Welcome to ECHOES – the newsletter of the World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine

As the number of users of medical ultrasound expands further around the world it highlights the significance of the WFUMB slogan “Ultrasound 4 All”.

In this edition of ECHOES we report on some of the teaching activities that WFUMB has instigated. This work would not be possible without the continued support of our many volunteers and education & trade partners who freely give their time to bring ultrasound education to all regions of the world.

We would also like to introduce to our readers a new segment on interviews with the ultrasound luminaries who have helped forge our profession into what it is today.

The first interview is with the Australian scientist and former WFUMB president George Kossoff.

As well as the reports from the member federations there is a listing of upcoming conferences and education offerings. I encourage you all to regularly visit the new look WFUMB website to read about the past, the present and the future of your federation.

Susan Westerway PhD
Chair WFUMB Communications
The scientific program was of high quality with 238 invited guests (speakers, chairs, and instructors) and 436 abstracts for scientific presentations. WFUMB President, Christian Nolsøe, was the WFUMB Lecturer for the congress.

There were two WFUMB-related sessions; WFUMB-AFSUMB Ultrasound History Forum and WFUMB-AFSUMB Education Forum. Christian Nolsøe, Seung Kim, Byung Choi, Yi-Hong Chou, Dieter Nürnberg, and Sue Westerway participated to those sessions as speakers or chairs. WFUMB COE business meeting was also held.

AFSUMB 2018 was held on 23~26 May 2018 in Seoul with a slogan “Beyond Asia, to the world with ultrasound”.

AFSUMB 2018 Congress was held in conjunction with ACUCI 2018 and KSUM 2018.

The congress was well attended with a total of 1,795 participants from 44 countries.
The first post-graduate course in ultrasound in the Ivory Coast was held in Abidjan from February 22-24, 2018 and included the inauguration of the Ivorian Society of Ultrasound (SIVUS). The course was established in collaboration between WFUMB, MASU and SIVUS.

Preparations had been going on for about a year especially between professor Gharbi (WFUMB and MASU) and president of the Ivorian Society of Ultrasound, N’goran Kouamé. The program included initially four speakers from WFUMB, but due to unforeseen circumstances only two were able to attend, professor Gharbi and Dr. Ewertsen. The program covered a wide variety of ultrasound applications – MSK, abdominal, pediatric, obstetrics, cardiology and breast – and lectures were given by local, regional and the WFUMB lecturers. The Regional speakers included Dr. Sokhna Bah (Senegal), Dr. Sonhaye Latam (Togo) and Dr. Nikiema Zakara (Burkina Faso). All lectures were given in French.

All were very eager to learn and every session was followed by a discussion between speakers and participants. The level was generally high, and it was great to see the enthusiasm from the participants.

The course was held in Hotel la Rose Blanche, which also hosted the technical exhibition with GE, Samsung, Chison and Toshiba systems. These companies also helped with equipment for the hands-on sessions in the afternoons, where participants scanned healthy volunteers.

In total 123 participants were registered (80 radiologists, 3 midwives, 20 gynecologists, 7 cardiologists and 13 technicians and engineers), mainly from the Ivory Coast.

The course was supported by MASU and WFUMB, including the formation of the Ivorian Society of Ultrasound.

Prof. Hassen Gharbi and Dr. Caroline Ewertsen

We kindly wish to thank the companies sponsoring the course – without their help the course would probably not have been realized.

During the course, the Ivorian Society of Ultrasound was established with participation from people from the local university (Université Félix Houphouët Boigny), and from the organization CIFRAF, responsible for the education of radiologist in the French speaking part of Africa (Centre International de Formation des Radiologistes de l’Afrique Francophone). During the inauguration lecture professor Gharbi offered the books “Manual of Diagnostic in Ultrasound, vol. 1 and 2” on behalf of WFUMB to the new society represented by Dr. N’goran Kouamé.

