

Minutes of the previous assembly

**Minutes  
EFIS General Assembly**

**European Immunology Congress - EFIS2003 Rhodes  
DELPHI Hall  
June 10, 2003.  
2.00-5.00 pm**

*Attendants:*

**EFIS Board Members:**

Sergio Romagnani (president), F.Y.Liew (vice-president), Israel Pecht (past president) Reinhold E. Schmidt (treasurer), Anna Erdei (secretary general)

**EFIS Members' Delegates**

<b>COUNTRY/SOCIETY</b>	<b>DELEGATES</b>
<b><u>Austria</u></b>	H.Stockinger H.Stoiber
<b>Belarus</b>	None
<b>Belgium</b>	None
<b>Bulgaria</b>	R.Marinova
<b>Croatia</b>	S.Jonjic
<b>Czech Republic</b>	I.Hana
<b>France</b>	C.Sautes-Fridman A.Bernard C.Bernard
<b>Germany</b>	H.Peter A.Radbruch G.Hammerling
<b>Greece</b>	M.Varla-Leftherioti
<b>Hungary</b>	J.Szekeres-Barthó
<b>Ireland</b>	D.Doherty
<b>Israel</b>	Z.Fishelson
<b>Italy</b>	L.Adorini A.Mantovani
<b>Baltic Societies (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania)</b>	none
<b>Poland</b>	A.Mackiewicz
<b>Portugal</b>	None
<b>Romania</b>	C.Bona
<b>Russia</b>	D.Alexeev

<b>Scandinavian Societies (Sweden/Finland/Denmark/Norway /Iceland)</b>	S.Thiel R.Jonsson M.Troye-Blomberg
<b>Slovakia</b>	M. Buc
<b>Slovenia</b>	none
<b>Spain</b>	J.Vives
<b>Switzerland</b>	H.Acha-Orbea
<b>The Netherlands</b>	G.Kraal
<b>Turkey</b>	I.Barlan
<b>United Kingdom</b>	W.Harnett M. Harnett D.Xu
<b>Yugoslavia</b>	M.Colic

IUIS was represented M.Daha, *secr.gen.*

### Agenda

1. Adoption of the Agenda and approval of the Minutes of the last GA held in Stocholm (can be found on our homepage: [www.efis.org](http://www.efis.org))
2. President's report (S.Romagnani)
3. Secretary's report (A.Erdei)
4. Treasurer's report (R.E.Schmidt)
5. Immunology Letters Editor-in Chief's report (I.Pecht)
  - Introduction of new Editor-in-chief: V.Horejsi*
6. Report on EFIS-CIG activities (M.C. Bene)
7. European Research Council (R.E. Schmidt)
8. Information on the European Immunology Congress (EIC)to be hekld in Paris in 2006 - by Catherine Sautes-Fridmann
9. Presentation by candidates to host European Immunology Congress - EFIS 2009 and vote on the projects
  - 5 min. presentations by the following candidate Societies:*
  - Czech, German, Romanian. Turkish*
10. Election of new Board Members (vice-president and treasurer)
  - 3-5 min. introduction by the candidates:*
  - M.Daha and S.H.E.Kaufmann (vice-president)*
  - R.E.Schmidt and H.Stockinger (treasurer)*
  - followed by voting
11. Matters arising
12. Address by the incoming President

**1. The Agenda was adopted and the Minutes of the last GA (held in Stocholm) were approved**

## **2. President's report (see Appendix #1)**

During the report, on behalf of EFIS S.Romagnani expressed sincere thanks to Israel Pecht for his tremendous and very successful work done as president and as Editor-in-Chief of Immunology Letters in the past years.

## **3. Secretary's report (see Appendix #2)**

The Audit provided by *Steuerberater Seiler and Partner GbR* had been checked and approved by Prof. Michail Daniliidis, an independent delegate of EFIS Member Societies. His report at the GA was approved all Member Societies.

