EFMI Annual Report 2019
EFMI Annual Report 2019

Council at STC 2019 in Hanover (Germany)

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1 Mission and Objectives

1.1 Objectives
The European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI) is the leading nonprofit organization in biomedical and health informatics in Europe. The Federation comprises 29 national societies (by end of 2019) and includes an exceptional network of experts and stakeholders in health, care, IT and its societal dimensions; supported by 15 topic working groups ranging from human factors, to security and translational health informatics.

EFMI is committed to health for all underpinned by information and communication technology.

The objectives when founded in 1976 were:

- To advance international co-operation and dissemination of information in Medical Informatics on a European basis;
- To promote high standards in the application of medical informatics;
- To promote research and development in medical informatics;
- To encourage high standards in education in medical informatics;
- To function as the autonomous European Regional Council of IMIA.

1.2 Activities and Governance

All European countries, i.e. countries within the European Region of the World Health Organization are entitled to be represented in EFMI by a suitable Medical Informatics Society. The term medical informatics is used to include the whole spectrum of Biomedical, Health-/Social-care Informatics and all disciplines concerned with Biomedical, Health-/Socialcare and Informatics.

The organization operates with a minimum of bureaucratic overhead. Each national society supports the federation by sending and paying for a representative to participate in the decisions of the Federation’s Council, the membership assembly. Apart from the Council, an elected board consisting of eight members governs EFMI. English has been adopted as the official language.

1.3 Membership and Organization

At the end of 2019, 29 countries have joined the Federation. All representative societies in countries within the European Region of the WHO are entitled to apply for membership.

EFMI is also open for institutional membership. Typical institutions, which become EFMI members, include universities, research organizations, federations, companies and organizations. Currently, 13 organizations have become institutional members of EFMI: 11 academic institutions, public or private organization, non-profit organization and 2 industrial and corporate organizations.

EFMI has a long tradition in working groups (WG). 15 WGs are organizing and supporting events and projects on a European basis but also worldwide in close co-operation with national and international WGs and institutions. EFMI does not offer personal membership except for the working groups.

For details, see the following chapters.
2 Executive Board

2.1 Board Members (31.12.2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>term begins</th>
<th>term ends</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stoicu-Tivadar, Lăcrămioara</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>17.10.2018</td>
<td>2020 fall conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronaki, Catherine</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>17.10.2018</td>
<td>2020 fall conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lovis, Christian</td>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>17.10.2018</td>
<td>2020 fall conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter, Alfred</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>17.10.2018</td>
<td>2022 fall conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orel, Andrej</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>17.10.2018</td>
<td>2022 fall conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pape-Haugaard, Louise</td>
<td>Institutional Membership Officer</td>
<td>17.10.2018</td>
<td>2020 fall conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gallos, Parisis G.</td>
<td>Publication Officer</td>
<td>10.04.2019</td>
<td>2021 spring conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randell, Rebecca</td>
<td>Executive Officer</td>
<td>10.04.2019</td>
<td>2021 spring conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weber, Patrick</td>
<td>Assistant to the board</td>
<td>01.01.2017</td>
<td>31.12.2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The reports of the individual board members are presented in Appendix 2.

2.2 Synopsis of board activities

In 2019, the Executive Board held 7 meetings, 5 of them virtual. Participation and activities are continuously documented. Minutes and additional material of the meetings are available at the EFMI archive\(^1\). The main topics discussed have been:

- **EFMI conferences**
  - Schedule of MIE and STC conferences
  - MIE conferences 2020, 2021
  - STC conferences 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
  - Collaboration with the professional congress organizer MCO
  - Organization of high quality reviews

- **EFMI organization**
  - Preparation of Council meetings,
  - Press and Information Officer: Continuation
  - Establishing youngEFMI officer
  - EFMI Website & Social Media, Marketing
  - Working groups

- **EFMI Publications**
  - EFMI Inside

- **EFMI Honorary Members**

- **EFMI endorsements**
  - Endorsement of projects, conferences and journals (EJBI)

- **EFMI external relationships**
  - IMIA & IMIA conferences
  - EFMI Collaboration with EUSEM
  - EFMI Collaboration with AMIA
  - HIMSS
  - Chinese Medical Informatics Society

- **External conferences**
  - Bucharest eHealth week
  - Rovinj eHealth week

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\(^1\) [www.efmi-server.com/owncloud](http://www.efmi-server.com/owncloud)
### 3 National Members (31.12.2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>National Society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Working Group Medical Informatics (AKMI) of the Austrian Society for Biomedical Engineering (ÖGBMT) and of the Austrian Computer Society (OCG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Belgian Medical Informatics Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia Herzegovina</td>
<td>Society for Medical Informatics of Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Croatian Society for Medical Informatics (CroSMI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>The Cyprus Society of Medical Informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Danish Society for Digital Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Finnish Social and Health Informatics Association (FinnSHIA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>French Medical Informatics Association (AIM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>German Association for Medical Informatics, Biometry and Epidemiology (GMDS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Greek Biomedical and Health Informatics Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>National Institute for Strategic Health Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>A special interest group of health informatics within the Icelandic Society of Information Processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Healthcare Informatics Society of Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>Israeli Association for Medical Informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Società Scientifica Italiana di Informatica Biomedica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Norwegian Society for Medical Informatics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>Romanian Society of Medical Informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>Association for Medical Informatics of Serbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Slovenian Medical Informatics Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Spanish Society of Health Informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Swedish Federation for Medical Informatics (SFMI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Swiss Society for Medical Informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Czech Republic</td>
<td>Czech Society for Biomedical Engineering and Medical Informatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>Society for Healthcare Informatics (VMBI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Republic of Moldova</td>
<td>State Medical and Pharmaceutical University “N. Testemitanu”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Russian Federation</td>
<td>National Association of Medical Informatics (NAMI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The United Kingdom</td>
<td>British Computer Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Turkish Medical Informatics Association (TurkMIA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>The Ukraine Association for “Computer Medicine” (UACM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Full reports of the EFMI national members are presented in appendix 4.

Institutional Members of EFMI are academic institutions, public or private organizations, non-profit institutions as well as industrial and corporate organizations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>academic institutions, public or private organisations, non-profit institutions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HL7 – Health Level Seven International</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HON – Health On the Net Foundation</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National and Kapodistrian University of Athens – HIL</td>
<td>Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politecnico di Milano – eHealthLAB</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dipartimento di Ingegneria Industriale e dell’Informazione, Università degli Studi di Pavia</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division of Medical Information Sciences of University Hospitals of Geneva (HUG)</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Trieste</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Danish Centre for Health Informatics, Aalborg University (DaCHI)</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Campus Rottal-Inn of Deggendorf Institute of Technology (ECRI)</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autoritatea Națională de Managementul Calității în Sănătate (National Authority for Quality Management in Healthcare) (ANMCS)</td>
<td>Romania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Medicine of Oporto University (since 07.04.2019)</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>industrial and corporate organisations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Mix</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramsey Systems Ltd</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Working Group</th>
<th>Chair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHD - Citizen and Health Data</td>
<td>Hägglund, Maria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDU - Education</td>
<td>Saranto, Kaija</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHR - Electronic Health Records</td>
<td>Klein, Gunnar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVAL - Assessment of Health Information Systems</td>
<td>Scott, Philip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIIC - Health Informatics for Interregional Cooperation</td>
<td>Benis, Arriel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIME - Health Information Management Europe</td>
<td>Engelbrecht, Rolf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOFMI - Human and Organisational Factors of Medical Informatics</td>
<td>Marcilly, Romaric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDES - Information and Decision Support in Biomedicine and Health Care</td>
<td>Sonicki, Zdenko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIFOSS - Libre/Free and Open Source Software</td>
<td>Kane, Tom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIP - Medical Image Processing</td>
<td>Deserno, Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NI - Nursing Informatics</td>
<td>Madsen, Inge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCI - Primary Health Care Informatics</td>
<td>de Lusignan, Simon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPD - Personal Portabel Devices</td>
<td>Lhotska, Lenka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSE - Security, Safety and Ethics</td>
<td>Delgado, Jaime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THI - Translational Health Informatics</td>
<td>Giacomini, Mauro</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Full EFMI WGs reports as presented for the IMIA Yearbook is presented as appendix 3.
6 EFMI Council


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ammenwerth, Elske</td>
<td>Austria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bakke, Silje Ljosland</td>
<td>Norway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benis, Arriel</td>
<td>Israel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleary, Mary</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornet, Ronald</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>De Clercq, Etienne</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatberg, Anna</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Häyrinen, Kristiina</td>
<td>Finland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Héja, Gergely</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hercigonja-Szekeres, Mira</td>
<td>Croatia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karlsson, Daniel</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lovis, Christian</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mantas, John</td>
<td>Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masic, Izet</td>
<td>Bosnia Herzegovina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayorow, Oleg</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milic, Natasa</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nehr, Christian</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orel, Andrej</td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patta Calderon, Carlos</td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pattichis, Constantinos</td>
<td>Cyprus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quaglini, Silvana</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosioru, Alexandru</td>
<td>The Republic of Moldova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saka, Osman</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott, Philip</td>
<td>The United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seidl, Libor</td>
<td>The Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seroussi, Brigitte</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirnin, Michael</td>
<td>The Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stoicu-Tivadar, Lâcrâmioara</td>
<td>Romania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter, Alfred</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.2 Working Group Chairs
Please refer to chapter 5.

6.3 Institutional Members Representatives
The Institutional Members (chapter 4) are represented in the Council by electing one representative of the academic institutions or non-profit organizations and one representative of the industrial or corporate organizations. The representatives are:

- non-profit and academic institutions: Christophe Gaudet-Blavignac
- industrial and for-profit organizations: Jacob Hofdijk
## 6.4 Honorary Fellows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Elected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andersen, Stig Kjaer</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barber, Barry</td>
<td>1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baud, Robert</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blobel, Bernd</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engelbrecht, Rolf</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gell, Günther</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hasman, Arie</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hofdijk, Jacob</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mantas, John</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masic, Izet</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McNair, Peter</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mihalas, George</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moen, Anne</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nordberg, Ragnar</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O'Moore, Rory</td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson, Hans</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rossing, Niels</td>
<td>1994</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EFMI will always remember its deceased Honorary Fellows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>passed away</th>
<th>Elected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abbott, Bud</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson, John</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryden, John</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grémy, Francois</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hansen, Rolf</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jorgensen, Mogens</td>
<td></td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reichert, Assa</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reichertz, Peter L.</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remond, Antoine</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scherrer, Jean-Raoul</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagner, Gustav</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weber, Albert</td>
<td></td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zvárová, Jana</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.5 Auditing Committee
The Auditing Committee has been elected at the council meeting at MIE 2018 in Gothenburg:

Name
Ammenwerth, Elske
Mihalas, George
Shifrin, Michael

6.6 Council Meetings
There were two meetings in 2019. On April 7 the Council met in Hanover (Germany) at STC 2019 and on August 27 the Council met at MEDINFO 2019 in Lyon (France). Minutes and additional material of the meetings are available at the EFMI archive\(^2\).

\(^2\) www.efmi-server.com/owncloud
7 Appendix 1: Statutes

**Article 1 NAMES AND AIMS**
The name of the association is European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI), hereinafter known as EFMI. EFMI is a not-for-profit organization involved with the scientific work on theory and practice of information and communication technology as applied in biomedical sciences and health care in a European context. EFMI facilitates the activities of its member national associations and institutions.

The main objectives of the association are to:

A. Advance international co-operation and dissemination of information in the field of Biomedical and Health Informatics on a European basis;
B. Stimulate the scientific work in this field and the evaluation of its applications;
C. Promote research and development in this field;
D. Encourage high standards in education in this field; and
E. Function as the autonomous European Regional Association of the International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA).

**Article 2 SEAT**
The seat of the association is in Switzerland at the following address: Chemin de Maillefer 37, CH-1052 Le Mont-sur-Lausanne, Switzerland.

**Article 3 MEMBERSHIP**
EFMI shall be open for membership by National Societies from European Countries with objectives compatible with its own, by institutions, organizations and affiliated societies. In general, Europe shall be defined as comprising the countries within the European Region of the World Health Organization. The national boundaries and names adopted shall be those of member states as represented at the United Nations. The EFMI Council shall decide on the admission of Full Members, taking into account the membership arrangements of IMIA, ensuring that EFMI and IMIA have the same European countries as Full Members.

EFMI’s members are obliged to collaborate in a tolerant and peaceful way, transcending nations, cultures, and political or social structures.

3.1 Full Members
In each country, a national scientific, technical society or group of such societies, may become a Full Member with the restriction that there shall be only one Full Member for each country, and that this member shall be representing the national activities in the field of Biomedical and Health Informatics. Only Full Members have the rights to the assets of EFMI.

Each Full Member is entitled to delegate one representative to the Council. Each representative of a Full Member shall be elected by the member society.

Each Full Member shall pay membership annual dues as decided by the Council.

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3 accepted at the 72nd EFMI Council, 2014
3.2 Institutional Members

The Council may accept academic institutions, public or private organizations, non-profit institutions as well as industrial and corporate organizations as Members to EFMI, hereinafter called Institutional Members.

The Institutional Members are represented in the Council by electing one representative of the academic institutions or non-profit organizations and one representative of the industrial or corporate organizations. The representatives’ term is two years. The election procedure is monitored by an Officer of the Executive Board. Besides the two representatives, each other Institutional Member may be represented at the Council meetings by ex officio delegates without voting rights.

The membership annual dues of all the Institutional Members are decided by the Council.

3.3 Affiliated Societies

The Council may at any time accept other international societies, organizations or associations as affiliated members of EFMI in order to enhance co-operation in achieving the aims of EFMI, as stated in Article 1.

Such affiliated members have the right of representation in the working groups of EFMI and may be represented at Council meetings by an ex officio delegate without voting rights. A prerequisite for affiliation is that reciprocal arrangements are made by the affiliated member society.

3.4 Honorary Fellows

In order to enhance and promote the work of EFMI, the Council is empowered to elect individuals, who have made a distinguished contribution to the field of Biomedical and Health Informatics or who have contributed significantly to the activities respectively objectives of EFMI, to be associated with EFMI as Honorary Fellows. Such Honorary Fellows shall have the right of attending and speaking at the Council, but shall not be entitled to vote, except for the admission of other Honorary Fellows.

3.5 Admission

The Council shall decide on the admission of Full Members, Honorary Fellows, Affiliated Societies and Institutional Members upon recommendation of a Full Member or the EFMI Executive Board. All admissions must be accepted by a majority vote of the EFMI Council.

3.6 Suspension

The membership of Full Members and Institutional Members shall be automatically suspended under the present conditions:

A. For being more than two years in arrears with payment of membership annual dues, including the current year;
B. A written statement has been sent to the member at the last known address two months before suspension, with a copy to the national representative or legal representative.
C. For a long-term inactivity as defined in the Bylaws.

The suspension means that the Full Member or Institutional Member has temporarily lost the rights of a Full Member or Institutional Member, but is allowed to take the role of an observer. As such, a representative can attend the Council Meeting as a delegate, but is without voting rights.

