

## Highlights of the Year

- The 11th Bergmeyer Congress was held in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany from 3-5 March 2008 on 'Markers of Kidney Disease'
- General Conference in Antalya, Turkey, April 13-14, 2008
- The first IFCC Ortho Clinical Diagnostics (OCD) Conference in Birmingham, UK on May 18-19, 2008 on "Biochemical Markers in Clinical Cardiology: Perspectives from Present to Future"
- XX IFCC International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (XX ICCCLM) in Fortaleza, Brazil September 28- October 2, 2008
- Molecular Biology course at the Fiji Islands, Jan 28-Feb 1, 2008
- IFCC/Beckman Coulter course on Flow Cytometry, September 2008
- The 8th EFCC Continuous Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry " New Trends in classification, diagnosis and management of kidney disease" October, 2008, Dubrovnik, Croatia
- Abbott Laboratories' annual sponsorship for the IFCC VLP program
- IFCC Speakers Bureau
- IFCC promotional brochure in Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish
- Joint IFCC-"Labs are Vital™ campaign, sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics Laboratories
- IFCC Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Distance Learning Project on Accreditation and Natriuretic Peptides (<http://www.siemenslearning.com/ifcc>)
- Roche/IFCC Travel Scholarship program
- A monograph on analytical quality published in "The Clinical Biochemist Reviews" in collaboration with Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists (AACB)
- A monograph "Essentials of Clinical Laboratory Management in Developing Countries"
- 2nd ERM-DA470 (formerly 2nd Preparation CRM470) in collaboration with IRMM released with certification for 12 plasma proteins

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE IFCC, DEC 31, 2008



The Executive Board of the IFCC this year continued to work on the Vision developed for the IFCC at the beginning of my term in 2006.

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 has started on a project related to pharmacogenetics, and another is being started 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.

**3)** According to current WHO data, fully 80% of diagnoses are 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](http://www.ifcc.org).

In addition, Dr Tomris Ozben, the Chair of the Committee on Congresses and Conferences, has worked well with CPD in getting a large variety of meetings announced on our web, and has been very active in encouraging the use of auspices and the IFCC logo to get information about these widely distributed.

CPD has produced an excellent Public Relations brochure that is available in many languages.

**4) 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.

The substantial grant from Abbott Diagnostics has allowed us to expand our Visiting Lecturer Program (VLP) to developing countries in a major way. The effort has been very successful under the leadership of Ms. Janet Smith, the Chair of the Education and Management Division, and Dr Leslie Lai, the Vice-chair of EMD and the person directly responsible for the VLP program

**5) 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.

We have obtained a grant from Roche Diagnostics Gbmh to enable persons from developing countries to apply for travel grants to our meetings. Twenty young scientists from developing countries took advantage of these travel scholarships to attend the International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine in Fortaleza, Brazil. Their level of excitement and enthusiasm was wonderful to see. You are able to see their reports on our web-site.

In addition we have just started a distance e-learning program, with the support of Siemens Healthcare Solutions. The first such program was on BNP. It has been accessed by scientists from many developing countries.

Four members of the IFCC Executive Board traveled to South Africa in order to stimulate interest in IFCC. We spent an entire afternoon describing IFCC and its benefits. Delegates from South Africa, Nigeria and Kenya participated in lively discussion. We will be working to increase the number of African Members of IFCC, and hopefully they will form an African Federation. I have been aided by Professor Vanessa Steenkamp, of South Africa in this endeavor.

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. The first of these Conferences on Cardiac Biomarkers was held in Birmingham, UK in May. It was superbly organized by Professor Mauro Panteghini, and it was one of the most interactive and excellent conferences that I have attended.

**6) 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, and we hope to look at methods for testing for HIV by POCT. How has your President spent her time over the last three years? 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 visited many Member Societies during 2006 and 2007 that have been mentioned in previous reports. In 2008 I visited Egypt, Guatemala, Cuba, Turkey, the UK, South Africa, Brazil, and Vietnam. I have been very impressed with the enthusiasm and interest in IFCC and its programs.

This year we held our General Conference in Antalya; it was the best attended ever. It was well organized with the help of Tomris Ozben from Turkey and the staff of the IFCC Office. There was a special program to enable National and Corporate Representatives to work with the Past Presidents to look at the future of IFCC. I received many positive comments about these sessions. I daily deal with about 60-80 e-mails, which all need to be answered. This year also saw the International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine take

place in Fortaleza, Brazil. It was extremely well attended and was well organized by Dr. Ulisses Tuma. There were attendees from over 100 countries attending.

With the help of the EB I have worked on increasing the number of IFCC Full Members. By March of next year we will have increased our Membership from 72 to 82.

It has been 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 owe special thanks to the great support from the IFCC Secretary, Dr. Päivi Laitinen and to the IFCC Office staff.

In saying goodbye, I wish you all a successful and healthy 2009.

I wish our incoming President, Dr. Graham Beastall much success.

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

## EXECUTIVE BOARD (EB)

The year 2008 was important in many ways for the IFCC. The Executive Board had its first meeting of the year in Antalya, Turkey, on April 11-12, 2008 prior to the IFCC General Conference. The second meeting was held in Fortaleza, Brazil, on September 27, 2008 prior to the XX IFCC International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, WorldLab 2008 (XX ICCCLM). The third EB meeting was a normal budget meeting which was held in Milano, Italy on November 30 - December 2, 2008. Thus the Chairs of Divisions joined the EB to report on their year's activities and to present their budget proposals for 2009. The full detailed annual reports of the Divisions follow later.

The General Conference was held in Antalya, Turkey, on April 12-14, 2008. It is held in every three years, usually during the second year of the three-year cycle of the IFCC. The participants of the Conference are members of all the IFCC functional units: the Executive Board, Division Executive Committees, Divisional Committees, and possibly some Working Groups. The purpose of the General Conference is to present to all the participants the achievements of the past triennium and the programs for the future. This allows the members of the various functional units to hear about all the activities carried out within the IFCC. The General Conference is also an opportunity for the IFCC officers to meet with each other and discuss their activities.

National Representatives and Corporate Members were also invited to the Antalya General Conference. This was a unique opportunity for them to learn of the IFCC activities and to meet with each other and the IFCC officers.

The General Conference in Antalya was a success with more than 200 participants. Most of the participants were members of the IFCC Divisions, Committees and Working Groups, but about half of the National Societies were also represented. During the first two days of the conference Executive Board and Division Executive Committees had their meetings. The official opening ceremonies were on the third day of the conference and the National Representatives and Corporate Members were present. The President, the Treasurer, The Division Chairs and the Corporate Representative in EB gave their reports. Also three reports on special Task Forces of the IFCC (Integrated IFCC projects, Pediatric Laboratory Medicine, Global Campaign of Diabetes Mellitus) and well as reports from Regional Federations (APFCB, EFCC, AFCB, COLABIOCLI)

were given. All these reports are available on the IFCC website ([www.ifcc.org](http://www.ifcc.org)).

The fourth day of the General Conference was reserved for the National and Corporate Representatives totally. They were all divided into five discussion groups chaired by the Past Presidents of the IFCC. The topics for the discussion Groups were the following: The mission and future of Lab Medicine, Educational programs and training needs, especially in developing countries, The laboratory's role in improving the quality of patient care, Linking IFCC activities with clinical associations, Developing diagnostic guidelines. The Discussion Groups spent a couple of hours discussing their topics and they also prepared a presentation of their discussions. These were presented to all the participants in the afternoon.

The main message of the discussion groups was that the IFCC has to collaborate more with the International Clinical Associations as well as with the National Societies and this has to be two-way communication. The EB has listened to the suggestions of these discussion groups and is working on the following topics. IFCC has created together with Siemens a distance-learning project, which is at the moment available on <http://www.siemenslearning.com/ifcc>. The first program is on the Natriuretic Peptides. A working group on the relations with the clinical associations has been formed. The Groups also recognized that IFCC has to focus more on helping the developing countries by developing guidelines on topics like HIV, hepatitis, prenatal and neonatal screening. Harmonisation of curricula for training of the specialists for clinical chemistry is also important for developing countries, as well as training in quality issues.

The General Conference was not only hard work, but often informal discussions over a cup of coffee are the most important for the delegates. Despite the tight and busy schedule there were a lot of opportunities to meet with each other and make new friends.

The 20th International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine held in Fortaleza, Brazil on September 28 to October 2, 2008, was a very successful congress. There were about 4000 participants, coming from 82 different countries. Majority of the participants came from Latin American countries. 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. Also the IFCC triennial Council meeting was held before the opening of the Congress. Council meeting is always the one everybody expects with anxiety, because the new Executive Board is elected by the delegates of the Council.

The agenda of the Council meeting started with triennial reports of the President, the Treasurer, the Vice-President and the Chairs of the Divisions. The IFCC President Jocelyn Hicks highlighted some of the achievements of the present Executive Board (EB). After the reports there were the elections in the agenda. This time 59 of the 79 Full Member Societies attended the Council meeting and they all were allowed to vote. The voting process itself is a complicated one, but this time there was no question of the final result. Graham Beastall was elected IFCC President during the first round by the majority of votes. Also Chris Lam was elected Vice-President on the first round by the majority of votes. For the Secretary and the Treasurer there were only one candidate and these election were approved by acclamation. For the Member of the EB there were 7 candidates. Ulisses Tuma and Joe Lopez were elected on the first round by the majority of votes. A second round was needed for the third position and Bernard Gouget was elected. Jocelyn Hicks will stay on the Board as Past-President for the three-year term. We have a new EB which represents quite well all parts of the world and I am sure we will have exciting times ahead of us.

The joint IFCC--"Labs are VitalTM" campaign, sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics Laboratories, which was launched during EuroMedlab was promoted in major congresses and conferences during the year. You will find more detailed information about "Labs are VitalTM" in the CPD report below.

EB has focused on enhancing 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 (Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish), and other translations are in progress.

#### Membership

The Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Sri Lanka (ACBSL) and the Ukrainian Society of Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics (USCLD) were approved unanimously as new Full Members by the IFCC membership via a mail ballot. At the end of 2008 the IFCC had thus 79 Full Members. 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. 48 reports were received to be included in the IFCC Annual Report 2008, which is available on the IFCC website [www.ifcc.org](http://www.ifcc.org).

Significant milestones were reported for a number of National Societies:

The National Society of Czech Republic celebrated 50th anniversary in 2008 and the IFCC plaque was presented to the Society at the WorldLab in Fortaleza, Brazil.

*Päivi Laitinen*  
Secretary IFCC

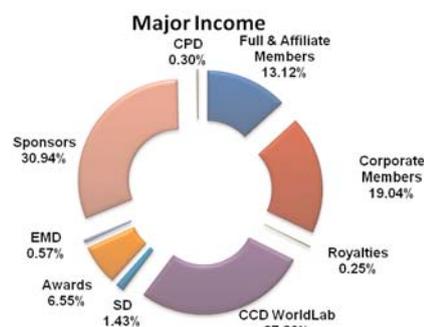
## TREASURER'S REPORT 2008

For the third year running IFCC assets did not do well due to the international financial crises which hit the market all over the world in 2008. IFCC assets lost almost 25% of their value. The treasurer sought the advice of several financial experts who recommended maintain the assets in their present state. All experts agreed that the market will show instability during 2009 and to start to stabilise gradually during 2010. The revenue from WorldLab in Fortaleza, Brazil compensated some of the losses. Corporate members participated actively in various activities of IFCC, Abbott continued to support VLP, ROCHE supported the travel of Young Scientists to attend Regional & International Conference and Ortho Clinical Diagnostics supported the conference on Inflammation Markers. This in addition to the support provided for the activities of Scientific Division.

The IFCC treasurer will process the EFCC reimbursement of EFCC officers from the allocated budget of the EFCC. Furthermore, the annual dues of EFCC members which were collected for EFCC were transferred to an EFCC sub-account. This account will be managed directly by EFCC treasurer.

Thanks to Full & Corporate Members who paid their annual dues in good time. This helped the IFCC to maintain reasonable cash to implement its activities.

The enclosed figures show the major income and expenditure of the IFCC in 2008:



As you may gather from the figures the expenditure of the IFCC office, SD and C-CC make about 50% of the total expenditure. This is due to the involvement of the office in all IFCC activities.

The increase in C-CC expenditure is due to the sponsorship of young scientists to attend WorldLab and the sponsorship provided for the conference on Inflammation Markers. IFCC maintained its support to the Regional & International Organisations.

## AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Federation presents several awards to clinical chemists, laboratorians, and others who work in the field of clinical chemistry, laboratory medicine, and clinical laboratory science. These awards are presented to recognize the outstanding achievements by these individuals; to make the scientific community and general public aware of exceptional contributions by them to scientific research and development and the improvement of health care; and to stimulate and encourage other scientists and laboratorians to accelerate their efforts to contribute to the advancement of the field of clinical laboratory medicine and science.

### Awards Committee

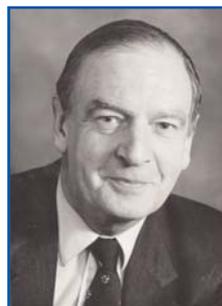
Members of the 2006-2008 Awards Committee conducting the nominations and selection of awardees were: Prof. Vladimir Palicka (Czech Republic), Chair; Dr. Carl Burtis (USA); Prof. Tsutomu Nobori (Japan); Dr. Rosa I Sierra-Amor (Mexico); Prof. Mohamed Shaarawy (Egypt).

### Presentation of Awards

At the IFCC Awards dinner on September 29, 2008 in Fortleza, Brazil, the following Distinguished Awards were bestowed:

### 2008 IFCC DISTINGUISHED CLINICAL CHEMIST AWARD

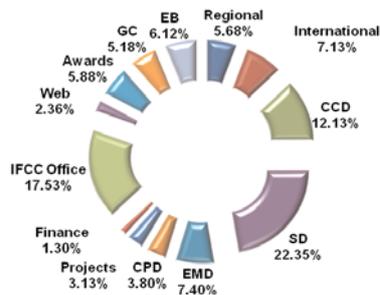
Sponsor: Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics, Inc.



Professor Donald Stirling Young, MB, PhD was selected to receive the 2008 IFCC Distinguished Clinical Chemist Award. This award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the science of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine or the application of clinical chemistry to the understanding or the solution of

medical problems. Dr Young is Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and Vice-Chair for Laboratory Medicine, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, at the University of Pennsylvania. He has had a distinguished career as a scientist, clinical laboratorian and educator and has dedicated his career to the advancement of our profession. Professor Young is recognized especially for his excellent series of books ("Young's Effects") which emphasize the importance of the effects of drugs, disease, pre-analytical variables and herbs and natural products on laboratory tests. He also is the co-editor of the popular text "Directory of Rare Analyses" that is now in its 5th edition.

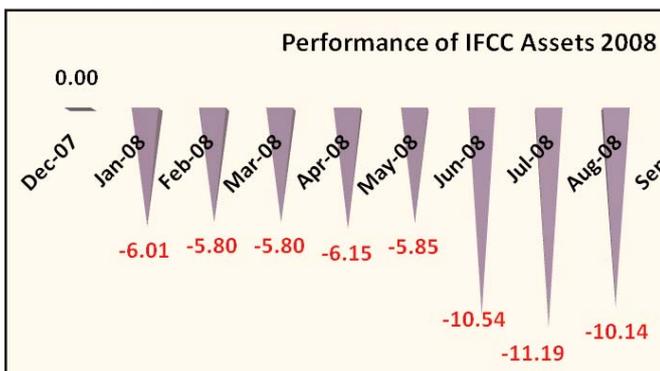
### Major Expenses



The Executive Board & IFCC Financial Advisory Committee agreed to extend the contract with the present Auditors, Humphreys & Gates who perform their duties in a professional and satisfactory manner for another four years to the end in 2011, this to coincide with the election of a new Executive Board.

IFCC banks, Dresdner Bank & Credit Suisse in Switzerland and Banca Intesa in Italy are co-operating well with the IFCC treasurer and the IFCC office in Milan 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.

This following figure shows the performance of the IFCC assets during 2008. As you may see from the figure the loss was big by any standard and we hope we will be able to gain some of our losses in the coming years. Unfortunately, this loss was unavoidable.



Looking forward for 2009 and 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 2009.

Ghassan Shannan  
Treasurer IFCC

## 2008 IFCC AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTIONS IN EDUCATION

Sponsor: Beckman Coulter, Inc



Professor Norbert Tietz PhD was selected to receive the 2008 IFCC/Beckman Coulter Award for Distinguished Contributions in Education.

This award honours an individual who has made extraordinary contributions in establishing and developing educational material

for our discipline to improve training and educational programs world-wide or in a region. Professor Tietz is an adjunct Professor of Pathology in the Department of Pathology at the University of California, La Jolla, CA.

Throughout his career, Professor Tietz has been involved in educating and furthering the careers of clinical chemists, laboratorians, and pathologists and his textbooks have served as the basis of many teaching programs around the world for almost four decades.

Professor Tietz is best known as the editor of the first, second, and third editions of the *Fundamentals of Clinical Chemistry*. This book, now in its sixth edition, remains a primary information source for both students and educators in laboratory medicine. Dr. Tietz also edited various editions of the *Textbook of Clinical Chemistry*; *Study Guide to Clinical Chemistry*; and *Clinical Guide to Laboratory Tests*. Dr. Tietz also served as editor for the clinical chemistry sections of the *Dictionary and Encyclopedia of Laboratory Medicine and Technology*. He also has taught a range of students from the undergraduate through post-graduate level. For example, in the late 1960's he began graduate programs in Clinical Chemistry at the Chicago Medical School.

The research interests of Professor Young include (1) laboratory quality control and improvement in quality of results, (2) laboratory uses of computers, (3) management of laboratory utilization, (4) biological and analytical components of variation of serum constituents, (5) development of original and specific laboratory diagnostic procedures, (6) laboratory efficiency, and (7) assessment and correlation of laboratory findings with disease.

Dr. Young has served as President of the AACC and the IFCC. He also has served on the Board of Editors of several publications including serving as Chair of the Editorial Board of *Clinical Chemistry*.

## 2008 IFCC WISHINSKY AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Sponsor: Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics, Inc



Dr David Burnett, OBE, PhD, FRCPath was selected to receive the 2008 Wishinsky Award For Distinguished International Service. This award honours an individual who has made unique contributions to the promotion and understanding of Clinical Chemistry and

Laboratory Medicine throughout the world. Dr Burnett is currently retired from the National Health Service in the UK.

Dr Burnett has been very active in the development and promulgation of laboratory accreditation which has improved the quality of services and their delivery to patients across the World with the development of International Standards arising from this activity. In 1992, he collaborated with the four major clinical laboratory professional societies in the UK to develop a voluntary accreditation scheme for laboratories. The resultant scheme, known as the Clinical Pathology Accreditation (CPA) UK, was rapidly adopted as the de facto standard for clinical laboratories in the UK. Dr Burnett subsequently assisted in the development and implementation of regional and national schemes in other countries. Progression of the international aspects of standardisation through international organisations was a natural development and Dr Burnett was and is heavily engaged in the work of ISO/TC212.

In 1996, he received the prestigious honour of the Order of the British Empire for services to Laboratory Medicine.

## IFCC-ABBOTT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS AWARD FOR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS

Sponsor: Abbott Molecular Diagnostics



Professor Olli Kallioniemi, MD, PhD—currently Director of the Institute of Molecular Medicine at the University of Helsinki—was selected to receive the 2008 IFCC Award for Significant Contributions to Molecular Diagnostics. This award has been created to

honour an individual who has made unique contributions to the promotion and understanding of Molecular Biology and its worldwide application in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. Throughout his research career, Professor Kallioniemi has successfully combined development of technologies, cancer research and diagnostic development. Currently he is Director of the Institute of Molecular Medicine at the University of Helsinki as well as Director of the Academy of Finland Centre of Excellence in Translational Genome-Scale Biology in the Universities of Turku & Helsinki.

In 1992, Professor Kallioniemi published the first report describing the use of fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) for the detection of gene amplifications in breast cancer patients. A second paper described the development of comparative genomic hybridization (CGH) for the diagnosis of genetic alterations in cancer and other diseases.

In 1993 he applied the CGH technology to the discovery of key genetic alterations in cancer. A key paper of his describes a novel mechanism of disease progression and therapy failure in prostate cancer and constitutes the first example where a novel disease mechanism was discovered by CGH and the first time gene amplifications were linked to therapy resistance in human patients. Along with the discovery of CGH, Professor Kallioniemi is globally recognized for the first description of the tissue microarray (TMA) technology. This technology is now routinely used by many molecular pathology laboratories worldwide.

## IFCC-ORTHO DISTINGUISHED AWARD FOR LABORATORY MEDICINE AND PATIENT CARE

Sponsor: Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, Inc



Professor Christopher Lam, PhD was selected to receive the IFCC/Ortho Distinguished Award for Laboratory Medicine and Patient Care. This is a new award that recognizes an individual who has made unique contributions in laboratory medicine that have improved patient

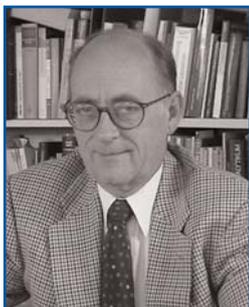
care and had had a world-wide impact in clinical medicine. Professor Lam has had a distinguished career as a clinician, scientist, and educator. Currently, he is Professor and Chairman and Chief of Service of the Department of Chemical Pathology, Director of the Clinical Immunology Unit, and Assistant Dean of Medicine (Research) at the Prince of Wales Hospital, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.

During the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic in Hong Kong in 2003 Professor Lam's department developed a reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) assay for early diagnosis of SARS corona virus infection. They also discovered that elevated serum LD1 activity and decreased blood lymphocyte subsets were the best biochemical prognostic indicators for death and ICU admission and characterized the hyperimmune cytokine and chemokine profiles which were useful markers of disease severity.

Professor Lam also has advanced the theory that many acute infections and chronic illnesses are in fact communication diseases caused by cytokine and chemokine aberrations resulting in deranged intercellular communication and intracellular signal transduction. This new concept in laboratory medicine has enhanced the understanding of the pathogenesis and pathophysiology of acute and chronic diseases.

**IFCC/NIST/CLSI ROBERT SCHAFFER  
AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING  
ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF STANDARDS FOR USE IN  
LABORATORY MEDICINE**

Sponsors: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI)



Professor Lothar Siekmann, PhD was selected to receive the first Robert Schaffer Award for Outstanding Achievements in the Development of Standards for Use in Laboratory Medicine. This award honours an individual who has made unique contributions to the advancement of reference methods and/or reference materials for laboratory medicine.

Dr Siekmann is Professor of Clinical Chemistry of the Medical Faculty of the University of Bonn, Germany and Director of the Reference Laboratory I of the German Society of Clinical Chemistry (DGKL).

Professor Siekmann has dedicated his career to the development and application of reference methodology for use in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. Accomplishments of note include (1) development of reference methods and materials based on isotope dilution mass spectrometry (IDMS); (2) development of IDMS reference measurement procedures for hormones in human serum ; (3) development of IDMS reference measurement procedures for metabolites and substrates in human serum and urine; (4) development of IFCC reference measurement procedures for the measurement of the catalytic concentrations of enzymes at 37°C; (5) use of reference methods in proficiency testing ; (6) certification of reference materials; and (7) implementation of the concept of traceability.

## IFCC FULL MEMBER SOCIETIES



### AUSTRALASIA

#### AUSTRALASIAN ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS (AACB)

**IFCC National Representative:** Ms. Jill Tate, e-mail: [jill\\_tate@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:jill_tate@health.qld.gov.au)

**President:** Dr. Leslie Burnett, e-mail: [Leslie.Burnett@med.usyd.edu.au](mailto:Leslie.Burnett@med.usyd.edu.au)

### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
RCPA AACB Chemical Pathology Course	11-15 February 2008	Clinical and technical laboratory medicine
RCPA Pathology Update	14-16 March 2008	Sponsored keynote speaker, Dr Chris Smith
AACB Scientific Education Seminar	2 May 2008	Diabetes
AACB Scientific Education Seminar	16 May 2008	PoCT
AACB IVD Industry Education Course	24-26 June 2008	Clinical & technical lab medicine aimed at Corporate members
AACB Annual Scientific Conference	15-18 September 2008	Theme, "Lab Medicine: Promoting Population Health" included VLP Prof Mauro Panteghini
AACB Proteins Workshop	19 September 2008	Protein separation techniques
AACB Scientific Education Seminar (NZ)	25 November 2008	Vitamin D

### Education

- State-based weekly CPD tutorials preparing for MAACB & FAACB examinations
- State-based monthly scientific meetings
- Roman Lectures – Prof Eric Kilpatrick (UK) throughout Australia & NZ, July 2008
- Current Concepts Lectures (Lean Six Sigma) during 2008
- Regional Travelling Seminars (EQA & QC) during 2008
- Contribution to Endocrine Society of Australia annual meeting, August 2008
- Joint scientific meeting with Australian Institute of Medical Scientists, July & August 2008

### Regional relations

- Assisted with provision of equipment for Goroka Hospital, New Guinea
- Continued with assistance to Vietnam in setting up external quality assurance system, now with the support of IFCC
- Active member of APFCB

### International relations

- IFCC – contribution to committees and working groups from many AACB members
- Executive meetings with Association for Clinical Biochemistry, FOCUS May 2008 and AACC Washington Meeting July 2008
- Presentation by Prof Leslie Burnett, (AACB President) at AACC Washington meeting July 2008
- Executive meetings with AACC at Washington meeting, July 2008 and joint scientific meeting Hawaii, November 2008
- Joint meeting with AACC – "Laboratory Medicine, Into The Future", Hawaii, November 2008
- Partnering with "Pathologists Overseas" on quality assurance project
- Dr Graham White attended ISO TC212 WG2 meeting in Berlin, December 2008



**BELGIUM**

## **SOCIÉTÉ BELGE DE CHIMIE CLINIQUE (BVKC/SBCC)**

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Jean-Paul Chapelle, e-mail: [jp.chapelle@chu.ulg.ac.be](mailto:jp.chapelle@chu.ulg.ac.be)

**President:** Prof. P. Wallemacq, e-mail: [wallemacq@bcm.ucl.ac.be](mailto:wallemacq@bcm.ucl.ac.be)

### **National meetings**

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
International symposium & 50th anniversary of the BSCC	May 15-17 2008	2008 New trends in clinical biology Emerging Technologies and their Impact on Laboratory Medicine and Management
Joint meeting BSCB & SBCC	October 04 2008	Pre- and post-analytical aspects in laboratory medicine

### **Education**

- The SBCC has installed a "young investigators grant" to reward the scientific efforts of young Belgian clinical chemists and scientists active in the field of clinical chemistry. This price will be granted for the first time in 2009 based on publications of 2007-2008. The detailed criteria and conditions for assessment will be published on our website (<http://www.bvkc.be>).
- The SBCC strives to obtain attribution of credit points for all meetings and conferences it participates in so credit points can be proposed to all conference attendees. In 2008, we were able to offer all participants credit points for maintaining or obtaining their accreditation.
- Through the website, the SBCC strives to offer important scientific information to its members including major educational links (slides of conferences, links to other website, etc...) and an agenda with important events concerning clinical chemistry.

