

The logo for EFSUMB (European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology) features the acronym in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. To the right of the text are several curved lines representing sound waves, and further right is a stylized blue caduceus symbol.

**EFSUMB**

European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology

# **50 Years of SGUM / SSUM**

**A short history of the first years from SAGU to SGUM/SSUM**

**Luciano Braun e André Dietschi**

# Notes

- *Unfortunately, the lecture only refers to the few documents I could find.*
- *I took most of the content from a folder in the SGUM Archives. In addition, I researched several documents that I found during my time with the working group and later section of general internists, and from documents from my SGUMB and SGUM time.*
- *The bars framed on the slides usually contain the date, the name of the person who made the statement underneath and the name of the recorder or author.*
- *The copied texts are always between the quotation marks and the closing characters.*
- *Grammatical errors were improved in the fewest cases.*
- *My own additions, statements and comments are written in italics.*
- *Underlined or bold words or phrases should be used for better understanding during the lecture.*
- *I had to omit very many important names of colleagues due to time constraints. I apologise for this.*

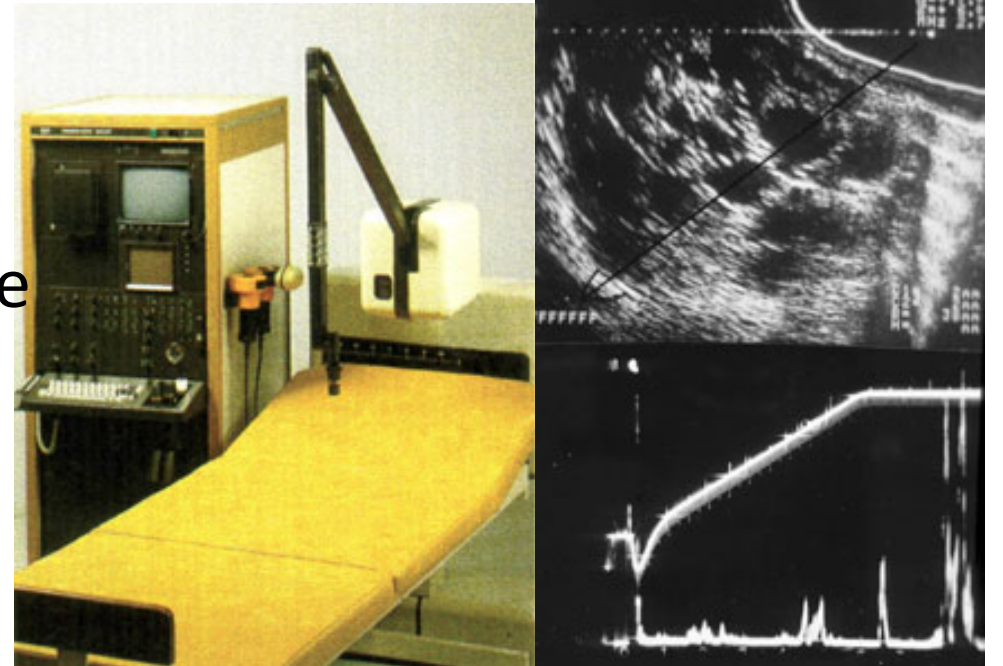
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# 1969 SAGU