The suspension is automatically cancelled when the payment of membership annual dues, including the years of suspension, is received in the bank account of EFMI.
3.7 Termination
The membership of Full Members or Institutional Members shall be terminated by:

A. Declaration of the member, the resignation to take effect from the beginning of the ensuing year;

B. A two-thirds majority of all Full Members and the two representatives of the Institutional Members:
   i. for a serious offence;
   ii. if the conditions of membership are no longer fulfilled;
   iii. for being more than two years in arrears with payment of membership dues;
   iv. for a long-term inactivity as defined in the Bylaws.

C. A simple majority of all Full Members and the two representatives of the Institutional Members:
   if the member is more than three years in arrears with the payment of membership dues.

Article 4 OPERATION
The main bodies of EFMI shall be in descending order of authority: the Council, the Executive Board, and the Working Groups.

4.1 Council
The Council shall be composed of one representative from each Full Member, the Members of the Executive Board, the Chairpersons of the Working Groups, the Honorary Fellows and two representatives of the Institutional Members.

4.1.1 Authority
A. The Council is the supreme authority of EFMI.
B. The Council shall determine fundamental policy, adopt the programme of activities, hear and approve the reports of any subordinate bodies it may have established, decide on admission and exclusion of members, elect the President and the Members of the Executive Board, adopt and revise statutes and bylaws, adopt the budget, review the incomes and expenditures, accept the audit reports and approve the annual accounts.
C. The Council may establish subordinate bodies for clearly defined permanent or temporary purposes. It shall decide on the composition, the terms of reference and the duration of existence of such bodies.
D. The Council may establish Working Groups to elaborate on specific domains of knowledge in the field of Biomedical and Health Informatics.
E. The Council will elect an Auditing Committee that consists of 3 members, one of them elected as chair person. Each committee member will be elected for a period of 3 years and can be re-elected once, for a total duration of 6 years. The Auditing Committee will review and audit all EFMI's monetary and financial statements in correspondence to the Council approved budget. The committee will issue a written report to be presented at the Council meeting at least once in every calendar/financial year.
F. The Council shall take decisions necessary for the implementation of the main objectives of EFMI.
4.1.2 Quorum, Majority and voting rights

A. **Quorum.** The Council shall be able to conduct business only if at least half of the Full Members and the two representatives of the Institutional Members are present. Proxies (Article 4.1.2.C) are counted for attaining the Quorum. If this is not the case, another assembly of the Council shall be convened within three months, having ensured that all members can be given at least one month’s notice in advance. During that meeting the Council shall operate without any quorum restriction.

B. **Voting Rights.** Only Full Members and the two representatives of the Institutional Members have voting rights in the Council for electing members of the Executive Board, approving the budget, approving future locations/organizers for Medical Informatics Europe Conferences (MIE) as well as Special Topic Conferences (STC) and accepting new Members to EFMI. The Honorary Fellows vote for accepting new Honorary Fellows. The Working Group chairs may vote for accepting the reports of the WGs, establishing new WGs, endorsing chairs/co-chairs. For all other issues all Council members may vote based on the corresponding articles of the statutes and corresponding bylaws.

C. **Proxy.** Only Full Members may give proxy. A representative of a Full Member may be given proxy to vote for a maximum of two other Full Members. For electing Members of the Executive Board no proxies are accepted.

D. **Single vote.** Each representative of Full Members has one vote unless he is recipient of proxy/proxies (see 4.1.2.C). Each other Council member has only one vote.

E. **Simple majority.** Decisions of Council shall be taken by a simple majority of those members present or represented by proxy by those who have the right to vote, except otherwise specified in the statutes.

F. **Waiving vote or abstention.** On a particular issue addressed by the Council, a member may waive the voting right. However, the abstention from voting shall be noted and the member shall be counted for the quorum.

G. **Electronic and Postal Voting.** The President may authorise the Secretary to conduct a postal or an electronic ballot on some issue if a quorum cannot be achieved at a Council meeting, or if other urgent business requires the attention of all Council members with voting rights between scheduled meetings. In this instance a formal proposal shall be put to each member with a copy to the Chair of the corresponding Full Member and the Institutional Members at their official address. At least one month shall be allowed for replies to be received and they shall be counted as if they were votes in a meeting of Council.

If the voting is deemed to require confidentiality and in particular anonymity of the casting votes, as may be the case for election of Members of the Executive Board, a postal ballot shall be given with an inner unmarked sealed envelope which contains the vote of the Member with no sender given and an enclosed signed letter indicating who issued the vote. Based on the rules for a confidential postal vote a similar system will be implemented for electronic votes guaranteeing anonymity.

In the event of any difference in a view being expressed between a Full Members of Institutional member representative and information sent by a letter from the Secretary or Chair of the same Full Member or Institutional Member, the Full Member or Institutional Member representative’s views will be taken as subordinate to their Full Member or Institutional Member. The view as expressed by the Full Member’s or Institutional Member’s Chair will prevail.

4.1.3 Meetings

A. The Council shall decide on the dates and places of its meetings, but there shall be at least one Council Meeting each year. It may, however, be convened at any time if the President, after consultation with the Executive Board, deems it necessary.

B. The Secretary shall be supplied with an up-to-date address for each Member of the Council and shall issue minutes and agendas to these addresses. The dates of Council Meetings shall
be notified to Council members at least two months in advance of each meeting with a request for items for the agenda. The agenda will be issued one month before the meeting.

C. The minutes of meetings shall be prepared by the Secretary, endorsed by the President, and approved by the Council at the next meeting.

4.2 The Executive Board

The Executive Board shall execute and implement the decisions taken by the Council. The Executive Board is liable to the Council.

4.2.1 Composition and Election

A. The Council shall elect an Executive Board consisting of President, Vice-President, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, and a number of Officers. Allocation in elected Officers’ roles and responsibilities as well as additional Officers is to be justified by a Council decision. Each Officer shall have tasks and duties assigned by the Council.

All members of the Executive Board shall be members of Council at the time of their election, with the possible exception of the Past President. Members of National Associations (Full Members of EFMI) nominated by its corresponding National Association may become candidates for an Executive Board position. In the latter case a 2/3 majority vote is required to accept the nomination.

B. Election of President

The Council elects every two years a President-elect, who takes up the position of the President for a term of two years. The election takes place at least three months before the end of the term of the current President. Candidates for the position of President-elect should be members of the Council or the Executive Board who served for at least four years in total. When the President-elect takes up the position of the President, the former President becomes Past President and serves the Executive Board for two years.

The President is responsible for the electoral procedure. The President initiates the procedure at least three months before the expiration date by informing all Members of the Council and calling for tender for the position of President-elect. The election is held during the Council meeting by secret ballot. The person that receives the majority vote of the present Council is elected to the position of the President-elect. The President-elect attends all Executive Board and Council meetings without voting rights.

C. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer are elected by the Council for a period of four years. Their term can be extended for a maximum of another one term.

D. The Vice-President and the Officers are elected directly by the Council for two years. The term of the Vice-President and the Officers can be extended, if re-elected, for a maximum of another two consecutive terms in the same or another Executive Board position.

E. The Past President represents EFMI in IMIA and has, while EFMI is accepted as an IMIA Regional Member under the IMIA Bylaws, the right of attendance and voting at the IMIA Board and General Assembly. The Past President after serving for two years in his/her position ceases to be a member of the Executive Board.

F. The Members of the Executive Board shall commit themselves to assist to all the meetings of the committee.

G. If a Member of the Executive Board resigns or the office is terminated for any reason, a successor shall be elected for the unexpired portion of the term. In case of emergency, the Executive Board shall be entitled to elect a temporary successor for the period until the next Council meeting. Incomplete terms shall not count as complete term. For unexpected and force majeure circumstances the Council may decide with 2/3 majority of all Council members to extend the term of any Board member.

H. A Member of the Executive Board can be discharged for misconduct by a two-thirds vote of the Full Members and two representatives of the Institutional Members.
4.2.2 Authority

A. The Executive Board shall conduct the day-to-day operations of EFMI.
B. The President applies the policies of EFMI, represents EFMI and convenes and conducts both the Council and the Executive Board meetings. The President defines the agenda of the meetings, moves proposals for voting, and oversees the execution of all resolutions.
C. The Vice-President replaces the President whenever the President is absent or incapacitated. The Vice-President is responsible for initiating Working Groups and for monitoring the progress of existing ones.
D. The Past President represents EFMI in IMIA Executive Board and its meetings.
E. The Secretary is responsible for Membership of EFMI, supervises voting procedures, keeps records for each Member of the Council, and keeps minutes, resolutions and archives of the Council and the Executive Board meetings.
F. The Treasurer keeps records of payments of membership dues, reports to the Council and Executive Board about overdue payments from Full and Institutional Members, and initiates the procedure of suspension and termination of membership. The Treasurer keeps records of the bank accounts of EFMI and provides financial reports to the President and the Secretary during the Executive Board meetings. The bank accounts are held in the country where the EFMI registered office is located. The Treasurer prepares and reports the annual budgets and accounts to the EFMI Council and keeps all documentation, submits them for auditing, and reports the outcome of these audits to the Council and Executive Board. The Treasurer will cooperate with the Auditing Committee (Article 4.1.1.E) and supply it with all relevant materials and information.
G. The Officers authority and duties will be defined in the Bylaws.

4.2.3 Meetings

A. The President and the Members of the Executive Board shall decide on the dates and places of the Executive Board meetings, and shall meet at least twice each year.
B. The minutes of meetings shall be prepared by the Secretary, endorsed by the President, and approved by the Council and the Executive Board.

4.3 EFMI Working Groups

A. An EFMI Working Group is established by a Council decision upon the submission of a proposal by (a) Council member(s) describing the scope, objectives, outcomes, and the timeline of the deliverables of the Working Group. The term of a Working Group will be decided by the Council.
B. Each Working Group shall be composed by experts of the specific domain working together in a specified area. Membership in a Working Group is neither restricted to EFMI members nor EFMI countries.
C. A Working Group may develop workshops, cooperate with other Work Group(s) to propose Special Topic Conferences, produce scientific documents and papers, and whatever else that promotes the domain of the Working Group as specified by the Council decision of its establishment.
D. A Working Group operates under the Council and the Executive Board. Each Working Group is chaired by a person endorsed by the Council. The Chairperson of the Working Group may propose a co-chairperson (endorsed by the Council) among the working group membership. Consequently, the chairperson attends the meetings of the Council. The co-chair may act as a proxy to the chairperson in the Council, whenever the chairperson is not attending.
E. The Working Group Chairs shall communicate Working Group activities to the Vice-President, who monitors and encourages activities in all Working Groups. The Chairperson of
the Working Group shall submit a report to the EFMI Executive Board via the Vice President once a year, reporting previous and forthcoming activities and deliverables. The report is examined by the Vice-President and the Vice-President reports to the Executive Board and to the Council about the progress of each Working Group.

F. If no report has been delivered on two consecutive occasions, the Working Group shall automatically be dissolved.

G. The term of office of the Working Group Chairperson is four years but can be renewed for one further four-year period.

**Article 5 FINANCE**

EFMI shall be financed by membership annual dues from Full Members and Institutional Members, by royalties from publications, interest on funds, contributions and surplus from events such as Congresses, Conferences and Symposia including funds arising from activities of subordinate bodies.

The Council shall decide on the scale of annual membership dues for Full Members and Institutional Members for the ensuing year. It may accept donations and subsidies.

**Article 6 LIABILITIES**

In the event of dissolution of EFMI or as contributions to a financial loss in any year, no Full Member shall be held liable to pay a sum in excess of an amount equivalent to twice the annual membership dues to EFMI.

**Article 7 LIQUIDATION**

Any proposal to dissolve EFMI shall be brought to the notice of all Members of the Council at least three months in advance of the Council meeting, at which it will be discussed. Approval of such a proposal shall require a two-thirds majority of all the Full Members.

If the two-thirds majority is achieved for liquidation, the Council shall then decide by a simple majority of the full members on the method of liquidation and the disposal of its assets which may be given to the Full Members’ National Societies or other purpose(s).

**Article 8 COMMITMENTS**

Any documents committing EFMI to expenditure or other liability shall be signed by two members of the Executive Board, normally the President and the Secretary, in accordance with and subsequent to an explicit minute action within a Meeting of the Council or an Executive Board meeting.

All legal actions, whether as plaintiff or as defendant, shall be the responsibility of the Executive Board represented by the President or his legal representative.

**Article 9 OFFICIAL LANGUAGE**

The official language for conducting business of EFMI is English. Therefore, all minutes are kept and recorded in English as well as the communication with Members and during Board and Council meetings are conducted in English.
**Article 10**  
**BYLAWS**

The Bylaws are the internal rules of operation implementing the EFMI policy and are approved by the Council. Therefore, procedures and operating actions related to the above mentioned Articles not provided within the Statutes will be defined and detailed in the Bylaws.

**Article 11**  
**APPLICABLE LAW**

Anything not provided for in these Statutes and the Bylaws, and any dispute shall be resolved in accordance with the corresponding Swiss legal framework.

**Article 12**  
**AMENDMENT**

All proposals for modification of these statutes must be submitted by at least one Full Member. Any such proposal shall be brought to the notice of all Members of Council at least one month in advance of the Council meeting at which it will be discussed. Approval of such proposals shall require a two-thirds majority of all Full Members.

**DECISIONS**

The statutes were adopted at Council Meeting in Toulouse, 23 March, 1977.  
Amended at Council Meeting in Ljubljana, 13 March, 1999.  
Suggested Amendments at Executive Board Meeting in Geneva, 26 August, 2005.  
Extended Editing at Executive Board Meeting in Madrid, 4-5 March, 2007.  
Amended at Council Meeting in Brijuni, Croatia in 30 May, 2007.  
Approval for submission to the Court at Exec. Board meeting in Antalya, 17 November, 2007.  
Approved by the Council in the Council meeting in Copenhagen on 19 Aug, 2013.  
Approved by the Council in the Council meeting in Budapest on 26 April, 2014.  
Approved by the Council in the Council meeting in Istanbul on 31 August, 2014.
8 Appendix 2: Full reports from the Board Members

8.1 President – Lăcrămioara Stoicu-Tivadar

During this first year of presidency my focus was on increasing the cohesion of the EFMI community to team up to work actively for visibility, cooperation and growth of the organization and also to ensure the continuity in activity working to consolidate and complete the projects started by the former presidents and Board/Council members.

I followed my agenda related to the 3 points which I underlined in my candidacy: stronger cooperation with medical professional associations, building a platform to promote fresh blood members in EFMI, and consolidate EFMI participation in EU projects.

As a new promoted activity, I mention contributing to development of the first 2 years project building a platform to work with a medical professional European association, strongly supported and firmly managed by Vice president Catherine Chronaki, started in 2019 with EU-SEM, the European Society for Emergency Medicine. Based on this experience I will work with the Board and a specific team to create a frame for future cooperation with healthcare associations in activities as participation in events, working to develop common documents to integrate the specific healthcare activity and the digital benefits, and cooperate in publication to raise mutual visibility.

