



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

On: Friday, 13 March 2015, Ayia Napa, Cyprus

Minutes

Administrative Council

1. Apologies and Welcome (Frank Bosch)

Frank welcomed the participants of the EFIM council to the beautiful Ayia Napa and congratulated the Cyprus Society of Internal Medicine on such a flawless organisation. Frank passed the apologies of the AC members who could not be present at the meeting in Cyprus as listed below:

- Markus Peck-Radosavljevic - Austrian Society of Internal Medicine
- Patrick Lacor - Belgian Society of Internal Medicine
- Richard Ceska - Czech Society of Internal Medicine
- Kim Pettersson-Fernholm - Finnish Society of Internal Medicine
- Philippe Morlat - French Society of Internal Medicine
- Johannes Köbberling - German Society of Internal Medicine
- Petra-Maria Schumm-Draeger - German Society of Internal Medicine
- Eleni Boutati - Hellenic Society of Internal Medicine
- Nicholas Katsilambros - Hellenic Society of Internal Medicine
- Maria Domenica Cappellini - Italian Society of Internal Medicine
- Pier Mannucci - Editor in Chief EJIM
- Nicola Montano - Italian Society of Internal Medicine
- Rijk Gans - UEMS Section on Internal Medicine
- Harry van Hulsteijn - Dutch Society of Internal Medicine
- Monica Bivol - Norwegian Society of Internal Medicine
- Teixeira - Veríssimo - Portuguese Society of Internal Medicine
- Ion Bruckner - Romanian Society of Internal Medicine
- Ivica Lazurova - Slovakian Society of Internal Medicine
- Radovan Hojs - Slovenian Society of Internal Medicine
- Pedro Conthe - Spanish Society of Internal Medicine
- Serhat Unal - Turkish Society of Internal Medicine
- Mine Durusu Tanriover - Turkish Society of Internal Medicine
- Alistair Douglas - Society of Acute Medicine

Present: Please find list of the present attendees attached.

2. Minutes of the General Assembly & Administrative Council Meeting, Tartu - Estonia, 27 September 2014 (Frank Bosch)

Minutes from EFIM Administrative council meeting held in Tartu, on 27 September 2014 were approved by the members of the Administrative Council.

3. EFIM Office Activities - progress (F Bosch)

Frank presented the progress from the Business report following the previous AC meeting in Tartu and focused on the activities and the progress achieved since. Frank pointed out that EC nucleus is working very efficiently and mentioned the numerous meetings held at the Headquarters' office among which the meeting with DGIM, EFIM day at SNFMI congress and the Selection of the PCO's meeting. Frank stated that EFIM day at the French congress was very well attended and raised high interest among the French internists. EFIM is aiming in strengthening the relations with the other organisations following the numerous meetings held. Presentation followed presenting the decision to hold EFIM future AC meetings at the Headquarters office in Brussels as well as organising the GA meetings during the annual congresses.

Frank informed the AC members on the opening of the Domus Medica Building in Brussels and the prospective of close collaboration between EFIM office and UEMS should the EFIM Headquarter moves to the UEMS building. EFIM Day was presented to the AC members as a tool for involving the Presidents of each society in EFIM activities and discussing the future events, schools and congresses. Frank reminded everyone that EFIM offers plenty of benefits to European internists and asked the AC representatives to spread the message and promote EFIM among their members. Future congresses were briefly mentioned announcing that AIM International has been selected to organise EFIM 2016 - 2017 congresses.

EFIM President Presentation can be found for download on EFIM website:

http://www.efim.org/sites/default/files/efim_business_plan_-_president_report.pdf

Alberto Marra suggested for the future to have guidelines published on EFIM website available for download. At present similar information is explored and downloaded from other websites. Frank replied that this is a very good initiative but we need to increase the use of EFIM website to be able to implement the guidelines.

