A CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY
of the
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF PERIODONTOLOGY

A New Era of Relationship with European Periodontology

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INTRODUCTION

Everyone has a history, and many of us believe that our own little history or experiences are not of any particular interest to others. Most of us would be wrong in coming to this assumption, as every day that passes something different, interesting and unforgettable happens to us all.

The idea of documenting the History of the European Federation of Periodontology came from a desire to share the background of our Federation with our new members, while simultaneously recognizing the incredible work and personal dedication contributed by the founding and leading members over the years. I believe that every member of the EFP will be interested to learn about how it all started, what happened year after year and what instigated many of the fine developments of our relatively young, but rapidly growing Federation.

The EFP has grown and flourished because of exemplary co-operation between independent autonomous societies and a deep conviction throughout its membership that the Federation, which has already contributed so much to periodontology in Europe and beyond, will continue to fulfill its significant role in the field of Periodontology.

My enthusiasm to document this history was kindled through meetings with the founding members who quite rightly can be considered as living legends. Their contribution to this effort has been immense and they have never hesitated to provide me with the necessary information which I could not have found merely by reading through the official protocol documents. I thank them all for their support, and infinite patience with my never-ending questions and requests for even more details.

My grateful thanks go in particular to my esteemed colleagues (in alphabetical order): Pierre Baehni, Jean Louis Giovannoli, David Hillam, and Ubele van der Velden who have all contributed their personal recollections, as well as valuable documentation, to substantiate all the facts contained herein.

Before closing, I’d like to say that the more I researched this history, the more interested and aware I became of our Federation’s significant achievements in the comparatively short period of only fifteen years. I can honestly say that this was one of the most enjoyable research projects I have ever attempted and I sincerely hope that you will all enjoy reading about our Federation in the following pages.

Joanna Kamma
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A New Era of Relationship with European Periodontology

It all started with a discussion over dinner between Ubele van der Velden and Jean Louis Giovannoli in 1985, when they explored the possibilities of working to create a co-operative and united body of European Societies of Periodontology.

Powerful incentives for this new liaison included the rapid developments within the European Community. Spain and Portugal had joined the European Community in 1986 and closer integration of European economic, social and labor policies were being debated, which foreshadowed the Maastricht Treaty of 1992, and lead to the European Union in 1993. The opportunities and threats associated with the free exchange of labor, including that of the Medical and Dental professions with their varying undergraduate and postgraduate training programmes in the different countries, had already been perceived.

In August 1986 the first stages aimed at creating a platform for the co-ordination of the activities within the European Periodontal Societies began. Hans Rodenburg from the Netherlands, Daniel van Steenberghe from Belgium and Peter Floyd from the United Kingdom suggested a meeting of Representatives of the Societies. A letter was sent through the Dutch Society to all the European Periodontal Societies asking if there was a general interest in holding an informal meeting to discuss possible European Co-operation. Positive answers came from the Belgian, British, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Spanish and the Swiss societies.

The first meeting of the European Co-Ordination Committee in Periodontology, as it became known, took place in Montreux, Switzerland, on 18 September, 1987, at the time of the joint meeting of the Swiss and Dutch Societies of Periodontology. Ubele van der Velden was appointed Chairman of this meeting.

The agenda covered the following topics:

- Co-ordination of meetings of the European Societies.
- Membership cards for the facilitation of reduced registration fees at annual meetings of the other European Societies of Periodontology.

1987

1988

On 22-23 May 1988, the 2nd Co-ordination Committee meeting took place in Marrakech, Morocco on the occasion of the X Journées Françaises de Parodontologie meeting. Edmond Benqué, the acting President of the French Society of Periodontology, was an enthusiastic supporter of the objectives pursued by the Co-ordinating Committee. Representatives from the Belgian (Daniel van Steenberghe), British (David Hillam), Dutch (Ubele van der Velden), French (Jean Louis Giovannoli), Spanish (Jose Echeverria) and the Swiss (Pierre Baehni) attended, with additional representatives from the German (Wolfgang Kruger), Italian (Marcello Calandrelli), Scandinavian (Per Lindeborg) and Portuguese (Gil Alcoforado) societies. The Chairman of this meeting was Ubele van der Velden (The Netherlands). This was essentially a “consolidation meeting” re-stating the main objectives of the Co-ordination Committee.

Reports were received from the various representatives on the state of Periodontology as a specialty in the various countries would be set up, together with information on available training programmes. Meetings of the European Co-ordinating Committee in Periodontology would be held annually.

Education of graduate and undergraduate students in Periodontology, including the continuing education of Dentists.

Recognition of Specialists.

Political activities intended to improve dental health in the different countries.

The status of periodontists in the various European countries.

Delegates of the Belgian (Daniel van Steenberghe), British (Peter Floyd), Dutch (Ubele van der Velden), French (Jean Louis Giovannoli), Spanish (Jose Echeverria) and the Swiss (Michel Perier) societies took part in this first meeting and it was decided and agreed that:

Annual meetings should be established thereafter, to be attended by delegates of all the national European Societies.

An increase in the number of Dentists properly trained in Periodontology would be of benefit to both General Practitioners and their patients.

Ubele van der Velden would set up a “clearing house” for information about meetings of the various Societies, details of which would be published in the Journal of Clinical Periodontology.

An exchange of information on the state of Periodontology as a specialty in the various countries would be set up, together with information on available training programmes.

Meetings of the European Co-ordinating Committee in Periodontology would be held annually.
The third Co-ordination Committee meeting was held on 6 June 1989 in Santa Margherita, Italy—again under the chairmanship of Ubele van der Velden. At this meeting it was absolutely decided to form a Federation.

A wide-ranging discussion took place, which included the goals of the proposed Federation, postgraduate education and, the possibility of a joint scientific meeting was raised for the first time. There was general agreement that all the Member Societies of the EFP should come together for a major scientific conference to be held at approximately 5-yearly intervals and it was acknowledged that this might eventually replace the highly successful North Sea Conference, which was already being held every five years. Thus, there was already a hint that the EFP, with its wider European coverage, could eventually make the existing collaboration of the Dutch, Scandinavian and British Societies for the North Sea Conference redundant.

