



ASSR News

Te Rōpū Kairangahau Tikanga-ā-iwi o Aotearoa Pānui

April 2009

MAY FORUM

Speaker: Michelle Gosse
Topic: Introduction to discrete event simulation
Date: Wednesday 6 May 2009
Time: 12:15 p.m.
Place: L1, Department of Internal Affairs, Waring Taylor St.

The presentation is a gentle introduction into the quantitative (and fun!) world of discrete event simulation. The focus is practical rather than theory, and will be of interest to anyone attempting to model a system where the items moving through the system cannot be divided into parts (e.g. people undertaking training for promotion), and where events happen on particular days (e.g. course start dates, hire dates).

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COMMITTEE CORNER

Nau mai, haere mai, welcome from the new ASSR committee

Convenor to be confirmed
Ethics..... Pam Southey
Membership..... Ngaire Bennie (temporary)
Newsletter John Waldmann
Treasurer Ngaire Bennie
Website..... Michelle Gosse
Jane Renwick
Sonja Pierce
Vas Gavriel

Our thanks goes to the outgoing members who have devoted their time and energies to ASSR: Diana Dallas, Sarah Talboys, Paula White, Sue Buckley and Tony Lee.

Members will have the opportunity to inform committee decisions by taking part in a survey shortly. The survey will cover ASSR's functions and ways you would like to contribute to the organisation.

People's contributions make organisations like ASSR flourish. We encourage you to contribute notices about events, articles for ASSR News, your expertise, or... and we look forward to getting your ideas in the survey

We are sorry for the late newsletter due to unforeseen circumstances.

We invite you to consider joining the ASSR Committee. Please contact Ngaire Bennie at Ngaire.Bennie@minedu.govt.nz

Disclaimer:

The responsibility for ensuring the accuracy of the information given in this newsletter rests with the contributors. However, ASSR, the contributors and the editor's) do not accept any liability for any loss or damages whatsoever arising from the use of any information contained in this newsletter.

ASSR Committee's AGM report for 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009

Raewyn Good

Raewyn Good's sudden death in December 2008 was a great shock to ASSR members. Raewyn joined the Association as its Convenor — she held that role until her death. A passion for networking, sharing information and ethical social science practice are the hallmarks of Raewyn's contribution to ASSR. Members' tributes to Raewyn will be published in April 2009.

Membership

ASSR's membership continues to be stable with 140 members as at 31 March 2009. The Association's finances remain healthy, with the voluntary contribution of ASSR's committee and The Johnson Group's advertising continuing to keep the annual membership subscription at a relatively low \$25.

Acknowledgements

The committee thanks the following people for the effort and time they put into the presentations they gave at ASSR's monthly forums.

- April 2008 - Michelle Gosse - Upgrading the ASSR website - challenges, limitations and possibilities.
- May 2008 - Marten Hutt - Investing in youth potential: research and young people in New Zealand.
- June 2008 - Sophie Debski - Assessing the cultural and identity issues of refugees in furthering their integration into New Zealand society.
- July 2008 - Debi Madjumdar - Reflections about contracting for social services.
- August 2008 - Sue Buckley and Marie Russell - Discussion group on ethics and research: what do you do if you think your research might cause harm?
- September 2008 - Marg Gilling and Paula White - The chasm between university and work - are there any ropes or do we need to weave them?
- October 2008 - Geoff Stone and Kathy Fielding - Evaluation as 'social practice' - developing the right disposition, tools and relationships to make a difference.
- November 2008 - Dr James Liu - Making connections / gathering resources: how can emerging researchers build capacity and capability?
- December 2008 - Tai Walker, Juan Tauri, Paul Meredith - "Building capability": the BRCSS network was the major funder of a Critical MASS conference held at Victoria University of Wellington in June 2008.
- February 2009 - Dr Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop - Building Pacific research capacity through the Pacific Post Graduate Talanoa (Access Grid BRCSS).
- March 2009 - Judy Owen - Information research: accessing information resources at work.

The committee appreciates the support we receive from:

- Jane Renwick and the Department of Internal Affairs for hosting the ASSR forums
- Lana Moriarity for writing up the forum presentations while Tony Lee finished his masters thesis
- Lydia Buckley for mailing out hard copies of ASSR News.

Way forward

The committee will begin the 2009-10 year with planning for the future positioning of ASSR. We will also progress:

- a Raewyn Good award in collaboration with people who have expressed support for such a tribute
- becoming an incorporated society, the 20th birthday celebration book and Pasifika research workshop write-up.

Committee members

The contribution of five committee members is acknowledged in particular as they are standing down at the AGM: Sue Buckley, Diana Dallas, Jenny Holdt, Tony Lee and Sarah Talboys. New committee members are being sought.