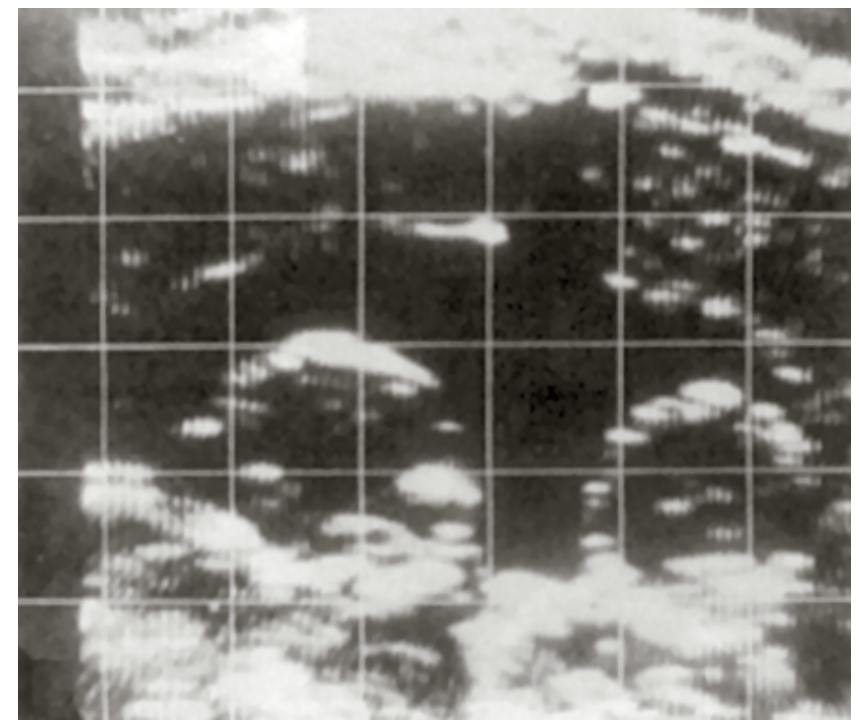
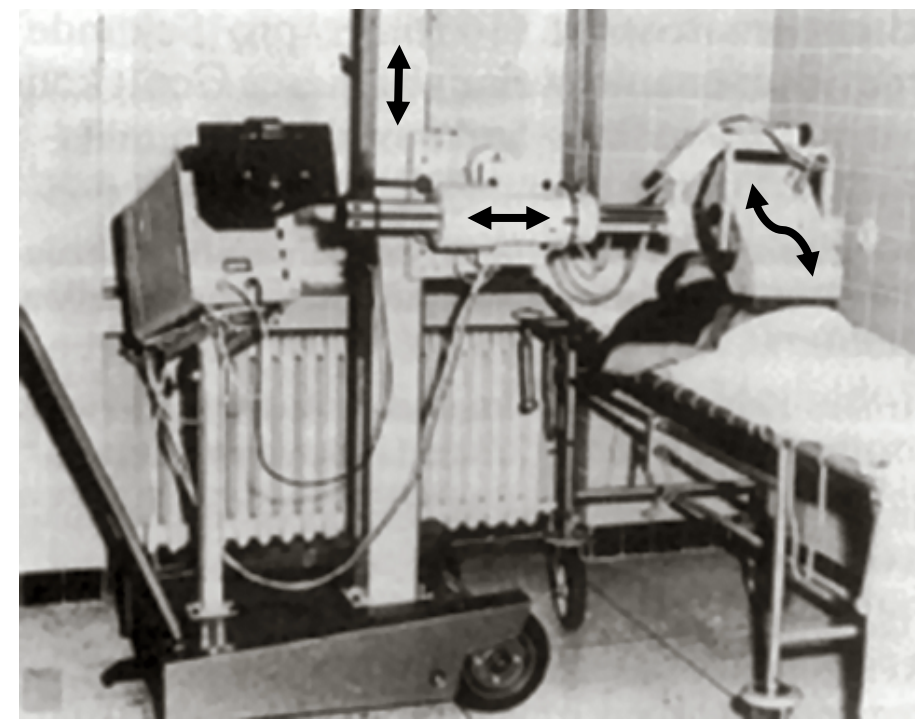
- *A small group of ultrasound pioneers met in Basel as early as the 1960s.*
- *The **SAGU, Swiss Working Group for Ultrasound**, was founded on 03 June 1969, probably in \*Vienna during the first world congress for ultrasound diagnostics in medicine (\*statement: Prof. Harald Th. Lutz).*
- *The founding members included\*\*: Hans-Ruedi **Müller**, Neurology Basel; Ruedi **Meudt**, Centre for Tumour Assessment and Pregnancy Monitoring Merian-Iselin-Spital, Basel; Malte **Hinselmann**; F.X. **Jann**; Michael **Ramzin**, Urs **Haller**, Women's Clinic Basel; ... (\*Ibid: Heinz-Dieter Henner)*
- *Even then, there were good contacts with the **German and Austrian colleagues**, as well as with the **EFSUMB and WFUMB**.*

# A-mode and compound scanner

- In the 1970s, the A-mode was used mainly in neurology (intracerebral processes) and gynaecology (measurement of the biparietal diameter).
- Two-dimensional images through  
Manual scanning technique in A-mode  
with compound scanner



- *At the beginning of the **1970s**, patients at the **medical A-clinic** of the **Bürgerspital Basel** were examined by **Dr Johanna Burger** in a small, darkened room with a huge ultrasound machine.*
- *As far as I can remember, the device looked something like this (prototype of the Vidoson Siemens 1965) ...*
- *... and the pictures were not much better (twins in the **17th** week of pregnancy, view of the placenta in the front part).*
- *In the early 70s I was allowed to watch Mrs Burger's ultrasound examinations from time to time. I was thrilled by the technique , even though the images were black and white and the presumptive diagnoses were regularly doubted and sometimes laughed at.*



In **1970**, a commission was founded by the SAGU to deal with the questions of charging for ultrasound diagnostic services. PD M. Hinselmann, President of the SAGU:

- "An enquiry to the General Secretariat of the Swiss Medical Association was answered. Doctors' Association was answered to the **effect** ... that **the rates for doctors' services would be set in the contracts between the cantonal doctors' associations and the cantonal health insurance associations.**
- After receiving this decision, the members of the tariff commission and the Basel Cantonal Hospital primarily sought to achieve a Basel-Stadt tariff."

**Only in 1977**, 7 years later!, in the minutes of the business meeting of the SAGU in Vienna, Dr. R.Meudt Secretary:

- "According to a letter from the Federal Social Insurance Office ... the expert commission came to the unanimous conclusion that ultrasound diagnostics can basically be described as scientifically recognised. ... According to the letter from the Cantonal Tariff Commission, the following positions were included in the hospital tariff in Basel: **Echo-cardiography**: 30 tax points; **Doppler examinations of the cerebral circulation** with recording: 30 Tp; additional **Doppler angiography of the carotid bifurcation**: 10 Tp; **time-motion in obstetrics**: 30 Tp.
- The tariffs for echoencephalography and abdominal ultrasound diagnostics ... fixed on 7.1.1977 require revision, as the SAGU proposal to increase the positions in question by 5 Tp each was rejected for the time being."