The French Society suggested that the first EFP Congress could be held at the large new conference centre on the EuroDisney site near Paris, France.

During the 4th meeting on 16 May 1990 in Maastricht, The Netherlands, a Constitution including the Rules of Procedure for the EFP was proposed.

The European Federation of Periodontology would be a cooperative body of the joint European Societies of Periodontology.

The aims of the EFP would be:

- To promote and co-ordinate contacts between the European Periodontal Societies by the issuing of a joint membership card, a calendar of events published in the Journal of Clinical Periodontology, and joint conferences.
- To promote equal and high standards in the countries of the member societies in the areas of:
  - Scientific Knowledge in Periodontology.
  - Periodontal Health and Healthcare.
  - Undergraduate periodontal education by deciding on the minimal requirements of a periodontal training programme for recognition by the EFP.
  - Graduate periodontal education by deciding on the minimal requirements for a periodontal specialisation programme for recognition by the EFP and a periodontal training centre to be recognised by the EFP as a qualified training centre.
- Each member society should have one representative in the EFP. The EFP should meet at least once every year.

It was officially agreed that the first EFP Congress be held at EuroDisney in Paris in May 1995.

When this suggestion was relayed back to the committees of the British, Dutch and Scandinavian Societies, however, it was unanimously agreed between them that it was premature to abandon the North Sea Conference in favor of an untried substitute. The 4th North Sea Conference was also scheduled for 1995 and these societies would only consider abandoning further North Sea Conferences if the EFP Congress proved to be successful.

This led to a proposal from Ubele van der Velden to re-schedule the EFP Congress to 1993 but by the time this could be discussed by the EFP, in December 1991 in Amsterdam, it would have been too late to make the necessary arrangements. Thus, it was decided to plan the First EFP Congress at EuroDisney for May 1994 and Jean-Louis Giovannoli (France) agreed to take overall responsibility for its organisation.

The Amsterdam meeting on 12-13 December 1991 was a landmark in the history of the EFP as it was at this meeting that a formal Constitution and the Objectives were formally adopted.

These specified that:

- There would be one representative from each Member Society who would normally serve for a minimum of 5 years.
- Each Member Society would have one vote.
- There would be a Chairman annually elected, a General Secretary and a Treasurer who would each serve for 3 years.
- The official language of the Federation would be English.

This meeting, attended by representatives from the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Ireland, Portugal, Scandinavia, Spain, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom (the German and the Italian delegates were unable to attend) also finalised decisions about the date and venue of EuroPerio 1 Congress to take place in Paris, on 12-15 May 1994. Jean Louis Giovannoli was elected President for 1992, David Hillam became General Secretary and Ubele van der Velden was appointed Treasurer. A few months later, however, due to complications with the opening of a bank account for the Federation, it was decided that an account be opened in Luxembourg, and that Michel Brecx be appointed as the first Treasurer.

The Belgian, British, Dutch, French, German, Irish, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish and Swiss National Societies comprised the National Society membership of the EFP at this stage.

EFP meetings were held in EuroDisney, Paris, France, 12-14 June 1992 and Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 12-13 December 1992.

Detailed planning of the EuroPerio 1 Congress began during this year. The dates had already been officially fixed for 12-15 May 1994 and the agreed venue became the Hotel New York on the EuroDisney site, which offered excellent conference facilities. Jean Louis Giovannoli was appointed Chairman of EuroPerio 1, Pierre Baehni the Scientific Chairman and Edwin Winkel the congress Treasurer.
A sub-committee comprising Jean Louis Giovannoli, Edwin Winkel, and Mariano Sanz undertook the responsibility of signing the Congress Contract with Claude Labouse of CdP, the acting PCO, for the organisation of EuroPerio 1 in Paris. It was also agreed that the National Societies should not hold any rival conferences within approximately 6 months before or after EuroPerio 1.

At the June meeting a Research Sub-Committee comprising Gil Alcoforado and Michel Brecx was set up to consider all aspects of how the EFP could promote research activity in the furtherance of the Federation’s objectives. Simultaneously, a Working Group consisting of Giorgio Vogel, Ubele van der Velden and David O’Malley was appointed to contact WHO with a view to producing an improved index for monitoring and evaluating periodontal health.

During the December meeting a decision was made that individual countries could be represented by a National Society, and that the Scandinavian Society would be eligible for individual membership, but not as a representative body of all the Scandinavian countries.

The Research Sub-Committee presented guidelines to promote research in Europe:

- The preparation of a review article on epidemiological studies in Europe.
- The establishment of periodontal needs in each country according to locations, age, methods and tools used.
- The comparison of various therapeutic aids available, and to establish a register of all therapeutic aids available in each country.
- The promotion of international projects by:
  - the more advanced departments assisting the less experienced ones in the preparation of projects
  - two or more departments from various countries to work together on common projects.
- The mapping of the various periodontal pathogens according to location, race, age, gender, e.t.c.
- The identification of regional projects or ideas that could be applied on international levels.

A policy statement was agreed on the education of dental hygienists.

- The EFP supports the use of auxiliary personnel in which properly trained hygienists are key members.
- Those countries which currently do not have hygienists should be encouraged to legalise them.
- The qualification for hygienists should be at least Diploma level.
- Hygienists should work to the prescription and under the direction of a dentist.

ARPA, a pan-European organisation, was terminated in 1971 and its funds were transferred to the University of Geneva. Pierre Baehni undertook the task of negotiating with the University of Geneva to allow the EFP utilisation of the ARPA funds for the constitution of a prize in Periodontology.

In December 1993 it was agreed that the Journal of Clinical Periodontology be acknowledged as the official journal of the EFP and, with few exceptions, its purchase be obligatory for all members of the constituent societies. The Journal was under the skilled Editorship of Jan Lindhe until 2004, when Editorship was taken over by Maurizio Tonetti.

In December 1993 it was also proposed that a newsletter be published to inform members about the activities of the EFP, with announcements of future meetings, etc. Declan Corcoran was appointed as Editor of the Newsletter and retained that position until 2000. The newsletter, was first published and promoted at the EuroPerio 1 Congress in 1994.

