

## **Report from Prof James Goh, IFMBE President**

The activities of IFMBE from June 2015 to March 2016 can be found in the IFMBE News No.99 which is attached for your easy reference.

### **Business Meetings:**

In the current triennium, IFMBE has held 2 Administrative Council (AC) meetings (Toronto, Canada (11th June 2015) and Paphos, Cyprus (30 Mar 2016)). The next AC meeting will be held on the 11th June 2017 in Tampere, Finland during the Joint EMBEC/NBC 2017. The IFMBE Officers met 4 times during this period.

### **IFMBE website revamp**

The IFMBE website has been revamp. [www.ifmbe.org](http://www.ifmbe.org)

### **Regional activities:**

#### **Asia-Pacific**

In the Asia-Pacific region, a number of BME conferences were held:

- 6th International Conference on the Development of BME, June 27th – 29th, Vietnam
- eMedic Global 2016, August 18th – 20th, Hong Kong
- BIOMAG 2016, October 1st – 6th, Seoul, South Korea
- Mongolian Biomedical Engineering Conference (MBEC 2016), Sept 30<sup>th</sup> - Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- International Conference on Biomedical Engineering, 2016, Dec 7th – 10th, Singapore

#### **Europe/Africa**

The MEDICON Conference was held from March 31st to April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016 in Paphos, Cyprus. The Irish BM&CE Association held their conference BEAI 2016 (21st BEAI Annual Scientific Meeting) on 30 Sep 2016 in Dublin, Ireland. In October, the First African Conference on Biomedical Engineering (AFROBIOMEDIC 2016) was held in Abuja, Nigeria. Prof Marc Nyssen and Prof Mario Secca represented IFMBE at the conference. Prof Herb Voigt was the plenary speaker. There were 150 participants. The MediTech 2016, International Conference on Advancements of Medicine and Health Care through Technology was held from 12 – 15 Oct 2016 at the Grand Hotel Napoca, Cluj Napoca, Romania.

In Europe, a significant milestone was achieved in April 2015, when for the first time the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) stated that “Biomedical Engineering is not simply a subset of modern medicine, but modern medicine predominantly secures important advances through the use of the products of biomedical engineering”. Dr Leandro Pecchia (Chair, IFMBE HTAD) reported on the formation of the first **Euro Parliament Interest Group on Biomedical Engineering (EPIG on BME) on 31st May**. The members include, Mr Nicola Caputo (S&D, Italy) (President, EPIG on BME), Jens Gieseke

(EPP, Germany) and Ms Lara Comi (EPP, Italy).” This is largely the effort of EAMBES and IFMBE HTAD. For full report, please refer to attachment.

### **Latin America**

The Latin America conference CLAIB under the auspices of the regional group, CORAL was organized by the Colombian BME Society from October 26th to 28th 2016 in Bucaramanga, Colombia. All the IFMBE Officers were invited to make plenary talks.

### **North America**

In North America, the Annual Conference of the CMBES, ie CMBEC39 was held on 24 – 27 May 2016 in Hyatt Regency, Calgary, Canada and the IEEE-EMBS held their annual meeting EMBC 2016 from August 16th – 20th, in Orlando, Florida USA.

### **Clinical Engineering Divisions (CED)**

As a follow up from the Global CE Summit event, it was decided that October 21st will become the Global CE Day celebration and be inaugurated on 21st October 2016. The CED worked tirelessly to make the Global CE Day a success. Dr Yadin David’s leadership in this event was truly outstanding. He has provided a report which is attached. The CED Board meets also every month through Skype.

### **Health Technology Assessment Division (HTAD)**

HTAD had their meeting at University of Warwick from Friday 25th to Monday 28th November, 2016. They have 4 projects to discuss: (1) development of HTA didactic contents for BME: contents will be published on the HTAD website and e-learning platform (<http://htad.ifmbe.org/>), (2) organization of writing sessions for future grants on collaborative actions on HTA, (3) study on early HTA and for HTA of medical devices and development of the first IFMBE guidelines for MD assessment, and (4) promotion of HTA in IFMBE Conferences: during the meeting we will plan forthcoming contributions to conferences.

### **Partnership with WHO**

IFMBE continues to work closely with WHO as an NGO with official link. Prof Marc Nyssen is our representative in the Executive Meetings and General Assemblies of WHO. Many of us have contributed to WHO publications and the WHO Global Model Regulatory Framework for medical devices. IFMBE has sponsored interns in WHO for editing of publications in the medical devices series, development of information that can be used for funding proposals and support search for donors interested in medical technologies, definition for needs and expertise required on medical devices aspects for health interventions in the different WHO programme areas, collation and dissemination of Health Technology Management and Health Technology Assessment tools for medical devices to support Member States, integration of information related to the need of a nomenclature of medical devices as a public good, information for WHO website on HTA of medical devices and HTM.

### **Summary of IFMBE-related Conferences in 2017:**

- CMBEBIH2017: 2nd Conference on Medical and Biological Engineering in Bosnia and Herzegovina, March 16th - 18th, 2017, Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Joint Conference of the Nordic-Baltic Conference on Biomedical Engineering and Medical Physics (NBC) and the European Medical and Biological Engineering Conference (EMBEC), June 11st - 15<sup>th</sup> 2017, Tampere, Finland
- Asia-Pacific Conference on Medical and Biological Engineering, July 16th - 19th, Sydney, Australia
- 2nd International Clinical Engineering and Health Technology Management, Sept 21-22, San Paulo, Brazil
- International Conference on Biomedical and Health Informatics 2017, 11-14 November 2017, Electra Palace Hotel, Thessaloniki, Greece