John Mantas  
EFMI Vice-President to IMIA

The report covers events that were reported at the Board meeting in Montreal and the current ones. However, for reasons of reporting the events and issues to the GA we have included those as well for your convenience.

EFMI Participation at European “e-Health Week organized by European Commission and HIMMS Europe in Copenhagen, 7-9 May 2012.

The tradition of the combination of the eHealth high-level conference with the World onHealth IT conference was extended successfully in Copenhagen. The conference was marked by a focus on the report of the taskforce on the European eHealth strategy for 2020. The 5 levers for change being: my data, my decisions, liberate the data, connect up everything, revolutionise health and include everyone were presented by the President of Estonia the chair of the Taskforce. This is a very nice illustration of the involvement of national governments and politics in the issue of health. IT can be of great help, now the tools are ready for use by citizens in a disruptive innovative manner. The eight years towards 2020 will be challenging and thrilling; it is up to EFMI, IMIA and all national associations to take their chances to provide the platform to support these processes.

EFMI had yet another well-attended booth on a very well attended exhibition, shared with our friends from ETHEL, EUROREC and COCIR. EFMI continued its series on Continuity of Care, with this time a focus on the principle of coordination of care, cure and social care. After a brief introduction by the President John Mantas, Jacob Hofdijk presented the concept of the Blue Line, which symbolizes the solution for the interoperability of technology, services, systems and citizens with a kiss and a hug. In the session a contribution was given by Lorraine Nicholson, past president of IFHIMA, introducing the eHealth Information Management approach a necessity for integrated or connected care. Evert Jan Hoijtink showed in his presentation how industry is involved in developing and applying standards according to the new health paradigm. The session although late in the afternoon was a success and the commitment of EFMI to contribute to the development of sustainable health care systems.

EFMI Special Topic Conference: STC 2012 held in Moscow Russia 17-21 April.

The STC was the first to be held in Moscow initiated by Prof. Michael Shifrin and managed to a success by Rolf Engelbrecht, while Bernd Blobel was the driving force to have IOS proceedings. The STC was organised in relation to the 8th International Medsoft fair and forum. The conference opened with the Joachim Dudeck Lecture given by Charles Jaffe, CEO HL7 International on Leveraging HL7 for improvements in Quality and Safety. It was the first talk, which was interpreted consecutively, which gave a special dimension to the STC, but it helped the dialogue with our new Russian friends. As a good STC EFMI working groups played an important role in the program, the working groups on Open Source, EHR, Evaluation and Primary care contributed with passion. Especially the Nursing working group managed to organise a Seminar on nursing informatics attended by over 50 nurses from all over Russia, some travelling more than a day by train. The STC has been a great experience, not only for many of us being in Moscow for the first time, but the warm friendship and the shared interest in applying eHealth and Medical informatics across national boarders has been established, so a great thank you is for Michael, Rolf and Bernd.
It would be an even better result if the Russian Association for Medical informatics will get a boost from this event. EFMI has to think about ways to support the expansion of the influence of the Association into this vast country.

The 2012 European Summit on Trustworthy Reuse of health data. May 14-15 in Brussels.
An important invitational conference was organised in Brussels by IMIA and AMIA. The EFMI president welcomed the experts at the opening of the event, which was very successful and has created a broad support for further collaboration in the field. It is important to extend the collaboration in these kinds of events in the regions.

EFMI EPOS
Organising EFMI events depends still on the enthusiasm and drive of our members the national associations, working group chairs and Board members. Based on the experience with EPOS for MIE2011 it is now further developed to support MIE2012 and later MEDINFO2013. In 2012 the process has been extended to a further integration of functions, like the maintenance and the use of the EFMI Friends database, an important tool to support the marketing of EFMI events. Another function which will be developed is to give access to the EFMI directory with all involved in the activities of the association, and the proceedings and other results of the EFMI events via our EFMI website. We have arranged a process with IOS press to publish the proceedings at our website a year after the conference.

EFMI – IFHIMA
The project which was initiated in June 2011, EFMI, IFHIMA, AHIMA and ISfTeh to create a European eHealth Education alliance has been submitted to the EU – US branch, but was not accepted for a grant. In Lasko it has been agreed to start with a process to try to involve IFHIMA members in EFMI events, by a project group on Health Information Management. IFHIMA was involved in the STC2012 and in the EFMI session at WOHIT in Copenhagen.