A working group, the Undergraduate Education Committee was set up composed by Mariano Sanz, the chairman, Gil Alcoforado, Lavinia Flores de Jacoby, Michel Brecx and Ubele van de Velden to prepare a model of Undergraduate education training programme.

Germany, Italy and Spain were shortlisted as possible venues for EuroPerio 2. Finally, the proposal of the Italian Society of Periodontology to host EuroPerio 2 in Florence from 15-17 May 1997 was unanimously accepted. Massimo De Sanctis was appointed Chairman of EuroPerio 2, Mariano Sanz the Scientific Chairman and Edwin Winkel the Congress Treasurer.

During the June meeting, at the request of the American Academy of Periodontology, it was decided that the EFP should send two representatives to the AAP Committee for the World Workshop to be held in Washington, July 1996. Mariano Sanz and Jan Lindhe were selected to represent the Federation.

The Hellenic Society and the Turkish Society of Periodontology were unanimously approved as Full Members of the EFP.
The Gothenburg meeting coincided with the 4th North Sea Conference. During the June meeting, it was decided to reduce the intervals between congresses so that the event takes place every three years. Preparations immediately commenced for the EuroPerio 2 and the EuroPerio 3 congresses. Each EuroPerio venue was selected after careful consideration and voting by the General Assembly.

A logo for the EFP was agreed upon from the three designs suggested by the Scandinavian, Swiss and British representatives. This new logo was incorporated into the EuroPerio 2 logo. The logo was also sent to Munksgaard Publishers who then modified the front page of the Journal of Clinical Periodontology accordingly.

At the December meeting the membership of the Post-Graduate Committee for the inspection of the Post-Graduate Programmes was finalised. It was confirmed that Ubele van der Velden be appointed as Chairman of the Post-Graduate Committee (Pierre Baehni, Lavinia Flores de Jacoby, Mariano Sanz). Prof. Van de Velden advised that he would prepare a comprehensive questionnaire appropriate for EFP use in evaluation of Post-Graduate Programmes.

At the December meeting it was decided that the EFP instituted a Workshop Committee composed by Niklaus Lang, Thorkild Karring and Jan Lindhe to undertake responsibility for the organisation of the European Workshops on Periodontology. Prof. Lang outlined the history leading up to the first European Workshop of Periodontology which was held in Ittigen, Switzerland in 1993 and was organised by the European Academy of Periodontology. The future workshops would report to the EFP with details of the Committee’s proposals as they developed and Prof. Lang or another member would attend EFP Committee meetings when the workshops were to be discussed.

Pierre Baehni advised the meeting that the ARPA funds which had been transferred to the University of Geneva were bound by a legacy condition that the name of René Jaccard be associated with these funds. Prof. Baehni continued diplomatic negotiations with the University in order to succeed in the relegation of these funds to the EFP.

This Congress proved to be such a success with over 1,200 paying participants that it was decided to reduce the intervals between congresses so that the event takes place every three years. Preparations immediately commenced for the EuroPerio 2 and the EuroPerio 3 congresses. Each EuroPerio venue was selected after careful consideration and voting by the General Assembly.

The Danish Society of Periodontology was accepted as a Full Member of the EFP. The ultimate goal of the Federation was, however, that each of the Scandinavian nations be represented separately as individual National Societies.

The Jaccard-EFP Research Prize in Periodontology

The Prize was named after René Jaccard (Geneva, Switzerland), initiator and co-founder of ARPA International (Association pour la Recherche sur les Parodontopathies) founded in Frankfurt in 1932. Following the dissolution of the ARPA International in 1971, the remaining assets were transferred into a “Fonds Prix Jaccard”, with the intention to be used in the future for a research Prize in the field of Periodontology. Following the foundation of the EFP in 1991, it was only natural that the control of the “Fonds Jaccard” should be transferred to the Federation as the EFP and ARPA International were both European organizations.

Pierre Baehni undertook the project of liaising with the Trustees to discuss the future of the “Fonds Jaccard”. After long negotiations, Prof. Baehni managed to reach an agreement with the Trustees and to have the assets of the “Fonds Jaccard” transferred to the University of Geneva. The EFP Clinical Research Prize was then known as the Jaccard-EFP Research Prize.

The Jaccard-EFP Research Prize is awarded with the objective of promoting research in Europe. Open to all Members of the Periodontal Societies which are part of the European Federation of Periodontology, this prize is awarded once every three years on the occasion of the EuroPerio Congress.

agreed that the Committee for Promotion of Research consisting of Gil Alcoforado and Michel Brex was assigned to investigate the research grants that may be available in Europe, and the committees which could be approached.

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On setting criteria for membership of the EFP, it was also agreed that a Sub-Committee be formed consisting of Jean Louis Giovannoli, Mariano Sanz, Pierre Baehni, Lavinia Flores de Jacoby, Ubele Van der Velden, David Hillam to examine all aspects of the process by which new countries could be admitted to membership of the EFP.

The first EFP Directory of Periodontists and Dentists with a special interest in Periodontology was completed and presented by Lavinia Flores de Jacoby. This directory would facilitate the referral of patients with periodontal problems and it was agreed that the list should be updated in November of each year.

Submissions had been received from the British, German and Swiss societies for EuroPerio 3 to be held in Glasgow, Munich and Geneva. Following short presentations from Isobel Maddan, Joerg Meyle and Pierre Baehni, the proposal of the Swiss Society of Periodontology was voted to host EuroPerio 3 in Geneva, 7-10 June 2000. Pierre Baehni was appointed Chairman of EuroPerio 3.

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In 1996 Constitution of the EFP was amended in order to enable other interested periodontal societies, which did not qualify for full membership, to achieve the status of "Associate Member". With the increasing number of member societies, it became necessary to establish separate meetings of the General Assembly and of the Executive Committee. The latter consisted of the President, the President-elect, the Past-President, the General Secretary, the Treasurer, two additionally elected members and, if necessary, other co-opted members.

The Executive Committee is responsible for discussing all actions that should be taken by the EFP and then prepare them for a decision by the General Assembly. This new procedure enabled the number of General Assembly meetings to be reduced to one per year.

