Oslo IMIA Board and General Assembly Meetings
August 27-28, 2011

REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT SERVICES
Casimir A. Kulikowski

1. IMIA Yearbook of Medical Informatics

The contents for the IMIA Yearbook 2011 were finalized at the Editorial Board meeting on April 11, 2010, hosted by Dr Antoine Geissbuhler at the University of Geneva Hospital. The theme of the 2011 IMIA Yearbook is “Towards Health Informatics 3.0”, and the printed version is to be ready for distribution at the present MIE Meeting in Oslo. In 2011, many IMIA Working Groups provided original papers or position statements reflecting the current emphases and research in their subfields of medical informatics.

The content for the 2011 Yearbook includes:
- President’s Statement on IMIA and its Members (Geissbuhler)
- Editorial (Kulikowski and Geissbuhler)
- Keynote on Health Informatics 3.0 (Kaira)
- Obituaries for IMIA President K. Kaihara (Kimura), and for M. Stefanelli (Bellazzi) and Kwak (Park)
- IMIA Awards (Ball and Petersen)
- Synopses and summaries of Best paper Selections in each of the subfields of biomedical informatics for the following sections (corresponding editors listed):
  - Special Section: Towards Health Informatics 3.0 (THI3) (Ruch)
  - Health and Clinical Informatics (HCM) (Kubias)
  - Human Factors (HF) (Meyer)
  - Health Information Systems (HIS) (Bréant)
  - Sensor, Signal and Imaging Informatics (SSII) (A. Depeursinge and H. Müller)
  - Decision Support, Knowledge Representation and Management (DSKRM) (Guardia and A-M. Rassinoux)
  - Consumer Informatics (CI) (Boyer)
  - Bioinformatics and Translational Informatics (BTI) (Yip)
- Survey Papers on selected areas covered by the IMIA Yearbook:
  - HCM: Can ICTs Contribute to the Efficiency and Provide Equal Access to the Health Care Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa? (Bagayoko)
  - HF: Human Factors, Modularity, and User Centric Design – are these the key to the next generation of clinical software (Bainbridge)
  - SSII: Understanding the role of device level interoperability in promoting health – lessons learned form the Smart Personal Health Project (Wilson)
  - CI: Empowering Patients and Health Professionals in the Arb World: The King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Arabic Health Encyclopedia on the Web (Altuwijiri)
  - Bioinformatics: Trends and Developments in Bioinformatics in 2010 (Aliiferis)
- Research and Education Section:
Biomedical Informatics: Development of a profession with a technical approach in Chile (Gonzalez)
Biomedical and Health Informatics Education and Research at the Information Technology Institute in Egypt (Hussein)

- History of MI Section:
  - People and Ideas in Medical Informatics – a Half Century Review (van Bemmel)
- Medinfo 2010 Report:
  - Medinfo 2010: On the way to Africa and Beyond (Hanmer)
- Working Group Papers:
  - WG Open Source Health Informatics: Towards open collaborative health informatics the role of free/libre open source principles (Karopka)
  - WG Social Media: Five Case Studies of Social Media Use in Medical and Health Education (Paton)
  - WG Health Informatics for Development: Health Informatics for Development: a Three pronged Strategy of Partnerships, Standards, and Mobile Health (Marcelo)
  - WG Health and Medical Informatics Education: Education in Biomedical and Health Informatics in the Web 3.0 era: Standards for Data, Curricula, and Activities (Otero)
  - WG Technology Assessment & Quality Development in Health Informatics: Increasingly Dispersed Innovative Technologies require Greater Trust: Promoting Evaluation as the means of Enabling Evidence-based Health Informatics (Rigby)
  - WG Smart Homes and Ambient Assisted Living: Smart Homes and Ambient Assisted Living Applications: From Data to Knowledge- Empowering or overwhelming older adults? (Demiris)
  - WG Telehealth: Next Generation Telehealth (Maeder)
  - WG Consumer Health Informatics: Role of Social Media for Patients and Consumer Health (Lau)
  - WG Primary Health Care Informatics: Key concepts to assess the readiness of data for International research: Data quality, lineage and provenance, extraction and processing errors, traceability, and curation (Lusignan) and Taxonomy for evaluating the use of IT in the clinical consultation: A position Statement from IMIA PCI WG (Lusignan)
  - WG Health Information Systems: Hospital and health information systems – Current perspectives (Lovis)

