

## **The Role of External Presenters (working statisticians) in the Higher Education Statistics Classroom**

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Statistics is a deductive subject in which ideas build on each other as the teaching progresses. Although a session contributed by an external speaker may interrupt the teacher's flow, the benefits may make it well worthwhile. We explore the prevalence of external presenters in Higher Education statistics courses and in other subjects; seek the views of students, teachers and external presenters; consider the opportunities for contributed sessions in terms of content (applications and/or theory) and consider the practice in the wider context of continuing professional development, alumni affairs and relations between business/industry and academia. The talk is illustrated by case studies from our unique statistics consultancy/training unit within Newcastle University.

**Key Words:** Alumni, Continuing Professional Development