

149th Meeting of the IFCC Executive Board January 26, 2021

Minutes

The 149th Meeting of the IFCC Executive Board was held via Zoom Conference.

Participants:

EB Members

Khosrow Adeli	(KA)	President
David Kinniburgh	(DK)	Secretary
Alexander Haliassos	(AHA)	Treasurer
Joseph Passarelli	(JP)	Corporate Members Representative (ROCHE)
Adekunle Bashiru Okesina	(ABO)	African Federation of Clinical Chemistry (AFCC)
Sunil Sethi	(SSE)	Asia-Pacific Fed for Clinical Biochemistry and Lab Med (APFCB)
Ana-Maria Šimundić	(AMS)	European Fed of Clin Chem and Lab Med (EFLM)
Ana María Lena Rodríguez	(AMLR)	Latin-American Conf of Clin Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI)
Stephen Hill	(SH)	North American Fed of Clin Chem and Lab Med (NAFCC)

Apologies

Abderrazek Hedhili	(AH)	Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (AFCB)
--------------------	------	--

1.0 Preliminaries

1.0 Opening remarks from President
KA welcomed the new Board to the first meeting of the three year term and thanked the past EB members, and all IFCC functional group members who have finished their terms for all their work and contributions.

1.1.148 Minutes of the Zoom meetings of November 24th and December 8th, 2020
The draft minutes have been circulated and will be accepted by email.

Formation of New Taskforces:

13.1.17 Task Force on Global Newborn Screening (TF-NBS)

KA attended the first meeting on January 25 to start the group off, and told them that the EB was there to support them and ensure they have the resources they need to do their work. It is anticipated that this project could have life-long positive impacts for the countries involved. Van Leung-Pineda and Jim Bonham are co-chairs of the TF. One of the first

actions will be to do a survey of all IFCC member countries to determine who is interested in participating in the pilot project.

13.1.18 Task Force on Global Lab Quality (TF-GLQ)

KA and DK attended the first meeting on January 21 to start the group off, and told them that the EB was there to support them and ensure they have the resources they need to do their work. One of the first actions will be to do a survey of all IFCC member countries to determine who is interested in participating in the pilot project. The RFP for a corporate partner has been extended to Jan 30, 2021, and a few proposals have been received with more expected to come.

13.1.19 TF Outcome Studies in Lab Med (TF-OSLM)

The call for nominations is planned for late January/early February. The TF will focus on promoting the value of laboratory medicine through helping to establish sound outcome data to demonstrate the value of laboratory medicine. The Committee for the Value Proposition for Laboratory Medicine will continue.

13.1.20 IFCC Task Force Global Ref Intervals consortium (TF-GRIDLC)

The call for nominations for this is planned for late January/early February. The TF will work to consolidate the data on RIs from around the world on one database. There have been discussions with Insoft on the development of a “Global Reference Interval Database”.

13.1.21 Task Force on Global eLearning/eAcademy (TF-GEL)

The pilot project with 4 webinars was very successful and all IFCC members, regions, and functional groups have been invited to present webinars, with approximately 25 proposals so far. Adrian Park is chair of the new TF, and in addition to the TF members, three coordinators have been selected to organize the webinars. They will be paid a small fee for each webinar they organize. The next webinar will be on cardiac markers with Fred Apple as chair. The goal for the TF is 2 webinars per month and some will be recorded for the eAcademy website.

13.0 Task Forces

13.1.12 Task Force History (TF-H)

KA met with TF in summer 2020 and they are working on their new mandate that will be shared with the EB when received.

13.1.15 Task Force Corporate Members (TF-CM)

The TF-CM met recently and minutes will be sent to the EB members. The next meeting is scheduled for January 29. Plans are underway to replace two corporate members and the secretary.

13.1.16 Task Force on COVID 19

New guidelines on antigen testing and immunization monitoring are being discussed and should be published by March/April

2.0 Full Member Societies

2.2

Applications

Peruvian Medical Association of Clinical Pathology

The Council email ballot was extended to January 31st as a quorum was not reached.

2.4

Annual Dues

Sudanese Society of Clinical Biology

Membership dues have not been paid since 2017. This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

3.0 Corporate Members

3.2 Applications for Corporate Membership

Confirmed new application

Instrumentation Laboratory – Werfen was approved as a new corporate member, via email.

