



ECHOLAS

WORLD FEDERATION FOR ULTRASOUND IN MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY



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■ Message from the Secretary

At the last WFUMB Administrative Council Meeting, it was decided to continue the production of a WFUMB newsletter. We hope that the new name, *ECHOES*, the content, and the new layout of the newsletter will attract the approximately 50,000 individual WFUMB members as well as the many international institutions. The aim of *ECHOES* is to provide information about recent activities of the WFUMB. This first issue of *ECHOES* will, for economic reasons, be modest in size. But we hope to be able to expand the number of pages in future issues in order not only to inform, but also to initiate worldwide activities in the field of medical ultrasound, for example through scientific discussions.

On behalf of the WFUMB Newsletter Committee, I strongly urge all members of WFUMB who are interested in international communication on medical ultrasound to contact me to discuss professional communications that may be relevant for publication in *ECHOES*. And please do not hesitate to contact me whenever you believe that you have information that may be of interest for *ECHOES*. We hope that you will benefit from the present issue of the newsletter, and that you will work for and collaborate with us on the editing of the coming issues.

ECHOES will initially be published twice a year. Hopefully, this will be expanded to three times a year in the near future.

S. Hancke, WFUMB Secretary



*WFUMB President
Hiroki Watanabe, Japan*

■ Message from the President

Proposal for the establishment of WFUMB Centers of Excellence

WFUMB was established in 1973. The first decade was dedicated mainly to organizational activities, forming a network throughout the world. Now WFUMB has developed remarkably, with approximately 50,000 members from 50 countries. I am not aware of any organization other than WFUMB with a design plan on such a grand scale that the whole world is covered by six area federations, each consisting of many national bodies.

In the second decade of WFUMB's history, two important projects were started. One was on safety in ultrasound and the other on the history of ultrasound in medicine and biology. The first stage of the safety project has been completed with the presentation of WFUMB safety reports, based upon discussions in many seminars and symposia. Recently, it has proceeded to the next stage, which deals with the safety of contrast media.

The history project is coming into its last stage, assembling papers on the history of each specialty, which have already been published in the UMB journal, in addition to a review by a historian. All WFUMB members will reap the fruit of this labor in the form of a CD-ROM that will be distributed at the WFUMB 2003 Congress in Montreal.

An important third project of WFUMB is education. During the beginning stages of WFUMB, this was not taken very seriously, because the federation members consisted only of societies in well developed countries.

With the expansion of WFUMB, however, education has become an urgent and important matter, because many societies in developing countries are now affiliated.

Responding to this need, WFUMB organized the African Cooperation Group on Education in 2000, giving courses in Nairobi (Kenya), Kampala (Uganda) and Moshi (Tanzania). Also the Training for the Trainers program was held by the Asian Cooperation Group in Dhaka (Bangladesh) in 2002. These activities were very successful, but are just a beginning. Our efforts for education should be steady and on-going. For that purpose, we need some permanent bases located in developing areas. This idea is the WFUMB Centers of Excellence, which we propose here.

According to our present plan, centers will initially be established in Africa and Asia, because we already have some experience in these areas through the courses held in the past. In the future, probably South America and Eastern Europe will be the possible candidates. WFUMB may appoint as centers appropriate national bodies affiliated with WFUMB in developing countries, and may support them financially and by providing teachers. Each center may periodically organize the necessary courses or seminars for trainers in the surrounding countries, using the name WFUMB Center of Excellence.

I hope that each member of WFUMB will consider this proposal and give us suggestions or comments, so that we can make this the best possible program.

H. Watanabe, WFUMB President

■ Message from the Treasurer

I am pleased to report that the World Federation of Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology remains in sound financial condition in spite of the current financial problems throughout the world.

WFUMB funds are consolidated into two interest-bearing accounts, both fully insured. These include a no-fee checking account and a Merrill Lynch Endowment Management Account (EMA) consisting of a portfolio of CD's and bonds. Surplus funds are held in CD's, zero coupon bonds, and government bonds of maturities to meet the anticipated cash flow needs of WFUMB. These securities are individually insured, so that our principal is protected. Since these are risk-free investments and interest rates are low, the return on these investments is in the range of 4 to 6%, depending on maturity and the date of purchase.

WFUMB revenue comes from three principal sources: membership dues, income from publications (*Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology*), and WFUMB's share of the surplus from World Congresses. Expenses are related to council meetings, publications, and committee activities, including education programs, scholarships, etc.