The 2nd European Workshop on Periodontology which was organised by Niklaus Lang, Thorild Karring and Jan Lindhe in conjunction with the EFP took place in Charterhouse at Ittingen, Canton of Thurgau, Switzerland, 3-6 February 1996. The theme of this meeting was "Chemicals in Periodontics". The proceedings of the meeting were published by Quintessence and a statement that it was held under the auspices of the European Federation of Periodontology was featured on the first page.

The Postgraduate Education Committee under the chairmanship of Ubele van der Velden has produced a document on the “Quality standards for graduate programmes in Periodontology” which provided the necessary harmonization of periodontal training. With this document the EFP set forth the standards and requirements to be used in the evaluation of Periodontology training programmes applying for accreditation by the EFP.

Booklets on “Curricular Guidelines in Undergraduate Education” and on “Graduate Programme in Periodontology” were produced by the Committee on Undergraduate Dental Education (Chairman Mariano Sanz) and Committee on Graduate Dental Education (Chairman Ubele van der Velden) respectively. These booklets have been distributed to all Deans of 225 dental schools and heads of Periodontal departments in Europe, national periodontal societies, the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE), the American Academy of Periodontology and the Fédération Dentaire Internationale (FDI).

Massimo DeSanctis reported that he had been approached by the AAP concerning possible future collaboration and that he had proposed a meeting of EFP with AAP delegates to be arranged during EuroPerio 2 in Florence.

Prof. van der Velden reported that applications for approval of their Post-Graduate programmes had been received from the Universities of Gothenburg, Bern, Amsterdam and Nijmegen. Each university was sent a quality questionnaire and visits of 11-12 days were organised for the evaluation process. The qualifying status would be decided by the General Assembly.

The Austrian, Czech, Hungarian, Israeli, Polish and Slovenian Societies of Periodontology were accepted as Associate Members of the EFP.

Gil Alcoforado reported on the meeting with AAP board during the 83rd AAP annual meeting in San Diego 5-8 October, 1997 and the correspondence that followed the meeting. Although no clear action plan had been made, it was agreed to pursue this relationship with the AAP.

In addition to organising two very successful EuroPerio congresses, the EFP succeeded in establishing standardized European guidelines for Undergraduate and Post-Graduate education in the field of Periodontology.
According to the guidelines, the specialist education in periodontology would take 3 years and should be undertaken in a periodontal department of a university or college. In response to these new guidelines, leading universities in a number of European countries, which had already offered analogous further education, started adapting their programmes to the EFP guidelines.

The EFP established a Post-Graduate Committee to receive applications from university periodontal departments. Post-Graduate programmes are assessed under the EFP Guidelines and, if they conformed to the relevant criteria, they were awarded EFP recognition.

The Post-Graduate Education Committee agreed on the need to encourage more universities to seek accreditation by the EFP. Development of a new graduate programme model was also proposed, in order to accommodate the Bologna recommendations and to encourage student mobility schemes.

In 1998 the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands (ACTA) became the very first to have its Post-Graduate programme accredited by the Postgraduate Education Committee; soon to be followed by the University of Bern, Switzerland which became the second.

At the Athens meeting in November, a protocol featured below was presented by the Executive Committee on the work of the Standing Committees. This was approved by the General Assembly.

“The EFP Standing Committees are composed of a Chairman and Elected Members. They are proposed by the EC and elected by the GA. The regular duration of their appointment is three years, which can be extended for future terms. Once elected, the Chairman must present a written report to the Executive Committee stating the general objectives for the three-year period, as well as specific objectives with defined tasks for each specific year. In this report a detailed description of the resources and budget needed for fulfilling these objectives should also be presented. Meetings should be organised if possible via paper or electronically. Meetings can also be organised one day prior to the General Assembly Meeting.

All correspondence with the EC is to be made via the Secretary General who will act as the Co-ordinator of the Standing Committees. The Chairmen of the Standing Committees can be invited to attend the EC Meetings in order to present the status of their respective works. In these situations the travel costs will be covered by the EFP Budget.”

Submissions had been received from the British, German and Turkish societies for the EuroPerio 4 Congress to be held in Glasgow, Berlin and Istanbul. The bids were presented by Denis Kinane, Joerg Meyle and a PCO on behalf of the Turkish Society, in accordance with the guidelines recommended by the Congress Organising Committee. The proposal of the German Society of Periodontology was voted to host EuroPerio 4 in Berlin 19–21 June 2003. Joerg Meyle was appointed Chairman of EuroPerio 4, Maurizio Tonetti the Scientific Chairman and Pierre Baehni the congress Treasurer.

Joerg Meyle was also assigned the responsibility for compilation and finalization of the second edition of the EFP Directory of Periodontists; a very valuable tool to assist Dentists in recommending periodontal care for their patients.

Rolf Attström presented the content of the proposed EFP website which would include:

EFP Scope and Bye-laws, Resources, Journal of Clinical Periodontology, EuroPerio 3, Postgraduate education, Continuing education, Members-Only password protection, Committees, Relations, News, Learning, Jobs, Patients, Search, FAQ (frequently asked questions), Site map, etc., and the other likely functions of the site. The GA approved this recommendation. It was also unanimously agreed to include EFP as the main recognizable name of the website and it was suggested to possibly use www.efp.org. It was envisioned that this website would be located in different mirror sites in order to expedite the electronic circulation.

Per Lindeborg in the beginning (1991-92) and David Hillam later had been collecting information on the training system of hygienists in European countries. David Hillam evaluated all data and prepared a report on curricular guidelines for hygienist education. The report was accepted and proposed to be circulated among the most important European Dental Hygiene Schools requesting their opinion and feedback. It was also recommended to request the opinion of the International Federation of Dental Hygienists in order to attain board consensus in this highly important issue.

The establishment of formal appointments for all the Committees elected in Frankfurt was effected as all the proposed members had accepted their appointments.

The final composition of the EFP Committees was therefore agreed to be as follows:

Congress Organisation Committee

Chairman
Edwin Winkel

Members
Michel Breex
Jean Louis Giovannoli
Pierre Baehni (Elected Treasurer EuroPerio 4)

Publications Committee

Chairman
Jan Lindhe

Members
Rolf Attström
Declan Corcoran
Joerg Meyle

Postgraduate Education Committee

Chairman
Ubele van der Velden

Members
Jan Wennström
Noel Coffey
Mark Quinsen

The Swedish and Norwegian Societies of Periodontology, became Full Members of the EFP.
EFP meetings were held in Geneva, Switzerland, 11-12 June 2000 and Dublin, Ireland, 8-9 December 2000.

