

## VIC BRANCH

### Experiences from the Young Statisticians Conference 2015

I presented my PhD research work at the Young Statisticians Conference (YSC) held 5-6 February 2015 at the University of Adelaide. I had invaluable experiences by attending the YSC, which is not just a conference; it is "the conference". First, I attended the pre-conference SAS workshop on SAS Enterprise Guide: Querying and Reporting. That was a beneficial course with practical sessions and course materials provided.

Academic keynote talks from Professor Terry Speed and Professor Sheila Bird highlighted many aspects in the field of Statistics. Keynote talks from Geoff Lee and Anna Munday covered industry experience with the use of Statistics. The Panel Session consisting of all keynote speakers underlining the need to engage academia and industry. For me, the highlight of the conference was the Academic Career Session and Industry Career Session. Being a young statistician, it broadened my knowledge base to learn of others' experiences and vital ideas of academic and industry fields.

The conference was well-organized with numerous parallel sessions. Presenting my talk and listening to other presentations obviously enhanced my confidence in being able to present professionally and deal with questions from the audience comfortably. Besides, I obtained important comments on my research and presentation.

The Conference Dinner held on the first day of the conference was a delightful social event. It allowed me to share research and working experiences with leading academic experts, practitioners and junior researchers. Vitrally, the network built with young statisticians will be useful throughout my whole life.

Overall, my participation in the YSC was indeed a memorable experience and a terrific learning event. I am truly grateful to the SSAI Victoria branch for funding me to attend the YSC2015. It was worth attending!

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