50 Years of EFSUMB

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“History is a dangerous territory because each view has bias, general stories can easily miss essential detail, and the phenomenon of simultaneous discovery is undoubtedly true.”

Francis Duck, Formerly University of Bath and Royal United Hospital NHS Trust, Bath UK
FOREWORD

50 years of EFSUMB is a good occasion not only to celebrate together and to look back proudly, but also to remember the many members of our federation who made these 5 decades possible with their vision, with their heart and soul, with all their strength. We like to talk about the European Ultrasound Family.

This is a good comparison. In a family you have common genes, in our case it is mainly the gene that encodes the love for ultrasound. Each generation inherits experiences, achievements, and values of previous generations. Members of a family stay close together, especially in difficult times like ours, they help each other. Conflicts are resolved with mutual respect and in the knowledge that, despite all differences, we belong together.

All this has sustained and held EFSUMB together for 5 decades: we have a common mission, and we are successful in spreading ultrasound in Europe and developing it to a high quality. This small 50th anniversary brochure wants to take you into this living history, of course with a little historical information, also with bridges to the present and future of our society, but above all it should convey the pride that all of you, the readers of this brochure, the participants of our 33rd EUROSON Congress, are part of this family history and will continue to write it!

We hope very much that you will enjoy reading this brochure and that you will have good, memorable encounters and experiences at the Congress in Timisoara, which may become part of your own EFSUMB history!

Christian Jenssen
President 2021–2023

Caroline Ewertsen
President Elect
THE BEGINNINGS OF ULTRASOUND

Christoph F. Dietrich

The basic properties of sound were described in the classic work of Rayleigh, whose Theory of Sound was written during an 1871 honeymoon sailing trip up the Nile (1). The key to obtaining numerically useful information from sound waves came from the 1880 discovery, by the brothers Pierre and Jacques Curie, of the (direct and reverse) piezoelectric effects. Pulse-echo ultrasonic medical imaging did not start to develop for another seventy years, until the 1950s. The third development was due to Langevin. It was Langevin, who had been a student of the Curie bothers, who realized that the quartz crystal must be cut in a particular direction, ‘x-cut’, to create a powerful enough ultrasound wave and to form a sensitive enough receiver.

John Julian Wild happily discovered a US naval base (Wold-Chamberlain Naval Air Station) that was using an ultrasonic pulse-echo Navy Radar device operating at 15 MHz as a trainer for aircraft pilots, (2).

Wild gained entry, and was soon starting to measure the thickness of excised tissue and published in 1949 the first of a remarkable series of papers that effectively set the agenda for much of the future work in the field of ultrasonic imaging. His finding that echoes from tumor-invaded tissue could be distinguished from those produced by normal tissue in the same sample led him to apply ultrasound to cancer detection, particularly of the breast, and to lecture on “The use of ultrasonic pulses for the measurement of biologic tissues and the detection of tissue density changes” (2). In 1952 together with Jack Reid, a recent graduate in engineering, he described the first real time B-mode scanner, which they used on patients to examine the breast (3).

The potential of ultrasound to provide diagnostic information was more widely described at the First International Congress on Ultrasound in Medicine held in Erlangen in 1949 (4).
The earliest diagnostic applications of ultrasound to abdominal disease was the work of George Ludwig, in the late 1940s and early 1950s, on detection of gallstones embedded in the muscles of animals (5).

If you are interested, please visit open access “Medical Ultrasonography” (https://www.medultrason.ro/medultrason/index.php/medultrason) for the full publication or the EFSUMB website (www.efsumb.org), History of Ultrasound chapters of its members.

References


2. Wild JJ. The use of ultrasonic pulses for the measurement of biologic tissues and the detection of tissue density changes. Surgery 1950;27:183-188.


George Ludwig’s A-Mode ultrasound apparatus (“Ultrasonic Locator”), used in his gallstone experiments (1950; General Precision Laboratories, Pleasantville, New York). (Courtesy Joseph Woo; https://www.ob-ultrasound.net/Ludwig_first_ultrasound_machine.html).
Marinus de Vlieger, the first EFSUMB president (1972–1975) and chair of the committee to prepare the foundation of WFUMB (1973), at the First World Congress on Ultrasonic Diagnostics in Vienna in 1969.

