

The EC consists of seven members: the President, the President Elect or the Past President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and three additional members. All members of the EC, except the President and the Past President, are elected by secret ballot by the Council during a meeting of the Council. After a term of one year, the President Elect will automatically become President. The members of the EC are not delegates of their respective countries. All details about the election process can be found in the statutes of the EFMC on the EFMC official website: www.efmc.info

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Activities The current affairs of the Federation are handled by the EC. Among its members, the EC will assign the responsibilities of International Liaison, Communication and Planning.

Council

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Council

The Council consists of the members of the EC and one delegate of each Adhering Organisation. According to the statutes, the voting rights are allotted according to the following rules: members of the EC: 1 vote, countries with up to 99 members: 2 votes, countries with 100-199 members: 3 votes, countries with 200-399 members: 4 votes, countries with 400-599 members: 5 votes, countries with 600-899 members: 6 votes, countries with more than 899 members: 7 votes. As for countries with more than one Adhering Organisation, votes will be proportionally distributed among them, taking into a resulting number will be rounded off to the closest digit.

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The **European Federation for Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC)** is an independent association founded in 1970 that represents 25 scientific organisations from 23 European countries. Its objective is to advance the science of medicinal chemistry by promoting cooperation and encouraging strong links between the national adhering organisations in order to deepen contacts and exchanges between medicinal chemists in Europe and around the World. Moreover, it offers medicinal chemists the opportunity to present their work internationally by organising the biennial EFMC International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ISMC). These symposia, with an average attendance of more than 1.200 delegates, are highly international with a broad range of speakers and attendees from the pharmaceutical industry and academia. Furthermore, in collaboration with the Royal Society of Chemistry, EFMC is publishing MedChemComm, the official journal of EFMC. MedChemComm is a peer reviewed journal publishing concise articles and reviews covering medicinal chemistry research.

The EFMC pursues its activities via flexible working groups, who cover strategic themes, themes for exploration, and operational tasks. An Advisory Board, composed of internationally highly recognized opinion leaders in the field of medicinal chemistry, assists in strategic planning and ensures a dynamic and vibrant advancement of EFMC. The EFMC has very strong links with the Medicinal Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society. Through this collaboration the ACS convenes sessions for the biennial EFMC-ISMC Symposia, and conversely the EFMC convenes sessions for ACS National meetings. In addition, the two societies regularly exchange observers at their committee meetings. Furthermore, the EFMC has an ex officio representative on the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry. EFMC also has strong links with the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuCheMS) and with

the European Federation for Pharmaceutical Sciences (EUFEPS). Furthermore, EFMC with the support of ChemBridge Corporation has been organising since 2004 the successful series of the International Symposium on Advances in Synthetic and Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC-ASMC). In addition, the EFMC also collaborates with the Asian Federation of Medicinal Chemistry by participating in meetings organised by the AFMC and vice versa, giving the EFMC a broad international footprint.

An important part of the EFMC activities is sponsorship of national scientific meetings and Medicinal Chemistry Schools. Supported by Bentham, it also awards bursaries for younger scientists to attend EFMC-ISMC Symposia. The EFMC also acknowledges the excellence of medicinal chemists' work, by conferring three major awards: the Nauta Award on Pharmacochimistry, the UCB-Ehrlich Award for Excellence in Medicinal Chemistry and the Prous Institute-Overton and Meyer Award for New Technologies in Drug Discovery, which are given every two years for outstanding achievements in the field of Medicinal Chemistry. From 2010 on, EFMC established two new prizes to acknowledge the scientific accomplishments of young medicinal chemists, both in industry and academia.

The EFMC homepage is now hot-wired to the websites of many national organisations, thus facilitating the flow of information. The monthly newflashes as well as the yearbook "Medicinal Chemistry in Europe" help to further develop cooperation between member organisations as well as their industrial partners and therefore advance medicinal chemistry in Europe, and by extension, around the globe. EFMC is also active on social media. To stay updated on EFMC activities, join the EFMC group on LinkedIn or follow us on Twitter @EuroMedChem.

EFMC Framework

In February 2013, EFMC organised a workshop bringing together EFMC's key stakeholders including the Council, the various committee members and the next generation of leaders, to engage in a dialogue about strategic initiatives EFMC needs to push to best serve the medicinal chemistry community in Europe and across the world.

The stimulating discussions were very fruitful. Ideas came up, proposals were collected and working groups have been established, translating creativity and lateral-thinking into concreteness.

As a result we established 8 working groups who were asked to come up with concrete proposals for implementation. The topics / working groups selected were:

- EU Policy
- Visibility of EFMC/Medicinal Chemistry
- Social media
- Interaction within the community
- Young Scientist Meeting
- Emerging markets
- Links to other disciplines
- Stakeholder map

Working group progress has been reviewed in the meantime and overall the project teams made great progress. Already some of their proposals have been turned into concrete activities, some working groups are at the stage of prioritising proposals for follow-up, and others have completed the activities and were closed.

Below we provide you with an update on the progress made in 2013-2014:

1 Strategic themes

Influence on European science policy

Current membership:

- Anders Karlén (chair), Uppsala University, Sweden

- Uli Stilz (EC sponsor), Novo Nordisk, Denmark
- Rob Leurs (previous chair), VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Christophe Genicot, UCB Biopharma, Belgium
- Danijel Kikelj, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Phil Jones, European Screening Centre Newhouse, University of Dundee, UK

EFMC would like to get more involved in political activities on the EU level, and is exploring collaboration with EuCheMS on this. In 2015, joint lobbying activities will be discussed, and a roadmap with realistic timelines will be formulated. Opportunities to participate in and to suggest IMI projects were discussed at EFMC-ISMC.

