Committee on International Relations :
 - ✓ President : Prof. A. Legrand
 - ✓ Past-President in charge of International Relations : Prof. P. Gillery
 - ✓ Members : Dr J. Bienvenu, Dr B. Gouget, Dr N. Jacob, Dr B. Poggi, Dr S. Zérah and SFBC Executive Board Members
- SFBC representatives :
 - IFCC : Prof. P. Gillery

- EFCC : Dr B. Gouget (EC4 register : Dr S. Zérah)
- WASPaLM : Prof. P. Gillery, Prof. P. Gambert
- Participation in International Advisory Board of IFCC Fortaleza Meeting 2008.
- SFBC : founding member of the FIFBCML : Fédération Internationale Francophone de Biologie Clinique et de Médecine de Laboratoire (FIFBCML President : Prof. Alain Le-grand, SFBC President)

Additional information

SFBC – Invited speakers in international meetings

- **AFCB**
 - 7èmes Journées Nationales de Biologie Clinique, Marrakech (MO), April 2007
 - XXI journées Nationales de Biologie Clinique, Société Tunisienne de Biologie Clinique, Hammamet (TN) May 2007
- **COLABIOCLI**
 - AMBC (Mexico) XXIX Congress, Leon (MX), March 2007
 - 34e Congresso Brasileiro de Analises Clinicas Belo Horizonte Brazil, June 10-14, 2007
- **FESCC**
 - EUROMEDLAB Amsterdam, June 7-9, 2007
 - XV BCLF meeting (Balkan Federation), Antalya, September 2007
 - VIIIth Congress of Clinical Laboratory, Borovetz, 20 – 22 September 2007 (Bulgaria)
 - Vith congres national de Societatea Romania de medicina de laborator, Sibiu (Romania), Octombrie 11-13, 2007
- **Fédération Internationale de Pharmacie (FIP)**
 - 67th International Congress of FIP
- **WASPalm**
 - WASPaLM meeting, Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), August 20-24, 2007

SFBC and IFCC Committees and Working Group

IFCC-SD

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| – Scientific Division Executive Committee (SD-EC) | Ph Gillery, member, 2006-2008 |
| – C-Reference Intervals and Decision Limits (C-RIDL) | J. Henny, member, 2005-2007 |
| – C-Nomenclature, Properties and Units (C-NPU) | F. Pontet, chair, 2006-2008 |
| – C-Reference Systems of Enzymes (C-RSE) | J.M.Lessinger, member, 2007-2014 |
| – WG-Standardization of Thyroid Function Tests (WG-STFT) | C. Ronin, member, 2005-2007 |
| – WG-Standard of human Chorionic Gonadotropin (WG-SHCG) | J.M. Bidard, member, 2006-2008 |
| – WG-Standard of Carbohydrate-Deficient-Transferrin (WG-CDT) | F. Schelleberg, member, 2005-2007 |
| – WG-Standardization of Growth Hormone (WG-GH) | J.C.Souberbielle, member, 2006-2008 |
| – WG-Standardization of Troponin I (WG-TnI) | G. Lefèvre, corresp member |

IFCC-EMD

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| – C-Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM) | J Watine, member 2006-2008 |
| – C-Committee on Analytical Quality (C-AQ) | A. Vassault, 2007-2009 |

IFCC-CPD

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| – eJIFCC | Ph. Gillery, member |
| – IFCC News and WG-IFCC News | D Gruson, member |
| – IFCC news | B.Gouget, former CPD chair |

GREECE

GREEK SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY- CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
3 rd Continuous Education Seminar	10 th of March 2007	Bone Metabolism- Osteoporosis
4 th Continuous Education Seminar	12 th of May 2007	Biochemistry of Exercise
5 th Continuous Education Seminar	6 th of October 2007	Male Reproduction System- Hormones
6 th Continuous Education Seminar	8 th of December 2007	N u t r i t i o n a n d Clinical Chemistry

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
XVI Meeting of Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation & 7 th Hellenic Congress of Clinical Chemistry	16-18/10/2008	Organization and Hosting (all preparations and international-regional arrangements had done in 2007).

GUATEMALA

GUATEMALAN CLINICAL CHEMISTS SOCIETY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
10th Anniversary of Guatemalan External Quality Program 1997-2007		Seminar "Quality in clinical Laboratorios in the XXI century".

Education

Continious Education Program:

Monthly Breakfast meeting, Grand Tikal Futura Hotel, lectures given by an experts clinical chemists and specialist medical doctors:

Subjects:

1. Bacterial Vaginosis.
2. Standardization and interpretation of Glycosylated hemoglobin
3. Performance of different methods for glucose determination
4. Helicobacter pylori Infection in Guatemala.
5. Strengthening of research projects .
6. Congenital and acquired coagulopathies.
7. Laboratory diagnosis of pediatric infections.
8. HIV and dyslipidemias.
9. Laboratory findings in the metabolic syndrome.
10. New markers for cardiovascular risk.
11. Performance of different methods for cholesterol determination.

Regional relations

1. Clinical Chemists Society Meeting from Honduras as lecturer, June 2007
2. CONCASIDA- VIH SIDA USAID /PSP-One meeting in Nicaragua as Lecturer , November 2007
3. COLABIOCLI XVIII Latin American Meeting in Panama November 2007
4. As lecturer.

In COLABIOCLI XVIII Latin American meeting, celebrated in Panama, November 2007, Guatemalan Society it was elected Executive Board of COLABIOCLI 2008-2010

International relations

Latin American board representative attendance for IFCC /EQAL Joint Meeting post Euro-medlab, Amsterdam. June 2007

HONG KONG

HONG KONG SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
9th AGM and ASM	13 Jan 2007	Chronic Kidney Diseases

Education

1. POCT dinner meeting, 9 February 2007
2. HKSCC Abbott Diagnostics Education Symposium - 20 Sept 07 entitled: Reference Intervals: Theory, Application, and the Canadian Laboratory Initiative on Paediatric Reference Interval Database CALIPER)
3. APCCB in Beijing, 14-19 Oct 07 - HKSCC sponsored symposium entitled "Recent advancements in Clinical Chemistry"
4. IFCC VLP on "Evidence based laboratory medicine" - 20 & 22 Oct 07
5. APFCB Beckman Coulter Education Symposium - 11 Dec 07, a dinner lecture meeting entitled: Supporting the complete laboratory diagnostic process"

HUNGARY

HUNGARIAN SOCIETY OF LABORATORY MEDICINE (HSLM)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Autoimmune workshop	5th April 2007	Screening tests for Antinuclear antibodies Autoimmune disorders of the liver ANCA positive vasculitis
Biannual conference of the Hungarian Society of Laboratory Technologists (HSLM's 'daughter' society)	30th August-1st September 2007	Main topics: new trends in laboratory medicine, transfusion medicine, laboratory medicine in emergency care, common endocrinological disorders, clinical microbiology
Symposium on Metabolic Syndrome	26th September 2007	Definition, genetics, pathophysiology and laboratory diagnostics of metabolic syndrome
Expert meeting between HSLM and the Hungarian Diabetes Society	10th December 2007	National guideline recommendations on eGFR Initiation of guideline development /adaptation for the diagnosis of microalbuminuria. HbA1c standardisation

Education

Experts of HSLM were the principle organisers of the following CME training course for laboratory specialists: "Laboratory diagnostics on inborn errors of metabolism" 16-19 October 2007, Szeged.

Regional relations

Prof. Gabor L Kovacs, Past President of HSLM, received an honorary membership from the Croatian Society of Medical Biochemistry on 17 May 2007.

International relations

- Prof. Andrea R Horvath, President of HSLM, was elected the President Elect of EFCC at Euromedlab 2007 in Amsterdam
- Initiation of a scientific cooperation between the Hungarian and Chinese Societies of Laboratory Medicine, October 2007.
- Budapest hosted the EFCC Board meeting on 8-9 December 2007.

Additional information

- The Hungarian Lab Tests Online website was officially launched on 26th September 2007.
- National Guideline on eGFR was developed and published, together with the Hungarian Society of Nephrology, for both clinical and laboratory professionals
http://www.mldt.hu/docview.aspx?r_id=3133313737&web_id=&mode=1
- National Guideline on the Ethical Conduct of Laboratory Specialists has been developed. The guideline is now open for web-discussion by registered members of HSLM.

INDIA

ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS OF INDIA (ACBI)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
34th National Conference of Association of Clinical Biochemists of India -2007 (ACBICON 2007) at Delhi	December 18 to 20, 2007	Plenary Lecture on 'Yoga & Health', Orations on 'The effective and realistic role of Clinical Chemistry in Medical Education' and 'Prevention of Cancer, Sepsis, Asthma, Diabetes & Uveitis by Aldose Reductase inhibition' and Symposia on 'Cutting edge technologies in Clinical Biochemistry', 'Cardio vascular risk markers', 'Critical care in Laboratory medicine', 'Mechanisms & management of Diabetes mellitus', 'Advances in Cancer diagnosis' etc.,
Continuing Medical Education programme & workshops at Delhi	December 17, 2007	'Stem cell therapy'; 'Nano technology in Clinical Biochemistry', 'Micro arrays of Proteomics' and 'New Cardiac markers by ECL technology'.

Education

1. ACBI Professional Course in Clinical Biochemistry – 2007 organized during December 15 and 16, 2007 at Delhi coordinated by Dr Jayashree Bhattacharya.
2. EZACBICON 2007: A course in Clinical Biochemistry organized during June 15 -16, 2007 by Eastern Zone of ACBI at Vivekananda Institute of Medical Sciences, Kolkatta.
3. Vidharbha Quiz for medical undergraduate students of of Vidharbha Region organized at Mahatma Gandhi Institute of medical Sciences, Sevagram, Maharashtra

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Seminar on ' Role of DNA in Clinical Diagnosis'	November 18, 2007	Organized by West Bengal State Chapter of ACBI
Workshop on 'Immunodiagnos- tics for Infectious Dis- eases'	February 5 to 10, 2007	Organized by the General Secretary and Past President of ACBI

Regional relations

One of the Founder members of APFCB. About 28 members of ACBI participated in the 11th APCCB held at Beijing and there was a special symposium presented by ACBI on 'Metabolic disorders: Emerging Scenario' in this event. Hosts APFCB visiting Lectures.

International relations

Member of the IFCC and periodically hosting visiting Lectures by experts of IFCC

Additional information

ACBI publishes the ' Indian Journal of Clinical Biochemistry', Journal of the Association and 'ACBI News Bulletin' as well, Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore runs the ACBI External Quality Assurance Programme.

INDONESIA

INDONESIAN ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Makassar - South Sulawesi: Inauguration of Makassar Chapter Executive Board 2006-2009	24 March,2007	"Manual vs. Automation" organized simultaneously
Jakarta: Inauguration of the Jakarta Chapter Executive Committee 2006-2009.	14 April, 2007	Workshop from Roche Diagnostics, on Cobas Branding.
Denpasar-Bali: Inauguration of the Denpasar Chapter Executive Committee 2006-2009.	12 July, 2007	Seminar on:"Integrated Management of Dengue Disease", organized simultaneously
Semarang-Central Java: Inauguration of the Semarang Chapter Executive Committee 2006-2009	25 August, 2007	Seminar on "Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Update" was organized simultaneously

Education

EDUCATIONAL

- Organizing of APFCB & IFCC traveling lectures
- Organizing Collaboration Workshops with Clinician and Industry
- Clinical Chemistry
- Seminar on Glycohemoglobin Standardization and Serum Protein Electrophoresis Interpretation
- Molecular Diagnostic
- Boost the Introduction of molecular testings in Indonesia
- Hematology
- Organizing workshops on automatic hematology instruments from various IVD industries (Abbott, ABX, Bayer, Sysmex).
- Urinalysis
- Acknowledging many method and technique of urinalysis (automatic, microscopic)
- Immunology and Infectious Diseases
- Conducting study of Thyroid Dysfunction in Indonesian Women During Pregnancy and Post Partum, collaboration with Abbott, Indonesian Association of Endocrinology, and Indonesian Association of Obstetric and Gynaecology
- Setting an Antibigram (sponsored by BD & Biomerieux)
- POCT
- Seminar to build awareness of POCT quality control
- Paediatric Laboratory
 - Gaining information of IFCC guidelines applicable for clinical laboratory

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

- Promoting research to members, sponsored by IVD industries who contribute (new test) reagents kit and donation/fund with certain circumstances.
- Presenting the results in 2008 Scientific events or National Congress 2009

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- Quality Assurance Program in cooperation with Clinical Pathologist Association or other organizations through the Clinical Laboratory Forum

Regional meetings

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Regional relations

National:

1. IACC-Industry Clinical Study

The IACC initiated studies for clinical usefulness of several tests. Studies were sponsored by IVD industries. The results of studies will be published as recommendations to the laboratory community as well as the clinical community. The studies involved the IVD industry, IACC, investigators consisting of clinicians and pathologists/clinical lab practitioners.

The first study worth reporting is the following:

- Sponsor : PT. Abbott Indonesia
- Name of study : **Prevalence of Abnormal Maternal TPO-Ab and TSH Levels During Pregnancy in the Indonesian Population**

- Investigators :

- Indonesian Obstetric and Gynaecology Association
- Indonesian Association of Endocrinology
- IACC

- Laboratory :
- Prodia Clinical Laboratory
- Study Period : 5 June 2007 – 5 December 2007

2. Launching Website of Indonesian Association for Clinical Chemistry

A homepage of the IACC is now open, soft launched on April 24, 2007, and formal launched on 24 July 2007

- Web address: www.hkki.org

International relations

Additional information

ORGANIZATION

- Organization Development
- Recruit more members
- Expand more local chapters
- Conduct seminar on Good Laboratory Practice Management

ISRAEL

ISRAEL SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES (ISCLS)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Annual meeting of ISCLS	14-15 February, 2007	Metabolic Syndrom, Degenerative diseases, Infectious diseases, Multiple Sclerosis Coagulation

Education

Round Tables:

Topics:

1. Neonatal Bilirubin
2. Free Light Chains determination
3. Involvement of Laboratory directors in hospital decisions

Symposia:

Ordering of tests via a remote location

From fetus to adolescent – what could go wrong?

International relations

An Israeli representative is a full member in the Committee of Clinical Molecular Biology Curriculum (C-CMBC).

Additional information

ISCLS is a member of the National advisory council for laboratory medicine. This body regulates the activities of the clinical laboratories in Israel, under the auspices of the Ministry of Health. The President of ISCLS serves as Chair of the council.