4. EJIM report (S Malosio & K Grundy)

Karena and Silvia updated on EJIM progress report. Silvia gave the apology from Prof. Mannucci, EJIM Editor in Chief, who was not available to present at the AC meeting. Silvia mentioned that the Editorial Board is increasing but suggestions are always welcome. Number of articles are increasing, but the quality is not high enough therefore the rejection rate is increasing. A lot of submissions from China were received in the past year. Prof. Mannucci believes that EJIM deserves impact factor 3. EJIM's current impact factor is 2.300 which make EJIM ranks 37th out of 156 in the category Medicine, General & Internal.

There are currently 13000 downloads a year however EJIM online access through EFIM website is slow. Karena asked for suggestions on how to raise the awareness and improve traffic to the journal.

Alberto suggested creating highlights of the relevant articles and distributing the articles to the members of the national societies.

Dror Dicker proposed creating a link through the journal icon of the national website, or using social media like Facebook, Twitter etc.
Silvia mentioned that the Journal is very well read, however most of the authors are outside of EFIM contingency. Frank promised to speak to each President personally and emphasize EJIM free online access for each EFIM member through EFIM website.

5. New EC structure proposal & EFIM future AC meetings (F Bosch)

Frank informed the AC members that the new Executive Committee structure is already in place, as follows:

EFIM Executive Committee Nucleus consists of:

- President
- Secretary General
- Treasurer
- President Elect
- Past President

EFIM Executive Committee consist of:

- EC Nucleus
- YI Representative
- UEMS President
- FDIME President

In order for the new structure to function fully, and as per advice of EFIM lawyer, voting has to be organised to change the Federation administrative structure which will consequently lead to changing the Statutes and the Bylaws of the Federation. This kind of voting has to be organised in front of Belgian Public Notary. Such EC structure will allow for efficient decision making and action taking. EFIM lawyer advised to rewrite the Statues and the Bylaws in one document and make the administration changes more flexible. Chris insisted on keeping the two documents (statutes & bylaws) separately as it has been organised so far. The proposed EC structure will be brought for approval during the GA Assembly in Moscow and official voting will be organised during the AC meeting in the spring of 2016 in Brussels. In the meantime EFIM lawyer will draft proposal on the current Bylaws and Statutes which will be then circulated and discussed among the AC members in Moscow.
AC members have agreed with the proposed EC structure.

6. Proposal - new membership structure (A Martins Baptista)

Antonio presented the draft proposal for EFIM membership based on the gross National income per capita and number of members.
The idea behind the new principals are the difficulties facing the current membership structure as:

- 1 - No one can guarantee the number of associates
- 2 - The countries with more members pay excessively
- 3 - The system doesn't take in account differences in income.

The new membership structure will allow EFIM to rely on the membership income and decrease the importance of a number of members that cannot be verified. Antonio presented the table structure with the following details:

Category as per Country Gross National income per capita		Annual Fees based on members
	Base	1,5€/member
Less than 10€	500	1,5€/member
10-15€	1500	1,5€/member
15-20€	2000	1,5€/member
More than 20€	2500	1,5€/member
Associate Members	500	1€/member

Countries with less than 100 members: no fee/members (only base)

Countries with less than 500 members: pay base+1€/member

Countries with 2 societies members pay half base fee + 1.5€/member

Chris proposed not to change the fee excessively which might lead to loss of current members but to introduce base membership.

Frank pointed out that EFIM needs to grow and therefore we all need to invest in the growth. Furthermore Antonio pointed out that EFIM is losing income from the congress, therefore EFIM has to come up with new strategy that can bring steady income. Prof. Kucharz suggested creating online paying courses to be able to increase EFIM income. The Membership structure will be further discussed during the Presidents' meeting in Brussels and will be brought for approval during the GA meeting in Moscow. Societies were requested to send their proposals and suggestions for implementing new membership structure.

