



## Message from the Chairperson

Dear ICCSSA member,

September heralds the beginning of spring – the season of rejuvenation and growth. On the ICCSSA front, the following developments have been noted over the last three months: with the focus of the professional growth of its members in mind, ICCSSA has recently launched the CPD portal. To support the members in their CPD initiatives, the Bol is now engaging with the process for Accreditation of courses. The working Bye-laws document has been accepted by the Bol but further input on the accreditation of courses will need to be incorporated. The World Stats Day seminar series is a yearly activity on the ICCSSA calendar taking place each October. The theme this year is on Geostatistics and will feature talks and interactions from various organisations working in this area. The morning of the 18th October 2019 has been set aside for the World Stats Day seminar series. Please save the date! Read more about another collaborative initiative on bringing Academia closer together with Industry. Further details appear later in the newsletter.



## World Statistics Day

[World Statistics Day](#) is celebrated in October. During this important month, on Friday 18 October ICCSSA will host, together with Stats SA, a Geostatistics seminar morning. The aim is to bring together expertise in spatial statistics, GIS and mining geostatistics for a morning of shared knowledge and discussion of future paths and collaborations. Speakers from [Stats SA](#), [Esri](#) (ArcGIS software), [GeoTerralmage](#), [SAS](#) and [GASA](#) (Geostatistical Association of South Africa) will present on various aspects in this direction. We welcome all ICCSSA and SASA members to attend. Registration can be done via this [link](#).

## Some developments in Statistics

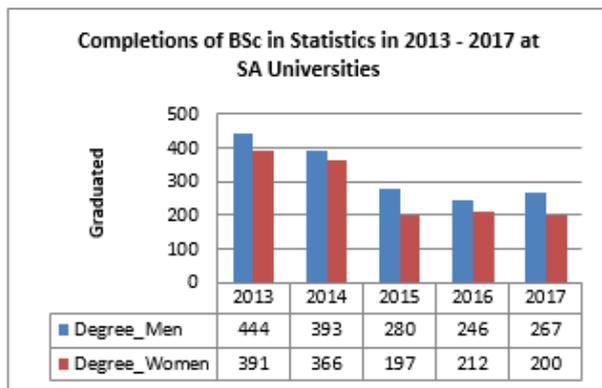
The National Mathematics and Statistics Sciences Teaching Development is a conceived collaborative University capacity development programme aimed to support the development of better qualified in-service Mathematics and Statistics academics at all higher education institutions in South Africa which ensures a more sustainable academic pipeline, to support entry-level and new-generation academics to engage in postgraduate studies, especially at Master's and Doctoral levels, to enhance student learning and academic success through the sustained focus on improving the quality and impact of university lecturers and to enhance the ability of university lecturers to supervise postgraduate students research. The initiative is funded by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET). The project's coordinator is Prof. Jean Lubuma, the former Dean of the faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences at University of Pretoria (UP) and the chairperson is Prof. Loyiso Nongxa from Wits.



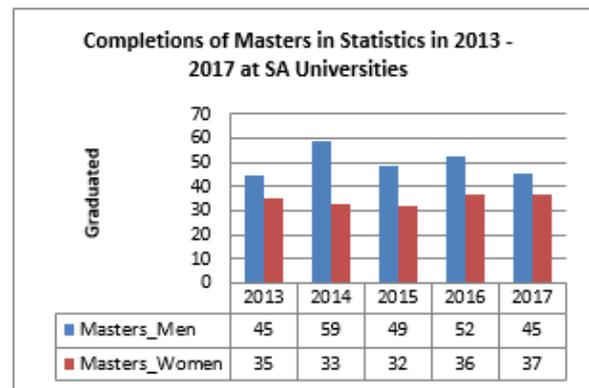
## Women in Statistics

The month of August was declared the Women’s Month by the post-apartheid Government of South Africa and it is annually celebrated on the 9th of August. This commemoration is a tribute to women who marched to the Union Building on the 9th of August 1956 in protest against the “Pass Laws”. The women’s struggle including their economic emancipation is still continuing in the democratic South Africa.

