Training sessions, workshops, panel session – BSPS Conference 2017

Good practice in peer review: how to review journal articles – Dr. Rebecca Sear, Professor Wendy Sigle & Alina Pelikh
Wednesday 6 September 4.45pm

For advanced PhD students & early career researchers, this workshop will offer training on how to produce and present a peer review. Peer review is an important part of the research process, yet few PhD programmes provide formal training or offer students opportunities to develop this professional skill. This session will focus on the role of the reviewer & provide guidance on how to peer review journal articles, including a discussion of good practice as well as practical information about how to critically evaluate manuscripts & how to write referee reports. The session should provide early career researchers with greater insight into the publication process, and help with writing their own journal articles.

(Limited to 15 places)

Panel session: Building a career in academia in the UK – Natalia Permyakova & Sam Wilding
4.45pm Thursday 7 September

This session is aimed primarily at PhD students and early career researchers interested in academic careers in the UK. We will present a series of slides outlining the range of roles available across academia and provide handouts with useful web links on where to find vacancies. A panel of academics (to be confirmed) will then discuss their experiences of building a career in UK academia and answer questions from the audience.

(Limited to 50 places)

Using the PopChange resource to explore population change in Britain from 1971 to 2011 – Professor Chris Lloyd
Friday 8 September 9.00am

The workshop is likely to be of interest to researchers in central and local government departments, NGOs, and in academia, and any others interested in population change over small areas of Britain in the last 40 years. The PopChange project has sought to: (1) develop a set of population surfaces for a wide array of socio-economic and demographic variables for the Censuses of 1971-2011 inclusive; (2) make these population surfaces freely-available via an interactive and publicly-accessible web site (https://popchange.liverpool.ac.uk/) and (3) provide the first systematic quantitative analysis of the ways in which the population of Britain is geographically unequal by socio-economic and demographic characteristics, and how these uneven distributions have changed over the last 40 years. The resource includes 1km grids for total population counts, and counts and percentages all census years from 1971 to 2011 inclusive, by: age, housing tenure, employment, car access, overcrowding, country of birth and ethnicity (from 1991), self-reported health (from 1991), as well as the Townsend deprivation score; some post 2011 data are also being added and these include mid-year population estimates and benefits claimants. The grids allow, for the first time, comparison of counts or percentages of available variables between censuses for small areas of Britain. Attendees will be taken through (i) the use of the web resource to analyse changes in variables and (ii) the download and analysis of grids using the free GIS environment QGIS. The workshop will begin with a short introduction to some examples of how PopChange has been used (focusing on total population change, deprivation, and country of birth (for 1km grids, and 100m grids in urban areas)). At the end of the workshop those attending will have access to all of the
grids and also detailed guidance on how to analyse changes using these data. More on the PopChange project is available here: https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/geography-and-planning/research/popchange/introduction/

(Limited to 40 places – laptops required)

**How to bring data to life using infographics and interactive visualisations - Esther Roughsedge and Vicky Avila, National Records of Scotland**

4.45pm Wednesday 6 September

This session will focus on ways of making your key messages quick, easy and appealing to read. The aim of this is to help reach a wider audience, and therefore increase the impact of your work. Esther and Vicky will talk about the basics of communicating data well, producing infographics and interactive data visualisations, and using Twitter. They will talk about what they have done and why, and share advice and tips.

You can see the work they have done at https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/statistics-and-data/statistics/stats-at-a-glance/infographics-and-visualisations

Open session – booking not necessary