

# Report – Reference meeting in Statistical Modelling for Biologists/Biotechnologists (ST2304)

**Data and hour of meeting:** 24/4-2018, kl. 9-10

**Present during meeting:** Proff. Jarle Tufto (*vicarious lecturer*), Proff. Mette Langaas (*leader for the statistics group at NTNU*), Bastian Poppe and Peter Poleszynski Hoel (*members of the reference group*)

## Summary

Professor Jarle Tufto will take over the course after professor Robert Brian O'Hara from this date until the end of the semester. He will do the last summary lectures as well as make the final exam. The course thus far has had a somewhat loose structure due to a new lecturer. Until now there has been no clearly defined curriculum and many students have been struggling getting an understanding of the course. There will therefore be made great effort to structure the course material and clearly define the curriculum with regards to what has been gone through during the rest of the semester, both reflecting the lectures and the exercises (with special emphasis on the last). The exam will reflect what the students have learned, and not necessarily what have been done previous years.

## Plan for the rest of the semester

On Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of April Jarle Tufto will make a summary lecture where he will attempt to clarify the contents of the course as well as expectations for the exam. Later he will have an additional lecture where he will go through relevant old exam problems.

The student assistants will continue to be available on Fridays during the assigned ours the next couple of weeks. They will answer questions to old exam problems and previous exercises and help clarify the curriculum. Jarle Tufto will also be present on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April to help facilitate this.

Exercise 8 will be the last, with a hand in next week. Date is still to be determined. Solutions to all the exercises of this course will be made readily available as soon as possible.

The reference group will stay in touch with the course coordinators and possibly have a new reference meeting before the exam.

There has been created a wiki for the course where all relevant course material have been structured. This will also be where new material will be published. The content of this page includes lectures and exercises gone through thus far in the course, proposed solutions to the exercises (the rest to come), links to old exams with relevant exercises indicated, notes about the curriculum as well as relevant reading material meant as a *support* to better understand the curriculum which is based on what have been lectured and gone through in the exercises thus far. Click [here](#) for the wiki page.

## Specific questions and answers

1. Will there be made available suggested solutions to all the exercises?
  - Yes.
2. Will the exercises be relevant for the exam?
  - Yes very much so. Especially exercise 1-6 will be in focus. How much of exercise 7-8 that will be in focus will greatly depend on how much Jarle Tufto assesses the understanding of GLM during the summary lecture on Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of April.
3. Will there be relevant with a pass/non-pass exam assessment?
  - No, that is not possible within the system of NTNU and will most likely not be favourable for the students either as this will make stricter restrictions as to pass.
4. Which language will the exam be in?
  - As normal the exam will be provided in both Norwegian (Bokmål and Nynorsk) as well as English.
5. Will the fact that the final curriculum has been provided this late taken into account?
  - Yes, there will be made an effort to make the exam reflect what has been lectured and covered by the exercises thus far in the course, as well as what the students have actually learned from the course.
6. There has been posted new reading material on the wiki, does this mean there is new curriculum in the course?
  - No, the reading material is mainly meant as a support so as to better understand what has already been covered in the course.
7. Will there be much coding (in R) on the exam?
  - No, most likely not. Jarle Tufto will specify this further in the summary lectures.
8. Are old exams in this course relevant for the new exam?
  - Yes, but not all the questions will be so as the material has not been covered this year. The old exams will be made available with comments on which exercises are relevant and not.