Geneva, Switzerland, 8-11 June, 2000
Congress Chairman: Pierre Baehni
Scientific Chairman: Ubele van der Velden
Treasurer: Jean Louis Giovannoli

This was a highly successful Congress, attended by more than 3,800 Dentists from many countries. The great success of this Congress aroused highly increased interest in EuroPerio, both in Europe and from the rest of the world. The Secretary General reported on the current legal procedures undertaken by the Federation in Brussels. With the valuable assistance of Michel Brecx the translated Constitution and Bye-laws were presented to the Belgium Government, thus starting the process. The lawyers requested from the Member Societies proof of legal entity, legal name, address and composition of the Board with the names and addresses of Board Members.

Mariano Sanz reported that the EFP official name and logo had been presented for registration at European level. This year, the University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands became the third to have its Post-Graduate programme accredited by the Post-Graduate Education Committee.

The Finnish Society of Periodontology was accepted as a Full Member of the EFP.

Mariano Sanz reported on formal correspondence established with the American Academy of Periodontology seeking mutual co-operation and establishment of formal links. Gianfranco Carnevale and Daniel Etienne initiated this formal link on behalf of the EC during the 85th AAP Meeting in San Antonio, 26-29 September, 1999. It was agreed that the EFP would formally invite an official AAP delegation to attend the EuroPerio 3 Congress in Geneva.

The Secretary General presented a Strategic Planning process which had already been carefully studied and worked on by Edwin Winkel and Jan Lindhe in order to set up a working plan for the following three years and which was unanimously accepted.

The objectives and tasks for the different Committees and Officers were defined.

The President and Executive Committee members should:

- Develop the general policy of the EFP
- Design short and medium term (3 year) objectives
- Establish close links with EC Members and the EFP Representatives from the Societies
- Maintain constant contact with the Secretary General and the Treasurer to assure the fulfillment of the objectives
- Represent the EFP at European and International events
The Periodontal Education Committee should:

- Postgraduate Education
- Evaluate Graduate programmes
- Continue Evaluation Process
- Liaise with the Publication Committee - JCP Case reports
- Provide Web information regarding the programmes
- Develop staff and student mobility programmes
- Liaise with the EuroPerio Committee

The Undergraduate Education Committee should:

- Review Guidelines
- Liaise with DentEd (Thematic Network Project Achieving Convergence in Standards of Output of European Dental Education) and Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE)

The Congress Committee should:

- Develop guidelines for the organisation of EuroPerio Meetings
- Develop guidelines for the bids to organise EuroPerio Meetings
- Develop strategies for continuing sponsorship
- Develop strategies for continuing education between EuroPerio Meetings
- Liaise with Research, Publication and EAP Committees for scientific validation

The EuroPerio Committee should:

- Organise the EuroPerio Congress
- Liaise with Member Societies for a successful meeting outcome
- Liaise with the Industry for a successful meeting outcome
- Liaise with the Congress Committee to ensure fulfilment of guidelines

The Periodontal Practice Committee should:

- Develop a strategy towards specialisation in Periodontology in Europe
- Develop position papers for therapeutic approaches in Periodontics
- Develop guidelines of periodontal practice
- Liaise with the EAP Committee - Develop evidence-based protocols in periodontal practice

The Secretary General should:

- Liaise with the President, EC and all Standing Committees
- Be responsible for all the legal issues
- Create a valid trade name and PR strategy
- Establish formal links with sister organisations
- Establish formal links with legislative bodies at European Level
- Develop a strategy for pursuing the specialisation process
- Develop close contacts with all Member Societies

The Treasurer should:

- Develop a formal bank account under the name of the Federation
- Develop a short, medium and long term economic strategy for the EFP
- Develop a stable sponsorship plan for the Federation
- Liaise with the Secretary General, EC and Committees in order to develop a realistic budget
- Liaise with all the Committees, especially the EuroPerio and Congress Committees
- Develop close contacts with all Member Societies

The Publication Committee should:

- Liaise with the Publishing House
- Be responsible on the publishing projects of the EFP:
  - The Journal of Clinical Periodontology
  - The Newsletter
  - The Website
  - Other future paper or electronic publications

The Research Committee should:

- Develop a resource centre for European Research projects in Periodontology
- Develop a database of periodontal research centres in Europe with main research lines
- Liaise with the EAP Committee - for development of priority research lines
- Liaise with the Congress Committee - for development of congress scientific programmes

The EAP Committee should:

- Be responsible for the organisation of European Workshops
- Liaise with the Research Committee - for research networking - European projects
- Liaise with the Publication Committee - Workshop proceedings
- Liaise with EuroPerio Committee - Science transfer in EuroPerio
The new Committees comprised:

**Research Committee**
- **Chairman**: Sören Jepsen
- **Members**: Joanna Kamma, Gianfranco Carnevale

**Periodontal Practice Committee**
- **Chairman**: Daniel Etienne
- **Members**: Birgitta Van-Troil, Heinz Topal, David Nilliam, Gianfranco Carnevale

The Publication Committee had, on behalf of the EFP, negotiated a contract with the publishers Blackwell/Munksgaard. The proposal was sent to all Member Societies. The Secretary General asked each Member Society to express its opinion on the contract proposal. All Societies agreed to approve the contract, provided Blackwell/Munksgaard would make an introductory offer of approximately €80.00 for the year 2003 print subscription. The Secretary General asked all Societies to approve this contract in their respective General Assemblies in order to fully implement it in January 2003.

This year, the University of Leuven, Belgium became the seventh to have its Postgraduate programme accredited by the Postgraduate Education Committee. The Croatian Society of Periodontology was accepted as an Associate Member of the EFP.

Declan Corcoran reported on the formal meeting between the EFP-Executive Committee and the AAP board during the 87th AAP Congress in Philadelphia 6-10 October, 2001. During this meeting both executives agreed to organise a common scientific session either in EuroPerio or in AAP Meetings happening in the East Coast. The EFP formally invited an official AAP Delegation to take part in the 4th European Workshop on Periodontology in Ittingen 2-6 February, 2002. The president also reported on the successful EFP session celebrated in Philadelphia.

