EFIM Report – General Assembly Wiesbaden

We would like to thank all the members of the EFIM national societies who joined us in Wiesbaden. This year’s General Assembly was held on 30 August at the RheinMain Congress Centre in Wiesbaden, in conjunction with the 17th European Congress of Internal Medicine.

Eighty-four General Assembly members, Young Internists and Executive Committee members, representing 32 national societies from 30 EFIM member countries, participated in the EFIM General Assembly. The EFIM President, Prof. Runolfur Palsson, welcomed the participants to Wiesbaden. Prof. Palsson gave a short overview of the EFIM activities and the achievements of the past year, focusing on the appointment and the selection of the new EJIM Editor-in-Chief, the progress of the EFIM working groups, the continuous work of the European Board of Internal Medicine (EBIM), the EFIM communication strategy and the hard work of the EFIM Executive Committee members aimed at increasing the visibility of EFIM and shaping the organisation. Presentation of the current financial affairs and accounts by EFIM Treasurer, Dr. Valentin Kokorin, followed and the end-of-year accounts were approved.

The meeting continued with the elections of the EFIM President-Elect. Two very strong candidates presented their future vision and plans for leading EFIM, Prof. Luis Campos from the Portuguese Society of Internal Medicine and Dr. Dror Dicker from the Israeli Society of Internal Medicine. Following voting according to the EFIM Statutes, the members of the General Assembly elected Dr. Dror Dicker as the next EFIM President-Elect. Prof. Palsson congratulated both candidates for their strong input and great ideas and welcomed Dr. Dicker to the EFIM Executive Committee. Next on the agenda was the handover of the presidency to the President-Elect, Prof. Nicola Montano, and bidding farewell to Prof. Frank Bosch, the EFIM Past President who had come to the end of his term. Prof. Palsson handed over the role to the new President, Nicola Montano, and acknowledged Frank Bosch with a small token of appreciation for all his efforts and dedication to promoting EFIM in the past 6 years.
Furthermore, EFIM welcomed on board a new member, the Lebanese Society of Internal Medicine, which was approved by the General Assembly as EFIM Associate Member.

A strong proposal to host the next summer school in 2020–22 in Estoril, Spain, was presented by the Spanish Society of Internal Medicine and was approved by the General Assembly.

The General Assembly continued with an official approval of the appointment of the new EJIM Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Giancarlo Agnelli and the farewell of Prof. Pier Mannucci, the outgoing EJIM Editor-in-Chief. Both, the Publisher, Elsevier, and EFIM expressed their gratitude to Prof. Mannucci for his exceptional leadership and achievements as the editor of EJIM. Prof. Mannucci was pleased to present the progress of the journal during the past year informing the General Assembly about the increase in the impact factor to 3.28. EJIM now ranks 27th out of the 154 journals in the category Medicine General & Internal.

John Kellett, the Editor-in-Chief of the European Journal of Case Reports in Internal Medicine, informed the audience about another successful year of the journal, reflecting back on the progress since the journal was launched five years ago and announcing the Pub Med indexation.

Prof. Petra-Maria Schumm-Draeger, ECIM 2018 President, welcomed the participants to the 2018 European Congress of Internal Medicine in Wiesbaden. Prof. Schumm-Draeger gave brief report on the congress, informing the members of the General Assembly that the number of participants in Wiesbaden had reached 1100 participants from 70 different countries. Prof. Luis Campos, the next ECIM 2019 Chair, presented the theme of the 2019 European Congress of Internal Medicine in Lisbon, inviting the delegates to spread the word among their societies and to attend Lisbon congress.

Prof. Rijk Gans presented the strategy for implementation of the European Curriculum of Internal Medicine and the future EBIM activities while the chairs of the EFIM working groups were given the opportunity to update on the latest activities.

The chair of the Gender Medicine Working Group, Dr. Alberto Marra, reported the preliminary results from the IMAGINE survey and presented the next initiatives of the Gender Medicine Working Group. Prof. Luis Campos, the Chair of the Quality of Care and Professional Issues Working Group, presented the progress of the WG and the publication of the position paper in EJIM entitled "Hospital ambulatory medicine: A
Progress reports on the upcoming winter and summer schools in Levi, Finland, and Ede, the Netherlands, were presented. This was followed by a report from the FDIME and the Young Internists. The General Assembly concluded with an announcement of next year's General Assembly in Lisbon, in conjunction with the 18th European congress and the upcoming EFIM Day in Brussels on 15 March 2019.

The members of EFIM General Assembly were welcomed to the Opening Ceremony of ECIM 2018 by the Lord Major of Wiesbaden, Mr. Sven Gerich, followed by an excellent opening lecture by Prof. Reinhard Busse.