## **4. Treasurer's report (see Appendix #3)**

No comment was made following the report.

## **5. Immunology Letters - Editor-in Chief's report (I.Pecht)**

*Introduction of new Editor-in-chief: V.Horejsi*

I.P. informed the General Assembly that the journal improved a lot recently. The rate of manuscript-influx and acceptance increased, and by now the IF of Imm.Lett. is over 2. He wished V.Horejsi, next Editor-in-Chief a successful continuation.

V.H. mentioned his plans to renew the journal. Some of these are as follows: 1 review or 2 minireviews/issue; introduction of "Discussion pages" and "Correspondence"; speeding up publication - "fast-trek" publication. V.H. will continue publishing papers by EFIS-lecturers, special issues and abstracts of EFIS-related meetings. Regarding the Editorial structure V.H. plans to establish a broad Editorial Board and have only four Executive Editors. Electronic submission of papers will also be introduced.

## **6. Report on EFIS-CIG activities (M.-C. Bene, see Appendix #4)**

### **7. European Research Council (R.E. Schmidt)**

R.E.S. participated recently at ERC-meetings, where several key issues were raised regarding research in life sciences in Europe. Most researchers (not only in immunology) are very unhappy and not at all satisfied with the current Program research of the European community. Meanwhile the heads of states in the recent conference in Copenhagen have decided to develop the EC into a "**knowledge based society**". Therefore the most outstanding scientific personalities as well as the most important National research councils see a particular opportunity right now to influence the council for the European constitution to have research as one of the top priorities in the European constitution.

During the past years particularly EMBO (Prof. Frank Gannon) and FEBS (Prof. Julio Celis) as well as ELSF (European Life Science Foundation) have become very active to use this window of opportunity to create a European research council, which then will be responsible for funding investigator driven research, which will be reviewed also by peers.

The chairman of this high level working group (HLWG) which includes representatives of the British MRC as well as of INSERM and DFG and Volkswagen Stiftung has generated a consensus paper, the aim of which is the creation of an European Research Council (ERC) to fund basic science, by starting with life science.

Everybody in the national societies of EFIS is asked to work for this purpose and influence the national representatives working on the European constitution to bring research into this constitution. Everybody is asked to spread this news and lobby for this goal.

## **8. Information on the European Immunology Congress (EIC) to be held in Paris in 2006 - by Catherine Sautes-Fridmann ([www.eci-paris2006.com](http://www.eci-paris2006.com)).**

Catherine Sautes-Fridman presented the key points of the project -elaborated with a European steering committee- of new type of triennial European Congress of Immunology (ECI). These are the following: commitment of National Societies to replace their annual meeting with the ECI every three years, low cost fees and accommodation encouraging young researchers to attend, easily accessible location. A number of national societies have confirmed that they will not organize their annual meeting in 2006 but replace it by this new type of European Congress of Immunology. This represents more than 90% of the total number of European immunologists registered to national societies. The first joint meeting of European National societies of Immunology /16th European Congress of Immunology will be held in Paris at the Palais des Congres from September 6 to September 9, 2006 ([www.eci-paris2006.com](http://www.eci-paris2006.com)). A congress program was presented which includes scientific sessions, educational sessions, controversies, satellite symposia, general assemblies of national societies and of EFIS, awards of a prize and meetings

for FP6 networks. The congress management involves 5 committees: a local organizing committee, a scientific program committee, a scientific advisory committee, a finance committee and a promotion committee. National Societies will be contacted to send members representative for these 5 committees. A budget was presented (1 Million euros, 150 euros registration fees for members of National societies and 90 euros for students).

### **9. Presentation by candidates to host European Immunology Congress - EFIS 2009 and vote on the projects**

The Czech, German, Romanian and Turkish Societies submitted projects for the organization of European Immunology Congress - EFIS 2009. After 5-min representations given by I.Hana, R.E.Schmidt, C.Bona and I Barlan ballots were distributed and voting followed.