Visibility and recognition of medicinal chemistry

Current membership:

- Fabrizio Giordanetto (chair), Taros, Germany
- Gabriele Costantino (EC sponsor), University of Parma, Italy
- Laure Bouchez, Novartis, Switzerland
- Bernd Clement, Kiel University, Germany
- Vesna Gabelica Markovic, Galapagos, Croatia
- David Rees, Astex Pharmaceuticals, UK
- Henk Timmerman, VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Anna Tsantili, University of Athens, Greece
- Andrew Thomas, F. Hoffmann-La Roche, Switzerland

At EFMC-ISMC Lisbon a press conference has been organised. Local newspapers, scientific press and TV had been invited, and 5 keynote speakers of the EFMC-ISMC Symposium participated in the press conference.

The speakers explained to the press that apart from providing drug discovery professionals with scientific dissemination and networking opportunities, the symposium aspires to expose and celebrate the important, but often unnoticed, work performed by medicinal chemists, as their inventions greatly contribute to advancing health and the public well-being.

In 2015, the working group will continue emphasizing on targeting the broader public.

2 Exploratory themes

Emerging markets

Current membership:

- Edmond Differding (chair), Differding Consulting, Belgium
- Henk Timmerman (EC sponsor), VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Pascal George, Independent Scientific & Adviser, France
- Katarzyna Kiec-Kononowicz, Jagiellonian University, Poland
- Christa Müller, University of Bonn, Germany
- Rui Moreira, University of Lisbon, Portugal
- Antoni Torrens, Esteve, Spain

The working group has finalised its selection of target associations and key contact people. Positive feedback has been received from medchem associations in India, Brazil, China and South Africa. Next working group discussions will focus on future plans to increase awareness for medicinal chemistry and drug discovery on all continents.

Biotech, SME, pharma landscape and how to interact with that landscape

Current membership:

- Thomas Fessard (chair), Spirochem, Switzerland
- Pascal George (EC sponsor), Independent Scientific & Adviser, France
- Felix Calderon, GSK, Spain
- Constance Chollet, University of Cologne, Germany
- Olivier Defert, Amakem, Belgium
- Roberto Di Santo, University of Rome, Italy
- Thierry Langer, Prestwick, France
- Jarkko Rautio, University of Eastern Finland, Finland
- Andy Thomas, AstraZeneca, UK

A breakfast meeting with SME and Biotech representatives has been organised on the

occasion of the EFMC-ISMC Symposium. EFMC used the opportunity to talk to the SME's, and to find out if there are any critical contributions EFMC can make. In particular online trainings were identified as a key need for SME to support competence building of their workforce. The working group is now working on a concrete proposal, and will come back to the EFMC Executive Committee by the end of 2014. A decision will then be made on 2015 activities.

Links to other disciplines

Current membership:

- Christian Ottmann (chair), Eindhoven University of Technology, the Netherlands
- Jordi Gracia (EC sponsor), Almirall, Spain
- Sarah Skerratt, Pfizer, UK
- Maurizio Recanatini, University of Bologna, Italy
- Janet Robertson, TES Pharma, Italy

A short list of federations and associations representing other disciplines has been identified and agreed on to focus EFMC efforts on in 2015. We will now consolidate, and not continue as a working group, but make sure we maintain the established contacts. This will be linked to the operational team of the symposia.

Quality and visibility of training in medicinal chemistry

Current membership:

- Marko Anderluh (chair), University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Hein Coolen (EC Sponsor), the Netherlands
- Norbert Haider, University of Vienna, Austria

The council decides to hand over the implementation of the visibility of the short courses in EmTrain (OnCourse) to the operational team of the short courses. We can therefore stop this exploratory team.

3 Operational activities

Social media working group

Current membership:

- Stuart Conway, University of Oxford, UK
- Koen Augustyns (EC member), University of Antwerp, Belgium

EFMC is now active on LinkedIn and Twitter (@EuroMedChem), and for the EFMC-ISMC Symposium the hash tag #EFMC-ISMC has been created and actively used in Lisbon.

Communication team

Current membership:

- Gabriele Costantino, University of Parma, Italy
- Rasmus Clausen, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- Nele Coulier, EFMC, Belgium

EFMC has several communication tools which are running properly: the EFMC website, mass mailings to the database to promote EFMC organised and sponsored events, the e_newsletter MedChemWatch, and the annual Yearbook. Challenge for 2015 will be changing the format of MedChemWatch, which appears 4 times a year, into a monthly newsflash, which will be sent by email to the EFMC database.

Short Courses team

Current membership:

- Peter Mohr, F. Hoffmann-La Roche, Switzerland
- Henk Timmerman, VU University, The Netherlands
- Serge Van Calenbergh, Ghent University, Belgium

The team has selected topics for future editions of the EFMC Short Courses, and contacted potential course organisers. Info on the upcoming Short Courses can be found on the website www.efmcshortcourses.org

Awards & Prizes team

Current membership:

- Gerhard Ecker, University of Vienna, Austria
- Fabrizio Giordanetto, Taros, Germany
- Henk Timmerman, VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The team promoted the EFMC Awards and Prizes and made sure that the calls for nominations were widely known. For each Award, a significant number of candidates have been received, out of which an independent jury selected the winners of the 2014 EFMC Awards and Prizes.

Symposia

EFMC-ISMC, EFMC-YMCS, EFMC-ASMC, Frontiers Symposium.

Each meeting will continue to be managed by dedicated organising committees. The President, Secretary and Secretariat oversee and coordinate the overall meeting planning.