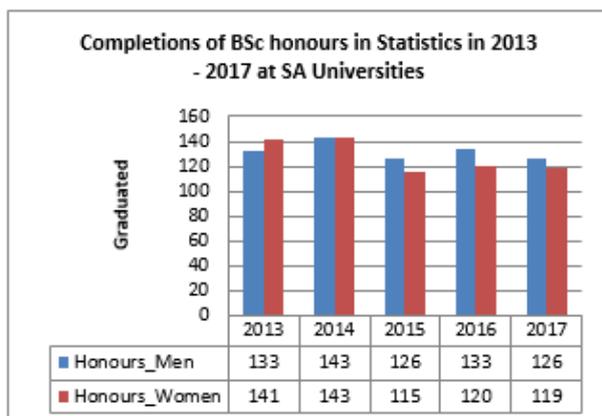
Women have made great strides in their endeavors to occupy strategic positions that were predominantly occupied by men, especially jobs in Science. Arguably education is the equaliser, therefore, in order to speed-up this process, it would be important to encourage and increase the number of women graduating in Science. The data from the Council of Higher Education (CHE) give the number of women completing qualifications in both ‘Statistics’ and ‘Mathematics with statistics’ between 2013 and 2017. According to graduation numbers from the Higher Education Management Information System (HEMIS) database hosted by the CHE, the numbers of women completing BSc and honours degrees in Statistics are slightly below those of their male counterparts. The worrying trend is that the number of women completing PhDs in Statistics has dropped from 11 in 2013 to four in 2017. A lot more still needs to be done to increase the number of women completing Masters and PhDs in Statistics at South African Universities. The South African Statistical Association (SASA) together with the National Research Foundation (NRF) provides Bursary Funding to students who excel in Statistics or Mathematical Statistics to pursue Masters and PhD studies in Statistics. The deserving students apply through heads of statistics departments at their Universities. More information on the numbers of female students completing qualifications in statistics is available in “Final Report Statistics in South Africa March 2019” available in the following [link](#):



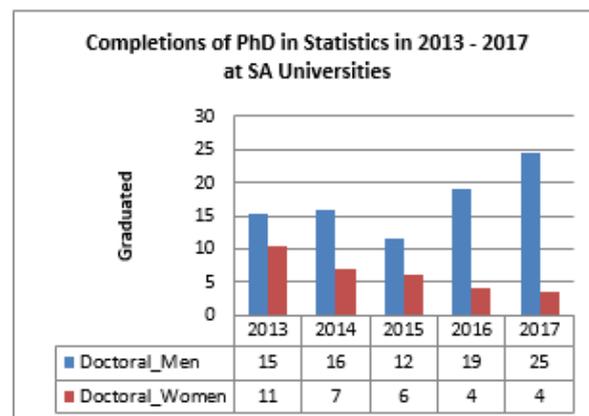
(a)



(c)



(b)



(d)



## Bringing Industry and Academia closer together: a collaborative initiative

The SASA Education Committee is making great strides in linking Statistics Education with demands of the modern workplace. As such, the 2019 SASA Conference to be held at NMU from 27-29 November will have a special plenary session speaker as well as a dedicated Education/Industry stream to encourage dialogue between employers and producers of high level data analytics skills. This Education/Industry stream is organised by the SASA Education Committee (SERG) and ICCSSA and will take the form of a series of talks on Thursday morning. The proposed title of the session is “Linking Statistics Departments with Industry: New opportunities for Curriculum Review and Research”. Any talk related to, but not limited to the “experiences of working with industry or government”, “curriculum review for introducing data science topics aimed at industry needs” and “data analytics needs of Industry” will be considered for this session. The titles of talks and abstracts must be sent to Dr Lizelle Fletcher at Lizelle.Fletcher@up.ac.za, the SASA Education Committee Chairperson. There will also be a plenary talk by Jennifer Priestley on Friday morning entitled Ethics of Data.

## Continuous Professional Development (CPD)

Continuous professional development is the systematic maintenance, improvement and broadening of knowledge and skills, and the development of personal qualities necessary for the execution of professional and technical duties throughout a person’s professional statistical career.

The ICCSSA CPD program recognises the following four categories of professional development:

Category 1: To be present and active in statistical profession/industry (e.g. seminar/ conferences);

Category 2: Related memberships to interest groups and associations, professional bodies & regulatory bodies;

Category 3: Development (Attendance of courses, workshops and self-study to gain statistical knowledge and skills);

Category 4: Knowledge transfer activities (Mentorship, presentation at conferences, peer-reviewed publications, providing workshops or short courses).

Activities of members in each category earn CPD points. The following table provides a summary of the activity allocation to the recognised CPD activity category and related CPD points:

Activity	CPD Category	CPD Point(s)
Day to day activities (work environment) between 100-400 hours	1	1.0
Day to day activities (work environment) more than 400 hours	1	2.0
Member of relevant associated professional body or society e.g. SASA, ORSSA, SACNASP	2	1.0
Event – Attended – Conference	1	1.0
Event – Attended – Workshop	3	1.0
Event – Attended – ICCSSA Accredited Course	3	1.0 or more
Event – Attended – Not ICCSSA Accredited Course	3	1.0 or more
Event – Attended – Seminar	1	0.5
Talk/Paper presented at Event	4	1.0
Knowledge transfer (e.g. mentorship, supervising, coaching) between 10 to 40 hours	4	1.0
Knowledge transfer (e.g. mentorship, supervising, coaching, peer-reviewed publications) more than 40 hours	4	2.0
Other development activity	Depends on activity	1.0 or more

