

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

Bulletin No. 1-2, 2016

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1. IBS NBR President's corner

Dear members of the IBS Nordic-Baltic Region,

This is the last IBS-NBR bulletin issued by the current Regional Executive Board. We have had an exciting adventure of four years managing the IBS-NBR from Estonia and we thank you all for your support. During this period, there have been two regional conferences: NBBC2013 in Stockholm and NBBC2015 in Reykjavik with exciting scientific and social programmes, the members from our region have attended two International Biometric Conferences – IBC 2014 in Florence and IBC 2016 in Victoria. We are in the middle of preparation of the next regional conference: NBBC2017 in Copenhagen – the invited programme looks exciting and we are looking forward to receiving a good number of contributed abstracts and registrations!



From January 2017, the regional governance of IBS-NBR will move to Sweden – as stated in the by-laws. After two years of search and discussions we are really happy to announce that there is an enthusiastic team in Gothenburg to take over the regional executive board. We welcome the new regional president **Ziad Taib**, Statistical Science Director at Astrazeneca and Adjunct Professor at Chalmers University of Technology and the new regional secretary and treasurer, Marita Olsson and Alexandra Jauhainen, both working as principal statisticians at Astrazeneca.

I am sure there are exciting times ahead with many challenges on how to keep and increase the popularity of IBS in our corner of the world. I also encourage all members from the Nordic-Baltic region to contribute with ideas, use our mailing list to advertise biostatistics-related courses, workshops, conferences and other events. Although the main regional IBS event has always been the

biannual conference, we are not restricted to keeping this as the only event. The IBS has also some resources to support inter-regional collaboration – if you have ideas for a joint event (either a workshop around a specific theme, or just a webinar or series of webinars), IBS can be able to support you. See the list of regions at: <http://www.biometricsociety.org/regions/>

Also, I would like to remind you that although the International Biometric Society is the largest international organization joining statisticians working in all areas of biometry, it is not too large – each individual member can have impact on the various activities of the organization, each new idea is very welcome. Have a look at the website: <http://www.biometricsociety.org/> (including the members area), publications, activities, different committees (see the list also below). To have the voice of the Nordic and Baltic IBS members heard at IBS, it is important to have members from our region a the IBS committees and boards – if you feel like contributing to a specific area of IBS activities, let the regional executive committee know. Volunteers to represent our region at IBS committees are very welcome.

Finally, as the holiday season is approaching quickly, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Krista Fischer

President of the IBS NBR, 2013-2016

Member of the IBS Executive Board

2. Overview of memberships

At the beginning of 2015 there were 64 members in IBS NBR. Nine members terminated the membership and 14 new members joined us since then. At the beginning of 2016 the number of members was 65:

Denmark	11
Estonia	7
Finland	18
Iceland	2
Latvia	5
Lithuania	3
Norway	5
Sweden	12
United Kingdom*	2

* students abroad

3. Accrual accounts 2015

CASH FLOW	1.1.2015–31.12.2015	1.1.2014–31.12.2014
Income		
Membership fees		
Senior	100,00	75,00
Regular	2 500,00	2 500,00
Reduced	34,80	34,80
Journal subscriptions		
Biometrics	102,20	102,20
JABES	29,20	29,20
Deposit interest	9,67	15,95
Total income	2 775,87	2 757,15
Expenditure		
Unpaid invoices	-150,00	-300,00
Transferral of membership fees to IBS	-2 664,27	-2 429,29
IBS NBR executive committee at NBBC15	-2 490,42	-00
Support for NBBC15 DC delegates	-971,25	-00
Bank transfer fees	-26,68	-11,82
Total expenditure	-6 302,62	-2 741,11
Total net gain (loss)	-3 526,75	16,04
BALANCE	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
Reserves		
Transferral from previous year	18 836,99	18 820,95
Total reserves	15 310,24	18 836,99

4. IBS boards and committees

Executive Board

The Executive Board is empowered to: 1) Fix international dues for Members of the Society; 2) Approve the receipt of gifts and bequests; 3) Make appointments to Committees, task forces and liaisons to other societies; 4) Act upon proposals submitted by Committees; 5) Develop policies and procedures; 6) Enact Society Bylaws.