C.R.B. Merritt, WFUMB Treasurer



Hosted By **AIUM**

June 1 - 4, Montréal

**WFUMB 2003,
the 10th World Congress in Ultrasound
June 1-4, 2003, Montréal, Canada**

AIUM hosts the 10th WFUMB World Congress in Ultrasound

After an interval of 15 years, the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM) will host the 10th Congress of the World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology. Chaired by world-renowned sonologist Beryl Benacerraf, MD, the Annual Congress Committee has developed an 18-track program to meet the needs of all those performing ultrasound, no matter what level of expertise or specialty. The congress will take place June 1-4, 2003, in Montréal, Canada.

A superb two-day pre-congress arranged by a committee chaired by Carol Benson, MD, will take place May 31-June 1, 2003, at the same location. The pre-congress courses, one of which will be conducted in French, will provide in-depth coverage of specific ultrasound issues.

Abstract submissions are welcome from July 1, 2002, through November 5, 2002. All abstracts must be submitted on line and prepared as described clearly at www.aium.org.

The large metropolitan center of Montréal in the province of Quebec is the perfect site for a global meeting. French is the official language of the province, but half the population also speaks English (the congress itself will be in English). This unique metropolis offers old-world charm with the most up-to-date 21st century advances and conveniences—the ideal location for a family vacation.

Sign up to be included on the mailing list via e-mail to 2003wfumb@aium.org.

AIUM



A meeting of the WFUMB and AIUM Councillors was held to discuss the WFUMB/AIUM Congress in Montreal. From left:

- WFUMB Past-President H. Lutz*
- WFUMB President-elect M. Ziskin*
- AIUM Chief Executive Officer C. Valente*
- AIUM President A. Kurtz*
- WFUMB President H. Watanabe*
- WFUMB Vice President 2 H. Gharbi*
- WFUMB Vice President 1 K. Vairojanavong*
- WFUMB Secretary S. Hancke*

WFUMB NEWS

■ **The 10th World Congress** in Ultrasound will be held in Montreal June 1st-4th, 2003. AIUM will host the congress (see above, and for details please see www.aium.org).

WFUMB has a budget to support the participation of up to 10 WFUMB members from developing countries in this joint WFUMB/AIUM 2003 Congress. Interested individuals may contact the WFUMB Secretary to apply for funding. Furthermore, WFUMB and AIUM have

agreed upon a special reduced congress fee for participants from developing countries. Please contact the WFUMB Secretary if you think you may be eligible.

■ **The WFUMB Scholarship** is now in action. See page 5 and www.wfumb.org

■ **A WFUMB Lectureship** has been established. See page 6 and www.wfumb.org



Hands-on training in Tanzania. H. Gharbi in action.

■ WFUMB African Cooperation Group on Education:

The first WFUMB Basic Course on Ultrasonography was held in Moshi, Tanzania, February 4th-8th, 2002.

The course was a result of cooperation between the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center (KCMC), Dr. Oneko, Dept. of Gyn/Obst. and the WFUMB Education Committee chaired by Dr. H.Lutz.

About 80 participants were registered. These were medical doctors, nurses, midwives and others within medical care. Most participants came from Tanzania, but participants from Kenya and Uganda were also present.

The five-day course consisted of didactic lectures and hands-on training in general medical ultrasound. The topics were numerous, including examinations of the head, neck, thorax, abdomen, breast, small part scanning of musculoskeletal structures, as well as gynecological and obstetrical examinations. The participants were divided into two groups, depending on their interest in gynecology/obstetrics or other specialty areas.

Lectures were given by the members of

the WFUMB African Cooperation Group on Education: Dr. H.Lutz (Germany), Dr. Elisabetta Buscarini (Italy), Dr. Hassen Gharbi (Tunisia), Dr. Søren Hancke (Denmark), and Dr. Kittipong Vairojanavong (Thailand). Lectures were also given by Dr. Azza Hammou, Tunisia (supported by HG); Dr. Klaus Dirks, Germany (supported by HL); Dr. Diefenthal, Head of Radiol. Dept., KCMC; Dr. Sizer, KCMC; and Dr. Voltz and Dr. Fruhauf, Germany. KCMC has two modern ultrasound machines,



The WFUMB Teaching Faculty of the "WFUMB Basic Course on Ultrasonography", Tanzania.

