

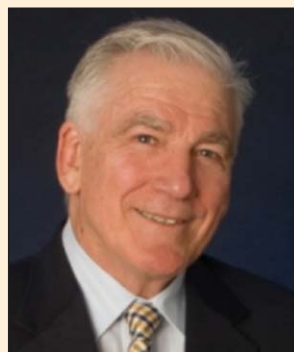
Three Candidates to Compete in Election of Next IFCC President

by Dr Bernard GOUGET, chair,
IFCC Nominations Committee

The IFCC-NC received three nominations for IFCC President-Elect position. The President elect will start on January 1st, 2017 to be confirmed as IFCC President on January 1st, 2018 until 31st December 2020. The 3 candidates have been nominated by their National Societies which are in good standing. The candidates have given a written consent for their candidacy. All applications were declared valid and all three will go into the ballot. The candidate are: Prof. Howard Morris (Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists; AACB); Prof. Tomris Ozben (Turkish Biochemical Society; TBS); Prof. Tomáš Zima (Czech Society of Clinical Biochemistry; CSKB).

Full details of each candidate's nomination including a personal statement are available at following link: www.ifcc.org/media/417125/IFCC_EB_2017_2020_President_elect_slate_of_candidates.pdf

All IFCC Officers' elections take place electronically; accordingly, the electronic ballot for the election of the President-elect position, will be held during September 1-30, 2016. The voting body will consist of IFCC full member societies.



Prof. Howard Morris
Australia



Prof. Tomris Ozben
Turkey



Prof. Tomáš Zima
Czech Republic

IFCC Institutes Medal For Outstanding Service

By Maurizio Ferrari, IFCC President

Introduction: The IFCC Executive Board has agreed to introduce the IFCC Medal for Outstanding Service (hereinafter 'The Medal') in recognition of sustained service to IFCC by an individual at the highest level in promoting the international practice of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine. The first award of The Medal will be made in 2017 and nominations are now being sought with a closing date of 31st December 2016.

Eligibility: Individuals who are eligible to receive The Medal will be members of an IFCC Full or Affiliate Member Society or an IFCC Corporate Member Company. To be eligible individuals will have worked in a voluntary capacity at a global or multi-national level over a period of at least ten years during which they will have served in a voluntary capacity for IFCC for a minimum of six years. Eligible individuals will have made an exceptional contribution to promoting the practice of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine. Serving Members of the IFCC Executive Board are not eligible for nomination.

Nomination Process: Nominations for The Medal should be submitted by the IFCC
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IN MEMORIAM

Prof. Daniel Mazziotta, EB Member (2015-2016)

By Rosa Isabel Sierra-Amor, IFCC EB Member.

The IFCC community, both across Latin America and worldwide, deeply saddened by the death of Prof. Daniel Mazziotta from Argentina. Daniel passed away quietly in Buenos Aires on Sunday, February 14, 2016.

The IFCC has lost one of its brightest and sharpest specialists in lab medicine who contributed to worldwide IFCC reputation with a broad smile, spreading enthusiasm in promoting Lab Medicine well beyond the Latin American borders.

Daniel Mazziotta participated very actively in IFCC, beginning as corresponding member of the Committee on Analytical Quality (C-AQ) of the Education and Management Division (1992). After that, he was member of the Nomination Committee (1994) and full member and Chair of the C-AQ (1997, 1998-2002). In 2002, he was elected Member of the IFCC Executive Board (2003-2005, 2006-2008), and elected again for the term 2015-2017. Unfortunately, he could not resist the cancer he suffered for several years already.

Daniel was Professor of Clinical Chemistry at National University of La Plata as of 1989, Director of the External Quality Assessment Program of the Argentine Biochemical Foundation as of 1987 and Director of the Reference and Standardization Laboratory in Clinical Biochemistry of Argentine Biochemical Foundation (1997). He graduated in Chemistry (1974) and Biochemistry, Clinical Orientation (1976) at the National University of La Plata, Argentina. From 1974 to 1982, he served the Central Laboratory Service of the Hospital San Juan de Dios of La Plata working for the Intensive Care Unit and the Heart and Lung Functional Exploration Service. He became member of the Central Commission of External Quality Control of the Ministry of Health of Province of Buenos Aires (1978) and the organizer of External Quality Control Program for the same Ministry from 1980 to 1986.

He also participated very actively in other organizations, holding positions as member of the Executive Board of the Specialists on Biological Analyses

Association (1984 and 1986), Secretary of the Biochemical Federation of the Province of Buenos Aires (1986 to 1992). Member of the Permanent Scientific Section of the Latin-American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry since 1987. In addition, he was also National Representative of Argentina.

