

## The International Biometric Society's IBO Update!

The e-newsletter for Region leadership and administrators, from  
The International Biometric Office (IBO)  
November 2020

*Note: Though IBO Update is intended for IBS Region leaders and administrators, you are welcome to share any relevant information with your members. Any questions regarding the appropriateness of sharing one or more topics, or requests for additional details, may be forwarded via e-mail to [Executive Director, Peter Doherty](mailto:Executive Director, Peter Doherty). Thanks for reading!*

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### IBC 2020 Content is Available on Demand through 31 December



Hello again to our IBS Region friends!

While the virtual IBC 2020 program ended more than two months ago, more than 30 pre-recorded sessions from IBC 2020 are still available to IBC registrants on demand.

The good news is that even those who did not register for the IBC while it was going on can still register now, and receive full access to all content through the end of 2020.

We would appreciate it if you would forward this information to your members. All they need to do to access these recordings is to visit <https://www.ibc2020.org/home>, register for the event, and then visit the IBC community's "Library" for descriptions and links to all pre-recorded sessions. Thanks for helping us to spread the word!

## Annual General Meeting and IBC 2022 Update

The Annual General Meeting of the Society took place on 31 August and was delivered virtually as part of the IBC 2020 Closing Ceremony. Also delivered on the same day was a sneak preview of IBC 2022 during our IBC 2020 virtual Closing Ceremony. Here is a link to that recording:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RQgghyzs5WA&feature=youtu.be>

We hope that you will circulate the news that was shared during our Annual General Meeting by distributing the link above. We also hope that you will make plans to join us for **IBC 2022 from July 10-15, 2022 in Riga, Latvia**. The formation of the International Program Committee is nearly complete. IBS President and IBC 2022 Organizing President Geert Verbeke is excited to begin planning for the event. And with the recent news regarding the emergence of multiple COVID-19 vaccines, we are hopeful that the world will achieve some sense of normalcy well before this IBC is ready to begin. The conference will be held at the [Radisson Blu Latvija Conference & Spa Hotel](#), located within the city's center. The beautiful streets, parks and attractions will entice you to stay a bit longer after the conference! We look forward to welcoming the world to the IBC once again in 2022!

## Contact Information Update Requests

The IBO will be in touch with you this December regarding Region records in the IBS database without e-mail addresses. And in some cases, there are also records with "bad" (undeliverable) e-mail addresses.

Having a current e-mail address on file is quite important for a truly global society, like ours. In addition, one of the new benefits of membership, the new IBS Members Community (more on that later), can only be accessed by those members with a current e-mail address in the database. Since we assume that your local admins and volunteers will have more frequent contact with these members, we hope you will work with us at the IBO to help us update our database, and yours!

## Contributions Still Needed for Travel Awards Fund

Perhaps due to the current COVID-19 pandemic and economic downturn, contributions to the Travel Awards Fund by Regions is somewhat lower than expected. Normally, this would be a significant concern. But as travel to the IBC was no longer possible, we still have an opportunity to rebuild the fund in anticipation of Region events in 2021 and IBC 2022. As a reminder, the activities of the Awards Fund Committee have been expanded, and we now offer travel awards to deserving applicants during IBC and non-IBC years.

With the assumption that travel will again be possible for a significant number of our colleagues in 2021, we encourage you to do two things:

