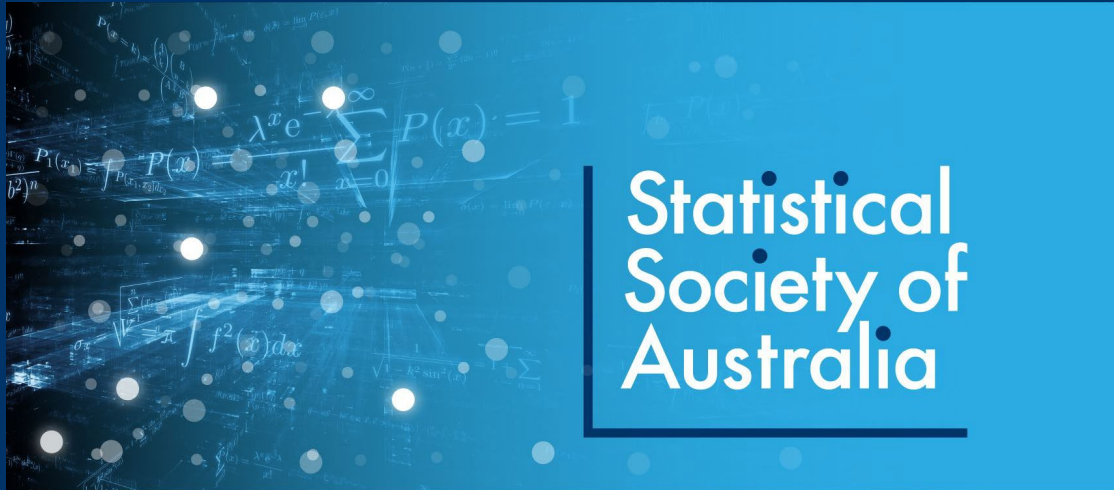


From: [Statistical Society of Australia](#)
To: [Marie-Louise Rankin](#)
Subject: Stats Matters & Events
Date: Wednesday, 24 April 2024 4:00:11 PM



STATS MATTERS & EVENTS

24 April 2024

Dear Marie-Louise,

You are receiving this week's newsletter a day early because of the public holiday tomorrow.

As we commemorate ANZAC Day, let us take a moment to honour the courage, resilience and sacrifice of the Australian and New Zealand Defence members who have served and continue to serve our nations. May we never forget their contributions to our freedom and peace.

Lest we forget.

[Marie-Louise Rankin](#)
Executive Officer

Read newsletter in your [browser](#)

In this newsletter:

[The Random Sample podcast is back!](#)

[Remember the old Myers-Briggs test?](#)