He contributed as member of the Editorial Board of *Acta Bioquímica Clínica Latinoamericana*, the official journal of the Latin-American Confederation of Clinical Biochemistry (COLABIOCLI), and Member of the Intercontinental Board of *Accreditation and Quality Assurance* journal. He received the American Association for Clinical Chemistry International Fellowship Award in 2000. He was Honorary National Member of the Argentine Medical Association and Member of Honour of the Cuban Society of Clinical Pathology. In 2006 he received an award for his Professional Career in Argentina after developing intensive post-graduate education courses on Quality Control around the country, as well as in many Latin-



American countries, including Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico, Venezuela and Brazil. He acted as advisor for the Pan-American Health Organization in Guatemala and Ecuador.

We express our appreciation to Daniel for his efforts promoting quality management and laboratory medicine worldwide.

Your friendship was of great value to all. Daniel, you will be missed with great respect!

cont'd from page 61

IFCC Institutes Medal for Outstanding Service

Member to the IFCC Secretary by 31 December each year. Nominations should comprise:

- A letter of nomination on headed notepaper, which explains the outstanding international contribution made by the nominee
- A copy of the Curriculum Vitae of the nominee

Nominations may be accompanied by at least three letters of support that illustrate how the nominee meets the eligibility criteria.

Process: The Medal is awarded on the recommendation of the IFCC Executive Board and is ratified by the IFCC Council without appeal. The Medal is presented at an IFCC WorldLab congress, or an IFCC Regional Federation congress or the IFCC General Conference. There is no limit on the number of Medals presented but the eligibility criteria suggest that the number will be small. There is no requirement to award The Medal in any triennial period.

Recognition: A short article will be published in IFCC News to recognise each recipient of The Medal. The names of recipients of The Medal will be listed in the IFCC Handbook and in the IFCC website

The Medal: The Medal will comprise a medallion in a presentation box. The Medal will bear the IFCC logo, the name of the recipient and the year in which it was awarded. No honorarium is attached to the award.



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Tunisian Society Marks 35th Anniversary at Hammamet Congress

by Prof. Hmida SLAMA, STBC President, Prof. Farouk BARGUELLIL, STBC Vice-President and Dr Bernard GOUGET, chair, IFCC Nominations Committee, General Secretary FIFBCLM

The Société Tunisienne de Biologie Clinique (STBC) celebrated its 35th birthday at the 30th Journées Nationales de Biologie Clinique (30th Clinical Biology Conference, JNBC), that took place in Hammamet from May 12-14, 2016. More than 800 participants gathered in the presence of 11 countries of the Arab Federation of Clinical Biology (Dr. Mohammed Hassan KAMIL, AFCB President), the executive board members of the FIFBCLM (Dr Marc-Antoine Zabli, Président), the Syndicat des Biologistes (FR) (Dr François Blanchecotte, Président) and the Fédération Euro-Méditerranéenne des Laboratoires (Jean Benoit, FeMLab President, Dr Bari Cherif, General Secretary and Jean Begué).

The three-and-a-half decades of continuous activity of the STBC have provided support to Tunisian laboratory medicine specialists in their daily professional practice. This long-term commitment led to a mature operation, that allowed the STBC to undertake ambitious projects, especially to meet the challenges of restructuring laboratory medicine in Tunisia. Therefore, the STBC is strongly invested in developing continuing education and in the quality assurance and accreditation process according to standard ISO 15189.

The STBC is always available to national organizations to defend scientific expertise, specificity of practice and the interests of the profession within the medical profession and Tunisian healthcare facilities. It therefore plans to set up continuing professional development based on the French experience. The STBC is also active internationally with IFCC, AFBC, AFCC, and FIFBCLM.

Laboratory medicine, benefiting from increasingly precise knowledge of cellular and molecular structures, encompasses both scientific and social issues. It stands out as a dynamic discipline that provides a great deal of hope in addressing the major health scourges. The 30th JNBC brought together international and Tunisian speakers. They began with the 3rd Arab course in molecular biology (PCR-RFLP) and two workshops: critical reading of scientific articles and a lesson on high-throughput DNA sequencing and its applications in clinical biology. The subjects included the role of laboratories in the performance of hemodialysis centers.

Prof. Christophe BURUCOA inaugurated the conferences with a discussion of microbiota. The other subjects related to heparins and biosimilars (Prof. Mehdi DRIDI), endocrine disruption (Prof. Jacques AUGER), fetal DNA in maternal circulation (Prof. Annie LEVY), computerization of medical biology laboratories and standard ISO 15189 (Alain COEUR).