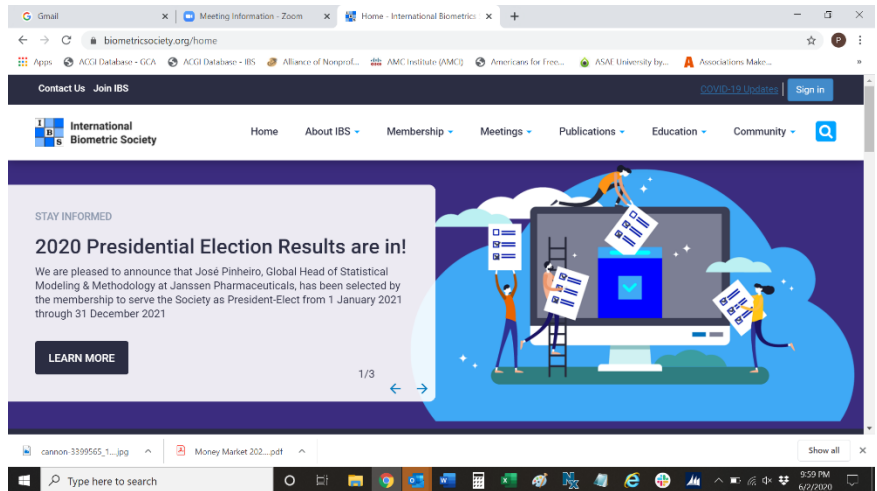
- Continue to encourage contributions to the Travel Awards Fund during dues collection, even late in 2020.
- Please consider a contribution to the Travel Awards Fund for 2021 as part of your annual budget development activities.

The fund is used solely for lower and middle-income (LMIC) applicants' travel to IBC and/or local Region events. As in-person events are rescheduled for 2021, we are hopeful that we can quickly respond to the need

for travel assistance by providing meaningful financial support. The fund can benefit attendees at your local events and others. Also keep in mind that **any contribution by a Region or individual toward LMIC travel will be matched by the IBS**, up to \$20,000.00 USD. The Board has pledged this support once again for 2021. For more information on the travel awards program, [contact Amanda Bignall at the IBO.](#)

## Website Update and Early Training Materials.

Content on the new [www.biometricsociety.org](http://www.biometricsociety.org) website continues to grow. In addition, we have taken the step of adding all new IBS members to the [IBS Members Community](#) automatically, free of charge. Members may send posts or questions, review content from the community, and access materials specifically archived for this audience. If you or your members have not yet visited the IBS Members Community, we suggest that you do so today!



1. Go to [www.biometricsociety.org](http://www.biometricsociety.org), and login using your existing credentials. Contact us if you need assistance.
2. Visit your profile and update your personal information. You may also edit your privacy settings. Be sure to click on the group Settings and customize Email Notifications, so that you only receive the information you want (decide to receive real-time updates, a daily digest, or no e-mails at all).
3. Click 'Community' in the main navigation, then select 'My Communities'.
4. Under 'My Communities', select the 'IBS Members Community'.
5. Browse the list of members and reach out to a colleague.
6. Choose a discussion topic that has been posted and send a reply. Here is how: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xg5t1TKjt5w>
7. Now, take the final step... post an update or topic yourself!

Thanks to committee Chair Jürgen Kübler and the rest of the Website and Membership Advisory Committee for their support of this project.

And finally, we wanted you to know that the first experimental Region mini site has just been launched and is available for viewing here: <https://bir.biometricsociety.org/home>. The site rests on the new IBS website platform and is managed by admins from the British Irish Region. Thanks to all involved, especially Daniel Farewell. There will be much more information on this phase of the website project in the coming months.

## Encourage your Members to Vote for the next IBS Executive Board!

We would like to thank all members who participated in the recent election for IBS President-Elect. José Pinheiro of the Eastern North American Region was elected and will begin his President-Elect term on 1 January 2021. The President-Elect serves a one-year term and shall automatically succeed to the office of

President at the end of that year, serving as President for two years, after which he shall become the Outgoing President for one year.

We now need to elect Directors for the new Executive Board term that begins on 1 January. Voting members of the Society should have received a first notice regarding an electronic ballot notification on or around 6 November 2020. This ballot notification will allow participation in the election. This assumes that all of your Region's 2020 members have been reported to us. If not, please send your names to us ASAP!

**The deadline to vote in the election is 23:59 Pacific Standard Time (U.S.) on 6 December 2020.**

Those members who are eligible to vote include IBS Regular, Senior Retired and Honorary Life members.

