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CMBES/SCGB Monthly e-Bulletin

February 2018

Message From the President

From the desk of the CMBES President, Martin Poulin

Dear Biomed Colleagues,

Our Outreach Committee launched a "Tools for Techs" campaign to raise money to facilitate the purchase of tools for our Biomed/Clinical engineering colleagues in low resource countries. More than \$1700 has been raised to date. Please check out the site and consider donating to this worthy cause (<http://www.tools4techs.ca/>).

The ACCES/CMBEC conference planning continues to progress well. We have 30 exhibitors committed to date and the delegate registration page should be active soon. This is the premier education and networking event for biomedical/clinical engineers in Canada. Please ensure your papers are submitted soon (deadline is Feb 23) and keep in mind we are offering remote presentations for those who have difficulty getting travel approved. Note as well, that all papers will be published on our new searchable PKP site post conference:

<https://proceedings.cmbes.ca/index.php/proceedings/issue/archive>)

Our new website is very close to completion so watch for information regarding this change soon.

Cheers,

Martin

Message du président

Du bureau du président de SCGB, Martin Poulin

Chers collègues Biomed,

Salutations Collègues Biomed,

Notre comité "international" a lancé une campagne «Outils pour les technologues» afin de recueillir des fonds pour faciliter l'achat d'outils pour nos collègues Biomed dans les pays en voie de développement. Plus de 1700 \$ ont été recueillis à ce jour. S'il vous plaît consulter le site et envisager de faire un don à cette cause (<http://www.tools4techs.ca/>).

La planification de la conférence ACCES / CMBEC continue à bien progresser. Nous avons 30 exposants engagés à ce jour et la page d'inscription des délégués devrait être active bientôt. Ceci est notre principal événement de formation et de réseautage pour les ingénieurs biomédicaux / cliniques au Canada. Veuillez vous assurer que vos articles scientifiques doivent être soumis bientôt (la date limite est le 23 février) et gardez à l'esprit que nous offrons des présentations à distance pour ceux qui ont de la difficulté à obtenir une autorisation de voyage. Notez également que tous les articles seront publiés sur notre nouveau site de recherche post-conférence PKP:

<https://proceedings.cmbes.ca/index.php/proceedings/issue/archive>)

Notre nouveau site Web est presque terminé. Surveillez donc bientôt ce changement.

Cordialement,

Martin

The CMBES community mourns the loss of Mr. Herbert Voigt

It is with sadness that we note the passing of Herbert Voigt who was a pillar of the Biomedical Engineering community. He was a past president of the International Union for Physical & Engineering Sciences in Medicine (IUPESM, 2012-2015), and also a past president of the International Federation for Medical & Biological Engineering (IFMBE 2009-

2012), of the American Institute for Medical & Biological Engineering (AIMBE, 2006-2007), and of the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES, 1999). Tony Easty and Mike Capuano worked with Herbert during the planning of the 2015 World Congress. Tony reflects that “I came to really appreciate his sound advice and humane perspective. He was always on the side of inclusiveness and collegiality, and despite being an academic biomedical engineer, he had a real understanding and appreciation of clinical engineering.”

CMBEC41 Updates

From the desk of the Long Term Conference Planning Committee Chair, Murray Rice

CMBC41 Call for Papers.

The Call for Paper deadline has been **extended to Friday, February 23rd, 2018**

You can find the [CMBEC Paper Template here!](#) You can now present papers remotely! We understand that travel restrictions are impeding the ability of some to travel. This option will give you the ability to still present a paper and participate in the conference. [Submit your paper now!](#)

Program at a Glance and Educational Sessions will be available soon! Stay tuned!

We also have put together [this invitation letter](#) to help you justify your attendance to the conference to your supervisors. This letter is available on the [CMBES website here!](#)

Call for Nominations - CMBES Awards 2018

From the Desk of the Awards Committee Chair, Evelyn Morin

Deadline to submit a nomination: **February 23rd, 2018**

This is the call for nominations for the 2018 CMBES Awards and Special Memberships to recognize members of the Society who are making or have made significant contributions to Biomedical Engineering and Technology in Canada. Awards include Outstanding Canadian Biomedical Engineer, Outstanding Canadian BMET, and Early Career Achievement Award. Special memberships include Fellow, Emeritus, and Honorary member. Criteria for the awards and special memberships, and information on how to submit a nomination, can be found on the [Awards page](#) on the Society website. If you know a CMBES member who is deserving of an award or special membership, please submit a nomination. The deadline for submitting nominations is Friday February 23rd, 2018.

