



## CORAL Liasion REPORT - 2000

*A. Fernando C. Infantosi*

### CORAL

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual AdCom Meeting of CORAL, the Latin American Regional Council on Biomedical Engineering, an organization co-sponsored by the IEEE/EMBS and IFMBE, took place on September 12th in Florianopolis (Santa Catarina, Brazil). Delegates of national biomedical societies from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Mexico and Peru attended the meeting. Also, members of the EMBS chapters from these countries and Venezuela participated in CORAL XI.

Firstly, delegates reported on the biomedical engineering activities that had taken place in their countries for the last year. As IFMBE liaison, Prof. Fernando Infantosi made a report of the Federation activities and the Chicago' 2000 World Congress.

The activities related to the **2<sup>nd</sup> Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering**, organized by CORAL and hosted by the Cuban Society of Bioengineering, to be held in Havana - Cuba (May 23-25, 2001), was then reported. The need of financial support from IFMBE and EMBS was emphasized. Due to some banking restrictions, all the funds related to this congress will be handled via Canada, where Mrs. Sally Chapman will coordinate registrations and transfers through CORAL's main account. It was decided that the **3<sup>rd</sup> Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering** will be held in Brazil in 2004, and so it will be hosted by the Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering. CORAL's AdCom members also ratified the proposal for hosting the **25th Annual International Conference of the IEEE EMBS** in Cancun in the year 2003. The organization of the conference will be a Latin American regional task and all EMBS chapters in Region 9 and national societies affiliated with CORAL will coordinately work toward its success.

Other points discussed were the need of a CORAL homepage and to create a Clinical Engineering Bulletin. Both subjects will be properly decided at the next meeting in Cuba, during CORAL XII.

### **XVII Brazilian Congress on Biomedical Engineering**

The meeting of CORAL took place within the frame of the Brazilian Congress on Biomedical Engineering, held every two years and organized by the Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering—SBEB. It was a very successful event with more than 400 attendees. A total of 286 accepted papers were presented. Thirteen invited papers from Brazil and Argentina opened their respective track sessions. A special session on Research Ethics and a Biomedical Engineering School also occurred. Several keynote speakers addressed the audience in plenary sessions and special topic workshops. The distinguished lecturers were: Metin Akay (Darmouth College, NH, USA), Dan Bader (Queen Mary & Westfield College, London, UK), Howard Jay Chizeck (University of Washington, Seattle, USA), Rangaraj Mandayam Rangayyan (University of Calgary, Canada) and Sidney Leeman (Dulwich Hospital, London, UK).