

Regional Newsletter, December 2021



In this issue

DANIEL FAREWELL

Welcome to a very brief December 2021 edition of the BIR newsletter, where we've gathered important updates alongside the regular pieces from our regional officers. We'd love to hear from you if you have items you'd like to share with the society in future newsletters.

Part-time students are students, too!

RHIAN DANIEL



(Image courtesy CollegeDegrees360, CC BY-SA 2.0)

We are grateful to one of our members for pointing out that part-time PhD students have not been enjoying the same benefits (e.g. free membership, reduced/free attendance at events) as full-time student members of the society, even though many part-time students are not also in part-time employment. We raised this with the international society and are pleased to inform you that the IBS rules have now been revised so that no distinction is made between part-time and full-time research students.

We warmly encourage all our members to point out such anomalies or to make other constructive suggestions. As you see from this example, our members can effect change world-wide!

Secretary's corner

RACHEL MCCREA



As my time as secretary comes to a close, I find myself reflecting on how well the British and Irish Region (BIR) of the International Biometric Society has adapted over the last 2 years. At a time when biometricians across the world are fatigued with remote meetings the BIR has managed to run events which have been popular, engaging and thought-provoking. In addition we have celebrated the brilliant work of young biometricians within the society through the 2021 Young Biometrician Award. From a committee perspective we have continued to have enthusiastic members of the society willing to give up their time to serve as committee members and officers for the society and it is a pleasure to attend the committee meetings twice a year to talk about exciting forthcoming initiatives.

I would like to thank all of the members of the society who have supported me in my role as secretary over the last few years and I know the society will be in excellent hands with Kirsty as she takes over the role of secretary. My final message is please do consider getting involved with the BIR through committee membership (there will be a call in 2022), it is a very rewarding activity and you get to work with fantastic colleagues across Britain and Ireland.



President's corner

DANIEL FAREWELL

I shall fill my allotted space with four pairs of thank yous.

First, thank you to outgoing officers Rachel McCrea and Ruth King. Your balance of wit and wisdom has kept our meetings tight, right and light. I am enormously grateful to you both: professionally and personally I will greatly miss having you in the committee.

Second, a big thank you to their direct successors as Secretary (Kirsty Hassall) and Vice President (Mark Brewer). Your willingness to take on these roles gives me great confidence about the future of our society.

Third, thank you to Caroline Brophy and Brian Tom, who will be joining the BIR committee. Welcome, and we're very glad to have you on board!

And fourth, a special thank you to our outgoing Auditor, Rodger White, on whom we have depended for many years. Your work has been very much valued by our committee. Our new Auditor will be a familiar face to many in the IBS; thank you to Sue Welham for helping us with next year's audit.

Subscriptions Due!

ANESTIS TOULOUMIS



A brief reminder that your membership of the International Biometric Society, British and Irish Region is soon due for renewal. The fees for 2022 are:

- Full Member: £55
- Retired Member: £30
- Biometrics and the Biometric Bulletin: £10 extra
- JABES and the Biometric Bulletin: £10 extra
- JABES, Biometrics and the Biometric Bulletin: £20 extra
- Student Member (incl. part time): Free

If you are a full or retired Member, there are several ways that you can pay for your membership for next year.

- Paypal: Go to <https://bir.biometricsociety.org/membership/fees-renewals> to pay your membership fees;
- Standing order: If you have set up a standing order your membership renewal is automatic each year. If you would like to set up a standing order please [contact Anestis Touloumis](#);

Please advertise the society widely amongst your colleagues! Any new members can join the society by visiting <http://bir.biometricsociety.org/membership/fees-renewals>.