JAPAN

JAPAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
The 47th Annual Meeting of the Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC)	2007/11/22□25	President lecture Symposia on New technology-Impact on high-tech medical care National project on standardization New research trend on malignancy Role of clinical laboratory for CVD
26th Summer Seminar	2007/7/5□7	Special invited lecture Symposia Project reports on standardization Establishment of reference measurement system Preparation of RM for urine and serum albumin, electrolytes Standardization of assays on cystatin C, amylase, lipase, glycoalbumin Procedure on the evaluation of uncertainty for HbA1c

Education

Seminar
Avian influenza□from glycobiological approach
Transfusion and cell transplantation
Role of clinical chemistry for a newly introduced 6 years undergraduate education system in pharmacology
Proper use of laboratory tests for clinical practitioners

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
APCCB	2007/10/14□19	Organizing scientific programmes Participation as speakers

Regional relations

Research projects in Asian regions
Clin Chem Lab Med. 2007;45(9):1232-6, Clin Chem, 2008, in press.

International relations

Representative to APFCB

Council □ Prof. Tsutomu Nobori
Education Committee □ Dr. Katsuhiko Kuwa
Scientific Committee □ Prof. Minoru Tozuka
Laboratory Management Committee □ Prof. Kiyoshi Ichihara
Association Secretary or equivalent □ Prof. Naoki Watanabe

IFCC Activity

C-PP Member: Kiyoshi Ichihara, Affiliated member: Yoshi Itoh
WG on cystatin c Member : Yoshi Itoh
WG on SEB: Katsuhiko Kuwa
WG on HbA1c: Tadao Hoshino

International Journal Editor

Editorial Board for Annals of Clinical Biochemistry: Kunihiro Ueda
Editorial Board of CCLM: Kiyoshi Ichihara
Editorial Board of Clini Chim Acta: Nobumasa Okumura

Publication of original papers

9 papers on CCLM

7 papers on ACB

MACEDONIA

MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTS

Education

3-4 regular meetings of the members of MSMB with accredited program of lecturers.

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Balkan Clinical Laboratory (BCLF) meeting in Athens, Greece	September 2007	Yes

Regional relations

Collaboration with all Balkan societies of clinical chemistry

International relations

Collaboration and implementation of the recommendations of the EFCC and IFCC

MEXICO

MEXICAN ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY - ASOCIACIÓN MEXICANA DE BIOQUÍMICA CLINICA (AMBC)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
XXX NATIONAL CONGRESS IN CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND LAB EXPOSITION	MARCH 3-7, 2007	CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON QUALITY	JUNE 30, 2007	QUALITY IN THE CLINICAL LABORATORY
XX QUALITY ASSURANCE SQUEME PROGRAM NATIONAL MEETING.	SEPTEMBER 23, 2007	QUALITY ASSURANCE SQUEME PROGRAMS

Education

13 BASIC AND 16 ADVANCED COURSES IN SELECTED TOPICS OF LABORATORY MEDICINE, XXX NATIONAL CONGRESS IN CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY. AND, 8 CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES IN CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND 10 CONFERENCES IN SELECTED TOPICS OF LABORATORY MEDICINE DURING 2007. 1 INTERNATIONAL COURSE IN LABORATORY ACCREDITATION

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
QUALITY ASSURANCE PAHO MEETING	DECEMBER 4, 2007	1 CONFERENCE
XVIII COLABIOCLI CONGRESS, PANAMA CITY, PANAMA	NOVEMBER 28-30, 2007	2 CONFERENCES 2 POSTER PRESENTATIONS
MEXICAN CONGRESS OF THE CLINICAL PATHOLOGY FEDERATION (FEMPAC)	NOVEMBER 7-11, 2007	2 CONFERENCES
CHILEAN CONGRESS IN CLINICAL CHEMISTRY (AchQC)	OCTOBER 4-6. 2007	1 COURSE 1 PLENARY
2007 ANNUAL MEETING OF	JULY 14-19, 2007	1 CONFERENCE

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY (AACC)		
XXXVII BRAZILIAN CONGRESS IN CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY (SBAC)	JUNE 10-14	2 CONFERENCES
INTERNATIONAL QA MEETING, BOGOTA COLOMBIA	APRIL 16-19, 2007	1 CONFERENCE
ROTARY CLUB MEXICO CITY	APRIL 12, 2007	1 CONFERENCE

Regional relations

MEMBER, COLABIOCLI BOARD 2006-2007
COORDINATOR, EDUCATION COMMITTEE, COLABIOCLI BOARD 2006-2007

International relations

MEMBER, ISO TC212 /WG1
MEMBER, AWARDS COMMITTEE IFCC
SECRETARY, BRAZILIAN CONGRESS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE IFCC
WORLDLAB CONGRESS
MEMBER, INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY SCIENTIFIC BOARD, IFCC WORLD LAB CONGRESS
MEMBER, EDITORIAL BOARD, BIOCHEMIA MEDICA, CROATIAN SOCIETY OF MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTS, CROATIA
MEMBER, EDITORIAL BOARD, POINT OF CARE TESTING JOURNAL, USA.
ASSESOR FOR THE CLINICAL LABORATORY, WHO

Additional information

BOARD MEMBER, MEXICAN ACCREDITATION ENTITY
MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABORATORY ACCREDITATION, MEXICAN ACCREDITATION ENTITY
MEMBER, WORKING GROUPS IN LABORATORY MEDICINE, MEXICAN ACCREDITATION ENTITY
NATIONAL AGREEMENT IN ACCREDITATION AND CERTIFICATION, MEXICAN ACCREDITATION ENTITY
BOARD MEMBER, MEXICAN COUNCIL OF BOARD CERTIFICATION IN CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY,
DELEGATE, SUBCOMMITTEE ON ISO STANDARDS, MINISTER OF ECONOMY
MEMBER OF THE JURY, CENEVAL, THESIS DISERTATION AND DIPLOMA IN CLINICAL CHEMISTRY
MEMBER, CONEFRIS, REVIEW OF THE SYLLABUS IN PHARMACY AND CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY
MEMBER, COMMITTEE IN HEALTHCARE POLICY INITIATIVE
ASSOCIATED MEMBER, C-QC EMD IFCC
INVITED CONFERENCES AT THE FACULTIES OF CHEMISTRY AT NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF MEXICO, CAMPUS CUAUTITLAN; UNIVERTY OF CHIAPAS; UNIVERSITY OF NUEVO LEON; UNIVERSITY OF OAXACA; UNIVERSITY OF VERACRUZ; UNIVERSITY OF SINALOA;
ASSOCIATE MEMBER, WG HbA1c SD IFCC

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION AMONG AMBC, IFCC REFERENCE LABORATORY FOR HbA1c / THE NETHERLANDS AND UNIVERSITY OF TAMAULIPAS, CAMPUS REYNOSA, MEXICO. (Ref. BIOQUIMIA 2007: :

THE NETHERLANDS

NEDERLANDSE VERENIGING VOOR KLINISCHE CHEMIE EN LABORATORIUMGENEESKUNDE

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
National Meeting	5 June	Awards
National Meeting	31 October	Assessment of professional performance

Education

Continuing Medical Education:

13 December – Financial Management
20 September – Lipids
26 April – Vitamines and Minerals
13 March – Hemato-oncology

Regional relations

26 September Meeting NVKC EB with regional representatives and chairs of committees

International relations

3-7 June Euromedlab 2007 Amsterdam

NIGERIA

ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTS OF NIGERIA

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
2007 BI-ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE/DELEGATES MEETING, IN ILORIN.	7TH TO 10TH NOV. 2007	CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND CHALLENGES OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

Education

SUB THEMES OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE;

- a) Coronary Artery Diseases
- b) Diabetes Mellitus
- c) Malignant Diseases

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
REGIONAL MEETING IN KOGI STATE " ROLE OF CLINICAL CHEMISTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF HIV/AIDS PATIENTS"	3 RD - 4 TH OCT. 2007	100, 000 NAIRA SEED MONEY FOR ORGANISING THE CONFERENCE

Regional relations

PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE STATE GOVT. LOCAL GOVT. NGOS ETC.

TOPICS ARE:

1. The Clinical Chemistry in the management of HIV/AIDS Patients.
2. Overview of medical complications of HIV infections.
3. Management options on HIV/AIDS Care
4. Common obstetrics and gynaecological cases in HIV / AIDS
5. Metabolic complications of HAART therapy/

Target - Audience of the meeting:

- A) Physicians
- B) Nurses
- C) NGOS
- D) Politicians
- E) HIV/AIDS patients

International relations

WE HAVE COMMUNICATION AND INTERACTION WITH THE FOLLOWING COLLEGUES INTERNATIONALLY;

DR DAVID DONALDSON IN BRITAIN

DR A. O OKORODUDU IN USA

Link With Australia

Additional information

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETINGS HELD QUATERLY DURING WHICH LOCAL ACTIVITIES WERE MONITORED

NORWAY

NORWEGIAN SOCIETY OF MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Det 44. etterutdanningskurs i medisinsk biokjemi	23-25 April 2007	Various topics in clinical chemistry
LAB07-Seminar	17 October	Procalcitonin

PARAGUAY

ASOCIACIÓN DE BIOQUÍMICOS DEL PARAGUAY

Education

The Asociación de Bioquímicos del Paraguay (Biochemists Association of Paraguay or ABP) organized and/or sponsored a series of continuous education events throughout 2007.

1. "The Biochemistry Lab in Medical Emergencies." Presented by Dr. Alberto Villagra on May 4-5, 2007. Event organized by the Wiener Foundation and sponsored by ABP.
2. "Indirect Immune-Fluorescence Techniques." Presented by Dr. Sebastián Volpe on May 17, 2007. Event organized by ABP and sponsored by Infotec S.A.
3. "Update Workshop - Hematology." Presented by Prof. Dr. Alfredo Boccia and Dr. Raúl Arce Levi on June 8-9, 2007. Event organized by ABP and sponsored by Bionálisis S.R.L.
4. "Update Workshop - Opportunist Diseases for Immunity-Deficient Patients." Presented by Dr. Iván Fernando Allende Criscioni on August 2, 2007. Event organized by ABP and sponsored by Laboratorio Díaz Gill.
5. "CDLXXXVI Standardization of HbA1c and Creatinine for Biochemistry and Medicine Professionals." Presented by Prof. Dr. Stella Raymondo on August 24 -25, 2007. Event organized by the Wiener Foundation and sponsored by ABP.
6. "The Role of Free Radicals in Oxidative Stress." Presented by Dr. Alberto Concolino on September 11, 2007. Event organized by ABP and sponsored by the Paraguayan Society of Ortho-Molecular Medicine.
7. "Quality Management." Presented by Dr. Rafael Rey and Dr. Amadeo E. Carlomagno. Event organized by ABP and sponsored by the Wiener Lab Group and Biotec S.R.L.
8. Participation in the "Evaluation of the Core Curriculum Project" in coordination with the School of Chemical Sciences, Biochemistry Area, National University (Paraguay).
9. "Automation in Urine Analysis." Presented by Dr. Claudia Vasconcellos on October 19-20, 2007. Event organized by ABP, sponsored by Bioanálisis S.R.L. and co-sponsored by Sysmex Brazil - Roche Group.
10. "International Videoconference on Quality." The videoconference that took place in Mexico City in June 2007 was shown on November 17. Event organized by ABP and sponsored by G.T. Scientific S.R.L. Bio-Rad.
11. "Technical Documents: Policies and Regulations - Latin American Guide for the Implementation of an Ethics Code in Health Care Labs." Presented on December 18, 2007. Event organized by ABP.

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Executive committee - COLABIOCLI	Sept 8, 2007. Panama Nov 29	Executive Committee COLABIOCLI Executive Committee COLABIOCLI
XVII Clinical Biochemistry Latinamerican Congress	28/XI -1/XII 2007	Plenary Conference: Electrolytes/BloodGas/metabolites/ Relevant of Strong ion Difference implementation. Dra Blanes Evaluation of Diagnostic Diabetes Type I –II lipids and lipoprotines levels. Dra Blanes <u>Simposium:</u> Mycrobioly/Infectius disease. Enterococos vancomicycn resistant Dra Canese
COLABIOCLI	Friday 30 Nov	General Assembly

Regional relations

Argentina Biochemical foundation (Fundación Bioquímica Argentina),
Wiener lab Foundation (Fundación Wiener Lab)

Biochemical Uruguayan Association (Asociación de Bioquímicos del Uruguay -ABU) , Clinical Biochemistry mexican Association (Asociación Mexicana de Bioquímica Clínica - AMBC)
Biochemistry Unified Confederation of the Republic Argentina (Confederación Unificada de la República Argentina - CUBRA)
Biochemical Federation of the County of Buenos Aires (Federación Bioquímica de la Provincia de Buenos Aires - FBPBA)
Clinical Análisis Brazilian Society (Sociedad Brasileira de Análisis Clínicos -SBAC) Clinical Biochemistry Chilean Society (Sociedad Chilena de Bioquímica Clínica)

Societies members of Clinical Biochemistry. Latin American Confederation (COLABIOCLI)

Oriental Uruguayan University (Universidad Oriental del Uruguay
Buenos Aires Argentina University (Universidad de Buenos Aires Argentina)

Sub Sectoral committee of Norms 20 MERCOSUR: Comité Sectorial de Normas sub 20 (CSM-20)

International relations

- International federation Chemistry Clinic and Laboratory Medicine IFCC
- American Association Chemistry Clinic AACC
- Health Pan-American Organization OPS - WHO

Additional information

5 -7 June of the 2008 VI Paraguayan Congress of Chemistry, VII Pharmacist National Congress, V Clinical Biochemistry National Congress, IV Chemical Engineering Paraguayan Congress, II Industrial Analytic and Chemical Analysts Congress National.

POLAND

POLISH SOCIETY OF LABORATORY DIAGNOSTICS

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
EUROLAB 2007	8.03.2007	Development of laboratory diagnostics in Poland
Regional meeting - Bialystok	20.04.2007	Contemporary health threats
Regional meeting - Wroclaw	25 – 26.05.2007	Clinical and laboratory significance of specific proteins
Regional meeting - Opole	12.06.2007	Oxidative stress – the main mechanism of cardiovascular diseases
Regional meeting - Poznan	22 – 23.06.2007	Alcohol: a toxin, a stimulant, a drug?
Regional meeting - Lagow	29 – 30.11.2007	Cardiovascular disease management: Role of laboratory diagnostics.
XXIIInd Symposium of the Polish Army Clinical Chemists	9 – 11. 05.2007	Current laboratory diagnostics: are we able to satisfy the physicians and patients?
POLMEDLAB 2007 16th Congress of the Polish Society of Laboratory Diagnostics - Wroclaw	26 – 28.09.2007	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Diagnosis of civilization diseases 2. Laboratory diagnosis of cancer diseases 3. Quality management in diagnostic laboratory 4. Diagnosis of cardiovascular diseases 5. Contemporary hematology diagnostics 6. Laboratory diagnosis of renal diseases

International relations

Members of the Executive Board of Polish Society (PTDL) are formally engaged in the activities of international organizations :

- Professor Grazyna Sypniewska (vice-president of the Society) is a member of IFCC CPD and the Editor-in-chief of eJournal of IFCC; she is also a member of Intl Sci Advisory Board of the IFCC Congress in Fortaleza in 2008 and the Euromedlab Innsbruck 2009. Prof. Sypniewska is a member of Editorial Board of Croatian journal *Biochemia Medica*

- Prof. Mieczyslaw Wozniak (Medical Academy Wroclaw) is a member of Editorial Board of Spanish journal *Ars Pharmaceutica*
- Prof. Jan K.Kulpa (Institute of Oncology, Cracow) is a member of Editorial Board of German journal.....
- Bogdan Solnica MD PhD is a NR of PTDL in EFCC

Additional information

1. The Polish Society of Laboratory Diagnostics (PTDL) is a member of the Federation of Polish Medical Associations. This Federation was established in May 2007 upon initiative of PTDL. The main purpose of the Federation is an integration of scientific activities and also promotion and dissemination of the medical knowledge.
2. The Polish Society of Laboratory Diagnostics (PTDL) has established the consulting group of experts for introduction of the Polish version of Lab Tests Online for patients and laboratory professionals. The opening of the website – www.labtestsonline.PL took place 18th of May, 2007 and from August 2007, the link to www.labtestsonline.pl was available from the www.ifcc.org homepage.

