

INTERNATIONAL BIOMETRIC SOCIETY – NORDIC-BALTIC REGION
(IBS-NBR <http://ibsnr.org/>)

Bulletin No. 2, 2011

Dear Colleague,

The 3rd Nordic-Baltic Biometric Conference (NBBC) in Turku was a huge success, both scientifically and socially. If you receive this newsletter for the first time you are probably one of the participants who became a member through your conference registration fee. We hope you will continue to be a member, and support and take part in the biometric activities in our region. Your membership has been reported to the society's international office and you should now have electronically access to the international news bulletin of the IBS, the scientific journals *Biometrics* and *Journal of Agricultural, Biological and Environmental Science* (JABES). Enjoy!

Below you will find some news from our own region.

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1. The 3rd NBBC in Turku 2011

The 3rd NBBC took place in beautiful Turku, Finland from 6 June to 9 June 2011 (<http://www.nbbc11.utu.fi/>). Preceded by a well attained pre-conference course on spatial statistics given by Juha Heikkinen on Sunday 5 June the scientific programme started on Monday. The programme contained many highlights ranging from statistical modelling of spatial extremes via medical statistics to statistical models in forestry. Altogether there were 4 key note speakers, 5 invited sessions, 8 contributed sessions and a poster exhibition. All presentations demonstrated high quality and many were followed by excellent discussions. We thank all presenters

and discussants for their fruitful contributions. We also thank our international president Kaye Basford who took the long trip from Australia via Japan to visit our regional meeting.

Monday evening was reserved for a boat-trip with the Ukkopekka steamship to the little island of Loistokari in wonderful weather and you can see the delegates enjoying barbeque in the sunset on the photo below. The conference dinner was held in the medieval Turku castle and you can see the participants posing in the castle court yard on the second photo.

We thank the local organizing committee chaired by Jaakko Nevalainen and the Scientific Programme Committee chaired by Krista Fischer for a wonderful experience in Turku both scientifically and socially.





2. Members according to country

Country	1 Apr 2011	New in Turku	1 Sep 2011
Denmark	13	1	14
Estonia	3	1	4
Finland	22	67	89
Iceland	2	2	4
Latvia	0	0	0
Lithuania	2	3	5
Norway	11	4	15
Sweden	6	9	15
Other	0	12	12
Total	59	99	158

3. IBS – Nordic-Baltic Regional Council Meeting

The IBS Nordic-Baltic Regional Council Meeting was arranged at the conference in Turku with 10 attending delegates and guests:

- Geir Egil Eide (GEE) No – President of the Nordic-Baltic Region of IBS (IBS-NBR).
- Krista Fischer (KF) Es – Member of the regional council. Representative in the educational committee of IBS and in the scientific program committee for the NBBC11.
- Esa Läära (EL) Fi – Former president of the Nordic region (IBS-NR). Member of the IBS council.
- Jaakko Nevalainen (JN) Fi – Chair of the local organizing committee and member of the scientific program committee for the NBBC11.
- Tom Britton (TB) Sw – Member of the IBS council
- Nils Keiding (NK) De – Former President of IBS-NR (1992-93).
- Ågot Irgens (ÅI) No – Treasurer of IBS-NBR.
- Kaye Basford (KB) Au – President of IBS.
- Jukka Corander (JC) Fi – Member of the local organizing committee and the scientific program committee of the NBBC11 conference.
- Birgir Hrafnkelsson (BH) Ic – Representing Iceland, member of the scientific program committee for the NBBC11.

The following could not attend (4).

- Jens Hendrik Badsberg (JHB) De – Member of the regional council.
- Magne Thoresen (MT) No – Member of the regional council.
- Rima Kregzdyte (RK) Li – Member of the regional council.
- Lennart Norell (LN) Sw – Member of the IBS Awards Fund Committee.

Many topics were discussed including the next regional meetings to be held in Stockholm 2013 and Iceland 2015, possible representatives for the next Regional Executive Committee to be taken over by the Baltic countries from 2013-2016, changes in the IBS by-laws, and representation of our region in the central organization. Minutes can be found on the regional website.



From left: Kaye, Birgir, Ågot, Jukka, Krista, Jaakko, Esa, Tom, Nils & Geir

4. Forthcoming events

20111117-18 NOFE Conference, Asker, Norway 2011 (<http://www.nofe.no/>)
20120819-23 ISCB33, Bergen, Norway (<http://iscb2012.info/>)
20120517-20 ICBBE, Shanghai, China 2012 (<http://secretariat.ne.jp/ibc2012/>)
20120826-31 26th International Biometric Conference, Kobe, Japan
(<http://secretariat.ne.jp/ibc2012/>)

5. Changes to the regional council

There have been a couple of changes in the Regional Council, and the members are now:

The Regional Executive Committee (REC) from Norway:
Geir Egil Eide (president), Anne Marie Fenstad (secretary) and Ågot Irgens (treasurer)

The national representatives of Denmark: Jens Henrik Badsberg (Copenhagen), Estonia: Krista Fischer (Tartu), Iceland: Birgir Hrafnkelsson (Reykjavik), Lithuania: Rima Kregzdyte (Kaunas), Norway: Magne Thoresen (Oslo) and Sweden: Mikael Anderson (Uppsala) and, the Nordic-Baltic representatives in the General Council of IBS: Tom Britton (Sweden) and Esa Läärä (Finland).

We encourage all IBS members in the Nordic and Baltic countries to submit news, comments or other relevant stuff for the bulletin to the secretary
Anne.Marie.Fenstad@Helse-Bergen.No.

IBSNB-REC, October 2011