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Decennial Milestone



*EUFEPS Decennial Anniversary Medal.
Photo: Krister Vallstrand*

The Decennial Anniversary of EUFEPS is a milestone in the short history of the Federation. It was celebrated, in the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France, with a "Decennial Conference on Optimising Drug Development" and an Anniversary Ceremony, on Friday, September 21, 2001. Ten years earlier, EUFEPS had been inaugurated in Strasbourg.

At the end of the Decennial Conference, the EUFEPS President Professor Dominique Duchêne opened the Anniversary Ceremony by welcoming all, including two of the three "fathers" of EUFEPS, Professor Stig Agurell and Professor Ernst Mutschler, with their wives, as well as Dr. Bruno Hansen, representing the European Commission. The third "founding father", Professor Douwe D. Breimer was unable to attend the Friday Ceremony, but he arrived later in Strasbourg.

In the Anniversary Address, Professor Duchêne referred to the establishment and mission of EUFEPS and discussed what could and should be done in the future (see pages 2-3). After this, Dr. Hansen presented the role and current activities of the European Commission to strengthen and expand European research, including health-related fields. He also acknowledged the significant contributions by EUFEPS for the next European Framework

Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP6), and he looked forward to future collaboration on science and research with EUFEPS.

Professor Ole J. Bjerrum reported on the to date encouraging outcome of – and future plans for – the EUFEPS New Safe Medicines Faster initiative (NSMF).

In the Anniversary Ceremony, the "founding fathers" of EUFEPS, and their impressive contributions to the development of EUFEPS, were duly recognised. Professors Agurell, Breimer and Mutschler were awarded a Decennial Anniversary Medal, the symbolism of which was explained by Professor Björn Lindeke, Secretary-General and Treasurer of EUFEPS (see page 5). Executive Committee members were also awarded a diploma, with the same symbol, acknowledging their leadership and hard work to proceed along the lines early established and to expand the activities of EUFEPS. Professor Breimer received the Medal at the Council and Anniversary Dinner, on Saturday evening.

After closing the Ceremony, conference delegates, guests, Council Members and EUFEPS officials got a chance to remember the past, exchange views on the present and plan for the future, while mingling and enjoying the Anniversary Cocktail, also in the facilities of the European Parliament.

CONTENTS: • Decennial Milestone 1 • Accomplishments and Plans 2-3 • EUFEPS Decennial Anniversary Awardees and Speakers 3 • EUFEPS Conference Report: Rational design of Drug Materials and Drug Delivery Systems 4-5 • Ouroboros 5 • New Editorial Team of the European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 5 • Thank you, Björn Lindeke 6 • Executive Summary 6-7 • Exploratory Drug Development an important theme at EUFEPS 2002 7 • Calendar 8

Accomplishments and Plans

Anniversary Address

Ten years ago, here in Strasbourg, EUFEPS was founded in the presence of Mr. Anders Björck, the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

This was the accomplishment of a challenge launched by 3 scientists, 3 great Europeans: Stig Agurell, Douwe D. Breimer and Ernst Mutschler. They recognised the need for an independent European scientific body to promote the European pharmaceutical sciences at the highest international level, with a simple objective: To serve and advance excellence in pharmaceutical sciences and innovative drug research. In their task, they were strongly and financially supported by the Swedish Pharmaceutical Society.

The scientific potential of Europe is known, but too often isolated and not well enough organised and co-ordinated. The task of EUFEPS is to contribute to the reversal of such a situation. This can be achieved by a fruitful international competition in which Europe has to participate, as full partner, not for the egotistical contentment of scientists, but for the benefit of health.

From the scientific standpoint, as well as from the political one, Europe is characterised by its diversity. This is both a strength and a weakness. It is a strength, because diversity can generate scientific ideas in profusion. But it is a weakness, because it is energy- and time-consuming. EUFEPS has to co-ordinate this inherent diversity without destroying it. So, what can be done by EUFEPS?

Membership

On Saturday 21 September 1991, 16 societies representing 15 countries from all over Europe (north to south, east to west) constituted the founding members. The societies were from: Austria, Croatia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Sweden, The Netherlands, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Today, the number of our member societies has increased significantly to 25 societies representing 23 countries and approximately 25,000 members.

The objective of EUFEPS, as a European federation, is to have member societies from all the European countries, and to represent all the pharmaceutical sciences. This is not easy to achieve, for several reasons:

First, the reason why a scientific society should become member of EUFEPS is not clear to some of them, who wonder what could be their benefit from membership. In fact, there is no benefit, except the satisfaction of participating in a European task, for those who want. But, if they do, both scientists and the citizens of Europe will benefit.

