



## REPORT 2002/2003 - IFMBE

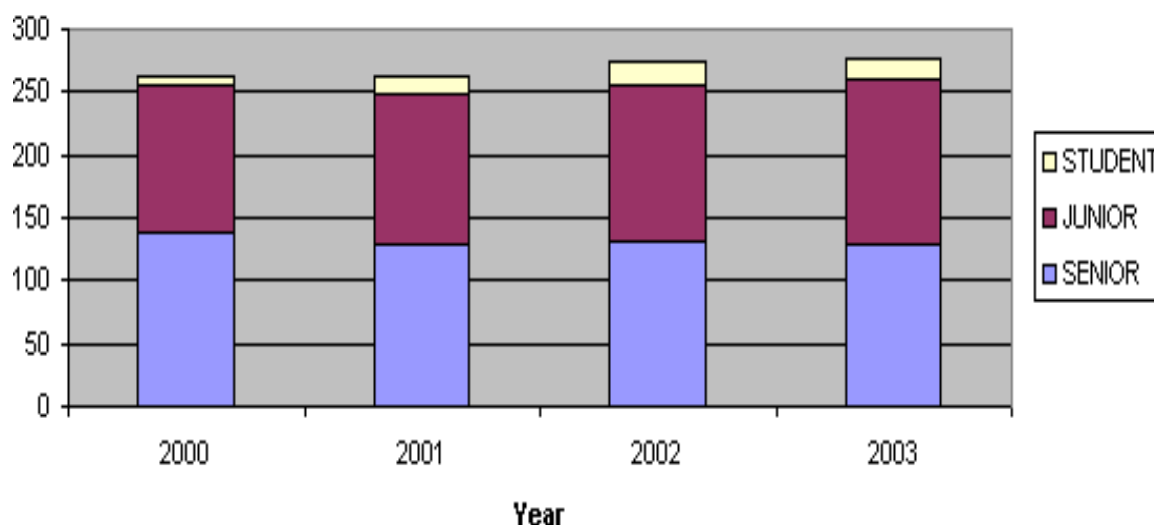
### Brazilian Society for Biomedical Engineering Sociedade Brasileira de Engenharia Biomédica

*A. Fernando C. Infantosi*

The Brazilian Society for Biomedical Engineering (SBEB) is one of the major biomedical engineering societies in Latin America. It is probably the largest in South America. During the year 2002 it comprised 275 members, distributed as 132 senior, 124 junior and 19 student members. For 2003 these figures, up to now, are 277 members, distributed as 129 senior; 132 junior and 16 student members. The increase in the number of junior members is mainly due to the change of category for some students.

Like many biomedical engineering societies, it comprises a great number of clinical engineers. The evolution of the number of members in the last four years period is shown in the figure below. The increase in the membership number in the 2002 reflects the bi-annual society conference which have occurred in this year.

**Number of Members - SBEB**



The society publishes regularly a journal every four months, with at least 5 original papers per issue. The **Brazilian Journal on Biomedical Engineering (Revista Brasileira de Engenharia Biomédica - RBEB)** is published in Portuguese and each paper includes an extended abstract in English. Capsum of figures and tables are also published in english. English and Spanish manuscripts are also accepted for publication. In the last three years, nearly 145 reviewers participated in the revision process and the rejection ratio was 43%. In this period, the RBEB have also published abstracts of 99 Master's and Doctoral theses presented at Brazilian Universities.

In the last three years, the cost of the journal has been mainly supported by the **Brazilian Research Council Agency (CNPq)**. The remainder is met by membership fees. The Journal is distributed freely to the society's members and nearly 550 public institutions, i.e. Universities and Libraries in Brazil, Latin America and other countries whose language are Portuguese and Spanish, such as Portugal, Spain, Angola and Mozambique.

SBEB maintains an active discussion list ([SBEB-L@peb.ufrj.br](mailto:SBEB-L@peb.ufrj.br)) and a World Wide Web site ([www.sbeb.org.br](http://www.sbeb.org.br)). Through these two channels important announcements for the Bioengineering community in Brazil are relayed. The present site has been re-designed to improve its readability. The **Brazilian Journal on Biomedical Engineering (RBEB)** is also available online at the Society's web page.

The society is very active in the academic and scientific arena. It takes part in many governmental committees, such as those instituted by the Brazilian Ministry of Health. The society also plays a major role in the establishment of science and technology policies through its participation on the advisory committees of governmental agencies. Members of SBEB's board have also participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual AdCom Meeting of CORAL (Mexico, Mexico) and also in the 12<sup>th</sup> (Havana, Cuba), during the II Latin American Conference on Biomedical Engineering, and in the IFMBE AdCom Meeting held in Reykjavik (Iceland).

The **XVIII Brazilian Conference on Biomedical Engineering** (Congresso Brasileiro de Engenharia Biomédica, [www.cbeb2002.univap.br](http://www.cbeb2002.univap.br)) took place in the city of São José dos Campos, state of São Paulo in September 2002. This place is midway between the cities of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo (and nearby the city of Campinas), where most of the society's members live. The Organizing Committee was based at the Vale do Paraíba University (Universidade do Vale do Paraíba, UNIVAP). For this bi-annual event, 505 papers were published, 345 of those being full papers and 160 abstracts. Some 500 attendees were present. It was a four-day long meeting, with papers distributed in 22 thematic sessions. Seven invited lecturers from Brazil and abroad, Prof. B.C. Wilson (Canada), Prof. J.R. I Mas (Spain), Prof. T. Livache (France), Prof. S. Mordon (France), Prof. A. Kardec, Prof. M.M. Werneck and Prof. M.T. Pacheco, delivered short courses. During the conference, an equipment fair with 25 expositors was organized. This fair contributed to a high exposure of the biomedical engineering field among the general public.

### **FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

From 22 to 25 September 2004, the town of João Pessoa in the state of Paraíba will host the **III Latin American Conference on Biomedical Engineering** (Congresso Latinoamericano de Engenharia Biomédica) and the **XIX Brazilian Conference on Biomedical Engineering** (Congresso Brasileiro de Engenharia Biomédica). Sponsored by the Latin American Regional Council on Biomedical Engineering (CORAL) and the Brazilian Biomedical Engineering Society (SBEB), this Congress will gather Biomedical Engineering scientists from the Americas and other continents, presenting their latest research results. The Brazilian Society for Biomedical Engineering wishes to welcome you all in 2004 at that marvelous town.

In order to promote the 3rd Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering and EMBS 25th Annual International Conference **special issues of the Brazilian Journal on Biomedical Engineering dedicated to Latin America** will be published in 2003 and 2004. In these issues the best papers will be awarded with free registration to the Conference. The call for papers has been already published in the last issues of RBEB, informing the rules and the important dates.