

At the September bi-monthly afternoon meeting Niels Keiding (NR), chair of the Scientific Programme Committee of the XVth IBC, gave a talk.

Ten members of the Hungarian Region attended the Austro-Swiss seminar in Klagenfurt in September, continuing a tradition started at the meeting in Graz during 1985.

Elisabeth Baráth
Hungarian Correspondent

Kenyan

Prof M.S. Patel, Chair of the Organising Committee of the Biometric Society Meeting of the Central African Network, has issued a further information bulletin (see page 10 of the previous issue of *Biometric Bulletin*). It is confirmed that the theme of the meeting is 'Biometry for Development', the venue is ICIPE at Duduville, Nairobi, Kenya, and the date is 2-6 April 1990.

Limited funds for air travel are available. Requests with full supporting cases should be sent to Mr R.A. Kempton, Director of SASS, James Clerk Maxwell Building, The King's Buildings, Mayfield Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JZ, Scotland.

The deadline for the receipt of abstracts can be extended to 31 December 1989. All those intending to present papers should send an abstract, to arrive by that date, to Prof M.S. Patel, Dept Statistics, Moi University, PO Box 3900, Eldoret, Kenya; telephone +254 (321) 31660. The full text of papers may be sent to Prof Patel to arrive by 31 January 1990. It is intended that papers presented at the meeting may be refereed for possible publication in the journal *Communications in Statistics*. Papers will be especially welcome on applications of statistics to medicine, health sciences, veterinary sciences, agriculture, fisheries, the environment, genetics, demography and vital statistics, statistical computing, classification and analysis.

M.S. Patel
Kenyan Correspondent

Netherlands

Appeal for support for Foundation Professor Corsten Biometry Fund

In the May 1989 issue of *Biometric Bulletin*, the establishment by the Netherlands Region of a Biometry Fund to help biometricians in Third World countries was announced. Since then, fund raising has started in the Netherlands and procedures have been drawn up for the processing of grant applications. Now the time has come to cast the net wider and this is an appeal for international financial support.

Hopefully, in due course, every relatively wealthy Region of the Biometric Society will have an organization with aims similar to those of the Biometry Fund, possibly coordinating their efforts in some ways. That time has, however, not yet arrived. If you wish to give support to the infusion of biometric principles and practices in underdeveloped countries and your Region has as yet no outlet for it, please enrol as a donor of the Biometry Fund. If you know of companies, institutions or individuals who may wish to contribute, please provide details, so that they can be approached. All contributors will be kept informed of the progress of the Biometry Fund and will receive an Annual Report.

Full information about grant applications and the way in which these are to be processed will soon appear in future issues of *Biometric Bulletin*. Briefly, the need for each grant will have to be firmly established, preferably supported by recommendations from reputable sources. Proof that the grant has indeed been spent appropriately will be required. Grant applications will be judged by an advisory board of well-known biometricians. Applications may cover many needs; purchase of textbooks, computer hardware or software, payment of memberships of societies or subscriptions to journals, contributions towards conference attendance, etc. Needless to say however, grants can only be awarded if you give your financial support!



For further information, please write to me: Peter van Ewijk, Secretary of The Professor Corsten Biometry Fund, c/o PO Box 2, 1380 AA Weesp, The Netherlands.

To enrol as a donor of the Prof Corsten Biometry Fund, write giving name and address and details of contribution to The Treasurer, Prof Corsten Biometry Fund, Moeniswerf 7/8, 1156 DA Marken, The Netherlands. Contributions may be annual or once-only, in any negotiable currency and for any amount. Cheques should be payable to The Treasurer, Prof Corsten Biometry Fund; alternatively contributions can be transferred directly to the Prof Corsten Biometry Fund, account number 34.31.20.550 at the Rabo Bank, Princess Irenelaan 6, 1381NA Weesp, The Netherlands.

Peter H. van Ewijk

Spanish

The 2nd Spanish Biometric Conference took place at the Domingo de Soto College in Segovia, Spain, from 20-23 September. It was organized jointly by the Spanish National Group of the Biometric Society and the Complutense University of Madrid.

At present, the Spanish Group (GSp) has around 70 members, and has grown fast since its inception in 1985. It organizes both scientific meetings and workshops. Workshops, specific to areas of interest of the members of GSp, occur irregularly and the initiative for them is left to groups of members interested in a specific topic. By contrast, our scientific meetings are biennial, held in odd-numbered years, to avoid conflicting with the International Biometric Conferences.

The organization of the 2nd Spanish Biometric Conference was largely the responsibility of Dr Carmen Santisteban, Secretary of GSp, and of Dr Emilio A. Carbonell, the Correspondent to *Biometric Bulletin*. They structured and organized the scientific part of the meeting, obtained national sponsorship and organized the social events; they were assisted by Drs C. Cuadras, I. Barbero, F. Orozco and Ms Z. Santalla and M.D. Sanchez Muñoz.

Funds for the Conference came from a small registration fee (US\$40 for members of the Biometric Society), and from support given by the Complutense University of Madrid, by the Faculty of Psychology of the UNED, by the National Institute of Agricultural Research, by the Caja de Ahorros de Segovia and by the City Council of Segovia. These organizations gave short speeches following the opening address by Dr Santisteban, who chaired the opening session. The invited paper at the opening session was given by Dr Emanuel Jolivet (RF), Head of the Dept of Biométrie of the Institute National de la Recherche Agronomique, Jouy-en-Josas, France, on the subject of 'Some trends in biometric research'.

In all, the two parallel sessions comprised 69 spoken papers and 11 posters, and concerned both the theory of mathematical and statistical models and applications to specific problems in the fields of agriculture, biology, medicine and psychology. Contributions came from 17 different institutions, and there were nine papers given by visiting scientists from Canada, Germany, Italy, Poland, Portugal and Switzerland. Ten fellowships were given to allow young biometricians to attend the conference.

To facilitate communications between participants and to ensure a pleasant atmosphere GSp has traditionally sited these Conferences in small cities with a rich architectural heritage. Both Granada, the city of the 1st Spanish Biometric Conference, and Segovia have been

declared 'a heritage for mankind' by UNESCO. Segovia is a medieval town having over 20 Romanesque churches. It proudly displays many houses with beautiful towers and inner gardens, originally belonging to the nobility, and dating from the middle ages. It features a Roman aqueduct, over 700 metres long, which crosses the centre of the city. All the monuments of Segovia were illuminated especially for the three days of the Conference. The City Council gave a welcoming party at the Palace of 'La Alhondiga' and also included in the registration fee were a guided tour through the city, a concert of Baroque music in the oldest Romanesque church of Segovia, a reception in the Lozoya Tower (the highest and richest tower in Segovia), a guided tour of the Royal Summer Palace of 'La Granja', and a visit to the medieval town of Pedraza.

In 1991 we plan that the 3rd Spanish Biometric Conference will be held in another 'heritage of mankind' town, Salamanca. Salamanca is the home of the oldest university in Spain and one of the oldest in the world — we hope to see you there!

Emilio A. Carbonell
Spanish Correspondent

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UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD Professorship of Applied Statistics

The electors intend to proceed to an election to the Professorship of Applied Statistics, which falls vacant on 1 October 1990 by the retirement of Professor P. Armitage. The stipend of the professorship is at present £28,521.

Applications (ten copies, or one from overseas candidates), naming three referees, should be received not later than 11 December 1989 by the Registrar, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

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