7. Day meeting in Brussels & Extraordinary GA Meeting (F Bosch)

Frank presented the draft programme for the 1st EFIM day meeting to take place in Brussels. The idea is to have the current Presidents more closely involved in EFIM activities as well as to consult them in the preparation of the agenda for the meeting. The meeting in June is a step forward to get more involved. Frank pointed out the importance of the EU Curriculum project suggesting to hold the 1st Makro region meeting during the EFIM Day. Another important presentation will be given by the President of the RCP UK, Dr. Jane Dacre presenting The hospital of the future. Discussions round topics and destinations for ECIM congresses 2016 - 2017 will be held as well as the possibilities for creating new WG on Overdiagnosis and Overtreatment. Frank specified that he will contact each President personally and encourage them to attend the meeting in Brussels.

Aneta will send personal invitation to each society and publish the EFIM Day programme on EFIM website.

8. EBIM project - EU IM curriculum (R Palsson & W Bauer)

Werner Bauer and Runolfur Palsson presented the progress on EU curriculum following 5 face to face meetings held with the representatives from the EU Curriculum project which include 3 representatives from EFIM,

3 from the UEMS Section of Internal Medicine and 2 from the Young Internists Assembly. Runolfur explained that the principal goal is to develop “standard” curriculum for specialty training in internal medicine which is applicable to all nations belonging to the European Community as well as member countries of UEMS and EFIM. An additional aim is to create a core curriculum in internal medicine that may serve as a foundation for the first 2 years of training in medical specialties other than internal medicine. Example was taken from Can Meds 2015, which is adopted by countries on 5 continents making it the world’s most recognized and most widely applied physician competency framework.

Runolfur informed the AC members that meetings with representatives of national societies from several regions (macro-regions) in Europe will be organised in the fall of 2015. The feedback received from the national representatives will be used during revision of the draft and production of a final version of the curriculum.

The aim for approval by the EFIM Administrative Council and the UEMS Council is scheduled for spring of 2016.

Frank requested to have the final version of the EU curriculum communicated to EFIM AC members before it goes for approval at the UEMS Council meeting.

9. EFIM Fellowship (F Bosch)

Frank presented the new proposal for EFIM Fellowship and highlighted the proposed requirements for becoming EFIM Fellow. It is very important to have some form of acknowledgment and revive the Fellowship in 3 categories: EFIM Fellowship, Junior Fellowship and Honorary Fellowship. The Fellow should prove significant contributions in the field of internal medicine. The idea is to pay one-time symbolic fee for becoming a Fellow. Mark pointed out that the programme has to be carefully thought through to be able to make it successful and avoid the slipups from the previous project.

Dror added to this that EFIM needs to invest in marketing and promoting the Fellowship to EFIM members’ countries but also outside of EU.

The Fellowship proposal will be further discussed during the GA meeting in Moscow.

10. EFIM new membership application: Lebanese Association for Medical Diagnosis and Autoimmune Diseases (F Bosch)

The Lebanese Association for Medical Diagnosis and Autoimmune Diseases sent letter of interest in becoming EFIM member. Frank presented the letter to establish whether this association is eligible for becoming EFIM member. Chris suggested to verify with EFIM Statutes and Bylaws and have Aneta contacting the association to find more details on the activities. DONE

11. EJCRIM progress report (S Malosio)

Silvia presented the progress on the European Journal of Case Reports in Internal Medicine introducing the Editorial Board, mentioning the growth of the journal and the increased numbers of submitted manuscripts. The highest number of manuscripts submitted are coming from Italy and Portugal, followed by Spain and rest of the countries. Silvia pointed out that the submission slowed down after September 2014. Further promotion and marketing of the journal is needed. Editors observed that average quality of the submitted manuscripts is high. Ramon mentioned that many good cases and some outstanding ones were submitted through ESIM schools to EJCRIM. The collaboration with the schools is

strong, the future promotion should also target University Hospitals and some other journals as well as having EJCRIM website as Media Partner to host related events material, videos, interviews, news, etc. which bring traffic to the site and increase visibility. The Facebook page of the journal is very active and accessed by many young doctors. Impact factor is not an objective for case reports journals however, in the long run, some citations may occur in different medical journals. Silvia added that the Editor in Chief, Dr. John Kellet is confident that the journal will be an important educational tool for young internists in the future.