Hopefully, future courses will follow in the region, for instance in Burkina Faso or Senegal. A CoE is already established in Lomé (Togo), and Dr. Sonhaye Latam was invited as lecturer and represented this society. There seems to be a great potential for ultrasound in the region and a great interest from the doctors and other medical personnel.

We kindly wish to thank all the participants, the local and international course organizers and the sponsors.

"There seems to be a great potential for ultrasound in the region and a great interest from the doctors and other medical personnel."
The new www.wfumb.org

A Progressive Website & App taking our Federation into a new digital era

Suzanne Cain, WFUMB Web Administrator

The updated WFUMB website /App (PWA) is now live on the www.wfumb.org domain name. The Site/App was launched last week and is currently going through tests to be released for download on Apple iStore and GooglePlay shortly. But you don’t have to wait as the App can be already be loaded by visiting www.wfumb.org on your mobile device and clicking on the ‘Add to Home Screen’ on your phone menu. This will add the WFUMB App to your own mobile device with an App icon for instant access on the move. The new site is an excellent starting point for greater developments over the coming months.

With plans for cases and more ultrasound images, up-to-date ultrasound news, COE Courses, interviews and content from right across the world.

WFUMB site is only as great as its contributions and its important that it stays current in its coding and development but more importantly in its content.

We need to make sure the site is showing all the information we as a group need, but most importantly, information people will be looking for when searching for WFUMB.

We plan to publish more tech-friendly content as well as the usual images, photographs, text and reports including:

- Videos hosted on our own WFUMB Channel
- Podcasts
- E-books and publications
- Live Broadcasts from key events
- Webinar broadcasts with key speakers

In addition to all of the above we are starting a worldwide Ultrasound Calendar of events— a one stop information rich calendar so you can plan your entire year.

Help make the WFUMB site great!

Do you have interesting cases, publications or reports? Are you taking part in an upcoming ultrasound event? Are you interested in contributing to our site on a regular basis? or maybe, you have an idea for other types of content you think the WFUMB site needs …

Get in touch … WFUMB@kosmos-design.co.uk

The first joint WFUMB-EFSUMB Webinar is now planned for 13th September 2018 at 15.00 CEST and is on the topic of

GIUS Ultrasound

Chaired by Prof. Odd Helge Gilja with Presenters: Kim Nylund (Bergen), Stephanie Wilson (Calgary), Giovanni Maconi (Milan) & Carla Serra (Bologna)

REGISTRATION LINK TO FOLLOW on the WFUMB (www.wfumb.org) and EFSUMB (www.efsumb.org) websites
Prof Paul Sidhu’s first year as EFSUMB President has seen the Publication of the CEUS non-liver Guidelines Update 2017 and Parts 1 and 2 of the Gastrointestinal Ultrasound (GIUS) Guidelines with Parts 3-7 to follow shortly. The Elastography non-liver guidelines have been completed and will be submitted to the EFSUMB journal, UIM/EJU for publication in early 2018. We are using a guidelines voting platform to assist these publications.

EFSUMB webinars are now a feature in the calendar covering not just CEUS. It is hoped to cover more topics, including GIUS, Elastography and Endoscopic Ultrasound. The webinar archive is proving popular although the Case of the Month remains the most visited area of the EFSUMB website. We invite submissions from other federations of interesting cases with images.

The next EFSUMB Congress will take place in Poznan, Poland 6-9 September – please visit the website to view the programme: www.euroson2018poznan.pl/en/

In 2019, the Euroson congress will take place in Grenada, Spain 29th of May to 1st of June. In 2020 the Euroson congress will be arranged 11-13 June in Bergen, Norway. You are most welcome to attend the Euroson congresses even if you belong to other federations.

The role of education is important in EFSUMB with Euroson Schools, CEUS Schools and Endorsed Courses and Ultrasound Learning Centres available throughout the year.

The EFSUMB Course Book (ECB) is now available on the new EFSUMB ultrasound app and each 2nd Edition chapter can be downloaded.

