

# 2022 NZSA AGM Report – Student & Early Career Statisticians

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## Ihaka Lecture Series

For the annual Ihaka Lecture Series, we had four centres around New Zealand host screening events over two weeks. It provided a great opportunity for the S&ECS community to come together! The table below gives an outline of the number of attendees to each location, as well as the specific night:

City	Attendance
Christchurch	5 (first night), 2 (second)
Wellington	8 (first), 3 (second)
Palmerston North	4 (first), 4 (second)
Dunedin	8 (first), 8 (second)

In terms of general feedback, people would prefer to watch the lectures online (rather than having to go back out/stay at the location of the screenings), if given the opportunity. This was partially related to the Covid pandemic that was still leading to some restrictions around New Zealand.

A massive thank you to Rina Hannaford and Mathieu Vignes (Palmerston North), Louise McMillan (Wellington), Anna Redmond (Dunedin), and Bridget Armstrong, Richard Penny and Marco Reale (Christchurch) for helping to coordinate the events in their respective cities.



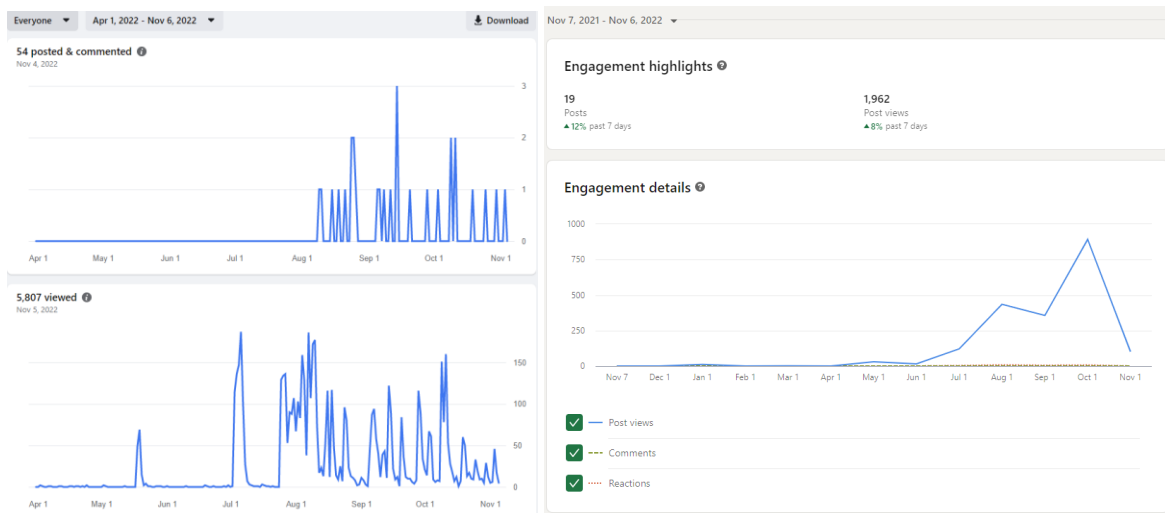
## Local Events – Otago

In September, our Student & Early Career Statisticians based at the University of Otago rolled up their sleeves to plant about 400 native trees near the Orokonui Ecosanctuary, which aims at “creating safe pockets of healthy indigenous biodiversity outside of the Orokonui Ecosanctuary means established populations of native birds and reptiles have an opportunity to migrate outwards and thrive beyond the predator-proof fence.”