Membership News

From the desk of the Membership Committee Chair, Sarah Kelso

Do you have any questions about your membership category and/or benefits? You can find some membership information on the [website](#), on the secure membership pages (login [here](#)) and always feel very welcome to contact me through secretariat@cmbes.ca or directly at sarah.a.kelso@gmail.com.

New CMBES Sponsorship Program

From the desk of the Publications Committee Chair, Tidi Gaamangwe

CMBES has recently developed a sponsorship program ([CMBES Advertising Program](#)) as part of the Marketing and

Communications strategy. The program provides guidance to organizations that would like to advertise on all CMBES publications, events and media. It provides a cost-effective opportunity for sponsors to reach a wide range of audience in learning institutions, research, industry and corporate. The program provides various levels of sponsorship under three broad categories: a la carte, all-inclusive and custom packages. So, there is a suitable package for all needs.

If you would like more information please, feel free to contact secretariat@cmbes.ca

2018 Call For Nominations (Executive Election)

The CMBES is seeking nominations for the Executive positions (listed below). Individuals are elected for a two-year term and are limited to two consecutive terms in any position. Please submit, by email to Murat Firat, CMBES Past President (murat.firat@sunnybrook.ca) all nominations.

A complete nomination will include:

1. the name and address of the nominee
2. a short biography of the nominee
3. a statement of interest from the nominee
4. the position(s) for which they are nominated
5. the names and email addresses of two members of the society who support the nomination (these individuals may be contacted by the nominating committee)

Nominations are due by April 1st, 2018. Following recent practice, a list of nominees will be circulated to the membership by email by April 15th, 2018 and the election will take place by secret ballot at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held at CMBEC 41, May 8-11, 2018.

[Please click here to view the 2018 CMBES AGM Agenda](#)

POSITION DESCRIPTIONS (*further detail can be found in the [CMBES By-Laws](#)*)

President: The President shall act as chairperson of all meetings of the Executive and the General Meeting and Special General Meetings of the Society.

Vice-President: The Vice-President shall be vested with all the powers and perform all the duties of the President in the absence or disability or refusal to act of the President, together with such other powers and duties, if any, as may from time to time be assigned to him/her by the Executive.

Secretary: The Secretary shall issue or cause to be issued notices for all meetings of the Executive and the Society when directed to do so, have charge of the minute books of the Society and record and maintain minutes of the Executive and all meetings of the Society: sign with the President or other signing officers of the Society such instruments as require his/her signature and shall perform such other duties as the terms of his/her engagement or this by-law call for, or the Executive may from time to time properly require of him/her.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have the care of all funds and securities of the Society, and shall direct the deposit of same in the name of the Society in such bank or banks or with such depository or depositories as the Executive may direct. He/she shall be responsible for the preparation and maintenance of clear financial records.

Chair of the Membership Committee: The Membership Committee is tasked with the review of all applications for membership and the recommendation of membership status.

Chair of the Publications Committee: The Publications Committee is tasked with all matters concerning publications of the Society, including the Newsletter.

Chair of the Professional Affairs Committee: The Professional Affairs Committee is tasked with all matters concerning establishment and maintenance of professional standards, certification procedures and liaison with other professional associations and relevant organizations.

Chair of the Awards Committee: The Awards Committee is tasked with ensuring that the Society awards and recognizes deserving individuals and organizations for their outstanding achievements and contributions to CMBES, the profession and the society at large. To this end the Awards Committee shall coordinate all matters related to all awards issued by the Society.

Chair of the Long Term Conference Planning Committee: The Long Term Conference Planning Committee is tasked with all issues regarding planning of future conferences including the establishment of a local organizing committee for the next conference. Planning for the next conference is to be handed over to the local organizing committee, normally one year before the date of the conference.