### **Regional relations**

In 2008, the SBCC has started to increase its collaboration with the Belgian Society of Clinical Biology. It is the intention of both societies to join efforts in practical organisation issues (mailings, symposia).

### **International relations**

Concerning international relations, SBCC can report the following activities:

- Participation to IFCC/EFCC meetings with some delegates from our Society.
- Collaboration with the French Society of Clinical Biology (SFBC) in the congress Brussels 2008.

### **Additional information**

#### **Royal Title**

During the May symposium in Brussels, the society received confirmation of its Royal Title: from May 15<sup>th</sup> 2008 onwards, the SBCC is granted the title of "Royal Society" by the Belgian King.

This was officially authenticated on November 20 2008 by presentation of the Royal charter. A copy can be viewed on our website.

#### **Symposium 2009**

The next national symposium will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Details will be available soon on our website.



## BULGARIA

### BULGARIAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL LABORATORY

**IFCC National Representative/BSCL President:** Prof. Kamen Tzatchev,  
e-mail: tzatchev@medfac.acad.bg

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
National Conference of Clinical Laboratory	5-7 June 2008 in Varna	Modern trends in Clinical Laboratory

#### Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
BCLF Meeting	16-18 October 2008 in Athens	Lecture, Posters, Participation in round table discussions

#### Regional relations

Active member of Balkan Federation of Clinical Laboratory/BCLF/

#### International relations

Bilateral collaboration with German laboratories



## CANADA

### CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTS

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Patrick St. Louis, e-mail: office@csccl.ca  
**President:** Dr. Eduard Young, e-mail: office@csccl.ca

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
2008 CSCC Annual Meeting	June 8-11, 2008	"Science on the Rock"
CSCC/AACC Joint Annual Meeting	July 19-23, 2009	Annual Meeting and Clinical Lab Expo
Specialty Conference on Reporting HbA1c Levels	Tbd	Reporting HbA1C Levels

#### National meetings

CSCC Education Roundtables held on the first and last Thursday of the month from October 2, 2008 to May 21, 2009 (17 roundtables) – one hour in length. Participants receive slides in advance and join the roundtable using a toll-free phone number. Participants are welcome to hold the meeting with a group from their laboratory. It is estimated that about 200 people are participating at each roundtable.

2008 CSCC Travelling Lectureship – the lecturer, Dr. Martin Fleisher, NY USA was scheduled to speak in 5 cities across Canada during the period September 23-November 13, 2008. His topic was Tumor Markers. The lectureship is sponsored by Bio-Rad Laboratories.

A webinar on Critical Care Medicine is scheduled for the Spring of 2009 – speaker and topic to be announced. This annual webinar is sponsored by Instrumentation Laboratory.

CSCC is in the process of endorsing 3 position statements of other Canadian associations which have listed CSCC members as an author:

- Vitamin D in adult health and disease: a review and position statement from Osteoporosis Canada
- Canadian Cardiovascular Society Position Statement: Recommendations for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Dyslipidemia and Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease
- Bone turnover markers in the management of postmenopausal osteoporosis: a Canadian perspective (Canadian Osteoporosis Society)

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
See below		

## Regional relations

CSCC has 7 autonomous Provincial Sections which report annually to the national society. They hold their own conference and administer their own business affairs.

## Regional relations

CSCC has several members serving on IFCC Committees. CSCC continues to nominate candidates for positions as they become available. CSCC is supporting the IFCC fees of the Cuban Society.

2008 CSCC International Exchange Grants sponsored by Roche were granted to:

- Dr. Khosrow Adeli – presented a lecture to the Turkish Society of Clinical Chemists and another to the Iranian Biochemical Society
- Dr. Manuela Neuman – presented "Markers for Steatosis and Fibrosis in Hepatitis C Virus Infection to the Romanian Association for the Medical Laboratories and another presentation at the Targu Mures Faculty of Medicine at the Intensive Course on Hepatitis C, in Romania.
- Dr Jayashree Bhattacharjee from India received financial support to visit a Canadian Laboratory in the Spring of 2008 and attend the CSCC annual conference.



## CROATIA

### CROATIAN SOCIETY OF MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTS (CSMB)

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Dunja Rogic, e-mail: [dunjarogic@hotmail.com](mailto:dunjarogic@hotmail.com)

**President:** Prof. Elizabeta Topic, e-mail: [elizabeta.topic@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeta.topic@gmail.com)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
19th Symposium of Croatian Society of medical biochemists	May 26, 2008	Atherosclerosis – cause or consequence?

## Education

The members of CSMB have been organizers and lecturers of Continuous education Courses in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine. In 2008, the following courses were organized: Organization and Management in Medical Laboratories; Hematology; and Biostatistics

## Education

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
18 <sup>th</sup> Symposium in alcoholism and molecular diagnosis	November 15, 2008	Slovenian Association of Clinical Chemistry and CSMB
SwissMedLab 2008	September 16-19, 2008	SULM; ÖGLMKC; DGKL; SFBC; SIBioC; and CSMB
8 <sup>th</sup> EFCC Course of continuous, postgraduate education in clinical chemistry	October 25-26, 2008	EFCC;SZKK; CSMB

## Regional relations

Cooperation with other national societies, mostly from neighboring countries.

## International relations

CSMB has invited Prof Chris Lam from Hong Kong as lecturer at the 8<sup>th</sup> EFCC (former FESCC) Course for continuous, postgraduate education in clinical chemistry entitled New trends in classification, diagnosis and management of kidney disease, held in Oct 25-26, 2008 at Interuniversity centre Dubrovnik. He held a lecture Inflammation, cytokines and chemokines in kidney diseases. On his visit to Croatia, Prof. Lam had two additional lectures in Zagreb; for members of CSMB and at University hospital for infectious diseases. Prof. Lam's lectures were received with great interest and followed by vivid discussion. On his educational visit to Europe, Prof Lam has also visited Hungary and Check Republic. This educational visit of Prof Lam was supported by IFCC VLP program.

CSMB also invited Prof. Tomas Zima from Check Republic to give a lecture on Accreditation in Medical Laboratories. The members of CSMB also showed great interest in this lecture. We were happy that Professors Lam and Zima were willing to share with us their enormous knowledge and experience in the field of laboratory immunology and infectious diseases, and accreditation, respectively.

## International relations

One of the major taskS of CSMB is the National EQA Assessment as a part of professional and legal framework for quality improvement and accreditation of medical biochemistry laboratories in Croatia. In 2008, the CSMB Committee for External Quality Assessment of Medical Biochemistry Laboratories in Croatia also performed the EQA in the fields of Clinical Biochemistry, Laboratory Hematology and Coagulation, Urine sediment Urinalysis-test strips, pH, gas analysis and electrolytes, Tumor markers, Hormones and Hemoglobin A1c.

The next important Society's activity is publishing the scientific bilingual journal Biochemia Medica (Croatian and English). In 2008, the journal frequency has been increased from 2 to 3 issues per year. Also, the journal has been accepted for indexing in SCI Ex and Journal Citation Report/Science Edition by Thomson Reuters database since 2007;17(1). The Society continuously updates its web site that makes all relevant news available to the readers in Croatian and English.

The Society members have regular monthly meetings to discuss the current and emerging professional issues, also inviting the lecturers of other related profession. In 2008, the Society started the organizational activities for the 6th Croatian Congress of Medical Biochemists with international participation, to be held in Supetar, Island of Brac Sep 30 – Oct 4, 2009.



**CZECK REPUBLIC**

**CZECK SOCIETY OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY**

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Dr. Jaroslav Racek, e-mail: racek@fnplzen.cz

**President:** Prof. Dr. Tomas Zima, e-mail: zimatom@cesnet.cz

### National meetings

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Czech National Meeting of Laboratory Technicians in Clinical Biochemistry	1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2008, Brno	Education of laboratory technicians, Quality assessment, Alcohol and drugs of abuse, Proteins
Symposium of Clinical Biochemistry FONS	15 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2008, Pardubice	TDM, Pharmacogenetics, Vitamins and trace elements, hepatology, Quality assessment
Ceremonial Meeting	10 <sup>th</sup> October 2008, Prague	Meeting at the occasion of 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of foundation of Czech Society of Clinical Biochemistry
Atherosclerosis 2008	10 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2008, Prague	Atherosclerosis – diagnostics, treatment and prevention
Vitamins 2008	9 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2008, Zlín	Nutrition and diagnostics
VII <sup>th</sup> Conference of Monoclonal Gammopathy	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2008, Hradec Králové	MGUS – monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance

### Education

Co-operation on study programs on Faculties of medicine, cooperation with Institute of Postgraduate Studies (IPVZ).

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Routine analysis of nucleic acids	23 <sup>rd</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2008, Pardubice	Detection of nucleic acids
Central-Moravian Regional Days	24 <sup>th</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup> January 2008, Chrastice	New trends in laboratory medicine
Management of sample processing in clinical laboratory	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2008, Olomouc	
Laboratory examination in endocrinology II	12 <sup>th</sup> March 2008, Olomouc	Diseases of thyroid gland
Working day of section of laboratory technicians CECHTUMA 2008	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2008, Hradec Králové 30 <sup>th</sup> March - 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2008, Plzeň	Problems of nutrition Tumour markers – new trends
Regional meeting – West Bohemia	10 <sup>th</sup> April 2008	Plzeň
Nejedlý's Kladno	16 <sup>th</sup> April 2008, Kladno	Systemic inflammatory response
Joint working day of Czech Endocrinological Society and Czech Society of Clinical Biochemistry	16 <sup>th</sup> April 2008, Prague	Laboratory examinations in endocrinology
29 <sup>th</sup> Immunoanalytical Days	11 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2008, Špindlerův Mlýn	Immunoanalysis in various branches of clinical medicine
Working day	14 <sup>th</sup> May 2008, Olomouc	Laboratory examinations in nephrology
Working day of section of laboratory technicians	22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2008, Jindřichův Hradec	Clinical biochemistry of extravascular fluids
Regional meeting – North Moravia	9 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2008, Šumperk	
XXVI <sup>th</sup> Regional meeting – South and East Bohemia	18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2008, Tábor	
Laboratory examination in endocrinology III	10 <sup>th</sup> September 2008, Olomouc	Reproductive system
Working day of section of laboratory technicians	20 <sup>th</sup> October 2008, Prague	Monoclonal gammopathy and free light chains
Working day of section of laboratory technicians	6 <sup>th</sup> November 2008, Prague	Differential diagnostics of anemia
III <sup>rd</sup> Conference on Reference Materials	4 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2008, Medlov	
Working day	12 <sup>th</sup> November 2008, Olomouc	Metrology in clinical laboratory
Regional meeting	9 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2008, Karlova Studánka	Varia

## International relations

- Active participation on 20<sup>th</sup> IFCC-Wordlab, Fortaleza (Brazil), 28<sup>th</sup> September - 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2008
- Our representatives participated on committee meetings in Antalya (12<sup>th</sup> April 2008) and Paris (6<sup>th</sup> November 2008): L. Sprongl – EC4 Accreditation and ISO Working Groups, J. Racek – EC4 Register Commission
- National representative J. Racek, president of Czech Society of Clinical Biochemistry T. Zima and L. Sprongl participated at the IFCC General Conference in Antalya, Turkey (12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> April 2008)
- P. Kocna was chosen as a chair of IFCC Committee on Education and Curriculum Development; the meeting of the C-ECD was in Antalya (Turkey) on the occasion of IFCC General Conference (April 2008)
- National representative J. Racek participated on the 20<sup>th</sup> Triennial Meeting of IFCC Council and Election of Officers and Members of EB in Fortaleza (Brazil), 28<sup>th</sup> September 2008
- Invited Lecture: prof. Chris Lam (Hong Kong): Cytokines in inflammatory response. 4<sup>th</sup>

## Regional meetings

- Approval of national guidelines – Cardiac markers (in co-operation with Czech Society of Cardiology), Estimation of glomerular filtration rate (in co-operation with Czech Nephrological Society)
- Introduction of 96 methods in the frame of Czech version of the project Labtest On Line.
- New web pages of Society ([www.cskb.cz](http://www.cskb.cz)) – English version



### DENMARK

### DANISH SOCIETY OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Joergen Jespersen, e-mail: [jjes@ribeamt.dk](mailto:jjes@ribeamt.dk)

**President:** Prof. Dr. Nete Hornung, e-mail: [netehorn@rm.dk](mailto:netehorn@rm.dk)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
No 396	6/3	- HbA1c, the coming IFCC standardization - Vitamin D, clinic and analytical methods - Lecture competition for young scientists presenting their projects
No 397	25/4	Annual general meeting
No 398	22/11	- Pregnancy / Pre-eclampsia - Guidelines for diagnosing and monitoring kidney disease, presentation and discussion of the draft version from a Danish WG.

## Education

### Arrangements by Danish Society of Clinical Biochemistry, Education Committee:

Diagnosing Cardiovascular,- Gastro-Intestinal,- and Kidney disease, 6 – 8/5

Reproductive medicine, 26 – 27/8

Future and visions within clinical biochemistry, 28. – 31/8

Pharmacology and toxicology, 4 – 6/11

## Education

### 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.



## ECUADOR

### ECUADORIAN BIOCHEMISTRY CLINICAL SOCIETY

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Consuelo Valencia, e-mail: conchitaval@yahoo.es

**President:** Dra. Cecilia Paula, e-mail: ceciliarpaula@hotmail.com

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
National Assembly Riobamba	2008 / May / 24	New Directive Election (2008-2010)
National Assembly Machala	2008 / Jul / 05	Professional Protection
National Assembly Cuenca	2008 / Sept / 13	Economic Situation

#### Education

- Biochemistry Clinical Event, Machala City, 18 - 20 Sept./2008.
- Biochemistry Clinical Event, Guayaquil City, 20 - 25 Oct./2008.
- IV Scientific Event, Cuenca City, Oct./2008, Three weekends.
- Scientific Event, Ambato City, 22 Nov./2008.
- Continued Education, Riobamba City, 16 Jul./2008.

#### Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
OPS / Public Health Ministry (MSP)	2008 / Jul / 16	Rules and Regulations of Clinical Laboratories
OPS / MSP / CONESUP	2008 / Aug / 26	Clinical Laboratory License
Pathologic Society / OPS / MSP	2008 / Oct / 17	Clinical Laboratory License
Ecuadorian Biochemistry Clinical Pichincha	2008 / Dec / 13	International Congress April 2010 Organization (Quito City)
MSP	2008 / Dec / 14	Rules and Regulations of Clinical Laboratories

#### Regional relations

- Health Pan American Organization (OPS)
- Public Health Ministry (MSP)
- Pathologic Clinical Society
- National Biochemical Pharmaceutical Federation (FEQUIFE)
- National Superior Education Council (CONESUP)

#### International relations

- IFCC Member
- Latin American Biochemical Chemistry Confederation (COLABIOCLI)
- Argentine Biochemical Chemistry Federation
- Brazilian Society of Clinical Analyses (SBAC)
- Bi National Pharmaceutical Alliance Peru – Ecuador (AFABIPE)
- Colombian Health National Institute (INS)

## Additional information

On April 2010, in Quito we will develop the 10<sup>th</sup> Biochemistry Clinical Ecuadorian Congress, and 6<sup>th</sup> Biochemistry Clinical International Congress.

We are on organization process and we will need the IFCC collaboration with human resources as conferencists on Molecular Biology and Immunology.

We are forcing licence processing of clinical laboratories in our country before accreditation process.



## ESTONIA

### ESTONIAN SOCIETY FOR LABORATORY MEDICINE

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Agu Tamm, e-mail: agu.tamm@kliinikum.ee

**President:** Dr. Kaido Beljaev, e-mail: kaido.beljaev@laborid.ee

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
General meeting	April 25, 2008	Laboratory testing for STD
Summerschool	August 28-30, 2008	Sepsis; Connective tissue diseases; Tumour markers; Quality indicators
General meeting	December 12, 2008	Laboratory testing for HIV; borreliosis
Seminars	March 14, November 03, December 11, 2008	Standardisation of laboratory terminology
Seminar	December 18, 2008	LOINC standard, RELMA program

## Education

\* High risk patients: laboratory aspects of bleeding and thrombosis. March 10, 2008

\* Screening diseases by laboratory tests. November 18, 2008

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
The 9 <sup>th</sup> BALM Congress, Jurmala, Latvia	August 18 – 20, 2008	Organizer

## Regional relations

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

## 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)**

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Kari Pulkki, e-mail: kari.pulkki@islab.fi

**President:** Dr. Harri Laitinen, e-mail: harri.laitinen@veripalvelu.fi

**National meetings**

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Fall meeting	13.-14.11.2008	Prenatal screening, Blood transfusions, The future of clinical chemistry, Physical activity and laboratory

**Education**

Meeting was organized in cooperation with the Finnish association of clinical biochemists.

Prenatal screening, Blood transfusions. The future total number of participants was 75, of

**Regional meetings**

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Society's contribution for the meeting</b>
The 31 <sup>st</sup> Nordic Congress in Clinical Chemistry	14.-18. June 2008	FSCC was the organizer of the meeting

**Regional relations**

FSCC is a member society of the Nordic Society for Clinical Chemistry (NFKK = Nordisk förening för Klinisk kemi). At the moment the Finnish representative Jarkko Ihalainen is the chairman of NFKK. Another Finnish member in the board of NFKK during year 2008 has been Tuula Metso.

Klinisk Biokemi i Norden is a journal published by NFKK. The journal had 3 numbers year 2008 and it was freely distributed to all members of the NFKK member societies.

The 31<sup>st</sup> Nordic Congress in Clinical Chemistry was held in June 2008 in Helsinki, Finland. The main topics of the congress were EFCC session, New omics, Regulation of coagulation and primary haemostasis, Blood banking, Platforms for decentralized diagnostics, Clinical biochemistry of bone and cartilage, Paraproteins, Stem cells, Coronary disease risk markers and their clinical use, Future bioaffinity technologies, Analysis of kidney function, Markers of alcohol abuse, Obesity, metabolic syndrome and diabetes, Cancer screening, Biobanks, New trends in allergy and autoimmunity, Prenatal screening, Citrullination and rheumatoid arthritis, Preanalytical quality and various aspects in clinical chemistry, Neonatal screening, IFCC standardisation efforts, Anemias and assessment of iron status, Laboratory management, Liquid-chromatography – tandem mass spectrometry. The total number of participants was 900, of which 125 were lecturers.

**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 the national representative in the board of EFCC, the new European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine.



**FRANCE**

## **SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE DE BIOLOGIE CLINIQUE (SFBC)**

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Philippe Gillery, e-mail: [pgillery@chu-reims.fr](mailto:pgillery@chu-reims.fr)

**President:** Prof. Alain Legrand, e-mail: [alain.legrand@bct.aphp.fr](mailto:alain.legrand@bct.aphp.fr)

### **National meetings**

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
SFBC Scientific Meeting - Journées Internationales de Biologie – Paris	November 4 - 7, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Late post-translational modifications of proteins and pathology</li> <li>- News in clinical biology</li> <li>- Biological references in children and adolescents</li> <li>- Up-to-date in Parasitology- Mycology</li> </ul>

### **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,
  - ✓ Topics of EPP actions in 2008 : hs CRP, gonadic peptides (follow-up of 2007 campaign)
  - ✓ Candidature of SFBC for obtaining National Agreement as "EPP" validating society.

### **Regional meetings**

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Society's contribution for the meeting</b>
International Symposium Brussels "Emerging technologies and their impact on Laboratory Medicine and Management"	May 16 -17, 2008	Participation to International Advisory Board – Invited speakers
International SwissMedLab 2008	September 15 - 19, 2008	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 meetings

- 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 Legrand, SFBC President)



### GERMANY

#### GERMAN UNIFIED SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

#### DEUTSCHE VEREINTE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR KLINISCHE CHEMIE UND LABORATORIUMMEDIZIN (DKGL)

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Jens Klabunde, e-mail: [national\\_representative@dgkl.de](mailto:national_representative@dgkl.de)

**President:** Prof. Karl Lackner, e-mail: [national\\_representative@dgkl.de](mailto:national_representative@dgkl.de)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Jahrestagung (Annual Meeting)	Sep 21 – 24, 2008	Labordiagnostik: Vom Labor ans Krankenbett (Laboratory Diagnostics: From the lab to the bedside)
Hj.-Staudinger Symposium	June 15 – 17, 2008	Research in Pathobiochemistry and Clinical Chemistry
Symposium "Proteome Analysis in Clinical Diagnostics" (Working group "Proteomics in Clinical Chemistry")	April 4 - 5, 2008	Preanalytics, Mass Spectrometry, Array Technology, Biobanking
User Meeting LC-MS/MS (Working Group "LC-MS")	Sep 24, 2008	LC-MS in Clinical Chemistry Research and Routine Use

## Education

Repetitorium "Klinische Chemie" (Course "Clinical Chemistry"), Nov. 24 – 29, 2008  
 Course "Microscopic Differential Blood Count", Nov. 29, 2008  
 Working Group "Multimedia Education"  
 "LabTests online DE"

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Jahrestagung (Annual Meeting), held jointly with the Austrian Society of Laboratory Medicine and Clinical Chemistry	Sep 21 – 24, 2008	Main Organizer

## Regional relations

Member, European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

“LaboratoriumsMedizin” (J. Lab. Med.), official journal of the German and the Austrian Societies of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

## International relations

Participation, with Symposium on Pediatric Reference Intervals, at the XIth International Congress of Pediatric Laboratory Medicine (ICPLM2008), Fortaleza, Brazil, Sept. 26 – 28, 2008

## Additional information

IFCC/NIST/CLSI Robert Schaffer Award for outstanding achievements in the development of standards for use in Laboratory Medicine presented to DGKL member Professor Lothar Siekmann, PhD



## GUATEMALA

### GUATEMALAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMIST

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Ana Leticia Caceres de Maselli,  
e-mail: analeticiamaselli@hotmail.com; analeticiamaselli@yahoo.com

**President:** Dr. Alba Marina Valdez de Garcia, e-mail: albavalgarcia@yahoo.com

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
National Meeting with IFCC cooperation	March	Strategics as a critical need for the clinical laboratory.
National Meeting	May	Forensic Medicine in Clinical Laboratory.

## Education

1.Continual Education Program : Three Breakfast Conference every mounth for 2.Course on Quality Management System (12 modules) for professionals in Clinical laboratory.( July-December)

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Seminar External Quality Assessment Seminar	September, 2008 San Salvador, October 2008	9 organizers of Guatemalan External Quality Assessment as visiting professor Program participated in The Seminar.
Audit Quality Management System Seminar	Bogota, October	Cooperation with PAHO and COLABIOCLI to organizing the meeting to South American Countries

## Regional relations

Donation of clinical laboratory standards to Honduras and Nicaragua Clinical Society.

## International relations

### With IFCC

IFCC, Honorary member of Guatemalan Society of Clinical Chemist, Dr. Jocelyn Hicks during her visit to our country.

Guatemalan Society of Clinical Chemist participated in the IFCC activities (Antalya Turkey, Birmingham an Fortaleza Meeting).

### With COLABIOCLI

COLABIOCLI. (Executive Board in Guatemala) and participated with the COLABIOCLI members activities (national meetings).

### With PAHO WHO

PAHO –WHO: Guatemala Society of Clinical Chemist Executive Board and COLABIOCLI Executive Board elaborated a strategic plan for the Latin-Americans countries to effort a licensing, External Quality Assessment an Quality management system in Latin-American countries

## Additional information

Members of the Guatemalan Society of clinical Chemist were visiting professor in Mexico, San Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Colombia , Antalya Turkey, and Fortaleza Brazil in their meetings.



## HONG KONG

### HONG KONG SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Christopher W K Lam, e-mail: [waikeilam@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:waikeilam@cuhk.edu.hk)

**President:** Dr. Michael Chan, e-mail: [hmchan@ha.org.hk](mailto:hmchan@ha.org.hk)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Annual Scientific Meeting	19/01/2008	Advances in Laboratory Techniques for Cancer Diagnostics
Dinner Lecture	28/03/2008	Markers of Metabolic Bone Diseases
Abbott Thyroid Symposium	24/04/2008	Thyroid topics
Dinner Lecture	23/10/2008	Utility of CRP in Cardiovascular Disease

## Education

Four national meetings were well attended with attendance of 106 to 225 members and guests. Three regional meetings were held in Hong Kong and Macau respectively with average attendance of over 120 members and guests.

