

gramme, Membership, and Editorial). Elected executive committee members: Henry Kissinger (Chair), Thomas Achia (Vice - Chair), Elias Obudho (Secretary), Jane Poole (Vice-Secretary), Caroline Mugo (Treasurer) and Vincent Were (Co-opted Organizing Secretary).

Their region will have hosted its bimonthly seminar on Friday, 26 March 2021. The seminar was held virtually and focused on the "COVID 19 Situation in Kenya" presented by Prof. Edgar Otumba of Maseno University.

On a sad note, the region lost a long serving and dedicated member, John Ali Mwangi, through a tragic road accident that occurred on 12 February 2021 along Nakuru – Nairobi Highway, Kenya. Mwangi was the region's treasurer and membership committee member.

Upcoming Events: IBS SUSAN 2021 Conference

The Kenya Region of the International Biometric Society will host the 17th Sub-Saharan Africa Network (SUSAN) Conference which will take place between 6-9 September 2021. Due to the current COVID2019 pandemic the conference will be virtual. The theme of the conference is "Biometrics in the era of Big Data for Health and Food Security."

The sub-themes are: Mhealth, Genetics/bioinformatics, Spatial Analysis, Precision Medicine, Data mining, Infectious disease modeling, Crop modeling, Causal inference, Health economics, Implementation science, Climate change, Value chain analysis, Data to information systems, Machine learning/ artificial intelligence, Crop modeling, Environmental statistics, Reproducible research, and Global health and food security.

The first day of the conference, 6th September, will be dedicated to a pre-conference short courses workshop. The pre-conference workshop courses include **Infectious diseases monitoring and modeling using R** presented by Prof Z. Skhedy (uHas-selt) & Prof K. Zuma (HSRC).

Important Dates:

Abstract notifications of abstract acceptance: 15 JUNE 2021

Conference dates: 6 - 9 September 2021 (Virtual)

For conference registration and further details about the IBS SUSAN 2021 visit: <https://susan2021.ibskenya.org>

The Spanish Region (REsp)

<http://www.biometricsociety.net/>



The Spanish Region of the IBS (SEB) has started a cycle of virtual conferences (SEB-talks) oriented to researchers, biostatisticians,

and the general public to highlight the main advances in the area of Statistics developed by researchers mainly from this region but also from abroad.

Talks will be scheduled each two months approximately. Conferences details and registration information will be sent by mail by the Spanish Biometric Society, although the information

will be also posted on Twitter (#SEBTalks, @SEBiostatistics). This cycle of conferences started past February, with three talks performed until now: The first talk served as a tribute to the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale: "Florence Nightingale: A role model in the XXIst century" (Guadalupe Gómez Melis, Department of Statistics and Operation Research Department, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya). The second talk, "Spatial Epidemiology for beginners" (Virgilio Gómez-Rubio and Francisco Palmí, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha) highlighted the importance of epidemiology and in particular of the information systems in epidemiology nowadays. The third talk, Entendiendo el valor P: ¿un rival de la Ciencia? (Erik Cobo, Department of Statistics and Operation Research Department, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya), addressed the problem with the abuse in using the p-value in applied statistics, this last one was jointly organized with the Spanish Statistics and Operation Research Society (SEIO). All conferences were very successful with more than 70 attendees. Next seminar is scheduled by July 1st, 2021, titled Sports Analytics: El papel del bioestadístico deportivo, the invited speaker is Martí Casals (Facultad de Medicina y Ciencias de la Salud, Universidad de Vic-Universidad Central de Cataluña).

Moreover, in case anyone cannot attend them, all the talks and conferences will be recorded and posted on the Spanish Biometric Society's Youtube channel as they become available (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2PMj-JhzeKFhW4jok_0rEA)

The Organizing Committee and the Spanish Biometric Society want to thank all the attendees and speakers of these virtual conferences and encourage other researchers to attend these as well as to contribute with oral talks.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Spanish Biometrics Conference (CEB) 2021

Given the current epidemiological situation in Spain and its development over the last few months, and given the uncertainty about the evolution of the vaccination process, the SEB board has approved the postponement of the Spanish Biometrics Conference CEB-2021. Therefore, it will be celebrated next year on 25-27 May 2022. The venue will be in Madrid as previously planned.

Western North American Region (WNAR)

<http://wnar.org/>

The 2021 WNAR/IMS will be held virtually this year from 14-16 June 2021 with short courses preceding the meeting. The meeting will include invited sessions, contributed sessions, a poster competition, and a student paper and presentation competition. Registration information and other details about the meeting are available on the WNAR site www.wnar.org.

Megan Othus (WNAR Secretary)