12. ESIM Winter School 2015 (I Ruza) & ESIM Summer School 2015 (S Rigby)

ESIM Subcommittee

Shirley Rigby gave short overview on the current situation of the schools pointing out that the expenses of the hosting societies have increased and therefore increase of the registration fee is necessary.

The fee hasn't been changed for 5 years even though EFIM continued with organising 2 schools: summer and winter. To be able to assist the hosting societies with the cost, Shirley proposed to increase the fee to 1050€ per resident. At the same time FDIME was considered as very important in sponsoring students from low income societies but it is imperative to find funding from different sources. The proposal about the fee increase will be further discussed at the following GA meeting in Moscow.

ESIM Summer 2015

Shirley passed Nicola Montano's apology who was not able to present the progress of the upcoming summer school in Sardinia. Nevertheless Shirley informed the AC members that the registration for the ESIM summer which will take place from 7 - 13 June at the Free Beach Club in Costa Rei - Muravera is already opened. Societies who are planning to send residents should fill in Form A as instructed and send it back to the school secretariat. All the information regarding the upcoming summer school can be found on EFIM website - [ESIM page](#).

ESIM winter 2015 (I Ruza)

Ieva presented the overview from the Winter school that took place in Riga from 25 - 31 January. The programme followed the usual format. 44 participants from 20 countries and 19 lecturers from 15 countries, participated at the ESIM winter. Ieva highlighted that this school is the 1st out of 25 schools to end up with a positive budget.

Ieva informed the participants that the Ultrasound training, was for the 1st time organised with real Devices provided by Arbor Medical Corporation. The Evaluation score was very high. The highest evaluation received was for the presentation given by Valentin Kokorin on ECG WS, followed by the CPC presentation given by Shirley Rigby. 43 out of 44 participants were satisfied with the quality of the course. The following pitfalls are to be considered when organising the following school:

- Societies - better evaluation of the proposed speakers needed (language! content! experience!)
- General lectures - received higher evaluation than specific topics (diverse opinions)
- More updated lectures needed (higher scientific content)

leva added the importance of advertising ESIM outside of EFIM media and invited the societies to send residents for 2016 course. Chris congratulated leva for the wonderful work she did without having any administrative support and raised the importance of additional funding for future school support.

Full presentation can be downloaded from EFIM website:

http://www.efim.org/sites/default/files/esim_winter_2015_riga_report_-_ieva_ruza.pdf

13. WG & Subcommittees - updates as per Chairs' request

Professional issues & Quality of Care - Mark Kramer

Mark gave an update on the progress of the Professional issues and quality of care WG. Mark presented the active members and said goodbye to Harry van Hulsteijn who moved to Aruba. The aim of the WG is to publish at least one paper per year. The WG meetings will take place during EFIM assemblies while the communication will be sent via EFIM headquarters

Mark asked the possibilities of creating 'secured user group areas' on the secluded part of the website which will be checked with the web developer. Past performances, papers published and the work on the future topics were highlighted. More details on the full presentation from the work on the Professional issues and quality of care WG can be downloaded from EFIM website:

http://www.efim.org/sites/default/files/professional_issues_efim_cyprus_-_mark_kramer.pdf .

EFIM Research subcommittee - Ramon Pujol

Ramon updated the AC members on the work done with the EFIM Research group pointing out the difficulties in gathering the subcommittee members on a conference call. Ramon presented the members of the subcommittee highlighting the aims of the subcommittee particularly the promotion of collaborative projects among European countries and obtaining funds for those projects. Ramon emphasised the importance on selecting projects that belong to the clinic-epidemiological field and ideally are included in the priorities of Horizon 2020. In September possible topics were sent among the members of the subcommittee and a definition of criteria for accepting projects was urged which was accepted by the members at the end of September. In October the evaluation of the atrial fibrillation (AF) projects was submitted through Monkey survey and accepted by the subcommittee members. Ramon will keep close contact with the members and work further on establishing the AFIP project. Full report can be downloaded from EFIM website.