During 2019 I promoted the concept of yEFMI as a new Board position supporting young professionals related to EFMI’s domain of interest and was impressed by the openness and support of the EFMI Council members. The new position in the Board is “Young professional officer” and the Council accepted the proposal during CM STC 2019, in Hanover, April 2019, with a profile as age between 30-40, and a position elected by the Council. The tasks of the new officer and the group that will form after elections will define the Young professional profile (researcher in x domain, medical staff, etc.), will contribute to the scientific work of EFMI conferences from a young researchers’ perspective, with several activities (tbd), will create a networking platform with specific incentives for early career professionals in digital healthcare in line with EFMI policy, will contribute with information supporting the social media coordinator, will be part of the bursary committee for the Young researcher prize, will organize a ”mentoring in publication” group, supported by the EFMI President and 2-3 EFMI members, will create a forum for PhD/MSc students working with digital healthcare related topics, from different professional areas – relate with EFMI EDU WG to identify targeted individuals. In structuring the future community will balance gender, professional background and nationality. For the medium future the yEFMI chair will organize Young EFMI, as an advisory committee (or finding a more accurate description) for the EFMI Board in relation with Young professionals’ development; as early career professionals, the perspective of the Young EFMI will be a support for the EFMI Board in shaping the strategy going forward.

Participating in EU projects is of great importance for EFMI, national members and workgroups continued the proactive developments in this area with 2 projects in which EFMI was involved and EFMI’s contribution in CrowdHealth and FAIR4Health projects was very well appreciated by the members of the consortia, and I am grateful to the EFMI members contributing to that, mentioning the professional and administrative coordinators, John Mantas, Carlos Luis Parra Calderón and Patrick Weber. We must consolidate this activity and my proposal to create a group that will build on this subject was agreed in 2019 and is under construction during 2020.

We worked hard and sometimes in troubled waters together with Alfred Winter, the EFMI Secretary, with EFMI Council members, and the MCO partners for shifting EFMI to professional management of conferences, to complete the contract with as many as possible benefits for EFMI, an activity started by Christian Lovis during his presidency. During 2019 we spent many
hours, had many discussions, a lot of arguments pro and con, overcoming our mistrust, hundreds of e-mails, many virtual meetings, and all were spectacularly concluded with a unanimous vote PRO during Medinfo 2019 council meeting, and finally, after refining the document, the 3 years (2021-2023) contract with MCO was signed in December 2019 and the first EFMI event organized in the new frame will be MIE2021 in Athens.

I am supporting always Rebecca Randell, EFMI’s Executive Officer that started already to work, together with John Mantas and MCO representatives, organizing and overcoming already many issues and misunderstandings that are present in this new events management approach. EFMI’s former EO, Mira Hercigonja-Szekeres has continued to advice and contribute with her experience during 2019 challenging activities. Also, I proposed her, she gracefully accepted, and the Council voted, to lead a team that will build rules for the reviewers invited to work in EFMI events to raise the quality of this activity.

The previous activities are counterpoints in EFMI’s current life which I had to create/continue and face the challenges. We all in the Board continue to build on the agreed strategy and background in relation with visibility and activities around social media and web presence or publication in conferences. I supported our Publication Officer, Parisis Gallos, his proposals and excellent activity to increase in the future better relations with editors of impact journals. The PO did a great work taking over PIO tasks. We must be more coherent as a community in presenting our association and to be all more active in this domain.

I participated and was involved in the EFMI events organized/supported during 2019: STC2019 in Hannover managed by Thomas Deserno and supported by several EFMI WGs, and Medinfo2019 in Lyon, supported heavily by our EFMI members, either national, institutional or WGs. EFMI had the Board and Council meetings during the events with many important decisions. I was happy having us all together and feel the community spirit, bubbling as champagne…

For the cohesion of EFMI members we continuously look for cooperation at research level between national societies through work visits, workshops, invitations and presence during national societies events. Louise Pape-Haugaard, EFMI’s Institutional Members Officer, worked on many levels in the Board, supporting the activity with her realistic and pragmatic advices. She is also involved in EFMI-EUSEM dissemination activities and was an active member of the EU-China forum in Lyon, during Medinfo2019, a successful event organized by Catherine Chronaky.

The educational activities are a priority for EFMI and will continue with the same force in the next year

As I am a team player, I enjoyed working this year with a great team. I am grateful to my Board colleagues. I coordinated the Board virtual meetings, having a solid support, being productive, and getting specific results. We had some ups and downs in the begging, but the team was united, and we found refined solutions to the encountered issues. The Council members were supportive and helped the Board to work better. We did good, but still have many things to improve and change, and we can do this if we keep close and are dedicated to our community.

This is a Report for 2019, but wrote in April 2020, when the world as we knew it is changing, and we are living unique times and need to mobilize ourselves and change behavioral attitudes, finding new ways to reach fulfilment in our professional and personal life. I know you all will contribute to a better one. Be safe and healthy!

Lacramioara Stoicu-Tivadar
EFMI President 2018-2020
#myHome, Timisoara, April 2020
8.2 Vice President – Catherine Chronaki

In 2019, my main activities as EFMI Vice President for WGs have been:

- **Encourage 3-year Business Plan for EFMI WGs.** In 2019 we had several meetings with WGs aiming at the creation of a 3-year business plan. A template was created inspired by similar work in IMIA, with the support of Kaija Saranto (EDU WG). The idea was promoted in 2 teleconferences and 2 online meetings at MedInfo2019 in Lyon. Several WGs delivered a business plan: EVAL, HIIC, NI, PPD, HOFMI, SSE, and THI. Thoughts about ways to strengthen the WGs were exchanged in the meetings. Among them, were actively encouraging participation in EU projects under EFMI, measuring the health of working groups, encouraging submission of workshops and hosting of community meetings.

- **Stimulate EFMI WG participation in EU projects and proposals.** In 2019, FAIR4Health project in which EFMI is a partner, provided the framework for EFMI WGs to provide contributions. This started with SSE and will no doubt contribute with other WGs in 2020.

- **Reviewed EFMI WG section in new website.** The new website offers the opportunity for rich interaction of EFMI WGs with their communities, thanks to the work of Paris Gallos, EFMI Board Publication Officer. I contributed with review of the relevant website section.

- **EU-China Health Summit on Medical Innovation and Technology Transfer.** On August 25, 2019, in Lyon at MedInfo 2019, EFMI organized in collaboration with the Chinese Medical Informatics Association (CMIA), the 1st EU-China Health Summit on Technology Transfer and Medical Innovation. There were active contributions from the European Society for Emergency Medicine (EUSEM), the Chinese College of Emergency Physicians and the ECHalliance network of ecosystems that has presence in China. The aim of the summit was to pave the way towards a shared vision for the blueprint of a joint mission on Aging that will redefine the role of health informatics in our Aging societies and advance EU-China cooperation in research and innovation (R&I): (a) Facilitate policy dialogue and influence priority areas for joint EU-China R&I programs; (b) Highlight EU-China innovation cooperation and research transfer in the Health sector; (c) Simulate collaborative mission-oriented EU-China Health R&I initiatives. The summit was co-chaired by me and the Vice President of CMIA, Professor Zhi Yang at Capital Medical University, Beijing. There were 30 invited speakers from Europe and China. The summit attracted an international audience thanks to MedInfo2019 of approximately 70 participants. Following an opening statement by the EFMI president and a warm welcome address by Diana Zandi on behalf of the World Health Organization, there was an inspirational keynote bridged traditional Chinese medicine and AI. There were three sessions, poster pitches, and two keynotes. The first session identified problems with elderly patients in emergency departments, and technological innovations to support them in nursing homes and at home to avoid frequent visits to Emergency Departments (ED), drawing similarities between Europe and China, calling for integrated care support at home or in nursing homes as well as dedicated geriatric emergency departments sections. The second session addressed the Application of Big Data and Artificial Intelligence Research in Aging drawing examples from Europe and China. The third session was on Enabling Collaborative Health Research and Innovation and recognized the role of standards and regulations for safe and effective use of data in health research. Martin Ingvar in the closing keynote addressed...
Blueprint for a joint mission on aging, stating three principles: (1) The information must follow the patient and allow for sharing of planned actions; (2) Shared interprofessional decisions require shared information; (3) Patients have the right to all their information. Closing the 1st EU-China Health Summit on Medical Innovation and Technology Transfer Prof. Yang said “This summit is very unique and effective platform for dialogue and collaboration on aging and the associated healthcare technology developments in Europe and China. We want to keep and grow this channel and momentum to produce great solutions to the people’s life quality through technology development and innovations. We are proposing to hold the next summit in China, Suzhou, next August, to continue the dialogue and further our effort for better healthcare outcomes. We look forward to welcome you.” The full conference report is available at: https://www.efmi.org/images/EU-ChinaSummit-v5.pdf

- **EFMI Cooperation with the European Society for Emergency Medicine (EUSEM).** In December 2018, the Executive Board approved support of the EUSEM-EFMI Joint Task Force with 20000Euro for two years. One of the first tasks of the EUSEM-EFMI Task force will be to set up a charter that sets up in detail joint activities and deliverables for the cooperation. WGs of EFMI, as well as representatives of Full Members (National Societies) and Institutional Members are encouraged to participate in the joint WG to be established in 2019.

The initiative started officially with a joint announcement in January 2019. Overall, there were 7 meetings of the Joint Task Force (5 teleconferences and 2 in person). The in-person meetings were held in conjunction with the EFMI STC conference in Hannover and the EUSEM conference in Prague. The charter for the EUSEM-EFMI cooperation was established in the meeting in Hannover. Work on a joint review of paper on the Chief Complaint started. The first joint education webinar took place in December 2020 attracted almost 50 attendees, and the recording is available in the digital academy site of EUSEM. Work on a joint policy paper started. Work will continue in 2020 with the objective to have more online webinars, to complete the review, and create a roadmap that will drive future cooperation addressing areas of common interest:

- common description of processes/workflows, performance indicators, structures in Emergency Medical Systems and Emergency Departments with emphasis on the use of digital health technologies. A specific project of interest is the standardization of the main concern/complaint and its link to care protocols and health records. There is an internally supported EUSEM project on this topic.
- development of educational module(s) related to medical informatics that could be offered in the EUSEM congresses. We could also consider a module developed by EUSEM for medical informatics offered as tutorial in EFMI congresses. For accreditation of educational modules, EUSEM works with EUMS, the European Union of Medical specialists.

- **EFMI WG Updates: activities, initiation, change in leadership, termination.** The activities of EFMI WGs are presented in the [www.efmi.org](http://www.efmi.org) web site. Several WGs also have a linkedin website. In 2019, the EFMI council approved the creation of a new EFMI WG Citizens and Health Data. In 2019, the following WG Chair transitions took place:

  - HOFMI, Romaric Marcilly
  - THI, Mauro Giacomini
  - CHD Maria Hagglund
  - Leadership change expected in 2020 for HIME and PPD, change pending
The WGs EHR and PCI have been inactive and are expected to be disbanded 2020.

- **Other activities: speeches, workshops, meetings.** During 2019, I gave a keynote at IC-MTH2020 in Athens, 4-7 July 2019, were I co-authored several articles. I also participated in several workshops at ICMTH2020 and MedInfo2020 that were quite well attended. Besides that, I have been active in the IC2 committee and actively participated in board and council meetings held in 2019 (Hannover, Lyon) and through teleconferencing.

**8.3 Past President – Christian Lovis**

*Meetings of IMIA*

**Board meeting of August 25th, 2019; held in Lyon.**

**IMIA BOARD**

Christoph U Lehmann, President; Sabine Koch, President Elect; Hyeoun-Ae Park, Past President; Petter Hurlen, Secretary; Johanna Westbrook, Treasurer; Helen Wu, VP WG and SIGs; Patrick Weber, VP MedInfo; Daniel Luna, VP Membership; Elizabeth Bo-rycki, VP Special Affairs; Brigitte Séroussi, VP Services; Elaine Huesing, CEO

**IMIA REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS**

Andre Kushniruk, North America; Christian Lovis, EFMI, Vajira Dissanayake, APAMI; Riyad Al Shammarri; Ghislain Kouematchoua Tchuitcheu (virtual)

**IMIA LIAISON OFFICERS**

Michio Kimura, ISO; Antoine Geissbuhler, WHO; Hiroshi Takeda, IFIP; Reinhold Haux, IAHSI

Numerous points are discussed, among them:

- a) A proposal is made to avoid situations where IMIA could be facing important loss of money due to non-respect of Medinfo contractual agreements.
- b) It was agreed that termination of national membership should be decided by two-thirds majority of the GA, as for Admission (membership policy clause 6.1)
- c) An accreditation Panel has been established. There is a movement to streamline the initiative and make it more professional.
- d) The VP services do not recommend that the Acta Medica Informatica be approved as an Official Journal because only 5 of 9 criteria are met. It is not focused on Medical Informatics. The VP has offered to work with the applicant to help meeting the criteria.
- e) Discussion on the Nomination Committee to ensure with the national candidate’s Member Society that any IMIA Board candidate is supported by the national member society.

**GA meeting of August 26th, 2019; held in Lyon.**

Numerous points are discussed, among them:

- a) The IMIA GA has voted to exclude CMIA from IMIA (28 yes, 10 no, 1 abstention).
- b) Kuwait is accepted as new member, Cuba is re-instantiated after having paid due fees. European Campus Rottal-Inn of Deggendorf Institute of Technology and all India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) are accepted as institutional members.
- c) All VP reports are accepted. IMIA made a loss in 2018, mostly due to non-payment from CIMIA. Total assets reduced. Actions need to be taken.
- d) Acta Informatica Medica is not approved as an official IMIA journal.
- e) Taiwan selected for Medinfo 2023 (bids from Sri Lanka, Taiwan and UAE).
- f) Jack Li (Taiwan) elected for President Elect (candidate: Jack Li, Taiwan and Ramin Moghadam, Iran)
g) Luis Fernandez Luque elected as new VP WG and SIG
h) Jennifer Bichel-Findlay elected as new VP Special Affairs (Candidates Jennifer Bichel-Findlay, Australia and Peter Elkin USA)
i) Adi Gundlapalli elected as new VP Services (Candidates Adi Gundlapalli, USA Li Zhou, USA; Katie Zhu, USA)

8.4 Secretary - Alfred Winter
The work in 2019 was strongly influenced by the fact that we as EFMI wanted to place the organization of our STC and MIE conferences more rigorously in the hands of a professional congress organizer. After intensive discussions at two Council meetings and long negotiations with the company MCO, an agreement was finally reached. According to this agreement, the organization of the STC and MIE conferences for the years 2021, 2022 and 2023 will be carried out entirely by MCO. This is a great opportunity to effectively reduce the workload of the local scientific organizers while at the same time providing calculable income for EFMI. As a consequence of the agreement with MCO, the Executive Officer and the Secretary have also adapted the templates for the agreements between EFMI and the respective scientific organizers.

In 2023, we will carefully evaluate the experience and decide on a long-term commitment.

In addition, the Secretary has completed his usual duties:

- Maintaining the EFMI Archive https://www.efmi-server.com/owncloud and organizing technical support.
- Organizing and journalizing board meetings: For details see “Synopsis of board activities” before.
- Organizing and journalizing council meetings.
- Organizing and filing membership matters.

8.5 Treasurer - Andrej Orel
No report for 2019

8.6 Institutions Membership Officer - Louise Pape-Haugaard
We have had different strategies to engage new institutional members and to raise visibility for the current institutional members. We aim to strengthen cooperation among national societies, working groups and institutional members through transparency.

