

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Thank You, Bernard!

by **Dr. Herbert Stekel**

*EFLM News Editor (Communication Committee)
Zentrallabor, Allgemeines Krankenhaus der Stadt Linz (AU),*



Dr. Bernard Gouget

After many years of successful and continuous work Bernard Gouget decided to retire as the editor of the EFLM-Corner. It would go beyond the scope of this letter to list all activities of Bernard. But let me highlight some specific items. Every one of us who attended EuroMed-Lab 2015 in Paris took part in his biggest Project

of recent years. Bernard served as Congress Organising Committee Chair and, like always, he did an excellent job. He is also active in a wide range of key roles in many national and international projects and programs. Furthermore Bernard served as treasurer of the IFCC from 2012 to 2014.

Now, let us focus on his accomplishments as an editor. The collaboration with *LabMedica* magazine started in the late 1990s when, largely at Bernard's vision and initiative, *The Journal of the IFCC* (JIF-FC), published at the time by the same publisher, was merged into *LabMedica*, establishing a special IFCC News section.

At the time Bernard was chair of the IFCC Communication and Publication Division (IFCC-CPD). Since July 2000 he wrote editorial columns in every issue, stating his points of view, and focusing on a wide range of laboratory themes.

The FESCC Corner in *LabMedica* was established as of February 2007, later becoming the EFLM Corner. In 2010 Bernard expanded the EFLM corner into a multipage section within the magazine. Here he continued writing his Viewpoint editorials columns to this day.

I will finish with an apt quotation. Marc Gueron, Group Publisher and Editorial Director of *LabMedica* wrote; "Thanks to Bernard's unique vision, boundless energy, and remarkable contribution, both the IFCC and EFLM were able to benefit from invaluable exposure all over the world by way of *LabMedica International*, thereby generating widespread promotion for both organizations and their international events, in the course of the past 15 years..."

New Leadership at Portuguese and Norwegian Societies

● **Portugal:** Dr. João Tiago Guimarães takes over the presidency of the Portuguese Society of Clinical Chemistry, Genetics and Laboratory Medicine, from Dr. José Germano Sousa. Dr. Guimarães serves as Director, Clinical Pathology, São João Hospital Center, and Associate Prof. at Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto.

● **Norway:** On June 2 2015, at the General Assembly of the Norwegian Society of Medical Biochemistry, Dr. Lutz Schwettmann (Dept of Medical Biochemistry at the Alesund Hospital) was elected as new NSMB President.

Dr. Ann Helen Kristoffersen (Laboratory of Clinical Biochemistry, Haukeland University Hospital in Bergen) has been reconfirmed as National Representative for EFLM and IFCC.

Former NSMB President, Dr. Yngve Thomas Blikstrud (Dept of Medical Biochemistry at the Oslo University Hospital) is now covering the position of Chairman of the Nordic Society of Clinical Chemistry.

EUROMEDLAB
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11-15 JUNE

- 22nd IFCC - EFLM European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine
- 25th Meeting of Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation
- 15th National Congress of GSCC-CB

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LabTestsOnline International Coordination Meeting Held During EuroMedLab 2015

by Prof. Jean Pierre Bali

Organized in Paris by the French Lab-TeststOnline team with the support of EDMA and SIDIV, the annual international coordination committee conference was held at Meditel Hotel on June 19, 2015, as a satellite meeting of EUROMEDLAB congress.

Many of the countries with an active LabTestsOnline website were represented: Germany (Mariam Klouche), Great Britain (Danielle Freedman, Stuart Jones), Hungary (Szilvia Szakonyi), Poland (Josef Jakubiec), Romania (Ion Ciceala), Spain (Ramon Deulofeu, Carlos Sisternas, Silvia Martinez), Portugal (Joao Tiago Guimaraes), Belgium (Andrea Glahn, Schweta Kulkarni), Turkey (Cuneyt Canbulat), and France (Véronique Ducros, Joseph Watine, Jean-Noël Bouillon, Alain Legrand, Jean-Pierre Bali); USA (Dominique Smith, Bob Dufour, Ellen O'Connell), and Brazil (Paula Tavora) were also present; apologies from Greece, Czech Republic, and Italy.