EFSUMB is working closely with other European organisations – ESR, EASL and UEG - to bring ultrasound sessions and learning areas to these large meetings. Please visit the EFSUMB website for the latest in ultrasound news www.efsumb.org

Bergen, May 2018,
Odd Helge Gilja
EFSUMB Past-President 2017-2019, Chairman WFUMB Education Committee
WFUMB Administrative Councilor

UPCOMING EUROSON SCHOOLS

Musculoskeletal Sonography Course for Rheumatologists - Intermediate Level
EUROSON SCHOOL
Innsbruck, Austria 5 - 7 September 2018

Chest Ultrasound
EUROSON SCHOOL
Košice, Slovakia 20-22 September 2018

Musculoskeletal Sonography Course in Rheumatology - Advanced Level
EUROSON SCHOOL
Graz, Austria 7 - 9 November 2018

Liver Elastography
EUROSON SCHOOL
Timisoara, Romania 23 - 24 November 2018
FEDERATION REPORTS: FLAUS Update

As social networks become global and ease of travel to far-flung destinations grows easier, the world seems to grow ever smaller.

The Latin American Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology, as an ultrasonography reference in Latin America and as an integrator of the countries members, is pleased to announce that in 2018 we are offering the following events in the members societies and affiliated entities:

**48th São Paulo Radiological Meeting (JPR 2018)**
- May 3-6, 2018
- Trasamerica Expo Center - São Paulo, Brazil.
  - [http://www.jpr2018.org.br](http://www.jpr2018.org.br)

**Actualización de US en tejidos blandos y ECO-FAST**
- June 2-4, 2018
- Ecocaribe Centro Médico – Barranquilla, Colombia.
  - [http://tienda.acomesf.org](http://tienda.acomesf.org)

**X Simposio de la Sociedad Dominicana de Sonografía y 1er Simposio de Ecografía pediátrica**
- June 16-17, 2018
- Hotel Catalonia – Santo Domingo, República Dominicana.
  - [http://www.flaus-us.org](http://www.flaus-us.org)

**I Congreso Internacional de Ultrasonido**
- June 28 – 30, 2018
- Mont’s Hotel – Huehuetenango, Guatemala.
  - [https://www.facebook.com/ASOGU-Asociacion-Guatemalteca-de-Ultrasonido-](https://www.facebook.com/ASOGU-Asociacion-Guatemalteca-de-Ultrasonido-)

**Congreso Internacional de Ultrasonido en Medicina**
- July 18-19, 2018
  - [http://www.flaus-us.org](http://www.flaus-us.org)

**Congressio Nacional e Internacional de US y Congreso EuroAmericano de Medicina Fetal**
- July 25-28, 2018
- Hotel Real de Minas - Querétaro, México.
  - [http://fmacu.com/](http://fmacu.com/)

**I Congreso Internacional de US MSK y lesiones deportivas**
- August 3-5, 2018
- Hilton Miraflores - Lima, Perú.
  - [http://www.spumb.pe](http://www.spumb.pe)

**XLVII Congresso Brasileiro de Radiologia – CBR18**
- October 11-13, 2018
- Windsor Convention & Expo Center – Rio
  - [http://congressocbr.com.br](http://congressocbr.com.br)

**Congreso de la Asociación Boliviana de Ultrasonido**
- November 1-3, 2018

*It seems all signs point to now being the perfect time to plan a trip to the region. See you!*

Ana Chavarría, MD.

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**FEDERATION REPORTS: AIUM 2018 Meeting in New York**

On Tuesday 3/27/18 morning we had multiple activities related to US in Global Health:

Advances in Ultrasound in Global Health Session 8:30-10:00 am (3 presentations) - click on the links to view ...  