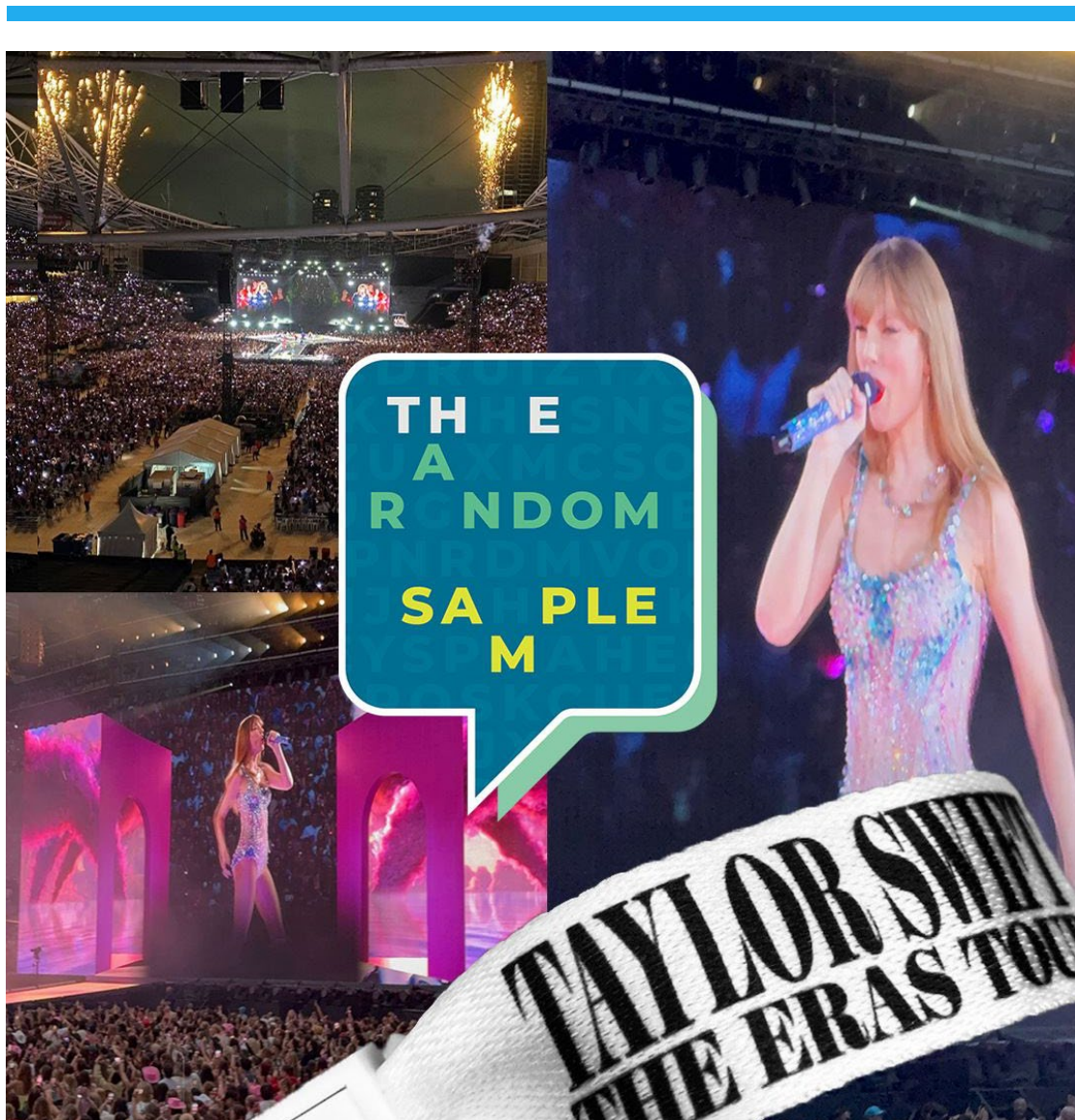
[The Conversation](#) - Published anything recently?

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The Random Sample podcast is back!

Our latest episode is just out with our guest Griffith University mathematician Dr Nathan Garland. Almost on a dare from his wife, and to show his students that maths can be used to explore a lot of different things, he did a project where he used mathematics to explore the music of Taylor Swift. Our host is Rose Crocker.

Listen to the podcast [here](#).

Remember the old Myers-Briggs test?

The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) is a widely used personality assessment tool designed to categorise individuals into specific personality types. Developed by Katharine Cook Briggs and her daughter Isabel Briggs Myers, the MBTI is based on the psychological theories of Carl Jung and focuses on four dichotomies, resulting in 16 possible personality types.

Extroversion (E) vs. Introversion (I): This dimension reflects where individuals focus their attention and energy. Extroverts are outgoing and energised by social interaction, while introverts are more reserved and gain energy from solitude.

Sensing (S) vs. Intuition (N): Sensing types rely on concrete information and details, focusing on the present and practicality. Intuitive types are imaginative and future-oriented, focusing on patterns and possibilities.

Thinking (T) vs. Feeling (F): Thinking types make decisions based on logic and objective analysis, often prioritising facts over emotions. Feeling types prioritise personal values and consider the impact on others when making decisions.

Judging (J) vs. Perceiving (P): Judging types prefer structure and organisation, seeking closure and making decisions quickly. Perceiving types are flexible and spontaneous, preferring to keep their options open and adapt to new information.

By combining these four dichotomies, individuals are assigned a four-letter code representing their unique personality type (e.g., ISTJ, ENFP). Each type offers insights into how individuals perceive the world, process information, make decisions and interact with others.

Did you ever do the test? More importantly, did you happen to be assigned ENTJ as your personality type?

