

Minutes of the general assembly of BMS-ANed

June 24, 2011 12h00 – 12h30,

Venue: Lecture room 3, Building 1, LUMC Leiden

The general assembly of BMS-ANed took place in Leiden on June 24, 2011. There were 27 members present.

1. Opening

The president opens the meeting at 12h.00

2. Announcements

IBS:

Fred van Eeuwijk is leaving the steering committee of the Channel Network. Jeanine Houwing is willing to succeed him. The next Channel Network Conference will take place in St. Andrews, Scotland in July 2013.

VVS:

Richard Gill stepped down as President of the VVS. Jacqueline Meulman is the new President. A new division is been established: The Young Statisticians Group, to stress the importance of rejuvenation of the association. We think this is a good initiative. Maarten Kampert is the president of this new division and as such is a new member of the VVS-OR board. Two members of the Young Statisticians Group are present during this meeting.

Next year's Statistics Day will again take place in Utrecht. Though the costs are much higher, this location attracts more members. To cut back on costs, more effort will be taken to find additional sponsoring. The board still accepts nominations for people to invite as keynote speakers for this day (and forthcoming editions).

3. Minutes previous general meeting dd. December 2, 2010

Approved without changes

4. Annual report 2010 BMS/ANed

The question rises if there is already a new secretary for the board of the register of biostatisticians. The president asks for volunteers. The ANed board first wants to inquire for a new secretary on their short list. If this turns out to be unfruitful, Theo Stijnen is willing to become the new secretary.

5. Financial report 2010 ANed

The treasurer gives a detailed overview of the costs and benefits of the finances in 2010. There is a fair amount of reserves. The board is calling for ideas to spend these reserves in a manner that in the end the association itself will benefit from it. One has to think of membership recruitment and popularization.

The assembly approved the report without changes and granted discharge to the treasurer.

6. Registration of biostatisticians

There has been a discussion about the position and usefulness of the register of biostatisticians. The conclusions are that the register is important for registration of qualified statisticians and will be continued. For other sections of VVS-OR it turned out to be less important to register qualified statisticians. The American Statistical Association (ASA) recently started its own registration, so people from other sections might register at the ASA if they want or need.

For ethical committees it is required for a statistician or epidemiologist to be registered. Also in some vacancies, registration is one of the requirements.

8. Election of new board members

Hilde Tobi and Martin Struijs will step down from the board. The board nominates Siem Heisterkamp and Rosa Meijer as successors for these two positions. The board also proposes to re-elect Fred van Eeuwijk (president), Jos Hageman (treasurer), Maarten Schipper (secretary) and Liesbeth de Wreede (member).

The assembly approves unanimously. The board is very pleased that Siem is willing to enter the board as a representative of the pharmaceutical subdivision of BMS-ANed. Furthermore, the board is even more pleased that Rosa joined the board. She is a PhD student at LUMC Leiden and in this way we hope that also younger statisticians have their influence in the association.

9. Questions at the end of the meeting

The board wants to add a new working group devoted to education to the BMS-ANed. It is thought to be very important that the association has some influence in the development of the new curricula at secondary schools. Another goal is the integration of teaching programs at the different universities. In a way that people can learn from each other.

At the current moment the board is searching for members that want to join the new working group and for someone to head the new working group. People that are interested are kindly requested to contact one of the board members.

10. Closure