

**Submittee:** Michael Grosskopf  
**Date Submitted:** 2014-11-26 13:12  
**Title:** UBC/SFU Joint Statistical Seminar  
**Event Type:** Conference-Workshop

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**Location:**

Room 7000 in the Harbour Centre on the SFU Downtown Campus

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**Dates:**

October 26, 2014

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**Topic:**

Statistics and Actuarial Science at Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia

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**Methodology:**

Two faculty members gave career-focused talks directed at the graduate students in order to provide valuable advice. // Dr Campbell's talk was focused on steps students can take to better prepare them for finding jobs in industry, while Dr Salibian-Barrera spoke on important trends in the field and advice for students in developing intellectually beyond graduate school. // Six students listed below gave talks on their research or other graduate work in order to present the status of their research in an low-key but formal setting, and also to inform younger students on the quality and type of research being done. //

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**Objectives Achieved:**

The seminar provided a venue for valuable networking between students at the two universities. // This has been the main goal of this meeting and was again successful as there were many good connections made and research related discussions had. // The students also expressed positive feedback about the faculty talks, both in the quality of the talks and the value of the content. // Dr Campbell's talk on finding industry jobs seemed particularly well received by Master's students who may be on the job market soon. //

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**Organizers:**

Grosskopf, Michael, Statistics and Actuarial Science, Simon Fraser University //  
Coia, Vincenzo, Statistics, University of British Columbia //

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**Speakers:**

Dave Campbell, Statistics, SFU, "Finding Statistics Jobs in Industry" //  
Matias Salibian-Barrera, Statistics, UBC, "Running to Stand Still: Some Thoughts on Doing Statistics Today and Tomorrow" //  
Jack Davis, Statistics, SFU, "SQL - A 25 Minute Introduction" //

Seagle Liu, Statistics, UBC, "Bias Correction and Uncertainty Characterization of High-Resolution Dead-Reckoned Paths of Marine Mammals" //

Biljana Stojkova, Statistics, SFU, "Simulated tempering via contour optimized sampling" //

Andy Leung, Statistics, UBC, "Three-Step Robust Regression for Handling Cell-wise and Case-wise Contamination" //

Xiaoqing Liang, Actuarial Science, SFU, "Maximizing the Probability of Reaching a Goal Before Ruin with Transaction Costs" //

MD Mahsin, Statistics, UBC, "Determination of Sample Size for Phase II Clinical Trials in Multiple Sclerosis using Lesional Recovery as an Outcome Measure" //

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**Links:**

<http://www.sfu.ca/~mgrossko/JointSeminar.html>

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