Ngarie Bennie – Treasurer, Sue Buckley – ASSR News calendar, Diana Dallas – Archiving, Vas Gavriel – Constitution, Michelle Gosse – Website, Jenny Holdt – Photocopying ASSR News, Tony Lee – Forum write-ups, Pam Southey – Ethics contact person, Sarah Talboys – Secretary, Paula White – Membership
1 April 2009

Editors note: some minor formatting adjustments have been made to AGM reports for clarity..

Treasurer's Report Summary Financial Year 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009

- the full report is appended to member's newsletters

During 2008/09 the membership grew from 93 to 127 financial members. This has contributed to maintaining the Association's balance sheet, despite the need to pay arrears for Royal Society Fees. The continuing generosity of members' organisations providing free resources, such as meeting venue, photocopying, and lower costs in producing and distributing ASSR News has contributed to this.

We have continued with two investments in a term deposit. Further options will be considered over the coming months, once our future is secured and constitution is finalised.

Our membership and financial records have been merged, our website updated, and administrative processes simplified. Work (possible as a result of a member of the committee being skilled in this type of work) will continue on the website.

As Treasurer I am happy to recommend no change to ASSR's low subscription fee of \$25. This has remained at this level for over 10 years now.

- Ngaire Bennie -Treasurer.

Membership/ Emergent Researchers Report ASSR committee report - ASSR AGM April 1 2009

Membership

My focus in recent months has been facilitating the development of an ASSR membership survey. The purpose of the survey is to give voice to members on the future of ASSR as an organisation and to help prioritise work in future. For members unable to attend the AGM in person, the survey provides opportunity to inform future decisions.

The survey was to be distributed to members in March, however the survey has been delayed until late April.

Progress to date includes information needs were scoped through discussion with the committee. Questions are under development using Survey Writer, an online survey tool.

Specific information objectives include: members' reasons for joining the association; the extent to which different association functions are used/ valued; suggestions about future functions; by basic demographic information.

Emergent researchers' network and liaison

The committee has also been working towards the establishment of an online net-working group for emergent (or early career) social science researchers.

ASSR is unable to establish discussion groups or comments on its current website platform provided through the Royal Society of New Zealand (RSNZ).

The committee set up and trialled a Google group temporarily during 2008, however technical issues around access and the need for moderation made it problematic and this option has not been taken further.

Advice on this topic has been sought through ongoing discussions with other organisations and individuals interested and/ or experienced in this form of technology for professional networking.

The vision is to progress trialling a networking portal for early career social science researchers using the free networking platform: ning.com

Paula White – Membership/Emergent researchers' network and liaison

ASSR Ethics Committee

Report to the ASSR Annual General Meeting 2009

During the year the Committee has received a number of enquiries about this Code of Ethics and ethics approvals. Two requests for ethics approval have been completed and one has just been received. The range of skills within ASSR means that sub-committees can be formed taking into account the particular needs of each application. Feedback around our ethics approval service indicates that ASSR can add value to research and evaluation proposals.

Pam Southey - Convenor Ethics Sub-Committee

CASTING THE NET

Royal Society News can be found at the gateway to New Zealand science: www.rsnz.govt.nz or www.royalsociety.org.nz

Try www.spear.govt.nz/ Events, job opportunities and sector news are added 3-4 times a week

Websites to monitor:

- American conferences try <http://www.aeaweb.org/RFE/conferences.php>
- UK Conferences try www.sosig.ac.uk/help/gv.html
- General conference search engine try http://socialsciences.academickeys.com/conf_main.php
- Australia and Asia try <http://coombs.anu.edu.au/>
- For access to COGS and/or Lottery Grants Board Grants try: <http://www.cdgo.govt.nz/>
- Footprint Books – some of the latest publications www.footprint.com.au
- If all else fails – Google

WEAVING CONNECTIONS

Research project about the social science research sector

Details of a research project to understand the firms and people involved in social science research can be found out www.ipp.org.nz/essunonacademic.htm

RSNZ: The Royal Society of New Zealand is seeking nominations for Companions.

The Companions' nomination form is available from

www.royalsociety.org.nz/Site/About/Our_structure/companions.aspx

Please note the closing date for receipt of nominations for Companions is **Tuesday, 30 June 2009**.

SPEaR: Social Policy Evaluation and Research (SPEaR) Committee Linkages Funding Programme

Round 19 closed at 5pm on **1 May 2009**. Round 20 will close on **8 August 2009** and Round 21 on **6 November 2009**.

Lottery Community Sector Research Fund: Is now accepting Research Idea applications for the 2009 funding year.