Several minor events to create awareness and visibility of IM, EFMI has been done during the year.

- STC 2019 in Hannover meeting up with new institutional members
- Medinfo 2019 in Lyon where IM Officer was represented in the EU-China Health Summit on Medical Innovation and Technology Transfer: Blueprint for a joint mission in Aging.

Organization of the Board & Council members as Institutional Members
It is worth noting that, despite encouragement to both Council and Board to engage their organization to become IM, there has only been a few new IM during the year.
IM representatives in the Council are:

- Representing academia and NON-profit organizations: Christophe Gaudet-Blavignac
- Representing industry: Jacob Hofdijk
Both of the gentlemen were elected during an online meeting late June. For 2020 we strive for a new approach in recruiting IM. The approach is to create value, based on the core EFMI values represented by the scientific work and the network of researchers, EFMI conference attendees, members of Working groups and other friends of EFMI. We are looking forward to elaborate more on this work in 2020.

8.7 Publication Officer - Simon de Lusignan / Parisis Gallos

8.7.1 Simon de Lusignan (January to April 2019)
No report for 2019

8.7.2 Parisis Gallos (from April 2019)

As a Publication Officer, my activities have been as follows:

1. Followed up the Endorsement of the European Journal for Biomedical Informatics. I had contacts with Mauro Giacomini (who is the Editor-in-Chief of this journal), Izet Masic, and Bernd Blobel. Currently, Mauro Giacomini looking for new Publisher, IOS Press is one of the options.

2. During MEDINFO 2019, I had participated on the Editorial Board Meeting of Methods after an invitation by the Editor-in-Chief, Sabine Koch. On the same meeting I had the opportunity to discuss with Sabine Koch and Graham Brumfield (Thieme DE – publisher of METHODS) about further collaboration between EFMI and Thieme DE

3. On November 2019, Sabine Koch suggested for a WG special issue of Methods and “EFMI News” column on Methods. Specifically, to have a special “article” on every issue of METHODS entitle “EFMI society news” that would be 1-2 pages presenting specific activities or ongoing projects that we wish to highlight and report on the readers of METHODS. In addition to publish special issue of Methods based on a WG topic and scientific activities. The WG contribution in form of a special issue (call it Focus Theme) should be around a certain topic of our choice. We will issue an open call. The WG chairs would be guest editors of the focus theme and handle the review of the incoming papers. Sabine Koch will guide the guest editors how to work with the submission system etc. There will be no cost for EFMI in this. Submitting authors will need to pay possible publication fees depending on their choice of submission (Methods Open Access or print only). Catherine Chronaki has communicated with WG chairs to record any interest for publishing a special issue. She had some valuable responses by EFMI WGs. HIIC (Arriel Bennis), LIFOSS (Tom Kane), IDES (Kristina Fišter) and EVAL (Elske Ammenwerth) have expressed interest.

4. On November 2019, EFMI received an e-mail from Orazio Gambino, Guest Editor for the Special Issue of the Journal of Biomedical Informatics entitled "HCI for Biomedical Decision-Making: From Diagnosis to Therapy", who asked if we could post a notice in the EFMI Newsletter about the JBI Special issue mentioned above to promote this special issue.

5. On July 2019, Catherine Chronaki and Izet Masic have proposed the publication of a new non-research book series entitled “EFMI Inside”. EFMI Inside will be the Newsletter of the European Federation for Medical Informatics aimed to promote the theory and practice of Biomedical and Health Informatics (BMHI) in the European Region. The first volume will be published in 2020.

6. Supporting EFMI’s communication. I engaged with the development of the EFMI’s New Website and EFMI’s activity on the Social Media. In collaboration with Dimitris Petkousis we managed the content of the new website and tried to expose EFMI actions
and events on Social Media Platforms following a social media strategy. The new website is using Web 2.0 technologies in order to cover all the needs on information and collaboration between the stakeholders of medical informatics in Europe. The new website is currently offering a direct access to all information regarding EFMI (Members, History, Working Groups etc.) and EFMI’s actions (Accreditation and Certification, Conferences and Meetings, Research Projects), as well as, a link to EFMI’s social media accounts. On the new website, every person who is interested in medical informatics can create an account and gain access on specific content and to publish his/her ideas or opinions about a subject. The idea is to build an active on-line community for medical informatics in Europe where scientists will exchange knowledge, trends, discuss about challenges, and forming the future of medical informatics. All the content will be reviewed by the website content editors in order to keep a high quality content on EFMI’s new website. The content of the new website can easily published to the social media in order to gain more visibility and “reads” to achieve any dissemination requirements.

8.8 Press- and Information Officer - Alexander Hoerbst (January to April 2019)
No report for 2019

8.9 Executive Officer - Mira Hercigonja-Szekeres / Rebecca Randell

8.9.1 Mira Hercigonja-Szekeres (January to April 2019)
STC 2019 was held in Hannover, Germany, on April 7th to 10th 2019 as annual EFMI Special Topic Conference (STC) with main theme: “ICT for Health Science Research”. But STC 2019 was dedicated to the 50th anniversary of Prof. Reichertz in Hannover. Under the patronage of the GMDS (German Association for Medical Informatics, Biometry and Epidemiology), this STC was organized by the Peter L. Reichertz Institute for Medical Informatics (PLRI) of TU Braunschweig (Technical University) and Hannover Medical School in collaboration with EFMI Working Groups Translational Health Informatics and Nursing Informatics at the historic Leibniz House located in the city centre of Hannover.

Unique for this STC, it has been extended to the third day as the Peter L. Reichertz Symposium (PLR Symposium), presenting invited talks and interviews, and held at the Hannover Medical School. The PLR Symposium was organized by the PLRI in honour of Peter Leo Reichertz, who was a pioneer in applying information and communication technology (ICT) not only to health care but also to health science research. PLR Symposium has addressed the history of medical informatics, lessons learned, and future perspectives in research, education and practice.

Head of the EFMI STC 2019: Thomas Deserno
Scientific Program Committee: (SPC): Amnon Shabo (Shvo) (Chair), Inge Madsen (Co-Chair), Hans-Ulrich Prokosch, Kristiina Häyrinen, Klaus-Hendrik Wolf, Fernando Martin-Sanchez, Matthias Löbe.
Local Organizing Committee: Thomas M. Deserno (Chair), Michael Marschollek (Co-Chair), Martin Dugas, Jürgen Stausberg, Alfred Winter.
PLR Symposium Committee: Reinhold Haux (Chair), Otto Rienhoff, Rolf Engelbrecht.
PLRI members of the STC team: Alexej Hecht, Jamie-Céline Heinzig, Malte-Levin Jauer, Noah Maxen, Maraike Müller, Sven Neumann, Aaron Wiora.
Keynote speakers:
Prof. Dipak Kalra, President of the European Institute for Innovation through Health Data. The speech title: Raising the impact of real world evidence.

Dr. Pierre Meulien, Executive Director of The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI). The speech title: How to harness big data for the benefit of patients.

The Conference submissions:
By the assigned deadline, SPC had received more than 90 submissions, from which, after review, there were accepted 50 as full papers. In addition, 16 poster presentations were accepted. The SPC liked to present these scientific outcomes from the STC 2019 to the academic community. The conference was dedicated to recent research and development supporting information systems in biomedical, translational and clinical research, as well as semantic interoperability across such systems for the purpose of data sharing and the analytics of cross-system integrated data. ICT systems for health science research are used in application domains such as clinical trials and the development of drug and medical devices, as well as translational medicine, aiming eventually at better prevention, diagnosis, and interventions in health and care. The oral presentations were organized into 12 sessions.

8.9.2 Rebecca Randell (from April 2019)
In 2019, no MIE took place due to Medinfo taking place in Europe.

MIE 2020:
The bid from Christian Lovis on behalf of the Swiss Society for Medical Informatics to organise the EFMI MIE 2020 in Geneva, Switzerland was accepted at 79th Council Meeting in Zagreb. The conference was due to be held from April 28th to May 1st, 2020. However, in March 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Swiss Federal authorities enforced strict regulation to limit the propagation of the coronavirus, among them a ban on all meetings of more than 100 people. Consequently, MIE 2020 has had to be cancelled.

STC 2020:
The bid from Kristiina Häyrinen and Kaija Saranto on behalf of the Finnish Social and Health Informatics Association to organise the EFMI STC 2020 was accepted by the Council on February 6th, 2020 (voting took place electronically). The conference will take place in Kuopio, Finland, from September 28th to 30th, 2020. The theme of the conference is "Citizen centered digital and integrated health and social services - Citizens as service users and data producers". The WGs EDU, EVAL, NI and SSE will participate actively.

MIE 2021:
Preparation for EFMI MIE 2021 is underway, led by John Mantas on behalf of the Greek Biomedical and Health Informatics Association. It is to be held in Athens from April 11th to 14th, 2021. The members of the SPC will be:
Chair: John Mantas
Co-Chair: Lacramioara Stoicu-Tivadar
Members: Catherine Chronaki, Parisis Gallos, Mihaela Vida, Patrick Weber
Under the new agreement, practical organisation of the conference is being undertaken by MCO, in discussion with John Mantas and Rebecca Randell.
STC 2021:
Interest in organising EFMI STC 2021 in collaboration with FAIR4Health, to be held in Seville, Spain in autumn 2021, has been expressed by Carlos Luis Parra Calderón on behalf of the Spanish Society of Health Informatics. A bid is currently being prepared.

MIE 2022:
No expression of interest in organising EFMI MIE 2022 has yet been received.

STC 2022:
Interest in organising EFMI STC 2022 has been expressed by the Russian National Association of Medical Informatics.
9 Appendix 3: Working group reports

9.1 CHD - Citizen and Health Data

Chair: Maria Hägglund, Uppsala University, Sweden
Co-Chairs:
Anne Moen, University of Oslo, Norway
Monika Johansen, Norwegian Center for eHealth Research, Norway

The working group was founded in April 2019 with the aim to leverage and converge activities for personal health data for empowerment, engagement, independence and thrive and be instrumental to ensure every European citizen opportunity to collect, curate, and control relevant health information from multiple sources.

We have created a LinkedIn group for communication and engaging with our members, that currently has 61 members (https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8809587/).

Organization of scientific meetings in 2019:

- MEDINFO 2019 (Lyon, August 26-30, 2019): CHD organized a WG meeting to launch the working group and plan future activities.

Funding applications / Collaborations:

- Nordic eHealth for Patients: Benchmarking and Developing for the Future
  A funding application for a 3-year research and innovation project involving partners from four European countries (Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Finland) and partners from the US, was submitted to the NordForsk research foundation. Funding decision will be made late spring 2020.

- Patients’ Access to Mental Health Records
  A funding application for a 3-year research project with partners from Sweden, Norway and the US was submitted to the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare. Funding decision will be made in October 2020.

- Gravitate Health Empowering and Equipping Europeans with health information for Active Personal Health Management and Adherence to Treatment
  Application to IMI2 JU, call 18, topic #3, RIA (public – private partnership). Stage II application, start of project in the late fall 2020.

Scientific Publications

Papers related to Patients Online Access to Electronic Health Records:

- Patient Use and Experience With Online Access to Electronic Health Records in Norway: Results From an Online Survey
- Health Professionals’ Experience with Patients Accessing Their Electronic Health Records: Results from an Online Survey
- Healthcare personnals’ experience with patients’ online access to electronic health records: Differences between professions, regions, and somatic and psychiatric healthcare
Papers related to electronic Medicine Management:

- Digital solutions for a shared medication list - A narrative literature review
- How discrepancies in medication records affect the creation and trust in a shared electronic medication list in Norway
- Factors easing the transition from paper to electronic prescribing of multidose dispensed drugs (MDD)

Workshops and panels


9.2 EDU – Education in Health Informatics

Chair:
Professor Kaija Saranto
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Co-Chair:
Professor John Mantas
Health Informatics Laboratory
University of Athens, Greece
E-mail: jmantas@nurs.uoa.gr
Website: http://efmi-wgedu.bmhi-edu.org/

Main Objectives:
The introduction of eHealth applications as well as of the Biomedical and Health Informatics (BMHI) discipline into the health care domain requires high quality educated and trained health care professionals in the field. Education is considered as the most appropriate tool to improve greatly the acceptance attitudes and behaviour of the professionals working in the health care environment towards eHealth applications. EFMI is well-aware of the importance of Education and in its history the working group on education was the first working group to be established.

4 https://www.med.uio.no/om/aktuelt/blogg/2019/pasientens-digitale-helsevesen.html
Since education has an international value and there are no borders in its objectives, the working group seeks to achieve International cooperation in its main objectives which they may be summarised as follows: information on existing programs and curricula in the field, dissemination of experiences in implementing educational programs, evaluation, and assisting of programs, and finally promoting certification of users in BMHI knowledge and skills.

A more detailed reference to the objectives can be found below:

- to disseminate and exchange information on Biomedical and Health Informatics (BMHI) programs and courses
- to exchange experiences of how BMHI is taught and to improve the implementation
- to utilize the developed by AC2 database on programs in BMHI education
- to assist the AC2 process of certification of knowledge and skills of users in BMHI
- to promote and foster the accreditation process of BMHI programs in Europe based on AC2 Initiative
- to enhance the cooperation between EFMI and IMIA in the accreditation process
- to disseminate and participate in developing international recommendations on BMHI education
- to support BMHI courses and exchange of students and teachers within the EFMI countries
- to investigate the possibility of establishing summer courses organised by the WG EDU.
- to present WG EDU activities during STCs, MIEs and MEDINFOs.

Communications:
The activities of the WG EDU and important outcomes will be cited in the new website of the WG EDU. [http://efmi-wgedu.bmhi-edu.org](http://efmi-wgedu.bmhi-edu.org)

Activities:
- During the joint Board meetings of IMIA and EFMI the issue of representation of EFMI in the accreditation process of academic programs was raised and it was agreed that EFMI will be presented in the accreditation committee and EFMI will be mentioned in the accreditation certificate whenever an accreditation is taking place in an EFMI country.
- The first joint EFMI & EUSEM meetings were held in Hannover in April and Prague in October and the first joint webinar was held in December 2019 and there is a continuity planned for next year.
- The first EU-China Health Summit on Medical Innovation and Technology Transfer was held in Connection to MedInfo 2019 in Lyon.
- An Educational Plenary Panel Session was organized at MedInfo 2019.
- WG EDU meeting was organized at the EFMI STC in Hannover 2019.