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
APFCB Travelling Lecture	07/03/2008	Organization and coordination.
Macau Symposium on Laboratory Medicine	08/03/2008	Organization and coordination.
IFCC Visiting Lecture Program – Workshop and Dinner Lecture	03/09/2008	Organization and coordination.

## Regional meetings

APFCB member

## International relations

Professor Christopher WK Lam:

1. IFCC Representative
2. IFCC-Ortho Diagnostics Distinguished Award for Laboratory Medicine and Patient Care 2008
3. IFCC Visiting Lecturer to European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFCC) (23/10/2008 – 05/11/2008)
4. Visiting Lecturer in the 8<sup>th</sup> EFCC Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry (24 – 25/10/2008)
5. Elected as IFCC Vice President (2009 – 2011)

## Additional information

In collaboration with AACB to organize the Asian Pacific Conference on Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry to be held in Hong Kong (14 – 16 January 2010).



### HUNGARY

### HUNGARIAN SOCIETY OF LABORATORY MEDICINE (HSLM)

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Erika Seres, e-mail: [seres@clab.szote.u-szeged.hu](mailto:seres@clab.szote.u-szeged.hu)

**President:** Prof. Janos Kappelmayer, e-mail: [kappelmayer@jaguar.dote.hu](mailto:kappelmayer@jaguar.dote.hu)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
54th meeting of the Hungarian Society of Laboratory Medicine	September 3-6, 2008, Debrecen	All aspect of laboratory medicine
Professional forum for aspect of laboratory medicine	Number of participants: 670 April 2008 Number of participants: 80	Laboratory structure Laboratory financing Graduate and postgraduate training

## Education

Laboratory medicine is taught in each medical school at the general medicine faculty usually in the pre-clinical year. Postgraduate degree is attainable for medical doctors and pharmacists (specialist in laboratory medicine) as well as for chemists and biologist (clinical biochemist). Now eight people are registered as Eur Clin Chem.

Technicians and technologists are available at several different levels one being the laboratory analyst with a Bsc degree. This is an 8 semester education program.

The laboratory technician e-training is now under revision and will be a five semester training with an additional sixth semester to become technologist

As of today there is no separate phlebotomy training but we are planning to launch this type of training with in 2 years.

In 2008 at least 5 postgraduate training courses were organized for laboratory specialists.

## Regional relations

Hungary is a small country (the size of Indiana), thus regional relations have a different meaning than in much larger countries. Nevertheless laboratory services are supervised by 8 regional officers according to the Regions of the country.

## International relations

Hungary has a traditionally good relations with laboratory specialists in neighbouring countries particularly with Austria, Croatia and Romania.

Starting from 2009 Dr. Andrea Horváth the former president of our society is elected as president of EFCC.

In 2008 we had professor Chris Lam from Hong Kong, for our national meeting as well as for an additional plenary talk.

Additional foreign participants who delivered scientific talks at our national meeting include the following people:

George Janossy (London)

Gustav Kovac (Bratislava)

Sverre Sandberg (Bergen)

Thomas Szekeres (Vienna)

I was personally involved in the organisation of an international meeting in Bremen in September under the auspices of the European Society of Clinical Cell Analysis.

## Additional information

In 2007 Hungary launched the Labtest online program ([www.labtestonline.hu](http://www.labtestonline.hu)) that became very successful in 2008 and according to data from our national coordinator, Tamas Herczeg was the most frequently visited labtestonline program out of the EU countries during the fall of period 2008.

The Hungarian Society of Laboratory Medicine has about 500 members. The society members are scientifically quite active. Around 15-20% of the members possess a PhD degree and we have several active laboratorians who are members of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.



## ICELAND

### ICELANDIC SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Jon Johannes Jonsson, e-mail: [jonjj@hi.is](mailto:jonjj@hi.is)

**President:** Dr. Elin Olafsdottir, e-mail: [elinol@mmedia.is](mailto:elinol@mmedia.is)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
General Meeting	October 27th 2008	Unifying laboratory results New born screening Inflammatory markers in cardiovascular disease

## Education

No educational activities in 2008 other than attending conferences and national meetings

## International relations

Participation in the board of the NFKK (Nordic Federation of Clinical Biochemistry Societies).  
Participation in IFCC.

## International relations

Collaboration in editing of the journal "Klinisk Biokemi I Norden".



**INDIA**

**ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS OF INDIA (ACBI)**

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. T. Malati, e-mail: malatitgupta@gmail.com

**President:** Prof. Krishnajyoti Goswami, e-mail: acbicon2008@gmail.com;  
Gkrishnajyoti@gmail.com

**National meetings**

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of ACBI, Kolkata	Dec 18-21, 2008	Advances in Clinical Chemistry

**Education**

Professional courses at different locations through out the year  
Also Education by Distant Mode through Website

**Regional meetings**

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Society's contribution for the meeting</b>
ACBI UP Chapter	March 29, 2008	Resource persons were from ACBI
CME Bihar Branch of ACBI	May 18, 2008	Resource persons were from ACBI
CME West Bengal Chapter	May 30, 2008	Resource persons were from ACBI
1 <sup>st</sup> UP Chapter of ACBI	Nov 15-16, 2008	Resource persons were from ACBI

**Regional relations**

Participation of members from India in APFCB Congress at Beijing  
Give detail of APFCB and IFCC travelling lecture in India in 2007  
APFCB travelling Lecturer will be giving a series of lectures in India

**International relations**

Indian National Representative Dr. Praveen Sharma actively participated in IFCC General Conference held in April, 2008 at Antalya, Turkey

**International relations**

The activities of the ACBI began with 34th Annual Conference of the Association of Clinical Biochemists of India held at Delhi organized between December 15 to 20, 2007 at Indian Habitat Centre by Dr Arun Raizada of Escorts Heart Institute & Research Centre and his team comprising several senior members of ACBI. The theme of the conference, 'Clinical Biochemistry: Today and Tomorrow' was a challenging one providing an opportunity of bringing out what was available and relevant today and what the future would holds for us. About 1000 delegates attended the conference.

A professional course in Clinical Biochemistry was conducted on this occasion on December 15 & 16, 2007 by the course coordinator, Dr. Jayashree Bhattacharya which was intended to be a refresher course to all those who are in the field of Laboratory Medicine. On December 17, 2007 Continuing Medical Education Programme was held covering upcoming areas of Stem Cell Therapy and Nanotechnology. There were also two Workshops on Proteomics / Microarrays sponsored by Randox and the other on New Cardiac Markers by ECL Technology, sponsored by Roche Diagnostics.

There was a remarkable mix of about 110 speakers from all over the world (USA, Canada, France, Germany, Australia, Malaysia, Japan & Thailand) who took part in the 20 Symposia that included areas of Cutting Edge Technologies like Signal Transduction, Personalized Medicine and Molecular Diagnostics (sponsored by AACC), Genomics and disease and Reproduction and Fertility. Some of the eminent global speakers were Dr. J.T. Be-lisle (USA), Dr. J.K. Cowell (USA), Dr. W.A. Philip (Australia), Dr. Pauline Y. Lau (USA), Dr. Marciano D. Reis (Canada), Dr. Madhu B. Anand Srivastava (Canada), Dr. Ashok Kr. Srivastava (Canada), Dr. Salil Kumar Das (USA), Dr. Jawahar Kalra (Canada), Dr. Udayan Ray (Australia), Dr. Bhushan M. Kapur (Canada) and Dr. Amitava Das Gupta (USA). In addition, we had three plenary lectures on Yoga and Health by Dr. W. Selvamurthy, Chronomics & Chronobiology: Its applications in health and disease by Dr. R.K. Singh and Transcriptional and translational regulation of expression of human cathepsin L, a lysosomal protease involved in tumor invasion and metastasis by Dr. S.S. Chauhan.

In the year 2008, the Awadhesh Saran Memorial Oration Award was presented to Dr. Satish K. Srivastava (Galveston, USA), K.L. Gupta Memorial Oration Award went to Dr. Manoj Sharma (New Delhi, India), Seth G.S. Medical College & KEM Hospital Oration Award went to Dr. P.K. Seth (Lucknow, India) Mrs. & Dr. G.P. Talwar Oration Award went to Dr. Chandra K. Mittal (Houston, USA) and Dr. T.N. Pattabiraman Oration Award went to Dr. Udayan Ray (Tasmania, Australia). Dr. Barnali Das (Mumbai, India) received the Pitabus-Jamuna Burma Memorial Award Paper Prize, the Dr. C. Sita Devi Award Paper Prize went to Dr. Prakruti Dash (Cuttack, India) and the P.S. Murthy Award Paper Prize in the field of Infectious Diseases went to Dr. Geetanjali Gupta (New Delhi, India).

Another highlight of Delhi meeting was that the AACC gave 4 Gallwas Membership Grants to Dr. Subir Kumar Das, Dr. J.K. Gambhir, Dr. Harsh Vardhan Singh and Dr. Barnali Das. One Rolling Trophy was given to the winners of the Postgraduate Quiz. A unique feature of ACBI-CON 2007 was the Young Scientist's Awards were given to 20 Young Investigators who were selected by a panel of judges from about 400 poster presenters to present their work in 2 special sessions. The abstracts of the papers and proceedings of the conference were published in a special supplement issue of IJCB.

There were 58 Stalls in the Industrial Exhibition. The First prize for the Best Stall went to Nicholas Piramal and the Second prize for the Best Stall went to Olympus.

The social programmes were also well appreciated by the delegates. There was a Cultural Programmes based on "The Village" theme at India Habitat Centre and based on "Bollywood" theme was at Tivoli Garden.

Late Shri. A.J.Thakur Award for Distinguished services' is installed by Shri Thakur family to honor a person who has made immense contributions to the growth of clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory medicine in India. This award for the year 2008 was presented to Dr.AS Kanagsabhpathy, the past president of ACBI & the pioneer to initiate Quality control programme in India.

Every year ACBI awards fellowships to distinguished members of the Association on the basis of their merit and achievements. In the last year, the fellowships were awarded to Prof.A.N.Suryakar of Dr VM Medical College, Solapur and Prof. B.N.Tiwari of Nalanda Medical College, Patna.

#### Regional Meetings:

There were quite a number of scientific meetings/ workshops organized by the State/ Regional Chapters. The major ones were:

- National workshop on prevention of Lead poisoning organized by the Department of Biochemistry, CSM Medical University, Lucknow on 29th March, 2008. Attended by more than 200 delegates.
- UP Sate Chapter of ACBI was launched this year with Dr RK Singh as the President was also launched on 29th March, 2008.
- CME Bihar Branch of ACBI: A CME on 'Diagnostic workup for Hepatitis B infection with special emphasis on newer markers' was organized by Bihar State Branch of ACBI on 18th May, 2008.

- Workshop & CME by West Bengal Chapter: Workshop on pre-analytical procedure was organized on May 30, 2008 by Dr Shyamali Pal on behalf of West Bengal State Chapter of ACBI. This was followed on next day by a CME on 'Quality management in Laboratory system' inaugurated by Prof CR Maity, Ex DME, Govt of West Bengal. Prof Praveen Sharma, Dr Adarshpal Singh, Prof. Subimal Choudhary were the experts who participated. The events were sponsored by BD, AshokLaboratory, Acurex Biomedicals Pvt Ltd., Hd Consortium Pvt Ltd.
- The Department of Biochemistry & JB Tropical Disease Research Centre, MGIMS, Sevagram has organized in February, 2008, the fourteenth short time hands on training course on Immunodiagnosics for Infectious Diseases.

#### **AWARDS:**

Dr. Subir Kumar Das of Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Ernakulum, Cochin received 2008 AACC-Van Slyke Award

#### **ACBI-CRC EQ programme**

The ACBI CMC external QA programme is being run smoothly by Dr. R.Selva Kumar at CMC, Vellore. The important development is replacing liquid samples with freeze-dried samples, thanks to Dr Selvakumar and the management of CMC, Vellore for this important development in improving the standard of this programme.

IJCB: Four IJCB issues have been released in time with much improved quality because of the involvement of Springer is keen to India Pvt Ltd in the publication and distribution of the journal. The Editor in Chief Dr Praveen Sharma is planning to get the journal indexed by In-dex Medicus.

#### **ACBI-Bulletin:**

Two issues of the bulletins have been released in time from Head Office.

The XXXV th Annual National Conference of Association of Clinical Biochemists of India (ACBICON 2008) was held from December 19-21, 2008, in ACBI (Vedic) Village, Kolkata, India. The Venue of the conference was "International Natural Resort", a 5 star eco-friendly state-of-art convention centre at the background of beautiful nature. This conference commemorated the Platinum Jubilee Celebration of the hosting institute Ramakrishna Mission Seva Pratishthan, Vivekananda Institute of Medical Sciences, Kolkata. On December 17, 2008, delegates participated in Professional Course in Clinical Biochemistry and pre-conference CME. On December 18, 2008 in seven workshops on Clinical Proteomics, Molecular Biology in Infectious Diseases, Platelet Aggregation Study, Sperm Function, Quality Management System, Immunoblot Techniques in different reputed institutes are attended by delegates. "Power of knowledge and way to improve patient care 2008: Three days of knowledge will change how you practice and perform!" was the conference slogan. A total number of 842 registered delegates representing 21 countries shared their experience through symposia lecturers and poster presentations in five different halls.

In this conference both American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC) & World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM) participated in big way; Also AACC release "Guideline for Therapeutic Drug Monitoring Services" in presence of President, AACC, Prof. Larry Broussard & President Elect, AACC, Prof. Catherine Hammett Stabler and President Elect, WASPaLM, Prof. Michael Oellerich & President, International Association of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring & Clinical Toxicology (IATDM&CT), Prof. David Holt.

The Industrial exhibition reached a scale unmatched by any previous academic conference. The participants included 25 companies who also organised symposia. Delegates were impressed by the state-of-the-art technology in exhibition.



## INDONESIA

### INDONESIAN ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Endang Wahjuningtyas Hoyaranda, e-mail: ehoya@prodia.co.id

**President:** Dr. Dewi Muliaty Liusvia, e-mail: dewiliusvia@prodia.co.id

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Triennial National Meeting	End October 2009	



## IRAN

### BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY OF ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. MJ Rasaee, e-mail: RASAE\_M@modares.ac.ir

**President:** Dr. Taghikhani Mohamad, e-mail: taghikhani@institute.pasteur.ac.ir

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
10 <sup>th</sup> Iranian Congress of Biochemistry (10 <sup>th</sup> ICB) and 3 <sup>rd</sup> International Congress of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (3 <sup>rd</sup> ICBMB) July 11-14, 2009	10-14 July 2009	Nanotechnology, clinical biochemistry, structure function and metabolism of biomolecules, herbal medicine, cellular and molecular biology, molecular basis of disease

#### Education

3th Dec 2008 bioethics in biochemical education and research  
 Biweekly meetings on different aspects of biochemical education in the country  
 Assisting people in publishing their books on different biochemical topics  
 Publishing and printing many educational for general people on different aspect of health and biochemical balance .  
*Site Directed Mutagenesis* workshop to be held during the conference (annual meeting )  
**"Student Centered Learning in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology"**. The main guest speaker:  
**Professor Susan Hamilton**; The chairperson of IUBMB Education Committee.

#### Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
2 <sup>nd</sup> Pakistan-China-Iran International Conference on Biotechnology, Bioengineering and Biophysical Chemistry (ICBBB-2009)		

#### Regional relations

The society of bioenergy, biochemistry and biophysics (BBB). A corporative society in between Iran Pakistan and China organizing meetings

#### International relations

Member of IFCC  
 Member of IUBMB  
 Member of FAOBMB



## ISRAEL

### ISRAEL SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES (ISCLS)

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Varda Deutsch, e-mail: [Varda@tasmc.health.gov.il](mailto:Varda@tasmc.health.gov.il)

**President:** Dr. Nurit Algur, e-mail: [nurit@szmc.org.il](mailto:nurit@szmc.org.il)

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Israel Society of Medical Laboratory Sciences , 42 <sup>nd</sup> annual conference	4-5/03.2008	Clinical chemistry – bone metabolism Hematology – Multiple myeloma Microbiology – bacterial resistance Autoimmunity Pregnancy risks
Pharma novelties	09/09/08	Copaxone for MS, new drugs for inflammatory bowel, current evolution of the drug industry
Travel Medicine 2008	04/11/08	Travel medicine and tropical diseases Diseases transmitted by the digestive tract Water borne infectious diseases and agents Diseases transmitted by mosquitos

#### Education

Science and Coffee educational sessions

06/01/08 The involvement of managers in decision making in the medical laboratory

01/06/08 The role of flow cytometry in diagnosis of MDS

30/06/08 LDL: how should it be measured and reported

#### Education

Prof Oren Zinder represented our society and voted at the annual IFCC meeting in Fortaleza  
Prof M Mayer attended the IFCC General Conference, Antalya April 13-15 2008.

#### Additional information

See our web site <http://ilmar.org.il/>



## ITALY

### ITALIAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND CLINICAL MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

### SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI BIOCHIMICA CLINICAL E BIOLOGIA MOLECOLARE CLINICA (SIBIOC)

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Ferruccio Ceriotti, e-mail: [ceriotti.ferruccio@hsr.it](mailto:ceriotti.ferruccio@hsr.it)

**President:** Prof. Mario Plebani, e-mail: [segreteria@sibioc.it](mailto:segreteria@sibioc.it)

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
40 <sup>th</sup> National Meeting	Rimini, 28-31 October 2008	See the following report

## Education

In 2008 the National meeting was held in conjunction with SIMeL (Italian Society of Laboratory Medicine). The Congress was organized in three Plenary sessions (Update on Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine, Cardiac Markers and Standardization) and 7 parallel sessions (Laboratory and Emergency department, Hemoglobinopathies, Cytofluorimetry, Old test for new applications, Molecular diagnostics, Mass spectrometry, The role of medical technologist in the governance of organizational variations).

Moreover, 17 industry sponsored workshops were organized and we accepted 298 abstracts, 286 presented as posters, the other 12 as oral communications.

1332 delegates attended to the national Congress

SIBioC organized 9 Educational Courses in the framework of a Permanent School of Laboratory medicine and 12 local meetings

## International relations

In the National meeting 6 lectures were held by international speakers (1 from UK and 5 from USA)

## Additional information

SIBioC publishes its own Scientific Journal "Biochimica Clinica" (32<sup>nd</sup> volume in 2008).

In 2008 were published 6 issues containing: 8 reviews, 12 scientific contributions, 4 opinions articles, 4 letters to the editor, 5 documents and 3 SIBioC Official Documents.



## JAPAN

### JAPAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

IFCC National Representative/JSCC President: Prof. Tsutomu Nobori, e-mail: [jfcc@mc-i.co.jp](mailto:jfcc@mc-i.co.jp)

## National Meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
The 48th Annual Meeting of the Japan Society of Clinical Chemistry (JSCC)	2008/8/29? 31	President lecture Special lecture: IMPACT OF TRACEABILITY CONCEPT IN LABORATORY MEDICINE Speaker: Mauro Panteghini, Centre for Metrological Traceability in Laboratory Medicine, CIRME, University of Milan, Milano, Italy

## Education

Educational lecture in 48 th ISCC

Simple and useful analytical method for precise standardization

## Regional relations

The result of the Second Asian Study (designed by APFCB and IFCC-SD-C-PP) investigating the regionality of laboratory test results was published in Clin Chem 54:356-65, 2008..

To plan and promote the reference interval project (the third Asian Study) backed by APFCB and IFCC-SD(C-PP, C-RIDL), Kiyoshi Ichiyama made close communications with the East and South-East Asian colleagues. More than 20 laboratories in the region as well as 32 laboratories in Japan agreed to collaborate. The study starts from January, 2009.

## International Relations

Representative to APFCB  
 Council: Prof. Tsutomu Nobori  
 Scientific Committee: Chair: Prof. Kiyoshi Ichihara.  
 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  
 C-RSE Member : Kang,Dongchon  
 WG on SCC Member : Yoshihisa Itoh  
 WG on SMA Member : Yoshihisa Itoh  
 WG on SEB Member : Katsuhiko Kuwa  
 WG on HbA1c Member : Tadao Hoshino

### International Journal Editor

Editorial Board for Annals of Clinical Biochemistry: Kiyoshi Ichihara  
 Editorial Board of CCLM: Kiyoshi Ichihara  
 Editorial Board of Clini Chimi Acta: Nobumasa Okumura

### Publication of original papers

- papers on CCLM  
 Eight papers were published during 2008.
- papers on ACB  
 Ten papers were published during 2008.

## Additional information

About 2,000 members including MD, and PHD belong to JCSS and 11 blocks were divided as the each centre of JSCC, and the annual meeting is held once a year and more than 400 papers are discussed in the meeting and the regional meetings were held once a year in each region and interesting symposiums and special lectures are planned by an annual president of the meeting.



### LATVIA

#### LATVIAN SOCIETY OF LABORATORY SPECIALISTS

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Dzintars Ozolins, e-mail: [stasc@delfi.lv](mailto:stasc@delfi.lv)

**President:** Dr. Dagne Gravele, e-mail: [gravele@junik.lv](mailto:gravele@junik.lv), [l1sb@l1sb.lv](mailto:l1sb@l1sb.lv)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Annual meeting of the Society	March, 6	Advances in the flow cytometry
Annual meeting of the Society	May, 22	Lab dg of diarrhea
The 9 <sup>th</sup> Baltic Congress of Labmedicine	September, 18-20	Lab advances in the Haematology, Infectious diseases, Lab. management and cetera.
Annual meeting of the Society	October 23	Advances in the lab. diagnostics of Sexually transmitted diseases
Annual meeting of the Society	December 11	"Dry chemistry"

## Education

- 1) Postgraduate residence programme in the Riga Stradins University.
- 2) Educational courses for laboratory physicians and lab technicians in the field of clinical chemistry; lab diagnostics of immunology, quality assurance, microbiology, haematology, sexually transmitted diseases, lab management.



## LEBANON

### LEBANISE SYNDICATE OF CLINICAL BIOLOGY

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Marc Antoine Zablith, e-mail: [marcantoinezablith@hotmail.com](mailto:marcantoinezablith@hotmail.com); [marczablith@sodetel.net.lb](mailto:marczablith@sodetel.net.lb)

**President:** Dr. Marc Antoine Zablith, e-mail: [marcantoinezablith@hotmail.com](mailto:marcantoinezablith@hotmail.com); [marczablith@sodetel.net.lb](mailto:marczablith@sodetel.net.lb)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Arab Medlab 2009	1-2-3-October 2009	

## international relations

IFCC  
AFCB  
FIFBCML

## Additional information

ARAB MEDLAB 2009, HOTEL "LE ROYAL", BEIRUT - Lebanon, 1 -2 -3 October 2009

[www.sdbliban.org](http://www.sdbliban.org)

[info@sdbliban.org](mailto:info@sdbliban.org)

[marczablith@sodetel.net.lb](mailto:marczablith@sodetel.net.lb)



## LITHUANIA

### LITHUANIAN SOCIETY OF LABORATORY MEDICINE

**IFCC National Representative/LSLM President:** Prof. Zita Kucinskiene,  
e-mail: [zita.kucinskiene@mf.vu.lt](mailto:zita.kucinskiene@mf.vu.lt)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Laboratory medicine days (preliminary planning)	May-June (preliminary)	Accreditation of laboratories (in association with the new national regulations)

## Education

- 1) A course of laboratory medicine for 5th year students of all study programs (medicine, odontology, public health, nurseing) at the Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University.
- 2) Residency in laboratory medicine organized by the Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University (4 years) – every year 2-3 new residents.
- 3) Master degree program in medical biology at the Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University (2 years) – every year 5-7 students.
- 4) Advanced training courses at Vilnius University in different fields of laboratory medicine – in total 12 different courses in 2009.
- 5) Society regional meetings – there are 5 regional bureaus of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine and 4-8 times per year they do organize meetings: conferences, seminars on different topics of laboratory medicine.

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Regional meetings of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine (there are 5 regional bureaus of the Society)	4-8 times per year	One of the organizers

## International relations

Close relations with the Latvian and Estonian Societies of Laboratory Medicine – Baltic Association of Laboratory Medicine was founded and this association is the main organizer of the Baltic Congresses of Laboratory Medicine, which are being held every second year in one of the Baltic countries (the last one in Jurmala, Latvia in 2008).

Good relations with the Nordic Societies of Laboratory Medicine – many specialists participate in the Congresses organized by the Nordic Societies.

Relations are being kept with the European and international organizations via participation in various working groups of these organizations.



### MEXICO

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

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Rosa I Sierra Amor, e-mail: risierramor@yahoo.com, ambcli@prodigy.net.mx

**President:** Dr. Martha Sanchez-Rodriguez, e-mail: martha@nimloth.org

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
XXXI NATIONAL CONGRESS IN CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND LAB EXPOSITION	MAY 5-8, 2008	CONTINUING EDUCATION IN CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AT NATIONAL LEVEL
3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON QUALITY	JUNE 29, 2008	INTERNET BASED CONFERENCE IN QUALITY FOR THE CLINICAL LABORATORY
XXI QUALITY ASSURANCE SQUEME PROGRAM ANNUAL MEETING.	OCTOBER 18, 2008	QUALITY ASSURANCE SQUEME PROGRAM AND CONTINUING EDUCATION ON PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAMS

## Education

22 COURSES IN SELECTED TOPICS OF LABORATORY MEDICINE, XXXI NATIONAL CONGRESS IN CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY.

