

Biometry Institute of the University of Milan. This is an advanced course on the analysis of event history data from observational and randomized clinical trials, with a special emphasis on the evaluation of prognostic factors and the identification of subgroups of patients.

On November 22-26 Professor Liang of the John Hopkins University will take a series of lectures on the Analysis of Correlated Data. The lectures will be completed by tutorial sessions with examples mainly from Epidemiological Applications. The Department of Statistics of the University of Florence will participate to the organization of the course.

The Italian Region is currently evaluating a comprehensive planning of courses for the next two years, in order to cover the demand from Ecology and Agricultural Research as well as from Biology and Medicine. A detailed scheduling will be advertised in the next Bulletin.

A. Biggeri

Italian Correspondent

Nordic

The committee for the Nordic region has decided to arrange a seminar in October 1993 near Copenhagen, Denmark. The seminar is to take place at Novo Nordisk on October 6-8, 1993. Novo Nordisk, a Danish pharmaceutical company, has kindly offered to arrange the seminar at their location. We can offer the following menu:

The first day's topic is 'Biostatistical research at Novo Nordisk'. The topics to be presented are 'Collaboration between statisticians and data managers' by

Thomas Bayer, 'Discriminant analysis using graphical models' by David Edwards, 'Bioavailability of protracted insulin preparations' by Philip Hougaard, 'Application of recursive graphical modelling to establish risk factors for complications in non-insulin dependent diabetic patients' by H.L. Jacobsen, 'Statistical considerations in clinical trials related to growth' by Merete Jorgensen, 'Application of SPC (statistical process control) in medical device production' by Torben Sorensen and Carl Bilbo and 'Application of non-linear functional relation for estimation of insulin secretion' by Aage Volund.

The second day, Per Krag Andersen, Omulv Borgan, Richard Gill and Niels Keiding (or a subgroup of these) will present ideas in and beyond their new book 'Statistical Models Based on Counting Processes'. At the end of the day, before the seminar dinner, a discussion about the organisation and role of regional activities of the Biometric Society will take place. The third day's topic will at least involve

'Binary response data. Talks to be presented are 'Adjusting for the effects of mother's age in epidemiological surveillance of Down's syndrome' by Rolv Terje Lie, 'Estimation of peripheral vision from binary data using a Markov random field' by Jonny Olsson and 'Regression models for nested binary response data' by Juni Palmgren.

A real gourmet menu, right? An information sheet, including the registration form to be used by you, has been prepared and can be obtained by contacting Trond Haider at the following address: Nycomed Imaging AS, P.O. Box 4220-Torshov, N-0401 Oslo, Norway, Phone (+47) 22 89 15 84, Fax (+47) 22 89 12 00. I think it is important that as many as possible can attend, as we would like all the input we can get for the future of the Nordic Region. You have ample time to decide whether to attend, as the deadline for registration is September 1, but I advise you to register immediately, as you then are less likely to forget.

Trond Haider

Nordic correspondent

Biometric Society Region & Group Meetings

Austro-Swiss, 27 September-1 October 1993, Innsbruck, Austria

Meeting of the Austro-Swiss Region. Information: Dr. H. Ulmer, Department of Biostatistics, University of Innsbruck, Anichstr.35a, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria. Ph: +43(512) 5042386; Fax: +43(512) 5042388.

Spanish, 2-4 February 1994, Sitges, Spain

The 4th Spanish Biometric Conference. Information: Dra.M.D.Riba, Dept.de Psicologia de la Salud, Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona, 08193 Bellaterra, Barcelona, Spain. Fax: 34-35812001; e-mail: ilpm@cc.uab.es

ENAR, 9-13 April 1994, Cleveland, Ohio USA

Spring Regional Meeting. Information: Jennifer Gassman, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Department of Biostatistics & Epidemiology, 9500 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44195-5196, USA.

MEMBER NEWS

Prem Narain



Prem Narain (RInd) obtained his Ph.D.

and D.Sc. from Edinburgh University. He has made several contributions to quantitative and population genetics. He was the Director of Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute, ICAR, New Delhi, India. He has written several books and research papers and has many honours and awards to his credit. At present he is a principal Scientist in the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

Haldane's Impact on Genetical Research in India

Undoubtedly Haldane was one of the intellectuals who influenced not only biology but also contributed to the history

of human thought. In view of his multi-dimensional interests, he was regarded as an institution by himself. His brief encounter with India as its citizen was quite significant in bringing home the need for genetic research and education in the country at all levels, and beyond doubt we see a positive impact of his efforts. To reminiscence about this impact is not an easy task particularly for me who was not close to him either as a student or even otherwise. But during the last three decades of my work in the field of statistical genetics, I was greatly influenced by his writings and to a great extent even by his very presence in the country in an

This is the modified version of the article presented in the International Conference on Human Genetics, held in December 1992, at the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, on the occasion of Haldane birth Centenary celebrations.