Relevant Recent Publications:

9.3 EHR - Electronic Health Records

Chair:
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Örebro University School of Business
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Co-Chair:
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(legally registered in France)
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E-mail: dipak.kalra@eurorec.org
Website: http://wg.efmi.org

No report for 2019

9.4 EVAL - Assessment of Health Information Systems

Chair:
Philip Scott, University of Portsmouth
Email: philip.scott@port.ac.uk

Co-Chair:
Elske Ammenwerth
UMIT - University for Health Sciences, Medical Informatics and Technology, Hall in Tyrol, Austria
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Website: http://iig.umit.at/efmi/

Main Objectives:
Information and communications technologies (ICTs) are being used increasingly in health care. It is evident that the use of modern ICT offers tremendous opportunities to reduce clinical errors, to support health care professionals, and to increase the efficiency of care. However, there are also hazards associated with such technologies. Therefore, rigorous, generalizable evaluations of ICT applications in health care are absolutely necessary. Based on this, the aims of the working group are:

- to foster transdisciplinary dialogues between experts from informatics, medical informatics, economics, health care, health services research, clinical epidemiology, biometry, psychology, sociology, ethnography, organizational development, operations research and other evaluation fields, on a European level, and to encourage exchange on methodological issues between researchers from different traditions;
- to offer an opportunity to share knowledge with the aim of obtaining profitable cross-fertilization among different fields of expertise and especially between quantitative and qualitative research;
- to promote a combined research agenda to develop frameworks and toolkits for information systems evaluation, offering guidelines for an adequate combination of evaluation methods and tools;
- to discuss and clarify the networking needs for long-term evaluation research in medical informatics, and to promote combined research proposals at a European level.
Relevant Activities 2019-20:

- The working group continued its fruitful cooperation with the IMIA Working Group on Technology Assessment and Quality Development. Regular skype meetings of the WG core group were organized.
- Group members published an edited book on health informatics theories, entitled: Applied interdisciplinary theory in health informatics: a knowledge base for practitioners, editors: Dr Philip Scott, Prof Nicolette de Keizer, Prof Andrew Georgiou. The book was launched at Medinfo 2019 in Lyon.
- The WG had a business meeting at Medinfo 2019, Lyon, together with the IMIA WG.
- The WG organized a panel session “Celebrating the Value of Applied Theory in Health Informatics: How Can We Broaden Appreciation and Further Advance the Field“ during Medinfo 2019 in Lyon.
- Members of the working group were involved in preparing workshops for Medical Informatics Europe 2020 (MIE 2020) in Geneva.

Activities planned for 2020 and beyond:

The WG held two strategic discussions with our IMIA counterpart group in February 2020 and outlined the following activities, but obviously the COVID-19 pandemic has interfered with the initial activities planned for MIE 2020 and thereafter:

- Time frame:
  - We will aim to use our MIE (Geneva) April 28 – May 1 workshop to present some key strategic ideas for discussion and feedback.
  - Our next WG group meeting to occur after the MIE workshop to follow up in the light of the MIE workshop discussion.
  - We plan to launch our strategic orientation to a larger forum in 2021 – possibly Medinfo in Australia or MIE 2021.

- Learning Health System:
  - Our discussions henceforth have shown that a Learning Health System perspective provides a valuable and dynamic framework to take forward evaluation and the key concepts held by the Working Group (e.g. evidence-based health informatics, the role of theory etc.)
  - Farah, Nicolet and Ace will form a sub-group to develop the strategic orientation for our Working Groups.
  - The sub-group to prepare some themes for consideration at the MIE Geneva workshop in April/May.

- Translational impact:
  - Our strengths clearly lie in our academic expertise, methodological rigour and evidence-based approaches.
  - Having a translational impact has been a goal of our WG. But it is not an easy task given our limited resources, time constraints and geographical impediments.
  - Nevertheless, there is a strong desire to continue to pursue opportunities to impact on policy and broaden our connections and capacity.
  - Philip, Michael and Zoie will form a sub-group to develop ideas and perspectives in this area. This may take the form of grant funding opportunities, alliances or collaborations.

- Structure and organisation of the WGs:
  - Our discussions henceforth have highlighted the need to broaden the reach and capacity of the WGs.
At the moment it is very clear that the current Committee structure of the WG (a small but very active group of motivated but time-poor participants) needs to be revisited.

- We need to establish a network that connects us up to like-minded collaborators, experts and champions. This approach will broaden our reach and expand our capacity.
- The WG should adopt some strategic goals and use sub-groups to undertake its activities.
- We should simultaneously aim to open the door to, involve, mentor, train and develop our future WG leaders.

9.5 HIIC - Health Informatics for Interregional Cooperation

Chair:
Arriel Benis
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e-mail: arrielb@hit.ac.il

Website: http://www.efmi.org/index.php/workinggroups/hiic-health-informatics-for-interregional-cooperation

Relevant Activities 2019:

- The WG HIIC is continuing communicating its activities and projects in order to initiate new collaboration and partnerships. A poster has been presented at MedInfo 2019

- The workgroup has continued its effort on developing an online multilingual dictionary focusing on Medical Informatics terms. The research has been presented at ICIMTH 2019, 19th International Conference on Informatics, Management and Technology in Healthcare Athens (a.k.a. EFMI dictionary).

- The WG “HIIC” is actively involved in the task force “EFMI-EUSEM”.

Activities planned for 2020:

- Continuing expending the WG HICC over Europe by recruiting new members
- Continuing research, development, implementation, and dissemination of the Health and Medical Informatics thesaurus (previously, EFMI dictionary).
- Continuing being involved in different taskforce of EFMI for proving the Interregional Cooperation perspectives

9.6 HIME - Health Information Management Europe

Chair:
Prof. Dr. Rolf Engelbrecht
USMF Chisinau
Main Objectives:
The group operates as a "think-tank" drawing together leading-edge expertise not only from across the medical documentation and medical informatics spectrum but also from other professions with relevant generic input to focus on selected topic areas in support of clinical and healthcare research and routine processes.

- To promote exchange of experience in development, implementation, education, and use of health record systems
- To promote exchange of standards in close co-operation with SDOs (standard development organisations) and institutions working in the field on national and European level.
- To investigate the needs, opportunities and obstacles for health information management.
- To disseminate results and experiences across EFMI members
- To facilitate access to European educational facilities and EFMI members

Activities in general
- Supporting activities of EFMI, its members (resp. their national societies) and IFHIMA-Europe, especially MIE and STC conferences.
- Organising workshops on national and European level
- Initiation of a Forum using internet and other publication media.
- Making educational and promotional material available
- Preparation of IFHIMA (International Federation of HIM associations) conferences

Relevant Activities 2019:
- LinkedIn group EFMI-HIME. Number of members: 472
- Participation in ICIMTH2019 15th International Conference on Informatics, Management and Technology in Healthcare Athens, Athens
- Support of and participation in ICIST2019, Vilnius, Lithuania, Session “eHealth Information Management Systems” Lithuania, October 2019
- Organisation of a seminar on CrowdHEALTH at ICIST2019 in cooperation with EFMI WG EDU. EFMI is partner of CrowdHEALTH
Discussion of possible conferences in Europe during MICE events IBTM, MICE-peak, etc.

Activities planned for 2020:
- Organisation of discussions and promotions on the LinkedIn group EFMI-HIME
- Organisation of a workshop at MIE2020, Geneva
- Participation in ICIMTH2020 18th International Conference on Informatics, Management and Technology in Healthcare Athens
- ICIST2020, Kaunas/Lithuania, Session “eHealth Information Management Systems”
- Seminar at Kaunas Technical University (KTU)
- Preparation and support of the All-Russian conference on Cardiology in Tomsk, Russia

9.7 HOFMI - Human and Organizational Factors of Medical Informatics

Chair:
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Co-Chair:
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Main Objectives:
- To establish a network of researchers and practitioners interested in the role of human and organisational factors in the use of healthcare technologies.
- To organise workshops, panels and tutorials dedicated to this topic at the Medical Informatics Europe (MIE) conference and other events.
- To disseminate knowledge about the role of human and organisational factors in the use of healthcare technologies through various activities, including journal publications.
- To support exchange and discussion between researchers and practitioners as well as European collaborations.

Relevant Activities 2019:
- Romaric Marcilly has taken over the role of Chair to replace Rebecca Randell and Valentina Lichtner has taken over the role of co-Chair to replace Romaric Marcilly.
- Presentation of the HOFMI WG during recent MEDINFO (Lyon, France, August 2019).
- Several panels and workshops were supported by the HOFMI WG during MEDINFO conference:
  - Combining Data and Technology for Healthcare Quality Improvement through Audit and Feedback
  - Using Health Information Technology to Transform Healthcare Quality
  - Electronic Health Record Safety: Practical Strategies for Evaluation and Improvement across Key Risk Areas
• A workshop was supported by the HOFMI WG during last ITCH conference (ITCH 2019, University of Victoria, Canada):
  o Increasing usage and safety of medication alerting system by improving their usability (with Romarie Marcilly, Helen Monkman and Sylvia Pelayo)\(^5\)

• The HOFMI WG actively co-organized with IMIA’s “Human Factors Engineering” and “Organizational and Social Issues” WGs the conference “Context Sensitive Health Informatics” at Lille University. The theme of the CSHI 2019 conference was "Sustainability in dynamics ecosystems". It was a great success with more than 60 participants from all over the world. During two days, participants had the opportunity to attend high-quality presentations and to exchange views on current research on organizational and human factors in the field of medical informatics. It was also an opportunity to strengthen existing relationships between different research groups and to create dynamics to develop common projects. The conference proceedings are available open access:
  http://ebooks.iospress.nl/volume/context-sensitive-health-informatics-sustainability-in-dynamic-ecosystems

• EFMI’s HOFMI WG and IMIA’s Human Factors Engineering for Healthcare Informatics WG collaborated to explore the challenges and good practices in ethics committee processes for human factors and organizational studies of health technologies. The purpose of this work was to take stock of these processes and of the opportunities and challenges they represent for researchers with a view to proposing improvements at the international level. Researchers from seven European countries and four other countries took part in this work, resulting in a paper accepted for publication in the IMIA Yearbook of Medical Informatics 2020.

• Following a panel supported by the working group at MIE 2018 (“How to overcome barriers to user-based usability evaluations faced with older people?”), an article was submitted to the journal of health communication.

Activities planned for 2020:

• A HOFMI WG meeting will be organized at MIE 2020 (April, Geneva).
• A series of video interviews with HOFMI experts are planned at MIE 2020. This initiative aims to build a video collection to promote human factors methods among the healthcare informatics community and disseminate knowledge about the role of human and organizational factors in the use of healthcare technologies. We aim to capture the

\(^5\) https://www.uvic.ca/hsd/itch/program/workshops/index.php
rich diversity of expertise in the human factors field and the variety of experiences and healthcare domains where human factors have been applied.

- The videos recorded will be disseminated online on the HOFMI video channel and websites.
- The content of the videos will be synthesized for publication (e.g. in “The Conversation” online magazine)

- Panels and workshops supported by the HOFMI WG have been accepted at MIE 2020:
  - Ethics Reviews and Human and Organizational Factors’ Research in European Countries: a panel from the HOFMI working group (R Marcilly, C Kuziemsky, C Nøhr, L Peute, V Lichtner)
  - Drifting into medication errors with automated dispensing cabinets: how to prevent it? A workshop for a medical informatics approach (V Lichtner, S Pelayo, J Westbrook)

- A newsletter will be circulated to inform members about publications and activities by the members of the working group.
- The WG is considering submitting a proposal for a special issue to a journal (e.g. Methods of Information in Medicine). Possible topics will relate to methodological innovation in human factors research.

**Relevant Publications 2019:**

WG members were involved in several publications on human and organizational factors of medical informatics, for example:


### 9.8 IDeS - Information and Decision Support in Biomedicine and Health Care

*Chair:*
Zdenko Sonicki
Andrija Stampar School of Public Health
9.9 LIFOSS - Libre/Free and Open Source Software

Chair:
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Co-Chair:
Thomas Karopka
BioCon Valley GmbH
Greifswald, Germany
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Website: https://efmi.org/category/blog/lifoss-wg-libre-free-and-open-source-software/

Main Objectives:
Libre/Free Open Source Software holds a great potential to overcome the fragmentation in health IT and to foster collaboration among different disciplines and stakeholders. The WG promotes this approach, organizes workshops and serves as a networking platform for individuals interested in this approach. In particular, the LIFOSS WG aims

- to help replicate the success of free/libre and open source projects in the health informatics domain, in particular those within education, research, clinical practice and administration
- to build a repository of knowledge about free/libre and open source developments of relevance to the health informatics domain
- to develop an Open Source Market Place
- to explore the implications of digital rights management, digital signatures, copyright and intellectual property issues
- to liaise with other organizations and groups with related or similar objectives

Relevant Activities 2019:

- “Toward Triple Helix Implementation Teams for National Rollouts of GNU Health” Leuven, GNU Health Conference, Dec 2019
- Establishment of International consortia for national rollout of Triple Helix Networks for Medical Healthcare Informatics, firstly in Africa
- Workshop on Business Models for LIFOSS projects, Stirling University Feb 2020
- Maintenance of the MedFloss.org database
- Collaboration with other EFMI & IMIA WGs
Activities planned for 2020:

- Establishment of digital Open Source Market Place on EFMI Blog site
- Needs analysis for requirements for sustainability of business inputs to LIFOSS Medical Informatics projects.
- Partner matching for LIFOSS projects who want to seek triple-helix partnerships for contribution of efforts in economic and professional aspects of national implementations of LIFOSS medical healthcare solutions: marketplace on EFMI LIFOSS websace
- Maintenance of the MedFloss.org database
- Collaboration with other EFMI & IMIA WGs

9.10 MIP - Medical Image Processing

Chair:
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Co-Chair:
Jamshid Dehmeshki
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No report for 2019

9.11 NI - Nursing Informatics in Europe

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Co-Chair
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University West, Sweden.
Email: mattias@georgsson.com

Website: https://www.efmi.org/workinggroups/nursie-nursing-informatics-in-europe
Facebook: Nursing Informatics in Europe, @efmi.ni

**Main objectives**

**Vision:**
Our vision is to be an active and progressive network, which supports nursing informatics across settings in Europe.

**Mission:**
To function as a working group under the European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI).
To support nurses and nursing organizations in the European countries with information and contacts in the field of health informatics.
To use social media to share knowledge between members.

**Relevant activities in 2019**
We have continued to work with our strategy that was accepted in Lyon 2019: “More activity between the members”. We have recruited a new member, Christelle Progin as the officer for Social Media. We have been active on social media and we have sent newsletters to our country members. The board is presenting Christelle to be elected to the Board at the next General Assembly. We have started a collaboration with NI AMIA by holding a joint Workshop at MEDINFO 2019 and have a tight connection to NI IMIA.

- Inge Madsen was the Track chair at the organization committee at MEDINFO, Lyon 2019.
- The NI Board had a Joint workshop with AMIA –NI at MEDINFO, Lyon 2019 entitled Supporting Quality of Care by Co-Creation in the International Nursing Informatics Community. *Inge Madsen, Gregory L. Alexander, Laura-Maria Peltonen, Judy Murphy*
- Inge Cort Madsen participated in an invited panel: Women in Health Informatics: perspectives, leadership and mentoring for diversity at MEDINFO 2019. *Anne Moen, Catherine Chronaki, Inge Madsen, Elena Petelos, Stavroula Kalaitzi, Suzanne Bakken*
- The Nursing Informatics board members were active in different roles as chair, rapporteur and social media responsible at the Nursing session at the EU – China Workshop, MEDINFO, Lyon.
- Inge Cort Madsen, Patrick Weber and Laura-Maria Peltonen participated in the NI General Assembly in Lyon 2019
- Inge Cort Madsen was vice chair and sessions leader in STC Hannover 2019
- Inge Cort Madsen was attending ICIMTH in Athens in June 2019 as reviewer for CrowdHealth and session leader.
- Laura-Maria Peltonen is the co-chair of the IMIA Student and Emerging Professionals Special Interest Group, STC Post conference committee member for NI2020.