A recent issue of Forbes magazine named five professions perfectly suited to ENTJ types, and the first one on the list is...you guessed it... "Statistician"!

Apparently ENTJs are excellent problem-solvers and thrive in the realm of intricate systems. They achieve peak performance when engaging in collaborative efforts, as they derive motivation and inspiration from interactions with others. Referred to as "the commander," the ENTJ personality type embodies traits of extroversion, intuition, thinking and judging. Individuals of

this type often exhibit charisma, ambition and robust leadership abilities.

While the MBTI can provide valuable self-awareness and understanding of others, it's important to recognise its limitations. Critics argue that the MBTI oversimplifies personality and lacks scientific validity, as it relies on self-reporting and does not account for the complexity and variability within individuals.

Still, let's run with ENTJ for now. To be qualified as a thinker with charisma...It can't possibly get any better than that.

You can read the full article – and see the other careers that could have been yours – in Forbes Magazine [here](#).

The Conversation - Published anything recently?

Some of our members publish regularly in *The Conversation*. You can read their articles [here](#).

Have you recently had an article published? Please let SSA's [Executive Officer](#) know and a link to your article will be added to the web page. We'll also mention your article in the weekly newsletter.

SSA's Golden Jubilee Travel Grant

SSA's Golden Jubilee Travel Grant provides overseas travel funds to student members of the Society, who can prove consecutive SSA membership for a minimum of two years.

A maximum of \$1000 is available per application, limited to a single trip during the course of the student's studies. Students will not be supported in their first year of study and will have had to be members of the Society for at least two years prior to the application deadline. Applications are required to be lodged in advance of travelling.

Application deadline: 31 May 2024

[Find out more.](#)

From previous newsletters:

Calling all AStat accredited members - join SSA's Accreditation Committee

The Statistical Society is representing a diverse community and would like to see this represented in the make-up of its Accreditation Committee. It would like to build breadth across the sector, across different areas of expertise.

You are invited to apply for a position on the committee and help more SSA members to become accredited. The time commitment is not terribly large. The committee meets approximately six weekly via Zoom, and meetings are kept to one hour. Preparation for meetings typically takes between one and three hours, depending on the number of applications (which can vary considerably from meeting to meeting).

Accreditation Committee members usually serve for a term of three years, with two members completing their terms on the committee each year.

If you are interested in joining the Accreditation Committee, please send an email with an expression of interest and a copy of your resume to SSA's Executive Officer [Marie-Louise Rankin](#).

SSA PhD or Masters top-up scholarships 2024

SSA PhD Top-Up Scholarships: the SSA wants to support you!

Are you undertaking a PhD or Masters degree with a project in the development of statistical or data science methodology, in the assessment of statistical or data science methodology, or in the development of statistical/data science software?

The Statistical Society of Australia (SSA) wants to support you!

Up to 4 Scholarships, worth \$2500 each, will be awarded to SSA student members. Find out more about the eligibility criteria and find the application form [here](#).

Application deadline: 12 May 2024

Election of Executive Members

Members are advised that the Executive positions of Secretary and Treasurer

will become vacant at the Society's Central Council Annual General Meeting in 2024.

Members of SSA are invited to submit nominations for the two positions to be vacated. Nominations must be in writing and signed by the nominator(s), and must be accompanied by a written and signed statement from the nominee accepting the nomination. Nominations should be submitted to the SSA President (president@statsoc.org.au) or to a Branch President before 1 May 2024.

Doug Shaw, Secretary

SSA Events

Statistical Consulting Network Monthly Meet-Up

26 April 2024, 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM AEST, held online

Come along with your thinking cap, maybe a problem, and some lunch!

The Statistical Consulting Network invites you to their monthly meet-up, a virtual lunchtime meeting where statisticians help each other out with problems that they aren't sure how to deal with. This virtual meeting is held on Zoom at lunchtime on the last Friday of each month, 12:30-1:30 PM (AEST). We start each meet-up with announcements, or occasionally a special topic discussion, then discuss problems that attendees have brought along with them.

We also have a Slack workspace where members of the consulting network can communicate between meetings, or post problems or relevant materials they would like to discuss during a meeting.