1976 The SAGU takes on more and more tasks, President Malte Hinselmann.  
20.10.1976 Dr. R. Meudt writes to the members of the SAGU:

- ... "Dr Anderegg agrees to organise the 1977 SAGU annual meeting in Lausanne".  
...
- ... "on 17.09.76 the joint board meeting of the Austrian, West German and Swiss Working Communities took place in Heidelberg.
- At this meeting it was unanimously proposed to hold an annual meeting alternately. ...
- ... in the discussion on a common concept for training and the corresponding certificate of competence for medical and paramedical staff working in ultrasound diagnostics, our proposal to ask the various professional societies for support was lively discussed and accepted."

- ***Around the end of the 1970s, ultrasound was transferred to the radiology department in Basel, and in addition to the Vidoson and Echotomograph, it was possible to work with a new Toshiba machine with a linear probe about 30 cm long. Even though only a few shades of grey were available, this was a fantastic experience.***

1977 Minutes of the SAGU Business Meeting in Vienna, Dr R.Meudt Secretary:

- "Agenda item 4: Authorisation to perform ultrasound diagnostic examinations:
- The three working groups agree that for the remuneration of ultrasound diagnostic services:
  - 1. to require authorisation of the investigator after adequate training is provided
  - 2. the examination result should be sufficiently documented in words and pictures
- This would give the possibility of quality control"



**In 1977** in a 'Report of the SAGU on the forms of application of ultrasound diagnostics in medicine...' Dr Hinselmann, President, writes:

"The application of US diagnostics covers the following specialties:

- Neurology
- Ophthalmology
- Cardiology, angiology
- Gastroenterology
- Nephrology
- Gynaecology
- Oncology"

**In 1978**, the SAGU stated in its annual report:

"... that there are currently **about 300 ultrasound machines** in Switzerland. A **performance review** is therefore imperative, with the following requirements:

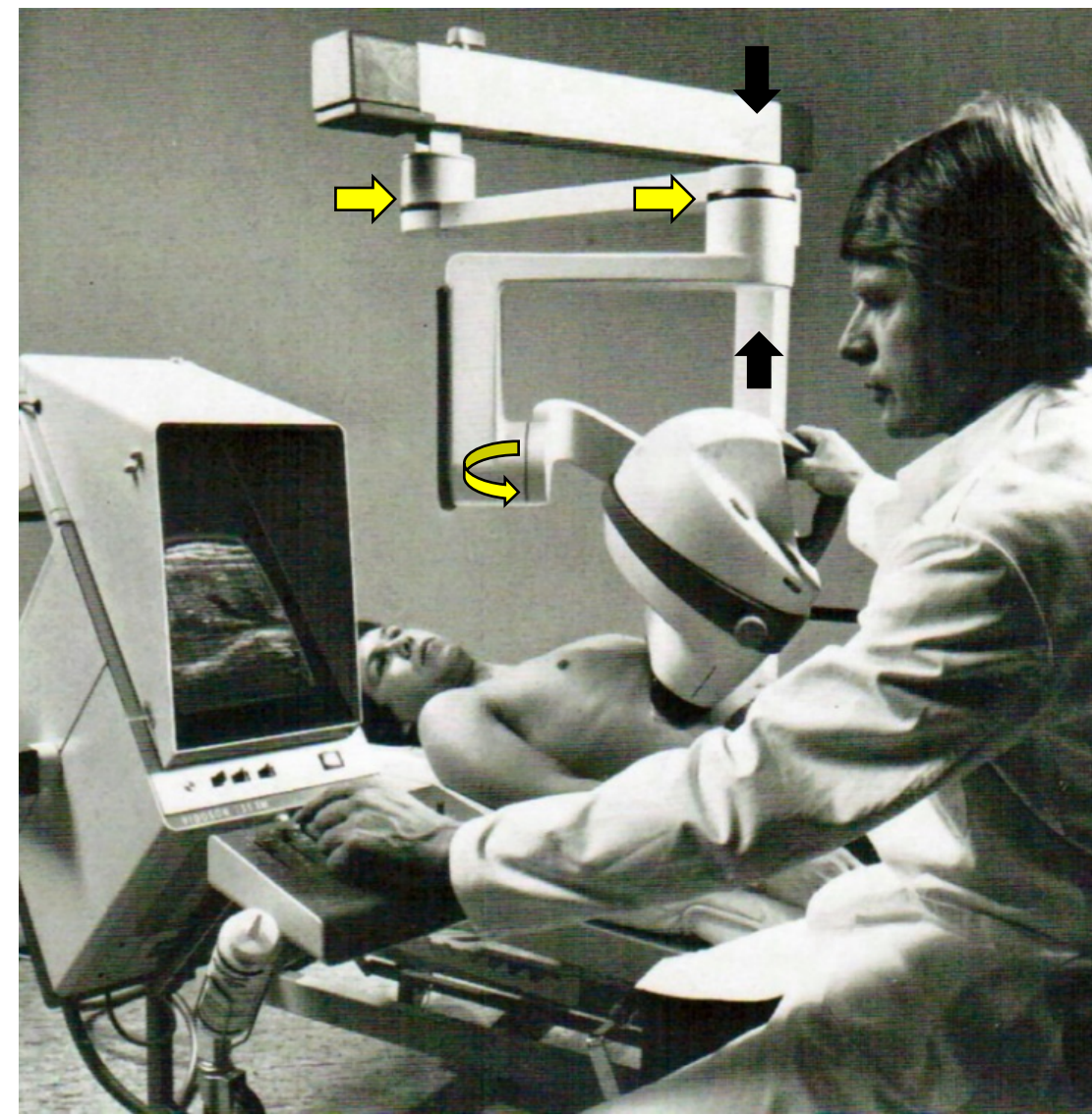
1. training of paramedical staff as well
2. a proper documentation of the examination result."