SERBIA

SOCIETY OF MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTS OF SERBIA

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Xth Scientific Conference "Professor Ivan Berkes"	4th Decembre 2007, Belgrade	The best master and doctoral thesis are presented and the best graduated students in Medical Biochemistry at Pharmaceutical Faculty are awarded by the Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia

Education

1. Two Educational Seminars on Organospecific tumor markers
2. Novalities in laboratory diagnostics
3. Accreditaion of Medical Laboratories

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
34 th EFCC Symposium for Balkan Region – Theory and Application of Evidence – Based Laboratory Medicine	20-22 Septembre, Belgrade	Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia was organizer of the Symposium
XV Meeting of Balkan Clini-	Septembre 4-7, 2007, Anta-	Organisation of the Round

cal Laboratory Federation	lya	table Discussion on “Continuing Education” Presentation of the Plenary Lectures and number of posters
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Regional relations

With all Societies from Balkan Region, members of Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation (BCLF)

International relations

Cooperation with other Societies members of IFCC and EFCC
Participation in EuroMED Lab 2007
Participations in other Meetings

Additional information

The members of the Society appointed by Ministry of Health of Serbia actively participated in organisation of The Chamber of Medical Biochemists of Serbia that will work on all future activities and regulation of medical biochemuistry (Clinical Chemistry) as profession in helath service of Serbia

In cooperation with Institute for Medical Biochemistry of Clinical Centre of Serbia, the Society continues the organisation of external quality control scheme – SNEQAS in all laboratories in the country.

SLOVENIA

SLOVENIAN ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
SZKK (Slovenian Association for Clinical Chemistry – SZKK) Symposium	15 March 2007, Ljubljana	Laboratory Diagnostics of Diabetes
SZKK Symposium	31 May 2007, Maribor	Liver Diseases and Laboratory Medicine
SZKK Symposium	27 September 2007, Celje	Acute Coronary Syndrom and Biomarkers
SZKK Symposium	5 December 2007, Ljubljana	Autism

Education

- 17 and 24 September 2007, Ljubljana – Management Course in collaboration with OK – Consulting;
- 6 - 7 October 2007, Dubrovnik, Croatia – EFCC Continuous Postgraduate Course: »New trends in diagnosis, monitoring and management using molecular diagnosis method« (in organization of EFCC, Croatian Society of Medical Biochemists and Slovenian Association for Clinical Chemistry);
- Educational Course for Internal Assesors – ISO 15189 and Slovenian Bylaw in Laboratory Medicine (in organization of Slovenian Institute for Quality, Slovenian Association for Clinical Chemistry and Slovenian Chamber for Laboratory Medicine);
- Educational Course – Quality System in POCT
- Organization of Educational Courses for Medical Laboratory Technicians (5 different topics)

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
EFCC Continuous Postgraduate Course: »New trends in diagnosis, monitoring and management using molecular diagnosis method« (in organization of EFCC, Croatian Society of Medical Biochemists and Slovenian Association for Clinical Chemistry);	6 – 7 October 2007, Dubrovnik, Croatia	(in organization of EFCC, Croatian Society of Medical Biochemists and Slovenian Association for Clinical Chemistry);

Regional relations

- Alpe – Adria Societies
- cooperation of Slovenian Association for Clinical chemistry (SZKK) and Croatian Society of Medical Biochemists

International relations

Active member of IFCC, EFCC (before FESCC and EC4)

SPAIN

SOCIEDAD ESPAÑOLA DE BIOQUÍMICA CLÍNICA Y PATOLOGÍA MOLECULAR

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
	Madrid, January 31.	Preanalytical step at the Clinical Chemistry Laboratory
	Barcelona. February 15	Oral communication

	Barcelona. March 28	Vitality markers
	Madrid. April 20	Updating of immunoassays
	Granada. April 25	Preanalytical step at the Clinical Chemistry Laboratory
Scientific Committee	Santiago de Compostela. May 14-15	The annual meeting. a) In vitro fertilization laboratory b) Biochemical study of the Thyroid function c) Cardiovascular risk factors d) Clinical chemistry laboratory in the study of allergic diseases e) Laboratory role on the nutritional state f) Statistics course
Margarita Engels	Santiago de Compostela. May 16	Drug monitoring and clinical toxicology
	Madrid. May 23	Biological markers and sepsis
	Baiona. May 30	Preanalytical step at the Clinical Chemistry Laboratory
	Barcelona. June 15	Citology on peripheral blood
	Madrid. October 1	Tumor processes
	Valladolid. October 9	New algorithms
	Bilbao. October 10	New algorithms
	Tenerife. October 11	New algorithms
National meeting	Seville .October 17-20	I Clinical laboratory meeting
	Barcelona. November 14	Economy and management in the clinical laboratory

Education

Programme of continual education. Education committee with more than 900 members

Regional relations

We have relationship with all the regional of Clinical Biochemistry or Clinical Laboratory societies

International relations

We are full member of IFCC and we have members in several committees at the IFCC

Additional information

The 2007 I Clinical laboratory meeting was held in Seville .October 17-20 with 1500 attendants. This meeting has merged the SEQC, and AEBM and AEFA meetings

Programme of quality external evaluation. Quality and Accreditation Comité

The SEQC has registered a Foundation named "Jose Luis Castaño, for the clinical chemistry developing"

SWEDEN

SWEDISH SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Annual Meeting	May 9-11	General clinical chemistry
Biotech/ScanLab	September 24-26	Automation, future perspectives

Education

Specialist training courses:

Analytical chemistry (mass spectrometry)

Communication

Hematology

Regional relations

Two members of the Board of the Nordic Society for Clinical Chemistry

International relations

Representatives in several international working groups

Member of the Board of UEMS

TURKEY

TURKISH BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY (TBS)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
VII. National Trombosis, Hemostasis and Angiology Congress	4-6 May 2007, University of Cukurova, Adana	Trombosis, Hemostasis and Angiology

Education

Conferences

- Laboratory medicine in tyroid diseases (18 January 2007, Istanbul)
- Analysis of risks in clinical laboratories (18 January 2007, Ankara)
- Clinical laboratory in Hepatitis B infections and antiviral drug resistance (8 February 2007, Ankara)
- Test sensitivity in clinical usefulness (8 March 2007, Ankara)
- Optimum method selection in clinical laboratory and evaluation of analytic performance (22 March 2007, Ankara)
- Cancer, Stem cells, Aging (27 March 2007, Izmir)
- Laboratory medicine in obesity (12 April 2007, Ankara)
- Quality management in clinical laboratories ang good laboratory practice (18 April 2007, Istanbul)
- Rational test selection in clinical laboratory (26 April 2007, Ankara)
- Tumor markers in clinical laboratory (10 May 2007, Ankara)
- Clinical importance of paraoxanase family (25 May 2007, Ankara)
- Nanotechnology (21 June 2007, Adana)
- Pharmacogenomics (24 June 2007, Ankara)
- New approaches in hepatic markers (23 October 2007, Izmir)
- Laboratory medicine in diagnosis and treatment of Diabetes Mellitus and its complications (5 November 2007, Istanbul)
- New approaches in the diagnosis and treatment of osteoarthritis (20 November 2007, Izmir)
- DAPkinase family (25 December 2007, Izmir)

Courses

- Molecular biology techniques (13-16 February 2007, Izmir)
- How to write a scientific project? (25-26 January 2007, Izmir)
- HPLC workshop (12-13 June 2007, Istanbul)
- Medical Devices Directives (2-4 April 2007, Ankara)
- Medical Devices Directives (5-7 April 2007, Denizli)
- TSE EN ISO / IEC 17025 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories Course (12-14 March 2007, Denizli)

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
XV. BCLF (Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation) meeting	4-7 September 2007, Talya Hotel, Antalya	Host Organiser

International relations

Turkish Biochemical Society is a member of IFCC and EFCC.

Meetings Attended:

EuromedLab2007 Amsterdam (3-7 June 2007)

Additional information

- Participation in the "Proficiency Tests and Interlaboratory Comparisons Project " of EU

MEDA Programme "Support to the Quality Infrastructure in Turkey"

- Participation in the Clinical Laboratory Scientific Advisory Council of Ministry of Health

UNITED KINGDOM

ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Frontiers in Laboratory Medicine	29-31st January 2008	Cutting edge developments in Laboratory Medicine management
Focus 2008	18-22nd May 2008	Utting edge Laboratory Medicine practice
Laboratory Automation Meeting	13-14th March	With AACC & NVKC in Amsterdam. Update on latest changes in Lab Automation

Education

April & Sept 2008 One Week Training Courses [2 of a cycle of 6]

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
On-going series of Regional Meetings organised by ACB Regional Committees	Various	Under ACB auspices

Regional relations

While the ACB represents the UK, the country is divided into four administrations, the ACB is engaged with the devolved governments. There is also national collaboration with other laboratory organisations on a variety of political issues and is exemplified by working together on accreditation at CPA, and the establishment of Labs Are Vital (UK).

International relations

The ACB has engagement in a variety of for a through members in a variety of positions. As an organisation we have formal relations with other Clinical Biochemistry Associations, particularly in the areas of publication of our journal and discounted rates for our publications to them and theirs to us. We also have reciprocal arrangements for presenting prestigious lectures at our National Meetings.

Additional information

We have re-structured our Executive and have decided to no longer have a Chairman with effect from May 2008 , our lead Principle Officer will be the President supported in alternate years by either a President-Elect or Past-President. The terms of office were also changed. A Government led review on Pathology Modernisation is about to report and there is a Radical career restructuring project commencing

URUGUAY

ASOCIACIÓN BIOQUÍMICA URUGUAYA (ABU)

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
EQAs Meeting, Montevideo City	1. April 13-14, 2007	This activity was extended with the participation of the Honorary Committee of Renal Health (CHSR: Comisión Honoraria de Salud Renal), presenting the National Project for Creatinine Standardization. This project was elaborated by the CHSR achieving the NKPD support and it is done with the collaboration of our Standardization and Quality Control Program (CECC: Comité de Estandarización y Control de Calidad) as well as the Reference Laboratory of La Plata Argentina (LARESBIIC).
Laboratory and Critical Patient	2. June 2007	Course lectured by Dr. Angel D'Annunzio from Argentina. Montevideo City
VI National Congress of Clinical Biochemistry	October 26-28, 2007	

Education

Cost Estimation. Course lectured by Dr. JP Grammatico from Argentine. Montevideo City. August 2006.

Emergence of the "Motivation and leader's working group" August 2007.

Regional relations

General Assembly of CECC (EQAS). July 2007.

Distance Course: "Management in Clinical Laboratories" coordinated by Dra Stella Raymondo and lectured by Dra. Montserrat Blanes from Paraguay. The course evaluation was done as a pre-congress activity. July- October 2007.

Participation of Prof. Dra. Cristina Ures in a Endocrinology Seminary. Cuba. September 2007.

COLABIOCLI Congress . Participation of our President Dra. Carmen Musetti . Dra. Patricia Esperon was the uruguayan colleagues that participated in the jury for choosing the Wiener Award granted during the COLABIOCLI Congress. (Panamá). November 2007.

International relations

Milan EMD Meeting. Through Prof. Dra. Stella Raymondo participation. January 2007
Amsterdam EMD Meeting. Through Prof. Dra. Stella Raymondo participation. June 2007

Additional information

Integration of the Committee of Clinical Laboratories in the Minister of Health. Annual activity. 2007

Participation in the National Working group of ISO . Translation, preparation of documents, in the middle of the Uruguayan Institute of Technical Norms (UNIT), Representative office of ISO in Uruguay. Annual Activity. 2007

VIETNAM

VIETNAMESE ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS

National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Scientific Conference/ VACB HCM	24/ 01/ 2007 – Ho Chi Minh city	Presentation on Scientific, Technical and Quality control in clinical Laboratory
Meeting on Teaching Biochemistry in the Universities of Medicine/ VACB – Universities of Medicine	27/ 01/ 2007 - Ho Chi Minh city	
Meeting Teaching Biochemistry for <u>postgraduate</u> in the Universities of Medicine/ VACB – Universities of Medicine	07/ 04/ 2007 – Ha noi	
Scientific Conference/ VACB HCM	28/ 06/ 2007- Ho Chi Minh city	Quality control in Clinical Laboratory
Teaching Biochemistry for <u>postgraduate</u> in the Universities of Medicine/ VACB – Universities of Medicine	27/ 12/ 2007 – Ha noi	Biochemistry Teaching in University of Medicine.

Education

Training of trainer

Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
8 th ASIAN colloquium of ANCLS (Asian Network for Clinical Laboratory Standardization & Harmonization): Key to Laboratory Management	25 Sep 2007 - Manila	Report at panel discussion on EQA: Reporting of Results of Individual Laboratory and Summary, of participating laboratories, Distribution of such Reports, Regulatory Linkage and Educational Interventions
4 th Annual Convention of PCQACL(Philippine Council for Quality Assurance in Clinical Laboratories)	27 Sep 2007 - Manila	Participation

Regional relations

Collaboration with AACB (Australian Association of Clinical Biochemists) carrying out an External Quality Assurance Survey Program in Viet nam.
Invitation Australian Guests participated in QC/ QA meeting in Ha noi, March, 2007

International relations

Participated in the IFCC/EQALM meeting, Amsterdam on 7th and 8th June, 2007.
Participated in the APFCB Congress, Beijing 07 October, 2007.

Additional information

VACB work closely with authority (Government Ministry of Health, Provinces) and other Societies for QC/ QA to be implementation in Vietnam.