The first were the Swiss Working Group on Ultrasonics (SAGU) and the British Medical Ultrasonics Group (BMUG, later BMUS). On the occasion of its 4th annual meeting, SAGU invited representatives of these interest groups for medical ultrasound from 13 Eastern and Western European countries to Basel (Switzerland) on February 11, 1972. So, Basel became the birthplace of the European Federation of Societies in Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (EFSUMB). EFSUMBs first president was Marinus de Vlieger, a Dutch neurologist from Rotterdam, who in 1959 had published a paper on A-Scan echoencephalography (3).

The first vice-president was the East-German ophthalmologist Buschmann. Due to the affiliation of their national member societies to different economic systems, there were two treasurers: the ophthalmologist Anna Bertényi from Budapest and the gynaecologist Salvator Levi from Brussels. Thus, EFSUMB from its very beginning was not only a truly multidisciplinary society, but beyond that, a bridge through the iron curtain during the cold war (4).

The history of EFSUMB begins in 1964, and interestingly, it begins in one of the so-called "small clinical specialties" and not in radiology or internal medicine. First reports on A-Mode scanning of the eye were published in 1956 by Mundt and Hughes (USA) and in 1957 by Oksala and Lehtinen (Finland) (1, 2). In June 1964, the ophthalmologist Werner Buschmann from the Berlin Charité invited US, Canadian, British, Austrian, Finnish, Polish, Czech, Russian, Hungarian, Swedish, East and West German physicians to a symposium on ophthalmologic ultrasound in East Berlin, then capital of the German Democratic Republic. They founded the Societas Internationalis Pro Diagnostica Ultrasonica in Ophtalmologia (SIDUO), the first international ultrasound society. Already by 1966, at the SIDUO II symposium in Brno (Czechoslovakia), SIDUO invited ultrasound diagnosticians of other specialties to join. In June 1969, SIDUO III in Vienna expanded to become the First World Congress on Ultrasonic Diagnostics and was the initial spark for the foundation of ultrasound organisations in several European countries.

Christian Jenssen

From Berlin to Basel: The Vision of Multidisciplinary Ultrasound

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Title page of the proceedings of the Fourth Annual Meeting of the Swiss Working Group for Ultrasound Diagnostics in conjunction with the First European Conference of the Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology, Basel, February 12, 1972, in the auditorium of the Hoffmann-La Roche Company

Our mission: Clinical, multidisciplinary and safe Ultrasound across Europe

The Third European Congress on Ultrasonics in Medicine "Investigative Ultrasonology" held in Bologna from October, 1 - 5, 1978, under the presidency of the Neurosurgeon Professor Carlo Alvisi became a milestone for EFSUMB. In the Declaration of Bologna, EFSUMB committed itself to the principle of clinical and multidisciplinary ultrasound and adopted basic principles which still describe the credo of the EFSUMB today: diagnostic ultrasound should be open to representatives of all medical disciplines, the medical well-being of patients and cost-effectiveness should be the primary criteria for the diagnostic use of ultrasound by all specialties, and EFSUMB - in collaboration with WFUMB - should assume responsibility for developing scientific recommendations for the clinical use and safety of diagnostic ultrasound (4).

At the beginning of the new millennium, the mission of EFSUMB formulated in Bologna was supplemented by “Building a European Ultrasound Community” and in January 2019 by “Educating all for Competence to Practice Ultrasound Safely”.

Milestones

Within 5 decades, EFSUMB has had to cope with several challenges, among them financial restrictions and debates on the distribution of tasks and competencies with WFUMB particularly in the early years. The political reorganization after the end of the Cold War led to the foundation and affiliation of new ultrasound societies, especially in the former states of the Eastern Bloc. Some member societies left, some re-joined, e.g. the British and the Polish Societies. In some countries there were different national ultrasound societies competing for membership of EFSUMB, such as in Belgium, Italy, and Spain. In other countries, obstetricians and gynecologists left the interdisciplinary national ultrasound societies. The issue of balancing the interests between the small and large member organizations has been a recurring challenge for many EFSUMB boards and has resulted in numerous revisions of the constitution (4). But thanks to the strong vision developed by the founders of EFSUMB in 1972 and strengthened by the Bologna Declaration in 1978, the EFSUMB ship has always had a clear course, at least a hand’s breadth of water under the keel, stable guiding planks, well-filled sails, far-sighted coxswains (Timeline 1), and enthusiastic crews.
Timeline 1: Presidents from 50 years of EFSUMB