- Michael Schick- Ultrasound Education and Its Implications for Global Healthcare Delivery - [View presentation](#)  
- @UltrasoundStuff  
- SonoStuff.com
WFUMB2019 hosted by ASUM in Melbourne

The Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine (ASUM) is a multidisciplinary society whose mission is to advance the clinical practice of diagnostic medical ultrasound for the highest standards of patient care. We have the honour of bringing this mission to the global community as we host WFUMB2019 in Melbourne.

The amazing scientific committee, made up of medical and sonographer specialists, are hard at work putting together a fantastic program to stimulate, inspire and challenge your learning and current practice in many areas of ultrasound including:

- Cardiac
- Critical care
- Emergency medicine
- General Practitioner
- Gynaecology
- Hepatology
- Midwifery
- MSK
- Neonatology
- Nursing
- Obstetrics
- Physics
- Physiotherapy
- Radiology
- Respiratory
- Rheumatology
- Scientific
- Sonography
- Sports medicine
- Surgical
- Therapeutic
- Urology
- Vascular

The trade exhibition offers delegates the opportunity to engage with key industry suppliers and gain the latest information about their offerings, be it education, employment, systems and technology. We encourage you to visit our sponsors and thank them for their support. For all our sponsors and exhibitors, if you haven’t received your prospectus for WFUMB2019, please contact us on asum@asum.com.au

All work and no play? Never! A little fun is actively encouraged as ASUM hosts a number of fantastic social events as part of the program.

This is a great chance to network, meet with old friends, make new connections and enjoy a little downtime. You can be part of this too!

Abstracts open 3 September 2018
Registrations open 3 December 2018

See you there!
In February the WFUMB councillors visited the el Instituto de Cancerlogia Hospital in Guatemala City. Guatemala has a population of over 15 million and the INCAN is the only public operated cancer hospital in the country. As such, it sees over 25,000 patients per year and is the only public hospital equipped to provide oncology treatment.

INCAN was founded in the 1950’s and built with the support of Liga Nacional Contra el Cancer and Rotary. The most prevalent cancer seen at the hospital is stomach and gastrointestinal, whilst in women there is a very high incidence of cervical cancer.

A planned ultrasound course to coincide with our council meeting was unexpectedly cancelled a few weeks before our visit and so only a tour of the hospital took place. WFUMB Councillors were welcomed by a delegation of hospital officials and visiting fellows before being taken to see the imaging facilities. The ultrasound department consisted of two machines that were over 15 years old but both still gave reasonable images. The very capable nursing and radiography staff have been trained to assist with scanning the heavy workload.

Later that day the INCAN directors and members of the Guatemalan Ultrasound Society joined the WFUMB delegation to discuss future collaborations for courses that could assist with ultrasound education in the country.

INCAN has one old US unit, a Philips Envisor. They are in great need of a new US unit. RAD-AID’s mission is to improve ICAN’s Radiology department and WFUMB’s mission is to help bring a sustainable ultrasound program. Working together, WFUMB and RAD-AID hope to achieve both missions.

Read a full report on this from Harvey Nisenbaum >>
### WFUMB CoE Progress and Future Plans

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**no plan 2018**

- Kampala, Uganda: postponed!
- Lome, Togo: awaited
- Lagos, Nigeria: awaited
- Caiguazu, Paraguay: awaited

**additional WFUMB supported Meetings**

- Abidjan, Ivory Coast: 22-24 February - Abdomen, Paediatric, Obstetrics, Cardio-vascular, Interventional, Prof. Kouame Ngofan
- Fiji: 27-29 September - WFUMB supported Course Abdominal US, A/Prof. Sue Westerway
- Tirana, Albania: 14-16 December - WFUMB supported Course Abdominal US, Prof. Durim Celim

**Regional CoE Director Meeting**

- Seoul, South Korea: 23-25 May - AFSUMB CoE Meeting, Prof. Byung Chul
- Poznan, Poland: 07-08 Sept - EFSUMB CoE Meeting: Euroson 2018 in Poznan, Prof. Ioan Sporea
- Naples, Italy: 17-18 Nov - MASU CoE Meeting, Prof. Sudhir Vinayak
How and when did you become involved in ultrasound?

