

From: [Statistical Society of Australia](#)
To: eo@statsoc.org.au
Subject: SSA September eNews
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The worst is behind us – the Winter season is truly over and I hope you're all enjoying some lovely Spring weather. Winter for SSA went out with a bang with ISCB-ASC18 during the last week of August. I thoroughly enjoyed spending time with many of our volunteers, members and newly recruited members! Anyone attending SSA's major biennial event would agree that the organisers did an outstanding job pulling together an excellent conference, attended by over six hundred delegates.

While one conference committee can now enjoy some well-deserved rest from the hard work over the last four years, the next conference committee is rearing to go, planning for ASC2020. If you have not yet done so, please mark the date in your calendars: 6-10 July 2020 on the Gold Coast. And for the Young Statisticians amongst you there is an event between now and then: YSC2019, held on 1-2 October in Canberra next year.

Personally I'm having a rest myself at the moment, being on annual leave. As a result the SSA office will remain closed until 3 October 2018.

Yours sincerely

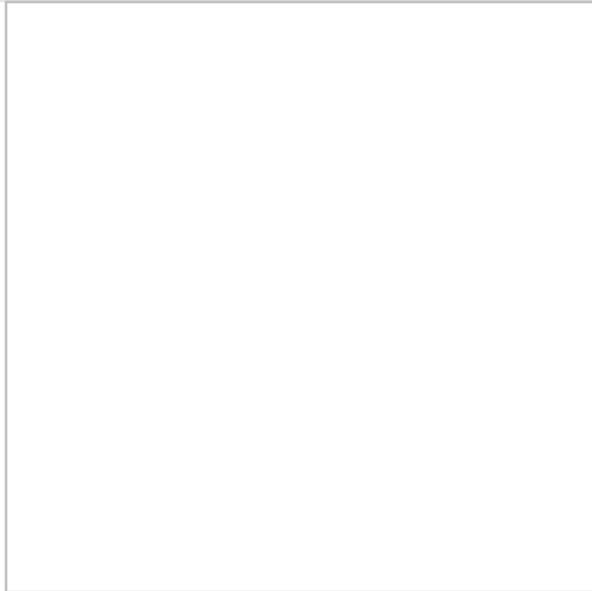
Marie-Louise Rankin
Executive Officer

Hello from your new president

I am very excited to take up the presidency of the Statistical Society of Australia for the next two years. I have had a fascinating career as a statistician and being president gives me the chance to give something back.

For people outside our field, I aim to let them know how important statistics is for so many aspects of their lives, including finance, health and the environment. Within our field, I hope to

engage with all statisticians and show them that the society is a vibrant and rewarding place to be. Of course I will do all this with the fantastic support of our executive.



Last week was a great start to my two years, as it coincided with the biannual conference. It was a jam-packed four days of interesting presentations, useful discussions and social events. I met a lot of members and spoke about some of the exciting future changes we have in the pipeline. I really value hearing from members, and if you ever want to discuss something about the society or statistics, then please get in touch, email a.barnett@qut.edu.au, phone 07 3138 6010.

Adrian Barnett
President

Member News

Congratulations to Louise Ryan on having been awarded the Pitman Medal 2018! [Read more here.](#)

Congratulations to Peter Howley on having been awarded the SSA Service Award 2018.

South Australian Branch July Meeting

Weighted gene co-expression network meta-analysis

For the SA Branch's July meeting Max Moldovan from the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) spoke about the application of weighted gene co-expression network analysis (WGCNA), a common tool for the detection of co-expressed gene groups. Max proposed meta-analysis of RNA-seq datasets within WGCNA as a way of overcoming problems associated with insufficient sample sizes of RNA-seq datasets. He illustrated numerically the gain in co-expression estimates precision from combining several datasets within the WGCNA framework.

[Read more](#)

**Joint SSA Victorian Branch and
Biostatistics & Bioinformatics**

**Name change for the SSA
Biostatistics Section**

Section Event: Biostatistics Bonanza!

On Thursday August 23, three international rising stars in biostatistical research - Valentijn de Jong (Netherlands), Jennifer Thompson (UK) and Simon White (UK) – visited us in Melbourne to showcase their work at the monthly Victorian Branch meeting. Held at the University of Melbourne, this was a joint event with the SSA Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Section.

The SSA Biostatistics Section aims to be actively involved in both biostatistics and bioinformatics activities in Australia, engaging in the promotion and conception of events such as seminars, workshops, and available job opportunities that span across both fields. To reflect this practice, we have recently been endorsed a name change from the SSA Biostatistics Section to the SSA Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Section.

[Read more](#)

[Read more](#)

Superstars of STEM – Applications close 23 September 2018!

Applications are still open for the next round of Science and Technology Australia's Superstars of STEM! Eligibility requirements, application guidelines, expectations for participants and much more information have been uploaded to the STA website, so we encourage you to check it out using the link below.

[Find out more](#)

Ranked Set Sampling Symposium in Adelaide

A symposium titled "Ranked Set Sampling: translating the theory to applications in agriculture and natural sciences" will be held at the Waite campus of the University of Adelaide on 27-28 September 2018. The SA Branch is providing partial sponsorship for the event's invited speakers.

Professor Amer Al-Omari (Al al-Bayt University, Jordan), one of the symposium's invited speakers, will be presenting the talk for the September meeting of the SA Branch on 26 September.

[Symposium details](#)

WA Young Statisticians Workshop

The 10th Western Australian Young Statisticians' Workshop will be held on the Wednesday 26th of September 2018 starting at 10:00am. This event is aimed at supporting young statisticians and students who are interested in pursuing a career in statistics. It provides fantastic networking opportunities.

University students and graduates in the early years of their statistics career are particularly encouraged to attend.

For more details, click the link below. To book your seat, visit [trybooking](#).

[Find out more](#)

More Environmental Statistics in Canberra: Environmental Risk Assessment

The next SSA Canberra Branch meeting will be on Tuesday 25 September, with another guest speaker from CSIRO Data61, Brent Henderson. Brent will be discussing cumulative risk assessment, in particular in the context of a large cumulative environmental impact assessment. Full details will be available in the notice to branch members two weeks before the meeting, which will also be posted on the Canberra branch website.

Warren Muller, Francis Hui

On behalf of SSA Canberra

SSA Career Centre

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