7 CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

2 DIPLOMADOS (MICROBIOLOGY AND HEMATOLOGY)

9 CONFERENCES AT THE AMBC HEADQUARTERS.

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
VI CONGRESS OF THE PARAGUAYAN SOCIETY OF BIOCHEMISTRY	JUNE 4-7, 2008	1 CONFERENCE
2008 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY, AACC	AUGUST 26-31, 2008	1 CONFERENCE
20TH IFCC WORLDLAB CONGRESS	SEPT 28-OCT 2008	ORAL POSTER PRESENTATION

## Regional relations

**MEMBER**, COLABIOCLI [www.colabiocli.org](http://www.colabiocli.org)

## International relations

**MEMBER**, IFCC

**MEMBER**, ISO TC212 /WG1

**MEMBER**, AWARDS COMMITTEE IFCC

**SECRETARY**, BRAZILIAN CONGRESS ORGANIZING LOCAL 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.

**ASSOCIATED MEMBER**, C-QC EMD IFCC

**ASSOCIATED MEMBER**, WG HbA1c SD IFCC

## Additional information

**BOARD MEMBER**, MEXICAN ACCREDITATION ENTITY

**MEMBER**, SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABORATORY ACCREDITATION, MEXICAN ACCREDITATION ENTITY

**MEMBER**, WORKING GROUPS IN LABORATORY MEDICINE, MEXICAN ACCREDITATION ENTITY

### DELEGATE

- SUBCOMMITTEE ON ISO STANDARDS, MINISTER OF ECONOMY.
- MEMBER OF THE JURY, CENEVAL, THESIS DISERTATION AND DIPLOMA IN CLINICAL CHEMISTRY
- MEMBER, REVIEW OF THE SYLLABUS IN PHARMACY AND CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY (CONEFRIS)
- MEMBER, COMMITTEE IN HEALTHCARE POLICY INITIATIVE (MINISTER OF HEALTH)
- CONFERENCES AND COURSES GIVEN AT FACULTIES OF CHEMISTRY, OTHER ASSOCIATIONS AND INDUSTRY AT NATIONAL LEVEL.



## MOROCCO

### MOROCCAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY SOCIÉTÉ MAROCAINE DE CHIMIE CLINIQUE (SMCC)

IFCC National Representative/SMCC President: Prof. Layachi Chabraoui,  
e-mail: lchabraoui@yahoo.fr

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
8th National meeting of Clinical Biology (8èmes Journées Marocaines de Biologie Clinique)	24th to 26th April 2008 in the city of Fez (24 au 26 Avril 2008, Hôtel Jnane Palace de Fès)	<p><b>4 Workshops:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interest of electrophoresis; today's applications</li> <li>• Toxoplasmosis and Rubella Serology on Elecsys</li> <li>• Anti CCP and biomarkers of rheumatoid arthritis: what is new in 2008?</li> <li>• Interest in automation of blood culture</li> </ul> <p><b>2 Plenary lectures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accreditation, Public Health and Biology</li> <li>• Contribution of biology to personalized medicine</li> </ul> <p><b>6 Plenary sessions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality Assurance in Clinical Biology</li> <li>• Environment and Health</li> <li>• Metabolic Syndrome</li> <li>• Inborn Errors of Metabolism</li> <li>• What's new in Microbiology</li> <li>• New trends in diabetes mellitus</li> </ul> <p><b>Posters session</b></p>

#### International relations

- 1st International francophone meeting of clinical biology and laboratory medicine (the same dates, venue and program as the national meeting)
- Collaboration in the preparation of the International Symposium Brussels 2008 (Clin Chem Lab Med 2009;47(2):119)



## NETHERLANDS

### NETHERLANDS SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

IFCC National Representative: Dr. Huib Storm, e-mail: h.storm@kcl.znb.nl  
President: Dr. Hans Janssen, e-mail: h.janssen@sfg.nl

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Annual Conference	24-25 April	Haematology and Immunology
Spring conference laboratory senior laboratory technicians	23 April	Innovation and management
General assembly	10 December	Various, domestic
Celebrating cooperation agreement on molecular diagnostics	22 September	Networking

## Education

CME Pharmacogenetics 13 March  
 CME Outsourcing 11 June  
 CME Metabolic Diseases 9 September  
 CME Endocrinology 14 October  
 CME Patient Identification Number 18 December

Meetings on Molecular Diagnostics 17 April and 10 November  
 Meeting on Tumormarkers 5 November

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
See below		

## Regional relations

9 regions with their own meetings and activities

## International relations

IFCC, EFCC

Euregio Conference 14 March



### NIGERIA

#### ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTS OF NIGERIA (ACCN)

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Mabel Charles-Davies, e-mail: [mcharlesdavies@yahoo.com](mailto:mcharlesdavies@yahoo.com)

**President:** Prof. A. B. Okesina, e-mail: [drokesina@yahoo.com](mailto:drokesina@yahoo.com)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Executive meeting in Ilorin, Nigeria	18/1/08	
Executive meeting in Ibadan, Nigeria	6/6/08	
Executive meeting in Ibadan, Nigeria	15/12/08	

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
South African Pathology Congress held in Southern Sun Cape Sun, Strand Street, Cape Town	19-21 July, 2008	Participated in the IFCC Workshop hosted and co-sponsored by the South African Association of Clinical Biochemistry; presented papers at the conference.

## Regional relations

ACCN has been able to relate with their sister associations in Kenya and South Africa. Plans have reached advanced stage in forming the African Federation.

## Additional information

The ACCN participated in the IFCC General Conference in Antalya, Turkey (April 13-15), and World Lab (including the IFCC council meeting where the IFCC new executive was elected) in Fortaleza, Brazil from September 28- October 2, 2008. Members also participated in the AACC and International Paediatric Congresses in 2008.

## Additional information

The ACCN is grateful for the IFCC/ Roche travel grant awarded to one of its members to participate in the WorldLab in Fortaleza, Brazil in 2008.



## PARAGUAY

### PARAGUAYAN BIOCHEMISTRY ASSOCIATION ASOCIACIÓN DE BIOQUÍMICOS DEL PARAGUAY

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Juana Ortellado de Canese, e-mail: [acanese@click.com.py](mailto:acanese@click.com.py)

**President:** Prof. M. Montserrat Blanes, e-mail: [mblanes@sce.cnc.una.py](mailto:mblanes@sce.cnc.una.py);  
[mblanes@ips.gov.py](mailto:mblanes@ips.gov.py); [mblanes@abp.org.py](mailto:mblanes@abp.org.py)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
V National Congress of Clinical Biochemistry during the VI Congress of the Federation of Chemists of Paraguay	June 5 to 8, 2008	Pre-Congress Course "Evidence Based Medicine" Speaker: Dr. Hernan Fares Taie, Mar del Plata, Argentina, (VLP, IFCC). June 5
IFCC and COLABIOCLI Argetinian Biochemistry Unificated Confederation (CUBRA) Mexican Clinical Biochemistry Association (AMBC), Uruguayan Biochemistry Association (ABU) sponsored	IFCC sponsored	<b>Intra-Congress Course</b> 1.- "Update in Celiac Disease" Speakers: Drs. Patricia Gentili and Maria Lasta, Mar del Plata, Argentina. June 6-8 2.- "Administration of the Clinical Laboratory" Speaker: Dr. Carlos Navarro, President of CUBRA, June 6-8 3.- "The Laboratory in Pediatrics". Speaker: Dr. Miriam Cino, Asunción, Paraguay, June 6-8  Launching of the Labs are Vital Program

## Education

- 1.- Update Conference in Autoimmune Diseases  
Speaker: Dr. Stephan Becker. Orgentec Germany. March 4
- 2.- Update Conference in Hemorrhagic Dengue  
Speaker: Dr. Ivan Allende. Infectology Service, H.C., Instituto de Previsión Social. April 1
- 3.- Pre-Congress Course "Evidence Based Medicine"  
Speaker: Dr. Hernan Fares Taie, Mar del Plata, Argentina, VLP-IFCC. June 5
- 4.- Intra-Congress Course "Update in Celiac Disease"  
Speakers: Drs. Patricia Gentili and Maria Lasta, Mar del Plata, Argentina. June 6-8
- 5.- Intra-Congress Course "Administration of the Clinical Laboratory"  
Speaker: Dr. Carlos Navarro, President of CUBRA, June 6-8
- 6.- Intra-Congress Course "The Laboratory in Pediatrics".  
Speaker: Dr. Miriam Cino, Asunción, Paraguay, June 6-8
- 7.- Course of "Evidence Based Medicine in the Clinical Laboratory"  
Speakers: Drs. Esteban Ferro and Graciela Velázquez, July 25 and 26
- 8.- Course of "Evidence Based Medicine".  
Speaker: Marcelo Raúl García Dieguez. Universidad del Sur, Bahía Blanca, Argentina  
Sponsored by Wiener Lab Foundation, August 22 and 23
- 9.- Course of Adult and Pediatric Nephrology  
Speakers: Dr. Susana Barreto. Nephrologist. Head of hemodialysis, Hospital de Clínicas and Dr. Leticia Florentin de Merech, Nephrologist, Centro Materno Infantil. Both institutions belong to the Faculty of Medical Sciences, National University of Asunción
- 10.-Conference Workshop in Quality Control  
Speaker: Dr. Lourdes Pozzoli. Director of the Program of External Quality Control of the ABP, October 9
- 11.- Conference Workshop in "Quality in the laboratory of neonatal detection"  
Speaker: Dr. Gustavo Borrajo from the Program of Neonatal Quality Control of the Argentinean Biochemist Foundation jointly with the National Program of Congenital Diseases Detection, November 14 and 15
- 12.- Course:"Markers of myocardial lesion. History, state of the arts and future perspectives".  
Speaker: Dr. Jordi Ordoñez, Hospital San Pau, Barcelona, Spain. Sponsored by the Jose Luis Castaño Foundation, and the Spanish Society of Clinical Chemistry, SEQC, November 18 and 19

## Regional relations

### **RELATIONSHIP WITH COLABIOCLI**

- 1.- The composition of the Executive Committee of COLABIOCLI 2008-2010 was officially informed to ABP.
- 2.- In relation to the request of change of the COLABIOCLI Congress from October 2009 to March 2010 proposed by the Chilean Society of Clinical Chemistry, after a thorough analysis by the Department of Professional Matters and the Board of Directors of the ABP it was decided that the Executive Committee of COLABIOCLI had to take the final decision as the venue in Santiago was proposed by the Board of Directors of the SCQC in the Ordinary General Assembly and during the IFCC General Conference we collaborated with the President of SCQC at that time. The request for the date change occurred after the designation of the Executive of SCQC 2008-2010.
- 3.- We participated in the Practical Course for Auditors in Quality Management System held in the Instituto Nacional de Salud (Health National Institute) in Bogotá, Colombia on October 18 to 21, organized by COLABIOCLI, PAHO and the Colombian INS. ABP designated Dr. M. Montserrat Blanes González to attend the course as it was her professional working area.
- 4.- We were informed the composition of the new Board of Directors of the Unified Biochemical Argentinean Confederation.

### RELATIONSHIP WITH IFCC

1. IFCC sponsored the V National Congress of Clinical Biochemistry during the VI Congress of the Federation of Chemists of Paraguay on June 5 to 7, 2008.
2. VLP 2008 (Visitor Lecturer Programme) of the Educational and Management División:
  - 2.a Pre-Congress Course of Evidence Based Medicine given by Dr. Hernan Fares Tai in the V National Congress of Biochemistry.
  - 2.b I International Course of Evidence Based Medicine given by the members of the Evidence Based Medicine Committee of the IFCC. March 15 to 20, 2009.
3. Launching of the Lab are Vital Program - IFCC. A survey of 450 questionnaires was made from June 5 to 8, 2008 during the V National Congress of Clinical Biochemistry. The results were submitted to the Division of Communications and Publications of IFCC and delivered to Michel Davinson from Abbott Dx during the AACC Congress in Washington, USA.
4. We attended the IFCC General Conference in April in Antalya, Turkey. Dr. Montserrat Blanes attended the meeting of the Division of Communications and Publications in her position of Editor of Diagnóstico in Vitro and Co-Editor of Rincón Iberoamericano. Meeting of the IFCC Committee of Public Relations. She participated in the General Conference of the working group "New vision and commitments of IFCC with the dissemination of activities towards the member societies. New action tools. There were also meetings with the representatives of the countries members of COLABIOCLI. Dr. Blanes was appointed Chair of the Working Group IANT.
5. The Questionnaire of Development Countries was filled out (Evaluation of the development stage of clinical biochemistry in the member countries).
6. The Annual Report 2007 was submitted.
7. We voted for the admission as full members of IFCC of the Societies of Clinical Chemistry of Sri Lanka, Sudan and Ukraine.
8. In the Ordinary General Assembly, Dr. M. Montserrat Blanes González was appointed delegate. Dr. Juana Ortellado de Canese was Delegate of Colombia by nomination on behalf of the Society of Microbiologists of Colombia
9. In an ordinary session on September 15, Drs. M. Montserrat Blanes G. and Dr Juana Ortellado de Canese were appointed as representatives of ABP in the International Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) during the 21st International Congress and 19th European Congress of the IFCC, May 2011 in Berlin
10. We participated in the XX IFCC International Congress in Fortaleza, Brazil from September 28 to October 2. The ABP aimed to a massive dissemination campaign collaborating with the register procedures before SBAC. Fifty percent of the members of the Board of Directors of the ABP participated in it and a delegation of 45 biochemists and 13 students. Dr. Blanes previously participated in the meeting of the IFCC Division of Communications and Publications. She also presided at the meeting of the Working Group Iberoamerican Nominations and Translations WG-IANT (CPD, IFCC) within the frame of the parallel activities of the Congress.
11. Dr. Bettina Isasi, a colleague doing a post-graduation course in Innsbruck Austria, benefited from the Young Professionals Scholarship of the IFCC. This is the first time that Paraguay presented an application successfully by obtaining the grant that will greatly help Dr. Isasi and a precedent is set for the presentation of other candidates in the future. For the purposes of this, we had the support of the Director of the Instituto de Investigaciones en Ciencias de la Salud (Institute of Health Sciences Research), Dr. Graciela Velázquez for the submission of the documents of institutional support.

- 1.** The Program of External Quality Control was re-implemented.  
In Clinical Chemistry, sera with assigned values of Biorad were used.  
In Bacteriology, we had the collaboration of the President of the Paraguayan Society of Microbiology, Dr. Mario Martinez from the Laboratorio Central de Salud Pública (Central Laboratory of Public Health), Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare (M.S.P. y B.S.).  
In Parasitology, we had the collaboration of the Paraguayan Society of Parasitology and the Department of Clinical Análisis of the Gran Hospital Nacional (Large National Hospital), Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare
- 2.** The Presidency of the ABP coordinated the Working Group of Writing of the National Biochemical Nomenclature by request of the Superintendencia de Salud (Health Administrative Direction) of Paraguay having representatives of the Departments of Clinical Analysis of the Instituto de Previsión Social (Institute of Social Welfare), the Gran Hospital Nacional (M.S.PyB.S), the Laboratorio Central (M.S.PyB.S), the Instituto Nacional de Alimentación (National Food Institute) (M.S.PyB.S), the Instituto de Investigaciones en Ciencias de la Salud, Representatives of the Chamber of Private Medicines and Representatives of the Superintendencia de Salud. This work has finished and now the call of the Health Superintendency is being waited.
- 3.** Considering the preparation of an auto-evaluation based in competences in the Faculty of Chemical Sciences, National University of Asunción, Drs. Blanes, Ortellado de Canese, Lird and Bazán were appointed as university professors to integrate the commission of proposals for the Dimension 5 "Definition of professional competences". Result and impact: Graduated Compounds.
- 4.** We sponsored the Course "Immunohematology" organized by the Paraguayan Society of Hematology and Hemotherapy held on April 30 as an Intra-Congress course of the Paraguayan Congress of Internal Medicine.
- 5.** On June 12 from 8:30 to 19:30 and June 13 from 8:30 to 13:00 Mr. Erick Mendoza was in ABP's facilities. Mr. Mendoza is a technician of Biorad who explained the use of the "Unity Real Time" software of Biorad for computing analysis of the PEECC - ABP/2008.
- 6.** We participated in the V Argentinean Congress of Quality in the Clinical Laboratories organized by the Argentinean Biochemistry Foundation (FBA).  
Dr. Graciela Velázquez had a meeting with Dr. Mazziotta in relation to the update of the PEEC software of the FBA which is still being used in the processing of the PEEC results of the ABP.  
Dr. Montserrat Blanes had a meeting with the Director for Latin America of Biorad Ms Hugo Baez about the feasibility of making an Assistance Program for Programs of Continuous Education.
- 7.** We participated in the scientific activity developed by SENEPA (M.S.P.yB.S.) on November 3 to commemorate the World Malaria Day.
- 8.** The activity "Cystic Fibrosis. A Frequent Pathology" was sponsored during the III Conference of Neonatal Detection and the Course of Update of Cystic Fibrosis on November 3 and 14.
- 9.** We contributed with the journal of the Biochemists Federation of Paraguay with the article "Intervals of references and their meanings".
- 10.** The ABP sponsors the online course of Advanced Metanalysis that will be developed from April 2009 with the Universidad del Sur de la Argentina as venue. Dr. Marcelo García Dieguez will be the Coordinator of the course which is also sponsored by EVIPNet (Evidence-informed Policy Networks in Latin America and the Caribbean) whose members are ABP, IICS and PAHO-WHO.
- 11.** Sponsorship of the Course Workshop "Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine" "Shortening the distance between primary research and clinical practice. Development of Guides" Venue IX District of FABA, April to November 2009.



**POLAND**

**POLISH SOCIETY OF LABORATORY DIAGNOSTICS**

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Grazyna Sypniewska, e-mail: [grazynaodes@interia.pl](mailto:grazynaodes@interia.pl);  
[odes@cm.umk.pl](mailto:odes@cm.umk.pl)

**President:** Prof. Dariusz Sitkiewicz, e-mail: [dsitkiewicz@ikard.pl](mailto:dsitkiewicz@ikard.pl)

**National meetings**

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
52nd Symposium of the Wroclaw Branch of the Polish Society for Laboratory Diagnostics	Szklarska Poręba May 16-17, 2008	New biochemical markers in clinical and laboratory diagnosis
Scientific Meeting of the Bydgoszcz Branch of the Polish Society for Laboratory Diagnostics	Karbowko May 29-31 2008	Contemporary laboratory diagnostics- new challenges in hematology and oncology
3rd Joint Symposium of the Koszalin and Szczecin Branch of the Polish Society for Laboratory Diagnostics	Darłowo June 6-7, 2008	Contemporary laboratory diagnostics: possibilities and restrictions
Scientific Meeting of the Gdansk Branch of the Polish Society for Laboratory Diagnostics	Kozi Grod June 13th 2008	Pathobiochemistry and diagnosis of myopathy. Quick diagnosis of iron deficiency and anemias.
Scientific Meeting of the Poznan Branch of the Polish Society for Laboratory Diagnostics	Poznan-Kiekrz June 20-21, 2008	Laboratory diagnostics in elderly
Scientific Meeting of the Katowice Branch of the Polish Society for Laboratory Diagnostics	Szczyrk September 26-27, 2008	Advances in laboratory medicine
Scientific Meeting of the Opole Branch of the Polish Society for Laboratory Diagnostics	Glucholazy October 16-17, 2008	Laboratory medicine in the diagnosis and monitoring of diseases
Scientific Meeting of the Kielce Branch of the Polish Society for Laboratory Diagnostics	Kielce November 7-8, 2008	Laboratory diagnostics AD 2008
Joint Conference of the Polish Society for Laboratory Diagnostics and Laboratory Diagnostician Chamber	Wroclaw November 14, 2008	The impact of pre-analytical variables on the quality of laboratory results Guest Speaker : Prof. Walter Guder (D)
14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Polish Society for Laboratory Diagnostics	Lagów Lubuski November 27-28, 2008	Advances in laboratory diagnostics of haematological disorders

**International relations**

NR of Poland- Prof. Grazyna Sypniewska and her PhD student Joanna Pollak participated in the Bergmayer Conference organized in cooperation with IFCC in Eibsee (D) in March 2008.

NR of Poland – Member of IFCC CPD and Editor-in-chief of eJIFCC and Magdalena Krintus PhD, Member of Committee for Public Relations at IFCC CPD participated in the IFCC General Conference in Antalya (TR) in April 2008.

NR of Poland took part in the OCD- IFCC Conference in Birmingham in May 2008.

NR of Poland accompanied by Magdalena Krintus PhD took part in the IFCC elections during the IFCC Congress in Fortaleza (BR) and Meeting of Editors of Biomedical Journals organized by IFCC CPD.

## Additional information

President of the Polish Society Prof. Dariusz Sitkiewicz accompanied by NR of Poland and Polish representatives of IVD participated in the Labtestsonline launch in Brussels in February 2008; Polish translation of Labtestsonline is available at the IFCC website from August 2007.



### PORTUGAL

#### SOCIEDADE PORTUGUESA DE QUÍMICA CLÍNICA

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Henrique Reguengo, e-mail: hlreguengo@gmail.com

**President:** Dr. José Germano Sousa, e-mail: germanosousa@cm-lab.com

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
III Congresso Associação Nacional de Laboratórios Clínicos	01-02 May	Laboratory Medicine in General



### RUSSIA

#### RUSSIAN SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY OF CLINICAL LABORATORY DIAGNOSTICS SPECIALISTS

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Lina Khorovskaya, e-mail: lina.khorov@yahoo.com

**President:** Dr. Vadim Menshikov, e-mail: menshikov@mmascience.ru

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
National Days of Laboratory Medicine	07-09.10.2008	Laboratory medicine: Innovation technologies in analytics, diagnostics, education, organization
Scientific conference	01-02.04.2008	Laboratory Diagnostics in specialized and urgent healthcare
XII Annual Forum "Days of Immunology 2008" in St. Petersburg, Russia	28.06.2008 – 03.07.08	Research in clinical Immunoassay and molecular biology, allergology, fundamental immunology, Laboratory Diagnostics and results in clinical immunology, molecular biology aspects of basic and clinical immunology

## Education

Education Session "Club of Young Immunologists" in frame of XII Annual Forum "Days of Immunology 2008" in St.-Petersburg

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Conference "Dialog between Clinicians and the Laboratory Specialists Near-Patient Testing"	June 10, 2008	Organizing of this meeting, development of scientific program for laboratory specialists and clinicians, communication with other regions of Russian Federation and Kazakh Republic

## Regional relations

Training for Laboratory Specialists from Kazakh Republic in Laboratory Medicine in frame of the Conference “Dialog between Clinicians and the Laboratory Specialists Near-Patient Testing”

## Regional relations

2 invited AACC speakers (James Nichols and David Berry) participated in meeting in Moscow “National Days of Laboratory Medicine” and in conference in St.-Petersburg “Dialog between Clinicians and the Laboratory Specialists Near-Patient Testing”.  
It was signed Memorandum of Understanding “AACC-Russian Collaboration for Science Exchange”



## SERBIA

### SOCIETY OF MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTS OF SERBIA

**IFCC National Representative/SMBS President:** Prof. Nada Majkic-Singh,  
e-mail: [singh@eunet.yu](mailto:singh@eunet.yu)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
XVI Congress of Medical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine	June 17-21 2008, Belgrade	Biochemical Markers of the Disease Application of Quality Indicators in a Medical Laboratory Pre-analytical Phase and Quality of the Laboratory Results Cardiovascular Disease and Cardiac Markers
XIth Scientific Conference “Professor Ivan Berkes”	4th Decembre 2008, 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

Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia in 2008 organised three educational seminars for the members on the following topics:

1. Organospecific tumor markers
2. Novelities in laboratory diagnostics
3. Point-of-Care Diagnostics

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
4 <sup>th</sup> EFCC Symposium for Balkan Region – The Impact of the Pre-analytical Phase on the Quality of the Laboratory Results	19-20 June, Belgrade	Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia was organizer of the Symposium
XVI Meeting of Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation	October 16-18, 2008, Athens, Greece	Organisation of the Round table Discussion on "Accreditation of Medical Laboratories"  Presentation of the Plenary Lectures and number of posters

## 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 IFCC-World Lab 2008, Fortaleza, Brazil  
Participations in other Meetings

## Additional information

The members of the Society appointed by Ministry of Health of Serbia actively participated in activities of The Chamber of Medical Biochemists of Serbia that work on all regulation of medical biochemistry (Clinical Chemistry) as profession in health 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

IFCC National Representative/SACC President: Dr. Barbara Mozina, e-mail: bmozina@onko-i.si

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
SZKK (Slovenian Association for Clinical Chemistry – SZKK) Symposium	12 February 2008, Ljubljana	Melanom
SZKK Symposium	8 April 2008, Šmarješke Toplice	Medical Laboratory under the "Microscope"
SZKK and Slovenian Transfusiology Society Symposium	19 May 2008, Ljubljana	Medical Laboratory under the "Microscope"
SZKK Symposium	5 June 2008, Maribor	Laboratory Parameters – their Applicability in Clinical Practice
SZKK Symposium	18 September 2008, Ljubljana	Laboratory Examinations of Body Fluids (pleural, synovial, cerebrospinal, ...)
- 3 <sup>rd</sup> Slovenian Congress of Clinical Chemistry (with international participation); - 18 <sup>th</sup> International Symposium of Slovenian Association for Clinical Chemistry and Croatian Society of Medical Biochemists; - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Slovenian Congress of Laboratory Medicine Technicians	13 – 15 November 2008, Ljubljana	Biological Variation, EBLM, Alcoholism and the Laboratory Diagnostics, Molecular diagnostics, Biomarkers of Cardiovascular Diseases, Screening Tests, Erythrocytes in the Laboratory Diagnostics

#### Education

- 25 - 26 October 2008, Dubrovnik, Croatia – EFCC Continuous Postgraduate Course: »New trends in classification, diagnosis and management of kidney diseases« (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)
- 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 classification, diagnosis and management of kidney diseases« (in organization of EFCC, Croatian Society of Medical Biochemists and Slovenian Association for Clinical Chemistry);	25 – 26 October 2008, 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



## SOUTH AFRICA

## SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

**IFCC National Representative/SAACB President:** Prof. Vanessa Steenkamp,  
e-mail: [vsteen@med.up.ac.za](mailto:vsteen@med.up.ac.za)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
SAACB Training Workshop	18-20 May 2008	Laboratory Management, Research Methods
Annual conference	19-21 July 2008	Clinical Biochemistry

## Education

### SAACB Training Workshop, Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Cape Town, 18-20<sup>th</sup> May, 2008

The SAACB held its first ever “hands on” training workshop for its members and other interested people on research methodology and some aspects of laboratory management such as six sigma and quality, clinical governance, budgets and standardization. The workshop was organized by Professor RT Erasmus of the University of Stellenbosch, Cape Town and Professor T Pillay of the University of Cape Town, Cape Town. It was a huge success. The highlight of the workshop was for participants to work in small groups to produce and present a short research proposal. A prize was given for the best presentation. Another very important activity was for participants to develop a standard curve and also learn to put up a Levey Jennings plot. This is entirely a new concept that has been developed with very clear outputs which we believe promotes participation and greater understanding of the subject at a practical level.

