



CORAL Liasion REPORT - 2002

A. Fernando C. Infantosi

The 13th Annual AdCom Meeting of CORAL, the Latin American Regional Council on Biomedical Engineering, an organization co-sponsored by the IFMBE and IEEE/EMBS, will take place in Chile, during the 1st Chilean Congress on Biomedical Engineering in August 2002. It was a decision taken in the last meeting hold in 24th of May 2001, in Havana, Cuba, during the **2nd Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering**. It was a very successful event with more than 567 attendees, being 294 from Cuba and 91 from Mexico. A total of 349 papers were accepted for presentation, 75 of them from Brazil. There were two important awards, one for Biomedical Engineering in honor to Professor Angel Zapata and the other for Clinical Engineering, named Robert Morris both of them to remember their extraordinary life and work.

Delegates of national biomedical societies from Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico and Venezuela attended the meeting. Also, members of the EMBS chapters from these countries and observers from Colombia, Peru and Chile participated in CORAL XII. The next CORAL AdCom from January 2002 to December 2004 was elected, resulting in the following composition: **President: Antonio Fernando CATELLI INFANTOSI, Vice-president (President 2005-2007) Susana LLANUSA RUIZ, Secretary/Treasurer: Oscar YÁÑEZ SUÁREZ, Members-at-large: ARGENTINA and VENEZUELA.**

As IFMBE liaison, Prof. Fernando Infantosi made a report of the Federation activities and the Sidney' 2003 World Congress. The former president (1999-2001) of CORAL, Prof. Monzon, informed that the EMBS AdCom decided that the 25th Annual International Conference will be held at Cancun (Mexico) in September 2003. Delegates of national societies reported on the biomedical engineering activities that had taken place in their countries for the last year and about the future national conferences.

The 18th Brazilian Congress on Biomedical Engineering will be held in São José dos Campos, São Paulo, September 2002. For this bi-annual event, organized by the Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering–SBEB, nearly 450 papers were submitted and some 600 attendees were expected. Several keynote speakers have been invited, special topic workshops have been planned and also an exhibition has been organized. In October 2002, the Mexican Congress on Biomedical Engineering will be held in Monterrey, Mexico. The V Congress of the Cuban Society of Bioengineering will be held La Habana, on February 2003. For this bi-annual event the Society is organizing the National Award. The Society has also created a dynamic web site in order to promote the participation of their members in a virtual community, in order to increase sharing of knowledge and experience.

The activities related to the **3rd Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering**, organized by CORAL and hosted by the Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering, to be held in João Pessoa, Paraíba - Brazil (September 2004), was then reported. The First Announcement was then distributed to all participants. The need of financial support from IFMBE and EMBS was again emphasized. It was decided that the **4th Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering** will be held in the Margarita Island - Venezuela in 2007, and so it will be hosted by the Venezuelan Society of Biomedical Engineering.

In order to promote the 3rd Latin American Congress on Biomedical Engineering and EMBS 25th Annual International Conference the **special issues of the biomedical engineering journals dedicated to Latin America** were approved and the best papers will be awarded (also with free registration to the Conference). The special issue of the **Brazilian Journal on Biomedical Engineering** will be published in 2003 and the Argentinean or Mexican Journal in 2004. The call for papers has been already published in the Brazilian Journal on Biomedical Engineering, informing the rules and the important dates.