

Minutes general meeting of BMS/ANed
During the Second Channel Network Conference, Ghent, April 7, 2009

1. Opening

The chairman starts the meeting at 18h.08

2. Announcements

From this meeting on, the meetings will be held in English, so that non Dutch speaking colleagues can join as well.

VVS-OR:

This year the annual 'Dag voor Statistiek en Besliskunde' coincides with the Channel Network Conference. We will try to avoid this in the future. The Netherlands Society for Statistics and Operations Research (VVS-OR) will drop the obligation to purchase its journal 'Statistica Neerlandica'

The SOS-fund for stimulating statistical training in the Netherlands was ended yesterday at the 'Dag voor Statistiek en Besliskunde' at the general meeting of VVS-OR. Approximately €100.000 from the fund goes to cash flow of VVS-OR.

IBS:

Next years IBC will be held in Florianopolis, Brasil. December 5-10, 2010.

The executive committee of IBS wants to change the governance structure of the IBS. The council is now too large to be effective. The executive committee made a proposal to establish an executive board consisting of 15 members. They will be advised by representative council made up by 2 members of each national region, that are selected by the regions themselves.

The executive committee wants to change membership conditions as well. In future members can choose between taking a paper copy of Biometrics or an electronic copy, also electronic access to Biometric Bulletin will be included. Nevertheless the proposal is not to reduce the membership fee, due to increased organizational expenses. Additional proposals are to make membership for students (MSc & PhD) free of charge and to end the associate membership construction and introduce a retirement membership.

Springer wants to set up a Statistical Wikipedia in cooperation with the IBS. Access to this Wikipedia will be free for IBS members.

There is a 20% discount on Wiley books for IBS members

IBS wants to take over the journal JABES from the ASA. Such that IBS gets full rights over JABES and will try to find a commercial publisher to make appropriate advertisement for the journal.

3. Minutes previous general meeting

The minutes of the previous general meeting are approved.

4. Annual report 2008 BMS/ANed

The Annual report 2008 BMS/ANed is approved

5. Financial report 2008 ANed

The membership figures show that the figures for ANed are stabilized, but for BMS are still steadily decreasing by 10% each year.

The financial report is approved.

6. Membership recruitment BMS/ANed

The decrease in membership figures is ongoing for years. The committee is worried about this trend. This phenomenon also shows for other similar societies. The committee is trying to stop the decrease and has taken actions the last couple of months.

Introduction of a 2 year free membership for student members

All communications will (also) be in English to meet non-Dutch speaking members.

The website is currently being translated in English

The committee intends to start organizing courses, with discount for members.

And a promotional flyer, that shows the benefits of the society, is designed.

The flyer is introduced by Marco Bink. Members are encouraged to take some of these flyers to spread among potential new members.

Members are also asked for other suggestions to find new members for the society.

One suggestion that comes forward is to make all MSc-students in statistics a member. Is free anyway.

7. Changes in the committee: the committee proposes to reappoint Maarten Schipper (secretary), Martin Struijs (member), Hilde Tobi (member) en Liesbeth de Wreede (member) and nominates Fred van Eeuwijk (president) and Jos Hageman (treasurer) to succeed Koos Zwinderman and Marco Bink respectively.

There are no opponents. No one is against the proposal of the committee. So Fred van Eeuwijk and Jos Hageman are elected unanimous for the committee.

Maarten Schipper says a few words of thanks to Koos Zwinderman and Marco Bink, for their dedication for the society. During their term ANed organized the successful first Channel Network Meeting in Rolduc, and the committee has made a serious start to tackle the decline in membership figures. And not the least they are two fine colleagues to work with in the BMS-ANed committee.

8. Questions at the end of the meeting

No questions

9. Closure

Koos Zwinderman closes the meeting at 18h.31