Activities planned
- Patrick Weber has been on the MIE 2020 LOC and STC committees
- Inge Cort Madsen has been the co-chair for MIE 2020
- We have a workshop accepted at MIE2020
- We had plan during the MIE 2020 to have a possibility to attend our General Assembly online.
- We had planed an oral and poster award at MIE 2020
- Inge Cort Madsen will represent NI working group in e-Health in Croatia
- And finally we will continue to work with our strategy.

9.12 PCI - Primary Health Care Informatics

Chair:
Simon de Lusignan
Clinical Informatics and Health Outcomes Research Group
Department of Health Care Management and Policy
University of Surrey, UK
E-mail: s.lusignan@surrey.ac.uk
Website: http://www.clininf.eu/about/efmipciwg.html

No report for 2019

9.13 PPD - Personal Portable Devices

Chair:
Lenka Lhotska
Czech Institute of Informatics, Robotics and Cybernetics, Czech Technical University
Prague, Czech Republic
E-mail: lhotska@cvut.cz

Co-Chair:
Peter Pharow
Fraunhofer IDMT Ilmenau
Germany
E-Mail: peter.pharow@idmt.fraunhofer.de
Website: http://wg.efmi.org

Main Objectives:
EFMI Working Group (WG) Personal Portable Devices (PPD) aims at being a European competence center to watch ongoing activities and to provide knowledge to policy makers and architect designers involved in the deployment of projects related to personalized, portable devices (PPD) such as cards, tokens, wearable and portable devices, sensors and actuators, and similar technologies including advanced network infrastructures mainly in the domain of healthcare and welfare. WG PPD links its activities to the domain of Ambient Assisted Living by liaising with the IMIA WG on Smart Homes and AAL.
Furthermore, WG PPD representatives are actively involved in standardization activities in various fields and domains including security, safety, management, ethics, medical devices, and
sensor networks. Members of WG PPD act as a kind of ambassador to additional standards developing organizations in various other domains, where aspects of personal portable (mobile) devices are addressed.

Moreover, WG PPD actively supports the organization of meetings of various kinds to disseminate the WG achievements, and to exchange knowledge and information about any topic linked to the interest of the WG PPD members. The main topics the WG PPD is focused on are:

- Personalized Portable Devices, sensors and actuators as well as the underlying networks enable personal and even personalized health service provision going far beyond traditional care procedures. It includes wellness aspects, lifestyle aspects, and safety aspects. Applications from other domains stimulate the respective paradigm shift towards personalized services (addressing citizens rather than patients) also in the healthcare and welfare domain.
- The paradigm shift from health cards to personalized devices and sensor networks for providing personal health services addresses various technical, medical, organizational, legal, and standardization aspects of portable devices (EFMI WG PPD) and related work on sensor networks (ISO/IEC JTC1 SGSN). What EFMI WG PPD is aiming at from a technological viewpoint, are aspects of the present and the near future of personal health service provision supported by devices of any technology, any kind and any size either directly applied to the human body, or placed even inside the body.
- Patient safety, data and communication security, ethics and legal issues become more important as the personal devices, wearables and related technologies are penetrating the market. With the expected interconnection with Internet of Things these non-technical issues must be analyzed in depth and recommendations prepared for development of new applications.

Relevant Activities 2019:

- Strengthening the links to relevant societies and their working groups
- Active participation in pHealth 2019, Genoa, Italy – Lenka Lhotska and Peter Pharow were members of the SPC and Lenka Lhotska was invited as invited speaker

Activities planned for 2020:

- Strengthening the links to relevant societies and their working groups
- Organization of the pHealth 2020, Prague, Czech Republic – Lenka Lhotska is chair of the Organizing Committee. Peter Pharow is member of the SPC.

9.14 SSE - Security, Safety and Ethics

Chair:
Jaime Delgado
Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC)
Barcelona, Spain
E-Mail: jaime.delgado@ac.upc.edu

Co-Chair:
Andrej Orel
Marand d.o.o.
Ljubljana, Slovenia
E-Mail: andrej.orel@better.care

Website: https://www.efmi.org/workinggroups/sse-security-safety-and-ethics
Main Objectives:
Speed up the use of ICT to increase trustworthiness, security and safety of health care solutions and infrastructure deployed. Promote research, development, education and training on the field of security and privacy in health care. Close collaboration with other EFMI WGs and beyond, as well as with IMIA, to find solutions for trustworthy interoperable health systems and to analyze the impact of new healthcare and health management models to security and privacy.

Relevant Activities 2019:
- Work of SSE is mainly based on Workshops organized in MIE Conferences. However, since there was no MIE Conference in 2019, no Workshop has been organized.
- Nevertheless, a new Workshop has been prepared, proposed and accepted for MIE 2020 in Geneva. It will be a Joint Workshop with the THI WG on the theme “Omics facilities and Hospital Information Systems”.
- Specific topics will be: “Health Technology Assessment (HTA) for Next Generation Sequencers (NGSs)”, “Keeping privacy along the genomic information processing”, “FAIR principles in health and translational research”, and “New types of data for translational research”.

Activities planned for 2020:
- Develop a long-term activity plan for SSE, discuss on it during MIE 2020.
- Confirm the way SSE Workshops are functioning. Workshops include research papers, theory papers, methodology and conceptual papers, all mixed to provide the widest possible view on the chosen topic. Workshops should be as interdisciplinary as possible, including researchers from different institutions and research fields. Furthermore, reserve an important part of the workshop’s time for discussions and interaction.
- Develop the visibility of SSE’s work and encourage young experts to participate more actively in the work of the SSE. Promote the LinkedIn group of the WG (https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8624068).
- Organize a new Workshop for MIE 2021 in Athens. Clarify if this will be again a joint workshop with IMIA WG SiHiS and or EFMi WG THI. Discuss the Workshop topics. In any case, it will probably include four to six presentations, leaving the last thirty minutes for a discussion between presenters and attendees.

Relevant Publications 2019:
9.15 THI - Translational Health Informatics

Chair:
Mauro Giacomini
DIBRIS, University of Genova, Italy
E-mail: Mauro.Giacomini@dibris.unige.it

Co-Chair:
Carlos Luis Parra Calderón
Andalusian Health Service
E-mail: carlos.parra.sspa@juntadeandalucia.es

Website: http://www.efmi.org/index.php/workinggroups/thi-translational-health-informatics

Main Objectives:
Translational medicine is a relatively new discipline targeted at removing barriers in utilizing new scientific discoveries in healthcare, moving from bench to bedside, on to communities and finally to policy. The biomedical discoveries need to be accompanied by studies in areas such as health economy as well as sociological and psychological aspects. In order to manage the information generated by each of these disciplines, it is crucial to use advanced informatics that could fuse the various types of data into computerized systems that support the translational processes.

This Working Group will be focused on the health informatics needed for accommodating the translational challenges. In particular, we will target the following goals:

- Explore a proposal for a Translational Health Information Language to underlie translational info-structure (see details in the document "Towards Translational Health Information Language" under the Files tab)
- Demonstrate feasibility of common translational infostructure for the currently distinct environments of biomedical research and health care
- Support studies focusing on informatics underlying translational research and medicine
- Foster better interrelation of bioinformatics and medical informatics
- Discuss major challenges in the new OMICS era with regard to translational health informatics and analytics

Relevant Activities 2019:
- Participated in the EFMI STC 2019 (https://stc2019.plri.de/), held in Hanover, Germany, in organization and leadership positions.
- Held a business meeting of the THI WG and elected a new vice-chair.
- Organization and participation of pHealth 2019 (https://phealth2019.unige.net/), held in Genoa (10-12 June), Italy

Activities planned for 2020:
- Trying to setup initiatives to improve the research about Covid-19.
- Participation to pHealth 2020 in Prague (https://phealth2020.ciirc.cvut.cz/)
10 Appendix 4: Reports from Council Task Forces and Committees

10.1 Accreditation and Certification Committee (AC2)

The Accreditation and Certification initiative was launched by the EFMI President and was endorsed by the EFMI Executive Board under consultation with the EFMI WG EDU Chair. The EFMI Executive Board established a Task Force to investigate, develop, and implement the Accreditation and Certification initiative.

The Chair and the Members of the Task Force developed a document describing the overall position on Accreditation and Certification initiative, which was submitted as an Addendum to the report to the Council in Manchester.

The report was presented extensively during the previous Council meeting in Manchester and after the approval by the Council, the President moved to the implementation phase by appointing the Accreditation and Certification Committee after thanking the Task Force members for their work. The appointed members of the AC2 Committee are members of the EFMI Council, therefore, empowering the whole process of implementation phase.

Activities reported by the AC2 Committee were:

- Discussions that Anne Moen and John Mantas held with the President of AMIA during the EU presidency conference in the eHealthWeek2017 in Malta, May 2017.
- Discussions that Anne Moen had as IMIA VP for EFMI at the Board both in Vancouver and in Hangzhou regarding the collaboration of EFMI with IMIA.
- Workshop during MIE 2017 in Manchester introducing the AC2 initiative. Speakers were the President Christian Lovis, John Mantas and it was moderated by Anne Moen.
- Panel discussion at Medinfo 2017 titled “Workforce development and the role of Informatics Associations” organized by AMIA with EFMI participation on accreditation, education, and other healthcare workforce related issues (Appendix I).
- Meeting at Hangzhou regarding the IMIA initiative to ‘edit’ the educational recommendations led by the President-elect Sabine Koch.
- Procedures of re-accreditation of programs (already accredited by IMIA) were decided to be supported. Arie Hasman and John Mantas were invited to form the re-accreditation site visit committee to evaluate the programme of the University of Eastern Finland. The site visit has been successful in February 2018 and report submitted.

The AC2 committee initiated the commencement of their works by a Skype meeting on September 14, 2017. Everybody was present at the meeting and the Chair and Anne Moen informed all members about the status, the discussions with IMIA, and the tasks that should be done.

The Committee decided to request funding by EFMI in order to update the existing on-line database of educational programs across Europe and collect additional information such as contact details of program directors and details on their programs. This information is considered necessary to successfully continue the accreditation procedures as EFMI should act in a proactive way and be able to disseminate the AC2 initiatives directly to the appropriate audience. The Board has approved the funding of this activity, and Ms Katia Kolokathi was hired to fulfil the assigned tasks.

Initial results were presented at the Skype meeting of the AC2 members in early January. It also discussed how the collection should be pursued and what were the priorities set out. Presentations at MIE 2018 were discussed and decided. Also plans were made for the EFMI STC 2018 in Zagreb.
So far, till end of September 2018, the work performed surveyed 27 European countries, 1800 Universities, and accessed and found approximately 1000 academic programmes in the related to Biomedical and Health Informatics, including Bioinformatics and Biomedical Engineering. From those 1000 programmes, 200 were undergraduate, 5800 postgraduate, 180 PhD pro-
grammes, and 40 postdoctoral programmes. The work on the survey continues, and compilation results will be presented at the EFMI STC 2018 in Zagreb. Detailed description is presented in the attached Addendum.

The Committee will organize during EFMI STC 2018 in Zagreb a plenary session to promote and provide awareness of the Accreditation and Certification initiative to the wide biomedical and health informatics community, and to present results of the current survey of the educational programmes in Europe.

*Report prepared by The Members of the Accreditation and Certification Committee:*

Catherine Chronaki  
Arie Hasman  
John Mantas *(Chair)*  
Anne Moen,  
Inge Madsen,  
Rebecca Randell
11 Appendix 5: Reports from the National Members

11.1 Croatia / Croatian Society for Medical Informatics (CroSMI)

Representative: Mira Hercigonja-Szekeres

CroSMI continued its activities in the field of education in the biomedical and health informatics (BMHI). CroSMI encouraged the exchange of good practice in the development and implementation of healthcare information and communication systems. Workshops, expert lectures, symposium were organized, and the publication of the CroSMI Bulletin continued.

On February, a workshop "Analysis and visualization of data in healthcare - an example of using the Tableau tool" was held. Workshop participants emphasized the importance of visualizing data in healthcare and outlined some available software solutions. The features of working in the Tableau software tool are described in more detail. They pointed out the possibility of its free acquisition for the needs of education at medical universities and polytechnics. Examples of the use of the Tableau tool at the Zagreb University Hospital Centre in analysing and visualizing data from hospital information systems are also presented.

On September, in continuation of the Annual General Assembly, the lecture "Information system of the Zagreb Faculty of Medicine, past, present and future; infrastructure and services".

On November, the 14th CroSMI Symposium "Medical Informatics 2019" was held. This Symposium was organised at University of Applied Health Sciences and under the auspices of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia, the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia, the University of Applied Health Sciences and the Croatian Institute of Public Health. The main Symposium topic was "Education for biomedical and health informatics". As an introduction to the roundtable on "Education for biomedical and health informatics - are the needs identified in Croatia", Professor John Mantas gave a comprehensive introduction lecture "Education in Biomedical and Health Informatics: An European Perspective" in which he gave an overview of education programs in the field of biomedical and health informatics in the EFMI members with special reference to the lack thereof in Croatia. The roundtable participants emphasized the need to improve education at all levels, especially the professionals who develop and manage information systems in healthcare. Fifty experts in the field of informatics and health care, as well as students from these fields, participated in the work of the Symposium. All papers were published in the proceedings of Medical Informatics 2019.

The celebration of the 30th anniversary of CroSMI founding was a part of the Symposium. There was emphasized the work and achievements of the Society over the past 30 years. On this occasion, in the CroSMI Bulletin the chronicles with detailed activity descriptions from 1989 to 2019 were published.

CroSMI is a founder of the EFMI Working Group Information and Decision Support in Biomedicine and Health Care (IDeS). The WG members and some CroSMI members had various activities concerning IDeS topics.

In 2019, preparations continued for the gathering of CroSMI members into Working groups by field of interest in biomedical and health informatics. For the beginning of 2020, a gathering of at least two working groups has been announced: one on the topic of education in the field of BMHI and the second in the field of secondary use of health data.

CroSMI actively cooperate with various institutions and societies related to field of medicine, health, IT etc.: Ministry of Health (Commission for developing a strategy of informatization of Health in Croatia), HL7 Croatia, Croatian Biometric Society, Croatian Standards Institute, Academy of Medical Sciences of Croatia (E-health Committee).
11.2 Denmark / The Danish Society for Digital Health

Representative: Christian Nøhr

The Danish Society for Digital Health is a scientific organization which aims to develop and disseminate knowledge about the use, opportunities and limitations of digital technologies in dealing with health and disease of the population.

The society has an international outlook. This is pursued through cooperation with and representation in relevant international organizations and associations – EFMI, IMIA.

The society will work to create added value in the healthcare sector through digitalisation and reorganization, including contributing to the development and promotion of methods that bring added value.

The society will promote multidisciplinary science and practice based on health sciences, natural and engineering sciences, social sciences and the humanities. The purpose is to promote the digitalisation of health care tools and services in order to increase quality, productivity and efficiency or reduce costs and errors in treatment and care.

Activities in 2019

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the society is organized as a public professional meeting together with the general assembly for all members. In 2019 the meeting focused on how to support the data entry process to achieve a sufficient basis for applying modern health analytics methods.