- Information on IMIA; its honorary fellows, national and corresponding members, institutional members, the addresses of IMIA member societies and information of IMIA Working Groups and Special Interest Groups
- Information on IMIA Regions covering the affiliated societies from the various regions: APAMI; Helina; IMIA-LAC; MEAHI; NAMI; EFMI and its Working Groups.

The editors thank the Managing Editor Christian Lovis, all the corresponding editors, and the Editorial Assistant Martina Hutter for their invaluable contributions to the planning, design and production of the 2011 IMIA Yearbook.

The IMIA Yearbook for 2012 is being planned on the topic of “Personal Health Informatics” and will emphasize the ways in which health informatics is being personalized through methods and standards which enable greater interoperability between multiple patient health records, and their merger into a patient-oriented record for use by all health care providers with responsibility for a patient – and the patient herself. The IMIA Yearbook Advisory Board endorsed this choice at their meeting during the 50th Anniversary of Methods of Information celebration in Heidelberg in June 2011.

2. IMIA Taskforce on developing a History of International Medical Informatics

The Taskforce is comprised of: George Mihalas (Europe) Hyeoun-Ae Park (Asia); Sedik Isaacs (Africa); Alvaro Margolis (Latin America), Casimir Kulikowski (North America –Chair)
Outline of Task Force Objectives (C. Kulikowski)

1. Develop a plan and scope of work and resources needed to prepare for the writing of a History of International Medical Informatics (or, more broadly Biomedical and Health Informatics) to be published by IMIA in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of the Association in 2017;

2. Survey the literature on the history of MI and develop an index of resources, and a list of major international contributors to the field with time-periods according to major activities/contributions in the subfields of MI;

3. Produce lists of pioneers in Medical Informatics from each of the world regions to contact – or their students/disciples who might have unique materials to provide in languages other than English, and which have not been indexed in the literature already;

4. Develop a plan of whether/how to build a database of sources/resources that can serve as the basis for writing a first outline of the History.

5. Investigate feasibility/need for development of online repositories on historical MI information beyond what exists already and is available on the web (ie NLM repositories in the USA) and review scope of task force and its objectives, obtaining feedback and approval at future IMIA Board meetings;

6. Investigate feasibility of developing multimedia collections of IMIA-related materials and their presentations and where they might be deposited;

7. Investigate application of informatics methods for analysis, representation and presentation of historical materials and narratives on the web;

8. Identify and seek funding from potential sources.

9. Put together a funding plan for IMIA to support an initial website deployment and prototype archival facility (specialized website with accession facilities dedicated to individual countries and regions).

Actions taken to date:

- Contacted many pioneers in medical informatics and obtained their support for the proposed work of the Task Force
- Contacted the National Library of Medicine and received positive feedback on their interest in the project, and the IEEE History Center to learn from their experience in setting up a history-oriented website and accession facilities.
- Organized a workshop at Medinfo 2010 which discussed a number of alternative histories of medical informatics – beyond the mainstream, and which served as an opportunity to obtain feedback and explore additional thrusts for the long term plans of the Task Force.
- Presented an overview of the project at the INFOLAC 2011 meeting which provided the opportunity to recruit additional contributors from Latin America
- Recruited a doctoral student in Computer Science at Rutgers who is interested in pursuing a PhD dissertation on the development of methods to represent and apply machine learning/text mining methods to begin developing a history and evolution of ideas and accomplishments in medical informatics from the published literature as part of the project.