We are aware of the difficulties some European societies may have to pay their subscription whatever our effort in adapting the membership fees to the country and the number of members of the societies.

It is also difficult to have member societies representing the different pharmaceutical sciences because of the great diversity of the European societies. Some are national pharmaceutical societies. They represent all the different aspects of pharmacy: community pharmacy, hospital, industry, academia, etc. Some other member societies represent a well-defined pharmaceutical science. To have fruitful collaborations with our member societies, we need to know precisely their best scientific domain. At the beginning of the year we sent them a questionnaire, a matrix in which appeared, on one side, the pharmaceutical disciplines (academic approach), and, on the other side, the processes (industrial approach). We asked our member societies to locate themselves on this matrix, but unfortunately, probably due to insufficient explanation from our part, the answers were not as precise as expected.

Other European Organisations

There also exist European federations of different pharmaceutical sciences, such as: EACPT (European Association of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics), EFMC (European Federation for Medicinal Chemistry), Eurotox, ESBP (European Society of Biopharmacy), EFPIA (European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industry Associations), etc. with which we already have contacts. Some of them would like to co-operate closely with EUFEPS, and we have or are preparing letters of understanding. In the near future, we will probably be obliged to create a new type of membership to give them the possibility of becoming true members of EUFEPS.

We also have individual members, approximately 500. With them, with the scientists recommended by our member societies,

we expect to create a virtual school of excellence.

Roles of EUFEPS

The different memberships of EUFEPS should not represent a kind of private club for scientists, but a powerful group capable of serving and advancing excellence in pharmaceutical sciences and innovative drug research.

One of the roles of EUFEPS is to encourage the organisation of scientific events, more especially when they result from a co-operation between different EUFEPS member societies or any scientific societies, or when they are organised at a regional level. These conditions can ensure the dissemination (and progress) of science and prevent too confidential an aspect.

EUFEPS also has the possibility of organising scientific events by itself, but EUFEPS does not want to compete or to overlap with its member societies. This is the reason why, up to now, most of the symposia we have organised have been process-oriented and belonged to a series "Optimising Drug Development". The theme and the programme of these symposia have, in many cases, been proposed by the EUFEPS Committee for Industrial Relations.

However, EUFEPS needs to strengthen its co-operation with academia. This is why the Committee for Academic Relations was recently created, and will propose a new series of symposia "New Trends in..." which will contribute to the dissemination of the most recent scientific results.

An example of the type of collaboration we would like to establish with our members, for the benefit of the pharmaceutical sciences, is the Fair of Pharmaceutical Sciences we intend to hold most probably in June 2005 in Nice, France. This fair will be characterised by the fact that at the same period, in the same place our member societies and all the European scientific societies involved in drug development will be invited to hold jointly, their most scientific meeting, on the platform of EUFEPS. There will be two or three-day conferences with parallel sessions, as well as one-day symposia. We are expecting several thousand participants and we feel that exhibitors will be interested in joining this event. For our current member societies, this project will be detailed at our Council, on Saturday afternoon. In any event, they will be contact-

ted in the coming weeks or months to build this project with us and to participate in its success.

These different symposia, conferences and fairs, cannot be restricted to European scientists and participants. The contacts we have had at the inter-continental level with ISSX, AAPS (American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists), APST Japan (Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Technology), CRS (Controlled Release Society), and FDA, greatly facilitate the organisation of very high-level meetings.

At the world level, we are holding discussions with the FIP (Fédération Internationale Pharmaceutique). Our main objective is to become their necessary partner for the scientific events they will organise in Europe and more especially the 3rd Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress, which will take place in Europe in 2007, after San Francisco in 2000 and Kyoto in 2004.

The dissemination of knowledge must not take place only between scientists from different domains and countries, but also between generations: the role of EUFEPS in training and education has been pointed out from the very beginning of EUFEPS. It is not the role of EUFEPS to teach pharmacy, but it is the role of EUFEPS to give post-docs, pharmacists and engineers high-level training in the most advanced domains. Our Committee for Education and Training is discussing 3 training sessions, hopefully to take place next year, on bio-informatics, high-throughput drug metabolism, and combinatorial chemistry. In the future the school of excellence we have progressively organised will contribute to this activity.

I said that it is not the role of EUFEPS to teach pharmacy, but it can be the role of EUFEPS to discuss the content and the structure of this teaching. This is the reason why we answered the request of EAFP (European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy) and EASP (European Federation of Pharmacy Students Associations) and decided to have one-and-a-half days of discussions and exchange with them in spring 2002.

