

Report of the President

Immediately after my election to be the President of FIMM for the period 2010 – 2014, the 15th *International Scientific Conference of FIMM* started in Potsdam from September 24 – 25. This Conference was a huge success for FIMM, as it showed, that we are capable to present an International Scientific Conference on a high scientific level without a financial loss. We are very happy to prove that we learned our lessons after the Congress in Bratislava, which ended with a threatening financial deficit, both for the national Slovak member society as well as for the FIMM itself. And after the scheduled Congress in Zurich, being cancelled because of another financial thread, we now seem to have found a format for future Scientific Conferences that can be as successful as it was in Potsdam.

During two entire days we had the opportunity to present 4 invited key note speakers of international quality, had the time for 4 workshops with full attendance, then had 3 sessions of 2 hours each with together 20 scientific presentations, which were accepted by our review commission. We have to note especially the great impact given by the Russian Group of our friend Prof. Sitel, which filled a complete session by them.

That is why we can be very confident today that FIMM will come back to the triennial rhythm of international scientific presentation concerning Manual and Musculoskeletal Medicine. This means we should try to find – during this GA – a national society that wishes to prepare in 2013 the next Conference in cooperation with its national meeting to be able to share the organization as well as the risk together with FIMM.

To conclude the report on the 2010 Conference I want to express my thanks to Lothar Beyer from DGMM and to my predecessor Wolfgang von Heymann and his entire Executive Board, who were very efficiently occupied with all the necessary preparations for this Conference. In the end result there was no financial loss whatsoever for FIMM, and all participants were completely satisfied.

In February Bernard Terrier and Wolfgang von Heymann met in Zurich during two days to pass the responsibility for the website to the new Communication Director. Unfortunately this could not be completed, as they found out, that the assigned 6 electronical IDs to access the content management were all in use by former webmasters and that 5 of them were completely lost on old computers not in use anymore, thus the only remaining access is the one of Bernard Terrier. We recently got the possibility for new access, so this task can be finished in near future.

In addition to the communication work, the two had also intensive discussions on the MM quality-and-safety-paper that the HPB is preparing. They then prepared draft version 1.50 that was the basis for the further work of the HPB that took place the last two days. During the following month version 1.60 was developed by e-mail communication. Bernard will report on the progress with this paper shortly after my report.

Originally it was planned to have an Executive Board meeting in May in Antalya in collaboration with the Turkish Congress for Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine. As there was no urgent need for such a meeting, it was decided to save the money for travel fares and accommodation. To support the Turkish Society for Manual Medicine the members of the FIMM Executive Board Wolfgang von Heymann, Sergej Nikonov and Victor Dvorak came to Antalya to give 5 presentations: Cervical Manipulation (WvH), Lumbar Manipulation (VD), Sensomotoric and Pain (WvH), Segmental dysfunction and Spondylogenic Reflex Syndrome (VD), History and Future of Manual Medicine (VD/SN). In addition to his contribution to the discussions Sergej Nikonov succeeded to present practical demonstrations. Together with the presentations of the Turkish Society (by Cihan Aksoy and Hüseyin Nazlikul) Manual Medicine was very good presented to the 1900 participants of the Congress. The courses then offered by the Turkish society for a complete MM education according to

the FIMM Core Curriculum were filled the same day with double number of physicians. Therefore two series of courses started this year; they will be completed probably until the end of the next year, giving a good enlargement of the number of fully trained MM physicians in Turkey. On request of the Turkish member society FIMM, will continue to support these Courses and provide teachers.

In the first days of September ESSOMM invited for the first International Instructor Course in Rome. Representatives of 5 ESSOMM member societies came together to discuss the approach and the contents of a basic course for beginners. As I was present myself for the Danish Society DSMM, I would like to report, that the group worked very productive together. The results will be published by the ESSOMM Executive Board on the FIMM website to be checked and discussed also by the FIMM national member societies. A report of the ESSOMM Executive Board on the medico-political issues of the work of the ESSOMM will be given by the HPB Director. In advance I'm very glad to inform that the Treasurer of ESSOMM Hermann Locher after more than 10 years of fruitless attempts of FIMM and other national MM representatives got an invitation to present MM to the UEMS Council in Naples for October 7th. We strongly hope that this may finally become the initiation of a UEMS Multidisciplinary Joint Committee (MJC) for Manual Medicine. So we are waiting for the report of Hermann Locher on this important mission for European MM.

September 8 to 10 the 11th *Nordic Congress on Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy and Musculoskeletal Medicine, Pain and Dysfunction* was held in Copenhagen (www.nordic2011.eu). The scientific program was very interesting and of high international scientific standard. Among the key note speakers there were members of FIMM and ESSOMM (Michael Kuchera and Hermann Locher). I myself held two workshops.

During that Congress I had an informal meeting with Lars Remvig, President of the International Academy of Manual/Musculoskeletal Medicine. After this meeting I do have expectations of an even better future relationship between FIMM and the IAMM.

Finally, I want to say "Thank you very much" to all the members of my Executive Board, that supported me so successfully in this very difficult first year of my presidency.