**1979** Prof. Haller, SAGU President, writes to Fräulein Dr. Angela Anderegg, responsible for the Quality Control Commission:

- "... It is unfortunate that in recent times a somewhat **large order of business has** prevailed in our working group, all the more so that it was made clear at the same board meeting that **clear conditions must be created in view of the very important business that now has to be done.**
- With copy to Secretary Dr. Heinz D. Henner"
  
- *Dr Heinz D. Henner became SGUMB President in 1985 and ...*
- *Dr Angela Anderegg became professor and SGUMB president in 1991.*

# 1980 SAGU becomes SGUMB

- Change of the name of the working group to **Swiss Society for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology**.
- In the revision of the Articles of Association under Article 3.4:
- "Following the regulation at the German sister society, the application for membership is to be submitted by a written application and endorsed by two full members (guarantors)."
- *This was another attempt to achieve better quality. But it was very soon, and probably rightly, criticised as insufficient.*
- ***1980** When I opened my practice in Ticino, I bought one of the latest Vidoson machines. But shortly afterwards it proved to be completely outdated.*



- *Vidoson Siemens*
- *The probe could only be moved with the help of many mechanical joints*
- *It had a very wide forerun, which contained a liquid that had to be replaced regularly by specialists from Zurich because of the streaks that formed*
- *The machine generated a modest palette of greyscales*
- *The images were documented with a Polaroid camera that swivelled above the screen.*
- *Sonogel was already used on the skin at that time.*

# About: Joint Commission and Health Insurance Benefit

Stand in the **70s and early 80s**:

- *Very few general practitioners had an ultrasound scanner at the time*
- *Most sonographies were performed in individual hospitals*

*In the canton of Ticino, for example*

- *I, as a practice owner, had to fight for a tariff in the joint commission without sufficient documentation, this without much help from the Cantonal Ordine dei Medici and without support from our society.*

**05.12.1981** General Assembly of the SGUMB. President Prof. Haller reports:

- "After the Federal Social Insurance Office determined by decision of 15.11.1979 that **routine ultrasound examination during pregnancy** could not be covered, a meeting was again convened on 11.12.1980 at the request of the Swiss Society of Gynaecology and at the request of the SGUMB ...
- ... After a two-hour meeting, a negative decision was again taken".

05.12.1981 General Assembly of the SGUMB,  
President Prof U. Haller, Dr Jann, Secretary:

- Under:
- "Objectives of the Society: Dr Burger stated at the board meeting ... that ultrasound has meanwhile been very strongly integrated into the individual disciplines and the question of whether new objectives need to be considered for the future of the SGUMB."
- "Ultrasounds journal: The motion put forward by Dr Faust, Basel, to subscribe to the journal Ultrasounds for one year only and to enter into negotiations with other journals for block subscriptions was accepted."

**6.11.1986**, letter from SGUMB President Dr H. Henner:

- "The main focus of activity in the past months was the elaboration ... of the guidelines for training and quality assurance by the commission ... As a member of this commission, I can state that it was quite difficult to reconcile the most diverse interests."
- *This leaves two ordinary members, usually trainers (guarantors or sponsors), for membership.*

**18.12.1986**, Minutes GV SGUMB, Dr M.S. Ramzin Secretary:

- "Ultrasound assistants: ... Some of the colleagues are of the opinion that an ultrasound examination should only be carried out by doctors. This view is not shared by all, as the collaboration of assistants is very important, especially in larger and super-specialised ultrasound centres".

**1987** Schweizerische Ärztezeitung (Volume 68, 1987, Issue 15).

"Prise de position de la Société Suisse de Radiologie et Médecine Nucléaire":

- "... ecografy must find its place in the medical radiology department.
- Indeed, by virtue of his training, **the radiologist is the specialist most capable of using ultrasound...**
- ...he is the specialist who is best able to use ultrasound in an optimal way. ...
- ...now that the number of doctors practising it with insufficient training is increasing.
- This development can only lead to an explosion in health care costs.



*But even then there were enthusiastic ultrasound radiologists who appreciated the SGUMB.*



*2 Examples from several radiologists*

*Jürg Prim*

*Guido Robotti*



03.03.1988 Minutes of the General Assembly of the SGUMB  
President Dr H. Henner, Secretary Dr Ramzin:

- "5th statement on EFSUMB: Criticism about the umbrella organisation of the European Ultrasound Society is getting louder - little or hardly any cooperation, little or hardly any benefit from such an organisation. Unclear financial situation and unclear relationship with the world organisation. Continued lack of discipline of national societies in relation to finances, informatics and other activities. ...
- In particular, Prof. Müller is vehemently in favour of retaining membership.
- 8. results of the survey on training ... currently there are 34 training centres, mainly radiology and gynaecology/obstetrics. Training centres for other specialties are not sufficiently available and thus a big problem arises for the training of resident colleagues outside the clinic. One of the possibilities for education and training are the continuing education courses within the framework of the various specialties. ...
- **9 Gastroenterology** guidelines: The gastroenterologists would like to integrate ultrasound diagnostics into FMH training. Adopted 38 yes, 1 abstention."