1972 - 1975
Marinus de Vlieger
Netherlands
Neurology

1975 - 1978
Carlo Alvisi
Italy
Neurosurgery

1978 - 1981
Alfred Kratochwil
Austria
Obstetrics & Gynecology

1981 - 1984
Christopher R. Hill
UK
Physics

1984 - 1987
Francis Weill
France
Radiology

1987 - 1990
Søren Hancke
Denmark
Radiology

1990 - 1993
Harald Lutz
Germany
Gastroenterology

1993 - 1996
Sturla Eik-Nes
Norway
Obstetrics & Gynecology

1996 - 1999
Luigi Bolondi
Italy
Gastroenterology

1999 - 2002
Michel Claudon
France
Radiology
Timeline 1: Presidents from 50 years of EFSUMB

2002 - 2005
Kurt Jaeger
Switzerland
Angiology

2007 - 2009
Norbert Gritzmann
Austria
Radiology

2011 - 2013
Fabio Piscaglia
Italy
Gastroenterology

2015 - 2017
Odd Helge Gilja
Norway
Gastroenterology

2019 - 2021
Adrian Saftoiu
Romania
Gastroenterology

2009 - 2011
David H. Evans
UK
Physics

2013 - 2015
Christian Nolsoe
Denmark
Radiology

2017 - 2019
Christoph F. Dietrich
Germany
Gastroenterology

2021 - 2023
Christian Jenssen
Germany
Gastroenterology

2011 - 2013
Paul Sidhu
UK
Radiology
1964
Foundation of the Societas Internationalis pro Diagnostica Ultrasonica in Ophthalmologia (SIDUO), Berlin (German Democratic Republic)

1966
At its second meeting in Brno, Czechoslovakia, SIDUO opened its membership to every aspect of diagnostic ultrasound

1969
Foundation of Ultrasound Societies in several European countries, e.g. 06/1969: Swiss Society for Diagnostic Ultrasound; 12/1969: British Medical Ultrasonics Group; 11-1971: Gesellschaft für Ultraschalldiagnostik der DDR (GUM); 1972: Hungarian Biophysical Society; 1972: Section on Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology of the Academy of Sciences of USSR; French Society for the Application of Ultrasound to Medicine and Biology (SFAUMB)

1972
European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (EFSUMB) was founded in Basel, Switzerland with the delegates of 13 European societies; 1st President Marinus de Vlieger, Rotterdam, Netherlands; 13 member societies: Belgium, German Democratic Republic, Federal republic of Germany, Finland, France, Yugoslavia, Netherlands, Austria, Sweden, Spain, Switzerland, UK, Hungary

11.02.1972
European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (EFSUMB) was founded in Basel, Switzerland with the delegates of 13 European societies; 1st President Marinus de Vlieger, Rotterdam, Netherlands; 13 member societies: Belgium, German Democratic Republic, Federal republic of Germany, Finland, France, Yugoslavia, Netherlands, Austria, Sweden, Spain, Switzerland, UK, Hungary

1973
2nd Congress of EFSUMB in Rotterdam, new members: Denmark, Greece, Norway, Poland (17 member societies)

1975
3rd Congress of EFSUMB in Bologna (President: Carlo Alvisi); 21 member societies; Bologna Declaration

1979
EFSUMB founded the European Committee for Ultrasound Radiation Safety (“Watchdogs”)

From 1992
EUROSON Schools of EFSUMB, the first organized by Luigi Bolondi in Meran (Italy) on “Ultrasound in Gastroenterology”

From 1998

Oct '78
European Journal of Ultrasound (Elsevier): first official scientific journal of EFSUMB

1981 - 1996
Triennial EFSUMB congresses: 1981 in Dubrovnik; 1984 in Strasbourg; 1987 in Helsinki; 1990 in Jerusalem; 1993 in Innsbruck (together with “Dreiländertreffen” of ÖGUM, DEGUM and SGUM); 1996 in Budapest

1993 - 2003
From 1993
From 1998
From 1992

1993
At EUROSON 1990 the first Young Investigators Award was shared jointly by PGM de Jong (The Netherlands) and Ivica Zalud (Yugoslavia)