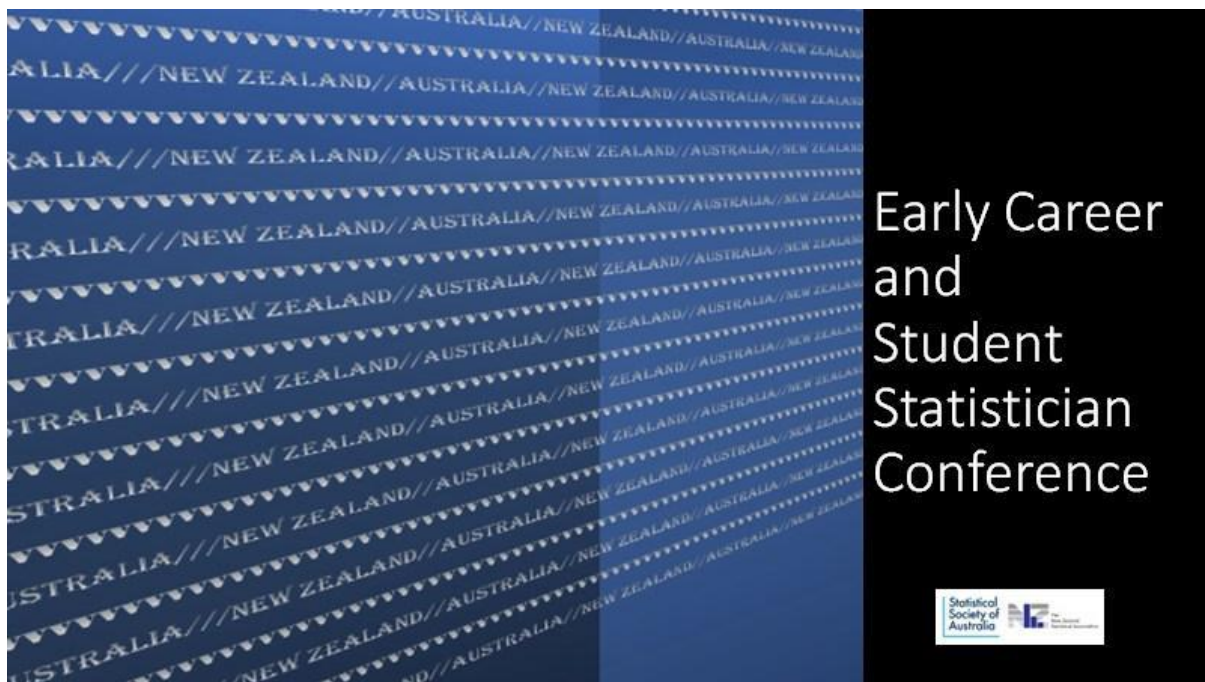
## Social Media

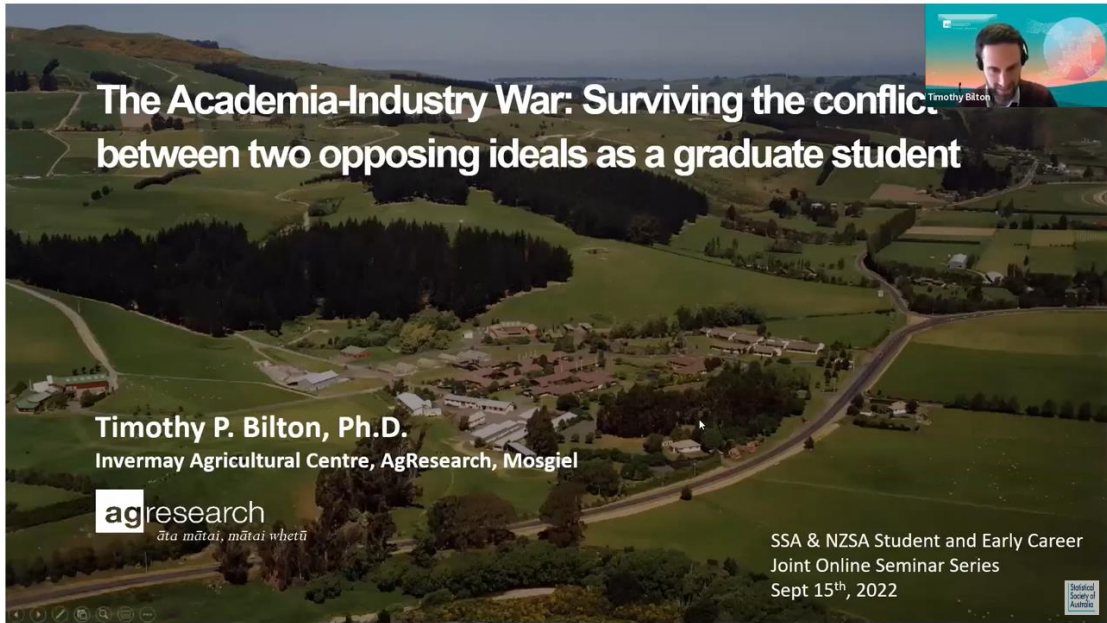
To date, we have 586 members joined our Facebook group (called “NZSA Student and Early Career Statisticians” <https://www.facebook.com/groups/416739728354126/>) and 85 members joined our LinkedIn page (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/5159587/>). In fact, our social media outreach has been expanding over the last six months, we generated 54 posts/comments on the Facebook group page, which have attracted 5,807 views. Meanwhile, we invested more effort into growing our LinkedIn page. As an outcome, we generated 19 posts and attracted 1,962 views. The main objective of transitioning from Facebook to LinkedIn is to 1. Create a more professional environment for students and early career statisticians/data scientists to network and communicate; 2. Provide a more accessible platform for employers to identify and attract talents from this group. Next year, we will keep working on the shift and hopefully collaborate with others on developing new opportunities, such as organising virtual career events on LinkedIn.