IBS NBR members in Executive Board:

- Krista Fischer (1/1/2015 - 12/31/2018)

Representative Council

Representative Council consists of members representing the different regions of the Society.

IBS NBR members in Representative Council:

- Dietrich von Rosen (7/1/2015 - 6/30/2019)
- Geir Egil Eide (7/1/2013 - 6/30/2017)

Awards Fund Committee

The Awards Fund Committee seeks to promote Biometric activity in those areas of the world, designated by the World Bank, as Developing Countries.

Committee on Communications

The Committee on Communications, in close cooperation with the International Business Office (IBO) and the Regions, identifies and prioritizes communication issues and opportunities.

Conference Advisory Committee

The Conference Advisory Committee shall research locations and encourage Regions of interest to submit proposals to host an international conference.

IBS NBR members in Conference Advisory Committee:

- Ziad Taib (1/1/2016 - 12/31/2019)

Editorial Advisory Committee

The primary purpose of the Editorial Advisory Committee is to provide advice on the formulation of general editorial policy for all publications of the Society.

IBS NBR members in Editorial Advisory Committee:

- Esa Läärä, Chair (1/1/2014 - 12/31/2017)

Education Committee

The Education Committee implements the educational vision of the Society, as identified by the Executive Committee and by Council.

IBS NBR members in Education Committee:

- Jaakko Nevalainen (1/1/2016 - 12/31/2019)

Budget and Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is responsible for recommendations concerning all financial and related matters of the Society.

5. Upcoming events

- **NBBC17: 6th Nordic-Baltic Biometric Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark, June 19-21, 2017**

The preliminary invited programme and other information is available on the conference website:

<http://nbbc17.sund.ku.dk/>

The Local Organizing Committee is led by Torben Martinussen, the Scientific Programme Committee by Jaakko Nevalainen (Finland).

Do not miss the deadlines for abstract submission: March 1, 2017 and early registration: April 15, 2017

- **IBC 2018: XXIX International Biometric Conference**

Barcelona, Spain, 8-13 July 2018

Call for invited session proposals (deadline: 1 February 2017):

An IBC invited session brings together a small number of speakers (two-four) on a particular statistical topic. A discussant may also form part of a session.

We encourage the submission of proposals covering a wide range of topics in the theory and application of statistics to biological and life sciences; moreover, **sessions that involve speakers from diverse geographical regions are encouraged where possible.**

The NBR has not been particularly well-represented at the recent IBC-s –invited session(s) that are organized by NBR members would be a good opportunity to increase our visibility in a larger biometrics community!

In addition: call for short course proposals (deadline: 15 March 2017):

See more details and download the forms at:

<http://www.biometricsociety.org/meetings-events/ibcs/>

- **EMGM2017: European Mathematical Genetics Meeting, 2017**

Tartu, Estonia, 4-7th April 2017

This annual meeting offers an informal and inviting atmosphere to exchange ideas on the use of mathematical techniques in the field of genetics.

Deadline for abstract submission: 13 January 2017, early registration: 10 February 2017

More info: www.biobank.ee/emgm2017

6. Past events: IBC 2016

IBC 2016: The 28th International Biometric Conference - Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

July 10-15, 2016

A very successful IBC, the XXVIIIth International Biometric Conference, held in beautiful Victoria was hosted by the Western North American Region (WNAR) and drew an attendance of over 700.

(Biometric Bulletin, Vol 33. No.3,

<http://www.biometricsociety.org/publications/biometricbulletin/vol-33-no-3-july-september-2016/>)

See photos of the conference:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/127513655@N07/albums/72157672732022922>

A small selection of photos – find at least one IBS NBR member on each photo!



IBC walking tour



During and between scientific sessions...



Young statisticians' mixer



From left: organizers of the IBC2018 in Barcelona, Pere Puig and Lupe Gomez... plus Krista Fischer