This Committee considers applications from community organisations to carry out research and/or evaluation projects. Community organisations can either undertake projects independently or in partnership with a suitable provider.

Applications can be made for grants to fully fund both the carrying out of research and/or evaluation projects and the communication of their findings. The Fund supports projects that offer community benefits at a local, regional or national level.

WEAVING CONECTIONS

CONT...

Eligible projects must either help community organisations to develop and enhance their own skills and knowledge leading to improvements to their performance and outcomes or help increase community participation, cooperation and understanding.

The application process for the Lottery Community Sector Research Fund has two stages. Applications to have your Research Idea considered close at **4 pm on Friday, 5 June 2009**. Applicants whose Research Ideas are selected by the Committee will be invited to submit a Full Research Proposal. The requirements for this are set out in the Lottery Community Sector Research Information for Applicants Sheet: www.cdgo.govt.nz/available-grants/downloads.aspx#ApplicationType_1

Please direct any queries to lcsr@dia.govt.nz or to the Committee Coordinator, Matthew Nidek at matthew.nidek@dia.govt.nz

BRCSS New Settler Series - The next seminar from the New Settler Network entitled, Exploring the Relative Role of Civil Society versus State/Market in Managing Diversity/Cohesion is a dialogue between government ministries involved in managing ethnic diversity and the postgraduate community.

The dialogue, which will focus on ways of using research in a way that is engaging for government policy makers, will be held on Monday **11 May 2009** from 3.00pm to 5.00pm over the Access Grid The Seminar features Hong Wang Canterbury University with discussants Hazel Ashton, Canterbury University and Vasantha Krishnan and Sankar Ramasamy both from the Department of Labour. To register to attend the seminar please contact Melanie Milicich at: m.milicich@auckland.ac.nz advising which Access Grid node you wish to attend.

The Access grid node locations list: www.brcss.net/images/ag%20locations%20march%202008.pdf

Commonwealth Scholarship/Fellowship Scheme - Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Closes 31 May 2009

The ICCR, on behalf of the Government of India, offers the Commonwealth Scholarship/Fellowship Scheme to international students who wish to study in India across a wide range of programmes and disciplines (excluding the medical field). The ICCR has two places available for NZ Citizens. Applications are due in April each year, prior to an academic years start in August. Contact the Indian High Commission for more information.

For more information or for expressions of interest, please contact

Indian High Commission in New Zealand

PO Box 4045

Wellington 6140

Telephone (04) 473 6390/1

Facsimile: (04) 499 0665

Email: hicomind@hicomind.org.nz

Website: www.hicomind.org.nz

Are you organising a Conference, seminar, or workshop; or know of a useful clearing house website? Let us know, so it can be announced in the newsletter. Email: John Waldmann at fnow@paradise.net.nz

CALENDAR

Forthcoming Local and World Events

NZ seminars, workshops and lectures are listed at:

- www.spear.govt.nz/events/index.html lists
- www.royalsociety.org.nz/tools/events/list.aspx?SECT=Public_Events

In the following list, NZ locations have a * to help you find them.

May

* 6th - ASSR forum

7th – 8th Underpinning Academic Practice with Research and Scholarship. Staff and Educational Development Association (SEDA), Thistle Hotel, Brighton, UK.

This SEDA conference aims to reflect the rich variety of approaches to researching learning, teaching and assessment initiatives and aims to share experiences of creating and developing scholarly communities. In 1999 SEDA ran a successful spring conference entitled 'Research and Practice in Educational Development(s)'. Ten years on the theme remains even more relevant in a sector which demands change and an evidence base and analysis of impact. The last decade has seen the development of new approaches to research, scholarship and evaluation, new conceptions of what it means to teach and learn and facilitate change in 21st century further and higher education and new ways in which research can inform our practice. www.seda.ac.uk/confs/bri09/bri09.htm

June

* 3rd - ASSR forum

11th - 12th Diasporas, Migration and Identities: Crossing Boundaries, New Directions. Institution Centre for Research on Nationalism, Ethnicity and Multiculturalism (CRONEM), University of Surrey, UK. "Diasporas, migration and identities" has been the subject of a major national research programme funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in the UK since 2005. Its central concerns have also been at the heart of the work of the Centre for Research on Nationalism, Ethnicity and Multiculturalism (CRONEM). The aim of the conference is to examine the past and present impact of diasporas and migration on nation, community, identity and subjectivity, culture and the imagination, place and space, emotion, politics, law and values. <http://www.surrey.ac.uk/Arts/CRONEM/cronem-ahrc-conference-09/cfp09.htm>

