

From: [Statistical Society of Australia](#)
To: [Marie-Louise Rankin](#)
Subject: Stats Matters & Events
Date: Thursday, 9 July 2020 2:28:10 PM



STATS MATTERS & EVENTS

9 July 2020

Dear Marie-Louise,

Welcome to another issue of the SSA weekly news bulletin. Preparing these newsletters on a weekly basis now really brings home how quickly each week goes by. This one has been particularly busy with so many events on offer. Every time I look at the events list on our website another branch seems to have added another event! I hope you found something interesting to attend yourself?

Would you please note that the SSA office will be closed next Monday and Tuesday (13

and 14 July 2020) as I am taking a little break?

Kind regards

Marie-Louise Rankin
SSA Executive Officer

[Read in your browser](#)

Vic Branch Mentoring evening

On June 23rd, the Victorian Branch brought together mentors and mentees for a brilliant, socially-distant, mentoring evening via Zoom. Hosted by Hien Nguyen (Communications officer) and Daniel Fryer (Young Statisticians' Representative), we first heard from five of our mentors who told us of their careers and their thoughts on some of the key opportunities, decisions, lessons and strategies they felt contributed to their successful journeys so far.

[Read more here](#)

Talking to stakeholders: Statistics in the outside world

Statistics are used by government, industry and the media. Statisticians sometimes have to deliver unpopular or controversial messages couched in complex numbers.

How do we talk about statistics to people who lack a technical understanding of the field? What makes statistics news? And, how do you ensure your numbers are used correctly?

Join us for an online discussion and Q&A with a panel featuring Ron Sandland, former Head of CSIRO Maths and Stats and former chair of AMSI. Joining Ron will be Tory Shepherd, former political editor for the Adelaide Advertiser and others.

The forum will be moderated by Niall Byrne from Science in Public.

It will run online on Friday 31 July, between 2pm and 3.30pm AEST. This is a free event for members of SSA and ABS employees. The general public can attend for a fee (\$50.00).

[Register now](#)

You are invited: SSA and ASPAI AGMs - 4 August 2020

The 2020 Annual General Meetings of the Statistical Society of Australia, Inc and the

Australian Statistical Publishing Association Inc will be held on Tuesday, 4 August 2020 from 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm via Zoom.

The SSA and ASPAI AGMs are available to members of SSA only. Please use the registration link below to indicate your attendance. You do not need to register separately for the talk immediately following the AGMs.

This year's AGMs will be followed by a presentation from **RSS President, Professor Deborah Ashby** at 6:15 pm. Professor Ashby is the Director of the School of Public Health at Imperial College London where she holds the Chair in Medical Statistics and Clinical Trials, and was Founding Co-Director of Imperial Clinical Trials Unit.

The title of Professor Ashby's talk is "Florence Nightingale at 200: using data to improve health from the time of the Crimea to the time of the coronavirus" and the abstract is available on the [registration page](#).

[Register here](#)

Revised ANZSRC Now Available

The revised Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification (ANZSRC 2020) was released on June 30 on the [Australian Bureau of Statistics](#) website.

Here are the new 2020 categories for statistics, with additions in red and changes in blue:

- 490501 Applied statistics
- 490502 Biostatistics
- 490503 **Computational statistics**
- 490504 **Forensic evaluation, inference and statistics**
- 490505 **Large and complex data theory**
- 490506 Probability theory
- 490507 **Spatial statistics**
- 490508 **Statistical data science**
- 490509 Statistical theory
- 490510 Stochastic analysis and modelling
- 490511 **Time series and spatial modelling**
- 490599 Statistics not elsewhere classified

For comparison here are the previous 2008 categories:

0104 Statistics

010401 Applied Statistics
010402 Biostatistics
010403 Forensic Statistics

010404 Probability Theory
010405 Statistical Theory
010406 Stochastic Analysis and Modelling
010499 Statistics not elsewhere classified

We gave feedback to the review consultation draft, with thanks to our members who helped with this. We are happy with the changes as these reflect the growth in statistics and allow our members to more accurately reflect their work.

Adrian Barnett

Still looking for a member who likes photography!

To celebrate mathematics and its prominence in science and society, the Australian Academy of Science's National Committee for Mathematical Sciences is hosting scienceXart: spot the maths, a photographic competition for school students of all ages. A collaboration with [reSolve](#) and supported by the [Statistical Society of Australia](#), this initiative is part of the Academy's celebration of the [International Mathematical Union's Centennial](#).

Open for entries from 28 June to 25 September, the competition engages students with the mathematical sciences and highlights the inherent creativity of maths. This is a fantastic opportunity for primary and secondary students to explore and engage with the maths all around us.

As a proud sponsor of this initiative SSA is entitled to be part of the judging panel. We are therefore looking for a member with an interest in photography or graphic design, willing to be one of the judges of the photography exhibition. If you are interested, please contact SSA's Executive Officer, [Marie-Louise Rankin](#).

For more information about this event, [click here](#)

And don't forget the following events - advertised previously

SSA Online Workshop: Introduction to Julia for Statistics and Data Science

The Vic Branch of SSA is proud to announce the upcoming programming and statistics workshop: **Introduction to Julia for Statistics and Data Science**, presented by Yoni Nazarathi from The University of Queensland. It will be delivered online, over two half days, on 24 and 27 July. The early bird prices are low – especially for student members.

This workshop is targeted at people who have used a language like R or Python before. [Julia](#) has a growing number of statistical libraries. It is **fast**, easy to use, and open source. Julia aims to solve the [two-language-problem](#). The workshop is closely followed by the free online [JuliaCon 2020](#) conference. So, there's a great opportunity to link up with the Julia community afterwards.

[Click here for full details, instructor bio and registration](#)

Workshop: Machine learning with Python

20 Jul 2020, 9:00 AM - 21 Jul 2020, 12:30 PM

The Vic Branch of the Statistical Society of Australia warmly invites you to a workshop on machine learning with Python, presented by a data scientist from [Eliiza](#) (to be announced).

- Day 1: Getting Started with Machine Learning This is a hands-on course for making predictive models using machine learning.
- Day 2: Introduction to Deep Learning

This workshop will teach you how to use the TensorFlow 2.0 framework to construct neural networks and apply them to tasks such as image recognition.

[Click here to find out more](#)



[Looking at the Great Barrier Reef from organisms to ecosystems: how math can help translate observed patterns into management-ready information](#)

When: Tuesday 14 July, 12.30pm-1.30pm AEST

Webinar, exclusively for members of SSA and NZSA:

Writing successful fellowships Friday, 24 July 2020, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM (AEST)

Success rates for fellowship applications are plummeting, but success is not impossible! This interactive panel-style webinar will feature brief presentations from three past/current SSA presidents: Distinguished Professor Kerrie Mengersen (ARC Laureate), Professor Scott Sisson (ARC Future Fellow) and Professor Adrian Barnett (NHMRC Fellow), followed by an extended discussion and question time. Gain knowledge and inspiration to help optimise your chances!

[Click here to find out more and to register](#)

Tired of surveys but eager to leave feedback? Tell us what you are missing from your SSA membership. Or let us know what we do well. We will listen.

[Contact us](#)

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