The other sessions brought us up-to-date on: molecular biology in diagnosis and follow-up of hematological malignancies, chronic inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), toxoplasmosis, autoimmunity, LC/MS and its applications in clinical biology and infection with multidrug-resistant bacteria (MDROs).

Thanks again to the many industrial partners who held satellite workshops on the sidelines of the exhibition on early detection of colon cancer and prenatal screening for trisomy 21 and preeclampsia.

E-posters have attracted many young people to discuss their work and for some of them to receive a prize.

Today, by celebrating its thirtieth birthday, the STBC showed that it is capable of a great deal of energy and determination to bring the Tunisian and foreign medical biologist communities together and that Tunisia is more than ever a land of welcome, openness and tolerance that offers foreigners a strong tradition of hospitality and openness.

Photo: (The STBC- EB members from left to right) Asma Gherian; Slama Hmida, President; Manel Chaabane; Fathy Ben Hassine; Taieb Mesoud; In the background Farouk Barguelli; Abderrazak Hedili.



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Mexico City Symposium Focuses On Alzheimer's Biomarkers

By Rosa Sierra Amor, IFCC Executive Board Member;
Sergio Bernardini, IFCC Executive Board Secretary

Mexico City hosted the 2nd IFCC Symposium of Biomarkers of Alzheimer Disease (AD), at the Hotel Camino Real Polanco on May 20th, 2016. It was a high-level conference with more than 70 attendees and an excellent scientific programme.

During the Symposium, the speakers focused on the following issues:

The bad news:

- "We are waiting for a big wave of AD all over the world. That's for sure! Currently we don't have reliable blood tests for screening, no prevention programmes, no an effective cure" (Ralph Martins).
- "The Neuropathology is very complicated. It is not a WES or NO as in other diseases (cancer) but HOW MUCH is that?. Very often the different kind of histological aggregates (Ab, a synuclein, TDP-43, CVD) are superimposed, almost nothing seemed to be pure.." (Johannes Attems).

- "Impressive has been the analysis of preanalytical confounders, there is a huge pre-analytical and analytical variability as well as variability in cut off values". (Armand Perret Liaudet).

- "In many countries the laboratory diagnosis of neurodegenerative diseases cannot be set up because of financial constraints and paradoxically in these countries the prevalence is higher" (Maria-Esther Jimenez-Capdeville).

The good news:

- "Lifestyle factors, and in particular physical exercise and MeDi can influence a bit the outcome. Hormonal environment and in particular testosterone, oestrogens and insulin resistance can be targets of



Photo: Speakers of the 2nd IFCC Symposium on Biomarkers of Alzheimer's Disease, held in Mexico City on May 20th, 2016.

a supportive treatments" (Ralph Martins).

- "Ab1-42, tau and P-tau are robust biomarkers for diagnosis and progression and start to be pathologically positive 15 years before the onset of symptoms" (Kaj Blennow).

- "Neuroimaging (with PET tracers) and laboratory analyses start to be integrated between them and with clinical data as in the IWG2 Criteria. And this will be really important to stratify patients in clinical trials. Moreover tau tracers will be available soon" (Leslie Shaw).

- "Advancements in Genomic Medicine are ongoing and possibly will be able to intercept candidates for AD. Technological improvements are available as Next Generations Sequencers make it possible to study quickly APP1, Presenilins for EOAD and many minor candidate genes for LOAD as ApoE4, and other candidates such as clusterin, ABCA7, REM2, PLD3, MAPT, Progranulin, C9orf72 as well as immunoresponse and endocytosis proteins coding genes" (Maurizio Ferrari).

- "Even targeted proteomics of CSF seems to be promising and many studies are ongoing less invasive matrices" (Sergio Bernardini).

- "New diagnostic approaches are coming as the Retinal amyloid Fluorescent Imaging" (Ralph Martins) and "pathological Tau in the epidermidis" (Maria-Esther Jimenez-Capdeville).

- "AD Association QC programs, reference measurement procedures and Reference certified material are available, or will be coming soon, limiting the fonts of variability" (Kej Blennow).

- "New biomarker: the synaptic protein neurogranin is discovered and seems to be promising" (Kaj Blennow).

- "A Prion-like, but not infectious way of propagation can be theorized and this can be another way to interfere with the progression" (Johannes Attems).

- "Fully automated analytical systems are available" (Richard Batrlab) and "probably Mass Spectrometry becoming more popular and might become an important analytical support to diagnosis" (Kaj Blennow).

In summary, we could say that probably we are on the right path but we need to talk more and more about "dementia" disorders and strongly support research and educational programmes all around the world. We need to become aware of an actual health problem identifying AD patients properly, as well as other pathologies related to dementia.