**28.09.1988** Founding of the 'Swiss Society of Medical Ultrasonology of Italian Switzerland' in Taverne

09 - 12 October **1988** the 12th **joint conference of the German-speaking societies** for ultrasound diagnostics took place in Lugano:

Assemblea costitutiva:

NUMERO	NOME	COGNOME	FIRMA	SPECIALITÀ	LOCALITÀ
1	GUIDO				
1	ROBERTI		F. Rosoff	★ Radiologi	SORUSSO ←
2	Wulm	Werner	W. Ill	Med. gen.	Muralto
3	Meyer	Felix	F. Meyer	med. interna	Biasca
4	Hickel	ROMANO	G. M.	med. gen.	LOBBIO
5	Hans Rudolf	Physiomed	H. R.	Med. Gen. FMH	Melide ←
6	Beluffi	Johny	J. Beluffi	med. interna	Corneo
7	Credda	Walter	W. Credda	★ radiologo FMH	Mendrisio
8	POLITA	GIANCARLO	de Polita	med. generale	BOFFOLA
9	KAUZLARIC	DAZEK	M. Kauzlaric	★ radiologo	Locarno
10	Waller	EYER	W. Waller	gen.	Lugano
11	MELIK	Alessandro	A. Melik	Med. Int.	Ascona
12	van Wybenbach	Alessandro	A. van Wybenbach	★ MH Radiol	Bellinzona ←
13	PETROVIC	MIHAN	M. Petrovic	★ radiologo	MENCISIO
14	Ackermann	Franz	F. Ackermann	Med. Int.	Lugano
15	Foglia	Ezio	E. Foglia	Med. int. cond.	Lugano
16	Solradé	Giorgio	G. Solradé	MI	Lugano
17	PRINZ	francesco Peter	F. Prinz	Med. Int.	Belmunt
18	Wanderlid	Peter	P. Wanderlid	Med. Int.	Fasola ←
19	BRENTINI	PIETRO	P. Brentini	Med. Int.	BIASCA
20	FODERÁ	LUCIO	L. Foderá	★ Radiologo FMH	Lugano
21	BRUN	LUCIANO	L. Brun	Med. Int.	Taverne ←

- In the introduction of the published book by Henner H.D., Otto R.C., Ramzin M.S., Zweifel H.J. one read:
- "The conference focused on Doppler technology and the problem area of ultrasound screening, but many other technical and methodological developments were also covered."
- *In Ticino, we were hoping at the time for better recognition of the language regions from the Swiss Association, as well as support in further education and in negotiations with social partners.*

November 1988, letter from SGUMB President Dr H. Henner to the members:

- "As we ... experienced, French and Italian speakers ... feel largely excluded from our society and therefore mostly stay away from the events,
- This led so far that ... the Italian-speaking colleagues even founded their own Swiss Society for Ultrasound Diagnostics of Italian Switzerland a short time ago.
- ... after consultation, there is thus the possibility that the Swiss Ultrasound Society for Italian-speaking Switzerland can be converted into a section of the SGUM. "\*\*\*
- "... furthermore, we were able to agree with our colleagues from Austria and Germany that in future this restriction 'German-speaking society' will be omitted from the designation 3-country meeting of the German-speaking societies."

*\*\*\*On 27.11.1998 SUMSI changed its statutes and became the 'Società Svizzera di Ultrasonologia in Medicina e Biologia, Sezione SGUMB/SSUMB'.*

# Further advances in ultrasound equipment

- Milestones are the development of transducers from mechanical transducers to electrical transducers at the end of the 80s
- Thus the possibility of going from a few grey levels to several 100 grey levels (today it has to be at least 256 grey levels).
- Higher resolution becomes possible

18.11.1988, Letter from Chuv Lausanne to  
Uni Hospital Zurich:

- "... the increasingly pressing problems we are experiencing in Lausanne with regard to ultrasonography.
- Indeed, we are under strong pressure from the Department of Internal Medicine and in particular from the gastroenterologists to use ultrasound equipment outside the Radiology Department.
- They propose to install an ultrasound machine in their consulting rooms ...
- We and the hospital management are naturally very much against this solution and discussions are underway.
- As radiologists we find this situation unacceptable and will of course continue to use ultrasound to the best of our ability for our patients to be more efficient than our internist or surgeon friends.

*And yet, in the next few years, two more committed radiologists should be intensively involved in the SGUMB and then in the SGUM*



**Christian Looser**, who later as secretary during my presidency actively helped me with the compilation of the modules and with the revision of the SGUMB-SGUM statutes.