CORPORATE MEMBERS

We were very pleased that three companies joined IFCC in 2007. They were: CARE Srl, Diagenics International Corporation, and Phadia. The acquisitions of Dade Behring, Bayer Diagnostics, and Diagnostic Products Corporation, by Siemens led to a net decrease of 2 members: three former Corporate Members do no longer exist, but on the other hand Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics can be considered a new member, too. With these changes, at the end of the year, there are in total 38 Corporate Members, i.e. one more as a year ago.

The Corporate Members continued to support IFCC activities financially through their regular membership fees. Numerous corporate delegates actively contribute in the various Working Groups and Committees. All three IFCC Divisions have an active Corporate Representative on their Executive Committees. Further, several Corporate Members held industry-sponsored workshops at EuroMedlab in Amsterdam and at other IFCC congresses and conferences. The IFCC Executive Board is very appreciative of the sponsorship by several of our Members to such initiatives as a biannual series of conferences by Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, to the Visit-

ing Lecturer Program by Abbott Laboratories Visiting Lecturer Program. Sponsoring all of the IFCC Scientific Awards by individual Corporate Members, already at a significant level overall, continues to increase, too. At EuroMedlab, Corporate Members were recognized for the first time as such by respective signs on display at their booths.

At the annual Corporate Member Meeting held in Amsterdam, presentations about IFCC's current major activities and future direction, and selected topics from the Scientific Division and Education and Management Division were given by members of the Executive Board, Chairs of the Divisions, and the strategic plan for the Communications & Publications Division was presented by its Corporate Representative. In this meeting and at other opportunities, there was also constructive criticism how to improve communication, decision making, and actions of IFCC for the mutual benefit of all its members. In 2008, the General Conference will present a platform to foster this kind of strategic and tactical input by the Corporate members who are able to be heavily involved with the leading global non-profit organization in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine.

Norbert Madry
Corporate Representative

ORGANIZATIONS (REGIONAL) AFFILIATED WITH IFCC

ASIAN-PACIFIC FEDERATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY (APFCB)

EDUCATION - Travelling lectureships 2005 and beyond

APFCB Travelling Lectureship: 2007 – Dr Leslie Lai (6th Travelling Lecturer, of Malaysia) commenced in Beijing with a plenary lecture at the 11th APCCB, Beijing. The TL also visited Taiwan. He is expected to visit other Asian cities in 2008.

APFCB-Beckman Coulter Education Symposium: 2007 - Dr Sunil Sethi (Singapore) visited Hong Kong. He is expected to visit other Asian cities in 2008.

IFCC Visiting Lectureship: 2007 – EBLM – Professor Andrea Rita Horvath (Hungary) completed her second tour of the Asia-Pacific region with visits to Beijing (as plenary lecturer at the 11th APCCB), Hong Kong, Singapore and Bangkok. 2008 – Cardiac markers - Professor Mauro Panteghini (Italy) will be the IFCC VL

REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS

HbA_{1c} project : 2007 survey was sponsored by Bio-Rad. A paper on the surveys carried out in 2005, 2006 and 2007 was presented at the 11th APCCB, Beijing at a symposium sponsored by the APFCB Scientific Committee.

Reference intervals: Project was completed, paper has been accepted submitted to Clinical Chemistry for publication in early 2008

eGFR: Study of inter ethnic differences in serum creatinine within the APFCB region – on going.

The results of the above 3 projects were presented at a symposium sponsored by the APFCB Scientific Committee in the main scientific programme of the 11th APCCB.

APFCB PHILANTHROPIC FUND and SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

APFCB Philanthropic Fund: Established in 2005, primarily to support the APFCB Scholarships Programme: Grants to APFCB were received from IFCC in 2005, 2006 and 2007 have been transferred to the Fund. 5 scholarships were awarded to young scientists to attend the 11th APCCB, Beijing.

APFCB Scholarships Selection Committee: Formed in 2007 to select recipients of all scholarships except APFCB-Anon scholarship.

APFCB-Anon scholarship: For the period 2006 to 2008 the scholarship is awarded for attendance of the AACB ASM. 2007 recipient was Dr Iris Chan (Hong Kong).

Emile von Behring Scholarships Programme: Applications were invited scholarships for 2007 but the Scholarships Committee agreed that there were no suitable applications for short term training.

Silver Jubilee scholarships: Five scholarships were awarded young scientists to attend 11th APCCB, Beijing, of which 4 were taken up.

APFCB-IFCC Scholarships: Two scholarships are to be provided by the APFCB for participation of young scientists in ICCCLM, Fortaleza, Brazil.

COMMUNICATIONS

APFCB News is published annually on schedule. Advertising income has been in surplus over expenses. About 4000 copies printed; distributed to APFCB member associations and senior clinical biochemists in all 5 continents. 2007 under preparation and will be available by early 2008.

Clinical Biochemist Reviews: An AACB reviews journal, is published quarterly, in association with the APFCB. Bulk distributed to APFCB at reduced subscription to clinical biochemist in the Asia-Pacific through APFCB member associations.

Website uses a commercial host server. The website will be revamped.

Communications Committee: This is a new standing committee formed in February 2007. Objective is to coordinate all communications activities of the APFCB, including promotion of congresses. Terms of Reference have been endorsed by Council and a Chair will be elected in Beijing.

11th APCCB, BEIJING, 14-19 OCTOBER 2007: APFCB office-bearers have played key roles; Chris Lam in particular in developing a large part of the scientific programme. APFCB officers visited Beijing in 1-3 February 2007, to review progress of preparations with organizing committee.

Congress provided the following to IFCC EB:

- Waived registration fee
- 9 nights hotel accommodation (5 star hotel)
- VIP dinners on Oct. 13 and 15 evenings
- Welcome reception, 14 October

Report on 11th APCCB

The Opening ceremony was held on the evening of the 14th October. Guests and participants were treated to entertainment which featured displays of martial arts, dances, acrobatic displays and exquisite calligraphy during a sit-down dinner of Chinese cuisine.

The scientific programme commenced the following day with the opening plenary from Professor Shen Ziyu of Mainland China. Professor Shen provided an account of the regulatory requirements for clinical laboratories in China and, among other things, described in detail the impressive number of inter-laboratory quality assurance programmes offered within China for public sector laboratories. Each of the subsequent mornings also opened with a plenary, bringing to a total the number to five. The following day's plenary was by Professor Dennis Lo of Hong Kong who presented his exciting and cutting edge lecture on plasma nuclei acids. Dr Leslie Lai of Malaysia, the APFCB Travelling Lecturer, delivered the APFCB Travelling Lecture on 17 October as a plenary when spoke on Diabetes Mellitus and the Metabolic Syndrome. Professor N Hamasaki of Japan spoke on the Standardization of Clinical Laboratory Measurements on Thursday, while Professor Andrea Rita Horvath of Hungary delivered the plenary on Evidence-Based Laboratory Medicine on the last day. Professor Horvath plenary was made in her capacity as the IFCC Visiting Lecturer to the APFCB region. The scientific programme contained a total of 36 symposia which covered a wide range of topics. Of these 20 were society-sponsored and were presented by national societies of clinical biochemistry, the APFCB and the IFCC and the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry. A total of 620 papers and poster were presented by participants. In addition there were lunch-time industrial workshops sponsored by some multinational *in vitro* diagnostics (IVD) vendors.

The trade exhibition with about 85 exhibitors was one of the biggest seen in the recent history of the APCCB. While the multinationals were well represented, interestingly, but perhaps not surprisingly considering China's tremendous economic growth, it was the local IVD vendor companies which predominated in numbers.

Twenty-seven scholarships were awarded by the congress and of these 23 attended the congress. In addition the APFCB awarded 5 scholarships, and provided financial support for 4 APFCB Council members to attend the APFCB Council meeting, a gesture that was unprecedented. The organiser waived the registration fees for all scholarship holders and these Council members. The generosity of the organisers was remarkable and evident in many other ways, not least of which was in the excellent hospitality accorded to senior IFCC and APFCB officials.

As with most congresses, several organisations took the opportunity to hold meetings held on the side. The IFCC Executive Board, the CCD and the CPD held their meetings. In addition, the APFCB held its triennial Council meeting, a planning meeting of the its newly elected officers and a joint meeting with the IFCC officers and the AACC President.

MEMBERSHIP

Ordinary (voting) membership: A new member, Sri Lanka was admitted in August 2007. The total number of ordinary members is 14.

Corporate Membership: Corporate representative is elected and serves as observer on the Executive Committee. A new member: PM Separations (Australia) was admitted. The total number of corporate members however has remained stable at 14 members because of the take-over/merger of Dade-Behring and Bayer to form Siemens.

Affiliate Membership: Chinese Association of Clinical Laboratory Management is Affiliate Member. Philippines Association of Medical Technologists, INC (PAMET) admitted in 2007. A contact has been established with Nepal in 2007 which we expect will lead to representation from that country within the APFCB.

APFCB-BD DIAGNOSTICS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

This is the only award within the gift of the APFCB. Professor Chris Lam was selected as the winner of the second DSA. Prof Lam was presented with a gold medal in Beijing at the Opening of the 11th APCCB.

LINKAGES

APFCB continues close links with IFCC. APFCB members organised following Speciality Regional/International meetings:

- 2007, 12-13 April: SACB-AACC meeting, themed “Lab Automation: Integrating Quality with Efficiency”, in Singapore, attended by more than 300 participants.
- 2007, 13 August: MACB-AACB workshop on laboratory quality

FINANCE

- The APFCB does not collect a subscription from its ordinary members. Yet finances continue to be healthy with steady increase in liquid assets. Executive Committee receives quarterly accounts and monthly bank statements. Statement of accounts presented to Council annually. A donation of USD6,000 was received in 2007 from the organisers of the 11th APCCB to assist 4 Council members to attend the Council meeting and the 11th APCCB.

IFCC / APFCB Corporate member	Activity supported	Remarks
IFCC	Annual grants to regional federations 2005, 2006, 2007	Transferred to APFCB Philanthropic Fund
Abbott Diagnostics and Abbott Diabetes Care	2007, 2008 APFCB Travelling Lectureship	Dr Leslie Lai is the TL
Beckman Coulter	APFCB-BC Education Symposium	Since 2003 – 2008
Bio-Rad	HbA _{1c} Project	1 st cycle (2005) 3 rd cycle (2007)
BD Diagnostics	APFCB Distinguished Service Award, 2004 and 2007	Surplus from DSA sponsorship used to provide one scholarship for the 11 th APCCB
Dade Behring	1. HbA _{1c} Project 2. Emile von Behring Scholarships	2 nd cycle – 2006
Roche Diagnostics	2006 APFCB Travelling Lectureship	Also supported 1999 TL

APFCB OFFICE

The APFCB is a registered body with the Registry of Societies of Singapore. Solid Track Management of Singapore was appointed to serve as the APFCB Office in 2005. The APFCB Office undertakes the preparation of the APFCB accounts and makes submissions to the Government of Singapore in accordance with regulatory requirements.

APFCB ELECTIONS

The following were elected unopposed for the term of office October 2007- 2010, at the close of nominations:

Executive Committee:

President: Joseph Lopez (Malaysian ACB)

Vice-President: Leslie Lai (Malaysian ACB)

Secretary: Elizabeth Frank (ACB India)

Treasurer: Sunil Sethi (Singapore ACB)

Immediate Past President (ex officio): Chris Lam (Hong Kong SCC)

Chairs of Committees:

Communications: to be elected at Beijing Council Meeting

Education: Endang Hoyaranda (Indonesian ACC)

Laboratory Management: Samuel Vasikaran (Australasian ACB)

Scientific: Kiyoshi Ichihara (Japan SCC)

Auditors: (Elected at Beijing Council Meeting)

Professor Jap Tjin Shing (CACB, Taiwan)

Dr Leslie Burnett (Australasian ACB)

All the above results were confirmed by the APFCB Council at its meeting in Beijing on 14th October 2007.

Joseph Lopez
APFCB President

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE (EFCC)

The merger between FESCC and EC4 to form the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry (EFCC) was concluded and celebrated at the EuroMedLab meeting in June 2007. The first General Assembly of EFCC was held on 5 June.

The FESCC and EC4 Executive Boards met in February 2007 to make final preparations for the merger, and the new EFCC Board has held two subsequent meetings (Milan, August 2007 and Budapest, December 2007).

The main achievements of 2007 were:

1. The FESCC/EC4 merger. The new statutes were unanimously accepted by the National societies and approved at General Assembly in Amsterdam. The new EFCC executive board was elected and installed and the new vision and mission statement of EFCC was developed.
2. The structure of the EFCC was developed and the chairs of the new committees and working groups were elected by the board. The terms of references for the committees and for the EFCC board were devised and approved.
3. A memorandum of understanding governing the relationship between IFCC and EFCC was developed, and proposals for joint working between EFCC and other European organizations were discussed.
4. There were proposals from UEMS for joint action in the development of the profession especially in the harmonization of education and postgraduate training. These were further explored with valuable conclusions in joint discussions in February 2008.
5. Development of postgraduate courses, workshops and conferences was discussed.

6. EFCC established a subscription structure for member societies, agreed a 2008 budget and discussed fundraising options and the funding of committee work.

Specific events:

1. EFCC (FESCC) Workshops; The Balkan BCLF Centre for Continuous Education. Hotel Belgrad (Belgrade) 20-22 September 2007. Lecture course organized in co-operation with the University of Belgrade and in cooperation with IFCC (EMD; R. Horvath)
2. Euregional Educational Seminars in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine
Cooperation with the Universities of Maastricht (NL), Liège (BE) and Aachen (D)
Annual scientific seminars
2007: Aachen Molecular diagnosis and nano techniques.

Regional Meetings and congresses

1. EUROMEDLAB 3-7 June, 2007 - contributions from EC4/FESCC on European recognition of professional qualifications, developments in accreditation, Lab Tests Online Europe, cardiac markers and EQA in molecular diagnostics
The FESCC-Roche Award was presented to Prof M Muller (Austria).
2. 3rd Conference of the Romanian Association of Medical Laboratories in IASI 27th and 30th June 2007, under the umbrella of EFCC
3. XV Congress of Balkan Clinical Laboratories Federation (BFCL) 4-7 September 2007 Antalya "Good Laboratory Management & Practice"
4. 11th East Asian Pacific meeting in Beijing 14-19 October 2007. EFCC symposium on new cardiac markers.
5. EFCC Workshop in Belgrade 20-21 September 2007 on Evidence based medicine in co-operation with IFCC
6. EFCC annual course on auto immune diseases in Dubrovnik 6/7 October 2007.

Prof Dr V Blaton
EFCC President

ARAB FEDERATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY (AFCB)

National meetings

Many national societies held its annual national meeting during 2007 : Egyptian society of clinical chemistry (Jan. 2007- City of Cairo) – Moroccan society of clinical chemistry (April 2007 – City of Marakesh) - Tunisian society of clinical biology (May 2007 - city of Hemmamat) - Sudanese society of clinical biology (Nov. 2007 - City of Khartoum).All these conferences were held cooperation with AFCB and IFCC. Many lecturers from these countries, USA , Europe, and Arabic countries join these conferences .