On 9 September, 2002 the Ministry of Justice of the Belgian Government registered the EFP amongst the non profit international organisations under the Belgian Law. In addition, the EFP Name and Logo were also registered at European level (www.just.fgov.be). The responsibility for coordination and culmination of this process was successfully undertaken by Michel Breckx.

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### EFP Standing Committees

**Postgraduate Education Committee**
- **Chairman**: Ubele van der Velden
- **Members**: Jan Wennström, Roel Dafrey, Mark Quirynen

**Publications Committee**
- **Chairman**: Jan Lindhe
- **Members**: Rolf Attström, Declan Corcoran, Richard Palmer

**Research Committee**
- **Chairman**: Pierre Baehni
- **Members**: Arie Jan van Winkelhoff, Sören Jepsen, Joanna Kamma

**Periodontal Practice Committee**
- **Chairman**: Daniel Etienne
- **Members**: David Nilliam, Morten Kjaergaard, Gianfranco Carnevale

**European Academy of Periodontology**
- **Chairman**: Klaus Lang
- **Members**: Massimo Tanenti, Dennis Kinane, Jan Lindhe, Mariano Sanz

**Congress Organisation Committee**
- **Chairman**: Jean Louis Giovannoli
- **Members**: Massimo de Sanctis, Joerg Meyle, Edwin Winkel, Pierre Baehni

### 2001

**EFP meetings were held in Florence, Italy, 10-11 May 2001 and Berlin, Germany, 7-8 December 2001.**

A Proposal for the new composition of the Research Committee and Periodontal Practice Committee was unanimously accepted by the General Assembly.

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### 2002

**EFP meetings were held in Amsterdam, Netherlands, 31 May 2002 and Madrid, Spain, 13-14 December 2002.**

On 9 September, 2002 the Ministry of Justice of the Belgian Government registered the EFP amongst the non profit international organisations under the Belgian Law. In addition, the EFP Name and Logo were also registered at European level (www.just.fgov.be). The responsibility for coordination and culmination of this process was successfully undertaken by Michel Breckx.
The Constitution and Bye-laws of the National Societies were all translated into the English language in order to conform to the requirement of the Federation that all documentation be in English.

The following proposals of the Postgraduate Education Committee (PEC) were put to the General Assembly for consideration:

To develop a network of accredited graduate programmes and try to foster a mobility programme for students and staff within this network. For this item the following options were accepted:

- A symposium where all graduate students present clinical or research protocols. This could be organised once every 3 years. The first year students could present treatment planning, the second years a research protocol and the third years finished clinical work or research findings. Thus the cost would be incurred only once by each student and all would get a chance to be present. Each student would be required to attend at least once. In addition the teachers of the various schools would be invited to give a lecture.

To give the students of the 2nd or 3rd year the opportunity to visit some other EFP approved education centres for 2 or 3 weeks.

To give teachers the opportunity to lecture for 1 week at another EFP approved education centre.

- A meeting should be organised between the directors of the approved graduate programmes in order to fit the MSc programmes into the EC format. This would open up the possibility of obtaining the money needed for the exchange of students and teachers between the programmes.

- To develop a diploma awarded to the students graduating from approved graduate programmes provided an official EFP-PEC examiner is appointed as a member of the examination committee for the final examinations of the approved graduate programmes. A working document should be developed.

- To co-ordinate the production of JCP case reports by the approved graduate programmes. This item could be organised in conjunction with the symposium.

These proposals were unanimously accepted and the General Assembly asked Prof. Van der Velden to initiate this process.

The European Academy of Periodontology Committee organised the 4th European Workshop on Periodontology entitled “Periodontal Practice” that took place in Charterhouse at Ittingen, Canton of Thurgau, Switzerland, 2-6 February, 2002. This workshop was organised following the principles of evidence-based dentistry and all the critical reviews were published as a special issue of the Journal Clinical Periodontology.

The Congress Committee had elaborated a EuroPerio Guidelines proposal for the future organisation of EuroPerio meetings, including the bidding procedure, in order to present candidatures for EuroPerio 5. This proposal was circulated to all the National Societies and was accepted with amendments.

For the organisation of EuroPerio 5 only the candidature of the Spanish Society of Periodontology was received. Mariano Sanz presented the Spanish proposal which was unanimously accepted by the General Assembly. EuroPerio 5 will take place in Madrid, Spain 29-30 June and 1 July, 2006.

This year, the University of Madrid, Spain became the eighth to have its Post Graduate programme accredited by the Postgraduate Education Committee.

The Moroccan Society of Periodontology was accepted as an Associate Member of the EFP. The Austrian Society of Periodontology after completing 5 years as an Associate Member and having fulfilled the necessary membership requirements was accepted as a Full Member of the EFP.

Joerg Meyle and Pierre Baehni reported on the formal meeting that took place between the EFP and the AAP board during the 88th AAP annual meeting in New Orleans, 24-28 September, 2002. Both parties agreed on organising a joint symposium during EuroPerio meetings and whenever an AAP annual meeting is held in the East Coast. They also agreed on the strengthening of the mutual collaboration possibly embracing other areas such as: reciprocity in accreditation, organisation of joint workshops, reciprocate advertisement in the respective journals, agreement of discounted fees for members, etc.

Prof. Meyle also reported on contacts with the Asian Society of Periodontology and the Ibero-Panamerican Federation of Periodontology. Both regional organisations had expressed their willingness to participate in the EuroPerio Congress and to hold a specific session for their members.

The EuroPerio 4 was concluded with great success. More than 3,500 participants attended the meeting all clinicians and researchers in the field of Periodontology. They came from 62 countries worldwide to meet at the International Congress Centre in Berlin, 19-21 June, 2003. During EuroPerio 4, the American Academy of Periodontology, the Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology, the International Academy of Periodontology, the French Society of Periodontology and the MASCC/ISOO-O rganisation organised joint sessions with great success. Approximately 100 sessions took place during the three-days, including general and video sessions, specialist forums, industrial workshops, EuroPerio-seminars, a forum for innovations, short communications and poster presentations. A special “Dental Team - programme” was also offered by the German Association of Dental Hygienists and the International Federation of Dental Hygienists.
In June 2003 the concept of an EFP Newsletter was re-implemented. Joanna Kamma, appointed as its Editor. A new title of "EFP News" was agreed, and the newsletter to be printed six-monthly was designed as a medium to update all members on the most recent activities of the Federation.

