

## IBS Nordic-Baltic Regional Council meeting, meeting minutes

June 4<sup>th</sup> 2019, NBBC Vilnius

Present: Country representatives: Andreas Kryger Jensen (Denmark), Krista Fischer (Estonia), Eva Šauriņa (Latvia), Audronė Jakaitienė (Lithuania), Magne Thoresen (Norway), and current NBR executive board: Ziad Taib, Alexandra Jauhainen, Marita Olsson (all Sweden).

- **NBR status:**

54 members in total 2019 (Denmark 7, Estonia 5, Finland 10, Latvia 6, Lithuania 5, Norway 10, Sweden 11). Currently NBR has no members nor any representative in Iceland. Previous members in Iceland have been contacted but without result.

- Other issues discussed:

- Members have complained that there has been no information sent to them after the annual fee has been paid. Previous years IBS has sent a welcoming e-mail with information about the society a few weeks after the fees been transferred from NBR to IBS central. This has not happened this year. Marita will follow up with IBS global administration to find out why this is.
- NBR sponsored a workshop in Copenhagen (Survival Analysis for Junior Researchers) with 500 EURO earlier this year, which was acknowledged at their website (see <https://publicifsv.sund.ku.dk/~safjr2019/>). Also, NBR got access to the slides from the short course which Per Kragh Andersen gave on Recurrent Event Analysis. These have been shared with the members via the e-mail list. To make our activities more visible Andreas will ask one of the organizers of the workshop to write a summary for publication in the IBS Bulletin.
- The change in fee for Latvia and Lithuania was discussed. Can we as an organization work for an intermediate fee? Or can we within NBR support memberships in Latvia and Lithuania by increasing the fees for the other countries? Alexandra will investigate how much the fee would need to increase for the other countries to sponsor approximately half of the fee for members in Lithuania and Latvia.

- **NBBC 2019:**

About 60 participants from more than 15 countries. The conference has run very smoothly, and both organizers and participants seem very happy with the venue, the program and the practical arrangements. Some learnings RC discussed were:

- It is a lot of work to organize a conference. It would be helpful to have a written document, like a manual, with collected experiences from those who have recently been involved in an NBBC organization. Krista, Andreas and Audrone will form a working group to produce a draft for such a manual, which can then be circulated to other members in RC for input.

- Audrone reported on the budget for NBC2019. The conference fees together with the support from Vilnius University will cover the costs. If Microsoft provides sponsorship it will provide a small surplus. The budget will be final in about two months. In case of a surplus this goes to NBR to the benefit of future conferences, or other activities for the members.
  - NBBC2019 has paid for a web domain which can be used also for future conferences.
  - Photos from the conference will be shared.
  - A summary of the conference will be written by Audrone. Marita will find out where to send it for publication in the IBS Bulletin.
- **IBS Representative Council:** Currently Magne Thoresen and Dietrich von Rosen are the NBR representatives. Dietrich has soon completed his term and is to be replaced. Andreas Kryger Jensen accepted to take on the task for the coming 4-year period.
- **NBBC 2021:** Next regional conference should be held in Finland according to the bylaws. Krista has contacted a couple of people, among them Juha Heikkinen who got an initial positive response from people in Jyväskylä. The chair of the program committee is usually from the country where the last conference was held, at least this has been the case for the last two NBBCs. The RC decided to investigate whether it is possible to find someone in the Baltic countries.
- The current **NBR executive committee** is to be replaced in 2020. Next country in line to take over is Denmark. Andreas Kryger Jensen will start looking around for possible committee members.