After welcome address to the participants by Veronique Ducros, chief editor of LTO-France, and Jean-Noël Bouillon, a round table presentation was complete. Further numerous items were discussed, firmly managed by Shweta Kulkarni (EDMA) (i) about countries reports and statistics, (ii) about study and application of the "Search Engine Organization" to the websites, (iii) about evaluation and improvements of platforms (site design and modernization), and costs study of social media and apps.

Globally, LabTestsOnline website is well recognized worldwide by the medical communities; patients are clearly interested in the knowledge of which kind of pathology is detected and managed by a test. However, to enlarge the use of the website, optimization of the search engine (Google algorithms), redesign, and stabilization of the platforms are crucial (Dominique Smith). In addition, a code of ethics, as HONcode, MEDCERTAIN or KHRESMOI, has to be applied or reapplied by all the websites to guarantee the seal of quality (Mariam Klouche). Some technical problems, such as autolink or screening configuration improvements were discussed (Silvia Martinez). The presentation of the UK website update by Danielle Freedman was of a great interest: with 960,135 unique visitors and 4,326 app downloads—this website shows its great attraction. Finally, the social media lessons were presented by Schweta Kulkarni and opened to discussion.

At the end of the meeting, the location of the next annual International Coordination Committee conference was discussed and the date of April 24th, 2016, in Istanbul (Turkey) was selected. Welcome in Paris and next time in Istanbul...



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January

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MEDLAB

LEADERS IN HEALTHCARE

25-28 January 2016
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March

MEDLAB ASIA PACIFIC

22-24 March 2016
Singapore

OBS-GYNE
EXHIBITION & CONGRESS

27-29 March 2016
Dubai - UAE

April

MEDICONEX

PHARMA CONEX

5-7 April 2016
Cairo - Egypt

May

ASIA SOURCING NIGERIA

4-7 May 2016
Lagos - Nigeria

SAUDI HEALTH

16-18 May 2016
Riyadh - Saudi Arabia

FOOD NIGERIA

18-20 May 2016
Lagos, Nigeria

ANNUAL MIDDLE EAST UPDATE IN OTOLARYNGOLOGY CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

24-26 May 2016
Dubai - UAE

HOSPITAL BUILD & INFRASTRUCTURE CHINA
EXHIBITION & CONGRESS

May 2016
Dalian - China

BUILDING HEALTHCARE MIDDLE EAST
EXHIBITION & CONFERENCES

30 May - 1 June 2016
Dubai - UAE

June

AFRICA HEALTH

8-10 June 2016
Johannesburg - South Africa

September

MEDIC EAST AFRICA

MEDLAB EAST AFRICA

1-3 September 2015
Nairobi - Kenya

October

PATIENT SAFETY

4-6 October 2015
Dubai - UAE

BUILDING HEALTHCARE RUSSIA
EXHIBITION & CONFERENCES

5-7 October 2015
Moscow - Russia

Beauty Africa
Exhibition & Conference

DENTAL AFRICA
Exhibition & Conference

7-9 October 2015
Lagos - Nigeria

IMTEC

7-8 October 2015
Dubai - UAE

MEDIC WEST AFRICA

MEDLAB WEST AFRICA

14-16 October 2015
Lagos - Nigeria

ARAB HEALTH RECRUITMENT & TRAINING FAIR

31 October - 2 November 2015
Abu Dhabi - UAE

November

ehi LIVE 2015
3-4 NOV

3-4 November 2015
Birmingham - UK

MANUFACTURING FOOD

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Lagos, Nigeria

December

SME Franchising Nigeria

2-3 December 2015
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ICAAM

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EuroMedlab Paris 2015: EFLM Bursary Recipients Express Their Thanks



**Anna Michno,
Gdansk, Poland**

Modern Laboratory Medicine should meet the highest expectations when it comes to support patients care in the 21st century. Applying the highest standards in laboratory tests ensures reliable diagnosis and will benefit health systems all around the world.