13th - 15th The 9th Asia Pacific Sociological Association Conference. Kuta Bali, Bali, Indonesia. The APSA 2009 Bali Conference aims to broadly and critically define and analyse contemporary social issues and to suggest solutions to improve the quality of social life in Asia Pacific societies.

www.apsa-uiconference.org

19th -21st Feminist Transitions. 22nd Feminist and Women's Studies Association Conference. Feminist and Women's Studies Association, Edge Hill University, Liverpool, UK. Recent years have seen an unprecedented broadening of feminist issues and practices. Feminist perspectives have moved across and beyond a number of established boundaries – including geographical, national, economic, ethnic, political, theoretical, cultural, popular, sexual and gender – to expand the scope of the movement. Now more than ever, there is a need for an inclusive feminism that sees diversity as strength and engages productively with the complexities and contradictions of the twenty-first century. www.edgehill.ac.uk/english/FWSA/index.htm

July

* 1st - ASSR forum

7th - 9th Leisure Experiences: Participating, Planning, Providing. Canterbury, United Kingdom. Leisure Studies Association Annual conference. Themes will relate to the performance, learning, location of, and the role of risk in leisure experiences. Organized by: Leisure Studies Association/Canterbury Christ Church University. <http://www.leisure-studies-association.info/lsaweb/2009/Main.html>

CALENDAR

JULY CONT...

* **12th - 15th ANZEA 2009 Conference.** The theme for the conference is: Evaluation and social responsibility: New understandings, pathways and connections - Filling our knowledge baskets. The keynote speakers are: Zenda Ofir from South Africa. She works at national, regional and global level and specializes in policy and program evaluation as well as institutional assessment. Chris Coryn from the USA, the Director of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Evaluation program at the Western Michigan University Evaluation Center. Charles Waldegrave from NZ; psychologist, family therapist, Anglican priest, social policy analyst and researcher. Half day workshops will be run on the 12th and 13th July. More information is available from info@anzea.org.nz – Previously at Kingsgate Hotel, Hamilton, NZ the ANZEA conference venue has been **MOVED**: to **Te Wananga o Aotearoa's Manukau Campus, in Canning Crescent, Mangere, Auckland, NZ.**

27th - 31st Promoting social development and diminishing inequality: Who must be responsible? International Consortium for Social Development, Monterrey, Mexico. With the growing presence of civil society associations and corporations as providers of social welfare outside the State, there is increasing attention to the roles that citizens, corporations and governments play in promoting social development and diminishing inequality. Join us at the 16th ICSD International Symposium in Monterrey, Mexico, where issues, challenges and solutions related to a shared responsibility among civil society, corporations and governments will be discussed. http://www.fts.uanl.mx/_symposium/objetivos&.htm

August

* **5th - ASSR forum**

September

* **2nd - ASSR forum**

1st - 4th International Society for Labour and Social Security Law World Congress 2009. International Society for Labour and Social Security Law. Sydney, Australia. The three themes for the 2009 World Congress are: * Theme 1: Regulatory frameworks and law enforcement in new forms of employment * Theme 2: Workers' Representation and social dialogue at the workplace level * Theme 3: Emerging patterns of social protection in light of structural changes (ageing population, changing family structures, immigration, budgetary constraints, political and ideological realignments) <http://www.labourlawsydney.com/>

November

* 10-12 November 2009 Social Policy Research & Evaluation (SPRE) Conference, Wellington Convention Centre – has been **CANCELLED**

Save the dates NOW

ABOUT ASSR NEWS

ASSR News is published monthly by the Association of Social Science Researchers.

Contributions are very welcome and can be on any topic of interest to social science researchers: book reviews, conferences, job vacancies, items off the Internet, notices of upcoming events.

Send your ASSR newsletter contributions to John Waldmann: fnow@paradise.net.nz by the 20th of the month. Electronic copy in Microsoft Word (.doc, or .rtf) is preferred.

New members are welcome to apply to join ASSR. The membership fees are \$25 waged, or \$10 un-waged per annum. To apply, please complete the prescribed form (downloadable from <http://assr.rsnz.org/join.html>) and post it to The Secretary, ASSR, P O Box 5043, WELLINGTON.

Members receive the ASSR News as part of their membership, forum announcements, and adhere to the ASSR Code of Ethics (see <http://assr.rsnz.org/ethics.html>).

Address correspondence to: The Secretary, ASSR, P O Box 5043, WELLINGTON.

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- management or project management experience
- excellent written and oral communication skills
- a tertiary qualification in a relevant discipline

To find out how we can help you, contact us on 04 473 6699 or email info@thejohnsongroup.co.nz

www.thejohnsongroup.co.nz

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