From left: H. Gharbi, Tunisia, WFUMB Vice President 2, H. Lutz, Germany, WFUMB Past President, E. Buscarini, Italy, WFUMB Adm. Councillor, K. Vairojanavong, Thailand, WFUMB Vice President 1, S. Hancke, Denmark, WFUMB Secretary, O. Oneko, KCMC, Tanzania.

one for gynecological/obstetrical use and one for general abdominal imaging, etc. An Acuson ultrasound machine was donated to the KCMC from Bayreuth, Germany, and a B-K Medical portable ultrasound machine was brought from Denmark for hands-on training during the course. In all, four ultrasound machines were used for the practical hands-on training procedures.

The great interest and enthusiasm of the participants and the Chairman of the KCMC impressed the WFUMB teachers. This first WFUMB course on basic ultrasonography was very successful.

H. Lutz, WFUMB Education Committee
Chairman

■ WFUMB Asian Cooperation Group on Education

The first WFUMB Training for the Trainers Ultrasound Workshop was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, June 6th-8th, 2002.

The course was a result of cooperation between the Bangladesh Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine and Research, the Bangladesh Society of Ultrasonography, Dr. Kanu Bala and WFUMB Education Committee, Dr. K. Vairojanavong, and Dr. H. Lutz.

Chairman of the project was Dr. K. Vairojanavong.

The Honorary Lecturer team was Dr. H. Lutz, WFUMB Immediate Past President; Dr. H. Watanabe, WFUMB President; Dr. H. Gharbi, WFUMB Vice President 2; Dr. K. Vairojanavong, WFUMB Vice President 1, and Dr. J.K. Han, Seoul, Korea.

Thirty-seven medical doctors, 35 from Bangladesh and 2 from Sri Lanka, with at least one year of experience in the field of medical ultrasound, participated actively in the course.

The course was held in the auditorium of the Bangladesh Society of Ultrasonography in Dhaka. The program included a wide variety of diagnostic medical ultrasonographical items such as abdominal, gynecological,

obstetrical, urological, pediatric, tropical and interventional ultrasound, as well as an important workshop on How to Organize an Ultrasound Workshop.

In the panel discussion on how to organize an ultrasound workshop, each panelist presented his or her personal experience, and an open discussion followed. Finally, the aim of this education workshop, Training for the Trainers, was discussed. Three participants from the provinces announced that they will run hands-on training at their institutes to teach junior doctors who are not able to attend courses in Dhaka.

The Bangladesh Society of Ultrasonography has for several years been running a "Certificate" course, which takes six months of training, as well as a "Diploma" course, which takes twelve months of training. These two courses will be continued in Dhaka.

In the name of the WFUMB education team, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Almas Begum, Director of BIUMB, to Dr. Kanu Bala, Medical Director of BIUMB, and to the BSU Committee for the very successful arrangement. Last but not least, thanks to Mr. M.H. Mohsin, a close friend of Dr. Bala, who took care of us in Dhaka from the arrival date until the last day.

See picture on page 7.

K. Vairojanavong, WFUMB Asian Cooperation Group on Education Chairman

■ **History of Medical Ultrasound**, edited by WFUMB, will be published on a CD-ROM which will be given to all participants in the WFUMB/AIUM 2003 Congress in Montréal, June 1st-4th, 2003.

■ **WFUMB will soon start the production of books or manuals.** The first will be *Ultrasonic Diagnosis of Infectious and Tropical Diseases*. The second will be *Ultrasound in Traumatology*.

■ **The WHO Steering Group for Global Training and Education in Diagnostic Imaging** is now functioning. The Steering Group is chaired by WHO and co-chaired by ISR and the Global NGO organizations that have an official relationship with WHO. WFUMB has signed a contract with WHO on collaboration and on becoming a permanent member of the Steering Group. The WFUMB President takes part in the annual meetings of the Steering Group.

WFUMB SCHOLARSHIP

A WFUMB Scholarship to improve capabilities within medical ultrasound was established in 2001. Up to three scholarships of USD 5000 each may be awarded to individual members of WFUMB each year.

Eligible for the scholarships are medical doctors younger than 40 years of age who are working in developing countries and who have basic experience in medical ultrasound.

Applications for a WFUMB Scholarship do not require an official application form, but must include:

- The reason for the application, including plans for future activities within medical ultrasound.
- The applicant's curriculum vitae relevant to medical ultrasound.