I graduated from the University of Sydney in March 1959 with a Bachelor degree in Science in Physics and Mathematics and a First Class Honors degree in Electrical Engineering. At that time I considered applying for a position as a research scientist in nuclear physics at the Atomic Energy Commission.

The day after the results were announced, Norman Murray, the Director of the Commonwealth Acoustic Laboratories, approached me and invited me to set up and head the to be formed Ultrasonics Research Section at the Laboratories. Murray had been keeping an eye on the emerging publications on medical ultrasound. He had attended a meeting of the NHMRC where concern was expressed regarding the use of X-rays in pregnancy and was aware of the first publication by Donald Champaign on the use of ultrasound to investigate abdominal masses. He felt that Australia should also begin to undertake research into this emerging field of medical ultrasound and that the Acoustic Laboratories were an appropriate venue for this research.

Norm Murray persuaded me to accept his invitation on the basis of his description of medical ultrasound as a field in the early stages development where it would be easier to make meaningful contributions. As there was no one in Australia with experience in ultrasound. I was very much impressed by the work of Doug Howry and Joe Holmes in Denver the abdomen, Baum in New York the eye, while Fry and his team in Champaign-Urbana were using high intensity ultrasound to create trackless lesions in the brain. In Europe, Donald in Glasgow was applying ultrasound to examine the pregnant uterus while Edler and Hertz in Malmo were studying the applications of M-mode to image the heart. Finally in Japan, Wagai in Tokyo was the second investigator to begin to image the breast. Our research into obstetrical applications commenced in September 1959 with the appointment of Bill Garrett as clinical consultant to the Section. We were thus the second group internationally to begin research into imaging in obstetrics.

Were there any particular people that influenced your work?

I was very fortunate to have had capable colleagues who wanted to join our Section and to collaborate with all as an interdisciplinary team. There were no walls between researchers working on different projects nor from our medical consultants in different professions. Ideas were exchanged freely in weekly review meetings where our successes, obstacles or failures were presented and discussed. In this way we all contributed towards our common objective of advancing our knowledge and contributions to medical ultrasound.

I would however like however to single out several individuals who made major contributions that influenced my work.

Internationally - I was very much impressed by the work of Doug Howry and Joe Holmes who, using the water coupling technique, published detailed images of the human neck and lower limb. This was the main reason as to why our Section, later to become the independent Ultrasonics Institute, chose this approach to examine the pregnant abdomen and the breast.

I also closely followed the research conducted by Bill Fry and his team who put together a team of scientists, engineers and medical doctors to produce trackless lesions in the human brain and used this method to study the interconnections between nuclei in the brain of the cat.

Australia - I was introduced to various aspects of clinical practice by Bill Garrett in obstetrics and by Tom Reeve in the breast. They were both excellent teachers and with time we developed a team approach to identify the structures in the human body that had not been previously imaged by ultrasound. The imaging of artifacts posed challenges but with time we learned how to identify those and even obtain useful clinical data from their portrayal. It was not uncommon for us to publish technical or clinically oriented papers depending on who was the senior person making the original observation and putting it into practice.

Dave Robinson joined the Section eighteen months after my appointment. We had mutual respect for each other abilities and developed a close working relationship. Dave was a practical man and was the person in charge of designing the electronic signal processing and mechanical requirements of our scanners. My contributions lay in the philosophical approaches as to how to handle the complex data acquired by the scanners and in the design and construction of the transducers used in our research.