#### **The results were as follows:**

Project presented by the Czech Society: 10 votes

Project presented by the German Society: 19 votes

Project presented by the Romanian Society: 2 votes

Project presented by the Turkish Society: 4 votes

**The 17th European Immunology Congress - EFIS 2009 will therefore be held in Berlin.**

### **10. Election of new Board Members**

The positions of the Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary General were to be renewed. EFIS Member Societies had been informed 3 months before the elections of the names of candidates selected by the EFIS Nomination Committee. S.H.Kaufmann (nominated by the German Society) and M.Daha (nominated by the Dutch Society) were candidates for the position of Vice-President, H.Stockinger (nominated by the Austrian Society) and R.E.Schmidt (nominated by the German Society and confirmed by the EFIS Board) were candidates for the position of the Treasurer. For the position of Secretary General there was no new candidate, re-nomination of A.Erdei has been suggested by the Board. After distributing the ballots voting followed.

Number of voting delegates: 30

Number of Board members: 5

**Total number of votes: 35**

#### **The results were as follows:**

- Stefan H.Kaufmann was elected as Vice-President

- Reinhold E.Schmidt was re-elected as Treasurer

- Anna Erdei was re-elected as Secretary General

### **11. Matters arising**

No matter was raised.

### **12. Address by the incoming President**

E.Liew pointed out some major fields of EFIS-activities. He stressed the importance of further improving Immunology Letters, the official journal and only source of income of EFIS. He expressed his appreciation for the very enthusiastic and successful work done by Israel Pecht, former President and Editor-in-Chief of Imm.Lett. He indicated that V.Horejsi, new Editor-in-Chief will continue the work and is encouraged to introduce changes. Another major field is the new initiative to organize European Immunology (or as called earlier: "PanEuropean") Congresses, for the first time in Paris in 2006. E.Liew stressed that EFIS must develop closer links to EU and immunology must be strongly represented to get better funding. E.Liew emphasized the importance of transparency in administration and the need of auditing every 3 years.

### **13. Address by the newly elected Vice-President**

S.H.Kaufmann thanked the members for his election and expressed his pleasure to cooperate with the new president, Eddy Liew, an old friend of his. He stressed the importance of bringing the different members closer together and therefore supports meetings like the one in Paris in 2006. He stressed that EFIS has to do more political work, in particular at the EU/EC level because immunology/EFIS needs to be represented there so that funding agencies consider more frequently and perhaps even earmark immunology. He also made a strong point on public understanding of immunology/EFIS. More work is needed, so that lay people can understand the importance of immunology for their health (this is important for politicians).

**President's report (see Appendix #1)**

The main activity and responsibility of the Board in the last three years following the Poznan meeting has been the organization, in strict collaboration with Hellenic Society of Immunology, of the 15th European Immunology Congress, that is taking place now here in Rhodes.

The following items were discussed in different Board meetings (Stockholm, July 2001; London January 2002; Rhodes, June 2002; Budapest, December 2002; Berlin March 2003) with the representatives of the Hellenic Society of Immunology: *Access to Rhodes and accommodation, Venue of symposia, plenary sessions and symposia, catering, Costs and sponsorships, Advertising, Scientific program*

It was agreed, that registration fees and local accommodation for invited speakers and chairs will be met by the congress. Moreover the following levels of travel support were recommended: 1000 Euros for USA - west coast, 800 Euros for USA - east coast, 500 Euros for Europe, 250 Euros for Greece.

The Board had a detailed discussion on the program with invited representatives of HSI. The decisions were collated by the HSI and distributed to all Board Members before finalizing. Possible topics of various sessions were discussed in detail and some changes were introduced as a result. The Board accepted the suggestion of Professor Danilidis that, where possible, to increase representation in the program scientists from Eastern European countries, including Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Slovenia, Croatia, Yugoslavia, Baltic countries, and also Finland and Portugal.