1999
WFUMB was officially formed at the General Assembly by the association of five societies - AIUM, JSUM, EFSUMB, SIDUO and ASUM

1966 - 1972
Foundation of Ultrasound Societies in several European countries, e.g. 06/1969: Swiss Society for Diagnostic Ultrasound; 12/1969: British Medical Ultrasonics Group; 11-1971: Gesellschaft für Ultraschalldiagnostik der DDR (GUM); 1972: Hungarian Biophysical Society; 1972: Section on Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology of the Academy of Sciences of USSR; French Society for the Application of Ultrasound to Medicine and Biology (SFAUMB)

1973
3rd Congress of EFSUMB in Bologna (President: Carlo Alvisi); 21 member societies; Bologna Declaration
32 successful EUROSON Congresses in 17 countries, countless EUROSON Schools (the first organized by Luigi Bolondi in 1992), the EFSUMB “European Coursebook” (2012), EFSUMB Learning Centers (the first in Timisoara, Romania, in 2014), and a series of widely cited clinical practice guidelines (the first on the use of ultrasound contrast agents in 2004) (5) became internationally renowned trademarks of EFSUMB (4, 6) (Timeline 2). "Ultraschall in der Medizin" (Thieme), the member journal of the three German-speaking ultrasound societies, in 2004 became the “official scientific mouthpiece of EFSUMB” (7) and is now, with an impact factor of 6.55, the highest ranking interdisciplinary scientific ultrasound journal worldwide. Starting with a handful of enthusiasts from 13 countries, membership increased to 20 national member societies in 1995 to 26 in 2000. Successful educational partnerships were established with the European Society of Radiology (ESR), the United European Gastroenterology (UEG), and the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL). In 2022 EFSUMB represents a dynamic, diverse and influential European Ultrasound Family with approximately 20,000 European ultrasound practitioners and scientists from 30 member societies.

Our present is that future Peter Wells looked into at the 3rd EFSUMB Congress in Bologna in 1978, when he talked about the future range of ultrasound diagnostics from simple, inexpensive and bedside systems in the hands of the clinician and on the other hand sophisticated and high-resolution specialist systems (8).

And, indeed, fostered by the advent of portable ultrasound equipment, Ultrasound has evolved to a tool available in principle to any clinician in almost any situation of medical practice (9). And on the other hand, advanced ultrasound has become an invaluable and unique voice in the exclusive contemporary orchestra of multiparametric imaging modalities (10). This wide range of ultrasound on the one hand as a democratic, broadly available tool, on the other hand as an exclusive, specialist method, used percutaneously, endocavitary and intraoperatively for both diagnostic and therapeutic purposes, on the small as well as on the large organs, presents us with new challenges. Satisfying the scientifically committed ultrasound experts and at the same time assisting the many ultrasound practitioners in practices and hospitals who perform ultrasound with sometimes rather simple equipment and often under intense time pressure is the balancing act for which we must combine elasticity and stability.
EFSUMB's concept of ultrasound professionalism (11) is one answer to this challenge. It describes the common basis for how all different medical professions should perform, document, and report their various ultrasound examinations throughout Europe.

**Timisoara: History obligates**

EFSUMB, with its congresses, educational events and working groups has a long tradition of building bridges across political and ideological boundaries. It was 50 years ago that ultrasound enthusiasts from hostile states on both sides of the iron curtain shook hands and started a cooperation that is still successful today. Our mission and unity as the European Ultrasound Family is even more important when people are killed in war and sick people can no longer receive adequate medical care. Our members in Ukraine care for their patients under the most difficult and dangerous circumstances or are on the run. They need the solid strength of our community.

Therefore, let us show the world, let us show our politicians, our patients and our colleagues that the European and worldwide ultrasound family stands united and strong in its mission to the service of human life and health. Let us use our advocacy for rapid, safe diagnosis of disease using ultrasound to show the senseless destruction of human life in war! Let us be “apostles of peace and reconciliation” as Rudolf Virchow urged in 1869 (12), and continue with this congress our tradition of building bridges between people of different nations and cultures (13). Let us make the 50-year-anniversary and our congress in Timisoara a great celebration of ultrasound, friendship and peaceful exchange!
"First cause no harm" is the mantra taught for all medical students. An important activity of WFUMB/EFSUMB has been to sponsor an expert group on the safety of clinical ultrasound.
For many years, the EFSUMB safety committee, which was named 'The Watchdogs', provided continues reviews and advice on the safe use of ultrasound, and on its scientific basis."


