

Annual report 2009 of BMS and ANed

The board and activities of the Biometrical Section (BMS) of the Netherlands Society for Statistics and Operations Research (VVS-OR) and the Dutch Region (ANed) of the International Biometric Society (IBS) are almost identical. Therefore for 2009, only one annual report is written for both scientific professional associations. All information on the activities of BMS and ANed is available through the website www.bms-aned.nl

Board, active members and annual meeting

Board

In 2009 president Koos Zwinderman has stepped back and was succeeded by Fred van Eeuwijk. Also the treasurer Marco Bink has stepped back and was succeeded by Jos Hageman. The board of BMS-ANed consists as of April 2009 of:

- *prof Fred van Eeuwijk, PhD* (president, Biometris, Wageningen UR, also delegate for the board of VVS-OR),
- *Maarten Schipper, PhD* (secretary, RIVM, Bilthoven),
- *Jos Hageman, PhD* (treasurer, Biometris, Wageningen),
- *Hilde Tobi, PhD* (member, Wageningen University),
- *Martin Struijs, MSc* (member, Genzyme BV, Naarden) and
- *Liesbeth de Wreede, PhD* (member, LUMC, Leiden).

Working groups

BMS-ANed has three working groups to cover specific subdisciplines. The current working groups and their presidents are:

- *Gerrit Gort, PhD* (Biometry Colloquium Wageningen),
- *Gonnie van Osta, MSc* (Pharmaceutical Statistics and Data Management),
- *Lidia Arends, PhD* (Medical Statistics)

In 2009 the working group on Statistics and Ecotoxicology was terminated

Board for Registration of Biostatisticians consisted in 2009 of:

- *Paul Koopman, MSc* (president, Solvay Pharmaceuticals Weesp),
- *Hans Jansen, PhD* (secretary, Biometris Wageningen),
- *George Borm, PhD* (Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Nijmegen MC)
- *prof Koos Zwinderman, PhD* (Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, AMC)

Active members

Member of the IBS Council (untill December 31, 2009)

- *prof Fred van Eeuwijk, PhD* (Biometris, Wageningen)

Member of the IBS Editorial Advisory Committee (untill December 31, 2009)

- *prof Cajo ter Braak, PhD* (Biometris, Wageningen)

Member of the European Federation of Statisticians in the Pharmaceutical Industry Council

- *prof Kit Roes, PhD (MSD, Oss)*
- *Egbert Biesheuvel, PhD (MSD, Oss)*

Reporter of EFSPi

- *Pierre Verweij, PhD (MSD, Oss)*

Annual meeting

The annual assembly of BMS-ANed took place on April 7, 2009 at the Second Channel Network Conference in Ghent (Belgium). The minutes of the assembly are available on www.bms-aned.nl

Scientific Activities

Channel Network Conferentie April 6-8 2009, Ghent, Belgium

ANed participates in the Channel Network. The Channel Network is a scientific cooperation together with the Belgian, French and British regions of the IBS. In 2009, Hein Putter (LUMC) was the coordinator of the Channel Network. Also Fred van Eeuwijk and Maarten Schipper were representatives of the Dutch region in the steering group of the Channel Network.

In 2009 the Channel Network has organized the second Channel Network Conference. It took place on April 6-8 2009 in Ghent, Belgium. The conference was organized by the Société Adolphe Quetelet, the Belgian region of the IBS.

Suggested themes were Biological versus Statistical Interactions, Mixture Models and Growth Curves, Multivariate Survival Analysis.

ANed has offered the participants of the congress a free pre-conference course. The course was titled Competing Risks and was given by Hein Putter (LUMC) and Ronald Geskus (AMC Amsterdam). The reasons for offering this free course were better recognition for BMS-ANed and membership recruitment.

BMS has three sub disciplines for which special working groups organize activities. The following activities were organized in 2009 (also) by BMS-ANed or one of the working groups.

June 26, 2009: PSDM meeting, Setting Equivalence Margins in Clinical Research

- *Welcome*
Wouter Wijker (PSDM board member)
- *Existing guidelines with respect to non-inferiority and equivalence*
Sebastien Marque, Head of Biometrics, Danone Research, France
- *A clinical perspective on setting equivalence limits*
Tjoeke Tan, MD. Independent consultant, The Netherlands
- *Statistical aspects of equivalence margin specification*
Prof Dr. Stefan Wellek, Department of Biostatistics, CIMH
Mannheim/University of Heidelberg, Germany
- *Problems with setting equivalence limits*
Dr. Simon Day, Roche Products LTD.
- *Annual PSDM Meeting*

October 22, 2009: Fall meeting BMS-ANed: Biostatistics as conscience of the life sciences

- *All beginnings are hard: statistical genetics within the LUMC*
Jeanine Houwing-Duistermaat (LUMC)
- *Biology and statistics: Dangerous Liaisons or a perfect match?*
René Toes (LUMC)
- *Statistics in life science: detecting the undetected*
Hans van Houwelingen (LUMC)
 - *The biologists Tine Tammes and Jan Willem Mol and the astronomer Jacobus Kapteyn tried to apply Pearson's statistics*
Ida Stamhuis (VU)
- *Biostatisticians lead the way*
Kit Roes (UU)
- *Panel discussion chaired by Fred van Eeuwijk (WUR)*

This year, unfortunately, the Day for Statistics and Operations Research coincided with the Channel Network Conference in Ghent. Therefore this year the BMS didn't organize a session.

Other

Promotional flyer BMS-ANed

The board has taken the initiative to design a promotional flyer to make people interested in the BMS and ANed associations. The flyer was introduced during the general assembly.