

Breaking down Barriers

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Engaging cohorts including less quantitatively-adept students and educating them about the value of Statistics has its challenges. This talk will outline two successes: the first resulted in a first-year Statistics for Business course increasing student satisfaction scores from under 3.5 out of 5 to 4.72 whilst maintaining 'challenge' scores and reducing Failure rates previously exceeding 25% to 7-12%; the second is a national project-based learning activity (piloted in the Hunter Region in 2014) which facilitates boundary encounters (between secondary, tertiary, and industry sectors and students having varied backgrounds and areas of interest) and develops key communication, research and quantitative skills.