The fundamental challenges in digitizing the healthcare sector lie partly in getting necessary data recorded to satisfy the various parties involved in the sector - clinicians, administrators, patients - but also researchers and health informaticians.

To meet all the requirements, data must be recorded in a structured way with some standardization. However, clinical activities with patient contact works to a greater extent through narratives with limited structure and very little standardization, which presents great challenges for clinicians when they need to update data in today's systems and perhaps even greater challenges when the relevant data is to be found again as basis for clinical decisions.

Many years of efforts to facilitate these processes have led us among technological solutions to facilitate the data entry process, but there is still some way to reach the level where we can reap the fruits of AI techniques such as data mining and deep learning. This is why this first annual meeting in The Danish Society for Digital Health sets spotlights on some of these fundamental challenges. It was an honour for he society to welcome Professor Peter Elkin, University of Buffalo, as the keynote speaker of the annual meeting.

Member meeting

How data sets the agenda for the patient doctor of the future contact?

With the rapid spread of health apps on smartphones, smartwatches and other wearables the population has access to more and more measurements of their health, both in relation to exercise, rest and sleep as well as diet. The many data can be difficult to understand for the individual user and the quality of the data may vary. This causes more people to visit the doctor with concerns about, for example, fast or slow heart rate. These dilemmas were introduced by three speakers and discussed by the members.

Members of the board:
President: Lars Kayser
Vice President: Christian Nøhr
Secretary: Finn Kensing
EFMI Annual Report 2019

Treasurer: Gert Galster
Board: Louise Pape-Hauggaard, Per Loubjerg, Taric Osman Andersen, Thomas Schmidt, Astrid Karnøe Knudsen, Klaus Phanarath.

Web site (in Danish only): https://www.dsd-s-dk.dk/

11.3 Finland/Finnish Social and Health Informatics Association (FinnSHIA)
Representative: Kristiina Häyrinen

The main objective of the Finnish Social and Health Informatics association is to maintain both international and national links between actors of the social and health care informatics.
The activities of the association focus on international relations (IMIA, EFMI and HUSITA), expanding the membership base and maintaining a web site and an e-mail list for information dissemination.
The main event of the association is the annual national Social and Health Care Informatics Research Days (SoTeTiTe-tutkimuspäivät).

FinnSHia has published the Finnish Journal of eHealth and eWelfare (www.finjehew.fi) since 2009. Finnish Journal of eHealth and eWelfare (FinJeHeW) is a scientific journal established by the Finnish Social and Health Informatics Association (FinnSHIA) and the Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth (FSTeH).

Finnish Social and Health Informatics Association is also a Member Organization of IHE International.
Members of the society actively participate in EFMI and IMIA working groups.

Board members 2019
Chairman: Dr. Kristiina Häyrinen, kristiina.hayrinen(at)gmail.com
Vice-chairman: Dr. Juha Mykkanen, juha.mykkanen(at)thl.fi
Secretary: Ms. Pirjo Hilama, pirjo.hilama(at)essote.fi
Information Officer: Dr. Ulla- Mari Kinnunen, ulla-mari.kinnunen(at)uef.fi
Treasurer: Mr Timo Ukkola, timo.ukkola(at)kuntaliitto.fi
Responsible for marketing: Dr. Laura-Maria Peltonen, laura-maria.peltonen(at)utu.fi
Dr. Alpo Värri, alpo.varri(at)tut.fi
Dr. Persephone Doupi, persephone.doupi(at)thl.fi
Ms. Sari Nissinen, sari.nissinen(at)ttl.fi

FinnSHIA web site: https://www.stty.org/in-english
11.4 France / Association française d’Informatique Médicale (AIM)

Representative: Brigitte Seroussi

Organization of scientific meetings in 2019:

- MEDINFO 2019 (Lyon, August 26-30, 2019): AIM has organized MEDINFO 2019, on behalf of the International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA). AIM worked on the contractual issues (contract signed with IMIA and with MCO Congrès, a company specialized in congress organizations). AIM was in charge of logistics planning and resources, and social program organisation (gala dinner at Colonge Abbay, Bocuses’s restaurant).
- Toulouse, July 1st, 2019: co-organization of a session “Artificial Intelligence and Health” within the framework of the Artificial Intelligence Platform 2018, and in partnership with the French Association for Artificial Intelligence (AFIA)
- Lyon, August 30, 2019: satellite symposium “Decide, Care, and Search at the time of Big Data and AI” co-organized with Elsevier (https://www.elsevier.com/fr-fr/events/cs/MEDINFO_sympo/programme)

Election or AIM board (August 20, 2019)

- President: Pascal Staccini
- Secretary: Lemlih Ouchchane
- Treasurer: Daniel Pagonis
- Board: Brigitte Seroussi, Anita Burgun, Marc Cuggia, Rosy Tsopra, Fleur Mougin

Participation to the works of scientific societies or National boards

- EFMI Membership
- Invited by the French “Académie de Médecine” for AIM expertise on AI and Health Curriculum

International programs (work in progress):

- Burkina Faso: Support of the “Société Burkinabé d’Informatique Médicale et de E-santé” (SOBIMES, https://imia-medinfo.org/wp/imia-member-societies/) for creating a master degree in medical informatics for West Africa countries

Organization of scientific meetings in 2020 (work in progress):

- Angers, June 20th, 2020: co-organization of a session “Artificial Intelligence and Health” within the framework of the Artificial Intelligence Platform, and in partnership with the French Association for Artificial Intelligence (AFIA) (https://ia-sante-2020.sciencesconf.org)
- Paris, September 7-11th, 2020: co-organization of the first “AI School for Health” with the French consortium Health Data Hub (https://www.ai4healthschool.org)
11.5 Germany / German Association for Medical Informatics, Biometry and Epidemiology (GMDS)

Representative: Alfred Winter

The German Association of Medical Informatics, Biometry and Epidemiology (GMDS, www.gmds.de) besides Medical Informatics encompasses the disciplines Medical Biometry, Epidemiology, Health Data Management and medical Bio-Informatics. Currently about 2,000 scientists and professionals are members of GMDS. In spring 2019 GMDS was proud to host STC 2016 in Hanover.

GMDS organizes two main conferences annually. In spring GMDS co-organizes a congress, academy and networking program as integral part of the industrial fare DMEA - Connecting Digital Health. Autumn is time for its scientific congress “GMDS- Jahrestagung”. 2019 the Jahrestagung had the motto "Shaping Change - Creative Solutions for Innovative Medicine" and was held in Dortmund. It attracted more than 800 participants. A collection of presented paper has been published in IOS proceedings with open access. Video recordings of the keynotes and other talks are presented in the GMDS youtube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgunfQtV2BaOtEdik2rRudw. We very much hope that our next annual meeting can take place in Berlin in September 2021 despite the COVID-19 pandemic. This annual conference is jointly organized as an international conference with the Central European Network (CEN: German Region, Austro-Swiss Region and Polish Region) of the International Biometric Society (IBS).

GMDS is platform for more than 50 working groups. Some of them organized additional congresses with more than 100 participants each. The open access journal “GMS Medizinische Informatik, Biometrie und Epidemiologie” https://www.egms.de/dynamic/en/journals/mibe/index.htm and the journal “Methods of Information in Medicine” https://www.thieme.de/de/methods-information-medicine/journal-information-121222.htm are the official journals of GMDS.

Activities in 2019 include:

- advisory statements for government bodies regarding legal initiatives in digital health;
- awards and prices for young scientists;
- mentoring programs for young scientists seeking leadership positions;
- seminar for PhD students;

GMDS is governed by a board representing its disciplines Medical Informatics, Medical Biometry, Epidemiology, Health Data Management and Medical Bioinformatics. The board is currently chaired by Alfred Winter, the secretary of EFMI; names of all board members can be found at https://gmds.de/ueber-uns/organisation/#c309.

11.6 Greece / Greek Biomedical and Health Informatics Association (GBHIA)

Representative: John Mantas

Greek Biomedical Informatics and Health Informatics Association aims to evolve and promote the scientific field of Health and Biomedical Informatics in Greece and abroad. GBHIA is a non-profit scientific association which specializes in research, training and documentation of Health Informatics in terminology, documentation and standardization.

The website of the association is: www.gbhia.com

Health Informatics is the scientific discipline concerned with the systematic processing of data, information and knowledge in health care.

The domain covers computational and informational aspects of processes and structures in health care.
Its aim is to study all the applications of informatics and computer science in Health Sciences (Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Biology, and Pharmacy) and health care.

Nowadays, GBHIA has over 130 members including scientists, professionals and students in the field of Health Informatics.

Recently, the Association has introduced the Fellowship Award to honor distinguished scientists who have contributed to the aims of the field and to the objectives of the GBHIA. The honorary fellows may bare the insignia FGBHI. Arie Hasman, Reinhold Haux, Rolf Engelbrecht, George Mihalas, and Patrick Weber are elected Fellows of the GBHIA.

GBHIA organizes every year an International Scientific Conference in Informatics, Management and Technology in Healthcare (ICIMTH – www.icimth.com) with 200 participants from all over the world. Approximately, 30% of the participants are from Greece. ICIMTH conference proceedings are published by IOS Press and the papers are indexed in Medline/PubMed, Scopus.

GBHIA supports the national reforms in the Healthcare domain and the IT strategies for primary healthcare, family doctors, national electronic health records and other actions. Many members of the society evolve with Health IT education on plenty Masters’ Degree programs which are conducted in Greece.

GBHIA will organize MIE 2021.

11.7 Israel / The Israeli Association for Medical Informatics (ILAMI)

Representative: Arriel Benis

In 2019, ILAMI has

- organized a meeting focusing on "Nurses at the Digital Age";
- renewed its website (in Hebrew and in English) and worked on improving its communication in social networks.

11.8 Romania / Romanian Society of Medical Informatics

The 35th Conference of the Romanian Society of Medical Informatics took place during 2 days in September 2019 in Cluj-Napoca, a beautiful city of Transylvania. The RoMedInf 2019 conference covered all areas of medical informatics, both basic science, and technical aspects. Some of the major topics of the Conference were: Health, Public Health, Clinical and Nursing Informatics; Formalization of Knowledge, Ontologies, Clinical Guidelines and Standards of Healthcare; eHealth, mHealth, Wearable Devices, and Sensors; Telemedicine and Teleassistance; Big Data, Data Science, Health Analytics, Health Information and Knowledge Management; Medical Decision Support and Intelligent Systems; Health Internet of Things; Interoperability in Healthcare Systems; Medical Imaging and Signal Processing; Heath&IT E-learning and Education; Robots, Virtual Reality and Gaming in Medical Rehabilitation; Health&IT Socio-Economics; Data Security, Privacy, Patient Safety, Ethics; Standards, Social and Legal Issues; Health&IT Research, Methodological Issues, and Technology Assessment. The scientific contributions and medical informatics solutions were presented in an interdisciplinary program that gathered experts and researchers from medicine, computer science, and engineering.
The first day was dedicated to general presentations, in 5 sessions (Medical Informatics, Education, eHealth, Applied Medical Informatics), and the second day was focused on ICT support for Healthcare presenting projects for home assistance with special contributions from the AAL and Nursing WGs and the FreshBlood community.

Were awarded 4 RSMI prizes to valuable research that contributed to promotion and development of digital healthcare.

The RSMI assembly meeting discussed WGs activities, new initiatives and options for next meetings. George Mihalas presented the report for RSMI activity in IMIA and Lacramioara Stoicu-Tivadar the one for EFMI.

11.9 Spain / Sociedad Española de Informática de la Salud (SEIS)

Representative: Carlos Luis Parra-Calderón

President: Luciano Sáez Ayerra.

The Sociedad Española de Informática de la Salud SEIS (Spanish Society of Health Informatics) is a non-profit scientific society at the national level, made up of more than 500 professionals interested in the application of informatics to health and with the mission of promoting research, development, and innovation, implementation and good practice of ICTs in the field of health for the benefit of society and with full respect for the rights of individuals, in particular their privacy.

Organization of scientific meetings in 2019:


Other regular activities:

- EFMI Membership.
- IMIA Membership.
- V Master in IT Management for Health, 2018-2019 edition, in collaboration with the National School of Health.
- I+S Informatics and Health Journal, bimonthly.
- XXIV National Awards of Informatics and Health, Venue: Main Hall of the School of Medicine of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Date: January 17th, 2019.
• SEIS Index 2018. Set of 88 indicators of the impact of Information Technology on the National Health System (6-year time series), based on the annual survey reported by the Regions.

Organization of scientific meetings in 2020 (work in progress):
• XXIV National Awards of Informatics and Health. Venue: Main Hall of the School of Medicine of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Date: January 17th, 2020.

11.10 Sweden / Swedish Association for Medical Informatics (SFMI)

Representative: Ragnar Nordberg

Business according to business plan
The Board has reviewed the strategic plan of the SFMI Association and on the basis of it further developed the business plan. This modified business plan has been followed during the fiscal year in which the following activities have taken place.

Conferences, symposia and forum meetings
SFMI has organized several conferences, either on its own or in collaboration with other actors.

Conferences
• Vitalis, 2019-05-21-23 including moderation of an international track. SFMI recruited several of the international lecturers, for example Bent Asgeir Larsen from Norway on the topic of attention information and Scott Campbell on the topic of clinical use of Smomed CT. Participants from the UK, Norway, USA, Finland and Sweden.
• SFMI co-organized the Vitalis conference as usual together with the Swedish Exhibition Center in Gothenburg. In our showcase we exhibited, among other things, Medinfo 2019, and ICIMTH 2019.
• SFMI organized the conference "Days of Laws in Healthcare" on November 7-8, the 23rd annual conference in a row. The conference attracted 75 participants.

Webinars
• 2019-04-29 Evaluating mHealth for Community Health Workers in South Africa
• 2019-10-01 Analysis of Voluntary User Feedback of the Swedish National PAEHR Service.
• 2019-11-07 Adapting mHealth to Workflow - A Case Study in South Africa. More information about meetings can be found on SFMI's website www.SFMI.se.

Dissemination of information
• Twitter account with up to 140 followers (as of January 2020)
• The website of SFMI, www.sfmi.se, has been rebuilt with a new supplier and new technical solution during 2019 with a large work effort from several board members.

Scholarships
SFMI has received and granted 3 scholarship applications for a total value of up to SEK 30,000 during 2019.
International cooperation

SFMI is a member of EFMI and IMIA. SFMI is also a member of the Swedish Standards Institute (SIS) and has been represented by our board member dr. Anders Thurin to follow the standardization work in SIS, CEN and ISO. Sweden, through Björn-Erik Erlandsson and Jessica Rosenälv, members of SFMI, has the secretariat for WG1 Architecture, Frameworks and Models in the technical committee ISO / TC 215. Björn-Erik and Jessica have the positions chairman and vice-chairman of WG1.

Member benefits

In 2019, membership has given SFMI members the following benefits:

- 40% on the Vitalis/SFMI yearly conference
- Membership discount on the EFMI STC, MIE and Medinfo conferences
- The Nordic British Cooperation meeting on medical informatics
- SFMI has arranged three (3) webinars which have been free to members.