The dissemination of knowledge must not be done exclusively by meetings, whatever their nature, because they are not only costly, but they necessitate travel, and time. Another possibility is constituted by scientific publications. From its very beginning, EUFEPS decided to have a scientific journal: the European

Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences, published by Elsevier. The successive editors-in-chief (Hans Junginger, Per Artursson, and Arto Urtti) strongly contributed to its present success. For the future, we can imagine another kind of publication: a book series edited by EUFEPS together with members of our virtual school of excellence. Such a series should constitute a reference library for the pharmaceutical sciences.

The adequate development of a Federation, such as EUFEPS, and the recognition of its efficiency requires a special activity: lobbying...

We have done it, at the level of the European Commission, and this has been one of our best successes. Thanks to Ole Bjerrum and through a workshop we organised about two years ago in Brussels, we are promoting a new concept: New Safe Medicines Faster. It is a research proposal to strengthen the European competitiveness in innovation, development and use of new and better drugs. It also necessitates the creation of stronger links between industry, hospitals and regulatory authorities, for the benefit of European citizens. The means of reaching such a goal is to have more efficient use of modern technology. We are very proud to tell you that New Safe Medicines Faster already constitutes a topic of the 6th European Research and Technical Development Framework Programme, and that we received congratulations from the Commission.

Collaboration important

In conclusion, and taking advantage of the presence of Director Bruno Hansen from the Life Sciences General Direction at the European Commission, who is living proof of the interest of the Commission in innovative activities, I want to insist on the fact that EUFEPS will not fail in its mission: promote and advance excellence in the pharmaceutical sciences.

EUFEPS will refuse to consider European diversity as a drawback, but it will take advantage of this diversity and use it through close collaboration with its societies concerned with the progress of the pharmaceutical sciences in Europe.

Such collaboration requires a permanent dialogue between EUFEPS and its members and I encourage you to criticise, suggest, construct and win altogether.

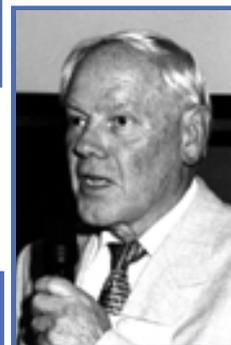
*Dominique Duchêne
President of EUFEPS*

EUFEPS Decennial Anniversary Awardees and Speakers

Photos: B. Dietrich/Studio d'Art



Ernst Mutschler.



Stig Agurell.



Douwe D. Breimer.



Bruno Hansen.



Dominique Duchêne.



Björn Lindeke.



Conference Panel Members: Michel Veillard, Franck Leveiller, Henning Kristensen and Caitriona M. O'Driscoll

Photo: B. Dietrich/Studio d'Art

EUFEPS Conference Report

Rational design of Drug Materials and Drug Delivery Systems

On September 19th and 20th 2001, a two-day conference was held at the European Parliament in Strasbourg. It coincided with the 10th Anniversary of the formation of EUFEPS and continued the theme of several previous conferences on different aspects of "Optimising drug development".

Participation

The conference attracted almost 150 bookings from about 30 countries as far afield as Australia and 19 speakers of international repute from Sweden to Italy and Eire to Greece. However, due to the tragic events in New York a few days earlier, three key speakers and more than 20 attendees were unable to travel to the conference. The speakers were strongly supported by 36 poster communications over the two days.

The First Day – A focus on Drug Materials and Solid-state Properties

The keynote speaker was Professor Gordon L. Amidon, one of the world's authorities on gastro-intestinal dissolution, permeation and absorption and a "champion" of the Biopharmaceutics Classification System (BCS). He gave an authoritative presentation showing how the determination of some of the physical properties of drug candidates can give an insight into how the material may behave in vivo. Although accurate prediction of permeability is still in a state of relative

infancy, he gave details of the clues that have been found so far that might eventually lead to prediction with confidence.

Dr. Franck Leveiller gave an excellent presentation covering the early drug development process, including polymorph prediction, optimisation and stability. The importance of using relevant preclinical dosage forms was heavily stressed. He concluded his discussion with real examples of polymorph



Gordon L. Amidon.

Photo: B. Dietrich/Studio d'Art

Professor Per Artursson gave a presentation that summarised what can be currently accomplished in the *in silico* prediction of solubility and permeability. He compared and contrasted the various models that were now available for these predictions; it is his considered opinion that models, which use "composite surface area" calculation offer greatest promise. Dr. Brian Henry followed with an excellent presentation that linked directly with the previous presentation and described what is being accomplished in the *in vivo* determination of permeability. Dr. Henry described how drug concentration in solution impacted heavily on *in vivo* permeability predictions.