- Any publications relevant to medical ultrasound.
- Any certifications relevant for medical ultrasound.
- Letters of recommendation from, for example, hospitals, medical schools, national professional societies, etc.
- Information about the applicant's medical specialty and language.
- Information about the specific training program the applicant wishes to attend.
- If the applicant has been in contact with a specific school, the name and address of the school and the school's letter of acceptance.
- If the applicant has not been in contact with a specific school, he or she can inquire about preferred institutions and/or countries. WFUMB may be able to recommend a suitable institution.

The application can be sent to the Secretary of WFUMB by regular mail, e-mail or fax. It will then be forwarded to the WFUMB Education Committee for consideration.

Selections will take place at the next Meeting of the WFUMB Executive Council.

When an award is made, the recipient signs a formal contract concerning his or her responsibilities, as well as an agreement that WFUMB cannot be held liable for any accidents, crimes, financial losses or mishaps that may befall the recipient.



News from the WFUMB Publications Committee

Several items were discussed at the WFUMB Publications Committee meeting in Nashville. It was agreed that Associate Editors should be appointed to assist the Editor in Chief of the journal *Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology*. Their role would include encouraging the submission of high quality manuscripts to the journal and assisting in the promotion of the journal to individuals, professional bodies, universities and libraries. The possibility of providing electronic distribution of the journal in future was discussed, although it was recognized that this is a commercial decision that the publisher will need to assess. It was also suggested that closer links could be forged with other journals in related fields, initially for marketing but perhaps ultimately also for publication.

WFUMB Secretary Søren Hancke has agreed to take on the role of Editor of the WFUMB newsletter. Appreciation was expressed for the efforts of Chris Merritt in filling this role in the past.

R. Gill, WFUMB Adm. Councillor

WFUMB Journal: *Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology*

With respect to impact, *Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology* is now the highest ranking journal in the field of acoustics, and is the premier journal in the specialized subject of medical and biological ultrasound. Twenty-four countries have contributed, with total submissions of 287 papers, printed on 1798 pages.

Since January 2001, the journal has been monthly, and the number of pages has increased by 12%.

P.N.T. Wells, Editor in Chief

Report from EFSUMB

The European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology continues to thrive and to grow in size, with

WFUMB LECTURE

Organizers of major International scientific meetings on medical ultrasound hosted by WFUMB-affiliated organizations, as well as organizers of World Congresses, may request a WFUMB Lecture to be given during the meeting.

The talk given will be a state-of-the-art lecture on a topic proposed by the affiliated organization in charge of the meeting, and will require the approval of the WFUMB Board. The lecturer should insofar as possible be a member of the WFUMB Board, and the WFUMB Executive Council will participate in the selection of the lecturer.

If no other member of the WFUMB Board is present at the meeting, the lecturer will represent the WFUMB, and will include a report on the main activities of WFUMB at the beginning of the lecture. WFUMB will be involved in the preparation of this report.

The expense of the WFUMB Lecture will be partly or totally covered by WFUMB. Information about the WFUMB Lecture will be announced in the WFUMB Newsletter and on the WFUMB web site.

close to 15,000 members. It now holds a European ultrasound meeting (EUROSON) every year in conjunction with one or more of its member societies.

Many readers will remember with considerable pleasure the 2000 meeting that was held in Florence (in conjunction with the Italian Society and the World Federation), and since then the 2001 meeting that was held in Edinburgh, Scotland, also proved to be a great success. The 2002 meeting was held in Warsaw, Poland, at the beginning of July, while the 2003 meeting will be in Copenhagen (another previous World Federation venue) in April, in conjunction with the three Scandinavian ultrasound societies. Additionally, EFSUMB holds a number of small EUROSON Schools each year that are very popular, particularly in Eastern Europe.

Much of the additional business of EFSUMB is conducted through its three important committees: Education and Professional Development, Publications, and Safety. Space does not permit discussion of the activities of all these committees, but this year the Education Committee has been particularly busy drawing up recommendations on minimum training requirements for the practice of ultrasound and has met with representatives of a wide

range of European organizations with an interest in the practice of ultrasound. It is hoped that final recommendations can be agreed on before the end of this year. One further recent initiative of particular note has been the development of closer relations between EFSUMB and the manufacturers, and we are particularly grateful to the manufacturers' organization, COCIR, for sponsoring important events concerned with education and with safety.

*M. Claudon, EFSUMB President,
WFUMB Adm. Councillor*

Report from ASUM

Last year the Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine initiated its Asia Link Program, aimed at developing closer ties with its Asian neighbours and promoting exchanges at the professional, educational, scientific and social levels. Already a number of specific activities have followed in the wake of this initiative:

- An invitation to the President and CEO of ASUM to address the International Asian Vascular Society Conference in Singapore.