The Board agreed that the final scientific program appeared to be excellent and since you have now it available and the meeting is going on, all of you can realize if the work that has been done is satisfactory.

In any case, the Board wishes to express its appreciation for the tremendous amount of work carried out by the HSI. The Board was greatly encouraged by the positive and vigorous attitude of the organizing committee and felt confident that this would be a highly successful congress.

#### Immunology Letters (Editor-in-chief: Prof. Israel Pecht)

The process of reshuffling the Editorial Board has been successful: 1. A new member from the UK (P.Garside) has been recruited. 2. B.Huber asked to retire and two new candidates are considered in the Boston area. 3. N.Ruddle joined the Board. 4. G.Kroemer asked to retire and will not be replaced. 5. Israel Pecht asked M.Roellinghoff, and H.Wagner to step down. 6. Ton Rolink and Reinhold Schmidt will both join the Board.

Concerning a new cover-design, Israel Pecht proposed a crystallography of TCR-MHC-peptide complex, which was approved by the Board. New initiatives to implement the journal were decided

- EFIS Lectures will automatically be published as Review articles.
- Every meeting that is supported financially by EFIS will provide some manuscripts.
- National Meetings will be encouraged to provide the journal with an overview of their meetings.
- Elsevier will make the mention of "official journal of EFIS" (at [www.elsevier.com/locate/immllet](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/immllet)) a hot link.

Israel Pecht will leave the Board at this meeting and he will also leave his position of Editor-in-Chief of Immunology Letters. V. Horejisi (A. Mowat too late) has been chosen by the Board as the new Editor-in-Chief.

**On behalf of all the Board Members and the scientific community of European Immunologists I would like to express to Israel our full and sincere gratitude for the great work he did along several years. Despite the difficulties, due to the high competition in the field of journals dealing with immunologic topics, he was able to maintain the journal alive and its impact factor is now at acceptable levels. I would like also to thank Israel for the phantastic job he did in the Board for many years. In the five years of my presence in the Board, before as Vice-president and then as President I had the opportunity to enjoy his experience, his cleverness, his efficiency and last, but not least, his generosity. Israel gave to me and to the other Member of the Board a very important help in managing all the activity of EFIS and in taking the most critical decisions.**

**The EFIS community likes to give you this small gift as a recognition and acknowledgements for your really impressive activity in the Society.**

#### European Journal of Immunology

In my Introduction to the 25<sup>th</sup> EFIS Anniversary Ceremony in Poznan, I talked about my feeling and the feeling of all the Board to re-negotiate the relationship between EFIS and this Journal that we considered as the natural candidate as official journal of EFIS. We got some contacts with the property, but despite the existence of favourable intents, it was not possible to get a satisfactory agreement, even because the extraordinary revolution in the field of scientific journals imposed by the online transmission. Thus, this question still remains open.

EFIS-lectures to be delivered at National Meetings

- Prof. Jurg Tschopp, invited by the French Society
  - Prof. Lorenzo Moretta, invited by the Polish Society
  - Prof. Birgitta Heyman, invited by the German Society
  - Dr. Giorgio Trinchieri, invited by the Italian Society of Immunology
- EFIS transferred 1000 Euros for each Society and called their attention to the request of the Board to provide a review of the talks for Imm. Lett.

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### **Relationship with IUIS**

The last IUIS Council was held in Havana (Cuba) on December 7, 2002. Unfortunately, because of health problems at the last days before the meeting I could not participate as planned as representative of EFIS. However, I justified my absence and sent to the IUIS President Philippa Marrack a Report on the activities of EFIS. Neither the Vice-President Eddy Liew, nor the Secretary General Anna Erdei could go as my substitutes to the Council. However, Marie Christine Bene was present as Councillor for the European countries and she gave a written report of the IUIS Council. I would like to ask Marie-Christine to give us the most important statements of this Council.