The Second Day – A focus on Drug Delivery Systems (DDS)

Dr. Michel Veillard described the integrated approach needed to assess possibilities for a non-standard drug development process for candidates with non-ideal properties. A period of "Drug Delivery System Research" was recommended to assess the options available. Professor Michel Baron described the various engineering inputs possible in the formulation development process. Physical characterisation methods that enhanced the decision-making process during DDS design were described comprehensively by Professor Graham Buckton. He described how small physical changes can often be measured and how they often have a significant impact upon the viability of the formulation.

The following three speakers (Professor Dominique Duchêne, Dr. Caitriona O'Driscoll and Professor Ubaldo Conte) each gave a fascinating insight into a specialised DDS. The properties and uses of cyclodextrins for the enhancement of solubility, dissolution and permeation were covered in great detail by Professor Duchêne. Dr. O'Driscoll described the various barriers to oral absorption and how these can be overcome by the

prediction using the Cerius system (Molecular Simulations, Inc.). Dr. Danielle Giron covered salt selection at this early phase to augment the previous speaker; thermodynamics, water sorption/desorption and stability issues were discussed in detail. Dr. Angelo Gavezotti continued the theme of prediction of polymorphs and gave details of results from an 11-way trial. A key observation made during the presentation was that "prediction ability is no longer zero!"

Dr. Manfred Kansy continued the theme into the afternoon session with an excellent discussion covering all the key physical properties of drug substances that were important in the formulation decision process. The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to dissolution and the absorption processes. Dr. Christos Reppas gave an informed insight into the most appropriate dissolution medium from a wide range of available possibilities, including milk.

Rational Development of Therapeutic Proteins

EUFEPS Conference on Optimising Biotech Medicines

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use of self-emulsifying DDS. She described how, despite their apparent attractiveness as a formulation option, as yet very few had been commercialised. Professor Conte described how specially selected excipients could be used in tableting processes either in layers or as coatings to produce tablets with a full spectrum of different release properties. Delays in drug release can be pre-designed and can result in directed release into different areas of the gastro-intestinal tract.

The last speaker in this session, Professor Henning Blume, gave a thought-provoking presentation upon the adoption of a multi-disciplinary approach to DDS development based upon a Pharmacodynamic/Clinical rationale, rather than the normal compartmental model. The issues associated with three problematic marketed drugs were dissected and analysed. The information available from the observations was then used to predict the specification for a new dosage form that could be designed free of the existing problems.

Professor Henning Kristensen brought the



Francis Schuber.

formal part of the meeting to a close with a personal viewpoint upon how every stage of the drug substance and drug product development process interact. The relatively new concept of excipient functionality testing gives valuable data to enable DDS design and, in many cases, the excipient specification(s) contribute heavily to many of the parameters in the finished product specification.

Michael Bowker

M. J. Bowker Consulting Ltd.

Photo: B. Dietrich/Studio d'Art

Ouroboros

Alluding to the EUFEPS logo the Decennial Anniversary Medal, designed by Claës E. Giertta, depicts OUROBOROS, the serpent biting its own tail.

The serpent/dragon biting its own tail is first seen as early as 1600 years B.C. in Egypt. After appearing among the Phoenicians it moved to the Greeks who seeing it devouring its tail named it accordingly, i. e. OUROBOROS. It became a symbol found in various mythologies as well as in alchemy. In the EUFEPS version OUROBORUS symbolises perpetual rebirth, encompassing the four elements, fire (ignis), water (aqua), air (aer) and earth (terra). The medal is crafted in sterling silver by the distinguished Swedish artist silversmith Claës Giertta. In the medal the four elements are depicted by four different precious stones mounted into the silver.

Björn Lindeke

New Editorial Team of the European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences

The official scientific journal of EUFEPS, the European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences (EJPS), is currently delivering its 14th volume. On April 1, 2001 the new editorial team was appointed and the editorial office moved from Uppsala, Sweden, to Kuopio, Finland. The editor-in-chief, Per Artursson (University of Uppsala), headed the previous editorial team. During Per Artursson's term, the journal expanded so that currently it is published on monthly basis. The speed of manuscript review process was also increased.

