

## International Biometric Society (British & Irish Region)

### Membership Secretary's report for 2007 AGM

Membership has declined again this year. We currently have a total of 252 paid up members (a loss of 31 compared to 283 in 2006). However, it should be noted that 13 of these 31 were people who signed up at our November 2005 meeting and did not renew in 2007 (see below). The realistic loss is therefore still large at 18. We currently have an additional 32 people on our local mailing list who have not paid for 1 or 2 years and who we try to entice back before removing them in the third year.

Current membership can be broken down into the following categories (2006 figures in parentheses):

Full members	210	(217)
Associate members	31	(47)
Student members	6	(14)
Life members	4	(4)
Retired members <sup>+</sup>	1	(1)
Pending removal	32*	(31)
Total	284	(314)

\* *subscriptions not received for 1(=23) or 2(=9) years, not registered with US office but still receive local mailings; + category no longer open.*

The specific changes from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2006 to date are:

New members	+6	(3 Full, 1 Assoc., 2 Student)
Transfers in	0	
Reinstatements	0	
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Resignations	-14	(7 Full, 6 Assoc., 1 Student)
Deaths	0	
Transfers out	-3	(2 Full, 1 Assoc.)
Removed (pending > 2 yrs)	-19	(had been 8 Full, 4 Assoc., 7 Student)
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Onto pending list**	23	(6 Full, 8 Associate, 9 Student)

\*\*not paid; still considered as BIR members but not registered with the US

Overall there were only 6 new memberships. Four Associate members increased to full membership. Two Full members reduced to Associate membership. There were 14 formal resignations and another 19 members were removed due to non payment of fees for over two years. Three members transferred out to other Regions – ENAR, WNAR and Kenya, respectively. Three ‘pending’ members rejoined after not having paid for one year (two Full, and one Student who increased to Full), but sadly the number of members on the pending (i.e. not paid up) list is still large at the end of this year (32).

I was asked to report back on the retention rate after the November 2005 meeting (where we offered non-Members the chance to take up Associate or Student membership for 2006 in exchange for their higher registration fee). Eleven people took up Associate membership and seven took up Student membership. Only three of these Associates (one increasing to Full membership) and two Students rejoined in 2007.

Suzanne Clark  
1<sup>st</sup> October 2007