

Policies

The Nordic Health Economists' Study Group (NHESG)

1. Purpose

NHESG is an academic loose organization oriented toward the health economic branch of economics. The purpose is to serve as a forum for bringing together different individuals who are working in the area, to further the continuous development of health economics as a sub-discipline of economics, and to set standards for excellent research.

The main function is to provide a Nordic network for health economists and coordinate an annual meeting that rotate between the five Nordic countries.

2. Membership

Membership is reserved for those who actively support the objective of the NHESG.

Participants at the annual meetings will automatically become members of NHESG. This has to be clearly stated upon registration including an opt-out option. The local organizing committee is required to send an email list with the accepted participants to the administrator so that the email list can be updated.

Email list consists of name and e-mail address.

Membership can be annulled by sending an email to NHESG (nhesg@sam.sdu.dk). See also section 7: Mailing list and e-mail policy.

There is no membership fee.

3. Annual meeting

The annual meeting takes place in August, usually around 15-20 August. It is a two-three days meeting with presentations and discussions of papers that have been submitted before the meeting. Acceptance is based on a quality ranking of the papers by a scientific committee. Prioritisation of papers from Nordic institutions can be allowed. Papers for oral presentation should not exceed a total of 60. If number of abstract submissions is high (and therefore also the rejection rate) the programme can be extended with a poster session.

NHESG Procedural rules for the presentation and discussions of papers apply.

The meeting takes place in a Nordic country with the following rotation: Iceland, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and Norway.

It is organised and hosted by a local organising committee. Pre-workshops are welcomed in agreement with the advisory board.

There is a fee for attending the meeting. The fee covers room rental, catering, remuneration for invited speakers, and other relevant costs for organising the meeting. In addition the fee must cover yearly running costs of administering the NHESG webpage and email. The budget post is set to 10.000 DKK and must be transferred to the administrator's institution after the meeting.

If there is a larger surplus from the meeting, it is allocated to a specific purpose in consultation with the board.

4. Board

The board has five members, one member from each of the Nordic countries. Members of the board are elected for a two-year period at the business meeting on a rolling basis (Norway, Iceland and Finland in equal years/Denmark and Sweden in unequal years). Members can be re-elected.

The advisory board is responsible for taking initiatives to sustain and secure the further development of NHESG.

The board appoints a spokesperson (chair) among its members. The spokesperson should be NHESG's representative *vis a vis* the outer world, such as ECHE, iHEA and public authorities when needed.

If nothing else is decided, the spokesperson is responsible for:

- Administering member/e-mail list.
- Administering the NHESG email.
- Administering the NHESG webpage.
- Arranging advisory board meetings.

The board appoints the organisers for the coming annual meeting. The country representative is expected to partake in the local organising committee including communicating with and advising the local organizing committee on general NHESG matters including standard procedures. In addition, the administrator (spokesperson) will provide general guidance when needed and distribute relevant documents.

Advisory board is expected to meet at least once a year. Advisory board meeting will be held in connection with the yearly NHESG meeting.

5. Business meeting

The business meeting takes place during the annual meeting. At least 30 minutes is allocated for this purpose.

All members of NHESG are encourage to participate.

The business meeting is organised and chaired by the board. Fixed items on the agenda includes:

- Evaluation of this year's meeting
- Discussion and approval of changes to policies and procedural rules
- Election of advisory board members and spokesperson
- Announcement of the organiser of the next annual meeting is presented.

Attendees at the business meeting has the authority to 1) set guidelines and rules for the NHESG will be set and 2) elect the members of the advisory board including the election of the spokesperson. Majority voting applies.

Topics/proposals to be discussed must be send to the board no later than three weeks before the meeting.

6. Website

NHESG holds the following website www.nhesg.org

The domain/website is currently hosted and administered by DCHE, the University of Southern Denmark.

The webpage will be updated regularly and is expected to contain information about coming and past conferences, "bylaws", procedural rules, student award, contacts to NHESG and the advisory board, and an archive of previous programmes and winners of the student award.

7. Mailing list and e-mail policy

The board administers a mailing list with e-mail addresses of all the members of the NHESG.

E-mails are composed in a way so individual email addresses are not disclosed.

By request the administrator of the mailing list can send out email for any member of the NHESG. Requests should be send to nhesg@sam.sdu.dk. The email must include a text that can be forwarded by the mailing list administrator without editing.

Emails send out with the mailing list should have an interest for NHESG members, e.g. information about conferences that members organise, call for papers, information about job vacancies at the institutions of the members. It is the administrator who decides if the content fulfils these requirements. In case of doubt the spokesperson consult the other members of the advisory board

By unsubscribing from the email list, NHESG membership is automatically terminated.

8. Contact

Contact to NHESG can be directed to nhesg@sam.sdu.dk or [any of the advisory board members](#)

9. Best Student Paper Award

Who qualifies as a recipient of the award:

The award is given annually to a student who is enrolled in a Ph.D. program at a research institution and who has submitted a paper for the annual meeting. The Ph.D. student should still be enrolled at point of registration. The student has to be lead author of the submitted paper. If needed the scientific committee can ask for statements from the co-authors.

All PhD students that meet the criteria are automatically nominated and enrolled in the competition. Student status (academic position and institution) is obtained at registration to the annual meeting.

Award Criteria:

The scientific committee will select the paper that makes the greatest contribution to health economics. The paper should be original research and with the potential to be published in a high ranking health economic journal. The paper's contribution may be theoretical, empirical, methodological, or a combination of these. Quality of writing will also be taking into consideration. The recipient of the reward should attend the annual meeting and, if possible, will be invited to give a 10 minutes presentation at the general session.

Evaluation committee:

The local organising committee is responsible for appointing a scientific committee to evaluate the papers before the meeting. The scientific committee should consists of at least 3 persons from 3 different countries. An expert is not allowed to evaluate a paper from his/her own university/institution. Committee members are also required to declare any conflict of interest. In case of conflict of interest, a new committee member is to be selected.