The new editorial team includes experts from different fields of pharmaceutical sciences and from several European countries. The current team consists of the editor-in-chief (Professor of Biopharmaceutics, Arto Urtti, Department of Pharmaceutics, University of Kuopio, Finland; Arto.Urtti@uku.fi). Expertise in medicinal chemistry and pharmaceutical chemistry is provided by Professors Anders Hallberg (University of Uppsala, Sweden) and Bernard Testa (University of Lausanne, Switzerland). Previously, professor Testa has served as the European Editor of Pharmaceutical Research. Professor Matti Lang (University of Uppsala, Sweden) and professor Dirk Meijer (University of Groningen, The Netherlands)

are experienced in drug metabolism and pharmacology, while professors Sven Froekjar (Royal Danish School of Pharmacy, Copenhagen, Denmark) and Jukka Mönkkönen (University of Kuopio, Finland) have excellent background in drug delivery and pharmaceutical biotechnology. Manuscripts of physical pharmacy and pharmaceutical technology are handled by the qualified experts, professors Henning Kristensen (Royal Danish School of Pharmacy, Copenhagen) and Kristiina Järvinen (University of Kuopio). The editorial work is divided based on the expertise of the section editors. This guarantees the qualified and fair assessment of the manuscripts. One more section editor in the field of pharmaceutical analysis will be nominated in the beginning of 2002. In addition, two associate editors will be nominated for mini-reviews and commentaries. The new editorial advisory board that supports the editorial team has already been invited. Their nominations will be effective in January 2002.

The editorial office has started at the Department of Pharmaceutics, University of Kuopio in April 2001. Editorial assistant Katja Toukovaara (ejps@uku.fi) takes care of the routine handling of the manuscripts and reviewers' statements. Contacts with the sec-

tion editors are maintained using e-mail, fax and phone. Therefore, the geographical distances have not caused problems in the daily journal routines. The journal is published and printed by Elsevier Science and the editorial office is also in continuous contact with Elsevier sites in the Netherlands and Ireland.

EJPS is included in the Elsevier's Science Direct web pages thus providing high visibility for the journal. The journal thrives to publish innovative and high class original science in pharmaceutical sciences. Already Per Artursson's team implemented stricter acceptance policy with demand for hypothesis-driven new research in order to improve the quality of the Journal. Currently EJPS is one of the major journals in pharmaceutical sciences. In addition to the original research articles the journal offers its readers timely and thought provoking mini-reviews and commentaries. Some new features include also the EUFEPS Award for the Best Paper in EJPS. The first award will be granted in EUFEPS Meeting in Stockholm in 2002.

The aim of the new editorial team is to make EJPS the Journal for pharmaceutical sciences in Europe.

Arto Urtti
Editor-in-Chief

Thank you, Björn Lindeke

After serving EUFEPS for ten years, Björn Lindeke expressed his wish to resign from his key position as Secretary-General/Treasurer, which he occupied for a number of years. His resignation became official after the Decennial Anniversary events.

Björn, who is Executive Director of the Swedish Pharmaceutical Society and Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was associated to the life of EUFEPS since its very beginning in 1991. In fact the founding of EUFEPS was the accomplishment of the wish of Prof. Stig Agurell, Douwe Breimer and Ernst Mutschler. Each of them brought a specific input in EUFEPS. Thanks to Stig Agurell who was the President of the Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences at that time, EUFEPS benefited from a strong financial and human support of the Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences. For this reason, Björn had from the beginning a crucial role between the Academy and EUFEPS. In recognition of such a special position, Björn became rapidly the EUFEPS Secretary-General/Treasurer and ex-officio member of the Executive Committee, succeeding to Prof. Agurell.

This represented yet more activities for Björn who had a 20% Industrial Professorship at the Faculty of Pharmacy of Uppsala University, who had research activities in medicinal chemistry and metabolism of centrally active metabolic substances, and also in clinical pharmacy (more than 90 papers published). Björn is also a member of the advisory committee for the Medical Products Agency in Sweden.

Björn is not only a hard working scientist, but he is also a lover of pharmacy history, and when it was necessary to find a symbol to express our gratitude to the "founding fathers" of EUFEPS, he picked up Ouroboros, a snake biting its tail, a symbol of perpetual rebirth.

Björn, thank you for having given so much of your time an energy to EUFEPS. We are sure that you will not forget our Federation and that you will continue to support it despite your still heavy activity. We will not forget you.

*Dominique Duchêne
President of EUFEPS*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

December 2001

The EUFEPS Council and Executive Committee met on September 22-23, 2001 in Strasbourg, France, in conjunction with the Decennial Anniversary (8th) EUFEPS Conference on Optimising Drug Development: Rational Design of Drug Material and Drug Delivery Systems, held in the facilities of the European Parliament (see pages 4-5). The Executive met next in Basel, Switzerland, during the weekend preceding the (9th) EUFEPS Conference on Optimising Drug Development: Use of Biomarkers: From Drug Discovery through Clinical Practice, at the Basel Convention Center. Without doubt, these Conferences were very successful, although there were late speaker and participant cancellations in Strasbourg, due to this year's dreadful events in the New York City. Travel restrictions also affected the Basel Conference, but the time in between allowed both speaker replacements and use of video conferencing to link five USA speakers. Particular thanks go to SPC members, speakers, chairmen, session leaders, exhibitors, conference staff persons, accommodation providers, technicians and participants for all their efforts and help to make these meetings so successful.