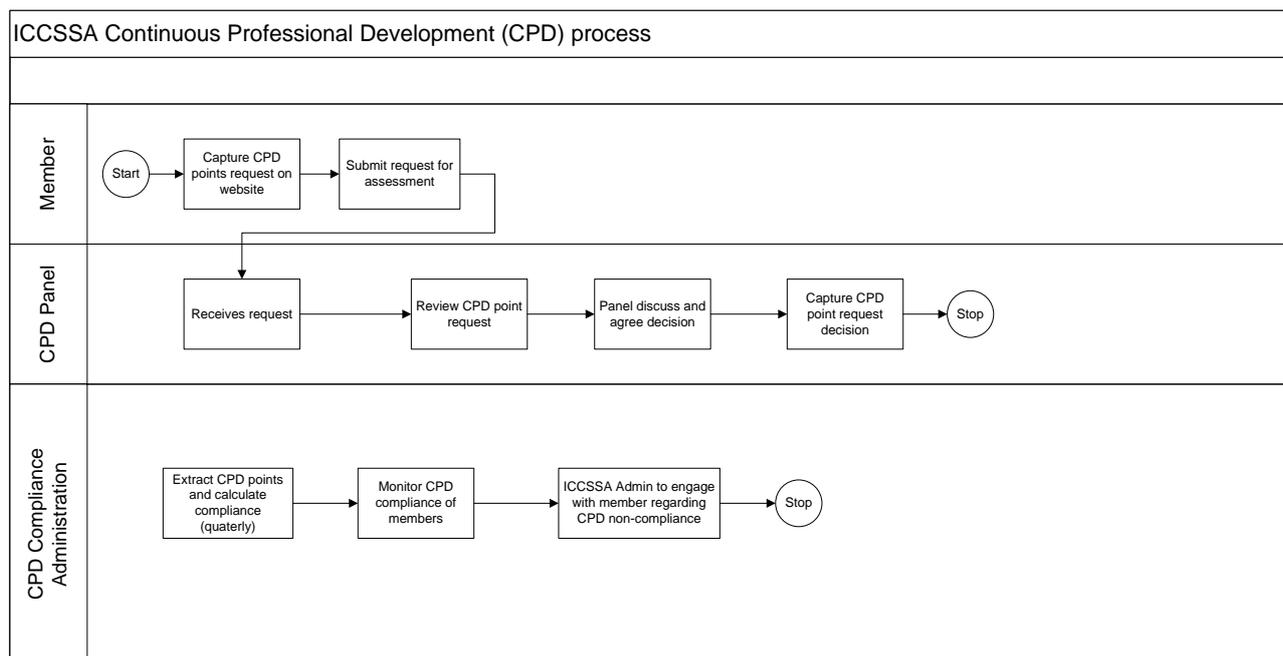


Members must submit their CPD activities to ICCSSA through the ICCSSA CPD website functionality to enable verification of compliance to the ICCSSA CPD program. Compliance to the minimum CPD points as calculated over a CPD cycle is compulsory for certificated and chartered members. The CPD point allocation rules indicate the compliance calculation for members to the CPD programme. Category 4 activities are only applicable to Chartered members.

The compliance of members to the ICCSSA CPD program is measured as follows:

Membership type	CPD Cycle	Category 1: To be present and active in the statistical profession or industry	Category 2: Related memberships	Category 3: Development	Category 4: Transfer of knowledge	CPD Compliance minimum points requirement (Calculated over the CPD cycle)
Certificated	2 years	A maximum of 2 points per year	A maximum of 2 points per year	A maximum of 2 points per year	N/A	10
Chartered	3 years	A maximum of 2 points per year	A maximum of 2 points per year	A maximum of 2 points per year	A maximum of 2 points per year	18

The flow chart below describes the CPD point allocation and compliance tracking process:



The CPD portal has been active on the ICCSSA website since the beginning of August 2019. ICCSSA members were encouraged to login and submit their documents. The portal can be accessed from the following link: <https://www.iccssa.org.za/admin-portal-submit/>. At this stage, all ICCSSA members should be able to login and earning their CPD points. If you haven't registered as a user on the ICCSSA website before you will first have to register and then login. For **Certificated** members the CPD cycle is from **1 January 2019 to 31 December 2020** and for **Chartered** members from **1 January 2019 to 31 December 2021**.



## Important dates for SASA conference



Please note that the following two submission deadlines for the SASA 2019 conference have been extended as follows:

SASA Conference abstracts deadline has been extended to Friday the 27th of September 2019

SASA Conference Proceedings Paper submissions have been extended to Friday the 27th of September 2019

### Other dates:

1 October 2019	Nominations for 2020 SASA Executive Committee
31 October 2019	Applications for Honours Bursary and Scholarship Competition
31 October 2019	Applications for Third Year Bursary and Scholarship Competition
25/26 November 2019	Workshops
27 to 29 November 2019	Main conference



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