

**Minutes Annual General Meeting BMS-ANed 2024**

Assembly of the BMS (Biometric Section of the Dutch Society for Statistics and Operations Research - VVS) and ANed (Dutch region of the International Biometric Society - IBS)

Date: Thursday June 20th 2024

Venue: During the BMS-ANed Spring meeting in Rotterdam (at Erasmus MC)

Chair: BMS-ANed outgoing President Mark van de Wiel and incoming President Marianne Jonker

Minutes: BMS-ANed secretary Mar Rodríguez Girondo

Other BMS-ANed board members present:

Treasurer Dennis te Beest

Jeroen Hoogland

Roula Tsonaka

 Joost van Rosmalen

 Wouter van Amsterdam (new)

The general assembly was planned and accordingly announced to take place during the Spring meeting in honor of the 2022 Hans van Houwelingen Biometry Award, won by Anirudh Tomer (Erasmus MC), on June 20th, 2024, in Rotterdam.

On January 23rd , 2024, an email was sent announcing that the 2024 General Assembly of the BMS (Biometric Section of the Dutch Society for Statistics and Operations Research - VVS) and ANed (Dutch region of the International Biometric Society - IBS) would take place during the Spring meeting in honor of the 2022 Hans van Houwelingen Biometry Award on June 20th, 2024, in Rotterdam. Reminder emails were sent on May 4th and 11th June. On June 18th, 2024, an email was sent referring to the 2023 financial and annual reports of the BMS-ANed, the agenda for the General Assembly 2024, and the minutes of the 2023 General Assembly. All the documents could be found on the BMS-ANed website: <https://www.vvsor.nl/biometrics/pages/archive/>

All emails were sent to the email lists of both IBS-ANed and VVSOR-BMS.

1. Opening

* The outgoing president Mark van de Wiel opened the assembly. 15 participants

2. Approval of Agenda

* Agenda is approved

3. Minutes annual general meeting 2023

* Mark van de Wiel explained the status of the two action points from the past General Assembly 2023:
	+ Action point 1: minor textual changes in HvH regulations, feedback was incorporated. The final text is available on the BMS-ANed website.
	+ Action point 2: reactivation of the Registry of Biostatisticians. This point has been addressed, and the progress will be discussed later in the assembly.
* The minutes of the 2023 assembly were approved.

4. Overview BMS-ANed events, June 2023-May 2024.

* Mark van de Wiel summarized the events that took place in 2023 and provided an update until May 2024. The details can be found in the Annual report (<https://www.vvsor.nl/biometrics/pages/archive/>).
* Mark van de Wiel also mentions the IBS Channel Network Conference, which took place in August 2023 in Wageningen, and publicly expresses his gratitude and congratulates the local organizers, Carel Peeters (WUR) and Jos Hageman (WUR), for the success of the conference.
* The upcoming confirmed events include a new seminar in the Biostatistics Seminar Series in September, focused on AI and presented by Wouter van Amsterdam. Additionally, there is a tentative course on the role of statisticians in Data and Safety Monitoring Boards (DSMBs) coordinated by Prof. Kit Roes (Radboud UMC), for which the BMS-ANed board distributes a form to attendees to express their interest.

5. Changes in the BMS-ANed board.

* Proposal for new board members (inclusive new President)+ voting: Marianne Jonker (new president, Radboud UMC), Wouter van Amsterdam (Utrecht UMC) and Sara Baart (Erasmus MC). No objections. The proposal for the new board members is approved.
* Proposal for new member of the Audit Committee (kascommissie) replacing Marianne Jonker: Stefan Böhringer (LUMC). No objections. The proposal for the new Audit Committee member is approved.
* Farewell and thanks to outgoing President Mark van de Wiel and Kim Luijken (left the BMS-ANed board in September 2023)
* The chairperson role is transferred from Mark to Marianne, who will chair the remainder of the assembly.

6. Financial overview + report financial audit (kascontrolecommissie)

* Dennis te Beest presented the financial summary. It is mentioned that Marco Grzegorczyk and Stefan Böhringer have audited the 2023 finances. Details can be found here: [Archive - VVSOR](https://www.vvsor.nl/biometrics/pages/archive/).

7. Budget 2024

* Dennis te Beest explained the budget and reminded members that if regular members have ideas for events, they should contact the board, as there is a budget (1000-1500 eur) available for organizing such events. The planned DSMB course is planned to be budget neutral (registration fee). 1000 eur are reserved for legal advice regarding the renovation of procedures of the Registry of Biostatisticians. Spring meeting in Rotterdam (today) is sponsored via the VVS-OR.

8. Biostatisticians registry

* As agreed in the General Assembly 2023, the BMS-ANed board analyzed current situation with the Registry of Biostatisticians and propose several improvements in the registration process.
* BMS-ANed board member Joost van Rosmalen explained the current status of the registry (inactive) and present a series of potential changes to improve the process.
* Summary of proposed changes:
	+ Relax requirement that application must be signed by two referees who have worked with the applicant and are registered biostatisticians themselves.
	+ Removal of board of appeal. Appeals will be handled by the board of BMS-ANed
	+ Various changes to the regulations, in order to simplify them and make them up to date.
	+ Replace current board of the Registration committee
* One attendee asked about the academic and experience requirements to become part of the Registry, specifically regarding the positions of post-doctoral researchers. It was clarified that cases should be evaluated individually; if a post-doctoral researcher has focused solely on a very specific technical topic, this may disqualify them from inclusion in the Registry. Instead, broader professional experience as a biostatistician is required.
* The BMS-ANed board expresses its intention to seek legal advice from a qualified professional to confirm that the text complies with privacy and other applicable regulations. The aim is to present a final proposal aligned with the one presented today, which could be discussed and approved in an extraordinary assembly in late 2024 or early 2025. There are no objections to this proposal.

9. Any other business

None

10. Closing

* The president Marianne Jonker closed the assembly.