The SAACB plans to hold such workshops annually and will also be willing to give similar workshops to sister societies and medical institutes globally. Please contact Professor RT Erasmus [rte@sun.ac.za](mailto:rte@sun.ac.za) for further information

## Education

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
IFCC General Conference in Kemer, Turkey	11-13 April 2008	Attended by Profs Steenkamp and Erasmus

## Regional relations

An SAACB workshop on the role of the IFCC in Africa was held at the Annual National meeting of the SAACB and was attended by IFCC Board members represented by Professor Jocelyn Hicks (President), Dr Ghassan Shannan (Treasurer), Professor Daniel Mazziotta (board member), Dr Joseph Lopez (APFCB and board member) and representatives from various Clinical Chemistry Societies from Africa (Nigeria, Kenya) at the SAACB meeting.

## International relations

- 1) Dr Burak Bahar, a resident in Clinical Chemistry from Turkey spent a 2 month sabbatical in Nov-Dec 2008 at the Red Cross Children's Hospital funded by an IFCC Fellowship.
- 2) The IFCC international meeting in Forteleza in 2008 was attended by Profs. Steenkamp, Erasmus and Pillay of the SAACB executive.



### SPAIN

## SOCIEDAD ESPAÑOLA DE BIOQUÍMICA CLÍNICA Y PATOLOGÍA MOLECULAR

**IFCC National Representative/ SEQC President:** Dr. Francisco Álvarez Menéndez,  
e-mail: falvarezmen@gmail.com

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Course, Barcelona	January 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2008	How to improve oral presentation
Course, Seville	February 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Preanalytical step security at the Clinical Chemistry Lab
Course, Madrid	February 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Proteomic at the Clinical Chemistry Laboratory
Course, Lisbon	March 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Preanalytical step security at the Clinical Chemistry Lab
Course, la Guardia	April 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2008	Pre-analytical step security at the Clinical Chemistry Lab
III International meeting, Barcelona	April 17-18 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Quality at the Laboratory Medicine
Course, Barcelona	April 24 <sup>th</sup>	Diabetes disorders
Course, Palma de Mallorca	May 8-9 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Strategic management of Clinical Chemistry Lab
Course, Seville	May 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	New algorithms to improve laboratory reports
Course, Malaga	May 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	New algorithms to improve laboratory reports
Course, Zaragoza	May 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	New algorithms to improve laboratory reports
Course, Valencia	May 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	New algorithms to improve laboratory reports
XXVII National meeting, Coruña	June 4-7 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	II meeting of Clinical Laboratory
Course, Madrid	June 23-24 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	DNA analysis at the Clinical Chemistry laboratory
VI meeting of scientific committee, Granada	October 16-17 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Proteomics Inflammation markers Hypertension hormonal regulation
Course, Barcelona	November 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Clinical Chemistry laboratory legislation
Course, Madrid	November 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	Molecular diagnosis in the neonatal screening
II Course of Statistic	2008	Statistic application at Clinical Chemistry Lab

## International relations

in programme, 8 lessons and 8 Clinical cases, with 800 registrations

## Regional relations

SEQC has collaborations with all the regional associations of Clinical Chemistry

## International relations

Strong relation with AACC. POCT meeting at Barcelona. September 2008

## Additional information

Evaluation programmes of external pre-analytical quality  
Evaluation programmes of external quality of biochemistry tests: stat lab, hormones, prot blood gases, cardiac markers, tumour markers, autoimmunity in urine and serum specimens



## SRI LANKA

### ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY SRI LANKA

**IFCC National Representative:** Mr. Heemachandra Weerawarna, e-mail: chandraw@sltnet.lk

**President:** Dr. Saroja Siriwardene, e-mail: sarojacs@gmail.com

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
tive committee meetings	7 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	Regular meeting to discuss the progress and plan future activities
tings	8 <sup>th</sup> May 2008	Regular meeting to discuss the progress and plan the workshop
Annual General Meeting	8 <sup>th</sup> September, 2008	Appointment of new office bearers and plan the workshop

## Education

### Lectures conducted

#### 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008

1. A child with Tendon Xanthoma – a Case presentation by Dr B K P T Dayanath, Chemical Pathologist, Australia
2. Uniformity of reporting - SI Units by Dr Saroja Siriwardena, Chemical Pathologist, NHSL (President, Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Sri Lanka)
3. Traceability and Uncertainty in Clinical Chemistry H Weerawarna, retired Biochemist, Secretary, Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Sri Lanka

#### 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2008

Laboratory involvement in the management of infertility by Sumedha Wijeratne, Gynecology Department, Colombo Medical Faculty, Colombo

Tube project at NHSL as an efficient way of receiving and handling sample by Dr Saroja Siriwardena, Chemical Pathologist, NHSL, (President, Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Sri Lanka)

Finding Clinical Chemistry information through Web ( a demonstration) by H Weerawarna, Application Consultant, Analytical Instruments (pvt) Ltd, Colombo 8.(Secretary, Association for Clinical Biochemistry, Sri Lanka)

## Additional information

Association is planning to conduct a seminar on interpretative skills in clinical chemistry and a workshop on laboratory quality control early April, 2009 with the help of the APFCB and IFCC.



## SWEDEN

### SWEDISH SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL CHEMISTRY

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Ingvar Rydén, e-mail: Ingvarr@ltkalmar.se

**President:** Dr. Per Bjellerup, e-mail: Per.Bjellerup@ltv.se

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Annual Spring Meeting	April 23-25	General clinical chemistry
Symposia at the Swedish Medical Society Meeting	November 26-28	General clinical chemistry

#### Education

Specialist training course: Proteins and Lipids, April 14-16, Malmo, Sweden

Specialist training course: Metabolic Diseases, October 6 – 10, Stockholm, Sweden

#### Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Nordic Congress in Clinical Chemistry	June 14 - 18	Symposia and lecturers

#### Regional relations

Nordic Society for Clinical Chemistry – which is cooperation between the Nordic countries on scientific projects, a scientific journal, and educational activities within the field of clinical chemistry.

#### International relations

The Swedish society of Clinical Chemistry is represented in several IFCC SD Committees and Working Groups; e.g. C-PP, WG-SEB, WG-HbA1c, WG-CDT (chair person), and WG-SCC (chair person).

#### Additional information

The Swedish Society of Clinical Chemistry submitted an application in 2008 to host the IFCC WorldLab Congress in 2014, which unfortunately was declined.



## SYRIA

### SYRIAN CLINICAL LABORATORY ASSOCIATION (SCLA)

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Fouad Harb, e-mail: fouad.harb@scs-net.org

**President:** Dr. Ghassan Shannan, e-mail: gshannan@net.sy

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
VIII National Conference	3 – 5 May 2008	Flowcytometry FISH Molecular Biology Cardiovascular Disease Tuberculosis
General Council	March 2008	Infectious Disease Continuous Education Programme EQAS Programme SCLA Journal SCLA Website Social & Health Support
Executive Meetings	several	Professional Matters Various Issues

## Education

1. Monthly Lectures in various centres.
2. Distance Learning.
3. Special Quality Programme
4. Active participation of members to support SCLA Journal

## Regional meetings

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Society's contribution for the meeting</b>
National Conference of the Tunisian Society	May 2008	AFCB Member Countries
Training Course on Quality in Medical Laboratory	November 2008	AFCB Member Countries
Quality & Accreditation Symposium, Istanbul	April 2008	

## Regional relations

SCLA has maintained good and fruitful relation with all national societies in the AFCB region.

## International relations

SCLA maintain its active role with IFCC and other International Organisation like WHO

## Additional information

SCLA plays a major role in the organisation of the Laboratory medicine Profession in Syria by support the Ministry of Health and other ministries.

SCLA is consulted for all matters concerning Laboratory Medicine Profession in Syria including Training, Accreditation and Licensing.

SCLA has a social programme, which include health insurance and support for member's families.

Continuous Education is a primary task for SCLA.

Quality is also a major task for SCLA.



**TAIWAN**

**CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY (CACB)**

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Min-Long Lai, e-mail: lai@ucl.com.tw; taiwan222@gmail.com

**President:** Prof. Shu-Chu Shiesh, e-mail: hsieh@mail.ncku.edu.tw

**National meetings**

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
The 23 <sup>rd</sup> Joint Annual Conference of Biomedical Science: Plenary lecture	March 29 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2008	THE TREND OF LABORATORY INFORMATION SYSTEMS by Dr. Fai-Pei Lai PERSONALIZED LABORATORY MEDICINE 1. "Progress, challenges and opportunities for personalized healthcare" by Dr. Shiou-Jiuan Tsai 2. "Translational medicine: the application of SNPs in clinical practice" by Dr. Ming-Da Lee 3. "Effect of detoxification protein genes upon therapeutic outcome and adverse drug reaction" by Prof. Chin-Sun Huang 4. "Personalized medicine fro hypertension" by Dr. Jeng-Shu Wei
The 23 <sup>rd</sup> Joint Annual Conference of Biomedical Science: Symposium		
Workshop "CLINICAL LABORATORY CONSULTATION: STANDARDIZATION, INTERPRETATION AND COMMUNICATION"	September 1, 2008	1. "Traceability, reference systems and result comparability" 2. "Cardiac biomarker interpretation" by Prof. Panteghini 3. "Communication models between the clinical laboratories and the clinical staffs" by Prof. Chu-Lan Wu 4. "After-service of laboratory tests" by Prof. Chin-Sun Huang 5. "Evidence-based laboratory consultation" by Prof. Shu-Chu Shiesh 6. "Estimated GFR" by Dr. Tjin-Shing Jap

**Education**

**IFCC 2008 traveling lecture in Taipei**

Prof. M. Panteghini visited Taipei and gave two lectures at the workshop "CLINICAL LABORATORY CONSULTATION: STANDARDIZATION, INTERPRETATION AND COMMUNICATION" on September 1, 2008. We partnered with the Taiwan Society of

## Additional information

### Annual meeting (March 29 to March 30, 2008)

A students' research poster contest was held in 2008 annual meeting and 2008 Best Poster Award winners went to Ms. Wen-Ching Tsau and Mr. Cheng-Po Huang, both from the Institute of Clinical Laboratory Science and Medical Biotechnology at the National Taiwan University. The two-day annual meeting was successful and truly a fruitful academic gathering for the CACB members.

The 20<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (ICCC) was held on Sept. 28~Oct. 2 in Fortaleza, Brazil. Our student member, Chi-Ya Kao, who is in the first year of the Master program at the National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, received the Roche/IFCC Travel Scholarship 2008 to participate this international conference. It is an invaluable experience for our young scientist-to-be. We would like to express sincere gratitude to IFCC for the opportunity and support.



## TURKEY

### TURKISH BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY (TBS)

**IFCC National Representative:** Prof. Diler Aslan, e-mail: [daslan@pau.edu.tr](mailto:daslan@pau.edu.tr); [dileraslan@ttnet.net.tr](mailto:dileraslan@ttnet.net.tr)

**President:** Prof. Nazmi Ozer, e-mail: [naozer@hacettepe.edu.tr](mailto:naozer@hacettepe.edu.tr); [info@biyokimya.org](mailto:info@biyokimya.org)

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
XX.National Biochemistry Meeting	October 29-November 1, 2008, Cappadocia, Turkey	Cancer, stem cells, infertility, diabetes, neurodegenerative diseases, accreditation and quality control in clinical laboratories etc

## Education

### Workshops

How to write a project? (29 October, 2008, Cappadocia)

Molecular techniques for diagnosis (29 October, 2008, Cappadocia)

### Courses

Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine (8-11 April 2008, Istanbul)

### Conferences

Six Sigma (February 1, 2008, Ankara)

External Quality Control in Clinical laboratories ( March 7, 2008, Ankara)

Master and PhD programs in Turkey (March 25, 2008, Izmir)

Accreditation in clinical laboratories (April 4, 2008, Ankara)

CK18 in cancer treatment and follow-up (April 29, 2008, Izmir)

HbA1C standardization (May 9, 2008, Ankara)

The role of test quality parameters on diagnostic and prognostic evaluation (May 9, 2008, Istanbul)

Apoptosis (December 2, 2008, Izmir)

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Protein Biochemistry	7-8 February, 2008, Adana	Protein structure and purification etc

## International relations

Turkish Biochemical Society is a member of FEBS, IFCC and EFCC.

Prof. Dr. Nazmi Ozer, the president of Turkish Biochemical Society, was selected as the chairman of FEBS in 2008.

Prof. Dr. Diler Aslan is selected as a member for IFCC-Committee on Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine.

International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine congress (IFCC-WorldLab) will be held at 22-27 June 2014 in Istanbul- Lutfi Kirdar Convention Center by Turkish Biochemical Society.

## Additional information

"*Turkish Journal of Biochemistry*", which is published by Turkish Biochemical Society has been accepted to the "Science Citation Index Expanded".



## UNITED KINGDOM

### ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY (ACB)

**IFCC National Representative/ACB President:** Dr. Julian Barth, e-mail: Julian.Barth@leedsth.nhs.uk; Chair@ACB.org.uk

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Frontiers in Laboratory Medicine, Manchester	29-30th January 2008	Leading edge innovations in delivery of laboratory medicine services
Focus 08, Birmingham	19-22nd May 2008	Scientific and Clinical presentations on leading topics by international experts

## Education

Two one-week Training Courses in the cycle of six courses; training day at Focus meeting.

## Regional meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
All nine regions hold scientific and clinical meetings 2 to 3 times per year on a wide variety of topics	Various	Organized by the ACB, some meetings are joint with other societies

## 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).

## Regional relations

The ACB has engagement 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

The Association consulted on opening the membership to 'Any Healthcare professional with an interest in Clinical Biochemistry'. An absolute majority of voting members voted in favour; this decision was implemented on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009.

Government have accepted a wide ranging report on the redesign of pathology services, with local determination of structures, which we and other professional bodies broadly support; this applies to England, the other administrations are developing services through a more central approach.

This is in the context of a wide-ranging review of delivering patient-focused services closer to the patients' domicile. This will fundamentally challenge how laboratory medicine is practiced.

While medical staff have already had reorganization of their career structures, we are currently consulting on proposed radical reform of healthcare scientist staff, which includes laboratory scientists that is designed to conform to the above agenda; we are broadly supportive of the concepts but require understanding of the details.



### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY (AACC)

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Larry Broussard , e-mail: lbrous@lsuhsc.edu

**President:** Dr. Barbara M Goldsmith, e-mail: bmgoldsm@aol.com

### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
AACC Annual Meeting	July 19-23, 2009	Annual Meeting & Clinical Lab Expo

### Education

Please see attached list

### International relations

AACC has an ambitious program of travel grants to the AACC annual meeting  
AACC has led the development of the internationalization of Lab Tests Online  
AACC awards travel fellowships allowing clinical chemists to lecture internationally  
AACC recently licensed certain *Clinical Chemistry* content to national society publications

### Additional information

AACC President  
Barbara M. Goldsmith, PhD  
120 Browne Street, Apt. 1  
Brookline, MA 02446  
Phone: 617-879-0267  
E-Mail: bmgoldsm@aol.com

Hemoglobin A1c Comes of Age: New Uses for Today and Possibilities for Tomorrow	Audio		12/09/2008	
PSA Today and Tomorrow	Audio		12/03/2008	
Controversies in Kidney Function Testing	Webinar		11/19/2008	
Reimbursement Update 2009	Audio		11/18/2008	
Laboratory Medicine: Into the Future	CONF	Honolulu, HI	11/13/2008	11/14/2008
Dietary and Nutritional Considerations in Animal Models of Drug Discovery and Development	CONF	Center Valley, PA	11/07/2008	11/07/2008
Measuring Low Levels of Troponin with High-Sensitivity Assays	Audio		11/06/2008	
Linking Automation and Informatics in the Next Generation Clinical Laboratory	CONF	Kansas City, MO	10/27/2008	10/28/2008
20 Years and Counting	Audio		10/08/2008	
Managing Test Utilization	Audio		09/24/2008	
Critical and Point of Care Testing: Managing Technology for the Benefit of All Populations	CONF	Barcelona, Spain	09/18/2008	09/20/2008
Critical and Point-of-Care Testing: Managing Technology for the Benefit of All Populations	CONF	Barcelona, NA	09/18/2008	09/20/2008
QC:A Tool for Reducing Risk	Audio		09/04/2008	
The Importance of Motivation in Managing People	E-Learn		09/01/2008	
Regulations	E-Learn		09/01/2008	
Quality Management	E-Learn		09/01/2008	
Connectivity and Information Technology	E-Learn		09/01/2008	
Policies and Procedures	E-Learn		09/01/2008	
Administration	E-Learn		09/01/2008	
Instrumentation Selection and Validation	E-Learn		09/01/2008	
Education and Training	E-Learn		09/01/2008	
Communication	E-Learn		09/01/2008	

Point-of-Care Testing Coordinators Audioconference	Audio		07/09/2008	
Lipoprotein-associated Phospholipase (Lp-PLA2): Biomarker of Inflammation	Audio		06/18/2008	
Improving the Reporting of Critical Results II	Audio		06/10/2008	
The Impact of Comparative Effectiveness on Laboratory Testing	Audio		05/21/2008	
Molecular Pathology Essentials: Principles and Practice	CONF	Baltimore, Maryland	05/12/2008	05/14/2008
Translating Proteomics into Clinical Diagnostics	CONF	Seattle, WA	05/09/2008	05/10/2008
Stroke Diagnostics Webinar	Audio		05/06/2008	
Upstate NY AACC Annual Spring Meeting	LS	Niagara Falls, ON, Canada Canada	05/01/2008	05/02/2008
Trends in Laboratory Medicine Informatics:	LS	Owings Mills, Maryland	04/24/2008	04/24/2008
40th Annual Oak Ridge Conference	CONF	San Jose, Calif.	04/17/2008	04/18/2008
Thyroid Hormones and the HPT Axis: Contemporary Endocrinology in Drug Discovery and Development	CONF	East Hanover, NJ	04/11/2008	04/11/2008
AACC New Jersey Section Spring Dinner Program	LS	Fairfield, NJ	04/08/2008	04/08/2008
San Diego Conference	CONF	Coronado CA	03/25/2008	03/26/2008
Genetic Oversight...The Next Steps	Audio		03/19/2008	
Amsterdam Laboratory Automation Conference	CONF	Amsterdam, Netherlands	03/13/2008	03/14/2008
Managing the MRSA Threat	Audio		03/12/2008	
Current Status and Potential of Pharmacogenomics in Clinical Pathology and Medical Practice	LS	Chicago, Illinois	03/10/2008	03/10/2008
Going Green and Saving Green	Audio		02/13/2008	



**UKRAINE**

**UKRAINIAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL LABORATORY DIAGNOSTICS (USCLD)**

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Igor Mishunin, e-mail: Igor.Mishunin@intero.ua

**President:** Mr. Valery Dieiev

**National meetings**

<b>Name of the meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Current Aspects of Clinical Laboratory Dignostics.		Laboratory Diagnostics of Tuberculosis. Specific Diagnostics of HBV & HCV. Tumour Markers and Monitoring of Oncotherapy.
I. Laboratory Diagnostics of Mostly Wide-Spread Diseases in Ukraine.	June 5	Proteolytic Derivatives of Plasminogen in Diagnostics of Oncology Diseases. Diagnostic Algorithms for Oncohematology Diseases. Standards in Hematology Researches. Inflammation Diseases of Urinary Organs. Problems of Etiology. New Markers for Risk Evaluation in Cardiology and Surgery. Quality Analysis Evaluation in Detection of Anti-HIV Antibodies. Accuracy and Correctness of Medical Laboratory Analysis.
II. Problems of Laboratory Quality Control.	June 6	Intra-Laboratory Quality Control of Clinical Chemistry Analyses. Methodology of Quality Control in Hematology, General Clinic and Cytology Analyses. Inter- and Intra-Laboratory Quality Control of EIA. Significance of Ukrainian State and Metrology Standard for Quality Control in Clinical Diagnostic Laboratories.
Science & Engineering Progress and Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics	October 28	IFCC and New Opportunities for Members of Ukrainian Society of Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics. Simple/Rapid Tests in Diagnostics of Viral Infections. Molecular – Genetic Researches in Modern Laboratory Diagnostics. Laboratory Diagnostics of Parenteral Hepatitis (HGV, TTV, SEN-V). Legislation Basis and Stages of HIV- Patients Investigation until Final Diagnosis in Ukraine. Spreading of Fungi in Surroundings. Their Influence on Human Health and Diagnostics. Current Classification and Diagnostics of Protozoa. Rational Approach to Carrying out of Protein Analysis. Particularities of Alterations of Anti-Inflammatory Cytokines Content in Some Pathologies.

## National meetings

Seminar: "Education and Legislation in Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics in Ukraine". 29 October, Kyiv  
 Topics: Education in Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics. International Survey.  
 Current Status and Problems of Ukrainian Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics.  
 Training of Specialists for Clinical Diagnostic Laboratories.  
 Presentation of new booklet: "Seminars on Hematology."

## National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Society's contribution for the meeting
Modern Laboratory Diagnostics of Tumour Diseases of Blood-Forming and Adenoid Tissues (Seminar and Workshop for Specialists from Kyiv City and Kyiv Region)	November 20 - 21	Lectures by the members of USCLD. Materials publication in the Laboratory Diagnostics journal
Meetings of the city of Donetsk branch of USCLD Diagnostics of Infection Diseases by Molecular Biology Methods.	March 03	Coordination of meetings program and speaker support
Laboratory Methods of Haemostasis Investigation.	September 15	
New Markers in Cardiac Diseases Investigation.	December 15	
Meetings of the city of Lviv branch of USCLD Inter-Laboratory Quality Control. Bacteriology Analysis in Lviv Region.	February 21	
Implementation of Current Cytology Analysis	March 20	Coordination of meetings program and speaker support
Parasite Diseases and Modern Diagnostics Methods.	April 17	
Current Methods of Analysis in Oncohematology	May 15	
Diseases. Laboratory Diagnostics of Acute Intestinal Infections.	June 16	
Current Approaches to Diagnostics and Therapy of Tuberculosis.	September 19	
Current Approaches to Diagnostics of Rheumatic Infections.	October 16	
Immunoassay of Male and Female Infertility.	November 20	
Laboratory Diagnostics of Protozoa.		
Meetings of the city of Kherson branch of USCLD The Principles, Methods and Means of Haemostasis Pathology Diagnostics.	March 28	Coordination of meetings program and speaker support
Tumour Markers in EIA	October 23	
Intra-laboratory Quality Control of Clinical Chemistry, Haematology and General Clinical Analyses.	November 20	
Implementation of PC Evaluation.		

## Regional relations

Exchange of lecturers of USCLD and Russian Society of Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics exists on permanent base.

## International relations

USCLD President L. Gromashevskaya and USCLD Vice-President V. Deyev are the members of CIS Society of Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics  
USCLD members took part in National Days of Russian Laboratory Medicine and conference "Laboratory Diagnostics in Special and Emerging Medicine" in Moscow, Russia.

## Additional information

Four numbers of Laboratory Diagnostics - an official journal of the Ukrainian Society of Clinical Laboratory Diagnostics and Ministry of Health of Ukraine issued in 2008.



## URUGUAY

### ASOCIACIÓN BIOQUÍMICA URUGUAYA (ABU)

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Stella Raymondo, e-mail: raystela@gmail.com

**President:** Dra. Chrisina Ures, e-mail: asociacion.bioquimica@gmail.com

1) December 11 of 2007

#### **Elections of the Committee for Standardization and Quality Control (CECC) authorities:**

PRESIDENT: Prof. Dr. BC. Stella Raymondo

SECRETARY: Dr. Jorge Mirabal

TREASURER: Dr. BC Graciela Borthagaray

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

URUGUAYAN ASSOCIATION OF BIOCHEMISTRY (ABU): Dr. BC. Marta Grunvald

URUGUAYAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL PATHOLOGY (SUPAC): Dr. Cristina Mier

ALTERNATIVES: Dr. BC Clara Scholnik de Grunberg, Dr. Blanca Perdomo, Dr. Q.F. Ana Acevedo

2) June 2 of 2008

#### **CONFERENCE:**

"Fungal pathogens in plants, animals and humans:  
common rules for molecular research"

Lecturer: Dr. Gioconda San-Blas

Venezolan Institute of Scientific Research (IVIC)

Caracas, Venezuela.