EFMI Board and Council
During the Council meeting held during the Moscow STC elections were held for the following Board positions: Anne Moen was elected as vice president. An important decision was made to support countries having difficulties to pay the membership fee: both a national association, Switzerland as an Institutional Member have agreed to support those associations financially. A new way of “twinning” between countries and Institutional Members in the EFMI family has been established.
The Board will have a retreat this July in Samos to prepare EFMI 2.0, a new tradition which will help to focus on major processes in revitalising the association, now the change to a new generation of board members is processing with some pace.

The ICICTH Conference and the “EFMI” Summer School in Greece
The 10th ICICTH Conference will be held from 12-14 July in Greece focusing on Biomedical and Health Informatics, Telemedicine, Education and e-learning in healthcare domain, Health administration and Management.
Samos provides a bridge between the East and the West already for centuries; Samos is located in the heart of Aegean Sea, where you'll find a harmonious blend of culture, cuisine, arts and architecture along with fascinating beaches and sea.

The 9th pHealth on wearable micro and nano technologies for personalised health
2012 26-28 June , Porto
The EFMI Working Groups "Electronic Health Records", Bernd Blobel, "Personal Portable Devices", Peter Pharow and "Security, Safety and Ethics" Pekka Ruotsalainen have prepared pHealth 2012 Conference in Porto, Portugal. This year pHealth will focus on gaming for physical and cognitive fitness and wellbeing; smartphone applications for monitoring chronic diseases; applications for smart and wearable sensors; personalized
health and social care and AAL systems architectures and interoperability. Part of the conference is a Joint Round Table Event on "Secure mobile devices and implants for realizing pHealth".

**MIE2012 PISA, Italy**, 26th-29th August 2012  
Theme: Quality of Life through Quality of Information  
LOC: Cristina Mazzoleni,  
Scientific Program Committee Chair: John Mantas  
Executive Officer: Stig Andersen

Around 500 participants attended the conference. Out of 449 submissions we have accepted 206 oral presentations of full papers, 48 posters, 25 short communication oral presentations, 26 short communication posters, 11 workshops, 2 EFMI WG workshops, 6 tutorials, and 2 panels. The conference offered keynotes of Edward H. Shortliffe (USA), Finn Kensing (DK), Francesco Pinciroli (IT), Roberta Annicchiarico (IT) and Sabine Koch (Sweden). Conference proceedings consist of a printed version and an electronic version, and are considered to be an integral part of MIE2012. The printed version includes full papers accepted for presentation as well as posters, and all are indexed in Medline. The CD version of the proceedings includes the full papers, posters, short communications, workshops, tutorials, panels, and a synopsis of the Village of the Future®. The CD is an EFMI publication, which will also be available online at www.EFMI.org after a period agreed with the publisher.

**EFMI Council held in Pisa on 26 Aug 2012.**

Decisions.

1. EFMI endorses the electronic voting for the New EFMI logo  
2. EFMI accepts Armenia as new National Member.  
3. EFMI introduces the notion of Assistant to the Board budgeted for two years.  
4. EFMI endorses the idea of summer school in Greece.  
5. EFMI elects George Mihalas, Rolf Engelbrecht, and Jacob Hofdijk to the Honorary position of Fellow of EFMI. Also the Council approves the use of acronym FEFMI® to be used by all Fellows of EFMI.  
6. EFMI accepts the application of Spanish association to hold the MIE2015 in Madrid, Spain in spring of 2015. Exact dates will be approved at next council meeting.  
7. EFMI thanked the organisers of MIE2011 in Oslo for the excellent organisation and the positive scientific and financial outcome of the conference.  
8. EFMI elects new Press and Information Officer Alexander Hoerbst from Austria.  
9. EFMI thanks Jacob Hofdijk and Rolf Engelbrecht leaving the Executive Board.  
10. EFMI endorsed the usual two year shift of positions in the Board. The new Vice-President is Anne Moen from Norway. The new IMIA VP for EFMI is John Mantas, from Greece, and the new President of EFMI is Patrick Weber from Switzerland.
Some nice photo memories from MIE2012, Pisa, Italy:
STC2013, Prague, Czech Republic, 17 – 19th April 2013, Prague
MIE2014, Istanbul, Turkey
The MIE2014 will be held in Istanbul and organised by the very active TurkMia association.

MIE2015, Madrid, Spain.

As a final remark - EFMI will continue to participate actively in IMIA’s actions, will keep all engagements in the common actions and is ready to support all new initiatives which come along our main objective - to promote medical informatics research and practice. One of our focal points will be to actively join forces with the national organisations for eHealth.