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| Annual report 2014 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 identical. Therefore, for 2014, 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](http://www.bms-aned.nl/)

### Members

Number of members in December 2014 was unknown due to problems at the administration of VVS. Members of ANed: Regular 90, Senior retiree 4, Student 12, Honorary member 1

### Board

In 2014, no new or re-assignments for the Board of BMS-ANed took place, so that the Board consisted of:

* Jeanine Houwing-Duistermaat, PhD (President, LUMC Leiden)
* Ernst Wit, PhD (Vice-President & PR Officer, RUG Groningen)
* Jos Hageman, PhD (Treasurer, Biometris Wageningen),
* Sophie Swinkels, PhD (Secretary & Contact Person PSDM & CRB, representing the industry, Nutricia Research Utrecht)
* Dimitris Rizopoulos, PhD (Member, Erasmus MC)
* Rosa Meijer, MSc (member representing the Young Statisticians, LUMC Leiden)

The board had 11 meetings in 2014. During these meetings amongst others the following topics were discussed: BMS/ANed events, IBS Channel meeting, woeking groups, PR and developments in our field (for instance DTL data).

### Working group - PSDM

PSDM has had a quiet year and did not organize a traditional PSDM event and/or training on a location. However, the PSDM hosted and contributed to the joined PSDM/INCDMA teleconference on March 18 on the topic of “eSource Data Transcription and EDC implementation – Regulatory perspectives and implementation lessons learned”. With more than 60 attendees from all over the world and with the interactive question and answer sessions, both meeting sessions turned out to be highly successful.

Main reason for the quiet year has been the change of situation for some of the board members. At the moment Martijn Oostendorp (Sr. Data Manager, Julius Clinical) has stopped his board membership due to emigration to Australia.

### Working group - Education

The working group Education did not have any activities in 2014. The board of BMS/ANed tried to revive this working group by attracting a new board. In 2014 Ron Wehrens (Wageningen UR) and Rosa Meijer (Leiden, LUMC) were attracted as new members of the working group. The working group still has one vacancy.

The following tasks were defined as possible tasks for the working group:

*Mogelijke taken kunnen zijn (invulling en prioritering hangt ook van de werkgroepleden zelf af, we verwachten niet dat alles in een keer aangepakt wordt)
 1) overzicht creëren van het onderwijs in biostatistiek gegeven aan niet statistici vooral op master, PhD en Post-doc nivo
 2) overzicht van het onderwijs wat opleidt tot biostatisticus op master en PhD nivo (evt relatie met registratie biostatisticus waar ook een nieuwe impuls nodig is op het gebied van nascholing)
 3) het belang van goed onderwijs in statistiek uitdragen (overheid en bedrijven)
 4) samenwerking met bijvb DTL-data wat een onderwijspoot heeft voor de analyse van omics/NGS en grote datasets. Op dit moment ontbreekt hier de bijdrage van statistiek. Zij zouden ons hier graag bij betrekken*

### Registration of Biostatisticians

In 2014, no new or re-assignments for the Board for Registration of Biostatisticians took place, so that the Board consisted of:

Chair – Paul Koopman (Abbott Healthcare Products BV, Weesp)

Secretary – Corine Balje (QPS Netherlands, Groningen)

Member – Edwin van den Heuvel (University of Groningen until September, University of Eindhoven from October)

Member – Koos Zwinderman (University of Amsterdam)

Since the start of the register in 2000 until end of 2014, the Board has received 164 applications. These differentiate between 158 accepted, 6 rejected and 0 in progress. In 2014, 5 applications that were in progress at the beginning of the year, as well as one newly received application, have been handled off, resulting in 5 accepted and 1 rejected application. Excluding the registered persons who have deceased or terminated their registration, or have indicated to withhold consent for inclusion to the public register, in total 147 persons are on the public register.

In 2014, the Board has dealt with administration and running business. On the structural level, a process has been described to handle new applications and the digital archive has been completed.

In addition, a face to face meeting has been held with representatives of PSDM and ANED/BMS Board to discuss general strategy and national and international positioning. In this meeting also an update of the regulations has been agreed for submission to the ANED/BMS Board and VVS Board respectively.

### Active Members 2014

■ Hendriek Boshuizen (RIVM, Bilthoven) is on the Executive board of the International Biometric Society (2014)​​​​​​​​

■ Rene Eijkemans, PhD (UMCU, Utrecht) is on the Representative Council and chair of the of the Budget and Finance Committee of the International Biometric Society

■ Paul Eilers (Erasmus MC, Rotterdam) is on the Representative Council of the International Biometric Society (2014)

■Jeanine Houwing-Duistermaat (LUMC, Leiden) Co-editor of Biometrics (2013-2015) and member of the steering committee of the International Biometric Society’s Channel Network Region (2012-2015)

■Ernst Wit (RuG, Groningen) is member of the Editorial Advisory Committee of the International Biometrics Society (2014-2017) and associate editor of Biometrics (2014-2017).

■Dimitris Rizopoulos (Erasmus MC, Rotterdam) is an associate editor of Biometrics (2009-2016).

■ Roula Tsonaka (LUMC, Leiden) is an associate editor of Biometrics (2013-2016).