Executive Board

The E.B of AFCB had held its meeting in Tunisia May 2007, Dr. J. Hicks President of IFCC, Dr. Ghassan Shannan Treasurer of IFCC join this meeting. Several topics were discussed in this meeting:

1. Organizing 4 workshops in Egypt -Tunisia – Jordan and Yemen, to train young scientist in Quality Management field. The first one organized in Cairo (January 2008), second workshop will be in Tunisia (March 2008), Jordan (May 2008), Yemen (Nov. 2008). These workshops organized cooperation with Bio – Rad Company.
2. During this meeting the Algerian society joined the Arab Federation.
3. The cooperation with IFCC: The EB discussed the future cooperation with IFCC, and the importance for the societies in Algeria - Sudan - Yemen to join the IFCC.
4. The organization of training courses in new technology for the young scientist .
5. The ArabMedLab Lebanon 2009

Symposia

The Tunisian Society organized the second symposia on Molecular Biology , cooperation with IFCC, AFCB in city of Tunisia . Prof. M .Ferrari and his team, Dr. W. Jarf (Egypt) and others from Tunisia supervised this workshop. Participants from Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen, Palestine joined this workshop.

The Syrian Clinical Laboratory Association (SCLA) continues its Education & learning program on monthly basic, cooperation with clinical & laboratory specialists, to raise the awareness of new technology, and its application.

The Sudanese Society of Clinical Biology, in cooperation with Ministry of Health in Khartoum stat, and Arab Federation of Clinical Biology organized a workshop in Quality Assurance. Dr. F. Harb, President of AFCB, joined this practical workshop. Also the Sudanese Society of Clinical Biology organized, in cooperation with AFCB, a workshop on The New Advance in Laboratory Medicine at the main hospitals in Khartoum, participants from Syria, Tunisia, Palestine joined this workshop.

Fouab Harb
AFCB President

CONGRESS AND CONFERENCE DIVISION (CCD)

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

The next IFCC International Congress (XX ICCCLM) will be held in Fortaleza, Brazil from 28 September to 02 October 2008. This congress will be hosted by the Brazilian Society of Clinical Analyses (SBAC). The XX ICCCLM will be held concurrently with the XXXV Brazilian Congress of Clinical Analyses and the VIII Brazilian Congress of Clinical Cytology. The main working bodies of the congress have been established. Emmezeta Congressi will arrange the exhibition. The Chairman of the Congress organizing committee and current SBAC President is Prof. Ulisses Tuma. Prof. Tuma is a member of the Congress and Conference Division. The International Scientific Committee Chairman is Professor Paolo Mocarelli from Italy.

The IFCC WorldLab Berlin 2011 (XXI ICCCLM) will be held concurrently with the IFCC – FESCC EuroMedLab from 15 – 20 May 2011 in Berlin, Germany. This congress will be hosted by the German Society of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (DKGL). The scientific secretariat is chaired by Prof. Dr. Rudolf Tauber and Prof. Dr. Harald Renz. The organizing secretariat is Emmezeta Congressi.

In 2007, CCD informed member societies on the process for applying to host the XXII ICCCLM WorldLab in 2014. The deadline for submissions was 30 November 2007. The applications will be reviewed early in 2008 and submitted to the Executive Board for a final decision.

REGIONAL CONGRESSES

There are four regions within the IFCC structure and each of the regional federation organises their own Regional Congresses of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (RCCCLM). The 17th IFCC-FESCC EuroMedLab was held in Amsterdam, Netherlands from 03 – 07 June 2007. Its' theme is "Your future in patient care". The organizing committee President is Prof. Gerard T B Sanders and the International Scientific Steering Committee President is Prof. M A Blankenstein. This was a very well attended EuroMedLab with a very large exhibition. Prof. Istvan Vermes was the CCD member on the organizing committee for this congress.

The next European Regional Congress (18th IFCC-FECC EuroMedLab) is well underway. This congress will be held in Innsbruck, Austria from 07-11 June 2009. The executive manager of the congress is Dr. Andrea Griesmacher and the organizing secretariat is Emmezeta Congressi. Prof. Istvan Vermes was the CCD member who was a member of the Innsbruck organizing committee.

The 2007 COLABIOCLI was held in Panama City, Panama in November and the 2009 COLABIOCLI will be held in Santiago, Chile.

The XII Arab Congress of Clinical Biology is scheduled for Beirut, Lebanon in 2009. The CCD member that liaises with the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology is Prof. Tomris Ozben.

The Asia Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry Congress and the Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine organized the 11th Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry in Beijing, China from 14 – 19 October 2007. Many IFCC working groups met during the Beijing Congress. Prof. Sunil Sethi was the CCD member representing IFCC on the Beijing organizing committee. The 12th Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry will be held in Seoul, Korea from 03-08 October 2010.

IFCC GENERAL CONFERENCE

The IFCC General Conference will be held in Antalya, Turkey in April 13-14 2008.

IFCC SPECIALIST CONGRESSES

The 11th Bergmeyer Congress will be held in Garmisch-Partnekirchen, Germany in March 2008. Prof. Istvan Vermes served as CCD representative on the steering committee for this congress sponsored by Roche Diagnostics.

IFCC has a new agreement with Ortho Clinical Diagnostics to sponsor a new conference in alternate years. The general title of this conference series will be: "*Disease and the Clinical Laboratory*". The first conference will be held in Manchester, UK in April 2008 at the time of the Association for Clinical Biochemistry Annual meeting. The Chair of the Scientific programme is Prof. Mauro Panteghini (IT).

IFCC AUSPICES

CCD provides IFCC Auspices to high quality conferences in the area of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine that apply for the meeting to be held under IFCC auspices. This arrangement is mutually beneficial for IFCC member societies and meeting planners. It enables IFCC to promote congresses of interest to its' members and strengthens IFCC image as supporter of high level laboratory science. The organisers of congresses receive valuable publicity

through the information channels of IFCC. During 2007, IFCC Auspices were awarded to more than twenty congresses and specialised conferences globally.

MEETINGS AND MEMBERSHIP

CCD held two executive committee meetings in 2007. The first meeting was held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands during the 17th IFCC-FESCC EuroMedLab from 03 – 07 June 2007. The second meeting was held in October in Beijing at the 11th Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry.

There were significant changes made in Beijing in how the Congress and Conferences are developed, monitored and reviewed in the IFCC. The EB decided to discontinue the current Congress and Conference Division and replace CCD with a Committee on Congresses and Conferences (C-CC) which would report directly to the EB. Several changes in CCD membership took place with the transition from CCD to C-CC effective January 2008. Prof. Istvan Vermes (NL) completed his second term of office as a CCD member. A/Prof. Sunil Sethi (SI) also completed his first term as a CCD member. Prof. Albert Fraser (CA) completed his term as CCD Chair in 2007. CCD warmly acknowledges the significant contributions of Istvan, Sunil and Albert to the congress and conference activities of IFCC. A new corporate CCD member (Patricia Noterman, Dade Behring) was appointed to CCD in 2007. The remaining CCD members continuing on the new C-CC include Prof. Tomris Ozben (TY) Chair of C-CC. Tomris has been very active in organizing the General Conference in Antalya, Turkey in April 2008. Another C-CC member is Prof. Ulisses Tuma (BR). Ulisses is Chairman of the Organizing Committee for IFCC WorldLab 2008 Fortaleza and President of the Brazilian Society of Clinical Analyses. Ms. Patricia Noterman is also a member of C-CC in 2008.

The 2007 IFCC CCD membership feels that IFCC Congress and Conference duties are in very good hands with the membership of the new C-CC in 2008.

Albert D. Fraser
IFCC CCD Chair 2007

Tomris Ozben
IFCC C-CC Chair 2008

SCIENTIFIC DIVISION (SD)

During 2007, the following members served on the SD Executive Committee: Mauro Panteghini (Italy) (Chair), Ian Young (UK), (Vice-Chair), Howard Morris (Australia) (Secretary), Philippe Gillery (France), Lothar Siekmann (Germany), Ulf-Hakan Stenman (Finland), George Brotea (USA) (corporate representative), and Matthias Muller (AT) (EB-Liaison). Three representatives of International Organizations are invited to attend the Scientific Division meetings as consultants: Jean-Claude Forest (JCTLM), Heinz Schimmel (IRMM) and David Bunk (NIST). Two meetings were held during the year 2007: June 7-9 (Amsterdam, NL in conjunction with the 17th EuroMedlab Congress) and September 28-29 (Milan, Italy).

RELATIONSHIP WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The SD continues to pursue the expansion of its activities to partner with international organizations to promote the implementation of the concept of traceability in laboratory medicine and the implementation of reference measurement systems.

Joint Committee on Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM)

The Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM) has now been working for 6 years and its main accomplishments are available for review on its database at

www.bipm.org/jctlm The Working Group 1 on Reference Measurement Procedures and Reference Materials continues its program of identifying and reviewing against agreed criteria (ISO standards 15193 and 15194). Some 480 reference materials have been nominated with 211 approved and listed for about 100 measurands. Some 180 reference measurement procedures have been nominated and 123 have been accepted as fulfilling the criteria of the appropriate ISO standard. The Working Group 2 on Reference Measurement Services has reviewed some 200 nominations from laboratories of National Institutes of Metrology, manufacturers, clinical service providers and academic centres of which 99 have been approved and listed. A procedure is in place to review the lists periodically and to remove entries when they no longer meet the established criteria. The database has become a reliable source of information particularly for the In Vitro Diagnostics industry.

Institute for Reference Material and Measurement (IRMM)

Close collaboration with IRMM continues through a number of joint ventures involving Committees and Working Groups. Progress continues to be made for projects including 2nd ERM-DA470 plasma proteins, AST, HbA₂, and Myoglobin reference materials. Reference materials for HbA₀ and HbA_{1c} have been released.

Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) (formerly NCCLS)

The good working relationship between CLSI and IFCC continues with more than 11 joint projects underway during 2007. Three were completed and 8 are currently in progress. Documents on "Mass Spectrometry in the Clinical Laboratory" (C50), "Verification of Comparability of Patient Results within one Healthcare System (C54) and "Implementation guide of POCT1 for Healthcare Providers (POCT2) have been published.

Current ongoing joint CLSI/IFCC projects include the following: "How to Define and Determine Reference Intervals in the Clinical Laboratory"; "Expression of Uncertainty of Measurement in Clinical Laboratory Medicine"; "Validate and Implement Secondary Reference Materials"; "Immunological Assays for Human Immunoglobulin E (IgE) Antibodies of Defined Allergen Specificities"; "Interference with Immunoassay Results by Heterophilic Antibodies and Other Binders" and "Guidelines for Method Comparison of Glucose Methodologies with Different Sample Types".

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

NIST continues to undertake a large number of projects, many of which are of considerable interest to IFCC. Standard Reference Materials (SRM) recently released include; Cholesterol, Sodium Chloride, Potassium Chloride and Electrolytes in frozen serum (all re-released); new reference materials included creatinine in serum and lead in caprine blood.

A further group of SRMs to be released in the near future include: Non-peptide hormones in serum; Drugs of abuse in serum; Metabolites in human plasma; Creatinine in human urine; Vitamin D in human serum; Cardiac troponin I in human serum; Reference materials for clinical proteomics.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

The SD will participate in the XXth International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine to be held 28 September - 2 October 2008 in Fortaleza, Brasil on an official basis organising two symposia; "Achieving Standardization in Laboratory Medicine – A Hard but Feasible Task" and "Quality Assurance in Emerging Technologies".

REGIONAL AND OTHER CONGRESSES

The SD participated in the 17th Euromedlab held 2nd to 7th June 2007 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands organising two symposia: "Standardization in Laboratory Medicine: the way forward" and "The Contribution of Laboratory Medicine in Kidney Disease". At the 11th Asia Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry (14 – 19 October 2007) SD presented a symposium titled: "Traceability in Laboratory Medicine: What Does it mean in Daily Practice?". Presentations were made to the Congress of the Tunisian Society of Clinical Biology and a meeting organized by CIRME (University of Milan).

Symposia and presentations offered by the SD have been accepted for presentation at the Congress of the Egyptian Society for Clinical Chemistry (January, 2008), the International Symposium in Brussels, BE (May, 2008) and the 31st Nordic Society of Clinical Chemistry Scientific Meeting in Helsinki, FI (June, 2008).

ACTIVITIES OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

The Committees (Cs), which are theme-oriented, carry out much of the scientific and professional activities of the Scientific Division. Their work is often in close collaboration with other international organizations. For more specific tasks, the activities are usually accomplished through Working Groups (WGs). During the year the SD EC had the opportunity to meet with the Chairs of C-RIDL, WG-HbA_{1c}, WG-SHCG and WG-GH.

COMMITTEES

C-Nomenclature, Properties and Units (C-NPU)

The C-NPU generic database is published on the net under the URL: <http://dior.imt.liu.se/cnpu/>. An updated version is available in Danish and English at http://www.labinfo.dk/English/ifcc_iupac_uk.asp. The database is published on the IFCC homepage (Scientific Division) and IUPAC (Division of Chemistry and Human Health) homepage with a link to both servers. The database is undergoing a restructuring of its contents and a mapping to SNOMED CT system. An initial meeting with IHTSDO (International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation) representatives, which manages SNOMED CT, was held to discuss the links between NPU terminology and SNOMED CT. All stakeholders have agreed to progress with this important project. Planning is also underway to transfer the hosting of the NPU generic database to the IFCC.

Projects completed during 2007 include the following: 1. The recommendation for the term and measurement unit for HbA_{1c} was published in collaboration with the WG-HbA_{1c}. 2. Comments on the penultimate version of VIM3 submitted and the latest version was reviewed, proof read and published on the ISO website. 3. A symposium on Nomenclature, Properties and Units in Clinical Chemistry was organized in IUPAC Worldwide Congress in Turin during August (Chair: F Pontet). Ongoing projects include: 1. Properties and units for function examinations, 2. Properties and units for urinary calculi 3. Internationally agreed terminology for observations in scientific communication. 4. Mapping of IFCC-IUPAC laboratory coding system to SNOMED CT. 5. Securing and structural updating of information in the NPU coding system and its environment 6. Recent advances in Nomenclature, Properties and Units: strategy for promoting SC-NPU achievements 7. Translation of C-NPU database elements and properties into French is planned to be accessible on the Société Française de Biologie Clinique (SFBC) website early 2008.