3.4 Annual Dues

Beijing Dream Diagnostics

Membership dues have not been paid since 2018. This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

4.0 Affiliate Members

4.4. Annual Dues -

Jordan Society for Medical Laboratory Sciences

Membership dues have not been paid since 2018. This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

5.0 Regional Organisations

5.2 Latin-American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI)

The *Programa Nacional de Control de Calidad* has expressed an interest to be a supplier to the TF-GLQ and AMLR asked about possible IFCC support for freight charges. KA said the TF-GLQ will be reviewing the proposals and will address any questions. Dr. Ana Leticia Caceres de Maselli has passed away and AMLR has contacted the president of the Guatemala society to express condolences and request the name of the new national representative.

7.0 Committee on Congresses and Conferences (C-CC)

7.4.10 Specialized Virtual Conference on “Critical Role of Clinical Laboratories in COVID 19 Pandemic”, February 15-17, 2021

Congress update

The original motivation to organize a congress at this time was to provide an educational event during the gap between other major IFCC conferences after the rescheduling of WorldLab and EuroMedLab. The three day program promises to be a success with over 100 speakers, strong support from member societies, 18 corporate sponsors, currently close to 2500 registrants. Colleagues in different parts of the world are helping to promote the conference and it appears to be working. Some regions are using the new IFCC funds to register their members. There have been some concerns from corporate members about timing and communications that will be addressed and discussed later.

7.3.2.25 EuroMedLab 2021, Munich (DE), Munich, November 28 – December 2, 2021

We are still waiting for a reply from MedTech Ethical Code regarding our inquiry about entertainment.

We are still waiting for a reply regarding the DGKL Annual 2021 meeting.

7.3.4.25 Latin American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry -COLABIOCLI

COLABIOCLI León – Guanajuato, Mexico, 2022

March 28 – April 2, 2022

COLABIOCLI has selected the 4 IFCC Symposia and would like to have simultaneous translation to Spanish for the 4 IFCC webinars.

8.0 Scientific Division (SD)

8.13 Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM)

JCTLM Chair proposal

The past JCTLM chair was Ian Young. The SD has recommended Greg Miller, the IFCC representative, as the new chair even though there will be two US members on the

committee. The EB supported the SD recommendation for Greg Miller. KA will reply to Philippe and JCTLM.

8.3.61 Working Group “Development of a Reference Measurement System PT/INR Standardization” (WG-PT-INR)

The MoU with SSC/ISTH has been approved by the EB and signed by KA. We are now awaiting sign-off from ISTH.

9.0 Education and Management Division (EMD)

9.2.10 Committee on distance learning (C - DL)

This committee was terminated with the formation of TF-GEL.

10.0 Communications and Publications Division (CPD)

10.20 Membership

Request for 1 year extension of Dr. Freggiaro's 2nd term as C-leL Chair (2021-2023)

There is a request for a 1 year extension of Dr. Freggiaro's 2nd term as C-leL Chair to align with his term in office as CPD-EC secretary. EB agrees to do this in view of the new TF and realignment of committees, plus the need to align the terms of office. The EB supports this request.

15.0 Finances

15.2 Financial Audit 2020,

The financial audit for 2020 is in process and is expected to be completed by end of February.

Treasurer report

AHA noted that the bank will be applying a negative interest (effectively a charge) to Euro accounts over 500,000 euros. This can be avoided by transferring funds to CHF and USD investments, as recommended by the bank. The EB supported this action and AHA will proceed.

19.0 Meetings

19.80 Executive Board Meetings

EB planned Conference calls

2021 EB monthly Zoom meeting dates to be determined via a doodle poll.

Milan office meeting

If possible KA/DK/AHA will meet in Milan in person with the Office staff and MZ in the spring.

Lake Maggiore

PB will contact the hotel to see if the reservation can be moved to the fall of this year.

16.0 Organisational Matters

16.1 IFCC Office

IFCC Office Staffing

PB says the Office Staff are very busy now and one more staff member is now required. The training of new staff will be a challenge since the COVID restriction mean staff cannot get together to train the new person. The EB approved to move forward to hire one new full-time staff as soon as possible. PB/DK/KA will draft a job description and work with MZ to advertise the position. DK/KA will interview the final candidates.

16.4 Annual Report 2020

Preparation of the Annual Report is on-going

16.5 Handbook 2021-2023

The Handbook revision is on-going

16.40 Other business

IFCC Office Contract with MZ

The current agreement with MZ with respect to Office Staff and Facilities ends Dec 2023. IFCC pays MZ to provide the office facilities and cover the salaries for our staff, PB, SC and SCL. The agreement should be reviewed a year ahead of its expiry.

Items not discussed will be addressed by email, if possible.