

Report from the chair, August 2018 – August 2020

1. Organisation

In 2020, the Nordic Association for Hydrology has about 220 registered individual members; of whom 60 are students and 30 are pensioners, and 13 institutional members. The total number of registered individual members was about 200 in 2018.

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	Sofie G. W. van't Veen	Niels Behring Ovesen
Estonia	Elve Lode, (vice chair)	Jaanus Terasmaa
Finland	Johanna Korhonen	Hannu Marttila
Iceland	Tinna Þórarinsdóttir	Kristján Geirsson
Latvia	Līga Klints	Ainis Lagzdīņš
Lithuania	Diana Meilutyte-Lukauskiene	Vytautas Akstinas
Norway	Kolbjørn Engeland (chair of the publicity committee)	Stein Beldring
Sweden	Linus Zhang (chair)	Marie Bergstrand

The election committee has included:

Country	Election committee member	Deputy member
Denmark	Signe Søndergaard	Dan Rosbjerg
Estonia	Alvina Reihan	Arvo Iital
Finland	Riitta Kamula	Pertti Ala-aho
Iceland	Jórunn Hardardóttir	Helgi Jóhannesson
Latvia	Ilze Rudlapa	Anda Bakute
Lithuania	Zenonas Gulbinas	Jurgita Daubariene
Norway	Knut Ola Aamodt	Per Alve Glad
Sweden	Jing Li	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, Hydrology Research	Chong-Yu Xu (Norway) up to end of 2018 Björn Klöve (Finland) from end of 2018
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2. Activities

Board meetings

The increased use of digital technique in meetings are trending so the board uses the possibilities of online meeting more frequently. The board has had eight meetings since the General Assembly (GA) in 2018 in Bergen. The first board meeting was held on 13th August directly after the GA.

The rest of the eight meetings were held at following dates:

- 2018-10-10, Skype
- 2019-03-12, at Mare Building, Tallinn University, Estonia
- 2019-09-03, Skype
- 2020-02-12, Skype
- 2020-04-14, Skype
- 2020-06-10, Skype
- 2020-08-25, Skype

Development of the association

The strategy of NHF was under continuous revision and update in order to articulate a clear and practical strategies (both long-term and short-term) for the development of the association. New version will be discussed during the coming Board meeting.

In line with the short-term goal to increase the activity level, NHF approved to support one to two conference(s). during the period only one conference was supported:

- The 5th Conference on Modelling Hydrology, Climate and Land Surface Processes (Lillehammer conference), 17–19th September 2019, organized by the Norwegian Hydrological Council, was granted for 50.000 SEK.

During the last two years, routines of maintaining the membership record and collecting membership fees have been further improved with a) Email addresses to members have been collected for more efficient communication with the members and b) 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. A drastic proposal has been discussed concerning membership and the administration for future, we will use more digital solutions to simplify this work.

The financial closings of 2018 and 2019 have been reported periodically and annually by the Treasurer, as requested by the Auditors at the General Assembly.



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The recent financial years have ended up with small deficit. Thanks to the positive outcome of the Bergen conference, the total deficit was kept to a low level. The income should support the key functions, and the association should work towards a healthier economy. Since 2016, the following measures to cut the costs were put in operation:

- 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 has been raised. As mentioned above recent discussions recommended more drastic changes. The new strategy will be submitted to the coming GA.

Hydrology Research (HR) is the official journal of four hydrological associations: NHF and the British, German and Italian associations. Prof. Chong-Yu Xu (Norway) has been the Editor-in-Chief since 2012. Prof. Xu decided to resign from the post in the end of 2018. After a period of intensive work, the Board has suggested and approved to appoint Prof. Björn Klöve (Finland) to be the new Editor-in-Chief. The NHF chair and the Editor-in-Chief should participate at annual meetings with the publisher (IWA Publishing), editors and the British Hydrological Society (BHS). During the last years, the board has voiced for a transition of HR to open access. IWA Publishing agreed and HR is now total open access since 1 January 2020.

Campaigns to increase awareness interest in the association (HR survey, etc.)

The British Hydrology Society (BHS) has carried out a membership survey regarding the journal *Hydrology Research* in 2015 to find the member's opinion about the journal. A similar, online survey was carried out among the NHF-members during the NHC 2018. The results were distributed after the conference. Chong-Yu and Kolbjørn have the responsibility to organize the survey. The board members are to send questions to the survey.

NHCs through history – abstract books to the web page

The work of abstract books to be scanned to pdf and published on the website should be continued. We encourage board members try to find the digital or paper versions from the conferences that have been arranged in their countries. The board has identified the drop of the members, especially the active members, are of a big challenge. Some possible measures were discussed during the recent years. A working group will present its recommendations prior to the General Assembly.