C-Molecular Diagnostics (C-MD)

Nominations for laboratories to be recognized as IFCC Expert Laboratories in Molecular Diagnostic have been received; however the opportunity for further nominations remains open through the IFCC web site. It is however expected that the IFCC MD Network will initiate pro-

jects or collaborate with existing or future initiatives from other organisations interested in improving the standardization and traceability of molecular diagnostic assays. The IFCC web site hosts the Consortium on Clinical Laboratory Genetics and Genomics Standards (CLGGS, formerly IMGCLS) web site, which has been reviewed by C-MD. The C is currently preparing a document on Reference Methods in Molecular Diagnostics as well as a position paper on Nucleic Acid Reference Materials.

C-Plasma Proteins (C-PP)

The preparation of the 2nd ERM-DA470 (formerly 2nd Preparation CRM470) reference material for plasma proteins in collaboration with IRMM has progressed well with certification currently underway. Stability and commutability studies have been conducted with excellent results. Material release is planned for June 2008. A simplified protocol for transferring values from ERM-DA470 reference material to commercial protein assays is being prepared for publication although a preliminary version has been made available on the IFCC web site during 2007. A manuscript has been accepted for publication reporting the findings of the reference interval study in Asian cities. Other projects for 2008 are: (1) collaboration with CDT, cystatin C and urinary albumin WGs; (2) preparation of a document on the measurement of serum free light chains in the clinical context. The C-PP will also maintain its interest in proteomics.

C-Standardization of Markers of Cardiac Damage (C-SMCD)

A preliminary study to validate the cross-reactivity of commercial BNP and NT-proBNP assays with BNP, proBNP and NT-proBNP antigens has been completed and the results from the study accepted for publication (Clin Chem 2008). A formal, multicentre NP cross-reactivity study has been completed and data using 9 different materials measured by 20 different platforms are currently being subjected to statistical analyses. The results will be discussed at the next C meeting.

A table of properties of commercial cardiac troponin assays has been posted on the IFCC web site (Scientific Division/C-SMCD page). It is aimed to continue to build the database with the inclusion of package insert and literature-based information. The C is working to establish a reference serum bank to be used for the establishment of reference intervals in subjects without cardiac disease for established and developing cardiac troponin assays as well as new cardiac biomarkers.

A secondary reference material has been selected for myoglobin in close collaboration with IRMM. IRMM is continuing to work on the reference method for the certification of the selected material as well as to further characterise this material.

C-Reference Systems for Enzymes (C-RSE)

Work on standardisation of the amylase determination was completed with the publication of the reference method. A feasibility study for a proposed reference procedure for alkaline phosphatase (ALP) is underway including the assessment of the suitability of deep-frozen pooled human sera or processed lyophilized sera for use as control materials. Discussions with the C-RIDL are underway to develop appropriate reference intervals for ALP at the same time that the reference procedure is under development. The enzyme network has agreed on the budget of uncertainty of measurements for enzymes.

C-Point of Care Testing (C-POCT)

The document "Recommendation for Blood Glucose POCT Quality Assessment in Clinical Setting" is being revised. Members of the C serve on the CLSI Area Committee for POCT and the subcommittee for several projects. Some of the CLSI projects for which the C members participated in 2007 are: "Guidelines for comparison of glucose methodologies which use dif-

ferent sample types - proposed guideline"; "Implementation guide of POCT1 for healthcare providers; proposed guideline". Other initiatives in 2007 were the acceptance of workshop and round table topics for presentation at the 2008 AACC annual conference. The C is continuing to work on the following projects:

1. Required trueness and precision for glucose analyses in specific clinical settings: Does POCT meet these criteria? 2. Database of Potential Interferents in POCT 3. Curriculum/Training of POCT staff in collaboration with AACC POCT

C-Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (C-TLM)

The C-TLM continues to support reference laboratories in the context of complete reference systems (accepted reference measurement procedures of higher order, reference materials, and reference laboratories), through the External Quality Assessment Schemes (EQAS) for reference laboratories to monitor their competence as well as collaborating closely with the JCTLM.

The website (available through the IFCC home page, under the DGKL logo) provides a number of services including registration for newly participating laboratories, orders for participation in forthcoming EQAS, entering of results from laboratories, inspection of recent EQAS results and information on forthcoming EQAS. The performance of laboratories and measurands have been analysed closely with a number of recommendations arising to continuously improve the program. Furthermore the analytical tools for assessing and comparing performance particularly concerning the estimation of uncertainty have been significantly improved. These developments are aimed at providing more information to the laboratories participating in ring trials as well as to customers utilising the services of these laboratories. It is aimed that the results of ring trials will be supplemented by additional comments if considered helpful. The committee was most saddened by the passing of Rick Miller acknowledging that it had lost a very active and competent member. His helpful contributions were always highly appreciated.

C-Reference Intervals and Decision Limits (C-RIDL)

Collaboration with CLSI for the revision of CLSI document C28-A2 "How to Define and Determine Reference Intervals in the Clinical Laboratory; Approved Guideline - Second Edition" has concluded and will be released as a "proposal" (C28-P3). While the document does not modify the concepts expressed in the previous IFCC documents, it introduces new aspects including concepts of multicenter reference intervals and common reference intervals, new ways to calculate reference limits and especially a more detailed paragraph on transference and validation of existing reference intervals. The contribution of the IFCC committee to the development of the document has been very relevant. A systematic review on existing creatinine reference intervals was performed with a careful analysis of the literature with particular regard to evidence of traceability of the data to accepted reference methods. Moreover previously published data on children reference intervals were recalculated with a regression based approach. The resulting manuscript has been accepted for publication in Clinical Chemistry. Work to derive AST, ALT and GGT reference intervals has recruited 4 centres. However, only one has completed the collection of samples from reference subjects. 400 samples were obtained from NOBIDA biobank (the biobank of the NORIP project) and reanalyzed with standardized methods. The results were elaborated according to the exclusion criteria defined in the protocol. The resulting data are now under evaluation and will be compared with those deriving from the experimental work.

WORKING GROUPS

WG-Selective Electrodes and Biosensors (WG-SEB)

Current projects include preparation of recommendations on pH measurement in blood (an update), recommendation of the reference bovine hemoglobin control material for the evaluation of trueness of the routine measurement of total hemoglobin and the three hemoglobin derivatives (O₂Hb, COHb and MetHb) in human blood, and recommendation for measuring and reporting lactate by electrochemical biosensors in undiluted serum, plasma or blood.

WG–Apolipoproteins (WG-A)

Technical issues remain to be resolved with regard to the production and characterisation of SP3-08 Apo B reference material. Particularly, these issues relate to ISO standard 15194 requirements for uncertainty information.

The WG Chair is currently coordinating the NACB project for Guidelines on emerging cardiovascular risk markers.

WG-Standardization of Human Chorionic Gonadotrophin (WG-SHCG)

The Scientific Division and the IFCC Executive have approved inclusion of WHO Reference Reagent (RR) for Intact hCG (IRR 99/688), originally prepared by the Working Group, in a forthcoming WHO International Collaborative Study to identify the next International Standard (IS) for hCG immunoassay. Supplies of the current IS (IS 75/589) are expected to be exhausted early in the next decade. Several recombinant hCG preparations will also be included as candidates in the Collaborative Study. These activities, together with the manuscript currently being finalized on the implications for between-method comparability of use of the six hCG IRRs will provide further opportunity to publicize the IFCC hCG nomenclature. Additionally, a brief letter is being drafted to journal editors requesting that they make the use of this nomenclature mandatory.

A study to determine the effect of recalibration of assays using IRR 99/688 will be commenced with the support of the IVD industry. Direct comparison of IS 75/589 and IRR 99/688 will be required with a panel of over 400 specimens to be assayed, which is already available. Standards will be prepared by individual companies, following their usual procedures, but a set of working standards prepared centrally will also be distributed. Results of this study are expected to provide evidence of the appropriateness (or otherwise) of commercially available hCG methods for use in oncology, a regulatory issue of major concern as most of these methods are currently approved only for use in testing for pregnancy. The Working Group is also addressing the frequency of false positive and false negative results in assays for hCG and their clinical implications

WG-Standardisation of Thyroid Function Tests (WG-STFT)

Following the publication of manuscripts defining the free T4 measurand and a candidate reference measurement system for free T4, a second laboratory has been recruited to perform a sensitive equilibrium dialysis-ID-LC/tandem MS assay as a higher order measurement procedure for free T4. An intercomparison study is being organised between laboratories utilising an agreed standard protocol. A pilot study involving IVD industry members and routine MS laboratories is under consideration. Discussion continues with representatives of the American and European Thyroid Associations to identify the clinical needs of the standardization work. The aim is to establish a consensus forum of clinical, laboratory and industry representatives to plan and coordinate the standardization process.

WG-Standardization of HbA_{1c} (WG-HbA_{1c})

As has now been widely published, a meeting between the IFCC, ADA, EADS and IDF unanimously accepted the IFCC Reference System as the only true anchor for standardisation of HbA_{1c} assays. It was also agreed that HbA_{1c} should be reported in IFCC units (mmol/mol)

and derived NGSP units (%) and, depending on the outcome of the ADAG study, it was recommended that an eAG (estimated average glucose) be reported as an interpretation. A meeting with HbA_{1c} manufacturers was held with good representation from the companies and there was a range of opinions expressed over implementation of the traceability to the IFCC Reference System.

A meeting was held between the JCTLM and HbA_{1c} network representatives to discuss network accreditation. This was a very positive meeting with a number of proposed options to be taken to the JCTLM Executive Committee. There was general agreement of a definite advantage to form a link with the JCTLM. The results of the most recent intercomparison studies demonstrated that all overall performance of laboratory network was satisfactory.

A number of important manuscripts were prepared and submitted for publication including assessment and verification of the master equations over a 6 year period. Dr Garry John succeeded Dr Kor Miedema as Chair

WG-Standardization of Hemoglobin A₂ (WG-HbA₂)

The Standard Operating Procedure for a candidate reference measurement procedure is in the final stages of preparation. A second intercomparison among the two laboratories utilizing the mass spectrometry method has been performed and the data are being analyzed. Two further laboratories have been recruited to the network. Analysis of data obtained from the retrospective study, involving the clinical cases with borderline high HbA₂ values and normal MCV, is almost complete and preliminary results have been presented at an International meeting and are included in a manuscript submitted for publication. The IRMM took the formal decision to produce the secondary reference materials in the lyophilized form. The production plan commenced in September 2007 and a first pilot lyophilization batch is planned in January 2008. The raw material (human stabilized hemolysate at physiological HbA₂ concentration) was sent to the IRMM in December 2007.

WG-Standardisation of Carbohydrate-Deficient Transferrin (WG-CDT)

Pools of patient sera and a CDT reference material, containing authentic human serum samples spiked with isolated disialotransferrin, have been tested by different CDT methods at 6 laboratories. Comparison of results revealed significant variation between laboratories and/or methods; however, the concordance between the 3 laboratories that were using the HPLC candidate reference method was as an encouraging initial outcome. Five laboratories are expected to perform the HPLC candidate reference method in 2008. At the end of 2007, a CDT candidate reference material was distributed to each of these laboratories for another comparison study. It is expected that these laboratories will become the foundation members of a network of reference laboratories for CDT. A study of the interference of transferrin genotypes and abnormal transferrin glycoform patterns on different CDT methods has been initiated. A project has been initiated, in collaboration with a MS laboratory specializing in protein structure, to define the target epitope of disialotransferrin. At a later stage it may also be possible to develop a primary MS reference method for disialotransferrin. Possible certification of the new protein reference material (IRMM) for disialotransferrin will be coordinated with the IFCC Committee on Plasma Proteins. Collaboration with EQA organizations will be considered and also the commutability of reference materials across methods, including HPLC, capillary electrophoresis, and immunoassays, will be assessed.

WG-Standardisation of Cystatin C Assays (WG-SCC)

During 2007 the secondary reference material was prepared from a stabilized serum pool from blood donors with purified recombinant human cystatin C added. It has been aliquotted and

lyophilized. The ampoules are now stored at the IRMM and stability studies have been commenced. The techniques and sites for the final value assignment of the secondary reference preparation have been discussed and a protocol for the value assignment will be finalized by February 2008.

WG-Standardisation of Glomerular Filtration Rate Assessment (WG-GFRA)

The WG in collaboration with IVD and EQAS organisation representatives is preparing a study protocol to evaluate specificity among currently available serum creatinine methods. The study will examine serum creatinine from some 400 patient specimens representing a selection of clinically relevant pathological populations. In addition to ID-MS measurements each of the specimens will be analysed by at least 4 manufacturer assays including alkaline picrate and enzymatic methods. The WG is monitoring the performance of eGFR reporting particularly amongst US laboratories both directly through specific studies as well as utilising the CAP survey data set. Both sources of data indicate that there is significant disparity between laboratories and that the transition of laboratories to ID-MS traceable creatinine assays for routine use is slower than expected possibly because of the lack of traceable creatinine assays from some manufacturers and the delay with the development of new creatinine methods especially enzymatic methods.

WG-Standardisation of Albumin Assay in Urine (WG-SAU)

The National Kidney Disease Education Program (NKDEP) Laboratory Working Group in conjunction with the IFCC have agreed to address urine albumin standardization including standardization of the measurement of the albumin:creatinine ratio in urine. Two meetings were held during 2007 and projects are under consideration.

WG-Pregnancy-associated Plasma Protein A (WG-PAPPA)

A new Chair has been appointed and a new project proposal was received. Key personnel have been identified who will prepare a detailed plan to address the following issues. (i) Establish well characterized reference preparations of PAPP-A representing the different forms of the analyte. (ii) Characterize the immunoassays and the antibodies used therein for their reactivity with these different forms of the analyte. (iii) Establish a reference preparation that represents the target as it appears in biological fluids.

WG-Growth Hormone (WG-GH)

General agreement has been reached about the need for standardisation, and the adoption of a common calibrant. It was agreed to initiate multicenter studies to investigate the impact of re-standardization on cut-off values for diagnostic assays. In addition, WG members agreed to promote the WGs position in their national clinical and biochemical societies. This activity included the annual meeting of the UK ACB and at the national conferences of the German and Austrian Endocrine Societies; the German National Acrostudy Board Meetings; the German Pituitary conference and at a meeting with representatives of the Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, the German national metrology institute. The IFCC GH project was also presented at an IFCC sponsored meeting in Tunisia.

WG-Standardisation of Insulin Assays (WG-SIA)

A joint WG with the ADA, EADS and the IFCC has been established. A candidate reference method is being developed. Data from the study comparing commercial assays to this method have been collected and are currently being analysed before preparation for publication.

Project Proposals

Two proposals were received and approved by the SD EC.

“Development of a Candidate Secondary Reference Immunoassay Measurement Procedure for Cardiac Troponin I (cTnI)” J. Tate (AU)

“Standardization of Pregnancy Associated Plasma Protein-A (PAPP-A)” K. Pettersson (FI)

Mauro Panteghini
SD Chair

EDUCATION AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EMD)

The work of the Division has continued through its Committees, its Working Groups and the Visiting Lecturer Programme. The focus of the work of the Division has remained primarily on the needs of developing countries.