Rest of EFIM working groups and subcommittees' submitted written reports that were circulated among the AC members prior to the meeting.

14. ECIM - Moscow 2015 - progress (V Kokorin)

Valentin gave detailed presentation on the efforts put in the organisation of the congress presenting the congress hall and the exhibition area. Additional point that was mentioned was that the accommodation fee dropped since the fall of the rouble which will hopefully encourage more participants to register to the

congress. Valentin expressed his concern on the lack of registrations. As per the latest information received, 119 participants registered to the congress of whom 3 have paid the registration fees. Abstract submission is going slow as only 19 abstracts have been received. From the survey carried out 18 questionnaires from 16 different countries were obtained giving some promising results. Few EFIM member countries among which Portugal, Turkey, Italy and Spain promised to send 50 - 100 participants to the congress. Rest of the EFIM member countries followed with a lower number of participants. Valentin presented the timeline and the draft programme as well as the promotion of the congress on numerous national societies' congresses around Europe. List of invited and confirmed speakers was presented highlighting the fact that ACP refused to send any speakers to the Moscow congress due to the current political situation. Frank assured Valentin that EFIM will help to spread the word and assist in the programme preparation. Mark proposed to send extra newsletters dedicated to the congress to raise the awareness and spread the word. Valentin added that free bus excursion will be offered to all delegates who will register and pay before the early bird deadline. Frank found this as an excellent initiative to attract more doctors to register. EFIM secretariat will send another communication reminding national societies to advertise Moscow congress and encourage their members to register to the congress.

15. EFIM future congresses: Amsterdam 2016 & Barcelona 2017 (M Kramer & R Pujol)

Amsterdam 2016 - Mark Kramer

Mark presented the scope for the 1st EFIM congress to take place in Amsterdam in 2016. The theme of the congress will be "Connecting with the Patient". Mark mentioned that he is in contact with the 2 universities in Amsterdam expecting their replies on the availabilities for September 2016. If the universities are not available there are 2 possible options, one will be holding the congress at the Mövenpick hotel and the other one at the Beurs van Berlage convention centre. The congress will present concise programme focused on general sessions, including 2 parallel sessions.

Chris raised the concern regarding increased cost when holding the congress outside of medical universities. Mark mentioned that the selected PCO- AIM International who are very experienced in medical congresses will find the best option to accommodate EFIM congress. The topics and the dates for the congress will be discussed with the Presidents of the national societies during the EFIM day in June.

ECIM 2017

Due to insecurity of the selected destination for ECIM 2017, this point was not discussed further. It will be discussed during EFIM Day in Brussels.

16. FDIME Report & Clinical Research Seminar (D Sereni)

Daniel gave brief update on the FDIME activities and the Clinical Research Seminar that took place in Paris in 2014. 40 applications were received of which 17 participants from 13 different countries attended the course. The Clinical Research Course was sponsored by Amgen and scored excellent results.

The Research grant for the study of rare diseases in adults for 2014 that was attributed to Dr Aguiar, from Portugal was published in Lancet. The work of 2012 recipient, Dr S. Audia from France is published in the Journal Blood. The Foundation supported 6 YI to attend ESIM Winter and ESIM Summer from low income countries. Daniel presented the new assets on the Board of FDIME with Jan Willem Elte as Secretary General, Romy Alig, as administrative secretary, Nica Cappellini, Lorenzo Dagna, Lenka Bosanska and Carla Araujo as members of the board. The next Clinical Research Seminar will take place in Paris from 6 - 8 July. Daniels emphasised that only residents supported from EFIM active members will be accepted. More details on the Clinical Research Seminar can be found on EFIM website - [CRS page](#).

17. Next GA & AC Meeting in Moscow - 14 October 2015

EFIM next Administrative Council Meeting and General Assembly will take place on Wednesday, 14 October, during the Moscow congress. Further details will be published on EFIM website.

18. Any other business:

No other items were raised.