In 1975 we developed the UI Octoson. In this scanner the patient lay essentially on a water bed and was examined from below by eight annular array transducers. Single and compound scans were obtained quickly and all the features of the scanner were controlled by a computer. Many radiologists and obstetricians expressed interest in acquiring this equipment.
The Australian Government went to tender to select the company to manufacture this scanner and the Nucleus Group was selected to do so. The Chairman of the Group was Paul Trainor, an Australian entrepreneur, who had set up several medical companies including Tellectronics and Cochlear. Ausonics Pty Ltd was established to build the Ul Octoson and I was asked to help Paul introduce the scanner to the market. This included many meetings with individuals and companies interested in the venture. Paul, a true gentleman, was an excellent negotiator and I learned a lot from him how markets work. The Ul Octoson was manufactured in Sydney and over five years nearly two hundred of these scanners were sold worldwide.

What were your career highlights?

Here is a chronological list of my career highlights:

1959  Joined the Commonwealth Acoustic Laboratories and began research into medical ultrasound.

1962  Obtained our first black and white obstetrical scans. The outline of the fetal head and trunk were clearly displayed as well as some internal fetal organs such as the spine, the heart and the bladder. This allowed us to make accurate assessment of fetal wellbeing from size measurements, diagnosis of asymmetrical growth retardation and of anomalies that cause bladder obstruction.

1963  Developed techniques to measure the acoustic output of therapeutic and diagnostic transducers. This allowed us to measure the output of different transducer designs and to select those that minimized patient exposure.

1965  With Bill Garrett as senior author published the first detailed paper on our ability to visualize the fetus and the clinical relevance of this information.

1967-1969  Two year sabbatical with Bill Fry. Bill was putting together a scanner which had lesion making as well as imaging capabilities. Bill at that time was President of the AIUM and he appointed me Vice President to help stage the AIUM 1968 Congress. AIUM Congresses had been focused mainly on physiotherapy applications and biological effects. I was interested in incorporating diagnostic imaging as a major component of the 1968 Congress. Unfortunately Bill died suddenly in 1968 and, as stipulated in the AIUM by-laws, I became President for the next year and a half. This Congress marked the transition of the AIUM from a physiotherapy focused organization to one whose major interests are diagnostic applications.

1969  Establishment of ASUM

Shortly before my return to Australia, I attended the First Congress of WFUMB held in Vienna. On my return I presented a summary of that Congress at an ad hoc meeting of the staff, our medical consultants and other individuals who had an interest in diagnostic ultrasound. At that meeting it was unanimously agreed that a society representing Australians an interest should be formed and be named the Australian Society of Ultrasound in Medicine. I had the privilege of being elected Foundation President of the Society and served in that capacity for the next two years. The Society flourished and undertook action not only to promote scientific and clinical applications but also to concentrate on issues of education. One of my greatest satisfactions is to see ASUM flourish to the extent that it has achieved to date, and to see the use of ultrasound in Australia second to none.

1969  Development of Grey Scale Imaging

During the last month of my stay in Illinois, I noted that when medium levels of power output were used to image the liver of the cat, the soft tissues reflected echoes of similar size irrespective of the direction of the scanning beam. I realized that the texture of soft tissue reflected the ultrasound energy in a diffuse manner. This was in stark contrast to the specular echoes obtained from large interfaces with which we were familiar. This led us to redesign transducers and signal processing to display, for the first time, the diffusely reflected echoes - in effect, the first grey scale images.

Jack Jellins and I implemented grey scale imaging late that year on our breast scanner. This scanner was installed at Royal North Shore Hospital, where Tom Reeve was our senior medical consultant on the project. The change in image quality was dramatic. Grey scale imaging allowed us to demonstrate, contrary to the generally held opinion at that time, that most malignancies were hypo rather than hyper echoic as described by Wild and Wagai.

Dave Robinson and I implemented grey scale on our obstetrical scanner early the following year, with Bill Garrett as our medical consultant. For the first time we could visualize the chambers of the fetal heart, identify the fetal umbilical vein in the fetal liver and, as an immediate pay off, visualize with near 100 percent accuracy the placenta. Bill Garrett and I mounted a display of our images at the next WFUMB Congress held in Rotterdam in 1972. The interest in these was dramatic as no one had seen such images previously.