Therefore, there is a need to build upon existing knowledge, use experience, exchange opinions and accelerate actions to promote 'Re-evolution in Lab medicine' globally.

EuroMedlab Paris 2015 was an excellent event held in accordance with modern trends and met expectations of young researchers in terms of knowledge transfer and the encouragement of collaboration. The EuroMedlab event contained interesting lectures covering such topics as biomarkers, metabolomics, microbiology, renal function, autoimmune diseases, pharmacology, pharmacogenetics or quality controls and laboratory management. Poster sessions and intellectually stimulating workshops covering new tests, analysis and ethics gave us a unique opportunity to contribute ideas and passion. Additionally, company exhibition sessions combined with demonstrations of new technology provided us with knowledge about practical applications of laboratory tests to monitor health status.

Interestingly, during discussions it turned out that laboratory medicine encounters similar issues independently on the region of the world. However, there are tiny inequities in terms of dealing with them which should be addressed to promote global development in patient's welfare.

Generally, by involving national, international and European federations and committees which combined laboratory medicine research, academia and commercial companies, EuroMedLab Paris 2015 meeting summarized and synthesized new trends in Laboratory Medicine. We know better

what we need to do and how to go about it.

As a bursary recipient of European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine I would like to sincerely thank the committee board, who provided financial support for young European researchers to attend the meeting. In the shadow of the splendid construction of the Notre Dame Cathedral or the Eiffel Tower and surrounded by famous pieces of art we had an opportunity to understand priority areas of Lab Medicine and present our areas of research to a border panel of international colleagues. But now it is time for increased actions! Collaboration in the globalization of 'Re-evolution in Lab Medicine' to improve health sounds to be a good logo to construct a website and create an exchange panel for both younger and more experienced researchers to collaborate. Hopefully, as young and full of energy scientists we will be encouraged to be involved in discussions and activities following on from the EuroMedLab Paris 2015 Conference.



**Luis Francisco
Sáenz Mateos**

The Last EuroMedLab 2015 Congress in Paris was a great experience for me. The scientific program was very complete. The topics discussed were diverse and interesting in the field of medical laboratory. As soon as to the congress organization, transport and access, was excellent. The subway, bus and train timetables were very extensive and easy to use.

The congress offered me the opportunity to attend many symposiums, workshops and meetings, i could interact with healthcare professionals and laboratory technicians delegates and update my scientific and technological knowledge. The several communications in the congress gave me ideas for developing and completing my research lines. I think that my work will improve qualitatively by the

experience received in this congress. In my opinion, the communications in paper format promotes reading by the delegates. The Congress has been an occasion to strengthen ties with colleagues from other countries with different knowledge, ideas and ways of working. I must emphasize the Task Force for Young Scientists activities of International Federation of Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine. This experience allowed me to relate to young researchers with many scientific concerns.

It was very important for me to attend the congress of Paris. I am grateful to the EFLM for giving me the bursary. I encourage the EFLM to continue with the bursaries program to assist, motivate and encourage new generations of medical laboratory professionals.



Margarita M. Fedorova

It is a big honor for me as a member of Russian Scientifically-Practical Society of Specialists in Laboratory Medicine (RSPSSLM) being selected for an EFLM bursary to attend the EuroMedLab Congress in Paris and present our results. I was very excited to meet the world's leading experts in

laboratory medicine. Participation in The EuroMedLab Congress gave me the opportunity to discuss different problems of laboratory medicine with my international colleagues. The Exhibition was great and demonstrated the brand new laboratory technologies. The Poster session showed the level of laboratory medicine in the world and allowed comparing the situation in different countries. I think EFLM BURSARY PROGRAMM is very necessary and important for every young professional in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine, because it helps us to improve our scientific skills and clinical knowledge.

I would like to thank Professor Lina A. Khorovskaya, Silvia Cattaneo, and EFLM for their help and the chance to take a part in the Congress.



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