

Events at Joint Statistical Meeting 2011

Do You Want To Visit Australasia?
Teaching Health Policy Statistics In The Pacific Islands
Preparing To Work In A Developing Country
Friends of Australasia (open business meeting)

Round-table TL02: Do You Want To Visit Australasia?

Louise Ryan, CSIRO, Australia

Tuesday, 8/2, 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. \$15

Have you ever thought about visiting the Australasian region for a short research visit or sabbatical, to attend a conference, or to take up short-term or long-term employment? During this session we will explore what it's like living and working in Australasia, the differences in statistical projects between the American and Australasian regions, and what job opportunities are currently available.

This session will be led by Louise Ryan, Chief of Mathematics, Informatics and Statistics at CSIRO.

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation is Australia's national science agency and one of the largest and most diverse research agencies in the world (housing approximately 6500 employees).



Round-table TL23: Teaching Health Policy Statistics In The Pacific Islands

Mark Griffin, School of Population Health, University of Queensland

Tuesday, 8/2, 12:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. \$40

In July 2011 the ASA Friends of Australasia organised the first International Conference for Health Statistics in the Pacific Islands. To the best of our knowledge this is the first statistics conference to ever be held within the Pacific Islands in Australasia. During this session you will hear from the ICHSPI Conference Chair about his experiences in organizing this conference and his advice for statistical educators involved in training within the developing nation context.

This conference was held in Suva, Fiji, and was organised in partnership with a number of other ASA groups (including the Health Policy Statistics Section and Statistics Without Borders) and a number of groups within Australasia (including the Fiji School of Medicine, the University of the South Pacific, and the Statistical Society of Australia).

This round-table will be led by Mark Griffin, Chair of the Friends of Australasia.

For more information about these events please visit
<http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2011>
or email Mark Griffin at m.griffin@uq.edu.au



Round-table WL01: Preparing To Work In A Developing Country

Justin Fisher, U.S. Government Accountability Office

Wednesday, 8/3, 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. \$15

Statisticians play an important role in international development. Working in developing nations presents both opportunities and challenges that should be considered before getting on the plane.

During this session we will explore both the role of statistics and the soft skills (such as handling cultural diversity) involved in collaborative research projects with colleagues in developing nations.

This session will be led by Justin Fisher, a statistician who has worked for several United Nations agencies (including UNCTAD, UNESCO and UNESCAP, the regional office for Asia and the Pacific) and is currently with the U.S. Government Accountability Office. As a member of Statistics Without Borders, he travelled to Haiti two months after the 2010 earthquake to assist with a survey designed to estimate the economic impact of the earthquake.

Friends of Australasia (open business meeting)

Wednesday, 8/3, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

In the round-tables listed above you will be able to engage in small-group discussions where you will be able to explore some of the most pertinent issues in Australasia in depth. All delegates at the Joint Statistical Meeting are warmly invited to attend the open business meeting for the Friends of Australasia. At that Meeting you will be able to gain an overview of the different endeavours of this group to connect statisticians in America, Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands, and the opportunities that are available to you both at home and abroad. For more information about the Friends of Australasia please visit http://community.amstat.org/AMSTAT/Friends_of_Australasia.