1973  Establishment of ultrasound of the neonatal brain.

That year a fetus with ventriculomegaly was observed leading us to determine if we could achieve similar results in the neonate. In consultation with radiologists from Prince of Wales Hospital, ten neonates undergoing air ventriculography were also examined by ultrasound. Ventricular sizes measured by both methods were in agreement and all further neonatal patients from that hospital were examined by ultrasound only.

1975  Research conducted by the Section differed significantly from that undertaken by the Commonwealth Acoustic Laboratories. Encouraged by our clinical successes and interest in the equipment by clinicians and industry, the Section was formed as an independent Ultrasonics Institute in the Department of Health.

1982  I was elected President of WFUMB for the following three years. The Sydney WFUMB Congress was held in 1985 and attended by over one thousand delegates. The staff of the Institute played a major role in staging this Congress.

1989  The Ultrasonics Institute was transferred to the CSIRO (Commonwealth Industrial and Scientific Organisation) and renamed the Ultrasonic Laboratory.

1997  The Ultrasonic Laboratory was closed signaling the end to uniform ultrasound research in Australia.

1999  I was awarded the AO, an Officer of the Order of Australia.

What are your impressions of the ultrasound technology available today?

This is a hard question for me to answer, as I have been retired for 15 years. My impression is that ultrasound technology has matured. The equipment is using modern computer technology, the frequency range has been significantly enlarged and a variety of functions have been incorporated in the equipment to facilitate its use in a variety of applications. Ultrasound has been accepted by a range of specialties, and some of the challenges today relate to the provision of education and training in the correct use of the equipment in professions where the technique forms a small component of the practice.
Challenges and opportunities still abound. I do not know the status of ultrasound contrast agent and this could well be a major application. I am surprised that modern equipment still does not provide quantitative measurement of blood flow. The use of two-dimensional transducers appears to have stalled. The problem of overlying tissue aberration has not been solved. So opportunities exist but how well they will be addressed depends on funding in a climate where interest has shifted to MRI and molecular imaging.

**Are you still involved with the ultrasound world?**

I try to follow the ultrasound literature as I am in a fortunate position to receive major journals that feature ultrasound. Until recently I have been involved with the WFUMB Council as member of its Committees on History and on Archives. At the request of Michael Claudon, Barry Goldberg and I put together a paper "History of Ultrasound and its Presidents". This paper is published on the WFUMB website in the section on History. Today I am not involved with any ultrasound activity.

**WFUMB CENTER OF EDUCATION CHIŞINĂU, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

In 2016 a new WFUMB Center of Education was opened in Chișinău, Republic of Moldova. The center is coordinated by the Ultrasonography Training Center of the "Nicolae Testemițanu" University of Medicine Chișinău.

The first workshop of the center was organized in 4-5 November 2016 in cooperation with the EFSUMB Ultrasound Learning Center of the "Victor Babeș" University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Timișoara, and benefited from the participation of Prof. Dieter Nürnberg, WFUMB Vice President on Education together with Prof. Ioan Sporea, director of the EFSUMB Ultrasound Learning Center Timișoara; Assoc. Prof. Roxana Şirli, Lecturer Mirela Dănilă from the same center.

The workshop covered topics related to abdominal ultrasound and hepatic elastography, and was attended by approximately 200 participants.

The second workshop of WFUMB Center of Education Chișinău was held 24-25 November 2017 in Chișinău. The main topics of the course were the ultrasound diagnosis of thyroid and breast diseases, covered by the invited lecturers, Prof. Ioan Sporea ("Victor Babeș" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timișoara), Assoc. Prof. Dana Stoian ("Victor Babeș" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timișoara) and Assoc. Prof. Aristida Georgescu (Craiova University of Medicine and Pharmacy). Besides the theoretical presentations, a live demonstration session was also organized. The course was attended by 179 physicians from all over the Republic of Moldova and took place in a friendly atmosphere, participants being actively involved in discussions with lecturers.

Alina Popescu