In 2003 Monica Guinea started working with the EFP as administrative secretary and undertook the responsibility of coordinating all administrative and communication matters for the EFP presidency and in particular for the EuroPerio congresses.

This year Jerusalem University, Israel became the ninth to have its Post Graduate programme accredited by the Postgraduate Education Committee.

The Secretary General, Mariano Sanz explained that since the EFP is registered in Belgium the legal language of the Federation is French, although the working language remains English. A professional French translation of the New Constitutions & Bye-Laws was sent to delegates, however, upon the request of Prof. Sanz, a finer translated version was requested by establishing regular formal meetings, to study the organisation of joint workshops, joint symposia, etc.

Prof. Sanz also informed about the correspondence maintained with the European Association of Osteointegration and the Ibero-Panamerican Federation of Periodontology.

Mariano Sanz reported on the activities carried out with the American Academy of Periodontology during the EuroPerio 3 meeting held in Berlin. The relationships between both organisations were reviewed and it was agreed to further strengthen this link by establishing regular formal meetings, to study the organisation of joint workshops, joint symposia, etc.

The Czech and Slovenian Societies of Periodontology after completing 5 years as Associate Members and having fulfilled the necessary membership requirements were accepted as Full Members of the EFP.

In June 2003 Blackwell/Munksgaard became host of the EFP website, the MyEFP segment of the website, open to EFP members only, became operational and the General Assembly.

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In June 2003 Blackwell/Munksgaard became host of the EFP website, the MyEFP segment of the website, open to EFP members only, became operational and the

Journal of Clinical Periodontology was made available to members online. Blackwell was responsible for updating and maintaining the content of the web and the University of Copenhagen under the direction of Anders Nattestad and Rolf Attström was responsible for the related directory databases and electronic communications between Societies, Committees and Members. Rolf Attström served as the main Webmaster of the EFP, coordinating the work of both components. Ehran Firati, was put in charge of all content and interaction of the on-line communication of the Federation. The webmaster of each society would be the only person able to upload documents, news, translated abstracts, etc.

As elected new editor of the Journal of Clinical Periodontology, Maurizio Tonetti, presented the agreed transition process between Blackwell, and the EFP. The outgoing editor, Jan Lindhe continued to take care of submissions until the end of August 2004. From 1 September all the submissions went through the fully electronic, new editorial office in London, under the new editorship of Maurizio Tonetti. During the transitional period, the responsibility was shared by both editors, although most of the articles to be published in 2005 would have been accepted by Jan Lindhe.

Maurizio Tonetti proposed a formal nomination of Jan Lindhe as "Editor Emeritus" of JCP as a sign of appreciation for all his excellent work. This proposal was fully supported by the Executive Committee and the nomination was made and accepted at the Vienna General Assembly in December, 2004.

Joanna Kamma EFP News editor presented the new design and content of the newsletter, in both printed and on-line format.

Since 2001 when Edwin Winkel was appointed as the Treasurer of the EFP he has continued to emphasise the need for a change in the financing system through direct yearly input of funds to the Federation by the allied industry and sponsors for EuroPerio congresses.

Edwin Winkel and Mariano Sanz continuously reviewed the economic situation of the Federation and together with the lawyers examined all the legal possibilities. As a result of their diligence and thoroughness, it was agreed that the most suitable method would be through the establishment of a European Economic Interest Group within the Federation. At the December General Assembly it was agreed that, in order to facilitate the funding and financial support of the EFP scientific activities, a European Economic Interest Group be formed. The European Economic Interest Group (EFP Group) would be comprised of existing EFP members, sharing the same objectives as the EFP (namely to promote periodontology in Europe and worldwide, using all legal means available to it, and more generally oral health). The Constitution and Bye-laws for the EFP-group were presented and approved during the Vienna General Assembly in December, 2004.

Edwin Winkel advised that as a legal European non-profit scientific association (AISBL) the EFP had contracted an accountant in order to present the accounts and to keep the financial records according to the Belgium legislation. Thus started the regular reporting of the statutory Brussels auditors to the General Assembly.

Bids from the United Kingdom, Greece, Holland, Sweden and Turkey for EuroPerio 6 were submitted. Francis Hughes from the British Society for London; Edwin Winkel
from the Dutch Society of Periodontology for Amsterdam; Joanna Kamma from the Hellenic Society of Periodontology for Athens; Korkut Demirel from the Turkish Society of Periodontology for Istanbul and Stefan Renvert from the Sweden Society of Periodontology for Stockholm presented their bid at the December General Assembly in Vienna, Austria. Both Athens and Stockholm became joint finalists and site-visits were scheduled to each proposed venue for the beginning of 2005.

An updating of the standing committees was proposed. Mariano Sanz reported that the Publication Committee had been fully renewed. Also, Daniel Etienne proposed some changes to the Practice Committee he chaired.

The General Assembly fully agreed with the new positions.

Søren Jepsen, Chairman of the Research Committee presented the following plan of the Committee:
- to initiate an EFP survey on Periodontal research in Europe in order to promote periodontal research and cooperation between countries
- to promote research through the establishment of prizes for graduate research in EFP approved programmes. These prizes would start in 2004 and would amount to €1,000 for 1st prize and €500 for 2nd prize. Research work must be published in the Journal of Clinical Periodontology between January and December of the running year and be submitted to the Committee for evaluation before 1st December.

The research committee also proposed a €5,000 start up funding for two research projects.

The Periodontal Practice Committee started two surveys among the members of the EFP by distributing questionnaires. Daniel Etienne the Chairman of the Periodontal Practice Committee had presented early results and commented on the two surveys: The Demographic and Insurance Survey will be useful for all National Societies and will have a major impact on the designing of new European strategies that promote periodontal health services. The Periodontal Practice Survey assessed both quantitatively and qualitatively the level of periodontal services provided to periodontal patients. Also, it was planned for this to be launched on the EFP web site for all members of the National Societies.