"Incidently, when I was secretary of EFSUMB, we did propose a journal to be called European Medical Ultrasonics. However, when I asked a radiologist colleague, Hylton Meire, to edit it, he pointed out that EMU is medical shorthand for "early morning urine", so we dropped that idea."

Christopher R. Hill 2003 being awarded the honorary membership of International Society of Therapeutic Ultrasound ISTU by Professor Gail ter Haar, his long-time comrade-in-arms with "The Watchdogs"
MEMORY: Francis Weill
France

**EFSUMB President 1984 – 1987**
**WFUMB President 1988 - 1991**

"Harald, I leave now the always fighting EFSUMB and go to the peaceful WFUMB"

(Francis Weill to Harald Lutz, 1997)

The background of this call-out were disputes about the representation of ultrasonographers of one country between different national ultrasound societies, e.g. in Italy. But it was also about the membership of other national ultrasound societies, which were either not located in Europe (Egypt), represented only sections within the national Radiology Society or did not fulfill other formal requirements for EFSUMB membership (statute, membership lists).

In 1986, the "Mediterranean and African Society for Ultrasound (MASU)" also wanted to join the EFSUMB, but then found its home within WFUMB in 1988.

Former Professor of Radiology and Chief of the Department of General Radiology at the University Hospital of Besançon, Alsace, France. Participant of First International Ultrasound Meeting in Vienna in 1969. First publications in 1970 “Tomo-echography”. In 1971 he organized the 1st multidisciplinary French echography meeting, and in 1972 he was co-founder of the French Society of Ultrasound together with Professors Thérèse Planiol and Léandre Pourcelot from Tours. In 1973 he published the famous Clinical Atlas of Ultrasonic Radiology (2 volumes), and later his textbook on Ultrasound Diagnosis of Digestive Diseases.
MESSAGE: Søren Hancke  
Denmark

*EFSUMB President 1987-1990*  
*Secretary General of WFUMB, 1994-2003*

“*Our most important and beloved EFSUMB can now celebrate its first 50 years, and I believe that the many activities initiated and guided by the Federation through the years have left utmost fruitful scientific and practical inspirations to a large number of international members. I am sure that the participants joining the International Congress in Timisoara will appreciate your activities in creating a fruitful congress. A congress that will cover a high medical scientific standard, but also demonstrate the policy of the European Federation: We must not stand by and do nothing because of the present terrible war, but work together and build bridges. Let the congress be an image of hope, reconciliation and international understanding.*”

*Copenhagen, March 14, 2022*

Former Chief physician and head of the Ultrasound Laboratories of Copenhagen County Hospitals Gentofte (1981-96) and Herlev (1996-2003). Still active at Danish Ultrasound Center (DUCAS), Charlottenlund. Authored more than 100 scientific articles and review articles in Danish and international journals, starting with his thesis on ultrasound scanning and ultrasound-guided biopsy for diagnosis of pancreatic cancer (1981), and a textbook on Abdominal Ultrasound. Co-founder and secretary of the Danish Ultrasound Diagnostic Society (DUDS) 1981-85.
**MESSAGE: Harald Lutz**  
**Germany**  
*EFSUMB President 1990-1993, WFUMB President, 1997-2000*

"I would like to remind you that the first meeting of the whole world of ultrasound was held in Vienna in 1969. And at this time we started the foundation of the national ultrasound societies and formed the European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology just 3 years later in Basel, Switzerland. And this, dear participants, is the reason why I like to congratulate all my colleagues doing ultrasound on the 50th anniversary of the European Federation. And again: I wish you a nice and interesting congress!"

**Lennep, April 2022**

"Dear participants of the 33rd EUROSON Congress of EFSUMB, I wish you a successful meeting in Timisoara. If you like, you can see some first grayscale technique images made with the Vidoson 635 around 40 years ago." (see anniversary quiz, pages 27-29)

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Harald Lutz with the worldwide first realtime and grayscale ultrasound machine Vidoson 635 (Siemens, Erlangen; 1965 – 1975) in the German Ultrasound Museum in Lennep, April 2022 (left) and a historical grayscale image of a metastatic liver, made by Harald Lutz in 1979 using the Vidoson machine.

