

# INTERNATIONAL BIOMETRIC SOCIETY – NORDIC-BALTIC REGION (IBS-NBR)

## Bulletin No. 2, 2014

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### 1 IBS-NBR President's Corner

Dear IBS-NBR members,

The year 2014 has been another interesting year in the field of Biometrics. One of the highlights has been certainly the IBC in Florence, July 6-10, 2014. The location was wonderful – sunny Tuscany and the beautiful city of Florence with its rich history and charm. The historical building of “Palazzo dei Congressi” created a great atmosphere for the conference. As always at the IBC, the scientific content of the meeting was excellent, from traditional topics (but always novel ideas!) of experimental design, clinical trials and survival analysis to emerging hot topics such as big data (e.g analyzing electronic health records) and the analysis of complex –omics data. One of the highlights was the presence of Sir David Cox, who celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. I personally always learn a lot from his scientifically sharp discussions reflecting his excellent knowledge of virtually everything that has been happening in the field of biometrics during the last 100 years or more. A new feature at the IBC was a selection of educational sessions (Young Statisticians Showcases) as well as social events specifically targeted to career-young statisticians. I am sure many graduate students and statisticians at early stages of their career benefited from that. (Something to consider for our regional meetings as well?). The next IBC will take place in Victoria, Canada, July 10-15, 2016. One way to contribute more to the conference would be to propose a session on a topic you find hot and interesting – the deadline for invited session proposals is 1 February 2015 (see <http://www.biometricsociety.org/2014/10/2016-international-biometric-conference-call-for-invited-session-proposals/> for more details).



Before the next IBC, we have an important biometrics event in our region – NBBC15 in Reykjavik, Iceland. I think many of us need to start booking the tickets already now, as this is one of the few Nordic locations that is exotic even for the Nordic people. The program committee has put together an exciting invited program and we also expect a number of good contributed talks and posters. See the extra article below for more information. Hope to meet many of the current and new IBS-NBR members there!

Finally I would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas holiday season and all the best for 2015!

*Krista Fischer*

## 2 Mailing list

Members of IBS-NBR have their own mailing list [ibs-nbr@googlegroups.com](mailto:ibs-nbr@googlegroups.com). The purpose of the list is to give notifications regarding IBS-NBR, but it is suitable to post information about any biometrics-related events in the Nordic-Baltic region as well. It is possible to post directly to the mailing list via Google Groups or by sending the message first to [Silva.Kasela@ut.ee](mailto:Silva.Kasela@ut.ee). The list is moderated and every post is reviewed by listmaster before sending to the members of the list. Please send a request to [Silva.Kasela@ut.ee](mailto:Silva.Kasela@ut.ee) if you have not been included to the list yet.

## 3 NBBC 2015

The NBR-IBS is pleased to invite you to the 5th conference of the Nordic-Baltic Region of the International Biometric Society (NBR-IBS) from June 8-10, 2015. The conference will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Reykjavik, Iceland and is hosted by the University of Iceland.

The conference will cover important topics in biostatistics, biometry, epidemiology and bioinformatics. Many distinguished and internationally renowned speakers are invited. The program will include pre-conference short courses (June 7, 2015), invited sessions, contributed sessions and poster sessions. The invited sessions involve statistics for: (i) registry-based data; (ii) high-throughput data; (iii) forest structure and dynamics; (iv) fisheries and ecology; (v) causal inference; (vi) psychiatric data.

The Organizing Committee looks forward to your participation in a fruitful exchange of ideas and information, and in a stimulating conference. Contributed talks from all areas of statistics, biometry and biostatistics are welcome. The deadline for abstract submission is 1 February 2015.

Details about the conference can be seen at the website: <https://notendur.hi.is/~birgirhr/nbbc15.htm>

## 4 Forthcoming events

- 2015-02-26 – 2015-02-27: Workshop: Semiparametric Methods in Survival Analysis, Ulm, Germany
- 2015-04-20 – 2015-04-22: IBS Channel Network Conference, Nijmegen, The Netherlands; <http://www.ibschannel2015.nl/>
- 2015-05-11 – 2015-05-15: 8th Eastern Mediterranean Region Conference, Cappadocia, Turkey; <http://biostat.cu.edu.tr/emr2015/>
- 2015-05-22 – 2015-05-27: Statistical Practice in Epidemiology using R, Tartu, Estonia; <http://bendixcarstensen.com/SPE/>
- 2015-06-07 – 2015-06-10: 5th Nordic-Baltic Biometric Conference, Reykjavik, Island; <https://notendur.hi.is/~birgirhr/nbbc15.htm>
- 2015-08-08 – 2015-08-13: Joint Statistical Meetings 2015, Seattle, USA; <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2015/>

- 2015-08-23 – 2015-08-27: 36th Annual Conference of the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics, Utrecht, The Netherlands; <http://www.iscb2015.info/>

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: [Silva.Kasela@ut.ee](mailto:Silva.Kasela@ut.ee)