

# **MINUTES OF THE ERC Meeting**

## **European Regional Committee Bernoulli Society**

**When: Tuesday 7 July 2015, 12:15 – 13:40, Central European Time**

Where: Amsterdam, Vrije Universiteit, NL. EMS 2015 meeting.

Present: Sandor Baran, Maarten Jansen, Hannes Leeb (Conference Committee), Jan Mielniczuk, Adeline Samson (on behalf of Anne Gegout-Petit), Richard Samworth (Incoming Chair), Sylvain Sardy, Ernst Wit (Outgoing Chair), Wilfrid Kendall (Bernoulli Society), Diana Gillooly (CUP)

Absent: Jesus Lopez Fidalgo, Nial Friel, Niels Richard Hansen (Programme Coordinator), Maria Karlsson, Ada van Krimpen, Markos Koutras (Conference Committee), Richard Nickl, Mihael Perman, Markus Reiss, Kamil Turkman,

### **1. Opening** at 12:20 CET by Ernst Wit

Wit opens the meeting. Wit thanks Samworth for taking over as next chair. Wit passes on the Chair to Samworth. Samworth welcomes the ERC members to the meeting, particularly the new ERC members.

Agenda was accepted as is.

### **2. Introductions.**

All the people present introduce themselves.

### **3. Minutes previous meeting.**

Change: Markos Koutras will be member of the Conference Committee until June **2016**.

### **4. SemStat** (Ernst Wit / Diana Gillooly)

Wit explains that the SemStat, which since 1990s has been organized by the ERC, will be revived. SemStat will consist of a week of 3 short courses by 3 lecturers around a central theme. The lecture notes will be published by CUP.

Gillooly (CUP) explain the new publishing model, CUP Elements. The problem with edited volumes has been (i) authors had to wait until the last contributor handed in his contribution and (ii) lack of visibility of individual contributions. The new model will be an edited series *SemStat Elements*. For 2016 the topic will be Statistical Network Analysis.

For 2017 a list of possible topics were suggested:

- Model selection and inference
- Causal inference
- Bayesian nonparametrics
- Statistics for Big Data; large p, small n
- Functional data analysis
- Copulas and dependence structures

**ACTION ALL:** Decide on 2017 topic with potential names of speakers at December ERC meeting.

5. **Election of EMS 2017 Programme Committee and ERC Conference Committee** (for decision)

Programme committee consist of a Programme Coordinator and two members of the ERC. Niels Hansen has been PC for the past 2 years. He is willing to continue for another two years. No other member volunteers, so he will retain the role for another two years until July 2017.

For the chair of the Programme Committee of the EMS 2017 there are two nominations: Ingrid van Keilegom and Lutz Duembgen. The ERC decides to make Van Keilegom choice number 1 and Duembgen on 2 as Programma Chair for Helsinki EMS 2017.

A discussion follows which results in a list of people to invite as members for the Scientific Programme Committee.

**1<sup>st</sup> choice:**

**reserve:**

Gerard Biau (FR)

Axel Munk (DE), Arnaldo Frigessi (NO)

Laura Sangalli (IT)

Theophanis Sapatinais a (CY)

Terisa Ledwina (PO)

Mia Deijfen (SE)

Gabor Lugosr (ES)

Omiros (ES), Jose Chachol (ES)

**ACTION:** Samworth approaches Van Keilegom and other members for the Programme Committee for Helsinki 2017.

6. **Election of the chair of the ERC** for 2017-18 (advanced notice of decision required by December)

This will be discussed at the next meeting.

**ACTION ALL:** Suggestions for new ERC Chair.

7. Update on arrangements for **EMS 2017 in Helsinki** (Jryki Mattinen)

Suggested dates: July 24-28, 2017 as not to clash with the JSM in August.

6 lecture halls, 15K euro, which are hopefully sponsored by Helsinki University.

*Kendall:* There seems to be a fraction of contributed papers that do not register after being accepted. Perhaps you can make the early bird registration deadline coincide with the submission of the abstract. It would be worthwhile to discuss experiences with the EMS 2015 local organizing committee. The Chair (Vd Vaart) will write a report that will be passed on the EMS 2017 local organizing committee.

Registration will be approximately between 250-350 euro.

8. **EMS 2019** (Richard Samworth)

We need to get suggestions for a venue in 2019. Moscow put in a bid last time and Sweden did consider, but did not quite submit. It would be good in the interest of geographical diversity to consider perhaps a Southern European country for this EMS.

**ACTION:** Samworth writes an advert for E-briefs and Bernoulli News.

9. Update on arrangements for **EYSM 2015** and beyond (Hannes Leeb)

Leeb reports that the preparations for the meeting are very much on the way; it will take place in August in Prague. At the meeting Leeb will be the ERC representative and will make sure that a location for EYSM 2017 is selected.

Wit has spoken with the local organizer of Prague EYSM 2015: it would be good that ERC members will make sure in the future that the two nominated candidates to attend (i.e. young statisticians from that country) are really willing to take this on. This year several nominated PhD students were not willing to go after all.

**ACTION:** Leeb will report on what country will be chosen for the EYSM 2017.

10. ERC website / Bernoulli society **news**

If there is any news that might be worthwhile reporting, please contact Richard. Please check the ERC Bernoulli Society webpage to check that your own details are correct.

11. Any other business

Kendall suggests a pre-meeting for young statisticians before the EMS (e.g. on Saturday and Sunday). This worked very well in Oslo and is now used in Bernoulli Society World Congress. The Conference Committee is taking this on for Helsinki 2017.

**ACTION:** Leeb, Hansen and Koutros follow up on this for the EMS 2017.

12. Date of **next meeting:** Skype meeting November/December 2015.

The Chair (Samworth) closes the meeting at 13:40.