MEMORIES: Luigi Bolondi
Italy
EFSUMB President 1996–1999

“My active life in EFSUMB started in 1978, when Bologna hosted the 3rd EFSUMB congress, and I was the general secretary of the organizing committee. At that time in Italy we had many different small groups of pioneers for the study of US in various specialties. Their umbrella organization SISUM, under the chairmanship of a neurosurgeon (Carlo Alvisi), organized the Bologna Congress which was a big success, with over 1000 attendants. It definitely established the importance of US in the diagnostic armamentarium of many different disciplines. In the following years, a conflict between radiologists and clinicians for the use of US in clinical practice (especially in Internal Medicine and Gynecology) arose in many countries, including Italy, and I was particularly involved in supporting the value of performing US examinations by clinicians. For this purpose, I founded the Italian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (SIUMB), a multidisciplinary Society including all the clinicians and radiologists involved in the use of US. Hundreds of clinicians coming from Italy and from abroad were educated and trained in clinical US at the Bologna School. SIUMB was officially accepted as a member of the European Federation in 1987 at the General Assembly of the EUROSON Congress in Helsinki. The second important decade (1996-2006) included the period when I was EFSUMB President (1996-1999) and when I organized the WFUMB World Congress of Ultrasound in conjunction with the EUROSON Congress in Florence in May 2000, and the EUROSON Congress in Bologna 2006.”

“In the same years, considering the pivotal role of education and the necessity to establish common rules for the standards of US practice in Europe, I founded the EUROSON School giving it the logo (the Nautilus). I believe that in those years, despite the widespread diffusion of US in clinical disciplines and the growing interest and activity of different clinical and radiological societies in the field of ultrasound, EFSUMB has maintained and progressively reinforced its role as central and international reference for the correct application of US in the clinical practice.”

Organized the WFUMB & EUROSON Congress in Florence in 2000 (over 3500 attendees from more than 40 Countries) and the EUROSON congresses in Bologna in 1978 and in 2006. Honorary Member of EFSUMB, 2016.

Emeritus Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Bologna. He started his research career with publications on pancreatic, biliary, gastrointestinal and, in particular, hepatic ultrasound in 1972, published more than 390 scientific papers and edited several ultrasound textbooks. Remarkable contributions to diagnostic and interventional ultrasound of focal liver lesions and hepatocellular carcinoma. Co-author of the first EFSUMB guidelines on the use of Contrast Enhanced Ultrasound (2004, 621 citations) and the 1st Update in 2008 (1153 citations).

The opening ceremony of the WFUMB / EUROSON Congress in Florence 2000. Luigi Bolondi (left) and Giorgio Rizzatto opened the Congress dressed as Medical Doctors of the XVIIIth century.
The second point has stood the test of time extremely well and to date the article is one of the highest ranked EFSUMB guidelines ever published when viewed by number of citations. Both events as well as all the kind people and fabulous places that were in between are valuable memories that I highly cherish and will for always carry with me. In addition, I was lucky to make wonderful friendships with many fantastic people which I am confident will last for a lifetime. It was professionally exciting and intellectually challenging to be part of the EFSUMB world, sometimes hard work, often great fun but always giving, stimulating and worth the effort. I thank EFSUMB and all its members for allowing me to take the wheel for a short while.”

Copenhagen, April 10, 2022

Asc. Professor of Radiology at Zeeland Hospital, at Copenhagen Academy for Medical Education and Simulation (CAMES) and Director, Center for Surgical Ultrasound, Dept of Surgery, Zealand University Hospital, Køge, Denmark. 2004 – 2007 President of the Danish Ultrasound Society. Second author of EFSUMB Guidelines on non-hepatic applications of contrast-enhanced ultrasound (2012; 1301 citations), 2nd main author of the 2020 Update of WFUMB, EFSUMB, AFSUMB, AIUM & FLAUS Guidelines on contrast-enhanced ultrasound of the liver (134 citations so far). 90 articles in peer reviewed scientific journals.
“Possibly my greatest success as EFSUMB president was the first Consensus meeting on Elastography held in Bologna in 2012, whose outcome was the first release of the Elastography guidelines. The publication success has been exceptionally good, paving the way to the leadership of EFSUMB in this field. I remember I put forward the proposal as president elect at a meeting of the ExB during the 22nd Euroson congress in Denmark in August 2010. Setting the basis for the widespread use of Elastography was one of my main aims during my Presidency (we started the cooperation with EASL organising hands on courses and starting having a booth at the International Liver Congress). I am proud to have invented the acronym pSWE for point Shear Wave Elastography. My worst fear was the organisation of the Euroson Congress in Israel. I sincerely would have preferred having the congress somewhere else, but finally Israel won the bid for 2014. My greatest concern was the war or terrorist attacks, causing a too limited participation. The congress went well, held in Israel in 2014 July.