## Collaboration with the Statistical Society of Australia (SSA)

This year we team up with the Statistical Society of Australia (SSA) to organise a series of events: the first event was “Meet Our Reps” on 18 August 2022. The goal was to introduce an incredible group of representatives from the SSA and the NZSA. They are excited to serve this community and assist the journey as a student and early career statistician. Current SSA Early Career Statistician and Student Network (ECSSN) Reps are Daniela Vasco, Chair (National Representative), Luca Maestrini (ACT Representative), Yidi Yan & Kevin Wang (NSW Representative), Rex Parsons (QLD Representative) and Melissa Middleton (VIC Representative) and Lucy Conran (WA Representative). There were 30 people in attendance at this online event. The second event was a webinar: The Academia-Industry War: Surviving the conflict between two opposing ideals as a graduate student presented by Dr Timothy Bilton from AgResearch. There were 73 people registered for this event. The third event was a webinar: From PhD to post-doc: navigating life as an early-career researcher presented by Dr Rheanna Mainzer from Murdoch Children's Research Institute. There were 63 people registered for this event. The recordings of these presentations were also made available on YouTube. Those events led up to a joint conference in November, SSA and NZSA ECSS Miniconference 2022 (15 - 17 Nov 2022). The “Miniconference” is jointly hosted by the Early Career and Student Statisticians Network (ECSSN) of the SSA, the Student and Early Career Statisticians Network (SECS) of the New Zealand Statistical Association (NZSA), and the Western Australia (WA) Branch. Our very own Lisa Thomasen will be delivering a keynote session. This event is a “hybrid” event that includes two days of online-only presentations followed by one day of in-person presentations in WA. The latter shall also be streamed online. For full details see the conference website: <https://ecssmini2022.netlify.app/>. As of the 7<sup>th</sup> of Nov, we have 84 people registered. Next year, we aim to consolidate our collaboration with the SSA and explore further opportunities to work together.





The Academia Industry War Surviving the conflict between two opposing ideals as a graduate student

Unlisted

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### SSA & NZSA ECSSNs joint event: From PhD to post-doc: navigating life as an early-career researcher

<https://www.statsoc.org.au/event-4943878>

13 Oct 2022, 1:00 PM (AEDT) @ Online

Dr Rheanna Mainzer will share her experience navigating the transition from PhD student to bio-statistician. She will shed light on the day-to-day activities of a post-doc (both within a university and at a research institute) and describe some of the lessons she has learned along the way.



## 2022 NZSA Unconference & In-person Meetup

2022 NZSA unconference will be held at the University of Auckland, so we plan to organise our in-person meetup (sponsored jointly by NZSA and Stats NZ) the day prior to the conference. This will be our first in-person gathering at the national level since 2019, we are committed to providing the opportunity to connect with their peers and some senior members within our organisation. We are privileged to have Matthew Parry (President of NZSA) and Gary Dunnet (Deputy Chief Methodologist at Stats NZ) to open this event.