Finally, on this point, I would like to inform you that the Italian Society of Immunology has officially proposed Roma as candidate for the International Immunology Congress of 2010. I really hope that all our sister European Societies will do any effort to sustain this candidacy.

### **John Humphrey Courses**

- "Induction of innate and adaptive immunity" in Zakopane (26-29, Sept. 2002.) organized by the Polish Society was supported by 10.000 Euros.

- "Molecular basis of immune response" – 6<sup>th</sup> meeting in Puschino (15-22.Sept. 2002.) organized by the British and Russian Societies was supported by 2.000 USD

Organizers of both meetings were informed about the request of the Board to provide a special issue of the meeting.

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### **A new initiative: "Pan-European Immunology Meeting"**

The aim is to assemble a critical mass of European immunologists to organize all the National Meetings together in Paris in occasion (or instead of) the European Immunology Meeting, which has been scheduled in Paris on 2004. A meeting sponsored by EFIS has been held in Paris on July 2, where the conclusion was drawn by the representatives of the French, British, Italian and German Immunology Societies. This proposal has been discussed by all European National Societies, and most of them have already sent their official approval to this initiative.

I would like to thank Catherine Sautes-Fridman, who worked very hard for the success of this so interesting initiative.

### **Preparations for the elections in 2003**

A committee, responsible for nominations at the next election of EFIS-officers was appointed by the Board. This comprises the following members: Sergio Romagnani, Eddy Liew, and Anna Erdei. Call for nominations were sent out to all EFIS Member Societies. According to the Statutes, the dead-line for submission is 8th, March 2003 (three months before the day of General Assembly where elections take place.)

Invitation to submit bids for EFIS2009 were sent out to EFIS member Societies. According to the Statutes, the dead-line for submission of nominations is the end of 2002.

There were two candidates to the position of Vice-President: Stephan Kaufmann from the German Society and Moh Daha from the Dutch Society.

There were also two candidates to the position of Treasurer: Reinold Schmidt from the German Society and Hannes Stockinger from the Austrian Society.

Each candidate will have 5 minutes to present himself and his program.

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### **Bids for organizing EFIS Congress 2009**

Presentation (5 minutes each) by candidates to host European Immunology Congress EFIS 2009:

Czech

German

Romanian

Turkish

Vote on the projects

### **EFIS joined ELSF (European Life Sciences Foundation)**

The Executive Committee of ELSF accepted the application of EFIS on June, 17, 2002. Since this time EFIS is on the Advisory Board of ELSF.

### **Akowlgments**

**At the end of my mandate as EFIS President, I would like to thank very much all the Members of the Board. I already gave my thanks to Israel. Now, I would like to remind the extraordinary work of Anna Erdei. She was really a phantastic Secretary General, I strongly believe the best possible, for both her efficiency and also her humanity. I got really a strong feeling with Anna and this made our work more easy and enjoyable. Eddy Liew also gave to me a irreplaceable collaboration in the management of the most important decisions and also behaved as a dear friend of mine. I am sure that he will be an outstanding President. Reinold Schmidt was a perfect treasurer, but not only. He took and also suggested to the Board very important initiatives for the improvement of the activities of our Society and of its image. If he will be elected again, its past experience will certainly be precious. Before ending, I would like to wish the major possible success to the new Board in the next years. Thank you.**

### **Secretary's report (Appendix #2)**

As secretary general my main task is maintaining contact with member societies and to assist the Board's work to make EFIS as efficient as possible. This involves organizing Board Meetings and the General Assembly, writing up the Minutes of these meetings and distributing them to all EFIS-members.

Since the last GA in Stockholm the EFIS Board held five meetings:

- London (January, 26 2002.)
- Rhodes (June,8 2002.)
- Budapest (December, 14 2002.)
- Berlin (March, 1 2003.)
- Rhodes (June, 9 2003.)

The Minutes of these meetings (except the last one) were sent out to all Member Societies.

Asyou all know, communication with EFIS-members is by now mostly done via e-mail. Except a very few sociteites this is going smoothly.