I discovered very well that Israel is not considered Europe despite being part of the European Federation of Ultrasound Societies when I received the bill for the phone calls I had to make towards Italy during the congress, as they were all charged as International Calls. I let you imagine how big was the bill…”

Bologna, March 01, 2022

Full Professor at the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences, University of Bologna, and director of Division of Internal Medicine at Policlinico di Sant’Orsola. He started his research career with publications on ultrasound diagnosis of portal hypertension in 1995. Initiated first EFSUMB Guidelines on elastography in 2010 at the 22nd EUROSON Congress in Denmark, published in 2013 (1st part with 1210 citations and 2nd part with 1085 citations), first author of the Update of EFSUMB guidelines on non-hepatic applications of contrast-enhanced ultrasound (2012; 1301 citations). More than 350 articles in peer reviewed scientific journals. Associate editor of “Ultraschall in der Medizin/European Journal of Ultrasound” and “Digestive and Liver Disease”.

Consensus meeting of the 1st EFSUMB Guidelines on Ultrasound Elastography in Bologna (Italy), 2012: Fabio Piscaglia (left) together with Christoph Frank Dietrich (EFSUMB President 2013 – 2015, middle) and David Cosgrove (1938-2017, right)

Training for a demanding presidency: Fabio Piscaglia (EFSUMB President 2011 -2013) together with his predecessor President Christian Nolsoe (2009 – 2011) during a stormy boat trip on the coast off Bergen (Norway)
MESSAGE: Christoph Frank Dietrich
Germany
EFSUMB President 2013-2015

“When art meets science”

“Art and science have often been seen as two distinct disciplines. When they are studied together it is clear that they complement each other. Art and Science are both about observation and interpretation. Kant assumes that all knowledge is dependent on the interaction of views (“Begriffe”) and concepts (“Anschauung”). He refers to “The manifold” which is the unorganised flux presented to the senses, but not experienced - a perception that needs a conceptual order in order to be able to lead to knowledge. Creativity is required to make scientific breakthroughs, and art can be often considered as an expression of scientific knowledge enabling better understanding and communication of science. Understanding both helps medical doctors to deliver the best care to our patients.”

Bern, March 02, 2022

Christoph F. Dietrich (EFSUMB President 2013 – 2015) at the 26th EUROSON Congress in Tel Aviv (Israel) together with the Congress President from Israel, Diana Gaitini

Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of the Department of General Internal Medicine at Hirslanden, Bern, Switzerland. He started his research career with publications on ultrasound diagnosis of gastrointestinal and hepatobiliary diseases in 1996. Initiated first EFSUMB Guidelines on interventional ultrasound (6 parts with 72 – 123 citations), pushed forward the Updates of EFSUMB Guidelines on contrast-enhanced ultrasound from 2011 (co-first author) of the 2012 Update with 1302 citations and first author of the 2020 Update of WFUMB, EFSUMB, AFSUMB, AIUM & FLAUS Guidelines on contrast-enhanced ultrasound of the liver with 134 citations so far. More than 550 articles in peer reviewed scientific journals, editor of several textbooks on ultrasound and endoscopic ultrasound. Initiated and edited the EFSUMB Course Book on Ultrasound (2nd edition online: https://efsumb.org/efsumb-course-book/).
“Looking back on the exciting years serving in EFSUMB ExB first as Honorary Secretary and then as President, I am filled with gratefulness and joy for the opportunity I had to work for the best of European ultrasound. During my time as President, my main focus was science-based education. I worked to revitalize the Euroson Schools to promote high quality and excellence in education and competence building. During my presidency, we increased the numbers of Euroson Schools significantly and reached over 130 Euroson Schools in total, along with 10-15 EFSUMB endorsed courses yearly. A new series of EFSUMB webinars was started in 2015, and the EFSUMB Ultrasound App was initiated, aiming to improve communication with our members, particularly new, younger members who wants rapid access to all that EFSUMB can provide of teaching material. Moreover, we established the new EFSUMB Student Committee, as we wanted to include students more closely under the EFSUMB umbrella.