3) June 10 of 2008

#### **Elections of Biochemistry Uruguayan Association Authorities for period 2008-2010.**

President: Dr. Ma Cristina Ures

Vice president: Dr. Cristina Servetto

Secretary: B.C. Cecilia Queijo

Treasurer: Dr. Graciela Queiruga

Pro-treasurer: Q.F. Fernando Antúnez

Secretary of Record: Q.F. Gladys Amestoy

Alternatives: Dr. Alicia Abou-Nigm, BC. Estela Bidegain Q.F. Fernanda Coutinho Dr. Patricia Esperón Dr. BC. Marta Grunvald, Dr. BC Carmen Musetti, Dr. BC Stella Raymondo

4) June 13 and 14 of 2008

#### **Annual Meeting of the Committee on Standardization and Quality Control (CECC).**

Creatinine Standardization Program, joint activity with the Uruguayan Society of Nephrology and the participation of Dr. Daniel Mazziotta. (Argentina)

5) June 26 of 2008

#### **16th Meeting of Mercosur in Clinical Analysis and In Vitro Diagnostics (CSM20)**

"Quality Management of Mercosur Laboratory Clinical Analysis. "

Conference: "The Mercosur situation" Lecturer: Lic. Luis Alberto Barcelos (Brazil) Technical Secretary of CSM20.

Conference: "The Uruguayan Experience" Lecturer: Dr. BC Marta Grunvald. Delegate of the Uruguayan Association of Biochemistry in CSM20

Conference: "International Focus" Lecturer: Bioch. Analía Purita CSM20 Executive Secretary and IRAM delegate in behalf of the Technical Committee and Clinical Analysis of the International Standardization Organization (ISO)

6) August 29 and 30 of 2008

**Course:** "The Laboratory of Parasitology / Mycology and HIV + / AIDS patients"  
Lecturer: Dr. Ana Ma Acuña (Uruguay) and Dr. Mariana González (Uruguay)

7) September 18 of 2008

**Designation**

Accomplishing with the provisions of Art.38 of the Statute of COLABIOCLI, the Executive Committee at its meeting on 18 September in Guatemala City, appointed the countries of for integrating the Confederation Committees, agreeing that the Republic of Uruguay and Brazil make up the COLABIOCLI Scientific Committee.

8) October 28-30 of 2008

**Course:** "COURSE FOR ACCREDITATION AUDITORS AND INSPECTORS"

As part of the strategic plan for the improvement of clinical laboratories in Latin America, WHO, together with COLABIOCLI organized this course in Bogota Colombia, being the delegate of the Uruguayan Association of Biochemistry: BC Marcelo Lucas

9) October -10 -11 of 2008

**Course:** "Clinical Laboratory as a way of life" by Marketing Specialist Alvaro Notaroberto

10) October 21- 22 of 2008

**Course:** "Clinical aspects and diagnosis of Celiac Disease " Lecturer: Dr. Grimilda Cabrera (Argen-tine), Dr Gloria de Bernardis (Argentine), Dr. Liliana Soprazzetti.(Argentine). Organizers Wie-ner Lab Foundation (Argentine) and Biochemistry Association Uruguayaya

11) December 10 of 2008

**Course:** Presentation of the course organized by WHO that will be teaches on 2009 in a distance learning way: "Training in Quality Management for Clinical Laboratories " . Coordination : BC Marcelo Lucas (Uruguay) and Dr. Grammático (Argentine)

12) December 16 of 2008

**Homage**

Board of Uruguayan Association of Biochemistry paid tribute to Dr. Clara Schcolnik. for her 50 years of qualified professional task, doing at the same time a reunion between their mem-bers for closing the year.

Integration of Committee

Integration of the Committee of the VII Uruguayan Congress of Clinical Biochemistry that will be held from 12 to 15 November 2009 at the Tower of ANTEL

President: Dra. BC. Graciela Borthagaray

Vice President: Q.F. Gladys Amestoy

Secretary: BC Estela Bidegain -

Pro-secretary: BC Cecilia Queijo

Treasurer: Fernando Antunez - Pro-treasurer: QF Fernanda Coutinho

Alternatives: Drs. Patricia Esperón, Carmen Musetti, Stella Raymondo, Grunvald Marta, Cristina Ures

14) December 30 of 2008

**Grant**

CECC has obtained a grant from the National Agency for Research and Innovation (ANII) that will permit it to accomplish with the objective of to strength and resize the CECC's EQAs as a way to ensure its permanence.



## VIETNAM

### VIETNAMESE ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS (VACB)

**IFCC National Representative:** Dr. Vu Quang Huy, e-mail: drvuquanghuy@yds.edu.vn

**President:** Prof. Dai Duy Ban, e-mail: daiduyban@yahoo.com.vn

#### National meetings

Name of the meeting	Date	Topic
Pre-National Conference at Bach mai Hospital – Hanoi - Vietnam	14 – 15 Oct. 2008	
National Conference on Biochemistry – Hanoi - Vietnam	15 – 17 Oct. 2008	
Congress of the Association of Clinical Biochemists of HoChiMinh city – HoChiMinh city - Vietnam	20 Oct. 2008	
Congress of the Hanoi and Northern Provinces Association of Clinical Biochemists – Thai nguyen Province - Vietnam	7 - 8 Nov. 2008	
VACB congress to found sub-association of Molecular Biology – HoChiMinh city - Vietnam	18 Dec. 2008 .	

#### Education

Planning for IFCC VLP: one day Seminar at three places around Vietnam:

- Ha noi: 23 March 2009
- Hue: 25 March 2009
- HoChiMinh city 27 March 2009 on basic QC/ QA for almost Laboratory people from Hospitals of Provinceal level-up

#### International relations

VACB – AACB collaboration on EQA trail program in Vietnam.

Plan to expend this up to 120 Labs in collaboration with and under supported by IFCC to step by step develop EQA in Vietnam.

#### Additional information

Conferences, Seminars, trainings and develop EQA: activities as collaboration between professional Societies and government.

## IFCC CORPORATE MEMBERS

There are in total 37 Corporate Members, as one member decided to leave while no company joined IFCC as new Corporate Member in 2008. This net loss of one vs. prior year can be attributed to less favourable overall economical environment globally which results in an ongoing trend for consolidation in the industry and a reluctance to enter new financial commitments.

The Corporate Members however continued to support IFCC activities in many ways. Numerous delegates from corporate members actively participate in the various Working Groups and Committees. All three IFCC Divisions have a Corporate Representative on their Executive Committees. Further, several Corporate Members held industry-sponsored workshops at IFCC WorldLab in Fortaleza and at other IFCC congresses and conferences.

The 11th Bergmeyer Conference on "Markers of Kidney Disease", sponsored and organized by Roche, was held in March in Eibsee, Garmisch-Partenkirchen/Germany and turned out to be a complete success, attendance-wise and scientifically, as captured in a supplement to the Scand. J. Clin. Lab. Investigation.

Beyond their regular membership fees as a basic contribution to the IFCC budget, individual Corporate Members fund quite a number of specific IFCC initiatives. 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 Visiting Lecturer Program by Abbott Laboratories Visiting Lecturer Program. In 2008, the "Labs are Vital" initiative sponsored by Abbott entered into a formal partnership with IFCC. Towards the end of 2008, IFCC was able to offer distance-learning programs on e.g. Natriuretic Peptides via a link on the IFCC website, based on respective funding and support from Siemens.

All of the IFCC Scientific Awards are sponsored by individual Corporate Members. During the IFCC WorldLab in Fortaleza, representatives from the sponsor companies for the first time attended the Awards Dinner and actively participated in the ceremony.

In 2008, there were two meetings of Corporate Members. At the General Conference held in Antalya in April, there was an internal meeting

without IFCC officers. In addition, during the Conference, corporate representatives seized the first-time opportunity to contribute to the workshop groups established ad hoc talking about the future of IFCC. The General Conference overall was an excellent platform to interact with representatives of national members and people actively involved in IFCC work.

At the annual Corporate Member Meeting held in Fortaleza in September, there was again a good exchange between corporate representatives and IFCC officers, incl. follow-up on prior suggestions how to improve communication, decision making, and actions of IFCC for the mutual benefit of all its members. In 2009, a new Executive Board will be in place, and Thomas Brinkmann from Beckman Coulter will replace Norbert Madry from Siemens as the Corporate Representative to the EB of the leading global non-profit organization in Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, IFCC.

*Norbert Madry*  
*Corporate Representative*

## ORGANIZATIONS (REGIONAL) AFFILIATED WITH IFCC



**ASIAN-PACIFIC FEDERATION OF  
CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY  
(APFCB)**

### **EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

The APFCB organised 3 travelling lectureships within the region during the year.

#### **APFCB Travelling Lectureship**

This activity has been organised since 1999. The 2007-2008 Travelling Lecturer, the sixth in the series, for the period 2007/08 was Dr Leslie Lai of Malaysia. The topic of Dr Lai's lecture-ship was Diabetes Mellitus and the Metabolic Syndrome. This Travelling Lecturer was sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics and Abbott Diabetes Care.

#### **IFCC Visiting Lectureship**

The IFCC Visiting Lectureship to the APFCB region is collaborative activity involving the IFCC which provides the Visiting Lectureship, the APFCB's Education Committee which organises the itinerary of the Visiting Lectureship and, the national societies which are APFCB and IFCC members, which host the Visiting Lectureship.

The Visiting Lectureship to the region in 2008 was Professor Mauro Panteghini of Italy, the Chairman of the IFCC Scientific Division, who visited the region from 30 August to 17 September. Professor Panteghini's itinerary took him to Japan Taiwan, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia and Australia. The topics of his lectures were: (1) The Basics of Cardiac Biomarker Interpretation, and (2) Traceability, reference systems and result comparability.

A visit to Mainland China had originally been on the itinerary but this could not be fulfilled because of visa issues. Instead, Professor Panteghini hopes to visit China in 2009.

### **APFCB-Beckman Coulter Education Symposium Lectures**

Dr Sunil Sethi of the National University of Singapore (SACB President and APFCB Treasurer) was the speaker for APFCB-Beckman Coulter Education Symposium series of lectures on laboratory management in 2007 and 2007. Dr Sethi presented the following lectures: (1) Kuala Lumpur - at the MACB Meeting, 11 August 2007. The Application of Laboratory Processes in Enhancing Laboratory Deliverables, (2) Hong Kong - November 2, 2007. Making Automation, Informatics and Workflow Redesign Transform Patient Care, (3) Hanoi - October 17, 2008. Process Improvements in the Clinical Laboratory Environment.

### **APFCB-Sekisui Travelling Lectureship**

The APFCB-Sekisui lectureship was sponsored by Sekisui Chemical Co. of Japan (previously called Daiichi Fine Chemicals). The lecture topic was on adiponectins and the lecturer was Associate Professor Shinji Kihara of Osaka University. This lecture was delivered in Indonesia in 2007 and again in Singapore on 18th September 2008. In Singapore it was attended by more than 120 registrants. The 3rd lecture in this series was delivered in Kuala Lumpur on 21 November. In each of these venues, A/Professor Kihara demonstrated his extensive knowledge of this emerging diagnostic and possibly therapeutic protein.

### **SCIENTIFIC and LABORATORY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

The APFCB has conducted a number of scientific activities among its members. The APFCB's Laboratory Management Committee has undertaken surveys to assess the variation of HbA1c testing among laboratories with the APFCB region. The fourth round of the HbA1c survey was conducted, as before, by The Committee of Proficiency Testing of the Taiwan Society of

Laboratory Medicine (TSLM) in 2008. These surveys have been sponsored over the years as follows: 2005 Bio-Rad, 2006 Dade-Behring, 2007-2008 Bio-Rad.

Method: Five fresh blood samples obtained from healthy and diabetic human subjects were sent to participants in the Asia-Pacific region, accompanied by an instruction kit and a questionnaire as in the previous year. The results submitted by the participants were evaluated against target values obtained by NGSP secondary laboratories. Acceptable limit was defined as peer group median +0.8% HbA1c, used by TSLM. In addition, grading based on +7% of the NGSP target value was also provided for educational purposes.

For the 2008 survey, 19 sets of survey samples were sent out to laboratories in Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. Of these, 5 labs (2 labs in India, 2 labs in Malaysia and 1 lab in Vietnam) did not return the results.

A paper on these trials is currently under preparation with a view to publication in a scientific journal.

### **Reference Intervals Project (involving Japan, APFCB and IFCC)**

The initial study of reference intervals of populations in several Asian cities that was coordinated by Professor Kiyoshi Ichihara of Japan with the involvement of the APFCB was completed. The paper on this project was published in the February 2008 issue of Clinical Chemistry. This was the first paper based on a regional scientific project published by the APFCB. The importance of this study and its results was underlined by the appearance of an editorial on the paper that appeared in the same issue.

A similar but expanded project to study reference interval of Asian cities which will include a wider range of analytes has been planned by Professor Ichihara. The expanded project will involve the IFCC C-PP, C-RIDL and the APFCB besides colleagues in Japan. Thus far the following activities have taken place in 2008: (1) Professor Ichihara has visited a total of 17 laboratories in 11 cities in East and South-east Asia to meet personnel in participating laboratories and establish linkages: Kuala Lumpur (Sept 14-15), Jakarta (Sept 16) and Singapore

(Sept.17), Seoul(Oct 17-18), Beijing (Oct 20-21), Hanoi (Nov 10), Bangkok (Nov 11), Taipei (Nov 12), Tainan (Nov 13); Hong Kong / Macao (Nov 14). As at November 2008, the following documents have been prepared: The study protocol, SOP for execution of the study, Invitation to the study, Informed consent form, Health-status questionnaire. (2) Professor Ichi-hara has discussed the project protocols with colleagues of the IFCC-Scientific Division (Professor Panteghini and Professor F Cerriotti the C-RIDL Chair). (3) Professor Ichihara has applied to the Japan Government for a grant of USD192,000 for fiscal year 2009-11. He has also applied to the APFCB for a small initial grant. At the time of writing this report, the BD Diagnostics have offered to provide sample containers.

Interpretative Comments Educational Program was organised and coordinated by the Chair of the APFCB Laboratory Management Committee, Dr Samuel Vasikaran of Perth, Australia. This educational project requires very little cost as it does not involve samples. It merely involves the despatch of case histories to participants and assessment of their commentary. A group of senior chemical pathologists was convened to comment on the cases: Dr Samuel Vasikaran (Chair, Australia), Dr Ken Sikaris (Australia), Dr Leslie Lai (Malaysia), Dr Sunil Sethi (Singapore).

The invitation to laboratories in the APFCB region to participate was issued in March 2008. 31 registered participants of which about 27 were within the Asia-Pacific region and 4 were from Africa. A total of 5 cases were sent out between May and October 2008. The cases, in chronological order, were on glucose metabolism, thyroid function, PSA, eGFR and plasma lipid levels. The response rate was initially about 60% but fell to below 50% for the last survey. The APFCB Executive Board will take a decision on whether to continue this project in 2009.

#### **IFCC-APFCB-ACBSL Workshop on Laboratory Quality**

A workshop on Laboratory Quality will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 4th and 5th April 2009. It will be jointly organised by the IFCC-Education and Management Division, the APFCB and ACBSL.

A tentative programme has been prepared and speakers have been identified. The local organisers have indicated that the participants will be local pathologists, clinical biochemists and technologists.

The IFCC and APFCB have been informed that efforts are currently underway towards completing local arrangements.

A preliminary budget has been prepared by the local organisers. The IFCC will meet the travel costs of the visiting lecturers while the ACB-SL will meet all local expenses. Thus far the APFCB has received commitments of sponsorship from BD Diagnostics and Bio-Rad for this workshop. It is expected that this workshop will be a prototype for similar activities in other developing countries.

#### **APFCB PHILANTHROPIC FUND and SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME**

**APFCB Philanthropic Fund** was established in 2005, primarily to support the APFCB Scholarships Programme. The annual grants to APFCB received from IFCC in 2005, 2006 and 2007 have been transferred to the Fund, as has part of the 2008 grant of CHF10,000.

**APFCB Scholarships Selection Committee** to select the winners of scholarships awarded by the APFCB was formed consisting of the following persons: Professor Chris Lam (HKSCC, Chairman), Professor Leslie Burnett (AACB), Professor Kiyoshi Ichihara (JSCC). Professor Tjin-Shing Jap (CACB), Dr Leslie Lai (MACB).

#### **Scholarships Offered/Awarded in 2008**

**APFCB-Anon scholarship:** Sponsorship of this scholarship was originally offered for a 3-year period, 2006 to 2008, for attendance of the AACB's Annual Scientific Meeting. The 2008 scholarship, the final year of the sponsorship, was awarded to Dr Hoang Thu Ha of Hanoi, Vietnam. The selection of the winner was made by the AACB which also provided free registration.

The APFCB Executive Board has decided to continue to fund this scholarship from the Philanthropic Fund, from 2009. It will henceforth be called the APFCB-AACB Scholarship for the AACB ASM in recognition of the AACB's contribution. At the AACB's invitation, the APFCB will in future be involved in the selection process.

**APFCB-IFCC Scholarships for the ICCCLM, Fortaleza:** The APFCB offered two scholarships each worth SGD5000, to two young scientists from India and Vietnam, to present their work at the International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine in Fortaleza, Brazil. However, neither scholarship was taken up by the recipients.

## COMMUNICATIONS

**APFCB News:** The APFCB News is the annual newsletter of the APFCB. About 4000 copies printed and distributed to APFCB members associations and senior clinical biochemists on all five continents. The publication of the 2007 issue was delayed to accommodate news from the 11th APCCB and was released in March 2008. Preparation of the 2008 APFCB News is currently underway.

**Clinical Biochemist Reviews:** The CBR is a reviews journal, published every quarterly by the AACB in association with the APFCB. It is bulk distributed to APFCB at reduced sub-cription to clinical biochemist in the Asia-Pacific through APFCB member associations.

### 12th APCCB, SEOUL, KOREA

The APCCB is the triennial scientific congress of the APFCB. Through the IFCC-APFCB agreement on the APCCBs this is also an IFCC congress. The 12th Asian-Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry (APCCB) which is the APFCB's is scheduled to be held from October 3rd to 8th, 2010 at COEX convention centre, Seoul, Korea. The APFCB Executive Board has been in touch with colleagues of the Organising Committee in Seoul on preparations for this congress.

## CORPORATE MEMBERS

The APFCB has 13 corporate members. Following a amendment to the APFCB constitution that was passed at the Council meeting in Beijing, a Corporate Representative was elected from among the corporate members to serve on the Executive Board for the first time.

Following a decision taken in 2007, the corporate membership subscription was increased to SGD700 annually or SGD2000 for 3 years. As in previous years, our corporate members have continued to support the APFCB activities. In 2008, financial support was received or committed for the following activities: APFCB Travelling Lectureship (Abbott Diagnostics (and Abbott Diabetes Care); HbA1c Project (Bio-Rad); Quality Workshop, Sri Lanka (BD Diagnostics, Bio-Rad); APFCB Distinguished Service Award (BD Diagnostics); 2008 APFCB News advertisements (BD Diagnostics, Beckman Coulter, Randox, Siemens); APFCB-Beckman Coulter Symposium Lectures (Beckman Coulter); APFCB-Sekisui Lectures (Sekisui Chemical Co.).

## IFCC Annual Grant to the APFCB

Since 2005 the IFCC has provided an annual grant to the APFCB since 2005. In 2008 the APFCB received the sum of CHF10,000. This money will be used for education and scientific activities.

### Joint IFCC Activities in the APFCB Region

The IFCC continues to be active in the APFCB region, working both with the APFCB and directly with its members. The following IFCC activities in the region are discussed in various sections of this report: IFCC Visiting Lectureship Programme, the Asian-Pacific Congresses of Clinical Biochemistry, project on reference intervals, with IFCC-SD (i.e. C-RIDL and C-PP), annual grant: since 2005, the APFCB has received an annual grant from the IFCC for its activities, IFCC-EMD-APFCB-ACBSL Workshop on Laboratory Quality, Sri Lanka, direct IFCC activities in the APFCB region without APFCB involvement (Vietnam Quality Assurance project, Molecular biology course/workshop as IFCC-EMD activities).

### IFCC-EMD Workshop on Molecular Biology, India

The IFCC-EMD has informed the APFCB of its intention to hold a workshop on molecular biology in India. The APFCB has expressed its support for this activity and looks forward to receiving more information on how best it can work with the IFCC in this matter.

### IFCC Membership of the APFCB Members

All but two of the APFCB members are also IFCC members. The exceptions are the Philip-pines (PAMET) and Nepal (NAMLS). The IFCC has expressed an interest in bringing both these countries into the IFCC fold. The APFCB will try to assist the IFCC in this endeavour.

## AACC SPECIALITY MEETING IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Over the past few years, the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC) has organised four joint speciality scientific meetings in the region, two each with the SACB and the AACB. The second joint AACB and AACC conference entitled "Laboratory Medicine: Into the Future", was to be held from November 13-14, 2008, in Honolulu, Hawaii.

AACC-APFCB-MACB Workshop on Laboratory Automation will be held in Kuala Lumpur in October 22-23, 2009.

## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The APFCB's financial affairs and matters related to government regulations are managed by SolidTrack Management Pte Ltd which serves as the APFCB Office. The APFCB does not collect a subscription from its ordinary members. Its only regular income is from the surplus of the APCCBs. Nevertheless, as a result of prudent management and the financial support of its corporate partners and the IFCC, our finances continue to be healthy despite an in-crease in its activities. The annual audited statement of accounts for the financial year ending 31 July were circularised to the APFCB Council. In addition, the Executive Board receives quarterly accounts and monthly bank statements.

*Joseph Lopez*  
APFCB President



## Summary

EFCC's first full year of operation continued successful programmes of work begun by EC4 and FESCC, while developing the committee structure of the new organization. Problems of financial management and financial independence were present for most of the year but are gradually being resolved.

## Executive Board

The Board met three times in 2008, in Antalya (12 April), Florence (22-24 August) and Paris (4-5 November). The EFCC Terms of Reference and Structure documents have been re-vised. The Board has also considered new membership applications from the Kosovo Society (approved), and applications for Associate Membership from laboratory medicine societies not affiliated to IFCC in the Ukraine and Poland (decision pending while in discussion with the IFCC-affiliated societies in those countries).

The Board has begun consideration of succession planning in preparation for the election of 2009-2011 officers at the General Assembly in Innsbruck in June 2009. The EFCC Roche Award for a clinical chemist who has made a distinguished contribution to clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine in Europe will also be presented in Innsbruck, and the Board is currently receiving nominations from National Societies for suitable recipients of this Award. A reception to promote EFCC will be held after the General Assembly in Innsbruck.

EFCC is continuing to work with EDMA on proposals for co-ordination of editorial activity for the European Lab Tests Online sites.

The EB is responsible for the EFCC website, and is very frustrated at the slow progress towards this. IFCC have now appointed a web contractor, and the site architecture has been agreed. It is hoped to have an operational site in April 2009. Lisa Ionescu in the IFCC Office has been most helpful.

The Presidents of EFCC both spoke at the Nordic Conference on CCLM in Helsinki in June 2008, and also participated in JIB 2008 in Paris in November 2008. On both occasions, the themes were the objectives and work programmes of EFCC and the promotion of laboratory medicine. EFCC officers have also attended the Brussels congress (May 2008), the Swiss Medlab (Sept 2008) and the BFCL meeting in Athens (October 2008).

## Education and Training Committee (Chair: E Topic)

Regular columns by Bernard Gouget on the work of EFCC have appeared in Laboratory News. The EFCC Dubrovnik workshop held in October 2008 was a success with 60-70 participants, and will be repeated in 2009. The topic will be Thyroid Disease. EFCC provides support for the course, and bursaries for a number of individual participants were provided by IFCC. In 2009, these bursaries will be the responsibility of EFCC also. Preparations began for an EFCC symposium in association with FHF in France on Laboratory Accreditation, to be held in Paris in February 2009, with generous sponsorship from Bio-Rad.

Guidelines for the organization of Euromedlabs were revised and approved in conjunction with C-CD and the IFCC EB. These are now ready for the selection process for Euromedlab 2013, which will take place at the EFCC General Assembly in Innsbruck in June 2009.

EFCC also organized a successful workshop in the Balkan Federation in June 2008.

Co-operation with UEMS remains an important role, and two joint projects are being planned - a joint UEMS-EFCC Conference in Lisbon in October/November 2010, and a joint survey on Education and Training of laboratory professionals in Europe.

### **Scientific Committee (Chair: S Sandberg)**

The Cardiac Markers Working Group continued its work, and published "How well do laboratories follow guidelines on cardiac markers - the Cardiac Marker Guideline Uptake in Europe Study" (Clin Chem 2008; 54: 448-9).

The working group on creatinine standardisation continued its work. Two new working groups have been approved for 2009, one on the use of biological variation data in laboratory medicine and on the evaluation of laboratory tests. National Societies were asked for nominations for these working groups, and the groups are currently being finalized.

EFCC is also involved in preparing a case for a project to ensure proper quality assurance in European bio-banking, and as a partner in the European SPIDIA project on pre-analytical effects.

### **Quality Management Committee (Chair M Plebani)**

Mario Plebani was appointed as Chair of the Quality Management Committee in August 2008, but has recently stepped down as he has taken over as Editor-in-Chief of CCLM. A replacement is currently being sought. The major working group of the Quality Management Committee, the WG Accreditation/ISO-CEN continues to work closely with ISO TC212 on the development and implementation of ISO 15189, and is also continuing and developing its work on European accreditation with a survey on the status of accreditation in all European member countries. The last survey on European accreditation was published in CCLM in 2007. Major developments on mandatory accreditation in France have stimulated co-operation and the accreditation WG were closely involved in the EFCC/FHF symposium in Paris in February 2009.

It has been agreed to form a joint working group with IFCC EMD on patient safety.

### **Professional Committee (Chair: S Zerah)**

The Register website was completely revamped and re-launched in 2008, and has been well received. The European Commission has approved the EC4 Register as self-regulation under the EC's self- and co-regulation proposals, so it is now an officially recognised regulatory initiative under the control of the profession. Work continues to move to co-regulation (top-down rather than bottom-up!). Re-registration of professionals who registered at the opening of the register is now required, and currently 30% of those eligible for re-registration have renewed, but efforts to improve that figure are continuing.