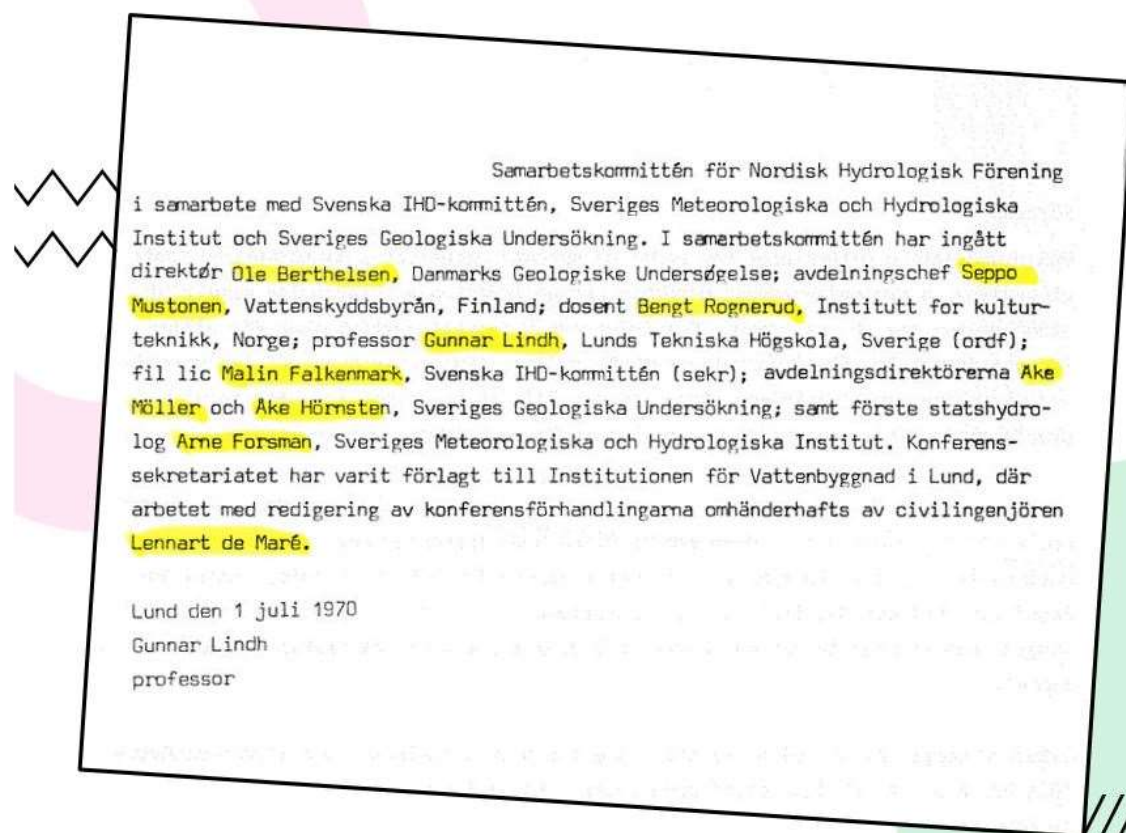
NHC 2018

As planned The NHC 2018 was held in Bergen, Norway organized by the Norwegian Hydrological Council. It was very successful and memorable event with very good presentations (both in oral and poster sessions). As a tradition, a special issue of NHC 2018 has been published by within *Hydrology Research* by IWA.

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NHC 2020 (NHC 2022)

Due to the spread of the COVID-19, the planned XXXI Nordic Hydrological Conference in Tallinn, Estonia is postponed to 2022. The tentative new time for the conference is 15–18 August 2022. The venue will be the same - Tallinn, Estonia. We have made a lot of efforts in both professional work and networking for the Association as well as the planning work for this important event; we hope that everything will go to normal then.



For NHF, this year is special: Year 2020 marks the 50th anniversary of Nordic Association for Hydrology (NHF)! Lund was the cradle of the association when Professor Gunnar Lindh declared the committee work during the NHC conference (read what Prof. Lindh wrote in 1970 below). The formal establishment of NHF was at Stockholm 1970-08-28. The best way to celebrate this anniversary commemorate pioneers for NHF and continue to promote the work they have started. Several celebrating events were planned for the 2020 Nordic Hydrological Conference in Tallinn, which has to be postponed. So, remember to celebrate with us in 2022!

Lund, 2020-10-03

Linus Zhang
NHF Chair