[Zoom link](#)

Password: 660145

[Slack Workspace link](#)

Canberra Branch meeting -- COVID-19 vaccine fatigue in Scotland presented by Robin Muegge

30 Apr 2024-5:45 PM - 7:00 PM (AEST) The Gallery, Level 2, Cultural Centre, University Ave, Kambri ANU ([The Gallery - Kambri](#)).

Vaccine fatigue is the propensity for individuals to start but not finish a

vaccination program with several doses, which thus means they are less protected. This is an especially important topic for COVID-19, where the vaccination program commonly consists of two doses followed by a booster vaccine dose to get full protection.

COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy (the delay in acceptance or refusal of the first dose of the vaccine) has been studied extensively, and a few studies investigated the willingness to receive the booster vaccine dose. In contrast, attrition rates across subsequent doses caused by evolving vaccine fatigue have yet to be examined, which is the novel contribution of this paper.

At the end of the seminar, Robin will briefly introduce his current work on outlier detection in areal data, titled “Disease mapping: What if Tobler's First Law of Geography doesn't hold?”.

For more details and the zoom link click [here](#).

WA Branch: Early Career & Student Statisticians Evening

14 May 2024, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM (AWST), at the Cheryl Praeger Lecture Room, The University of Western Australia

All visitors are welcome to attend this event, especially anyone studying or interested in pursuing a career in statistics or data science. Two speakers have been invited to speak at this event: George Malone (recipient of the 2023 Honours Scholarship) and Alistair Martin (Graduate student at Murdoch).

Members, visitors, and guests are invited to mingle over wine, beer, cider, soft drinks and pizza from 5:30PM. Following the meeting you are invited to dine with fellow attendees at a nearby restaurant. Early career and students will receive \$20 off their meal.

For more details on the talks and to register please click [here](#).

NSW Branch

**David Warton and Houying Zhu - Macquarie University and via Zoom –
16 May 2024, 11am – 2pm (AEST), lunch provided**

**Multivariate Spatial Models for Community Ecology Using a Basis
Function Approach-** David Warton

Statistical Solutions: From Wildfire Losses to Protein Engineering- Houying Zhu

Venue:

12 WW Room 803, Macquarie University and via Zoom

Schedule

- 11am – 12pm: Dr Houying Zhu (Macquarie) - Statistical Solutions: From Wildfire Losses to Protein Engineering
- 12pm – 1pm: Complementary pizza lunch with speakers
- 1pm – 2pm: Prof David Warton (UNSW) - Multivariate Spatial Models for Community Ecology Using a Basis Function Approach

[For details and to register click here](#)

Early Career & Student Statisticians Conference 18th - 21st November 2024

Join us for the biennial Early Career & Student Statisticians Conference (ECSSC). Organised by the ECSS Network of SSA and SECS Network of NZSA, this event offers invaluable insights and networking opportunities.

This year, we're excited to host local hubs in Perth, WA, Hobart, Tasmania and New Zealand, as well as a livestream option. Don't miss out on this incredible experience!

Important Dates:

- 1 July 2024: Call for abstracts
- 15 July 2024: Registrations open
- 26 July 2024: Deadline for abstract submission

Please note that these dates might be adjusted as the conference approaches. Bookmark the [event website](#).

Also participate in our Logo Competition: Design the official conference logo for a chance to win a free registration to the conference! Submit your logo to events@statsoc.org.au.

Other events

International Congress on Mathematical Education (ICME)

This event will take place 7-14 July in Sydney, with over 2,500 educators registered and set to attend.

Details of the event can be found on the [conference website](#).

International Conference on Teaching Statistics (ICOTS) 2026

ICOTS12 will be held in Brisbane, Australia in 2026. Save the date!

More information available [here](#).

Current Vacancies in SSA's Career Centre

[0116496 Associate Researcher, Biostatistics](#)

New South Wales

The University of Sydney

2x Full-time, 12-month fixed-term roles ...

[View All Jobs](#)

If you have news from the Australian statistical community to share in Stats Matters and Events, please get in touch [with us](#)! We love getting feedback too.

[Unsubscribe](#)