### **Finance Committee (Chair: P Schuff-Werner)**

2008 subscriptions were collected from 33 of 34 member countries. The Treasurer has produced EFCC reimbursement rules and a revised expenses claim form, and is working towards a Finance Committee to provide financial oversight. After the meeting with IFCC officers in Antalya in April 2008, it was agreed to open an EFCC sub-account of the IFCC account, to make it easier for EFCC to operate and to allow some degree of financial independence. This has proved a complex and time-consuming process, and at the time of writing the EFCC Treasurer is still unable to operate the sub-account or to receive detailed financial information, though it is expected this will shortly be received. CHF 60 000 was budgeted from IFCC in 2008, and the majority of this sum was spent according to budget. A small amount reverted to IFCC at year end.

### **Conclusion**

EFCC has had an active and successful first year of existence, and is building on that for 2009. I am very grateful to all the Executive Board members for their help and support, to Paivi Laitinen as our IFCC Board liaison and to Lisa Ionescu in the IFCC/EFCC office for her tireless work on behalf of EFCC.

*Mike Hallworth*  
EFCC President

### **ARAB FEDERATION OF CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY (AFCB)**

Arab Federation's activity consists in year 2008 of two major topics;

1. Training on Molecular biology Technique
  2. Training on Quality Management & Accreditation
- Arab Federation organized, in cooperation with national societies a training course on fetal DNA (Extraction from Maternal Blood) on October 18-19, 2008: Egypt. 17 participants from seven Arab countries joined this course. A training course on using Molecular Biology Technique in diagnosis: Tuberculosis - Leishmaniasis, and Malaria was organized in Khartoum, Sudan on November, ? 2008. 30 participants from four Arab countries joined this course. A training course on Quality & Accreditation was organized in Cairo, Egypt, on January 2008, and Tunisia in cooperation with Bio-Rad company. 20 and 40 participants Arab countries joined these courses. A similar training course on Quality & Accreditation was also organized in Sanna, Yemen on October, 2008, and in Khatoum, Sudan on November. Participants of these courses were from the Ministry of Health, Universities and private sector.

Arab Federation gives financial support to cover part of the expensive of these courses. Syrian Clinical Laboratory Association supports the participant with some material.

During 2008 AFCB organized 2 EB meetings in Cairo and Yemen, the main topics of this meeting.

Arab Federation focused its work during 2008 on the implementation of External quality pro-gram on Arab countries. A small committee is planning this program. In Sudan 80 public & private labs in Khartoum State join this program, Syrian Association supports with Quality Material and a Sudanese coordinator (Dr. N. Hamzeh) supervises this program. The Jordanian Society of Laboratory Medicine started the EQAS program in cooperation with the Arab Federation at the end of 2008 and about 90 private laboratories joined this program.

AFCB Member Societies had their national meetings during the year.

AFCB has maintained good relation with IFCC and all regional federations, and with WHO- regional office.

*Dr. Fouad Harb  
President, AFCB*



## MEETINGS

Member Societies of COLABIOCLI have organized several meetings during 2008. Guatemalan Society of Clinical Chemists organized a meeting on March 2008 and the topic was "Strategies for laboratory improvement". The Cuban Society of Clinical Pathologists and the Colombian Society had their Annual meetings. The Mexican Society of Biochemical Chemistry organized a meeting in México on May 2008, on "Accreditation of Clinical Laboratories". A Regional Central American meeting was held in Guatemala on September 2008 on "Regulations on imported laboratory reagents". Seminars on External Quality Assessment were organized in San Salvador on October and in Honduras on November, and a workshop on Laboratory licencing was organized in Honduras on September.

## EDUCATION

COLABIOCLI organized a course on Quality Management Systems in Guatemala on August-December 2008 and a seminar on Auditors training in Quality Management Systems in Bogota,

Colombia on November 2008.

## REGIONAL RELATIONS

Members of Executive board participated in meetings of professional activities in Mexico, San Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Colombia, Venezuela, Brasil and Argentina.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Members of COLABIOCLI participated in meetings in Antalya Turkey, UK Birmingham, Brazil, Leon France.

COLABIOCLI in cooperation with PAHO-WHO has a cooperative program on "Strategies to strengthen different aspects of Licence, External Quality Assessment and Quality Management Systems in different Latin American Countries", as well as a cooperative program of distribution of laboratory reference materials for External Quality Assessment in Honduras and Nicaragua. In 2008 COLABIOCLI in cooperation with PAHO-WHO, distributed a manual "Ethics Manual for laboratories personnel in all Latin American Countries".

*Dr Ana Leticia Maselli  
COLABIOCLI President*

## COMMITTEE ON CONGRESSES AND CONFERENCES (C-CC)

### MEETINGS AND MEMBERSHIP

The Congress and Conference Division (CCD) was replaced by the Committee on Congresses and Conferences (C-CC). Tomris Ozben was appointed as the Chair of C-CC, effective January 1st, 2008.

The C-CC has four members (Tomris Ozben, Ulisses Tuma, James Wesenberg) including a Corporate Member (Patricia Noterman). There is also a liaison person from the IFCC Executive Board (Daniel Mazziotta), and currently two corresponding members (Pierre Carayon and Tomas Zima). Prof. Tuma completed his term on December 31st, 2008 and was replaced by Dr Vanessa Steenkamp from South Africa, effective January 1st, 2009. C-CC held two committee meetings in 2008. The first meeting was held in Antalya, Turkey on April 12, 2008 during the IFCC General Conference. The second meeting was held on September 29th, in Fortaleza during the IFCC-WorldLab Congress.

## **INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE**

Fortaleza (IFCC WorldLab 2008) September 28 - October 2, 2008, XX IFCC International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (XX ICCCLM) was held in Fortaleza, Brazil from 28 September to 02 October 2008. This congress was hosted by the Brazilian Society of Clinical Analyses (SBAC). The XX ICCCLM was held concurrently with the XXXV Brazilian Congress of Clinical Analyses and the VIII Brazilian Congress of Clinical Cytology. The Chairman of the Congress Organizing Committee and current SBAC President was Prof. Ulisses Tuma. The International Scientific Committee Chairman was Professor Paolo Mocarelli from Italy. Approximately, 5000 scientists registered (4000 pre-registrations). The Congress Center was too small to accommodate all of the corporate requests for exhibition space. With a single exception, all of the scheduled speakers participated. Meeting was quite successful. Ulisses Tuma confirmed that 20% of gross income was given to IFCC according to the agreement.

The IFCC WorldLab Berlin 2011 (XXI ICCCLM) will be held concurrently with the IFCC -EFCC EuroMedLab from May 15-20, 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. A meeting of the International Scientific Committee for IFCC-WorldLab Berlin 2011 was held in Fortaleza on Tuesday September 30th, 2008, to review the draft outline of the program (components and scheduling) and to discuss potential scientific topics for inclusion in the program.

C-CC received four bids from four full member societies (Mexico, Sweden, Turkey and India) to host the ICCCLM 2014. C-CC reviewed and judged on a point system these four bids according to the established guidelines. This was an extremely difficult decision for the C-CC, since the applications received all contained many outstanding reasons to warrant selection.

IFCC Executive Board on basis of the evaluation performed by the C-CC according to the established guidelines decided to ask the Turkish Biochemical Society to organize, on behalf of IFCC, the 22nd IFCC International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (ICCCLM, WorldLab) in June 2014 in Istanbul. A contract is under preparation and will be signed by

IFCC, Emmezeta and the Turkish Biochemical Society.

## **REGIONAL CONGRESSES**

There are four regions within the IFCC structure and each Regional Federation organizes its own Regional Congresses of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (RCCCLM).

Planning for the next European Regional Congress (18th IFCC-EFCC EuroMedLab) is well underway. This congress will be held in Innsbruck, Austria, 07-11 June 2009. The President of the Congress is Professor Mathias M. Mueller, the Executive Manager of the Congress is Professor Andrea Griesmacher and the Organizing Secretariat is Emmezeta Congressi. Prof. Tomris Ozben is a Congress Organizing Committee (COC) member and attended two COC meetings, on March 14th in Vienna and on October 25th in Innsbruck. All the symposium topics and chairs were determined and speakers were invited.

The date of the COLABIOCLI Santiago, Chile 2009 was changed to 2010 for the bicentennial celebration of the foundation of Chile Republic.

12th ArabMedlab, Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (12ème Medlab Arabe, Fédération de Biologie Clinique), 3rd Conference of Clinical Biology, Lebanon (3ème Congrès de Biologie Clinique, Liban) 3èmes Journées Internationales Francophones de Biologie Clinique et de Médecine de Laboratoire will take place in Beirut/Beyrouth, October 1-3, 2009. Pierre Carayon is the C-CC representative and he is in close contact with Christian Haddad, the organizer of the meeting. The Organizing and the Scientific Committees have been set up. There will be simultaneous English and French translation. The choice of speakers has been done. Regarding other items such as hotels, industrial exhibition, satellite symposia; work is in progress. An internet site has already been settled (<http://www.sdbliban.org/>) and should provide more information. In conclusion, preparations are going well and C-CC is confident that the meeting will be successful.

The 12th Asian Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry will be held in Seoul, Korea from 03-08 October 2010. Various committees are being setup and the website is <http://www.apccb2010.org>. James Wesenberg is appointed to the COC of 12th APCCB. More detailed information regarding the organization committee is to be provided within a few months.

## **IFCC SPECIALIZED CONFERENCES**

The 11th Bergmeyer Congress was held in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany from 3-5 March 2008. Program theme was 'Markers of Kidney Disease'. The speakers talked on the clinical aspects and role of laboratory of kidney disease which was followed by renal function in non-kidney disease. Proceedings were published in the Scandinavian Journal of Clinical Chemistry. All administrative arrangements and finances were covered by Roche. Scientific program was decided by IFCC and Roche. Professor Tomris Ozben was appointed to the Steering Committee for Roche Bergmeyer Conferences, effective January 1st, 2009.

IFCC has an 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 IFCC Ortho Clinical Diagnostics (OCD) Conference was held in Birmingham on May 18-19, 2008. The topic of the Conference in conjunction with FOCUS 2008 was "Biochemical Markers in Clinical Cardiology: Perspectives from Present to Future". The Chairs of the scientific program were Prof. Jocelyn Hicks and Prof. Mauro Panteghini. Prof. Tomas Zima is the C-CC representative for these conferences.

## **IFCC GENERAL CONFERENCE**

IFCC General Conference was held on April 13 - 14, 2008 in Antalya, Turkey. IFCC General Conference began with two days of EB/ Division/ Committee meetings. EB and Division/ Committee Meetings were held on April 11- 12, 2008. Opening of the General Conference was 13 April 2008. This was followed by the Presidents address and reports of IFCC Treasurer and various divisions (SD, EMD, and CPD), followed by two plenary sessions - Global Campaign on Diabetes and Pediatric Laboratory Medicine; and was followed by reports from the four global regional Federations (AFCD, APFCB, EFCC, COLABIO-CLI). A report from corporate representative (Norbert Madry) was presented which was followed by welcome reception "Labs are Vital" at the pool area sponsored by ABBOTT. On April 14, the GC continued with Group discussions. Five groups were formed headed by the IFCC past presidents composing of National Representatives and Corporate Representatives:

Group 1 headed by Matthew McQueen discussed "The mission and future of Lab Medicine"

Group 2 headed by Daniel Mazziotta discussed "Educational programs and training needs, especially in developing countries"

Group 3 headed by Gérard Siest discussed "The laboratory's role in improving the quality of patient care"

Group 4 headed by Donald Young discussed "Linking IFCC activities with clinical associations"

Group 5 headed by Mathias Müller discussed "Developing diagnostic guidelines"

Reports from the five group discussions were presented in the afternoon session.

A total of six societies/associations (seven locations) submitted bids to host the IFCC General Conference: Greece (Corfu and Crete), Macedonia (Ohrid), India (Kolkata), Czech Republic (Prague), Indonesia (Bali) and Paraguay (Asuncion).

The Executive Board of IFCC, on the basis of the evaluation performed by the Committee on Congresses and Conferences (C-CC) according to the established criteria for selection of General Conference site decided to accept the Greek Society to organize, on behalf of IFCC, the General Conference 2010 in Corfu, Greece.

The IFCC Office will carry out the administrative activities in preparing the Conference in collaboration with the C-CC and a local organizing committee from the Greek Society. The Executive Board will look after the conference programme and later in 2009 the IFCC Office should be contacted for administrative assistance. The active involvement of the Greek Society is essential and the lead person from the Society has been identified as Dr. Alexandros Haliassos (haliassos@moleculardiagnosics.gr), the IFCC representative for Greece. The members of the organizing committee have also been decided. The person in charge on behalf of ERA LTD will be Mr. Andreas Lancelin (info@era.gr). The organizing committee met the Congress Bureau ERA LTD, that made the offer and they confirmed the offer and date for the General Conference 2010.

## **IFCC AUSPICES**

C-CC provides IFCC Auspices to high quality meetings/congresses in the area of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine provided that the organizers apply for the meeting to be held under IFCC auspices. On behalf of C-CC, its Chair approves applications for IFCC auspices for the meetings organized by any IFCC Member Society, Specialty Group or Corporate Member provided that the meeting topics are directly related to the goals of the IFCC.

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 organizers of congresses receive valuable publicity through the information channels of IFCC.

## REVISION OF THE DOCUMENTS AND GUIDELINES

Several documents and guidelines have been reviewed and revised; they are available on the IFCC website ([www.ifcc.org](http://www.ifcc.org)).

*Tomris Ozben  
C-CC Chair*

## IFCC SCIENTIFIC DIVISION (SD)

During 2008, 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 SD meetings as consultants: Jean-Claude Forest (JCTLM), Heinz Schimmel (IRMM) and David Bunk (NIST). Two meetings were held during the year 2008: April 11, 12 & 14 (Antalya, TR in conjunction with the triennial IFCC General Congress) and September 27-28 (Fortaleza, BR in conjunction with the XXth ICCC).

## 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 JCTLM continues its work which is available for review on its database at [www.bipm.org/jctlm](http://www.bipm.org/jctlm). As well symposia reporting on its achievements have been presented at regional and national congresses including the XXth ICCC (Fortaleza, BR Sept 2008). Stakeholder meetings are also held on a regular basis as a further means of publicising its activities. 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). The Working Group 2 on Reference Measurement Services has reviewed nominations from laboratories of National Institutes of Metrology, clinical service providers and academic centres. A procedure is in place to periodically review the lists 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 (IVD) industry.

### Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements (IRMM)

Close collaboration with IRMM continues through a number of joint ventures involving Committees and Working Groups. The 2nd ERM-DA470 has been released with certified values for 12 plasma proteins. Projects continue for the preparation of aspartate aminotransferase (AST), HbA<sub>2</sub>, and myoglobin reference materials.

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

The good working relationship between CLSI and IFCC continues with 7 joint projects underway during 2008. Documents on "How to Define and Determine Reference Intervals in the Clinical Laboratory", "Verification of Comparability of Patient Results Within One Healthcare System", "POCT2, Implementation Guide of POCT1 for Healthcare Providers" and "Immuno-assay Interference by Endogenous Antibodies" have been published.

Current ongoing joint CLSI/IFCC projects include the following: "Expression of Uncertainty of Measurement in Clinical Laboratory Medicine", and "Characterization and Qualification of Commutable Reference Materials for Laboratory Medicine".

### 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 to be released in the near future include: Steroid hormones including thyroid hormones and vitamin D metabolites in human serum; Drugs of abuse in human serum; Metabolites in human plasma; Creatinine in human urine; Antiepilepsy drugs in serum; Vitamins B<sub>6</sub> and B<sub>12</sub> in human serum; Fat soluble vitamins and carotenoids in human serum.

### International Congress of Clinical Chemistry (ICCC)

The SD participated in the XXth International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine held 28 September - 2 October 2008 in Fortaleza, Brazil 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 has organised two symposia to be presented at the 18th Euromedlab to be held 7th to 11th June 2009 in Innsbruck, Austria: "How to define and determine reference intervals and decision limits in laboratory medicine" and "Standardization activities in endocrinology". Presentations were made to a meeting organized by CIRME (University of Milan).

## ACTIVITIES OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

The Committees (Cs), which are theme-oriented, carry out much of the scientific and professional activities of the SD. 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-PP, C-SMCD, C-RSE, C-POCT, C-TLM, C-RIDL, C-NPU, and C-MD and Chairs of WG-SEB, WG-GH (represented by Cathie Sturgeon), WG-HCG, WG-HbA1c (represented by Andrea Mosca), WG-STFT, WG-HbA2, WG-SIA, WG-TNI, WG-GFRA and WG-SAU.

## 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](http://www.labinfo.dk/English/ifcc_iupac_uk.asp). The database is published on the IFCC homepage (Scientific Division). Restructuring of its contents and transfer to the IFCC servers scheduled to be completed by the end of 2009. Mapping of the C-NPU coding system to the SNOMED CT system is underway.

During 2008 VIM 3rd ed. was released with free access on the BIPM website. Ongoing projects include: Properties and units for function examinations, Properties and units for urinary calculi, International vocabulary for nominal examinations in scientific communication, Mapping of IFCC-IUPAC laboratory coding system to SNOMED CT, Securing and structural updating of information in the NPU coding system and its environment, Recent advances in Nomenclature, Properties and Units: strategy for promoting SC-NPU achievements, Translation of C-NPU database elements and properties into French to be accessible on the Société Française de Biologie Clinique (SFBC) website early 2008.

## C-Molecular Diagnostics (C-MD)

Seven laboratories were accepted as IFCC Expert Laboratories in Molecular Diagnostics and 4 laboratories were accepted as Network Members with one further laboratory receiving provisional approval; a quality manual was prepared to clarify the process of evaluating the applications. The opportunity for further nominations remains open through the IFCC web site. An inventory of currently available reference materials for molecular diagnostics will be posted on the C's web site. An update of relevant laboratory guidelines for molecular diagnostic testing, reporting of results and use of quality control material with validated links has been collected and is being included on the C-MD web page.

## C-Plasma Proteins (C-PP)

The 2nd ERM-DA470 (formerly 2nd Preparation CRM470) reference material for plasma proteins in collaboration with IRMM has been released with certification for 12 plasma proteins. A simplified protocol for transferring values from ERM-DA470 reference material to commercial protein calibrators has been published. Other projects for 2009 are: (1) continuing collaboration with WGs for CDT, cystatin C and urinary albumin; (2) standardisation of the myoglobin assay; (3) studies on the analytical aspects of free light chains in serum as well as the relationship between concentrations of serum free light chains and Bence-Jones protein in urine, (4) a third Asian study on reference intervals and (5) to expand the discussions in the proteomic field.

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

A formal, multi-centre natriuretic peptide cross-reactivity study has been completed and data using 9 different materials measured by 20 different platforms are currently being subjected to statistical analyses. A table of properties of commercial cardiac troponin assays has been posted on the IFCC web site (Scientific Division/C-SMCD page) and will continue to be up-dated.

A manuscript describing the Quality Specifications for Troponin Assays is in the final stages of preparation. A project to complete autoantibody inhibition studies for cTnI assays is under consideration.

### **C-Reference Systems for Enzymes (C-RSE)**

The certification of the AST Reference Material is close to completion. The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the alkaline phosphatase (ALP) Reference Method is being prepared for publication. An assessment of the transferability of the method has indicated that the SOP is suitable. A project to establish provisional reference intervals for ALP and other enzymes in cooperation with the C-RIDL is underway including the analyses of appropriate samples using reference procedures. The C has worked in collaboration with the C-TLM to assist the selection of suitable reference materials for RELA activities. The development of a reference measurement procedure for lipase is underway.

### **C-Point of Care Testing (C-POCT)**

A manuscript titled "Guidelines for Glucose Accuracy & Precision" is under revision. The preparation of a table of interferents in POCT has been commenced.

### **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) has been improved with the reporting of the Desirable Limits of Agreement for laboratories as a guide to laboratory performance.

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

The revision of CLSI document C28-A2 "How to Define and Determine Reference Intervals in the Clinical Laboratory; Approved Guideline - Second Edition" prepared by the C in collaboration with CLSI has been released. A systematic review on existing creatinine reference intervals was published during 2008 which contained data that was traceable to accepted reference methods. Moreover previously published data on children reference intervals were recalculated with a regression based approach.

## **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 hemoglo-

bin control material for the evaluation of trueness of the routine measurement of total hemoglobin and the three hemoglobin derivatives (O<sub>2</sub>Hb, 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)**

The WG Chair has coordinated the NACB project for Guidelines on emerging cardiovascular risk markers.

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

A manuscript describing the EQA performance of hCG assays over a six-year period after the introduction of the hCG International Standards has been submitted for publication. 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, IRR 99/688 and recombinant hCG is being undertaken with a panel of over 400 specimens. Standards prepared by individual companies are being directly compared with sets of working standards prepared centrally from these sources. 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 WG 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)**

A comparison study involving TT<sub>4</sub>, FT<sub>4</sub>, TT<sub>3</sub>, FT<sub>3</sub> and TSH assays produced by all major manufacturers has been conducted and results compared with either the reference procedures (for TT<sub>4</sub> and TT<sub>3</sub>) or candidate reference procedures (FT<sub>4</sub> and FT<sub>3</sub>). Total T<sub>4</sub> assays from 11 methods were evaluated and only 4 produced results outside the 10% limits of the reference procedure.

A reference measurement system is in place and individual manufacturers can utilise this resource to improve their assays. Total T<sub>3</sub> assay method comparison indicated more than half the methods deviated >10% from the reference procedure and analyses of the data suggested that these assays could be at the limits of their performance. Free T<sub>4</sub> data indicated that many assays were measuring low compared with the candidate reference procedure.

Free T3 assay data indicated considerable variation between assays. Similarly the method comparison for TSH indicated that 11 of 16 routine assays demonstrated values greater than 10% from the overall mean value. 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 HbA1c (WG-HbA1c)**

A network of 13 approved laboratories distributed amongst 5 countries has been maintained. These participate in analytical exercises demonstrating their competence with the reference measurement procedures. Their work continues to demonstrate that the Master Equation remains remarkably constant. Improvement to the IFCC Reference Measurement Procedure for HbA1c by LC-ESI/MS will be investigated and assessed by the network. Clinical and laboratory representatives of a number of countries have agreed on the future reporting of HbA1c results, many of which have adopted the IFCC recommendation. These decisions will continue to be made at the national level during 2009. Manufacturers have been consulted and are supportive of all the national initiatives, although there is a concern over meeting the requirements with POCT instruments. Important manuscripts have been published during 2008 describing the assessment and verification of the master equations over a 6 year period and statistical methods for evaluating the constancy of relationship described by the Master Equation.

#### **WG-Standardization of Hemoglobin A2 (WG-HbA2)**

Batches of primary reference materials for HbA2 and HbA0 have been prepared and are available for distribution. A pilot batch of secondary reference material has been prepared by IRMM and is now being evaluated by the WG. A manuscript describing the reference method is in preparation.

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

Five laboratories are performing the HPLC candidate reference method with the aim of recruiting a further 3 laboratories to this network of candidate reference laboratories. Three authentic serum pools and two levels of a candidate CDT reference material have been distributed for a second ring trial with the HPLC method. A preliminary comparison of the results has largely revealed a concor-

dance of results although small variations were observed between certain laboratories. These discrepancies will be further evaluated, before a network of candidate CDT-by-HPLC reference laboratories can be finalised. During 2009 a further ring trial will be conducted to check the commutability of a candidate CDT reference material across different methods (HPLC, CE, immunoassay). A project has been initiated, in collaboration with a MS laboratory specializing in protein structure, to define the target epitope of disialotransferrin.

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

Preparation of the primary reference preparation of cystatin C was finalised during 2008 with its characterization by dry mass analysis. The final secondary reference preparation has been produced from about 5 L of a stabilized serum pool from Swedish and German blood donors and purified recombinant human cystatin C. It has been distributed into about 4500 ampoules and lyophilized. The ampoules are stored at IRMM. Stability studies conducted over 12 months indicate this material is satisfactory. Technical issues for the final value assignment of the secondary reference preparation have been resolved and a protocol for the value assignment finalized. Final value assignment analyses are expected to be completed during 2009.

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

The WG in collaboration with IVD representatives has finalised the study protocol to evaluate specificity among currently available routine serum creatinine methods. The collection and aliquoting of some 400 serum samples representing a selection of clinically relevant pathological populations have been completed. These samples will be distributed for analyses by 4 manufacturer assays including alkaline picrate and enzymatic methods in early 2009. Traceability and performance characteristics of an ID LC/MS-MS reference method for creatinine, to be used as the reference procedure for this study, have been established. This laboratory has successfully completed participation in the RELA EQAS.

The widespread use of the Cockcroft-Gault (C-G) equation to estimate creatinine clearance for purposes of pharmaceutical dosing has been identified as a factor contributing to the un-expectedly slow pace for the adoption of IDMS-traceable creatinine methods in clinical labs worldwide. NKDEP will expand discussions with the pharma sector, including US FDA pharma regulators. Based on initial discussions with US FDA, it is now expected that new drugs will include labelling to address MDRD-based GFR estimates in addition to the traditional C-G based guidelines. Current labelling may continue to be problematic for some time to come. To this end, NKDEP has initiated a project to develop additional informational tools to assist physicians and pharmacists in evaluating kidney function and drug dosing implications, with recommendations on dosing calculations in the context of IDMS-traceable creatinine values.

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

A manuscript describing a number of key recommendations was published in Clin Chem. The proceedings and discussion held at the 2008 Bergmeyer Conference have also been released. A detailed draft study protocol has been prepared by CDC including an evaluation of sample collection and handling requirements for minimizing pre-analytical variability, characterization of the measurand in urine and the variability of the urine matrix.