The e-mail that members will receive includes a personal link that will direct them to the ballot (please note that such emails can be treated as junk/spam by some mail systems). IBS contracts with a private election firm that will handle all the logistics of the balloting process, plus tabulation of the results.

Members are asked to elect six (6) Directors to the Executive Board. To maintain the balance of representation as outlined in the IBS Bylaws, the Directors elected during this cycle will come from the following continental areas:

- 1 from Central / South America
- 1 from Asia / Australasia
- 2 from Europe
- 2 from North America

Members may cast a vote for candidates in each of the continental areas, and those elected will serve a term of 4 years, beginning 1 January 2021. The following candidates are standing for election (listed alphabetically, by geographic area):

North America (members will elect 2)

- Elizabeth Brown (WNAR)
- Antje Hoering (WNAR)
- Amy Herring (ENAR)
- Sarah Ratcliffe (ENAR)

Asia / Australasia (members will elect 1)

- Samuel Muller (Australasian)
- Christopher Triggs (Australasian)

Europe (members will elect 2)

- Iris Pigeot (German)
- Maria Grazia Valsecchi (Italian)
- Pascale Tubert-Bitter (French)
- Hein Putter (Netherlands)
- Ruth Keogh (British-Irish)

Central / South America (members will elect 1)

- Júlio Sílvio de Sousa Bueno Filho (Brazilian)
- Maria Gabriela Cendoya (Argentinean)

Biographical information and photos for all candidates are being made available to candidates prior to voting.

Thanks to all Region members agreeing to stand in this election. Also, we suggest that members VOTE EARLY! Many of you will be on holiday late this year (even with travel a challenge this year for many of us!), so please vote as soon as you receive your ballot. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

## **IBS Representative Council Inter-Region / Network Funding Program – November 30 Deadline Approaches**

The Society is accepting applications for Network and Inter-Regional joint activities that are scheduled to start in the first half of 2021 (January 1 - June 30). We understand that we might not be able to meet in person during this period due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, so we will be accepting applications for joint virtual conferences as well. The guiding principle is that the activity must encourage inter-regional interaction. Additionally, there should be some contribution from the participating regions and some general benefit to the Society at large.

As a reminder, the Executive Board allocates \$20,000 in total per year to this funding program. Each activity award is subject to a maximum of \$5,000. Applications can be submitted twice a year: by March 31 for activities that are scheduled to start in the second half of the same year (July 1 - December 31) and by September 30 (**but extended to November 30 this time**) for activities scheduled to start in the first half of the following year (January 1 - June 30).

**Note:** Applications should be submitted only by an official volunteer of the Network or Region. We request that all submissions be sent to [Regions@biometricsociety.org](mailto:Regions@biometricsociety.org) by 30 November 2020. Click here to view additional details about the submission on the IBS Website: <https://t.e2ma.net/click/no6gzc/ztu0yx/73n4bj>

## **IBS Regions, Get Involved in Building the Online IBS Members Community**

Help us post interesting news and articles through our new IBS Member Community! Would your Region like to help us spread the word about the new IBS website through your local social media platforms? If the answer is yes, here are a few sample posts for you to try out...

- 1) “We're pleased to introduce the new [www.biometricsociety.org](http://www.biometricsociety.org) to members of our Region – streamlined to deliver a better user experience with tools to connect to the many Regions and viewpoints shared in the IBS!”
- 2) “Thanks to the many members who offered feedback for the new [www.biometricsociety.org](http://www.biometricsociety.org) project and the IBS leadership, executive board, volunteers, and Region members for making it happen!”
- 3) “Access the new IBS Members Community at [www.biometricsociety.org](http://www.biometricsociety.org), free of charge to send questions, review content from the community, access materials specifically archived for this audience, and more.”
- 4) “What would YOU like to see discussed in the new [www.biometricsociety.org](http://www.biometricsociety.org) member community? Log in now, access the community, and share your thoughts.”