Scholarships

Members have the opportunity to apply for travel grants for active participation in conferences organized by EFMI, IMIA and SFMI approved conferences where SFMI members contribute paper / posters or presentation.

11.11 The Czech Republic / Czech Society for Biomedical Engineering and Medical Informatics (CSBMEMI)

Representative: Lenka Lhotska

The Czech Society for Biomedical Engineering and Medical Informatics is a non-profit scientific and educational organization in the field of medical, clinical and biological engineering and medical informatics. It joins together physicians, biomedical engineers, medical and health care informaticians and other professionals from related areas. The Society aims at encouraging research and the application of knowledge, and to disseminate information both to professionals and general public, and promote collaboration.

The Society’s main aims are to:

- Foster interdisciplinary research activities comprising medicine/biology and engineering sciences and informatics (both in basic and applied research)
- Provide platform for joint activities of the Society members, inform about latest development and events in the field
- Support organization of conferences and workshops
- Actively participate in negotiations on legislative issues on the ministerial level in favour of the Society members and research and educational institutions working in the area of biomedical engineering and medical informatics
- Develop job profiles for biomedical engineers
- Develop guidelines for undergraduate and postgraduate education and lifelong learning in biomedical engineering and medical informatics
- Support and develop publishing activities – the Society has its own journal “Physician and technician” and closely cooperates with the official EFMI journal “European Journal for Biomedical Informatics”

Since 2014 Jana Zvarova and Lenka Lhotska have been members of the Working Group of the Czech Medical Society for preparation of the eHealth strategy in the Czech Republic. After designing the concept and basic principles, the documents were handed over to the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic. When the Ministry developed a detailed strategy, the WG members were asked to perform a critical review of the strategy. Finally, the strategy was adopted
by the government. However, activity of the Working Group of the Czech Medical Society continues and its main focus is on critical review of documents connected with the eHealth that are being prepared by the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic and its institutions. After Jana Zvarova passed away, Michal Huptych (Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Institute of Informatics, Robotics and Cybernetics) took over and continues her work together with Lenka Lhotska. In 2019, the new law on electronic health was prepared by the Ministry and reviewed by the professional medical societies, including the Czech Society for Biomedical Engineering and Medical Informatics.

Events
pHealth 2020. Several Society members are members of the organizing committee of the planned conference. Lenka Lhotska is Chair of the organizing committee.

Cooperation
CSBMEI actively cooperates with various institutions and societies related to field of medicine, health, IT, education, etc.:
- Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic
- HL7 Czech Republic
- Czech Technical University in Prague
- Charles University in Prague and University Hospitals
- Czech Academy of Sciences

11.12 The Russian Federation / National Association of Medical Informatics (NAMI)

Representative: Michael Shifrin
The NAMI is active in variable fields of digital transformation of healthcare in Russian Federation.

Members of the Association took part in the development of state educational standards for healthcare and labor profiles for care workers in the part concerning biomedical informatics. The central topic of the previous year was a labor profile for a doctor-cybernetic – new position in Russian healthcare institutions. Professionals in this position must have competencies in medical information systems as well as in planning of clinical investigations, data analysis and presentation, etc.

Another domain of activity was connected with organization and maintenance of the Federal regulatory reference register. Now it contains more than 600 directories concerning practically all parts of the Integrated Automated Information System of Healthcare (IAISH), which is intended for information support of the whole healthcare system of the Russian Federation.

As in previous years, the NAMI took part in the organization of several regional conferences in biomedical informatics and national congress Information Technologies in Medicine (ITM). Since 2016, members of EFMI and other international organizations were invited as keynote speakers at the ITM conferences.

The NAMI continues to take an active part in publishing the "Doctor and IT" magazine, the only Russian journal especially devoted to biomedical informatics.

At the MedInfo in Lyon at the August, 2019 the NAMI declared intention to host the STC 2022, this intention was approved by the EFMI Council.
11.13 The United Kingdom / British Computer Society (BCS)

Representative: Philip Scott

Introduction
The BCS is committed to a strong and active working relationship with EFMI. This report covers relevant areas of BCS activity in 2019-20.

BMJ Health & Care Informatics
The BCS Health & Care official journal is *BMJ Health & Care Informatics*. Dr Philip Scott was the interim Editor-in-Chief during 2019 and is now Deputy Editor. Full information can be found at: [https://informatics.bmj.com/](https://informatics.bmj.com/)

BCS Health & Care leadership team
Dr Philip Scott was appointed as Chair of the BCS Health & Care executive committee in February 2020. The executive committee now has multi-disciplinary leadership including nursing, mental health, social care, primary care, professionalism, editorial, technical standards and an early career representative. See [https://www.bcs.org/membership/member-communities/bcs-health-and-care-specialist-group/meet-the-team/](https://www.bcs.org/membership/member-communities/bcs-health-and-care-specialist-group/meet-the-team/)

BCS Health & Care has recently begun collaborating with Health Data Research UK (HDR UK: [https://www.hdruk.ac.uk/](https://www.hdruk.ac.uk/)) and the Health Statistics User Group (HSUG) to engage the data science and analytics communities.

Conference and webinar activities
BCS has two event partnerships and contributes content and speakers to Closer Still Media, who run the annual “Health + Care” trade show in London, and Digital Health Media, who run a CIO/CCIO Summer School, the “Rewired” trade show, a Journal Club based around selected papers from *BMJ Health & Care Informatics* and various themed webinars.

BCS Health & Care agreed to fund three full bursaries to attend MIE 2020. Following an open competition to find “future leaders” in health and care informatics, three winners were selected. Unfortunately, the conference was cancelled due to COVID-19.

Dr Philip Scott assisted Dr Louise Pape-Haugaard with editing the MIE 2020 proceedings.

11.14 Ukraine / Ukrainian Association for "Computer Medicine" (UACM)

Representative: Oleg Yu. Mayorov

Detailed information is on the UACM website ([http://uacm.kharkov.ua/eng/](http://uacm.kharkov.ua/eng/)).

UACM members participate in the creation of eHealth in Ukraine and implementing the Hospital Information Systems created by them, diagnostic equipment (hardware and software complexes qEEG, ECG, HRV, REG), telemedicine equipment and technologies.

UAKM publishes the scientific journal “Clinical Informatics and Telemedicine” (ISSN 1812-7231). Well-known scientists from different countries participate in the editorial board of the journal.

Organization of scientific meetings in 2019:
Scientific-practical conference with international participation "Information technologies and systems in medicine" (ISM-2019) 28 - 29 November 2019, Kharkiv, Ukraine

**Organization of scientific meetings in 2020:**
Conference "Topical Issues of Transformation of Municipal Health Care Facilities into Public Utilities" February 22, 2020, Kyiv, Ukraine

All-Ukrainian scientific and methodological video conference with international participation “Actual issues of distance education and telemedicine 2020” 22-23 April, 2020, Zaporizhia, Kharkiv, Kyiv, Ukraine

**Participation to the works of scientific societies or established bodies:**

- Membership of EFMI
- Membership of the International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA)
- Membership of the European Association of Healthcare IT Managers (HITM)
- Membership of the Coordination Council for Health Informatization of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine.
- Collaboration with the WHO Digital Health Division
12 Appendix 6: Congresses and Publications

EFMI organizes two main series of conferences: the Special Topic Conferences (EFMI-STC) and Medical Informatics Europe (EFMI-MIE). In conjunction or independent of the main congress series, working groups in addition organize topic specific workshops, tutorials and seminars.

12.1 Medical Informatics Europe Conferences (MIE)

So far, 29 MIE congresses (Medical Informatics Europe) have been organized by the national members and EFMI with up to more than 1000 participants each. The concept includes peer-reviewed presentations according to the type of paper as oral or poster presentation. Workshops and tutorials prepared or supported by EFMI working groups are an essential part of EFMI MIE conferences.

- planned: MIE 2020 - Geneva, Switzerland: Due to the world pandemic of coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (covid-19) the planned conference has been cancelled. The Proceedings shall be published as planned and accepted by the Scientific Program Committee and the review process.
- MIE 2018 - Gothenburg, Sweden (together with VITALIS 2018)
- MIE 2017 - Manchester, UK (part of Informatics for Health 2017)
- MIE 2016 - Munich, Germany (part of HEC 2016)
- MIE 2015 - Madrid, Spain
- MIE 2014 - Istanbul, Turkey
- MIE 2012 - Pisa, Italy
- MIE 2011 - Oslo, Norway
- MIE 2009 - Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina
- MIE 2008 - Gothenburg, Sweden
- MIE 2006 - Maastricht, Netherlands
- MIE 2005 - Geneva, Switzerland
- MIE 2003 - Sant Malo, France
- MIE 2002 - Budapest, Hungary
- MIE 2000 - Hanover, Germany
- MIE 1999 - Ljubljana, Slovenia
- MIE 1997 - Thessalonica, Greece
- MIE 1996 - Copenhagen, Denmark
- MIE 1994 - Lisbon, Portugal
- MIE 1993 - Jerusalem, Israel
- MIE 1991 - Vienna, Austria
- MIE 1990 - Glasgow, Scotland
- MIE 1988 - Oslo, Norway
- MIE 1987 - Roma, Italy
- MIE 1985 - Helsinki, Finland
- MIE 1984 - Brussels, Belgium
- MIE 1982 - Dublin, Ireland
- MIE 1981 - Toulouse, France
- MIE 1979 - Berlin, Germany
- MIE 1978 - Cambridge, UK
12.2 Special Topic Conferences (STC)
STCs are conferences, specialized in current topics. Special Topic Conferences follow a successful concept including the following components:

- Organization by a member society (often in combination with its annual meeting)
- Topic defined to the needs of the member society
- Relevant EFMI Working groups are engaged for the content
- Contributions mostly on invitation
- Small 2-day conference with 100+ participants

So far, 18 STC congresses have been organized by our member societies:

- STC 2019 – Hanover, Germany
- STC 2018 – Zagreb, Croatia
- STC 2017 – Tel Aviv, Israel
- STC 2016 – Paris, France
- STC 2014 – Budapest, Hungary
- STC 2013 – Prague, Czech republic
- STC 2012 - Moscow, Russia
- STC 2011 - Lasko, Slovenia
- STC 2010 - Reykjavik, Iceland
- STC 2009 - Antalya
- STC 2008 - London, UK
- STC 2007 - Brijuni Island, Croatia
- STC 2006 - Timisoara, Romania
- STC 2005 - Athens, Greece
- STC 2004 - Munich, Germany
- STC 2003 - Rome, Italy
- STC 2002 - Nicosia, Cyprus
- STC 2001 - Bucharest, Romania

12.3 Publication

**IOS Press series “Health Technology and Informatics”**

Publication of the conference proceedings of the EFMI conference series was done in close cooperation with IOS Press in its Medline indexed series “Health Technology and Informatics” in the last years. Selected papers from the EFMI conferences were also published in Methods of Information in Medicine. The proceedings are for open access.

**European Journal for Biomedical Informatics**

The European Journal for Biomedical Informatics reacts on the great European need to share the information in the multilingual and multicultural European area. The journal publishes peer-reviewed papers in English and other European languages simultaneously. This opens new possibilities for faster transfer of scientific-research pieces of knowledge to large international community of biomedical researchers, physicians, other health personnel and citizens. More information can be found at: http://www.ejbi.org/en/about/

**International Journal of Medical Informatics**

International Journal of Medical Informatics provides an international medium for dissemination of original results and interpretative reviews concerning the field of medical informatics. The Journal emphasizes the evaluation of systems in healthcare settings.
The scope of journal covers: 1) Information systems, including national or international registration systems, hospital information systems, departmental and/or physician's office systems, document handling systems, electronic medical record systems, standardization, systems integration etc.; 2) Computer-aided medical decision support systems using heuristic, algorithmic and/or statistical methods as exemplified in decision theory, protocol development, artificial intelligence, etc. 3) Educational computer based programs pertaining to medical informatics or medicine in general; and 4) Organizational, economic, social, clinical impact, ethical and cost-benefit aspects of IT applications in health care. More information can be found at: http://www.ijmijournal.com/

*Methods of Information in Medicine*

Good medicine and good healthcare demand good information.

Since the journal’s founding in 1962, Methods of Information in Medicine has stressed the methodology and scientific fundamentals of organizing, representing and analyzing data, information and knowledge in biomedicine and health care. Covering publications in the fields of biomedical and health informatics, medical biometry, and epidemiology, the journal publishes original papers, reviews, reports, opinion papers, editorials, and letters to the editor. From time to time, the journal publishes articles on particular focus themes as part of a journal’s issue. More information can be found at: http://methods.schattauer.de/

*Acta Informatica Medica*

Acta Informatica Medica (Acta Inform Med) is a peer-reviewed, open access journal publishing original articles, professional articles, reviews, viewpoints, and case studies, covering issues in Medical and Health informatics.

The journal is the official organ of the Society for Medical Informatics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI) and published by the Academy of Medical Sciences of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Issues are published quarterly in March, June, September, and December.

Specific scope of interests of the journal relates to System and System analysis, Medical documentation, Electronic health records, Clinical decision-making, Artificial intelligence, Expert systems, Science editing, E-learning in medicine, On-line biomedical databases, Information and Communication technologies, Health information systems.

More information can be found at: http://www.actainformmed.org/
13 Appendix 7 Awards

13.1 Peter L Reichertz Young Scientist Prize
Peter L Reichertz Young Scientist Prize is awarded to a

- Young scientist (<35 years);
- First author of an MIE-paper,
- Excellent presentation.
- There should not be an EFMI- council member as co-author of the paper.

The winner receives a check of 1,000€. Peter L. Reichertz Young Scientist Prize is funded by EFMI.

The prize was not awarded in 2019.

13.2 Rolf Hansen Memorial Award
Rolf Hansen Memorial Award will be awarded for

- Outstanding paper discussing innovative aspects of clinical information systems, preferably the Electronic Health Record or other tools or resources to support clinical work / delivery of health care, actively acknowledging the end-user, i.e. Health Providers;
- First author should have a health professional degree, e.g., MD, RN;
- Excellent presentation.

The winner receives a check of 1,000 €. The Rolf Hansen Memorial Prize is administered by EFMI.

The prize was not awarded in 2019.

13.3 Best Poster Award
Best Poster Award will be awarded for

- Promising project, concluded or work in progress;
- Aligning with the chosen topic of the actual conference ;
- The chosen poster employs the variety of features and modalities available for a poster.

The winner receives a check, decided by the actual conference LOC and SPC.

The prize was not awarded in 2019.

13.4 Mantas’ Prize for Best Paper on Education in Biomedical and Health Informatics
The Mantas’ Prize for Best Paper on Education in Biomedical and Health Informatics will be awarded for one paper meeting the following criteria

- Outstanding paper about Education in Biomedical and Health Informatics.
- The paper may discuss curriculum development, program and course implementation and evaluation, guidelines and accreditation processes, courseware and software development in education, continuing education of healthcare professionals of all disciplines and levels, distance learning, and even patients/citizens empowerment and increased digital health literacy through education.
- Excellent presentation

The winner receives a check of 500€
Mantas’ Prize for Best Paper on Education in Biomedical and Health Informatics is funded by the Mantas Foundation through the national Greek Biomedical Informatics and Health Informatics Association (GBHI) and administered by EFMI.

The prize was not awarded in 2019.