Rosa Sierra-Amor and Sergio Bernardini, IFCC EB Member and Secretary respectively coordinated this activity. Thanks to Roche Global for their support in organizing it, and to the speakers for making it possible to learn and hear the latest news about the importance of Biomarkers of Alzheimer's Disease.



22nd IFCC - EFLM European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

25th Meeting of Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation

15th National Congress of GSCC-CB

www.athens2017.org



IFCC Welcomes Nepalese National Society As New Affiliate Member

by Ram Vinod Mahato General Secretary Nepalese Association for Clinical Chemistry (NACC)

Nepalese Association for Clinical Chemistry (NACC) is a non-governmental and non-profit organization that currently organizes more than two hundred Nepalese biochemists/clinical chemists who are engaged in the field of laboratory medicine, healthcare set-ups, academics and research. After a yearlong effort, NACC was officially born on 4th July 2014, when it was formally registered by the government. NACC has its headquarters in the capital, Kathmandu. It has several of the most senior and experienced biochemists of Nepal in its executive body. This is the only professional organization representing Nepalese professionals in biochemistry/clinical chemistry and laboratory Medicine. Hence, it has the sole responsibility of safeguarding professional rights, promoting improvement and expansion of the quality services in laboratory medicine and opening new avenues for research and collaborations for professional and academic growth. NACC believes that these goals for upholding the profession of biochemistry/clinical chemistry can be fulfilled only by meeting the following specific objectives to:

1. Increase awareness of the importance of clinical chemistry in the lay community and assist them in getting quality laboratory services.
2. Organize and operate assemblies, conferences, meetings, symposiums and CMEs.
3. Gather and award research grants to any member of this Association who proposes high quality research work with specific relevance to Nepal within the subject area of the association.
4. Promote collaborative research activities nationally and internationally.
5. Provide grants for thesis/dissertation to co-members of this Association who present appropriate proposals for their thesis/dissertation.
6. Submit opinions, suggestions and information to the governmental, non-governmental bodies and universities concerned related to clinical chemistry, chemicals/reagents and procedures by evaluating their worth.
7. Grant honorary membership to any person who makes remarkable contribution for development and promotion of the clinical biochemistry subject both inside and outside Nepal.
8. Monitor and deliver opinions and suggestions for assessment of quality of the clinical biochemistry laboratory and after prior approval from the departments concerned run External Quality Assessment (EQAS and IQC) and Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) programmes.
9. Coordinate with the relevant departments the necessity for development of curriculum, examination system and valuation, function and duties of designated professionals and their assessment.
10. Organize suitable training events for refining skills and knowledge of clinical chemists and issue certificates upon completion.
11. Publish news bulletins and journal including news.
12. Coordinate with national and international organizations such as IFCC, AACC, APFCB, AACB, ACBI, etc., and to organize Invited lectures from foreign scholars.
13. Represent the association in the programmes of the national and international organization of a similar nature.
14. Implement the aforementioned objectives by applying to local administration for a license and obtaining it, whenever relevant.

Executive Board Members: President: Prof. Bharat Jha-Tribhuvan, University, Institute of Medicine (IOM),

Kathmandu; Sr. Vice-President: Prof. Dr. Madhab Lamsal, BP Koirala Institute of Health Science, Dharan; Vice-President: Dr. Vijay Kumar Sharma, Tribhuvan University, Institute of Medicine (IOM), Kathmandu; Vice-President: Dr. Prabodh Risal, Kathmandu University Medical School (KUMS), Dhulikhel; General Secretary: Ram Vinod Mahato, Tribhuvan University, Institute of Medicine (IOM), Kathmandu; Secretary: Dr. Suprita Gupta, National Medical College and Hospital, Birgunj; Treasurer: Mr. Prasant Regmi, Nepal Medical College (NMC), Kathmandu.

Some highlights of the current and past activities of NACC:

1. Organization of National Symposium of Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine on March 13-14, 2015.

2. Publication of *Annals of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine*, an official Journal of NACC: <http://nacc.org.np/submit-a-manuscript> or www.nepjol.info/index.php/ACCLM/user/register. Author guidelines can be found at www.nepjol.info/index.php/ACCLM/about/submissions#author Guidelines
3. Received membership of Asia Pacific Federation for Clinical Biochemistry (APFCB) and International Federation for Clinical Chemistry (IFCC). The association's official web page (www.nacc.org.np) contains the latest news and information. E-mail: nacc2070@gmail.com.



IFCC WorldLab Durban 2017 23rd International Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC Worldlab 2017)

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