Council and Open Forum

At the Council in Budapest, Hungary, last year, it was agreed that there should be an "open forum" established immediately prior to each Council meeting. For the 2nd EUFEPS Open Forum, this year, there was more time available, and a series of interesting and worthwhile discussions took place. Hope was expressed not only that the Open Forum would continue, but would also flourish to become an important vehicle for exchange of ideas.

A number of items were brought up by representatives of the Member Societies, including: More staff in the EUFEPS Secretariat for better membership information and service; policy statements by EUFEPS; and better focus on academia needs within EUFEPS. In addition, the Executive Committee brought up: Future involvement in the forthcoming EU 6th RTD Framework Programme; the matrix on pharmaceutical sciences disciplines and processes as a tool to learn about the profile of its membership; the idea of a "sciences fair"; and (possibly) new categories of membership of EUFEPS.

Policy statements by EUFEPS

In the Open Forum discussion, the general

view seemed to be that EUFEPS, as a scientific association, should be pro-active and have the ambition to issue and publish policy statements on relevant topics. It was recommended that a committee be established for it, comprising 4-6 individuals. Even if specific cases arose that were too difficult to deal with, there are many more general issues that need consideration. Endorsing statements from other organisations, or collaborating with other organisations in developing statements, could also be considered. In Basel, the Executive discussed measures and steps to establish such a committee.

Better membership information and service

Up to now, the Executive Committee regarded Council Members and/or the Presidents of Member Societies the link between EUFEPS and the Societies. Most of the information is circulated by the EUFEPS Secretariat, which is "overloaded". In the Open Forum, it was suggested that appointing a EUFEPS contact person in each of the Member Societies would facilitate communication between the Member Society and the leadership of EUFEPS. Utilising email addresses of the membership of the Member Societies would also help. Those having access to the email addresses of their membership could e.g. forward a PDF of the EUFEPS Newsletter issues that is provided by EUFEPS to their members. It was suggested that an "email" working group be set up to discuss this and related communication matters, which is under active consideration.

Academia also in EUFEPS' focus

In the Open Forum, a view was expressed that many EUFEPS activities seem to be aimed at satisfying the industrial needs in the pharmaceutical sciences, as illustrated by e.g. the Optimising Drug Development Conferences. In the discussion, it was suggested that more activities with and for academia should also be fostered, an idea that received unanimous support. A Committee on Academic Relations (CAR) to promote academic related activities has been established to facilitate these activities.

The EUFEPS "matrix"

The Executive Committee still thinks that the matrix approach is a good way to learn about the strengths of the EUFEPS membership, as well as to strengthen the collaboration with its Member Societies and Individual Members.

Only a handful of the Member Societies, however, responded to the inquiry about the application of the disciplines and processes matrix, circulated at the beginning of 2001. We will get back to the Member Societies on this important issue with more clear questions.

The "Fair" idea

Preparations have begun to develop a new event, a European meeting platform, where EUFEPS would like to see many organisations place scientific meetings. June 2005, in Nice, France, is actively considered as the date and location for it. For the management and finance matters of such an event, new organisational models will need to be developed and, to ensure success, all parties will have to be happy with the arrangements. The work on this has started.

New membership category?

Currently, there are two categories of EUFEPS membership: (National) Member Societies and Individual Members. In addition, there are a number of organisations supporting EUFEPS that are not full members. In addition, several European scientific organisations are interested in creating special links with EUFEPS. Looking into this will be part of the work on the new EUFEPS Strategic Plan (for 2002-2006), which is now in progress. A proposed Strategic Plan will be brought forward to the next Council meeting, in October 2002, in Stockholm, Sweden.

The EU 6th RTD Framework Programme

As reported in this Newsletter, efforts and activities to date towards the next EU Framework Programme have been very successful. Now, it's time to organise EUFEPS and members to bid for EU research funds that will shortly be available, the Executive concluded. To encourage such, a series of "Afternoon Special Sessions" will be included in the EUFEPS 2002 Programme in Stockholm, in October 2002, but this will not be enough. Establishing a working group comprising committed scientists may be a proactive way to define an integrated "niche" for urgent research leading to formation of consortia for subsequent applications. Also, those companies, which are interested to join, need to be identified and approached, to ensure fruitful collaboration.