**Jean-Yves Meuwly**, who had SGUMB treasurer's duties.

On 17 December **1988**, a group of selected ultrasonographers received a letter from Dr Werner Bauer:

- "The Professional Ethics Committee of the SGIM has received the mandate ... to improve **training in** sonography among practising internists. ... to expand further **training opportunities** within the SGIM ... to evaluate possibilities for offering sonography courses to internists in Switzerland as well, in the interests of **quality assurance**."
- *In my opinion, over time a group of sonographers emerged, whose ideas and suggestions acted as a catalyst for further development of the SGUMB as a whole. All of them were convinced that ultrasound diagnostics had a great future and wanted to help shape it as much as possible.*
- *Several already had several tasks within SGUMB and the health system. This also allowed for a speedy work: Many goals, activities, contacts, projects and negotiations served as an example / template and also benefited other sections.*



1989 following discussions:

- 1) between SGUMB President Dr. D. Haffter with Dr. W. Bauer.
- 2) in the subsequent Executive Committee telephone conference of 27.07.1989
- 3) and the board meeting of 09.09.1989 the following **statement** was made:

- "**Permanent training** must be guaranteed for years ...
- A **tutor system** is required which is regionally in the ratio of tutor:learner 1:2 to 3 ...
- Practical examination on patients is only possible and acceptable if the learner has prior thorough **training** in ultrasound totalling at least three months."
  
- *It needed comprehensive structuring.*
- *The following year we were able to advertise a **pilot ultrasound course (A and B) at Faido Hospital** with the assistance of the head physician PD F. Wunderlich. (Unfortunately, requests to assist with ultrasound courses at other hospitals in Ticino were almost always refused at the time and will continue to be in the future).*
- *Before long, both **courses** were full.*

Nov. 1989 "... This is a pilot course at Swiss level organised by the Swiss Society of Internal Medicine and the Ticino section of the Swiss Society of Ultrasonology in Medicine and Biology SGUMB."

CORSO A	
1. Giorno Introduzione Fegato anat. Colecisti anat.	2. Giorno Fegato patol. Colecisti patol
PRANZO COMUNE	
Reni anat. Reni patol.	Milza anat. Milza patol. (Diaframma)

Dopo 6  
Mesi:

CORSO B	
1. Giorno Ripetizione Alcuni casi del corso A "pitfalls"	2. Giorno Pancreas anat. Pancreas patol. "pitfalls"
PRANZO COMUNE	
Vasi sang. anat. Tratto gastro- intestinale	Linfonodi Vescica-prostat Utero-annessi

*Both courses took place in 1990 and were a complete success.*

*In time, a certificate was also handed out at the end (forerunner of the skill and ability certificate).*

22.03.1990 this list was presented at the SGUMB General Assembly:

Liste des membres  
Année 1989/90

Nouveaux membres  
élus le 22.03.1990

*The focus was on the radiologists and gynaecologists*

Radiologues	66	16	
Gynécologues	101	22	
Autres	207	<u>38</u>	<u>76</u>

*But where have the individual sections gone?*

Membres associés	7		2	
Firmes	<u>10</u>	<u>224</u>	<u>3</u>	
		391	+	81 =

472 membres au total *Membership at the beginning of 2019: 4014*

# Autumn 1990. From the circular letter to SGUMB members:

- Total membership: 469
- Doctors 434
- Medical-technical laboratory assistants 9
- Industry representative 13
- Ordinary members 426
- Extraordinary members 19
- Corresponding Members 2
- *The vets joined a year later*

**22.03.1990** AGM. In his annual report the president D. Haffter writes:

- "The statutes provide for sections to represent individual interest groups. These sections organise themselves ...
- The consensus on the board culminates in the recommendation to form a section."

**Namen**

**Gebiet**

Herrn Dr. med. Frauchiger

Angiologie, Basel

Herrn Dr. med. Marty

Chirurgie, Basel

Herrn PD Dr. med. Marbet

Gastroenterologie, Uri

Herrn Dr. med. Bauer

Innere Medizin, Küsnacht

Herrn Dr. med. Dubs

Bewegungsapparat, Winterthur

Herrn Dr. med. Vontobel

Urologie, Basel

Herrn Dr. med. Schilt

Paed. Chir. , Luzern

Herrn Dr. med. Biedermann

Gynäkologie, Zürich

Prof. Anderegg (President elect)

Radiology, Lausanne

8. 1.1992 Letter from the successor President Prof. Angela Anderegg to all colleagues:

- "The SGUMB Board is keen to work closely with all sections.
- The gentlemen/ladies/presidents will in future be invited ... to produce an annual report for the SGUMB General Assembly. ...»

*And by the way, as far as our 'free-floating members' are concerned even today:*

- "I would like to add that there is no compulsory sectioning in the SGUMB. Gynaecologists, radiologists, neurologists, angiologists, engineers etc. have lived together since the founding time almost without complications and without sections. These pioneers were and are primarily interested in the interdisciplinary aspects of ultrasound."

11.12.1992 Letter from W. Bauer to the FMH Central Board:



- "... In this sense, we see ourselves as the **specialist representation** responsible for internal and general medical concerns within the framework of the distinctly multidisciplinary SGUMB.
- ... We would now like to ask you to **include our cooperation** in the development of further education and training criteria and also in other projects concerning sonography."
- *One more step towards a well-anchored and solid SGUMB structure*

13 July 1996 A typical invitation from Werner Bauer to the Section meeting 10.20 am at the Hotel Palace in Lucerne:

- "... No sooner has our Davos meeting become history than sonographic topicalities are already calling us to another meeting....
- Luciano Braun and I are looking forward to meeting you in Lucerne for concentrated, creative, friendly and productive discussions that will consume calories and therefore lead to a joint lunch. Absences are unthinkable, and registrations and cancellations are therefore unnecessary.
- *In retrospect, it can be said that at that time and for many years to come, a pleasant atmosphere and collegiality prevailed, which was also transferred to the SGUMB Executive Committee and Extended Executive Committee.*
- *The original 'Working Group on Continuing Education of Sonographing Internists' of 1988-90 became the SGUMB Section in 1992 and changed its name to the 'Section of Internists and General Practitioners' in 1993.*



