NZSA President's Report to the 2019 AGM (Vanessa Cave)

Welcome

Welcome to the 2019 AGM, my first as NZSA president.

Highlights

This year has seen further activity and development in our traditional areas. I will mention a few highlights:

- The Education committee continues to be very active and influential. Amongst many other activities (see annual report), the Education committee has provided input into the Ministry of Educations' NCEA Change Package 2019 and has been instrumental in establishment of an online journal for teachers, Statistics and Data Science Educator, that aims to improve the quality of teaching resources and the designing of tasks.
- The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Statistics (ANZJS) continues to innovate through the implementation of initiatives such as the appointment of a Social Media Editor (Emi Tanaka) and the upcoming festschrift for Professor Adrian Baddeley.
- Continued collaboration with the NZ Analytics Forum, with a forum on "NZ Data Science + Analytics" hosted at the conference.

Looking ahead

Conferences

Our conference next year will be the Australian and New Zealand Statistical Conference (ANZSC2020), taking place on the Gold Coast from the 6th to the 10th of July. This conference will bring the NZSA together with other leading statistical communities in Australasia, including the Statistical Society of Australia, the International Institute of Business Analysis and the Australian Conference on Teaching Statistics. I hope to see many of you there.

The Statistical Society of Australia is hosting the Inaugural Joint Southern Statistical Meeting in Darwin in 2022 (27 June -1 July). The incoming Executive will work through the NZSA's potential involvement in this venture.

What next for the NZSA?

Building on the work of past presidents and committees, I would like to see the NZSA continuing and accelerating its involvement in i) the professional development and mentoring of early career statisticians, ii) thought leadership and activities in the Data Science/Data Analytics areas, iii) recognising and celebrating the achievements of early career, mid-career and established statisticians within New Zealand.

I welcome your feedback and ideas on what next for the NZSA.

Thanks

Thank you to all the members of the NZSA Executive Committee and sub-committees, the conference organisers and the many others who have contributed to NZSA over the last year. The success of our association is driven by the voluntary contributions of time, energy and expertise by our members. I feel very privileged to be part of an association in which so many people are actively involved, working quietly and efficiently in the background to get stuff done. I would like to take this opportunity to thank some of these people:

Firstly, an enormous thank you to all those involved in the organisation of this year's very successful conference, including *Tilman Davies* (Chair), *David Fletcher* (Co-chair), *Matt Parry*, *Ting Wang* and *Timothy Bilton*. Organising a conference is a considerable amount of work and I thank everyone involved for their contribution to its success. I'd also like to thank *Harmonic Analytics* for their continued generous sponsorship of our student talk prizes, *Oritain* for kindly sponsoring our student poster prize, and *Minitab* for supporting the Early Career event last night.

Daniel Gerhard has again done an exceptional job as Treasurer, as well as representing NZSA on the [ANZSC2020](#) organising committee. Special thanks to *Matt Parry* for his fine work as Secretary. I would like acknowledge *Lisa Thomasen* for her superb leadership in ensuring the Student & Early Career network is active and effective. Many thanks to *James Curran*, and his successor, *Martin Hazelton*, for the excellent work as Editor-in-Chief of ANZJS. The Education committee has again excelled itself in the work they do – thanks to *Alasdair Noble*, *Mike Camden*, *Maxine Pfannkuch*, *Chris Wild* and the wider team.

Lastly, many thanks to *Harold Henderson* for his wise counsel and work as membership secretary*, Matthew Schofield* for his work on ANZJS management and as Convenor of awards, *Marie Fitch* for the excellent newsletters, *Catherine McKenzie* for looking after our website, *Shirley Wu* for leading the R users group, *John Haywood* and *Carl Scarrott* for convening local stats groups, *Richard Penny* for his contribution to the Continuing Professional Development group and as the Corporate representative, *Beatrix Jones* for representing NZSA on the scientific program committee of ANZSC2020 and the general committee members: *Jennifer Brown*, *Linley Jesson*, *Nokuthaba Sibanda*, *Peter Smith*, *Ting Wang*, *Ian Westbrooke* and *Jennifer Wilcock*.

Become involved

The ongoing success of our association depends on members volunteering their time, expertise and enthusiasm. I wholeheartedly recommend becoming involved: you'll meet a lot of great people, have many inspiring conversations plus make an important contribution to NZ's statistical community

Vanessa Cave