

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF ORGANISATIONS for MEDICAL PHYSICS (EFOMP)

- President -

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Presidential Quarterly Letter 1/98

EFOMP pushes electronic communication

Dear friends,

it's the era of electronic media and tele-communication now which provide all the nice tools so much facilitating the exchange of information. Why not more intensively using this technology to the benefit of the medical physics community throughout Europe? In the past, we were mainly communicating with our National Member Organisations [NMOs] via mailing or our bulletin *EFOMP News* which over all the years has been successfully managed by our Publishing Officer Geoffrey Cusick. Then more recently when Robert Nowotny firstly put EFOMP on the web, more and more individuals of the various NMOs became aware of EFOMP during an internet surf-tour and by this could directly get information from EFOMP. Again after a while, a growing number of NMOs has now set up their own website with a link to the EFOMP page giving everybody the opportunity for a quick visit to another NMO.

Stimulated by this explosive development and widely available technology at the last EFOMP Officers meeting we discussed based on nearly everybody's access to internet today possibilities for better communication between EFOMP and its NMOs, between the different NMOs themselves, and not least within the entire European medical physics community.

As a first step in the next time we want to modify somewhat the EFOMP page, and with this regular series of *quarterly letters* it is my pleasure to keep you informed on recent and planned activities. Secondly, you will soon find an *EFOMP-Members Corner* on the EFOMP page intended to provide informations from the NMOs which might be worth to be disseminated more widely. However, in this particular case we are even more dependent on a *continuous information inflow* from the NMOs. Therefore, every NMO will be invited to send in a short six-months-report telling us what is on in medical physics in their country. [A special *NMO's information sheet* will be available on the EFOMP page shortly].

At present, a number of NMOs have already created their own website including a link to the EFOMP page, others are challenged to do the same. In order to give some support to those NMOs which not yet set up their own page click on our page manager Robert Nowotny who right now is preparing a cooking recipe. If you are starting to create a website, please don't forget to organise it biligually, i.e. including an English version too which helps a lot to disseminate any information..

Communication is never a one-way information flow, therefore every member of a NMO or what might be nearly the same every medical physicist in Europe should feel challenged to contribute to this information exchange. In particular, we very much appreciate any information on relevant meetings which could also interest colleagues in a neighbouring country or region. However, in order to avoid an overload of information and much more important to not interfere with the individual NMOs responsibility we felt some filter mechanism to be necessary. Therefore, any information should be authorized by a NMO contactperson which has to be nominated by the NMO and notified to the website manager [[link to RN](#)].

The industrial members are invited to directly contact the website manager of course. All details referring to this matter will be summarized in a letter to the EFOMP members shortly. In conclusion, providing you with this nice tool of our EFOMP website and a proper organisational structure for its application, it is our plea for more intensively using electronic communication in the future within the medical physics community through out Europe.

May 1998, Fridtjof Nüsslin

News

- EFOMP-Travel Award 1998: Milutin Baucal from Yugoslavia is the happy winner this year. Congratulations!
- The EFOMP Guidelines for National Member Organisations on implementation of the European Commission Directive 97/43/Euratom on Medical Exposures is available on the EFOMP website.
- An update version of EFOMP survey on Trained Medical Physicists will be presented at the next EFOMP congress in Brügge.

Members Corner

- **Netherlands:**
Congratulations to the 25th anniversary of NVKF. The Dutch NMO organised a meeting which demonstrated the wide spectrum of Medical Physics by a number of invited speakers. Just in time for this anniversary the message of the *state recognition for medical hospital physicists* arrived from the government.
- **Yugoslavia:**
YBEMP organised an international meeting in Novi Sad under EFOMP sponsorship in order to promote a Medical Physics education and training program. Progress has been made to achieve full professional state recognition.

Meetings

- ECR '99: A physics preconference workshop on "*Detector Technologies for X-Ray Diagnostics (New Methods and New Developments)*" will be organised by EFOMP in Vienna on March 6, 1999 (Further information : <http://www.ecr.org>).
- Next EFOMP congress to be held on invitation of the Belgium NMO in Brügge 7-10.September 1998.
- EFOMP congress 1999 will be hosted by the Greek NMO.
- EFOMP has been invited by the German NMO to organise an international workshop on „*Establishment of Reference Values in Diagnostic Radiology*". This meeting is part of the annual conference 1999 of DGMP which is sponsored by EFOMP. (Further information: <http://www.uke.uni-hamburg.de/dgmp/>).
- Workshop on „*Quality Criteria for Computed Tomography*“ will be organised in Aarhus on 13.-14.November 1998 by Karl Arne Jessen. Further information on internet <http://www.drs.dk/CT>.
- The UK NMO (IPeM) is organising a meeting on „*Professional Development in Europe*“ in Brighton on 14th september 1998.