### ***Special activities:***

#### **- Homepage**

The EFIS-homepage ([www.efis.org](http://www.efis.org)) is maintained by I. Kacskovics, in Budapest, and all of you who ever contacted him (asking to put on meetings, jobs, etc.) might have witnessed his very fast response and action - so this is indeed a very active service where one can get easily information about various activities. It had been modified this year, based on suggestions received from members. Now there is more information of the main screen and one can easily click on several *interactive fields*. The appearance of *EFIS-related meetings* had been reorganized and *non-EFIS related meetings* are also continuously updated. *Job-market* is very popular based on a recent survey and feedbacks. I would like to take this opportunity again and ask all EFIS-members to use this homepage. I also would like to ask each Society to inform me about changes in the Board of their Society, to make communication continuous and easy.

Finally I would like to thank the cooperation of most of the Societies, in the hope, that it will remain the same in the next years.

Rhodes, 9, June 2003.

Anna Erdei

**Appendix #3**

**EFIS Report (preview)**

Balance 2002	€ 71.003,31
<u>Income 2003 up to May 2003</u>	<u>€ 96.428,20</u>
<b>Total Spending 2003</b>	<b>€ 167.431,51</b>
Board Meeting Budapest 2002 (balance of costs in 2003)	€ 920,50
Board Meeting Berlin 2003	€ 3.456,04
12 <sup>th</sup> Symposium on Signal Processing '03	€ 20.047,84
Preparations Pan European Meeting Paris 2006	€ 916,75
Audit of EFIS account	€ 1.299,20
Award for Dr. Trinchieri as lecturer	€ 1.010,50
Secretarial work EFIS homepage	€ 1.378,84
Expenditures Immunology Letters 2002	€ 20.035,00
Bank fees, tax, duty	€ 295,39
Registration fee Kamer von Koophandel	€ 39,18
EFIS CIG, Rhodes	€ 110,50
EFIS European Immunology Conference Bursaries	approx. € 20.000,00
EFIS Signal meeting 2003 Bursaries	€ 5.000,00
Expenditures Immunology Letters 2003	----- approx. € 20.000,00
Secretaries Assistance	approx. € 3.200,00
ECIG/ECLM	approx. € 2.000,00
Mailing and account duties	approx € 2.000,00
IUIS council	approx. € 2.000,00
Income to be expected Immunology letters, balance for 2003	approx. € 50.000,00
<b>Total Spending 12/2003</b>	<b>approx. € 103.709,74</b>
<b>Total Balance 12/2003</b>	<b>approx. € 113.721,77</b>
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## Appendix #4

### ***efis-CIG* GENERAL ASSEMBLY - MONDAY JUNE 9, 2003.**

**Present:** MC Béné (France), Helen Choremi-Papadopoulou (Greece), Gilbert Faure (France), Ivo Hana (Czech Republik), Kazimierz Madalinski (Poland), Snejinka Marinova-Miltova (Bulgaria), Milcea Panait (Roumania), Hannes Stockinger (Austria), Jan Zeromski (Poland)

**Apologies:** Siraj Misbah (UK), Reinhold Schmidt (Germany), Raivo Uibo (Estonia), Sabina Rabatic (Croatia)

Thanks to Youla Varla-Lefteriofti, we had a nice, -albeit relatively difficult to find-, meeting room in the Rhodes Palace Hotel for this 6<sup>th</sup> general assembly of our group.

#### *General information*

We have unfortunately lost one of our members, Anatoli Cherdeev, who died last year. Contact will be made during the meeting, likely at the Efis general assembly, to try and find out who is the new correspondent for Russia.

Several societies have shown their interest in joining *efis-cig* and are receiving all information. Update can be found on the *efis-cig* webpage (<http://www.efis.org>) then look for the Clinical Immunology section).