ACTIVITIES AND REPORTS

The Division had its main meeting of 2007 in Amsterdam, in June. The Division met there as a whole, and several Committees took the opportunity to meet alongside this meeting.

Each Committee and Working Group presented:

- an overview of activities
- future plans, activities and meetings
- potential collaborations within the Division
- membership issues
- budgetary requirements
- other relevant issues

COMMITTEES

EMD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)

In 2007 the Executive Committee of the Division consisted of Chair: J Smith (UK); Vice-Chair: M Burritt (US), Members: L Lai (MY), Stella Raymondo (UR) and Corporate Representative: Rolf Hinzman (DE).

Dr Mary Burritt has indicated her wish to step down from the EC in the New Year. The remaining EC members wish to acknowledge the major contribution she has made to the work of the committee.

A call for nominations for EC membership has been sent out to National Societies.

ACTIVITIES: The EC met in Milan in January and another meeting was held during the EuroMedLab 2007 in Amsterdam in June. In 2007 activities such as the Visiting Lecturer programme and Committee activities ensured that EMD fulfilled its objectives of supporting educational activities in developing countries.

COMMITTEE ON MOLECULAR BIOLOGY CURRICULUM (C-CMBC)

Professor Ferrari made presentations at the Romanian conference in June 2007. The titles of his presentations were 'From Macro to Nanotechnology: the future of Laboratory Medicine' and 'Non-invasive prenatal diagnosis by circulating nucleic acid analysis'. The 5th IFCC Clinical

Molecular Biology course was held in Milan in July 2007. The molecular biology course in the Fiji Islands has been confirmed for December 2007.

Professor Ferrari will give a talk on molecular biology at the International Congress in Tehran in February 2008.

The symposium for the ICC meeting in Fortaleza is now planned, with speakers, Daniel Chan, RHN van Schaik and Maurizio Ferrari.

A call has gone out to National Societies for nominations for membership of the (C-CMBC).

EB has approved the appointment of Michael Neumaier as the next Chair of the C-CMBC, following the completion of the term of office of Professor Ferrari in December 2007.

COMMITTEE ON ANALYTICAL QUALITY (C-AQ)

A call has gone out for nominations for membership of the committee, to replace Dr Ricos and increase the membership to address the Project for Developing Countries.

Dr Sikaris has received reports from some of those who received IFCC funding to attend the IFCC/EQALM meeting in Amsterdam.

COMMITTEE ON EVIDENCE-BASED LABORATORY MEDICINE (C-EBLM)

The participation of C-EBLM members in a workshop and symposia on EBLM in Argentina in November, 2007, is now confirmed. IFCC auspices have been applied for. This is a landmark occasion for the Committee, being its first major activity in South America.

C-EBLM members were involved in a two day symposium in the Balkan Region (Belgrade) (under the auspices of the former FESCC) in September 2007.

The second part of Professor Horvath's VLP commences with her plenary lecture at the Beijing Congress.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION & CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT (C-ECD)

There will be significant changes to the membership of this committee, as the terms of office of Dr Lynn Allen is completed at the end of the year and Dr Dubravka Juretic has resigned, due to increased local commitments. A call for nominations for membership of the committee has gone out to National Societies.

It is the intention of EMD-EC to review the work of this committee at its meeting in January and to select a potential future chair following this review.

Work continues on the syllabus with the intention of it being complete this year.

There is considerable work to complete relating to the database. A draft structure is being finalised for submission to the IFCC Webmaster so the web database can be developed. All Excel files have to be modified to correspond to the web database fields.

The clinical case project is at a stage where it is awaiting completion of the IFCC website.

The Excel file for distance education has been completed. It is categorised as follows:

Undergraduate/Licentiate/BSc

Postgraduate/Masters/PhD/Specialisation
Continuing education/Diploma

The major issue for the committee relate to IT issues, ie the C-ECD web pages and the structuring of material in the web database.

Dr Chiu is compiling a database of international guidelines in Laboratory Medicine. This will have input from C-EBLM.

COMMITTEE ON CLINICAL LABORATORY MANAGEMENT (C-CLM)

Dr de Kieviet is not seeking a second term on the C-CLM, due to his personal circumstances. A nomination for the new Chair of the Committee with effect from January 2008, is being sought from the remaining members of the committee.

A call has gone out to National Societies for nomination for membership of the Committee.

There is a proposal for a symposium to be held at the meeting of the Indian National Society, in 2008.

Working Group on Laboratory Errors and Patient Safety (WG-LEPS)

Professor Plebani has received an enthusiastic response to the establishment of this Working Group and the publication of the CCLM Special Issue on this topic.

He is proposing a symposium on the topic for Euromedlab in Innsbruck, which has been submitted to Dr Fraser.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Visiting Lecture Programme (VLP)

The reminder to National Societies of the Programme and the generous sponsorship of Abbott Diagnostics has led to an increase in activity for the programme.

IFCC-Abbott Visiting Lectureships agreed for 2007 to 2008

Prof Rita Horvath on Evidence-Based Laboratory Medicine (requested by APFCB), 16th October till 30th October 2007 delivering lectures and conducting workshops in Beijing, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Bangkok and Singapore (Second Phase of Visiting Lectureship. The First Phase was undertaken in November 2006)

Prof Maurizio Ferrari (requested by Confederacion Unificada Bioquimica de la Republica Argentina (CUBRA), 24th till 29th September 2007 delivered two pre-congress lectures:

Non-invasive prenatal diagnosis by circulating nucleic acid analysis (Buenos Aires)
Iron metabolism genes and molecular diagnostics (La Plata)

He also delivered one lecture and conducted one workshop at the congress:

Lecture title "From macro to nanotechnology: the future of laboratory medicine"
Workshop title "Quality Assurance and Molecular Diagnosis"

Dr Mauro Costa Mattioli (requested by Asociacion Bioquimica Uruguay (ABU), 20th till 27th October 2007 lectured in Spanish on "Protein synthesis modulates long-term synaptic plasticity learning and memory", "Possibilities to improve memory modulation and the quality of life

in the elderly”, and “How not to lose the hope for Uruguayan young students for improving in science”

Dr Nader Refai and Dr Akbar Malekpour (requested by Biochemistry Society of Islamic Republic of Iran), 29th October till 1st November 2007, gave lectures on the following topics: QC/QA, Biomarkers (Cardiac and Cancer)

Professor Mauro Panteghini's VLP (requested by Hong Kong Society of Clinical Chemistry) for 2008, has been extended to the other members associations of the APFCB. Lectures to be delivered: Cardiac Biomarkers: Their Biochemistry and Clinical Utilities; IFCC standardization projects; The impact of traceability concept on laboratory medicine.

Flow Cytometry (WG-FC)

The September 2007 IFCC/Beckman Coulter course has proved very popular with 21 registrants from eight countries. Professor Rothe proposes to continue organising the IFCC/Beckman Coulter courses on a two-yearly cycle.

Professor Rothe has taken responsibility for the organisation of the 2008 Course and Congress of the European Society for Clinical Cell Analysis (ESCCA). There will be at least 230 delegates and possibly 150 more, if a joint activity with the German Society for Flow Cytometry is confirmed. The course and conference will be held in Bremen. Professor Rothe will apply for IFCC auspices for this activity.

The publication of the English version of the substantial book on flow cytometry, of which Professor Rothe is a co-author, is scheduled for the autumn of 2008. As discussed with the CPD, it is hoped that IFCC will be able to market the book through the IFCC Bookshop.

Project for Developing Countries

A very successful meeting was held in Amsterdam in June, 2007. The template for the project and the questionnaire have been revised following the discussions in Amsterdam and further comments received. These are attached and the EMD seeks approval from the EB. The intention is to circulate the questionnaire to all IFCC National Societies following approval.

Dr Sikaris will meet with Mitch Scott and Jack Ladenson in Sydney in November 2007 to explore support for EQA in developing countries.

In assessing nominations for both C-AQ and C-CLM membership, the EMD-EC will be mindful of experience and knowledge which will be of help with this project.

Janet Smith
EMD Chair

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION (CPD)

ACTIVITIES AND REPORTS

Ellis Jacobs started as CPD chair on 1 Jan 2007. Four committee meetings were held in 2007, one by telephone conference call and three face-to-face meetings; Milan March 2007 (full committee meeting), Amsterdam June 2007 (full committee meeting), August 2007 (teleconference), and Beijing Oct 2007 (full committee meeting). A CPD workshop was included in the program of the EuroMed Lab 2007 (Amsterdam) and featured a total of 4 presentations

from current and past CPD members on various aspects of distance education: Recording and distributing digital audio lectures, Creating interactive education material, Website conception and information design, and Improving your presentations and posters. Approval was given to Acta Bioquímica Clínica Latinoamericana (ABCL) to publish Spanish translations of IFCC documents and to the University of Texas Health Science Centre to reproduce some of the clinical science terms from the IFCC Spanish: English glossary. A 3-year strategic plan for the CPD was developed and approved by the EB.

WORKING GROUPS

Working Group – eJIFCC

Grazyna Sypniewska replaced David Williams, the former eJIFCC editor. The publication schedule was adhered to, consisting of 4 issues per year (see Appendix 2). Different members of the IFCC and editor-in chief acted as Guest Editors for the different issues. Application for Medline indexing was submitted in June 2007 and a response is expected in early 2008. Members of eJIFCC Working Group were asked in September 2007 if they want to continue their membership in this WG. One individual replied in the positive, three members decided to step down and six did not reply. A call for nominations to the WG eJIFCC was sent out in January 2008.

Working Group – IFCC News

Edgar Delvin replaced Ellis Jacobs, the former News editor, whose term of office expired on 31 Dec 2006. The schedule of 6 issues per year has continued and proven to be a success, if one examines the content titles for each of the issues (Appendix 3). Informative texts were provided by Dr Jocelyn Hicks, President of the IFCC, in conjunction with the NRs of the respective countries, about Argentina, Austria, Syria and UK, and their National Clinical Chemistry Societies or Associations.

Archives of newsletters back to 2001 continue to be available on the website. This year, with the help of the IFCC President, there has been a series of articles on member countries. The use of editorial articles from each of the various divisions and IFCC officers has been valuable in publicizing the activities of the IFCC. However the shortage of opinion, position papers and letters to the editor remain somewhat problematic and is being addressed.

The relationship between IFCC and LabMedica International is now running well. Each LMI issue is submitted for approval.

According to a small survey, the visibility of the Newsletter needs improvement. It seems that in some instances the information is not relayed by National Representatives to Society members. The question of how the eNewsletter is transmitted should be revisited. It was proposed that the information not only be sent to National Representatives but also to Presidents, Executive Officers or Managers of Societies and Associations.

Working Group – Internet and Distant Learning (was previously World Wide Web)

Hassan El Sayed replaced Grazyna Sypniewska, the former chair of the WG on the World Wide Web. The new website (launched in July 2006) continues to be problematic and there have been considerable delays in the development of the new pages for: Committee for Molecular Diagnostics, Rincon IberoAmericano, and Education and Curriculum Development. Never the less, the website has been maintained and the home page has been updated (links to nine Lab Tests On-Line site, Latest News section, scrolling eNewsletter content link, etc.). A backup/shadow website was created and registered for 1 year for experimental and test purposes for the ifcc.org website. Eventually it is expected that this will become the site for distant learning projects.

There was significant discussion regarding the website and the functioning of the IFCC office, IT personnel and Web Editor and the IFCC website/IT support. The need for paid, professional support of the IFCC IT infrastructure was discussed. It was decided that more monies should be assigned to IT and that development, maintenance and support of a modern IT system can no longer be done on a voluntary basis. Paid professional services are needed.

The Chair of the WG-IDL resigned at the end of 2007 and it was decided that, until a replacement is found, that the functions of this position would be transferred to EC to act as a committee of the whole to handle decision making and to Silvia Carugo (IFCC office IT support) to deal with technical issues.

Working Group - Spanish (Ibero-american) Nomenclature and Translations

In December Professor Montserrat Blanes Gonzáles was appointed as the new editor of the IFCC ejournal *Diagnóstico in vitro* and co-editor, with Professor Xavier Fuentes Arderiu, of the Rincón Iberoamericano (RIA) section of the IFCC website.

Working Group – Enhanced PR

This is the first year of this working group, chaired by Khosrow Adeli, and it has been very active. An IFCC **promotional brochure** was developed and to date has been published in English, Chinese, Italian, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish. It is currently being translated into Arabic, French and German. The IFCC **Milestones brochure** was updated this year and distributed at the IFCC-FESCC EuroMedlab Congress in Amsterdam. New posters for the IFCC booth, based on the Milestones Brochure content, were prepared and used for the first time in Amsterdam. These posters and the PR brochures will be at the IFCC General Conference in Antalya in April, 2008.

In consultation with the EMD and SD, a preliminary IFCC **Speakers Bureau** has been put together. This includes speakers currently in the Visiting Lecturer Program as well as several new speakers. Other additions have also been made based on specific recommendations received from IFCC members. The new Speakers Bureau will be first circulated among the CPD EC members for review and comments. It will then be sent to the EMD and SD for their review before being finalized by the time of the IFCC General Conference in April 2008.

Joint IFCC-“Labs are Vital” PR Initiative - This is a “Laboratory Survival Program”, sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics but at arms-length. The main goal is the promotion of the laboratory profession. The IFCC was invited to become a partner in this venture. The recommendations for an IFCC and Global “Labs are Vital™” program include:

- 1) Reinforcing the importance of IFCC to international members.
- 2) Developing a Global Website presence.
- 3) Global Media monitoring and rapid response.
- 4) Global Lab week initiatives (to promote Labs in many countries – brochures and leaflets).

There were discussions to determine future areas of cooperation and joint activities between the Working Group and this campaign. The “Labs are Vital” campaign is developing several tools including posters, an interactive website, videos, and other promotional materials and the PR WG and the IFCC was invited to provide advice and suggestions to “Labs are Vital” for preparation of future promotional materials. One of the upcoming promotional tools will be a video describing the process that a blood sample collected from a patient goes through before a patient result is provided to a physician and the patient (highlighting the role of the lab in the process). The CPD EC agreed that this is an appropriate project to pursue. Furthermore, due to the high level of activity required, in addition to showing the commitment to this project by the IFCC, the CPD EC recommended to the EB that the PR WG becomes a full committee (with appropriate funding) and that KA be the first chair of the C-PR (recognizing the significant work that has already been accomplished by the WG.) The EB approved creating the C-PR with 5 members (Chair + 4.)