- 5) “Any biometrics or statistics-related topic can be shared in the new [www.biometricsociety.org](http://www.biometricsociety.org) member community. Log in, access the community, and let us know what’s important to you. Members only!”
- 6) “Looking for a safe, secure, private network of statisticians and biometrics colleagues? Access the new IBS Members Community at [www.biometricsociety.org](http://www.biometricsociety.org). The network is free and driven by member expertise and content.”

Feel free to add these posts to your own social media communications or in e-mails to members.

Your contributions to IBS Facebook and Twitter pages are still very much appreciated. Send us photos and information about events occurring in your Region. We will post these items, with an appropriate caption, to the IBS Facebook or Twitter account on your behalf. We can also add them to our IBS website’s Events page, if appropriate. To see the latest posts, visit our social media pages using these links:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/International-Biometric-Society-160276730693749/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/IBSstats>

LinkedIn Company Page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/15716178/admin/>

## Data Collection and Privacy Reminder



As a reminder, here is a [link to the new IBS Data Collection and Privacy Policy](#). This privacy policy provides members and others with important details about the information we collect, how we use it, and how we comply with GDPR (the EU General Data Protection Regulation) and other relevant regulations. GDPR affects all European IBS Regions, as well as any Region with members or customers who reside in the E.U. The IBO continues to track the latest developments related to privacy legislation and regulations, including the most recent developments related to the [California Consumer Privacy Act](#).

**We strongly recommend each Region to take steps to develop their own written policy, especially (but not limited to) those Regions within the boundaries of the European Union. The IBS Society policy does not cover Region activities, and Regions risk the possibility of costly legal disputes by not developing their own policy.**

The IBO, IBS Executive Board and Representative Council members all wish to support the Regions in their efforts to develop their own Data Collection and Privacy Policy. After all, your members are also our members.

Once your Region’s policy statement has been drafted, we suggest that Regions compare their policy with ours to ensure that they are properly aligned. However, please note that we do not intend to recommend changes to your local policy. We only wish to offer guidance if it would be helpful. Please feel free to [contact Executive Director, Peter Doherty](#) with any questions or concerns.



## **Biometric Bulletin – Are Your Region Correspondents Active?**

Each Region should appoint a *Biometric Bulletin* correspondent whose role is to report on regional matters in advance of each issue. The deadline for *Biometric Bulletin* correspondents to send their submissions to the Editor for the next issue is fast approaching. For more information, or to confirm your current Region Correspondent, please contact Kristi Wolford, our IBS Director of Operations. Remember that informative regional contributions helped make the *Bulletin* more interesting and colorful!

## **IBS Representative Council Virtual Meeting a Success**

A replacement virtual meeting for Representative Council was held on 23 September, and the majority of our Council members were able to take part. Thanks to all for participating! The minutes are being circulated now and will be finalized soon. We look forward to sharing the latest updates and viewpoints from all of our Regions in the next *IBO Update*!

## **Host Region Sought for IBS Executive Board Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of 2021**

In odd-numbered years, the IBS often designates one of its Region or Network conferences as the venue for a meeting of the IBS Executive Board. It is a great opportunity for Regions to share what they have been doing locally. The IBS pays the expenses associated with hosting this meeting. The Board will typically meet in Europe during odd-numbered years during the spring in the Northern hemisphere, though we are open to other locations and we have also decided to delay our in-person meeting to sometime in July or later, due to COVID-related travel restrictions. If your organization is interested in being considered as a host for the next in-person Board meeting, please contact our IBS President, Geert Verbeke.

## **Please Update Your Regional Officers**

Don't forget to notify the IBO if there has been a change to your Region's officers. Lists of officers from the Regions are maintained in our member database. Providing the IBO with updates will allow us to communicate effectively with all the Regions about upcoming Society events and new programs, membership dues deadlines and more. Don't assume that we are aware of local officer changes! If you think you might have new information for us, please send updates to the IBO.

That is all for now! Look for one final update before the year is out. And please let us know if we can help you in any way. Thanks for reading *IBO Update*.

**Sincerely, Your IBO Staff**