



EUROPEAN MEDICAL PHYSICS *UPDATE*

2006/2007

From the President



Dear colleagues, dear friends,

The European Federation of Medical Physics (EFOMP) is the roof organisation of Medical Physics in Europe, currently including 35 national member organisations (NMOs). With this issue of "EFOMP Update" we would like to inform you on the aims and the current and future activities of the federation. "Update" includes a short summary on the constitution, structure

and aims of EFOMP, especially for those, who are not yet familiar with EFOMP.

A list of EFOMP congresses is given on page 2. In this context, we are very much looking forward to the next EFOMP conference held in conjunction with the Italian Medical Physics meeting at Pisa/Italy in September 2007 !

The basic EFOMP work is done in its committees. Everyone interested in actively contributing to the committee's work described in this flyer is cordially invited to do so. Please contact the responsible committee chairman !

A continuing part of EFOMP's activities is the publication of policy statements. As listed on page 4, up to now 11 policy statements have been published, and policy statement #12 "The Present Status of Medical Physics Education and Training in Europe - New perspectives and EFOMP Recommendations" already exists as a draft and will soon be available on the homepage of EFOMP.

The EFOMP bulletin "European Medical Physics News" has been renewed and is now available in electronic form. I would be happy if it will be accepted and used widely as a communication platform for all medical physicists across Europe.

For all current information see our web site at:

<http://www.efomp.org>

It is a useful first point of reference regarding Medical Physics Organisations in Europe and EFOMP's activities to strengthen the ties between our National Member Organisations.

Let us continue on our way in and to Europe together !

Wolfgang Schlegel

EFOMP Members

EFOMP members are the National Medical Physics Organisations in:

- Algeria
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- FYRO Macedonia
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Latvia
- Moldova
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russia
- Serbia and Montenegro
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom

Affiliated Member:

- South Africa

Full details can be found on the EFOMP web site.

EFOMP's History & Constitution

EFOMP was established in 1980 in London, when all formalities were finalized after a meeting in Paris in Autumn 1979 at which an initial constitution was agreed. In 1999 the constitution has been revised (full text available on the EFOMP web site), but still pursues the original aims:

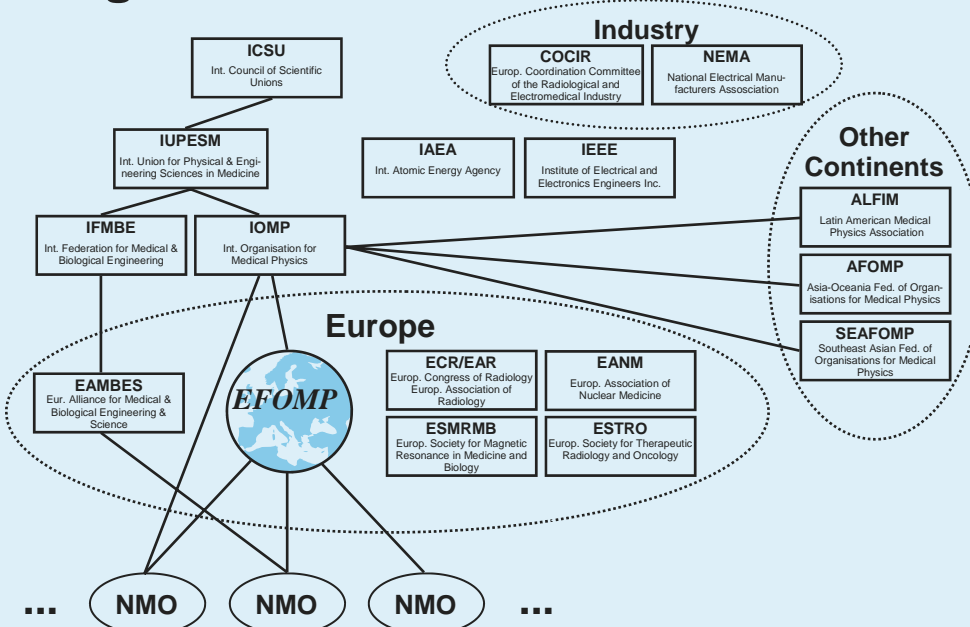
- ♦ **Fostering** the activities of Member Organisations...
- ♦ **Encouraging Exchanges** between Member Organisations and disseminating professional and scientific information...
- ♦ **Encouraging scholarships** of Medical Physicists in Europe
- ♦ **Proposing guidelines** for education, training and accreditation programmes and **Making recommendations** on the appropriate general responsibilities...
- ♦ **Encouraging the formation of organisations** for Medical Physics where such organisations do not exist

The principal group of members of EFOMP are the National Medical Physics Organisations (NMOs in EFOMP-language). In addition, EFOMP has Honorary Members - individual medical physicists who have made a significant contribution to the field, and industrial members, who are commercial companies who wish to support the Federation.

The ruling body of EFOMP is the **Council**, which meets annually. The Council is made up of representatives of NMOs (two for each NMO), all of whom have votes. The number of votes (from 1 to 3) cast by a given NMO is determined by its size.

The Council elects a Board of **Officers**, responsible for the running of the Federation in accordance with Council's wishes. The Officers comprise the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary General and the Chairmen of the Federation's **Committees**. There is more on the work of the Committees on the page opposite.

Organisations around EFOMP



EFOMP Congresses

Since 1987, EFOMP has collaborated with National Organisations in holding regular European Congresses of Medical Physics. These are now held alternate years.

- ♦ 1987 - Innsbruck
- ♦ 1990 - Oxford
- ♦ 1993 - Tenerife
- ♦ 1995 - Wurzburg
- ♦ 1996 - Trieste
- ♦ 1999 - Patras
- ♦ 2001 - Belfast
- ♦ 2003 - Eindhoven
- ♦ 2005 - Nuremberg
- ♦ 2007 - Pisa

More details of the 2007 Congress in Pisa will be available shortly via the EFOMP web site.

