13th Conference of the Romanian Society of Ultrasonography in Medicine and Biology – report

Between May 21 and 23, Sibiu had the pleasure and the honor of hosting The 13th Conference of the Romanian Society of Ultrasonography in Medicine and Biology, together with a prestigious educational Euroson course.

The first day was dedicated completely to the Euroson Course, with the subject of Ultrasonography of the Musculoskeletal System. The course lecturers were all personalities in the field, both from abroad and Romania, such as Zbigniew Czyrny (Poland), Norbert Gritzman (Austria), Stefaan Marcelis (Belgium) Johannes Strunk (Germany), but also a prestigious team of Romanian lecturers, Carolina Botar-Jid, Sorin Dudea, Daniela Fodor, and Nicolae Rednic, all from Cluj Napoca. The course concerned the main topics of musculoskeletal ultrasonography, often with references to other medical imaging methods. There were 175 participants, a record for the Euroson Courses organised in Romania which reflects the appreciation for these valuable courses.

The following days, 22 and 23 were dedicated to the National Conference. It was organised into three parallel lectures, in three different rooms, the largest being dedicated entirely to the International WFUMB workshop on Contrast Media in Ultrasonography. The lectures presented here were given by lecturers with great knowledge and experience in the field from Korea, Germany, Italy, Norway, and also national centers such as Timisoara, Cluj-Napoca, Bucharest and Craiova.

The parallel rooms hosted topics of interest, including other imaging techniques as CT and MRI, emphasising the role and place of ultrasonography today.

Altogether there were an impressive number of 300 participants who gathered together at the freshly renovated Ibis hotel near the Syndicates Culture House. It

Prof. Ioan Sporea and Prof. Norbert Gritzmann at the Euroson School, Sibiu 21 May 2010: investiture of Prof. Norbert Gritzmann as Honorary Member of the Romanian Society of Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology.

Prof. Radu Badea and Prof. Fabio Piscaglia at the National Conference of Ultrasonography, Sibiu 22-23 May 2010: investiture of Prof. Fabio Piscaglia as Honorary Member of the Romanian Society of Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology.
must be stated that this event could not have taken place without the help of the companies who manufacture ultrasound equipment. Regardless of the financial crisis, they were able to sponsor the event and also to exhibit the newest equipment in the lobby.

The participants presented a large number of scientific papers, orally and as posters and prizes were awarded to the best. In addition, a meeting was held of all members and an election was held for a new Board and a new President of the Society. The new President is Prof Radu Badea, from Cluj-Napoca, a prominent professional in the field, known for his work in implementing ultrasonography in Romania from the early days, for his high educational level and for promoting the newest technology in Romania.

The organizers thank all the participants who were present at this high level scientific conference and also everyone who contributed to its great success.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Adrian Şanta Sibiu

Report from the Past President

In my position as Past President of SRUMB, I would like to look back on a 4 year period (I was President of our Society for two periods of two years) and try to draw some conclusions:

1. The number of SRUMB members increased from 270 in 2006 to 587 in 2009;
2. We organized in Romania, Timișoara the 2008 Euroson (The European Congress of Ultrasonography), with a large number of participants (more than 1000), which was a scientific success;
3. We continued to organize each year courses under the auspices of the Euroson School of Ultrasound, covering different topics, each being attended by a large number of members of our Society (usually more than 100);
4. We established the stratification of our Society members according to their level of practice (the three levels of EFSUMB and SRUMB), available on SRUMB’s site - www.srumb.ro;
5. The national journal of ultrasound (Medical Ultrasonography) became an English language journal, included in class B + journals (CNCSIS);
6. A “bulk” subscription of our members was made to the European Journal of Ultrasound, so that in this moment, all SRUMB members receive, included in their annual fee, two ultrasound journals in English, both at a very good scientific level;
7. Personally, starting from 2007, I became Honorary Treasurer of EFSUMB, thus confirming the position of SRUMB among the European Societies of Ultrasound.

Now, it is time to leave this very difficult position of SRUMB President on the shoulders of my friend, Prof. Radu Badea from Cluj. His duty will be to maintain and to increase the number of our members, to organize interesting scientific ultrasound meetings every year, and, perhaps, organize a new Euroson Congress in Romania...

Prof. Ioan Sporea, MD, PhD, Timișoara
Past President of SRUMB

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Report from the president of SRUMB

The history of SRUMB from its appearance in December 1997 in Cluj Napoca, up to the present shows maturity and determination. Maturity is attested by consistent annual scientific events, coupled with nearly 10 years of high quality European courses, and determination is highlighted by the number of members that has increased continuously, starting with the 89 founder members and reaching 420-430 members in recent years.

Ultrasound itself as a diagnostic method available to all medical specialties is now part of an extraordinary dynamics of technology and requires continuous adaptation to national and international context. In other words, there is always something to do! "Every end of term (we named former Board of directors and Professor I. Sporea, PhD, with congratulations for the professional and scientific achievements) is a new beginning (we named the new leadership of the society as a result of the elections that took place at the Sibiu National Conference, May, 2010). And this beginning means continuity by also preserving what was done right.

This beginning also means targeting the top ranking objectives and ordering activities. What activities could there be? Various! Among them: a friendly and interactive website of the society and a website for the journal of ultrasound (Medical Ultrasonography) allowing its accession to a highly qualified and very dynamic peer review team. Ultrasound society needs to have closer relations with other national and international professional societies. EFSUMB will be stronger if national societies have strong and stable relationships horizontally!

Ultrasound Society must contribute more actively in developing the training and research centers that exist all over the country and has to involve in coordinating the educational curricula for both those who practice general ultrasound and those with clinical specialties.

The society must have a medium term development strategy! A structure at the level of the Board Committee is necessary in order to identify strategy directions! Ultrasound practice is becoming increasingly important and its effects on public health are more and more significant! The role of this technique in national programs should be better defined!

These are just some thoughts at the beginning of mandate! Hence, there is much to be done!

Radu Badea, MD, Professor of medicine
SRUMB President