INTERNATIONAL BIOMETRIC SOCIETY

NORDIC-BALTIC REGION (IBS NBR)

Bulletin No. 1, 2018

Contents

1   IBS NBR President's corner

Greetings members of the Nordic Baltic Region! These are exciting times for IBS and for our region. A few months ago, the 29th bi-annual International Biometric Conference (IBC) took place in Barcelona. I hope that many of you were able to attend as this version of the IBC was somewhat closer to us geographically than its predecessors were or the upcoming one in Seoul, Korea, will be. With this in mind, it pleases me a lot to announce that the IBC in 2022 will be held in our region. More precisely, a bid was presented thanks to our colleagues in Latvia, with a proposal to organize the IBC in Riga. This bid was chosen together with another one (Argentina) for a second round where a more detailed proposal was presented to the IBS CAC group at the conference in Barcelona. Shortly thereafter, we were informed that our bid was the winning one. I would like to thank Andrejs Ivanovs for all the work he has put into formulating and defending the bid. Andrejs is the natural candidate for leading the Local Organizing Committee. I would also like to thank Krista Fisher, Alexandra Jauhiainen and Marita Olsson for their participation in that effort. We will keep you informed about the developments of the conference organization and if you feel that you can contribute in one way or another, please reach out to us. I hope that as many of you as possible will be there.

The IBS conference in Barcelona was also an opportunity for representatives from the different regions to meet and discuss various other questions regarding IBS. The IBS officers' meeting was one such occasion and Alexandra Jauhiainen attended this meeting as the representative for the Nordic-Baltic region. Questions discussed included the future workings of the region including membership fee collections and organization, collaborations between regions, GDPR (see below), and a new website for IBS. Please contact Alexandra if you want to know more about this meeting and read the minutes.

I would also like to mention our own bi-annual regional IBS conference, NBBC19. You can find more information further down in the issue of the bulletin, but I would like to take this occasion to thank all those who are currently involved in the preparations behind the scene and especially Audronė Jakaitienė and Theis Lange leading the local and the program organizing committees, respectively. Again, I hope that as many as possible will be able join us in Vilnius to attend the conference.

Finally, the usual reminder that the mailing list ibs-nbr@googlegroups.com is for you as members to use for exchanging ideas, thoughts etc. Please make good use of it.

Ziad Taib

2   Overview of memberships

As of May 23, we are in total 62 members, 8 of which are students.

Country	Number
Denmark	10
Estonia	6
Finland	16
Iceland	2
Latvia	3
Lithuania	4
Norway	6
Sweden	14
UK	1

3   Summary of accounts for 2017

At the beginning of 2017, the presidency for the IBS NBR was transferred to Sweden from Estonia. The final economic transfer was completed a few months

into the year. We here present a shortened summary of the accounts from 2017.

Post	Type	Description	Amount (SEK)
Incoming capital	Capital	Transferred from Estonian committee	136 785.61
Membership fees	Income	Late membership fees	2376.48
Profit NBBC17	Income	Profit from regional conference 2017 transferred from Danish organizers	30 921.63
Financial costs	Expenditure	Bank fees and transferring costs	893.05
Travel costs	Expenditure	Regional committee attending NBBC17	29 254.53
Scholarship	Expenditure	Scholarship to attend NBBC17 for Sarunas Germanas	1391.65
BALANCE	2017-12-31		138 544.5

4 Upcoming events: NBBC19

The Nordic-Baltic Region of the International Biometric Society welcomes you to NBBC19, June 2-5, 2017 in Vilnius, Lithuania. The conference is aimed at novel developments and applications of statistical and mathematical methods in the field of bioscience and offers excellent opportunities for learning about recent advances in biostatistics/biometry, exchanging research experiences and getting to know colleagues from your neighbouring countries. The conference will include invited sessions (plenary), contributed sessions (parallel), and poster sessions.

Registration is will open soon and you can find more information as well as the program under the following link: NBBC19

Program Overview

The conference will include invited sessions (plenary), contributed sessions (parallel), and poster sessions.

- Sunday 2nd June 2019: Pre-conference course
- Monday 3th June 2019: Conference day 1
- Tuesday 4th June 2019: Conference day 2

- Wednesday 5th June 2019: Conference day 3

Keynote speakers include Kestutis Ducinskas (Vilnius University), IBS president Louise Ryan (University of Technology Sydney) and Richard Cook (University of Waterloo, SJS invited speaker).

Preliminary invited sessions

- Statistical methods and models in neuroscience

- Applied spatiotemporal modelling. Applications to climate science, forestry, and animal ecology

- Contingency tables – recent developments and teaching

- Causal inference from a stochastic process point of view

- Omics data

- Basket and umbrella designs in RCTs. Statistical considerations and power considerations

Social Events

- Several social events are planned. On top of the usual events such as conference dinner, there will be an excursion to the Life Science Centre and possibly visits to Vilnius University and to Trakai.

5 Best student presentation/poster at NBBC19

The regional committee of IBS NBR hereby announce a best presentation/poster award for students attending the NBBC19 in Vilnius. The award will consist of 500 EUR and the aim is for the winner to use the award to attend another IBS conference (local or global). The executive committee together with the local organizers will appoint the winner.

6 IBS and GDPR

GDPR, the General Data Protection Regulation, is applicable throughout the EU. During the IBS officers' meeting, this aspect was discussed and where the responsibilities lie regarding following GDPR - with the regions or IBS globally. It was concluded that both IBS globally and the regions are responsible for following these

regulations. Hence, we now inform you as members regarding which information we store about you and what happens with this information.

- We store your name, affiliation (if provided), and your contact information (usually email) in our membership roster. This information we share with IBS globally so that they can register you as members.

- In our Google group, which we use for email communication, we store your name and email address.

We keep the information in the Google group as long as you remain a member. If you choose to terminate your membership, we remove your information from the Google group. We save our membership rosters up to 4 years to keep track of how many members we have had historically, after that we delete the information. If you would like your personal information removed completely from the rosters before this time limit, please contact us. IBS globally follows similar practices regarding your personal information. Please contact the IBO (International Biometric Office) regarding your personal data stored with them.

We will not share your personal data with any other organization.

7 IBS developing countries

Some countries in IBS regions are classified as Developing Countries (DC). This classification is based on the World Bank and their income classification where DC countries are economies with lower income. Previously Latvia and Lithuania have been classified as DC and IBS members from these countries have paid lower fees for membership and conferences. Lithuania and Latvia are now classified as high income countries as all other countries in the region. From next year, the IBS NBR will apply the same fees for all member countries in the region. Please take a look at data from the World Bank for Latvia and Lithuania, respectively if you want to know more.