2/3.02.1996 Minutes of the Extended Board SGUM, President K. Biedermann, Secretary C. Looser:

- " 3.4.1 School Ultrasound
- On the initiative of Prof. R. Otto, Baden, the Ultrasound School Davos Association was founded in December 1995. ...
- The **Board of Directors** is constituted as follows: Dr J. **Barandun**, Davos; Dr W. **Bauer**, Küsnacht; Mr R. **Branschi**, Chur (Davos Tourist Office); Dr L. **Braun**, Bedano; Dr U. **Federspiel**, Zurich; Dr Ch. **Meyenberger**, St.Gallen; Prof. R. **Otto**, Baden.
- Prof. K. Jäger finds that the goals of the newly founded school are to be supported in principle, but there is a danger of a parallel connection to SGUMB".
- *The good cooperation that also developed between the Davos Tourist Office and the SGUMB allowed us, among other things, to organise the congresses in Davos with a reasonable budget. André Dietschi, Urs Federspiel, Jürg Prim, Jan Tuma and new member of the team Ueli Thurnheer were and still are significantly involved.*
- *Over the years, the goals and tasks of the Ultrasound School Davos were redimensioned. Now the school no longer exists, but over the years it has provided excellent services to the SGUMB and the SGUM.*

# Further improvements

- In 1996 I bought myself a Siemens versa pro
- A monster of a device, but...
- Equipped with a colour doppler
- Siemens sponsored a vascular course at the time over 3 days in Erlangen when purchasing the unit



1997 A new SGUMB President is elected  
and a steep career is extended



*Not much changed. Only the team got bigger as the work increased and more synergies emerged.*

# 1998 SGUMB/SSUMB becomes SGUM/SSUM

- *We are heading into a new century/millennium and in the next few years ...*
- *... additional emphasis will also be placed on the three languages during the congresses*
- *... our modules are 'invented*
- *... the foundations are laid for structured initial, further and continuing training*
- *... a unité de doctrine of the SGUM is introduced in the course system*
- *In line with the innovations, new statutes, ...*
  
- *And once again we asked ourselves whether the SGUM/SSUM does not need a database and an office!*

30.01.1998 SGUM Board meeting before the start of the 2-day retreat in Olivone.  
According to the minutes, the Board meeting does not start so well  
President Dr. L. Braun, taking minutes Dr. Ch. Looser:

- "On the occasion of a conversation between Prof. R. Otto and Dr. R. Salzberg FMH was told unequivocally,
- ...that US technology as practised today will no longer be affordable in the foreseeable future.
- The currently valid guidelines and the ongoing amendment of the SGUM statutes and structural reform are expected to remain valid for about 10 years; following the planned study reform, it is not yet foreseeable who will be allowed to do US in the future and who will not.
- It is a great concern of the FMH to set limits to the US plethora".

*On the skills certificate and how well it worked for the most part:*

Minutes of the Board meeting of 27.06.1998 in Davos:

"... Werner Bauer must submit an abstract to Mr Hänggeli, FMH, by the end of July. The application will then be checked for form, forwarded to the commissions of the KWFB and finally submitted to the Medical Association in 1999."

Minutes of the Board meeting of 29.08.1998 in Lucerne:

"...SGUM President L. Braun has appointed Werner Bauer as 'SGUM Officer' for the KWFB."

Minutes of the Board meeting of 02.07.1999:

"Jan Tuma writes enthusiastically: "The **skills certificate** has been accepted at the Medical Association!!!! Bravo Werner Bauer!"

15.10.1998 AGM, Report of the SGUM President Dr. L. Braun:

- "In the meantime (at the closed meeting that took place in Olivone in January), the foundation stones of training, further and advanced training for the whole SGUM were laid ... And a module system for the sections is being formed.
- As a neutral body, the (new) Ultrasound School Davos has been given the mandate to ... review the criteria of the modules and bring them into a compliant version. (This is about a unité de doctrine in the entire module system)."
- ...
- "As part of the adaptation of the SGUM to the new technical requirements, we have set up a homepage in the Health Infonet. The head of the department is Dr Tuma".

28.01.1999 Minutes of the Board meeting in Lucerne, President Dr. L. Braun,  
Secretary Dr. Urs Federspiel:

- "In a letter to the SGUM President, **Cornel Sieber** of the Gastroenterology Section proposes to hold a workshop or course on the use of contrast media in abdominal sonography. L. Braun guarantees him the patronage of the SGUM.
- ...
- According to Prof. Berthel, there is no need for cooperation with the SGUM for echocardiography. It is therefore considered unnecessary to send a letter to the president of the cardiologists, Prof. Lerch. During the Echo Symposium in Lugano, L. Braun and Prof. Moccetti will look for modalities for a closer collaboration with the cardiologists.



*Retrospectively: In the minutes of the board meeting of 17.8.95. under 8.6 **EDP** one could read the following about the longed-for **database**:*

- "A membership directory should be available on an Access Windows programme from the Swiss. Ärztekasse should be available by the end of August."