*Efis-cig* was invited to give a lecture on the situation of clinical immunology in Europe at the Meeting of the Croatian Immunology Society in Zagreb in December 2001. The *efis-cig* liaison officer also gave the Efis lecture at the second congress of the Bulgarian Immunology Society in May 2003.

#### *Educational session*

The third *efis-cig* educational session took place the same evening as this general assembly, June 9, 2003, on the topic chosen by the whole group : "Implication and evaluation of T-cell responses". There were over 300 participants, making this session a great success.

A great novelty is that we were able to get EACCME credits for this session. It should become systematic to apply for these credits at the UEMS, perhaps also for other scientific meetings organized by European immunological societies.

In the same line of thought, societies are strongly encouraged to inform *efis-cig* of their events, for announcement through the *efis-cig* web and web-page.

It is proposed and adopted to have the next Educational Session at the meeting of the Balkan Association of Immunological Societies (BAIS) in September 2004 in Istanbul, as this might be easier for students to go there rather than to Montreal. The *efis-cig* could also take place there, although some informal discussion can still be planned in Montreal.

A first topic proposed for the meeting in Istanbul is "Hypersensitivities, from bench to bedside" in order to bridge between basic immunology and allergology.

Other topics are welcome, and a poll will be taken in the fall of 2003.

#### *Relationships with european bodies*

- EU

*Efis-cig* answered the call for expressions of interest (EOI) within the 6<sup>th</sup> PCRD, asking for a network of excellence, but got no reply.

As the policy of EU has been evolving in the 6<sup>th</sup> PCRD in the past months, another attempt will be made to answer the proposal for research programs, the deadline of which will be in November. More information will be provided soon.

The Train Net Success project will also be looked into more closely as it might be interesting for tele-training.

- ELM-EA

European Laboratory Medicine is now a multidiscipline society of european societies, including EFIS, with affiliate National members (including several immunology societies). It keeps working, in close relationship with in vitro devices manufacturers, in various transdisciplinary topics of Laboratory Medicine.

The input of immunological societies could be twofold:

- involvement into projects with an immunological side
- help in the translation of items in two ongoing projects, CUMUL (on the nomenclature of laboratory tests) and Labtestonline (providing information to laypeople).

For more information, get in touch with MC Béné.

ELM is also taking part in discussions about accreditation at the EA (European agency for Accreditation), where the ISO 15189 norm is extensively discussed and commented. Recommendations from professionals in the disciplines is badly required by accreditors.

#### *Virtual immunology clinic*

Please, send cases for this project that should have progressed much more in the past years!!!

#### - *UEMS*

*Efis-cig* participation to the Union of European Medical Specialties has progressed significantly since the last general assembly of *efis-cig*. It is recalled that participation to UEMS specialty committees is restricted to one designated member by country. Designation must come from the government or an authoritative body.

*Efis-cig* is involved at the moment within the section "Biopathology" as sub-section "Immunology". Five members have now joined Helen Choremi Papadopoulou as you may have read from the regular reports of these meetings through <http://www.uems.be> or <http://www.uems.net> or directly on <http://nc.ibk.liu.se/uems/>

After three meetings in Stockholm, Bologna and Viborg, this group has come up with a curriculum that will shortly be sent to you as it should be extensively reviewed by all of us, for official proposal at the next meeting in Rome.

Information about the state of the art of Immunology in Europe has been updated to the best of my knowledge, but may require more precision that you are welcome to provide to either them and/or me ([bene@grip.u-nancy.fr](mailto:bene@grip.u-nancy.fr)).

Some discussion ensued, especially with new members, about the proper definition of Clinical Immunology (bedside and laboratory), the various situations regarding Allergology in European Countries, and the dangers of semantics when too many subdivisions are made.

It was concluded that this curriculum could be a first step towards a common educational system in the future.

As soon as the Immunology Curriculum is ready, more formal contact will be made with the other UEMS section, formerly called "Allergology", which recently changed its name to "Allergology and Clinical Immunology".

The meeting was adjourned at 15.15