The IFCC-“Labs are Vital” Joint Activities in 2008 will include:

- An official launch of the initiative at the IFCC General Conference in April 2008 in Antalya
- An official presentation by the “Labs are Vital” at this conference
- A booth promoting “Labs are Vital” and the IFCC PR campaign to all attendees at the Antalya conference
- Launch of a joint IFCC-“Labs are Vital” website ahead of the Antalya conference
- A Survey of all National Representatives and Presentation of the Results at the Antalya conference
- A joint presentation of IFCC-“Labs are Vital” PR campaign at the Fortaleza conference in September/October 2008.
- A booth promoting “Labs are Vital” and the IFCC PR campaign to all attendees at the Fortaleza conference

REPORTS ON PUBLICATIONS

Documents from Committees & Working Groups - Report of the Editor of Documents

The database continues to be updated as publications are forthcoming.

Conference Proceedings

No proceedings were published this year.

Electronic Publications

The podcasts have been discontinued because of production problems. However, it was felt that this format could be used effectively for distance learning projects and may be resurrected in the future. The development of the use of RSS feeds is in progress. An on-line “Meet the Expert” section is still being considered as a future internet project.

Corporate Member Activities

The corporate member, Franz Baumann (Roche Diagnostics), has been active in the development of the Bergmeyer Conference and has been working closely with the eNews editor.

Membership

Ellis Jacobs (Chair)	1 st	2007-01 to 2009-12
Khsorow Adeli (Vice-Chair/PR Coordinator)	1 st	2007-01 to 2009-12
Mario Plebani (Secretary/Editor Documents)	1 st	2008-01 to 2010-12
Edgar Delvin (Editor IFCC News)	1 st	2007-01 to 2009-12
Grazyna Sypniewska (Editor eJIFCC)	1 st	2006-01 to 2008-12
(Website Editor/Distant Learning Coordinator)		Vacant
Franz Baumann (Corporate Representative)	1 st	2007-01 to 2009-12
Joseph Lopez (EB Liaison)	1 st	2006-01 to 2008-12

Peter Lehman’s 2nd term as Secretary/Editor of Documents expired at the end of 2007 and Mario Plebani was appointed the new Editor of Documents starting in January 2008. A call for nominations for the Website Editor/Distance Learning Coordinator position was sent out in November 2007.

BUDGET

An increased budget to fund the new C-PR, the Labs are Vital program and to enhance IT support and increase Distance Learning opportunities was requested and approved.

Ellis Jacobs
CPD Chair

IFCC PUBLICATIONS 2007

The publications appeared in 2007 as a result of IFCC projects are included in the web version of the 2007 IFCC Annual Report which can be found on the IFCC website at www.ifcc.org

IFCC Annual Report 2007 has been compiled and edited by Päivi Laitinen, Secretary of IFCC from the reports of the respective IFCC Officers and National Societies.

IFCC 2007

Vol 18,1

Editorial: The 6th FESCC Continuous Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry

1. Pathophysiology of Metabolic Syndrome
2. Genetic Susceptibility to Metabolic Syndrome
3. How is the Metabolic Syndrome related to the Dyslipidemia?
4. Coronary Disease and Metabolic Syndrome
5. Insulin Resistance and Metabolic Syndrome
6. Pro-Inflammatory and prothrombotic Factors and Metabolic Syndrome
7. Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine in the Diagnosis of Metabolic Syndrome
8. Hypertension and the Metabolic Syndrome
9. Approach to the treatment of the Metabolic Syndrome

Vol 18,2

1. Properties and Units in the Clinical Laboratory Sciences

Vol 18,3

Editorial: Neonatal Screening

1. Serological screening of newborns for *Toxoplasma gondii*-specific IgA and IgM antibodies in peripheral blood collected on filter-papers
2. Neonatal screening programme for increasing early postnatal diagnosis of congenital cytomegalovirus infection in the West Poland Province

Vol 18,4

Editorial: IFCC Professional Scientific Exchange Program

1. Expanding and improving the service for testing single embryonic cells by preimplantation genetic haplotyping
2. Short term hyperthermia prevents activation of proinflammatory genes in type B synovio-cytes by blocking the activation of the transcription factor NF- κ B
3. Assessment of Plasma S-Nitrosothiol Concentration by Electron Paramagnetic Resonance Spectrometry and Plasma Nitrotyrosine Levels by ELISA in Behçet's Disease

IFCC News 2007

In addition to the articles listed below, each Newsletter contained announcements of forthcoming meetings and a list of recent IFCC documents and publications.

January - February

Editorial by Jocelyn Hicks, President, IFCC

About Argentina, Jocelyn M. Hicks, President, IFCC

News from the National Societies:

Feature country : ARGENTINA

Report from the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists (CSCC)

Report from the Cyprus Association of Clinical Laboratory Directors, Biomedical and Clinical Laboratory Scientists

The presence of the Tunisian Association highlighted at the JIB Meeting in Paris

Past Meetings

Information about the 2nd FESCC symposium for the Balkan region and the XVth congress of medical

biochemistry and laboratory medicine,

JIB 2006 in Paris(FR): satisfying the biologists needs for state of the art information

News from networks

CONTICANET: a European network for rare connective tissue cancers

Diabetes epidemic out of control!

Letters to the editor

Do we have to enter the "blogosphere"?

March - April

Editorial – A Year of Change By Ellis Jacobs, Chair IFCC CPD

News from the National Societies:

Feature country : Austria

Report from the Asian Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry, The APFCB's Education Activities in 2006

Reports from Divisions

The 2006 Report from the IFCC Scientific Division

Opinions

Integrated projects and translational research: Re-engineering the Laboratory Medicine Enterprise.

News from IUPAC

News from Networks

EudraPharm – the European medicines database

Obituary: Desmond (Des) Kenny MSc MCB FICI FRCPATH Eur Clin Chem, 1941 – 2006

Letters to the editor

Achieving gender equality and women empowerments

May – June

Editorial - New Responsibilities for the Education and Management Division By Janet Smith, Chair IFCC EMD

News from National Associations

Feature country: Syria

Congratulation to the Asociación Mexicana de Bioquímica Clínica as provider of proficiency testing programs!

The IFCC professional scientific exchange programme (psep) - Exeter, UK experience: a personal account

Obituary : Harold Richardson, MD, FRCPC, 1939 – 2007

Past Meetings

Mexican Association of Clinical Biochemistry XXXth National Congress, León, Guanajuato, March 3-7, 2007

Letters to the editor

Orphan drug designation and pharmacogenomics: options and opportunities

New ISSCR Guidelines for Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research

PERSPECTIVES: cannabis testing in saliva.

July - August 2007

Editorial: Jocelyn M.B. Hicks, President, IFC

News from the Federations

EFCC: European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory medicine

THE IFCC PROFESSIONAL SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (PSEP) -

Program on Paediatric Clinical Chemistry,

Announcement of the establishment of the Abbott Visiting Lecturer Program

News from National Associations

Romania's laboratories in the process of raising standards in preparation for EU entry

JNBC in Tunisia: a success story and a new born

Past Meetings

News from the EuromedLab 2007: Hi Amsterdam !!!

News from IUPAC

IUPAC Announces the 2007 Winners of IUPAC Prizes for Young Chemists

Letters to the Editor

Adaptation to EC standards is advisable

September - October 2007

Editorial - IFCC Scientific Division (SD) – An Update Of The Ongoing Activities Related To Standardization

By Mario Panteghini, Chair IFCC SD

News from the Federations

The IFCC professional scientific exchange programme (psep)

Report on the Clinical Molecular Biology Course Organized by the IFCC Committee on Clinical Molecular

Biology Curriculum

News from National Associations

The South African Association of Clinical Biochemistry,

News items concerning the Belgian Society for Clinical Chemistry (Belgische Vereniging voor Klinische Chemie

– Société Belge de Chimie Clinique)

Past Meetings

Report on the Meeting “The research in the field of in-vitro diagnostics in Catalonia”

The 2nd international conference on quality: A successful event for the clinical laboratories of the Latin America

region

News from IUPAC

Letters to the Editor

Eradication of tuberculosis in Europe--so near and yet so far
Harmonizing genetic testing across Europe

November - December 2007

Editorial – IFCC Congress and Conference Division Program Update, By Albert D Fraser,
Chair IFCC CCD

News from the Federations

Report from the Asian Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry on the APFCB-Anon
Scholarship

News from National Associations

One Site, One Source for Preanalytical Education

News from AACC Awards Committee

Past Meetings

3rd FESCC Symposium for the Balkan region, Belgrade, September 20–22, 2007

Report on the 15th Meeting of the Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation

Report from the 6th Romanian National Congress of Laboratory Medicine

Letter to the Editor

Perspectives: RBP4 testing and screening of metabolic disorders

IFCC DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED IN 2007

EB Task Force on Ethics

Burnett L, McQueen MJ, Jonsson JJ, Torricelli F. IFCC Position Paper: Report of the IFCC
Task Force on Ethics: Introduction and Framework. Clin Chem Lab Med 2007; 45:1098-1104.

SD Executive

- 1) Panteghini M “**Traceability, Reference Systems and Result Comparability**”. Clin Biochem Rev 2007;28:97-104.
- 2) Siekmann L “**Requirements for Reference (Calibration) Laboratories in Laboratory Medicine**”. Clin Biochem Rev 2007;28:149-154.
- 3) Panteghini M, John WG “**Implementation of haemoglobin A1c results traceable to the IFCC reference system: the way forward**”. Clin Chem Lab Med 2007; 45(8):942–944.
- 4) Hicks JMB, Müller MM, Panteghini M, John WG, Deeb L, Buse J, Nathan DM, Kahn R, Ferrannini E, Heine R, Mbanya JC “**Consensus Statement on the Worldwide Standardization of the Hemoglobin A1c Measurement**”. Diabetes Care 2007;30: 2399-2400.
- 5) Hicks JMB, Müller MM, Panteghini M, John WG, Deeb L, Buse J, Nathan DM, Kahn R, Ferrannini E, Heine R, Mbanya JC “**Consensus statement on the worldwide standardisation of the HbA1c measurement**”. Diabetologia 2007;50:2042–2043.

C-NPU: Nomenclature, Properties and Units, in collaboration with IUPAC

- 1) Nordin G, Dybkaer R “**Recommendation for term and measurement unit for «HbA1c»**”. Clin Chem Lab Med 2007;45(8):1081–1082.
- 2) Duffus J, Bruunshuus I, Cornelis R, Dybkaer R, Nordberg M, Külpmann W “**Properties and Units in the Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Part XX. Properties and Units in Clinical and Environmental Human Toxicology**”. Pure and Applied Chemistry 2007;79:87–152.
- 3) Duffus J, Bruunshuus I, Cornelis R, Dybkær R, Nordberg M, Kuelpmann W “**Properties and Units in the Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Part XX. Properties and Units in Clinical and Environmental Human Toxicology**”. eJIFCC 2007;18(2): http://www.ifcc.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=494&Itemid=311
- 4) Ehrlich C, Dybkaer R, Wöger W “**Evolution of philosophy and description of measurement (preliminary rationale for VIM3)**”. Accred Qual Assur 2007;12(3/4):201–218.
- 5) Dybkaer R “**Metrology and protometrology: the ordinal question**”. Accred Qual Assur 2007;12:553–557.
- 6) Dybkaer R “**The meaning of 'concentration'**”. Accred Qual Assur 2007;12:661–663.

C-PP: Plasma Proteins

- 1) Johnson MA, Merlini GP, Sheldon J, Ichihara K “**Clinical indications for plasma protein assays: transthyretin (prealbumin) in inflammation and malnutrition**”. Clin Chem Lab Med 2007;45(3):419–426.
- 2) Johnson MA, Merlini GP, Sheldon J, Ichihara K “**Transthyretin, nutrition, and inflammation: response to Dr. Bernstein**”. Clin Chem Lab Med 2007;45(11): 1568–1569.

C-SMCD: Standardisation of Markers of Cardiac Damage, in collaboration with AACC

- 1) NACB WRITING GROUP MEMBERS, Fred S. Apple, Robert L. Jesse, L. Kristin Newby, Alan H.B. Wu, Robert H. Christenson, NACB COMMITTEE MEMBERS, Robert H. Christenson, Fred S. Apple, Christopher P. Cannon, Gary Francis, Robert Jesse, David A. Morrow, L. Kristin Newby, Jan Ravkilde, Alan B. Storrow, Wilson Tang, Alan H.B. Wu, IFCC COMMITTEE ON STANDARDIZATION OF MARKERS OF CARDIAC DAMAGE (C-SMCD) MEMBERS, Fred S. Apple, Robert H. Christenson, Allan S. Jaffe, Johannes Mair, Jordi Ordonez-Llanos, Franca Pagani, Mauro Panteghini, Jillian Tate, and Alan H.B. Wu. “**National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry and IFCC Committee for Standardization of Markers of Cardiac Damage Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines: Analytical Issues for Biochemical Markers of Acute Coronary Syndromes**”. Clinical Chemistry 2007;53:547–551.
- 2) NACB WRITING GROUP MEMBERS, Fred S. Apple, Robert L. Jesse, L. Kristin Newby, Alan H.B. Wu, Robert H. Christenson, NACB COMMITTEE MEMBERS, Robert H. Christenson, Fred S. Apple, Christopher P. Cannon, Gary Francis, Robert Jesse, David A. Morrow, L. Kristin Newby, Jan Ravkilde, Alan B. Storrow, Wilson Tang, Alan H.B. Wu, IFCC COMMITTEE ON STANDARDIZATION OF MARKERS OF CARDIAC DAMAGE (C-SMCD) MEMBERS, Fred S. Apple, Robert H. Christenson, Allan S. Jaffe, Johannes Mair, Jordi Ordonez-Llanos, Franca Pagani, Mauro Panteghini, Jillian Tate, and Alan H.B. Wu. “**National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry and IFCC Committee for Standardization of Markers of Cardiac Damage La-**

laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines: Analytical Issues for Biochemical Markers of Acute Coronary Syndromes". Circulation 2007;115:e352-e355.

- 3) Apple FS, Wu AHB, Jaffe AS, Panteghini M, Christenson RH. « **National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry and IFCC Committee for Standardization of Markers of Cardiac Damage Laboratory Medicine practice guidelines: Analytical issues for biomarkers of heart failure**». Circulation 2007;116:e95-e98.

C-POCT: Point of Care Testing

- 1) Ben Rayana MC, Burnett RW, Covington AK, D'Orazio P, Fogh-Andersen N, Jacobs E, Külpmann WR, Kuwa K, Larsson L, Lewenstam A, Maas AHJ, Mager G, Naskalski JW, Okorodudu AO, Ritter C, St. John A "**IFCC Guideline for sampling, measuring and reporting ionized magnesium in plasma**", Clin Chem Lab Med 2008;46(1):in press.

C-RIDL: Reference Intervals and Decision Limits

- 1) Ceriotti F "**Prerequisites for Use of Common Reference Intervals**". Clin Biochem Rev 2007;28:115-121.
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WG-SEB: Selective Electrodes and Biosensors

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