*This work became more and more urgent, but over time proved to be unsatisfying and unreliable!*



**29. 7. 1999** Minutes of the Board meeting in Lucerne:

- "3rd database latest status: Secretary Urs Federspiel informs that in the meantime it has been possible to decrypt the SGUM database of the Ärztekasse ..."

**27.09.1999** Meeting of the Board in Berlin Dr. L. Braun writes in the minutes:

- "3rd database: 'Urs Federspiel, together with a programmer, has done a very great and excellent job in this regard. Now Jean-Yves Meuvly is also able to send membership fees and reminders directly.'"

30.10.1999 Minutes of the Extended Board Meeting - Dr Urs Federspiel, Secretary:

- 4 ...the vascular module stimulated a lively discussion. Kurt Jäger's vote at the AGM regarding the foundation of the Angiology Section and the creation of 4 skills certificates (Doppler Veins, Doppler Arteries, Doppler Carotid and Doppler Abdomen) did not meet with unanimous approval".

19.08.2000 In the minutes of the Board meeting in Zurich, President Dr Luciano Braun:

- **"In the following, a lively discussion arose on the planned re-foundation of the Vessels Section....**
- The Executive Committee came to the vote on the present revision of the Statutes of the 'Vessels Section' of 26.11.1999 with the following result: The Statutes were unanimously rejected by all present. Thus the SGUM Board does not agree to the foundation of the Vessels Section in this form.
- **Christian Looser** is mandated ... to work out a revised version of the statutes with Kurt Jäger."

4/5 February 2000 Summary of the closed meeting at Bürgenstock.

Modules and future goals and strategies of the SGUM, President Dr. L. Braun - Secretary Urs Federspiel:

- "Afterwards ... the colleagues **A. Dietschi and J. Prim** presented a project of a central contact point for further and advanced training. It is to be an instrument of the SGUM to coordinate the courses.
- **Josias Mattli (Ultrasound School Davos)** will send the revised module concept to everyone in the next few days. The section presidents must then sign and definitively adopt the module in question.
- **It is noted** that the specialist societies (radiologists, gastroenterologists, urologists and surgeons), which regulate further training in sonography in the WBO of their speciality, sometimes have lower requirements for further and continuing training than are required in the individual modules of the SGUM."

## 19.10.2000 Report of the President Dr. Luciano Braun:

- "Once again, my special thanks go to the members of the Executive Board, the Presidents of the Sections, the heads of the working groups and the heads of the departments. All of them have shown extraordinary commitment and it was a pleasure to work with all of them.
- From 2000 onwards, the new rules for admission to the ultrasound society will definitely apply.
- Ms. Agathe Benyamini has adapted well and our visions for the future about the need for a central secretariat have proven to be correct. Without a secretariat, it is now impossible to continue to manage the SGUM/SSUM efficiently in the militia system."



02.11.2001 Minutes of the Executive Board meeting chaired by the newly elected President Dr Hartmuth Knönagel, Minutes: Dr. S. Tercanli:

- "8. presentation of the modules and discussion with Dr. Max Giger, Head of the Training Department
- Dr Giger emphasises that such modules are future-oriented and could regulate further education.
- Hip sonography and pregnancy ultrasound would have to be dealt with separately. Among other things, the FMH is examining whether examinations should be introduced, especially for pregnancy ultrasound.
- He also points out that ... from the modules the term training must be replaced by further training.
- It would be conceivable to create a skill certificate in ultrasound in which one or more modules could be integrated.
- A specialist society status for SGUM could be sought."

- *And this is how the intensive friendly cooperation between SGUM and FMH looked years later at a meeting in Pian San Giacomo in 2004.*
- *And in every respect: theoretically and practically, the famous division of labour took place:*



# Nov. 2007 Retreat at Convento Bigorio



# Bigorio 2007

## Final Examination ...



... and afterwards in  
the  
Cellar of the  
Capuchins at a 'ratafià'



# November 2010 Senate in Davos



# August 2013 Board of Directors in Minusio





Jan. 2014  
Extended  
Board of  
Directors  
on the  
Monte Verità



# February 2019 Extended Board Appenzell



- *With the help of Andy, I have tried to give you a concise overview of the past of SAGU, SGUMB and SGUM/SSUM.*
- Our Past President Corina Canova and her team were able to bring urgent and long overdue projects to a successful conclusion just in **time for** our **50th anniversary**:



- Introduction of the focused ultrasound POCUS
- Involvement of students in a Young Sonographers section
- An efficient database
- A state of the art office
- An even more professional homepage
- The cancellation of a compulsory membership to the EFSUMB

# Two major projects are not yet completed

- We are working with the University of Basel (Dr. Meienberg and Prof. Hohmann) for the accreditation of compulsory training in ultrasound.
- With Dr. Hari, Uni Bern and Prof. Serra, ZH we want to accredit a voluntary basic course in sonography blended learning for students, which is also suitable to partially or completely replace individual SGUM basic courses.
- *I very much hope that a long collaboration will develop between the SGUM/SSUM, the students and all the universities, and it would be nice if we could bring in a unité de doctrine here as well.*
- *I would be really interested to hear what our colleagues have to say on the 100th anniversary of the SGUM/SSUM.*
- *think about these first 50 years*
- *and what they have to say about the subsequent development of diagnostic ultrasound ...*

Many thanks for your attention  
and especially thanks to Luciano  
for all the research!