

# Report of Meetings Coordinator, SSC June 2011

## 1. SSC 2013 meeting in Western Canada

At last annual meeting we had no proposals in hand. Kevin Keen of UNBC in Prince George submitted one in time for the October meeting, and it was chosen, with some reservations: it looked as though it would lead to a loss on the order of \$50000 for the society. The Board approved the location only “in principal,” and asked the Executive to contact UNBC and try to increase the amount of local support.

Don McLeish contacted the Dean of Science at UNBC in October, who requested support from senior administration. The response from UNBC was not received until this week, when they committed \$15K in support (as in kind contributions). In the meantime, Don solicited an informal proposal from Rhonda Rosychuk at U of Alberta in Edmonton.

The Program Committee discussed the question of whether to continue with the UNBC proposal, to select UofA instead, or to postpone a decision. I expressed a strong view that we should commit to one place or the other at this meeting. There is still some uncertainty about whether savings beyond the \$15K can be achieved. The committee recognized that UNBC has a small pool of volunteers, and if UNBC is confirmed, the SSC will need to offer more non-local support than usual. There was a general belief that a meeting at U of A would be successful.

The committee voted 5 to 2 to recommend staying with the UNBC bid.

## 2. 2014 meeting in central Canada

There were two bids submitted this year. At my request Ejaz Ahmed of U of Windsor resubmitted the bid that had been submitted two years ago, when it was a close decision but Guelph was chosen for 2012. Jamie Stafford of U of Toronto submitted a new bid, with Patrick Brown named as Local Arrangements chair. (He did point out that Toronto had submitted a bid 4 years ago.)

The Program Committee judged both bids to be excellent. It voted unanimously to recommend Windsor for 2014, with a request to Toronto to resubmit for 2016.

### 3. 2015 and later meetings

The 2015 meeting would be an eastern Canada meeting. As of this writing I have not contacted any sites to solicit bids, but there have been suggestions that Moncton or Fredericton might be good choices.

The 2016 meeting is another central Canada meeting. As mentioned above, the Program Committee is hoping for a resubmission of the Toronto bid. Eric Marchand also suggested that Sherbrooke might be interested.

The 2017 meeting would be in western Canada. John Brewster has pointed out that this is the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Statistics at U of Manitoba, so we can expect a bid from them.

Respectfully submitted by Duncan Murdoch, Meetings Coordinator