■Mark van der Wiel (VUMC, Amsterdam) is member of the steering committee of the International Biometric Society’s Channel Network Region (2014-2017) and member of local organizing committee of Channel Meeting 2015

■Ronald Geskus (AMC, Amsterdam) chair of local organizing committee of Channel Meeting 2015

■Jelle Goeman (RadboudUMC, Nijmegen) member of local organizing committee of Channel Meeting 2015

■Joanna in ‘t Hout (RadboudUMC, Nijmegen) member of local organizing committee of Channel Meeting 2015

■Fred van Eeuwijk (Biometris, Wageningen) member of program committee International Biometric Conference (2013-2014) and member of JABES Editorial Management Committee (2014-2016)

■Hilde Tobi (Wageningen UR) is editor of the VVS publication STAtOR

■Koos Zwinderman (AMC, Amsterdam) is President of the International Society of Clinical Biostatistics (ISCB)

■ Saskia Le Cessie is a member of the Executive Committee of the International Society of Clinical Biostatistics (ISCB)

For PSDM the following people are active in the EFSPI:

■ Egbert Biesheuvel (MSD, Oss), Council member (National contact) of the EFSPI

■ Stefan Driessen (Abbott, Weesp), Council member (Second representative) of the EFSPI

### Scientific Activities

**BMS-Aned Spring Meeting “When Biostatistics meets Omics” 13 June 2014 Erasmus MC Rotterdam**

Speakers:

- Jeanine Houwing: introductory talk

- Claus Thorn Ekstrom (Department of Biostatics, University of Copenhagen)

- Renee de Menezes (Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, VUMC)

- Lieven Clement (Department of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Gent)

- Max Welling (Informatics Institute, UvA).

The annual Spring meeting of BMS-ANed took place on June 13 at the Erasmus MC in Rotterdam. The topic of this meeting was “When Biostatistics meets Omics”. After the introductory talk of Jeanine Houwing, president of BMS-ANed, four established researchers talked about their experience with omics datasets, namely Claus Thorn Ekstrom (Department of Biostatics, University of Copenhagen), Renee de Menezes (Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, VUMC), Lieven Clement (Department of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Gent) and Max Welling (Informatics Institute, UvA). Different aspects were touched upon, such as the difficulty of computing p-values when using penalization methods, the development of powerful score test for high-dimensional settings, using functional data analysis methods and the use of machine learning tools in an omics setting.

**BMS-ANed Fall Meeting "Social Networks and Infectious Disease" 17 December 2014 Wageningen University.**

Speakers:

- Mirjam Kretzschmar (National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) and University Medical Center Utrecht, The Netherlands)

- Jacco Wallinga (RIVM)

- Natalie van der Wal (VU University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

- Ernst Wit (University of Groningen, The Netherlands)

The annual Fall meeting of BMS-ANed, with the topic “Social Networks and Infectious Disease” took place on December 17 at Wageningen University.

Different aspects of social networks were highlighted in four interesting talks. In the first talk, Mirjam Kretzschmar (National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) and University Medical Center Utrecht, the Netherlands) focused on modelling the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) by means of social networks. By modelling partner change rates, partnership duration and overlapping relations, insight could be obtained in how STIs spread and this knowledge could furthermore be used in public health interventions. The talk of Jacco Wallinga (National Institute of Public Health and the Environment, the Netherlands) revolved around the question “Who infected whom?”. He showed that combining information sources, namely information on the infected cases (such as time and place) and information on the genetic sequence of pathogens isolated from these cases, can increase the understanding of the underlying mechanism. Natalie van der Wal (VU University, Amsterdam, the Netherlands) took a different perspective to using statistical methods to analyse networks. She illustrated how multi agent systems can be used to model and predict crowd behaviour, by means of modelling individual emotions, and ways in which these emotions can subsequently influence the emotions of others. The last presentation was given by Ernst Wit (University of Groningen, the Netherlands), who addressed the question how social networks could be used to gain more insight in the dispersion of so called “social epidemics”, such as smoking and drinking behaviour. The diversity of the talks ensured that the meeting was well received by the broad audience.

### BMS-ANed Biometry Award

The BMS-ANed Biometry Award 2014 was an award for the best paper published in a refereed journal in the biometrical field during the years 2012 and 2013, written by either a Dutch author or someone employed by a Dutch institution. Out of 20 submitted papers, the jury consisting of Claus Thorn Ekstrom, Lieven Clement and Theodore Kypraios decided the best Dutch paper was the paper of Fentaw Abegaz and Ernst Wit, entitled “Sparse time series chain graphical models for reconstructing genetic networks”.

### Annual General Meeting 2014

The Annual General Meeting of BMS-ANed took place on July 13, 2014, 16h30-17h00 at Erasmus MC, Rotterdam

The minutes of the assembly are available on [www.bms-aned.nl](http://www.bms-aned.nl/).

The agenda was:

1. Opening

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Review and Actions Minutes of previous annual general meeting

4. Announcements

5. Annual report 2013 BMS/ANed

6. Financial report 2013 ANed

7. Working Groups

- The Pharmaceutical Statistics and Data Management (PSDM)

- Education

- Register of Biostatisticians

8. Organisation Channel meeting April 2015

9. Any other business

10. Closing