



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

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## 1 IBS NBR President's corner: The past, the present and the future

As we approach the end of 2019, it can be good to sum up the near past, describe the current state of things and share some information concerning the future of IBS NBR.

NBBC19, the 7th Nordic-Baltic Biometric Conference was held on 3-5 June 2019 at Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania. On June 2, 2019, the pre-conference course "Mediation Analysis with R" was given by assoc. prof. Theis Lange from University of Copenhagen. The participants of NBBC19 consisted of 21 percent of scientists from Lithuania and 79 percent from foreign universities from 15 countries. 86.6 percent of the participants were researchers from universities and research institutes, and 13.4 were participants from the private and public sectors (AstraZeneca, Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson and Johnson, LEO Pharma A/S, Rigshospitalet, German Federal Office for Consumer Protection and Food Safety). As planned, NBBC19 had 4 keynote, 5 invited and 8 contributed sessions.

The NBBC19 conference was a success by all measures and I would like to acknowledge the work of the local organizing committee and the scientific program committee lead by Audronė Jakaitienė and Theis Lange, respectively.

In April this year, IBS NBR sponsored the Survival Analysis for Junior Researchers (SAfJR 2019) conference which took place in Copenhagen and in exchange for our

sponsorship, the organizers of the conference have kindly shared slides from a short course on Analysis of recurrent events given by Per Kragh Andersen from the University of Copenhagen. We hope this introduction to this interesting topic was useful to some of you.

The current members of the executive committee, myself, Ziad Taib together with Marita Olsson and Alexandra Jauhiainen, will serve one more year. The next executive committee will be from Denmark and the process of choosing it has already started.

The change in fee for Latvia and Lithuania was discussed at the last IBS NBR council meeting held in Vilnius in June, 4, 2019. More on this further below in this edition of the Bulletin.

In June, 2020, the 30th bi-annual International Biometric Conference (IBC) will take place in South Korea. I hope that many of you are able to attend this iteration of the IBC and it is good to know that the deadline for submitting contributed abstracts has been extended to January 10, 2020.

The next regional conference, NBBC21, is planned to be held in Finland, most probably in mid or late June 2021. Our Finnish colleagues have been contacted and an initial positive response was received from 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 regional council decided to investigate whether it is possible to find someone in the Baltic countries.

One year later, the IBC 2022 will be held in our own region; in Riga, Latvia. So far, the main contact person is Andrejs Ivanovs. We will keep you informed about the developments of the organization of these two conferences 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 able to join these events.

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

Ziad Taib



Photos from NBBC19 in Vilnius, Lithuania

## 2 Overview of memberships

In 2019, the IBS NBR had in total 55 members, including 10 students and one supporting member. By country we have the following member distribution:

Country	Number
Denmark	8
Estonia	5
Finland	10
Iceland	0
Latvia	6
Lithuania	5
Norway	10
Sweden	11

## 3 Summary of accounts for 2019

We here present a summary of the accounts for 2019.

Post	Type	Description	Amount (SEK)
Incoming capital	Capital	Capital at end of 2018	133 687.33
Membership fees	Income	Fees for 2019	23 078.38
Surplus NBBC19	Income	Surplus from regional conference 2019 transferred from Lithuanian organizers	25 557.56
Membership fees	Expenditure	Fees transferred to IBS	23 519.54
Financial costs	Expenditure	Bank fees and transferring costs	1195
NBBC19 fees	Expenditure	Regional committee NBBC19 fee	4565.23
Website cost	Expenditure	Cost for IBS NBR website	525
BALANCE	2019-12-31		152 518.50

## 4 Membership fees 2020

Last year IBS NBR changed the fee classification for Latvia and Lithuania from developing countries to high income countries, based on the World Bank income classification and following the IBS membership fee rules. This meant a significant

increase in membership fee (4 times higher) in Latvia and Lithuania. This issue was discussed at the IBS NBR regional council meeting in Vilnius and ended in an agreement that the executive committee should look into the possibility for IBS NBR to support memberships in these countries.

The finances of IBS NBR are currently in a good state, much due to the surplus that the NBBC17 and NBBC19 have generated. The executive committee has therefore decided to support regular members in Latvia and Lithuania with half of the membership fee for 2020.

Thus, we have for 2020 the following membership fees:

- Regular member in Latvia or Lithuania: 30 EUR
- Regular member in all other countries: 60 EUR
- Senior/Retiree member, all countries: 30 EUR
- Students, all countries: no fee.