Conferences and training courses

The next major EUFEPS meeting will be the EUFEPS Conference on Optimising Biotech Medicines: Rational Development on Therapeutic Proteins, on May 13-15, 2002, in Berlin,

Germany. This is a new initiative, in a field of utmost importance, and there are hopes, of course, that it will attract many participants.

The next European Congress of Pharmaceutical Sciences (EUFEPS 2002), including satellites, will be held on October 20-23 in Stockholm, Sweden, as previously reported. As you read this, the preliminary programme should be available, being circulated and posted on the EUFEPS Website, including topics for satellites and "Afternoon Special Sessions" (cf. above). The overall theme is "New Safe Medicines Faster", and the Scientific Programme Committee has put together an attractive programme.

Recently, the date was set for the EUFEPS Training Course on High-throughput Drug Metabolism. It will be organised on July 1-5 and July 8-13, 2002 (1+1 week), in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Dates for an one week course on "bioinformatics" (hopefully, in April 2002) and a three-day one on "combinatorial chemistry" (probably, in November 2002) will also be settled, shortly. The number of participants, in all these courses, will be limited to create an effective training situation. Should you want to participate, apply as soon as possible, by contacting the EUFEPS Secretariat.

For update information on planned activities, consult the EUFEPS Website: www.eufeps.org

Finance

The financial outcome in 2000 was not the best one in the history of EUFEPS. The prognosis for 2001 indicates a more positive result. The budget for 2002, approved by the Council, is balanced. A EUFEPS Committee on Sponsorship and Finance (CSF) has been established, and it started its activities with

the Decennial Anniversary Conference. Currently, the forthcoming Berlin Conference, in May, and the EUFEPS 2002, in October, will have priority.

New Executive Member

In the Council elections, Prof. Fritz Bühler, Director, European Center for Pharmaceutical Medicine, Basel, Switzerland, was elected to the Executive Committee (succeeding Prof. Anders Grahnén). Profs. Ole J. Bjerrum, Bernd Clement and Dominique Duchêne were re-elected to the Executive Committee for a further two-year term.

Secretariat staff

Prof. Björn Lindeke resigned as Secretary-General and Treasurer of EUFEPS in September 2001 (see page 6). Also, Maria Norrlander, Project Manager, will leave EUFEPS, effective mid January 2002. Hans H. Lindén succeeded Prof. Lindeke, and a full time replacement for Mrs. Norrlander is being sought and should, hopefully, be in place in a couple of months time.

Next meetings

The next Executive Committee meetings are planned for February 9-10, 2002, in Frankfurt, Germany (in conjunction with the European Students' Meeting), and for April 13-14, 2002, in Florence, Italy (in conjunction with the APGI/APV/ADRITELF Meeting), respectively. The EUFEPS Committee on Training and Education (CTE) will also meet in Frankfurt, and the EUFEPS Committee on Industrial Relations (CIR) will meet, on January 26, 2002, in Brussels.

Hans H. Linden

Secretary-General & Treasurer

Exploratory Drug Development – an important theme at EUFEPS 2002

There will be four parallel streams of scientific presentation and debate at the EUFEPS Congress, October 21-23rd 2002 in Stockholm, Sweden. Here is a preview of Exploratory Drug Development (EDD)

Coming after the Discovery phase, EDD brings together several preclinical functions to support the first learning phase in clinical drug development. Under the overall theme of New Safe Medicines Faster, this stream will present key new ideas and technologies:

- Potential contributions from novel systems to improve drug delivery
- Prediction of pharmacokinetic properties from studies in silico, *in vitro* and *in vivo*

- Drug transporters; their relevance and interplay
 - Drug metabolism; predictions from modelling based on structure and on physiology
 - Scaling up drug substances and drug products
 - Toxicity risks and safety assessments, especially for biotechnology products
 - New challenges in carcinogenicity testing
- Your attendance at the EUFEPS 2002 Congress will be a unique opportunity to hear these new ideas and discuss their applications, with pharmaceutical scientists from academia, industry and regulatory authorities



4th Int'l Intensive Course and Workshop on Cell Culture and Alternative Methods for Drug Delivery Research

February 20-March 1, 2002, Saarbrücken, Germany
Contact: Prof Dr C.-M. Lehr, Saarland University, Dept. of Biopharmaceutics & Pharmaceutical Technology, P.O. Box 151150 DE-66041 Saarbrücken, Germany
Fax +49 681 3024677, Email lehr@rz.uni-sb.de
www.uni-saarland.de/cellcourse2002