Professional Affairs Updates

From the desk of the Professional Affairs Committee Chair, Andrew Ibey

The Protecting Canadians from Unsafe Drugs Act (Vanessa's Law) introduces a new power to require certain healthcare institutions to report serious adverse drug reactions and medical device incidents. This requirement is intended to improve the reporting of these types of events and enable the timelier identification and communication of emerging safety issues associated with the use of drugs and medical devices. This power will come into effect when accompanying changes are made to both the Food and Drug Regulations and the Medical Devices Regulations. The regulatory changes will define the applicable healthcare institutions, the data to be provided, and when it must be provided to Health Canada.

Objective

To implement a new regulatory framework for a national mandatory reporting program, that provides comprehensive information about these types of adverse events while minimizing the operational impact on healthcare institutions.

Consultations

On June 28, 2017, Health Canada released a consultation paper on [Mandatory Reporting of Serious Adverse Drug Reactions and Medical Device Incidents by Health Care Institutions](#).

A Webinar was held on July 18, 2017 and was very well attended with over 200 registered participants. Please find the recent links to the summary paper from this consultation [“What we heard - Responses to the public consultation paper entitled Toward mandatory reporting of serious adverse drug reactions and medical device incidents by health care institutions”](#).

Health Canada held a series of consultations with healthcare institutions on the costs and benefits for these regulations in December and January.

There will be an online questionnaire sent out via email in the next month asking about your system requirements.

Proposal

The consultation paper proposed that:

- Hospitals that provide acute care facilities be required to provide to Health Canada information in their control about serious unexpected adverse drug reactions and medical device incidents.
- Timelines for institutions to report be 30 days for both serious adverse drug reaction and medical device incident reporting.

- The regulations define both a minimum set of information data fields and a set of additional data fields to be 'required to be completed, if the information is known' to be provided to Health Canada.
 - For Medical Devices this would mean:
 - The name of the health care institution and the contact information of a representative of that institution;
 - The device name;
 - The manufacturer or importer name; and
 - A description of the medical device incident.
- The regulatory reporting time clock starts on the day on which the serious adverse drug reactions/medical device incident is first documented.

Information in the control of an institution about an adverse drug reaction could, for example, include:

- A separate reporting form (online or hard copy) completed by a health care professional, or
- A serious unexpected adverse drug reaction that is identified by a health care professional in a patient's clinical record.

The scope of therapeutic products to which these reporting requirements apply would include:

- Pharmaceuticals (prescription and non-prescription)
- Biologic drugs (that are not vaccines)
- Radiopharmaceuticals
- Disinfectants
- Medical devices (all types)

Definition

Medical device incident – [...] related to a failure of the device or a deterioration in its effectiveness, or any inadequacy in its labelling or in its direction for use; and has led to the death or a serious deterioration in the state of health of the patient, user or other person, or could do so were it to recur.

Please note that the final regulatory proposal will be informed in part by the input received through the consultations. As such, the regulatory proposal may evolve prior to publication in the Canada Gazette.

Next Steps

- > Publish to Canada Gazette 1- June 2018
- > Publish to Canada Gazette 2- June 2019
- > Coming into force- Fall 2019

Toward Mandatory Reporting of Serious Adverse Drug Reactions and Medical Device Incidents by Health Care Institutions

Health Canada wishes to advise you that a summary of the stakeholder feedback that was received in response to the consultation paper Toward Mandatory Reporting of Serious Adverse Drug Reactions and Medical Device Incidents by Health Care Institutions was posted on Health Canada's website on Friday, December 22nd, 2017.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health->

Vers la déclaration obligatoire des réactions indésirables graves à un médicament et des incidents relatifs aux instruments médicaux par les établissements de soins de santé

Santé Canada souhaite vous informer qu'un résumé des commentaires des intervenants reçus en réponse au document de consultation Vers la déclaration obligatoire des réactions indésirables graves à un médicament et des incidents relatifs aux instruments médicaux par les établissements de soins de santé a été affiché sur le site Web de Santé Canada le vendredi 22 décembre 2017.

CMBES International Outreach Committee Update

From the desk of the CMBES International Outreach Committee Chair, Bill Gentles

CMBES 2018 Travel Grant Call for Applications

The International Outreach Committee of CMBES is pleased to announce a travel grant in aid of supporting volunteer work in Clinical Engineering. This grant is intended to partially defray the travel costs of a Clinical Engineer, Biomedical Engineering Technologist, or Clinical Engineering student, **who is a CMBES member** and a Canadian Resident, who is planning to travel to a developing country to do volunteer work related to Clinical Engineering within the next year.

