

Report from the chair, August 2014 – August 2016

1. Organisation

In 2016, the Nordic Association for Hydrology has about 195¹ registered individual members; of whom 40 are students and 27 are pensioners, and 16 institutional members. The total number of registered individual members was 194 in 2014.

Officers

The board of the Nordic Association for Hydrology has had the following members during the last two years:

| Country | Board member | Deputy board member |
|-----------|--|------------------------|
| Denmark | Dirk-Ingmar Müller-Wohlfeil (chair, Publicity Committee) | Troels Kærgaard Bjerre |
| Estonia | Tiia Pedusaar | Liisi Labo |
| Finland | Johanna Korhonen | Ville Keskisarja |
| Iceland | David Egilson | Hrund Ó. Andradóttir |
| Latvia | Iveta Indriksone | Elga Apsite |
| Lithuania | Diana Meilutyte-Lukauskiene (vice chair) | Zenonas Gulbinas |
| Norway | Kolbjørn Engeland | Stein Beldring |
| Sweden | David Gustafsson (chair) | Linus Zhang |

The election committee has included:

| Country | Election committee member | Deputy member |
|-----------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Denmark | Anders Bækgaard (chair) | Dan Rosbjerg |
| Estonia | Arvo Iital | Andreas Porman |
| Finland | Timo Huttula | Hannu Marttila |
| Iceland | Jórunn Hardardóttir | Helgi Jóhannesson |
| Latvia | Ilze Rudlapa | Anda Bakute |
| Lithuania | Jurgita Daubariene | Saulius Vaikasas |
| Norway | Knut Ola Aamodt | Per Alve Glad |
| Sweden | Cintia Bertacchi Uvo | Håkan Sanner |

In addition, the following officers have served the association:

| Position | Name |
|-----------------|--|
| Treasurer | Martin Bergstrand (Sweden) |
| Secretary | Heidi Lee (Norway) |
| Web-editor | Karin Nyström (Sweden) |
| Auditors | Bo Leander (Sweden) and Lennart de Maré (Sweden) |
| Deputy auditors | Björn Norell (Sweden) and Jonas Olsson (Sweden) |
| Editor HR | Chong-Yu Xu (Norway) |

¹ The total number of registered individual members is 195, but all countries have not yet reported membership fees for 2016 per 2016-08-06.

2. Activities

Board meetings

The board has had four meetings since the General Assembly in 2014:

- 11th August 2014, Stockholm, Sweden
- 5th February 2015, telephone meeting
- 8th June 2015, Vilnius, Lithuania
- 11th April 2016, Upplands Väsby, Sweden

In addition, the board had several telephone meetings during the winter 2016 about NHC 2016, discussion the number of participants, budget and potential support from NHF.

A fifth meeting is to be held on 7th August 2016 in Kaunas, prior to the Nordic Hydrological Conference and General Assembly 2016.

Development of the association

At the General Assembly 2014, the board was asked to come with its interpretation of the Statutes § 6 “Board of the Association” to clarify if the maximum consecutive time a person is allowed to be an ordinary member of the board (8 years) also includes the time on the board as a Chairman, or if the time elected as a chairman (4 years) can be additional to the maximum 8 years as ordinary member. The board has discussed §6 at several meetings during 2014–2015, and concluded that it should be interpreted such that the maximum allowed consecutive time on the board as an ordinary member is 8 years including time elected as Chairman. With this additional interpretation, which defines the Chairman as one of the ordinary board members, the board finds the current §6 non-ambiguous.

The strategy of NHF was updated in 2014 by the previous board, and includes long term as well as short-term goals for the period 2014–2018 for the development of the association. This document should be updated again in 2018.

In line with the short-term goal to increase the activity level, NHF approved to support two conferences in 2015:

- The 3rd Conference on Modelling Hydrology, Climate and Land Surface Processes (Lillehammer conference), 7–9th September 2015, organized by the Norwegian Hydrological Council, was granted for 35.000 SEK.
- The 20th Northern Research Basins Symposium and Workshop, 16–22th August 2015 in Kuusamo, Finland, organized by representatives from Finnish Environment Institute, University of Helsinki and University of Oulu, was granted for 35.000 SEK.

During the last two years, routines of maintaining the membership record and collecting membership fees have been further improved:

- Email addresses to members have been collected for more efficient communication with the members.
- For countries where a national hydrological organization for collecting membership fees is missing, the NHF Secretary may provide prepared invoices in pdf format, which is distributed by the national board member.

The financial closings of 2014 and 2015 have been reported annually by the Treasurer, as requested by the Auditors at the General Assembly 2014.

The recent financial years have ended up with a deficit, and the balance funds are utilized at a little too high rate. The income should support the key functions, and the association should work towards a healthier economy. Together with the Treasurer, the board suggest the following measures to cut the costs and increase the incomes, which are included in the suggested budget for 2017–2018:

- Cut costs for board meetings, secretary and web editor services.
- Financial support to other workshops activities will be granted only every other year (the years without NHC) by SEK 40.000 instead of SEK 50.000
- Membership fees will be raised: for the Nordic members from SEK 250 to SEK 300, and for the Baltic members from SEK 75 to SEK 100. The fee for the institutional members will be raised from SEK 3.000 to SEK 4.000 for the Nordic institutions, and from SEK 1.000 to SEK 1.500 for the Baltic institutions.

Hydrology Research is the official journal of four hydrological associations: NHF and the British, German and Italian associations. The NHF chair and the chair of the Publicity Committee have participated at annual meetings with the publisher (IWA Publishing), editors and the British Hydrological Society (BHS). BHS has made a survey amongst their members to ask for the awareness and opinions about the journal, and a similar survey will be made with the NHF members.

An initiative to start an “early career” group within NHF has been suggested by Jonathan Rizzi, postdoc at Oslo University. The NHF board welcomes this interesting initiative, and there will be time to presented this in more detail at the General Assembly 2016.

NHC 2016

The association has actively participated in the preparatory phase of NHC 2016, which is held at the Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania, 8–10 August 2016. The conference is organized by Lithuanian Energy Institute in co-operation with Aleksandro Stuglinskio universitetas, Vytautas Magnus University, and Lithuaniae Academia Scientiarum.

NHC 2018

The NHC 2018 will be in Norway organized by the Norwegian Hydrological Council. Preliminary, the conference will be held in Bergen 13–15 August 2018. Main theme, date and venue will be announced at the NHC 2016.

Stockholm, 6.8.2016

David Gustafsson
NHF Chair 2014–2016