The Executive Committee proposed three “ad-hoc” committees be formed. The “ad-hoc” Committee on Dental Hygiene chaired by Pierre Baehni, the “ad-hoc” Committee on Specialisation chaired by Uros Skalenc and the “ad-hoc” Committee on How to Integrate Implant Therapy in Periodontal Practice chaired by Joerg Meyle.

Morten Klepp reported on meeting with the AAP officers at the 90th annual meeting in Orlando 14-17 November, 2004. The main issues discussed were: the participation of the AAP in the 5th European Workshop on Periodontology in Ittingen, Switzerland, 5-9 February, 2005; the collaboration in EuroPerio and East Coast AAP meetings through joined symposia; the defense of the specialty, defining the future of Periodontology.
In actual fact, Periodontology is recognised as a Specialty in 11 European countries. Mariano Sanz fully recommended requesting and pursuing the process of recognition at European level of the Specialty of Periodontology. With this objective, Mariano Sanz, Ubele van der Velden, and Daniel van Steenberghe had very professionally prepared a position paper on “Speciality in Periodontology”. The position paper was opened to suggestions from the EFP Societies and the pursuit of this process was unanimously approved by the General Assembly. Thereafter, it was distributed to all national representatives.

Uros Skaleric, Chairman of the “ad hoc Committee on Specialisation” attended the Chief Dental Officers’ meeting in Madrid in June 2005 at which he presented the EFP request for the Council’s attention to the European level recognition of the specialty of Periodontology and submitted the position paper to this CECD meeting.

The 1st EFP Symposium of Graduate students in Periodontology was held in Münchenwiller, Switzerland, on 30 September and 1 October, 2005. The initiative for this symposium came from Mariano Sanz and Ubele van der Velden. Niklaus Lang undertook the task of the local organisation and the symposium was generously sponsored by Oral-B. In total 92 people participated in the symposium: 21 teachers and 71 students. Everybody agreed that the symposium was a resounding success. A result of the symposium was that it is likely to be the start of a European body for graduate students in periodontology. A group of volunteers had already been working towards the establishment of an Alumni Association for students, graduates and associates of the EFP accredited centres.

Working together, Mariano Sanz and Ubele van der Velden updated the guidelines for the graduate programme in Periodontology, defining competences and curriculum to follow the Bologna Process Guidelines.

Niklaus Lang, Chairman of the EFP European Academy of Periodontology Committee reported on the outcome of the 5th European Workshop on Periodontology which took place 5-9 February 2005 in Charterhouse at Ittingen, Canton of Thurgau, Switzerland. The main title of this state of the art workshop was “Etiology and Pathogenesis leading to preventive concepts”. The proceedings of the meeting were published as a special issue of the Journal Clinical Periodontology.

Daniel Etienne, Chairman of the Practice Committee summarised the work done by the Committee during this year. He presented the proposal of CSA, a French company to run the survey on the Demography of Periodontal Practices and the Trends in Treatment. This survey would be carried out directly on-line through the web in several languages. Dr. Etienne stressed the need for more involvement from the National Societies. The proposal was approved by the General Assembly.

The concept of the EFP-Survey on Periodontal Research in Europe was to collect information of ongoing Periodontal Research in Europe, create a database and make the information available on the EFP-website to all Members, in order to establish a profile of periodontal research activities throughout Europe. This information would be useful to find partners for joint international projects. A total of 49 projects from 41 project leaders at 26 Universities in 12 countries were received. Sören Jepsen presented the list of projects and asked for more participation commitment from the EFP National Societies.

Joanna Kamma reported on the meeting held with the AAP officers during the 91st AAP Annual Meeting in Denver 24-27 September, 2005. This was an excellent opportunity for members of the EFP to meet with their counterparts to exchange ideas and views. The discussion focused on the profession, the speciality, and the specialist. The future in the field of periodontology, profile of the speciality, and opportunities in care delivery were recognised as important topics for both Organisations. Harmonising the point of view of both Associations and having a common position on these issues could be mutually advantageous. Issuing joint position statements on selected subjects was considered. It was agreed to produce a statement redefining the “periodontist”.

**European Economic Interest Group / EFP-Group**

The aim of the Federation is to promote the field of periodontology and to improve oral and periodontal health among the populations in Europe. In order to fund its activities, the EFP is dependant on financial support from governments and the private sector. The European Economic Interest Group (EFP Group) was established with the aim of managing all financial aspects of the EFP as the Federation is a non-profit organisation. The EFP Group, comprised of EFP Members and Industrial and Institutional related bodies as Supporting Members, is empowered to act on behalf of the EFP and to deal with finances, contracts and congresses. The EFP Group is an instrument which enables the EFP to generate and manage the funding of its activities.

**Gravity**

The position paper “Periodontology as a recognised dental speciality in Europe” by Mariano Sanz, Ubele van der Velden, Daniel van Steenberghe and Pierre Baehni was published as a Guest Editorial in the June issue of the Journal of Clinical Periodontology.

**References**

Full Members

- Austrian Society of Periodontology 2002 [1997]
- Belgian Society of Periodontology 1991
- British Society of Periodontology 1991
- Czech Society of Periodontology 2003 [1997]
- Danish Society of Periodontology 1994
- Dutch Society of Periodontology 1991
- Finnish Society of Periodontology 1999
- French Society of Periodontology 1991
- German Society of Periodontology 1991
- Hellenic Society of Periodontology 1993
- Irish Society of Periodontology 1991
- Italian Society of Periodontology 1991
- Norwegian Society of Periodontology 1998
- Portuguese Society of Periodontology 1991
- Slovenian Society of Periodontology 2003 [1997]
- Spanish Society of Periodontology 1991
- Swedish Society of Periodontology 1998
- Swiss Society of Periodontology 1991
- Turkish Society of Periodontology 1993

Associate Members

- Croatian Society of Periodontology 2001
- Hungarian Society of Periodontology 1997
- Israeli Society of Periodontology 1997
- Moroccan Society of Periodontology 2002
- Polish Society of Periodontology 1997
- Serbian and Montenegrin Society of Periodontology 2003