A grant of \$1500 will be awarded to a qualified candidate. Applicants are expected to cover at least half of the costs of the proposed volunteer activity through fundraising efforts or out-of-pocket payment by the participant and their family. The CMBES Travel Grant is meant to partially cover travel costs.

Application can be made for funding to support travel that will commence before April 15 2019. Further details can be found on the application form.

The application deadline is midnight EST, on March 31, 2018;

Click on this link to Download the 2018 CMBES Travel Grant [Application Form](#).

[Support CMBES "Tools 4 Techs" Crowdfunding](#)

Many Biomed in low resource settings lack proper tools to maintain equipment in hospitals/medical clinics. We need your help to get much-needed tools into their hands!

Studies have shown that 40-60% of medical equipment in low resource countries is out of service. This situation leads to a degradation of patient care. Many of the problems that keep this equipment from being used are minor, and could be corrected if the staff responsible for maintaining the equipment had the proper tools and test equipment.

The CMBES is asking you to consider making a small donation to support this campaign. Because CMBES is a non-profit organization, but not a charity, we can't give charitable receipts. That is why we are only asking for small donations in this phase of the project.

This project started with some seed funding, and has bought some tools for a few engineers and technicians. You can see their stories on the fundraising campaign web site.

<https://chuffed.org/project/tools-4-techs-supporting-biomed-in-low-resource-countries>

Tools 4 Techs - Supporting Biomedes in Low Resource Countries

By The Canadian Medical & Biological Engineering Society



Women in Clinical/Biomedical Engineering

The Professional Engineers of Ontario has recently published a spotlight article on the Biomedical Engineering women at Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario.

The article was written to highlight PEO's goal of 30 by 30, or 30% of women in Engineering by 2030. This article was written by CMBES members: Marie-Ange Janvier PhD, P.Eng., Monique Frize, PhD, PEng, FEC, FCMBES and Kim Greenwood, P.Eng.

The online article in PDF starts at page 34:

<http://www.digitalityworks.com/Viewers/ViewIssue.aspx?IssueID=181&PageNo=1>

The website version is also available here:

<http://engineeringdimensions.peo.on.ca/index.php/2018/01/17/reaching-30-by-30/>

REACHING 30 by 30

While encouraging more women to join the engineering profession seems like a tall order, the clinical engineering field is a good place to start. The Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario-Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre showcases the roles women engineers play within clinical engineering and elsewhere in the organization. by MARIE-ANGE JANVIER, PHD, P.ENG., MONIQUE FRIZE, PHD, P.ENG., FEC, and KIM GREENWOOD, P.ENG.



Catherine Dulude, P.Eng. (far right) is seen writing in a writing simulation lab at CHEO-OCTC.

I have always been a challenge to have an equal representation of women in an engineering workplace, but this hasn't been the case at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario-Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre (CHEO-OCTC), where you'll find many women working in engineering. They are found in various roles covering a wide spectrum of responsibilities in a university teaching hospital environment. Inspired by Engineers Canada's goal of raising the percentage of newly licensed engineers who are women to 30 per cent by the year 2030, our organization has...

"Early in my career, in the 1980s, I realized that many organizations systematically discriminated against the hiring of females and people of colour," says Greenwood. "This really bothered me. When given the opportunity to hire, I made sure the process was fair—the best person for the job was hired regardless of who they are. Our organization has benefited from a diverse workplace."

The women at CHEO-OCTC are (left to right): Vanessa Flores, Marie-Ange Janvier, PhD, P.Eng., Rifat Syed, Aimee Riggs-Wiley, Catherine Dulude, P.Eng., Gaetanne Heggie, P.Eng., Abiola Ogungbemile, EIT, Beth Cole, Dana Andersen, and Rachel Zhang, EIT

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SAVE THE DATE

2018 CMBEC41 Joint Conference

May 8-11, 2018

Charlottetown, PEI



EVENTS OF INTEREST

**World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering
(IUPESM 2018 Congress)**

June 3-8, 2018

Prague, Czech Republic

www.iupesm2018.org

Interested in publishing your story in the monthly e-Bulletin or the quarterly Newsletter? [Contact us](#) to discuss your topic!