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

The WG has been assembled and the project proposal adopted. A number of IFCC Corporate members have indicated their interest in supporting the project. The project will establish well characterized reference preparations of PAPP-A representing the different forms of the analyte; characterize immunoassays and antibodies used therein for their reactivity with these different forms of the analyte; and 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 and a multicenter study to investigate the impact of re-standardization on cut-off values for diagnostic assays is planned. The position of the WG has been promoted within a number of national clinical and biochemical societies including 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. UK laboratories have agreed to report GH results from 2009 in mass units, a major aim of the WG. The IFCC GH project was also presented at an IFCC sponsored meeting in Tunisia. A consensus workshop is to be held during 2009 co-organised by the WG, the Growth Hormone Research Society and the IGF Society.

#### **WG-Standardisation of Insulin Assays (WG-SIA)**

A candidate reference method has been developed and data comparing commercial assays to this method have been published. Currently there is only one laboratory performing this candidate reference procedure. The effects of freeze-thawing on insulin measured by routine immunoassays have been found to be negligible for most assays validating the study protocol. The feasibility of using recombinant insulin and serum pools in which insulin values have been assigned with IDMS to achieve harmonisation of results have been validated. The data are currently being prepared for publication.

#### **WG-Standardisation of Troponin I (WG-TnI)**

Work is underway to establish a candidate reference measurement procedure for cardiac troponin I (cTnI) and to use the method to assign a cTnI concentration to a serum-based reference material. The measurand has been defined as the stable region on cTnI and all sensitive cTnI assays currently target this region. Considerable progress has been made to characterize commercial monoclonal antibodies (MAbs) to human cTnI by epitope mapping and affinity binding studies to determine the optimal combination of MAbs. Two MAbs have been selected for the candidate reference method to provide an ELISA assay format which is working over the a suitable dynamic range. Current work is underway to improve the repeatability of the assay and take account of uncertainty sources including calibration function, matrix effects, imprecision and the serial dilution process. The optimal assay in the form of a Standard Operating Procedure suitable for transfer to other metrology laboratories is planned to be prepared during 2009.

*Mauro Panteghini*  
*SD Chair*

## EDUCATION AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EMD)

2008 has been a year where the work of the EMD has focused towards the aims of the IFCC project for developing quality competence in medical laboratories. Work on the project has been effected by a more collaborative approach; collaboration between IFCC Divisions and between the committees of EMD.

The year began with significant changes to EMD officers. Leslie Lai has been appointed as Vice-Chair of the Division and Rolf Hinzmann is now Secretary, providing valuable support to the Executive Committee. Maurizio Ferrari has also joined the Executive Committee and has broadened the experience of our membership, enhancing our discussions and activities. We have new Chairs of three of our Committees; Petr Kocna has been appointed as Chair of the Committee on Education and Curriculum Development (C-ECD) and Elizabeth Frank is the Chair of the Committee on Clinical Laboratory Management (C-CLM). Michael Neumaier is the new Chair of the Committee on Clinical Molecular Biology Curriculum (C-CMBC) and has made significant progress in planning to take the very successful molecular biology courses to countries where they are needed. All have taken on these new roles with enthusiasm and made progress in pushing forward the work of the Division. In addition, there have been considerable changes, too numerous to mention, to the membership of the EMD Committees. All new members are welcome and I hope they will enjoy the experience of contributing to the work of the Division.

The EMD has embraced the IFCC Project for developing quality competence in medical laboratories by concentrating on two areas, firstly analytical quality and secondly quality systems and accreditation. The C-CLM and the Committee on Analytical Quality (C-AQ) are working closely together to encompass both these aspects of laboratory quality. Our policy is to establish modules through pilot projects, which will be transferable to IFCC countries which request assistance in these areas. Our pilot projects for analytical quality are at a late stage of planning. For one, IFCC is providing financial support and working with the Australian Association of Clinical Biochemistry for the second phase of a pilot to establish an EQA scheme in Vietnam and for the second, a workshop on analytical quality is planned for the spring of 2009, in Sri Lanka.

A very successful EMD workshop on developing a quality system in line with ISO 15189 was held at ICCO in Fortaleza in October. This was organised by the C-CLM and its members, together with Lucia Berte and David Burnett, international experts in the field, made presentations on different aspects of this important subject. The template is available for the organisation of similar workshops on quality systems. The EMD welcomes approaches from IFCC national societies which feel that such a workshop would be beneficial to their members.

The content of the workshop is being used to develop a distance learning module on accreditation, which is being developed as part of the Siemens Distance Learning Project, a new collaborative initiative between IFCC and Siemens. The sponsorship of Siemens for this project is much appreciated by EMD, as it provides another valuable tool for our initiatives. The EMD has been working closely with the Communications and Publications Division and Siemens on the accreditation module and on a module on natriuretic peptides, which was launched in the autumn.

The work of the Division in respect of the project for developing quality competence in medical laboratories and our overall aim of providing the means for expert speakers to travel to member countries and present lectures and workshops is made possible to a large extent by the Visiting Lecture Programme (VLP) generously supported by Abbott. In 2008, there have been an increased number of VLP visits, the most extensive being a visit by Mauro Pan-taghini to the Asian Pacific Region and a visit by Chris Lam to Croatia, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

As ever, the end of each year means we must say goodbye to EMD officers who have completed their terms of office. The end of 2008 marks the end of Rita Horvath's second term as Chair of the Committee on Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine (C-EBLM). Rita has done an extraordinary job in co-ordinating the work of her committee and corresponding members and organising workshops in the practice of EBLM, most recently in South America. We must also say farewell to Michael Thomas, who has been our excellent liaison with IFCC Executive Board for the past three years. Michael has played a major part in the planning of the EMD work for the project for developing quality competence in medical laboratories. We wish both Rita and Malcolm well in the future.

December 2008 also marked the end of my first three-year term as Chair of the Division. I am honoured that I have been appointed for a second term by the Executive Board and will do my best to further the aims and objectives of the Division in the next three years.

*Janet Smith*  
*EMD Chair*

## COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS DIVISION (CPD)

### ACTIVITIES AND REPORTS

This was the second year of Ellis Jacobs' term as CPD chair. Three committee meetings were held in 2008, one by telephone conference call and two face-to-face meetings; January 2008 (teleconference), Antalya April 2008 (full committee meeting), and Fortaleza September 2008 (full committee meeting). A CPD workshop was included in the program of the ICCC 2008 (Fortaleza) and featured three presentations on peer review and ethics in publications. Meeting was held with editors of biomedical journals in Fortaleza and was subsequently decided to expand this meeting to also include publishers starting in 2009. Approval was given to Acta Bioquímica Clínica Latinoamericana (ABCL) to publish three more Spanish translations of IFCC documents (these translations will be posted on the RIA corner of the IFCC website). IFCC auspices (endorsement) for a Clin Biochem Reviews supplemental issue on analytical quality - a technical checklist, second volume was granted. Progress continues in completing the CPD 3-year strategic plan that was approved last year by the EB (see Appendix).

### COMMITTEES

#### C- Public Relations

This is the first year of this committee, previously a working group, chaired by Khosrow Adeli, and it has been very active. In addition to its members and advisors, Regional Federation representative have been appointed to the committee. The IFCC promotional brochure has now been published in Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish. It is currently being translated into Arabic. An IFCC Speakers Bureau has been put created with input from EMD and SD and has been placed on the IFCC website. It can be used to identify speakers for the Visiting Lecturer Program as well as any other educational program being developed. An IFCC informational/promotional PowerPoint presentation has been created and is being reviewed. It is anticipated to

be ready for use before Eu-roMed 2009.

#### 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 become a partner in this venture last year. The goals for the IFCC Global "Labs are Vital™" program include: Reinforcing the importance of IFCC to international members, Developing a Global Website presence, Global Media monitoring and rapid response, Global Lab week initiatives (to promote Labs in many countries - brochures and leaflets). Starting at EuroMed 08, there has been a LAV booth at the major IFCC congresses and General Conference. The program was officially launched at the General Conference in Antalya and there was a joint presentation at the Fortaleza ICCC. A website ([www.labsarevitalglobal.com](http://www.labsarevitalglobal.com)) has been created. Based on a survey of NRs at the General Conference there is significant interest in the program and to date programs have been launched in the Argentina, Brazil, Italy, Netherlands, Paraguay, US, and UK.

### WORKING GROUPS

#### WG- eJIFCC

The publication schedule was adhered to, consisting of 4 issues per year. 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 we are still waiting for a response (now expected in early 2009). Currently there are 7 members of eJIFCC Working Group (eJIFCC Editorial Board). New aims and scope for the journal have been adopted.

"The Journal of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (eJIFCC) is an online journal, published four times a year, on the web site of the IFCC.

"The peer-reviewed original articles, letters and reviews, are focused on the needs of clinical laboratorians worldwide. In addition to the peer-reviewed content, there are also occasional editorials with pointers to quality resources on the Web. Also the journal publishes some IFCC news, debates and educational material to assist the development of the field of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine worldwide."

## **WG- IFCC News**

WG membership consists of representation from Australia, Belgium, Canada, India, Malaysia, South Africa, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, and UK. The schedule of 6 issues per year has been maintained with good content.

**Editorials.** The President writes the editorial for the first and mid-year issues; and three editorials are written by the Divisional Chairs; leaving one editorial to be written by someone else. These editorials are valuable tools in publicizing the activities of the Federation. However the shortage of opinion, position papers and letters to the editor remain somewhat problematic.

The relationship between IFCC and LabMedica International for the print publication of the IFCC News continues to be smooth and without issues.

## **WG - Internet and Distant Learning**

No chair for this WG despite several calls for nominations. The CPD EC has been acting as committee of the whole to handle decision making regarding the website and distance learning. Due to the problems with the existing website, and the need to have professional IT involvement to support IFCC IT infrastructure and website development and maintenance, an outside firm was contracted with to build a new website and to help with office IT support. The new website is being designed as a more user friendly, intuitive website focusing on the services/programs of the IFCC, rather than the organization of the IFCC. The new website was scheduled to be launched by the time of the Fortaleza meeting, but due to unforeseen circumstances was delayed to the end of 2008 (eventually was launched in Jan 2009). Never the less, the current website has been maintained and the home page has been updated (links to new Lab Tests On-Line sites, scrolling Latest News box, scrolling eNewsletter box, eJournal, etc.). Additionally access to some of the databases, e.g., C-ECD, that were lost with the launch of the current website has been restored.

An agreement was reached with **Siemens Diagnostics for them to sponsor a Siemens/IFCC Distance Learning Program.** This will consist of different programs encompassing a wide range of format (simple lecture with/without PowerPoint to full on-line course with examination) in English, Spanish and French. All programs will be developed in collaboration with EMD. Either IFCC or Siemens will provide the scientific content for any distance learning programs. In the latter case, the content would be reviewed and

approved by IFCC experts. Accreditation and certification of course completion will be available. Initially the programs will reside on the Siemens website but will be transferred to the new IFCC website. The first product on B-Natriuretic Peptide (oral lecture with PowerPoint slides) was released in September in English and is being translated into Spanish and French. Work has started on developing a multipart program on developing a quality system in line with ISO 15189 based on the EMD workshop in Fortaleza. Presenters were videotaped as part of this project.

## **WG - Spanish (Ibero-american) Nomenclature and Translations**

In December 2007 Professor Montserrat Blanes González 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. Prof Blanes was appointed chair of this WG in April and Prof Fuentes Arderiu stepped down as co-editor in Sept. Prof Blanes has been revitalizing this WG and is actively working on updating the RIA section of the website.

## **Reports on Publications**

Documents from Committees & Working Groups - Report of the Editor of Documents  
The database continues to be updated as publications are forthcoming. See appendix 4 for the list of 2008 publications.

## **Monographs**

EMD monograph entitled "Essentials of Clinical Laboratory Management in Developing Countries" was published this year.

## **Books**

Handbook on Flow Cytometry was translated from German into English and, via a special grant from Coulter Foundation, will be provided free of charge to young scientists in developing countries. Revision of the "Silver Book": Compendium of Terminology and Nomenclature of Properties in Clinical Laboratory Sciences (IUPAC and IFCC Recommendations 1995) has commenced.

## **Conference Proceedings**

The conference proceedings of the Bergmeyer conference were published.

## Journal

Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine (CCLM)  
The contract with Walter deGruyter regarding the relationship with IFCC and CCLM being the official journal of the IFCC has been renewed for another three years. All IFCC documents are available free on the CCLM Web Site. Free access to full online version is available for all NR & PR of members societies, CR, EB, DC, and IFCC Regional presidents. There are also reduced-rate subscriptions available for the paper CCLM through National Societies.

## 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

Current membership of the CPD is:

Ellis Jacobs (Chair), Khosrow Adeli (Vice-Chair/PR Coordinator), Mario Plebani (Secretary/Editor of Documents), Edgar Delvin (Editor IFCC News), Grazyna Sypniewska (Editor eJIFCC), Franz Baumann (Corporate Representative), Joseph Lopez (EB Liaison).

Mario Plebani resigned as Editor of Documents in October. It was decided and approved by the EB to combine the Editor of Documents and the Web Site/Distance Learning Coordinator positions into a new position entitled Publication/Distance Learning Coordinator. A call for nominations for this position was sent out in December 2008.

*Ellis Jacobs*  
CPD Chair

## Appendix 1:

APPROVED CPD THREE YEAR (2007-9)  
STRATEGIC PLAN  
With Completion Dates

### (A) IMPROVE INTERNAL COMMUNICATION WITHIN IFCC

- 1) Identify issues and seek opportunities for improvement - OCT 2007 ON GOING
- 2) Develop measurable benchmarks for annual assessment of achievements - DEC 2007 ON GOING
- 3) Publish summary of EB/Divisions minutes on IFCC website - ON GOING
- 4) Reinforce liaisons among the divisions and between divisions and the EB - ACCOMPLISHED
- 5) Explore opportunities to improve access to internal documents, e.g. minutes, working

papers, etc. in a controlled manner - APR 2008 ON GOING

### (B) WEBSITE IMPROVEMENTS

- 1) Develop policy for dealing with various requests for "hosting" websites, and importing and maintaining databases - FEB 2009
- 2) Enhance the website's attractiveness and popularity - ON GOING

### (C) ENHANCE DISTANCE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBER SOCIETIES AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP

- 1) Explore various technologies for distance learning APR 2008 ON GOING
- 2) Work with the EMD C-ECD - ON-GOING
- 3) Explore cooperation with other societies and organizations that are active in distance education APR 2008 ON HOLD
- 4) Carry out a pilot project in a developing country SEP 2008 ON HOLD

### (D) ENHANCED PUBLIC RELATIONS/VISIBILITY

- 1) Recruit C-PR membership - ACCOMPLISHED
- 2) WG-PR will coordinate PR activities of the various IFCC units ON-GOING
- 3) Develop a short promotional brochure for wide distribution - ACCOMPLISHED
  - a. Work with NRs for production in their respective language ON-GOING
- 4) Complete updating and publishing of Milestones brochure - ACCOMPLISHED
- 5) Create and publish a list of potential IFCC speakers and topics (with input from EMD and SD) ACCOMPLISHED
- 6) Identify key PR tools, such as practice guidelines, and make appropriate recommendations to divisions and/or EB FEB 2009
- 7) Increase IFCC visibility at national and regional meetings, e.g. coordinate distribution of promotional materials through national representatives, prepare short standard presentation for use at membership society membership meetings FEB 2009
- 8) Assess the viability of developing a "wiki" for the production of IFCC documents JUL 2008 ON-HOLD
- 9) Explore potential for indexing of the eJournal - JUL 2007 ON-GOING

## IFCC PUBLICATIONS 2008

The publications appeared in 2008 as a result of IFCC projects are included in the web version of the 2008 IFCC Annual Report which can be found on the IFCC website at [www.ifcc.org](http://www.ifcc.org)

IFCC Annual Report 2008 has been compiled and edited by Päivi Laitinen, Secretary of IFCC from the reports of the respective IFCC Officers and National Societies.

### eJIFCC 2008

#### Vol 19,1

1. EDITORIAL - The Seventh EFCC (former FESCC) Continuous Postgraduate Course in Clinical Chemistry: New Trends in Diagnosis, Monitoring and Management using Molecular Diagnosis Methods
2. Prenatal diagnosis of chromosomal disorders - molecular aspects
3. Post-natal molecular diagnosis of inherited diseases
4. Risk assessment
5. Global approach to biomedicine functional genomics and proteomics
6. Pharmacogenomics and personalized medicine
7. Dose adjustments based on pharmacogenetics of CYP450 enzymes
8. Pharmacogenetics of drug receptors
9. Application of pharmacogenetics in does individualization in diabetes psychiatry cancer and cardiology
10. Point-of-care molecular diagnosis: A near future
11. Circulating nucleic acids as a diagnostic tool
12. European quality assessment networks in molecular diagnostics
13. Ethics and legal issue of genetic testing
14. Glossary - Vol 19 No 1

#### Vol 19,2

1. EDITORIAL eJIFCC special issue on laboratory reference intervals
2. Reference intervals: Practical aspects
3. Are my laboratory results normal: Considerations to be made concerning reference intervals and decision limits
4. Pediatric reference intervals: Critical gap analysis and establishment of a national initiative
5. Bone health in childhood usefulness of biochemical biomarkers
6. Accurate reference intervals are required for accurate diagnosis and monitoring of patients

#### Vol 19,3

1. EDITORIAL Proteomics a new approach in biomedical studies
2. Applications of two-dimensional electrophoresis technology to the study of atherosclerosis

3. Multi-marker approach with the use of biochip cardiac array technology for early diagnosis in patients with acute coronary syndromes

#### Vol 19,4

1. EDITORIAL eJIFCC Vol 19 no 4
2. Adiponectin and metabolic syndrome in women at menopause
3. Polymorphic Variations in 5-HT2A 5-HTT and DISC 1 in first episode schizophrenia patients
4. Bone turnover markers and osteoprotegerin in uncomplicated pregnancy
5. Measures of diagnostic accuracy basic definitions

### IFCC News 2008

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 2008

Editorial by Jocelyn Hicks, President, IFCC  
News from National Associations and Federations About the United Kingdom  
The Association for Clinical Biochemistry  
Report from the 6th Romanian symposium on magnesium with international participation  
Reflection on the 5th RoEQALM Symposium  
Adaptation to EC standards is advisable  
Report on the first National Congress of Clinical Laboratory A great meeting  
Report on the 39th National Congress of the Italian Society for Clinical Biochemistry and Clinical Mo  
Nomination on the Communication and Publication Division (CPD) Committee  
Letter to the Editor

#### March - April 2008

Editorial by Ellis Jacobs, Chair IFCC CPD  
News from National Associations and Federations March-April 2008  
The VI Uruguayan Congress of Clinical Biochemistry  
New editor diagnóstico in vitro and co-editor of the rincón iberoamericano

#### May - June 2008

Editorial by Jocelyn Hicks, President, IFCC  
Antalya 2008 - EMD Report  
Antalya 2008 - APFCB Report  
Antalya 2008 - Comment on the IXth General Conference  
IFCC Task Force on Global Campaign of Diabetes Mellitus  
News from National Associations and Federations  
1st Int Symp on Quality and Accreditation in Laboratory Medicine  
Prof KTaranath Shetty - In Memoriam

## July - August 2008

News from National Associations and Federations  
July-August 2008  
Brussels 2008 between -francophonie- and scientific excellence  
The 6th Paraguayan Congress of Chemistry

## September - October 2008

Editorial - Scientific Division Review of Activities and Future Directions by Ian S.Young, Vice-Chair, IFCC SD  
The Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM)  
News from National Associations and Federations  
News from the Belgian Society for Clinical Chemistry  
THE 16th CONGRESS OF MEDICAL BIO-CHEMISTS OF SERBIA AND THE 4TH EFCC SYMPOSIUM FOR BALKAN REGION  
Letter to the Editor - Presidential election 2008

## November - December 2008

Editorial and Final Report - Dr Jocelyn MB Hicks President IFCC  
Editorial Dr Graham Beasall President Elect  
News from National Associations and Federations  
Report of the meeting -The research in the field of in vitro diagnostics in Catalonia-  
Successful 3rd International Conference on Quality for Latin America  
Reports on the IFCC-Roche Travel Scholarship Awards for the 20th IFCC Worldlab Meeting Fortaleza  
Reports on the IFCC-Roche Travel Scholarship Awards 2007

## IFCC DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED IN 2008

### PUBLICATIONS

#### SD Executive Committee

- 1) Panteghini M. "Enzymatic assays for creatinine: time for action." Clin Chem Lab Med 2008;46:567-72.
- 2) Panteghini M. "Enzymatic assays for creatinine: time for action." Scand J Clin Lab Invest 2008;68(suppl 241):84-8.
- 3) John WG, Nordin G, Panteghini M. "What's in a name? Standardisation of HbA1c: a re-sponse". Clin Chem Lab Med 2008;46(9):1326-1327.

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

- 1) Dybkaer R. "Description of chemical systems by their properties".

Pure Appl Chem 2008;80(8):1719-1723.

#### C-PP: Plasma Proteins

- 1) Blirup-Jensen S, Johnson AM, Larsen M; IFCC Committee on Plasma Proteins  
"Protein standardization V: value transfer. A practical protocol for the assignment of serum protein values from a Reference Material to a Target Material". Clin Chem Lab Med. 2008;46(10):1470-9.

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

- 1) Luckenbill K, Ler R, Murakami MM, Christenson R, Jaffe AS, Mair J, Ordonez J, Pagani F, Tate J, Wu A, Apple FS. "Crossreactivity studies of BNP, NT-proBNP, and proBNP in commercial BNP and NT-proBNP assays: preliminary observations from the IFCC committee for Standardization of Markers of Cardiac Damage". Clin Chem 2008;54: 619-21.

- 2) 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:e95-98. (Collaboration with NACB on updated Cardiac Biomarker guidelines)
- 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". Clin Biochem 2008;41:222-6. (Collaboration with NACB on updated Cardiac Biomarker guidelines)

### **C-POCT: Point of Care Testing**

1) Ben Rayana MC, Burnett RW, Covington AK, D'Orazio P, Fogh-Andersen N, Jacobs E., Kullpmann 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):21-6.2007/500

### **C-RIDL: Reference Intervals and Decision Limits**

1) Ceriotti F, Boyd JC, Klein G, Henny J, Queraltó J, Kairisto V, Panteghini M; IFCC Committee on Reference Intervals and Decision Limits (C-RIDL). "Reference intervals for serum creatinine concentrations: assessment of available data for global application". Clin Chem. 2008;54:559-66.

2) Ceriotti F, Henny J. "Are my laboratory results normal?" Considerations to be Made Concerning Reference Intervals and Decision Limits", eJIFCC Vol 19 no 2: <http://www.ifcc.org/ejifcc/vol19no2/190201200803.htm>

3) Ceriotti F, Hinzmann R, Panteghini M. "Reference intervals: the way forward." Ann Clin Biochem 2009;46:8-17.

### **WG-SHCG: Standardisation of Human Chorionic Gonadotropin**

1) Berger P, Sturgeon C. Human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) isoforms and their epitopes: diagnostic utility in pregnancy and cancer Expert Opin Mol Diagn 2008; 2: 1347-64.]

### **WG-HbA1c: Standardisation of Hemoglobin A1c**

1) Weykamp C, John WG, Mosca A, Hoshino T, Little R, Jeppsson J-O, Goodall I, Miedema K, Myers G, Reinauer H, Sacks DB, Slingerland R, Siebelder C. The IFCC Reference Measurement System for HbA1c: A 6-Year Progress Report. Clin Chem 2008; 54: 240-248

2) Geistanger A, Arends S, Berding C, Hoshino T, Jeppsson JO, Little R, Siebelder C, Weykamp C; IFCC Working Group on Standardization of Hemoglobin A1c Statistical methods for monitoring the relationship between the IFCC reference measurement procedure for hemoglobin A1c and the designated comparison methods in the United States, Japan, and Sweden. Clin Chem. 2008; 54(8): 1379-85.

### **WG- HbA2: Standardisation of Hemoglobin A2**

1) Mosca A, Paleari R, Galanello R, Sollaino C, Perseu L, Demartis FR, Passarello C, Giam-bona A, Maggio A, for the IFCC Working Group on Standardization of HbA2. New analytical tools and epidemiological data for the identification of HbA2 borderline subjects in the screening for beta-thalassemia. Bioelectrochemistry 2008;73:137-140.

### **WG-SCC: Standardisation of Cystatin C**

1) Blirup-Jensen S, Grubb A, Lindström V, Schmidt C, Althaus H: Standardization of cystatin C: Development of primary and secondary reference preparations. (2008) Scand J Clin Lab Invest 68. Suppl. 241: 67-70.

### **WG-SAU: Standardisation of Albumin Assay in Urine**

1) Miller WG. Urine albumin: recommendations for standardization. Scand J Clin Lab Invest 2008;68(suppl241):71-2.

2) Miller WG, Bruns DE, Hortin GL, Sandberg S, Aakre KM, McQueen MJ, Itoh Y, Lieske JC, Secombe DW, Jones G, Bunk DM, Curhan GC, Narva AS. Current Issues in Measurement and Reporting of Urinary Albumin Excretion. Clin Chem 2009;55:24-38.

### **WG-Tnl: Standardization of Tnl**

Panteghini M, Bunk DB, Christenson RH, Katrukha A, Porter RA, Schimmel H, Wang L, Tate JR for the IFCC Working Group on Standardization of Troponin I. Standardization of troponin I measurements: an update. Clin Chem Lab Med 2008;46:1501-6

### **WG-GH: Growth Hormone**

1) Bidlingmaier M. "Problems with GH assays and strategies toward standardization" Euro-pean Journal of Endocrinology (2008) 159 S41-S44



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