EFOMP Journals

EFOMP sponsors five Medical Physics journals:

- ♦ Physics in Medicine and Biology
- ♦ Physiological Measurement
- ♦ Physica Medica
- ♦ European Radiology
- ♦ *Révista de Física Medica*

EFOMP publishes all its Policy Statements and other reference documents in *Physica Medica*.

Additionally, EFOMP publishes an electronic bulletin '*European Medical Physics News*', subscription free via the EFOMP web site.

Committees and Functions

EFOMP Awards and Honours:

EFOMP Medal

Recognising an individual's outstanding and internationally acknowledged contribution to the advancement of Medical Physics.

Honorary Membership

Recognising an individual who through his/her career has contributed to an advancement in research, education and training or organizational affairs and professional activities in Medical Physics in Europe.

Bursaries and Travel Awards:

The EFOMP *ESMP Bursary for Young Physicists* covers the registration fee for one week of the European School of Medical Physics at Archamps.

Visits to Medical Physics departments of another member country of EFOMP of at least 10 working days are supported by the *EFOMP Travel Award for Young Physicists*.

More details on all Awards and Honours are available on the EFOMP web site at <http://www.efomp.org/>

EFOMP's officers chair the five Committees consisting of core and corresponding members. The functions of each Committee are described below:

The Education, Training and Professional (ETP) Committee

The ETP Committee deals with issues of physicist education and training, and with many of the matters surrounding the responsibilities and roles of medical physicists. The successful EFOMP Summer Schools are organised largely by ETP-Committee working groups.

The Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee is responsible for EFOMP's activities in furthering the science of medical physics. Scientific Committee is the body within EFOMP which organises conferences and congresses - generally through nominating members to program and organising committees - and which liaises with external scientific organisations such as the European Congress of

The Standing Committee on Registration Matters

The Standing Committee on Registration Matters implements and develops EFOMP's registration scheme of national registration schemes.

The Committee on European Union Affairs

The Committee on European Union Affairs recognises the growing importance of EU policies even to physicists in non-EU countries.

The Communications and Publications Committee

The Communications and Publications Committee is responsible for disseminating information, both to EFOMP members and to a wider public. The chairman is also the webmaster of the EFOMP web site.

The current chairmen of the committees are:

ETP:	Teresa Eudaldo (Barcelona, E),	2004-2006
Scientific:	Stelios Christofides (Nicosia, CY)	2005-2007
Registration:	Kjeld Olsen (Herlev, DK)	2006-2008
EU Affairs:	Jose Hernández-Armas (Tenerife, E)	2004-2006
Communication:	Markus Buchgeister (Tübingen, D)	2006-2008

Policy Statements

A continuing part of EFOMP's work is the drafting and publication of Policy Statements. These documents contain the Federation's agreed view on best practice in a range of areas of Medical Physics. The current statements are:

- No 1: Medical Physics Education and Training: The Present European Level and Recommendations for its Future Development, 1984 (suspended, currently under revision).
- No. 2: The Roles, Responsibilities and Status of the Clinical Medical Physicist (HTML file on web site), 1984.
- No. 3: Radiation Protection of the Patient in Europe: The Training of the Medical Physicist as a Qualified Expert in Radiophysics (obsolete, available on request), 1988.
- No. 4: Criteria for the Number of Physicists in a Medical Physics Department (obsolete, available on request), 1991.
- No. 5: Departments of Medical Physics - Advantages, Organisation and Management (HTML file on web site), Sept. 1993 [*Physica Medica* XI, 3(1995)126-128]
- No. 6: Recommended guidelines of National Registration Schemes for Medical Physicists (HTML file on web site), Sept. 1994 [*Physica Medica* XI, 4(1995)157-159]
- No. 7: Criteria for the Staffing Levels in a Medical Physics Department (PDF file on web site), Sept. 1997 [*Physica Medica* XIII (1997) 187-194]
- No. 8: Continuing Professional Development for the Medical Physicist, (PDF file on web site), March 1998 [*Physica Medica* XIV (1998) 81-83]
- No. 9: Radiation Protection of the Patient in Europe: The Training of the Medical Physics Expert in Radiation Physics or Radiation Technology (PDF file on web site), [*Physica Medica* XV (1999) 149-153]
- No.10: Recommended Guidelines on National Schemes for Continuing Professional Development of Medical Physicists (HTML file on web site), [*Physica Medica* XVII (2001) 97-101]
- No.11: Guidelines on Professional Conduct and Procedures to Be Implemented in the Event of Alleged Misconduct (PDF file on web site) [*Physica Medica* XIX (2003) 227-229]

European Medical Physics News

In 2006, EFOMP renewed the **European Medical Physics News**, that formerly was distributed in print, now published in electronic form. For a free subscription, please, register your e-mail address at the EFOMP website.

The purpose of the newsletter is to provide a communications forum for medical physics organisations, and for medical physicists, across Europe. As many of you will know, 35 national organisations are currently members of EFOMP, and together they represent more than 5000 physicists and engineers in the field of Medical Physics.

The editors would like to hear from you! Developments in science, in education and in training are all relevant. Cross-border or international initiatives are particularly of interest, and these can be in any area of physics and engineering applied to medicine. Comparisons between the practice and organisation of medical physics in different countries are particularly welcomed.

Contributions can be sent to either of the editors:

Chris.Gibson@orh.nhs.uk or Markus.Buchgeister@med.uni-tuebingen.de

Material for inclusion the web site should be sent to the Chairman of the Communications and Publications Committee at **efomp@gmx.net**. Don't forget, the address of the EFOMP web site is:

<http://www.efomp.org>