The Euroson congress is the absolute EFSUMB highlight of the year with an up-to-date program for science and education and it constitutes a vibrant, interdisciplinary meeting place for students, doctors, engineers, professors, sonographers, industry, practically all stakeholders of ultrasound. The 28th EUROSON congress in 2016 took place in Leipzig, Germany, and in 2017 the EFSUMB family met in Ljubljana, Slovenia, at its 29th Euroson Congress.”

Bergen, March 2022
Impressions from the EUROSON Congresses in Leipzig 2016, and Lubljana 2017

Top left: Prof. Luigi Bolondi (Italy) is receiving the award of Honorary Member of EFSUMB, 2016; Top right: Prof. Svein Ødegaard (Norway) is giving a lecture after receiving the honour of being EFSUMB Fellow, 2016. Bottom left: Odd Helge Gilja honors Prof. S. Eik-Nes (Norway) as a Honorary Member of EFSUMB. Bottom right: Prof. Lucas Greiner (Germany), founder of the Ultrasound Learning Area of EFSUMB at United Gastroenterology Week, is awarded EFSUMB Fellowship in 2017.

Ultraschall in den Medizin
European Journal of Ultrasound
“Ultraschall in der Medizin” (UiM) was founded in May 1980 as the official journal of the three German-speaking ultrasound societies. Since 2004 – now with the subtitle “European Journal of Ultrasound” (EJU) – UiM is the official scientific journal of EFSUMB. For many years, UiM/EJU has been the highest ranking interdisciplinary scientific ultrasound journal worldwide.
When the pictures learned to move ...

The Anniversary Ultrasound Quiz

Step back in time to the early years of diagnostic ultrasound by participating in this historical ultrasound quiz! Not only can you gain new insights, but also these prizes:

1st Prize: Free registration to the 34th EUROSON Congress in Riga, Latvia (May 25-27, 2023)
2nd Prize: A one-year free subscription to Ultraschall in der Medizin/EJU (donated by Thieme-Verlag Stuttgart)
3rd Prize: The complete online second edition EFSUMB European Ultrasound Course Book

Please use the enclosed answer sheet and drop it into the box at the EFSUMB Booth!
There are 16 multiple choice questions - questions are displayed in the booklet with the multiple choice answers available on the answer sheet.

The editors thank Harald Lutz, Christoph F. Dietrich, Francis Duck and Odd H. Gilja for providing historical ultrasound images from their archives. Case 4 is from: Brenden BB. Ultrasonic Holography: A Practical System. Plenum Press New York 1974
Case 1
Q1: Which structure is displayed (arrows)?
Q2: Which ultrasonic technique did Luigi Bolondi 1976 use to create this image?

Case 2
Q3: Which organ and which pathology (arrows) are displayed?
Q4: What is the name of the ultrasonic technique used (EMISONIC 4200, late 70's)?

Case 3
Q5: Which organ is displayed?
Q6: How did Odd Helge Gilja create this image in 1997?

Case 4
Q7: Which pathology is shown?
Q8: Which ultrasonic technique was used by Byron B. Brenden to create this image in 1972?
Q9: What is shown in this image?
Q10: What is the name of the ultrasonic technique used in the early 1970’s (Diasonograph EMI 4102)?

Multiple choices are displayed on the answer sheet

Q11: Which pathological finding is displayed (*)?
Q12: Which technique was applied to create this ultrasound image in 1981 by Harald Lutz?

Multiple choices are displayed on the answer sheet

Q13: Which pathological finding is diagnosed (arrow?)
Q14: Which new technique was first time applied with the Vidoson 635 scanner in 1965? (Image: Harald Lutz, 1970’s)

Multiple choices are displayed on the answer sheet

Q15: Which pathological finding is displayed (*)?
Q16: Which technique was applied to create this ultrasound image in the late 70’s by Harald Lutz?

Multiple choices are displayed on the answer sheet
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