Arden House European Conference

March 10-14, 2002, Cambridge, UK
Contact: Dr J A Clements, Room 403 Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN, UK
Fax +44 171 7357629
Email jclements@rpsgb.org.uk
www.rpsgb.org.uk

Society of Toxicology 41st Annual Meeting

March 17-21, 2002, Nashville, USA
Contact: Society of Toxicology, 1767 Business – Center Drive, Suite 302, Reston VA 20190-5332, www.toxicology.org

7th European Symposium on Controlled Drug Delivery

April 3-5, 2002, Noordwijk aan Zee, The Netherlands
Contact: Mrs M. Wiehink, University of Twente – BMTI, P.O. Box 217, NL-7500 AE Enschede The Netherlands, Fax +31 53 4892319
Email M.A.G.Wiehink@bmti.utwente.nl
www.utwente.nl/bmti/cdd

Stability Testing of Pharmaceuticals

April 15-17, 2002, Cambridge, UK
Contact: Dr J A Clements, Room 403 Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN, UK
Fax +44 171 7357629
Email jclements@rpsgb.org.uk
www.rpsgb.org.uk

Course on Biological Sequence Analysis for Pharmacologists

April 22-26, 2002, Heidelberg, Germany
Contact: EUFEPS Secretariat, P.O. Box 1136 SE-111 81 Stockholm, Sweden
Fax +46 8 4113217, Email secretariat@eufeps.org
Website www.eufeps.org

4th International Symposium on Measurement and Kinetics of In vivo Drug Effects

April 24-27, 2002, Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands
Contact: Mrs Roos Schulte, LACDR P.O. Box 9502, NL-2300 RA Leiden The Netherlands, Fax +31 71 5274277
Email r.schulte@lacdr.leidenuniv.nl

ESCP 3rd Spring Conference on Clinical Pharmacy

May 8-11, 2002, Portoroz, Slovenia
Contact: Auditorium Portoroz, Cultural & Conference Centre Portoroz, Sencna pot 10 SI6320 Portoroz, Slovenia, or ESCP International Office, Theda Mansholtstraat 5b, NL-2331 JE Leiden, The Netherlands, Fax +31 71 5722431
email office@escp.nl, www.escp.nl

Optimising Biotech Medicines: Rational Development of Therapeutic Proteins

May 13-15, 2002, Berlin, Germany
Contact: EUFEPS Secretariat, P.O. Box 1136 SE-111 81 Stockholm, Sweden
Fax +46 8 4113217, Email conferences@eufeps.org
Website www.eufeps.org

4th Advanced Level Workshop on "Pharmacokinetic/Pharmacodynamic Data Analysis: A 4-day Hands-on Course Using WinNonlin"

May 19-23, 2002, Cambridge, UK
Contact: Dr J A Clements, Room 403 Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN, UK
Fax +44 171 7357629
Email jclements@rpsgb.org.uk
www.rpsgb.org.uk

Course on High-throughput Drug Metabolism

July 1-5 & 8-13, 2002, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Contact: EUFEPS Secretariat, P.O. Box 1136 SE-111 81 Stockholm, Sweden
Fax +46 8 4113217, Email conferences@eufeps.org
Website www.eufeps.org

Workshop in Basic Pharmacokinetics

July 14-19, 2002, Manchester, UK
Contact: Mrs Susan Huzar, School of Pharmacy University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PL UK, Fax +44 161 2738196
Email susan.huzar@man.ac.uk
Website www.pharmach.man.ac.uk

XXth European Colloquium on Heterocyclic Chemistry

August 18-21, 2002, Stockholm, Sweden
Contact: Dr Märit Johansson, Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences, P.O.Box 1136 SE-111 81 Stockholm, Sweden
Fax +46 8 205511
Email marit.johansson@swepharm.se
Website www.swepharm.se

EUFEPS 2002: New Safe Medicines Faster

October 20-23, 2002, Stockholm, Sweden
Contact: EUFEPS Secretariat, PO Box 1136 SE-111 81 Stockholm, Sweden
Fax +46 8 4113217
Email conferences@eufeps.org
Website www.eufeps.org

ESCP Symposium: Innovation in Drug Therapy and Health Policy. Patients Rights and Economic Constraints

October 30 – November 2, 2002, Florence, Italy
Contact: ESCP International Office, Theda Mansholtstraat 5 b, NL-2331 JE Leiden The Netherlands, Fax + 31 71 5722431
Email office@escp.nl

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EUFEPS 2002

New Safe Medicines Faster

Do not forget to submit your poster abstract by the end of April 2002!

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For instructions, consult www.eufeps.org

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