- A meeting between ASUM officials and representatives of the Malaysian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine, and assistance by an Australian group with the establishment of a non-invasive vascular laboratory in Malaysia.
- Discussions relating to the use of some proceeds from ISUOG to develop the ASUM Asia Link Program for training in Thailand.
- Exchanges of speakers between ASUM and the Korean Society for Medical Ultrasound.

Australia has recently introduced accreditation requirements for reimbursement of diagnostic ultrasound studies. Specifically, diagnostic ultrasound examinations which are not performed by a medical practitioner must be performed by a qualified sonographer or by one undertaking an accredited program of study. ASUM has played an important and influential role in the formation of the Australasian Sonographer Accreditation Registry (ASAR), now an essential element of the accreditation program. It also operates the ASUM Maintenance of Standards in Professional Practice (MOSSIP) program for sonographers and medical practitioners.

The ASUM 2002 Annual Scientific Meeting will be held at the Conrad Jupiter's Hotel and Casino at the Gold Coast in Queensland from September 19th-22nd, 2002. ASUM has been busy preparing a bid to host the WFUMB 2009 congress in Sydney.

R. Gill, WFUMB Adm. Councillor

Report from MASU

The Mediterranean and African Society for Ultrasound is a scientific association which was registered on November 18th, 1987. Its main purpose is to promote ultrasound in African countries and to encourage exchanges between physicians in Mediterranean and African countries. Today, the MASU has 656 members from Algeria, Burundi, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, France, Egypt, Spain, Greece, Italy, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, the former Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The MASU Board has been working very hard during the latest months for the promotion of ultrasound training in Africa.

- Creation of regional or national societies for the promotion of ultrasound in Africa: After the creation of WAMUS in West Africa, UGASON in Uganda, a MASU chapter in Cameroon, AMDUS in Morocco and STED in Tunisia, PASU - the Pan Arab Society of Ultrasound - was launched in Lattaquié, Syria, in May, 2001.

- MASU International Congresses: Every two years, MASU organizes an international congress and international course under the auspices of WHO and WFUMB. Our next congress and course will be held in Uganda from September 30th to October 3rd, 2002. We expect participants from more than 15 countries.

- Courses in our area: In 2001-2002, MASU has supported or organized the following courses: Cairo, Egypt: Feb. 27th to March 1st, 2001. Lattaquié, Syria: May 5th-6th, 2001. Benghazi, Libya: September 21st-23rd, 2001. Tanzania, together with Africa Project team: February 4th-8th, 2002. Prof. Azza Hammou, sponsored by MASU, spent three days after the course at the Moshe Hospital in Tanzania, KCMC, running practical sessions. Sanaa, Yemen, together with the Franco-Yemenite Medical association: March 22nd-26th, 2002. Sousse, Tunisia: April 11th-14th, 2002.

- Web site: Our web site has been launched, thanks to the support of the Italian Society of Ultrasound (SIUMB).

- Fellowships: Two fellowships are sponsored every year by the Italian Society of Ultrasound (SIUMB) for African colleagues who wish to attend Italian ultrasound schools.

- Future: Among the activities planned for the future are several courses, the creation of additional MASU chapters, and preparation of the Federation of Ultrasound Societies in Africa. We hope for a very successful collaboration with the WFUMB African project.

*E. Buscarini, MASU General Secretary,
WFUMB Adm. Councillor*

WFUMB calender

Since a calender of various meetings in the field of medical ultrasound is currently being printed in UMB (see above), such a calender will, for economic reasons, not be repeated in ECHOES.

WFUMB Education Centers

The WFUMB Administrative Council has discussed how to disseminate information about various international educational opportunities. It has been decided to print a list in the WFUMB journal *Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology* (UMB), published by Elsevier. See the latest issues of UMB.



WFUMB Asian Cooperation Group on Education. The Faculty of the 'Training for the Trainers Workshop' held in Dhaka, Bangladesh June 6th-8th, 2002.
 From left:
 Dr. J.K. Han, Korea
 Dr. Kanu Bala, Bangladesh
 Dr. H. Lutz, Germany
 Dr. H. Watanabe, Japan
 Dr. H. Gharbi, Tunisia
 Dr. K. Vairojanavong, Thailand
 Mr. M.H. Mohsin, Bangladesh

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