

SRTL-8

The Eighth International Research Forum on
Statistical Reasoning, Thinking and Literacy

SUPERIOR SHORES RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER, TWO HARBORS, MN, USA

AUGUST 18-24, 2013

SRTL WEBSITE: <http://srtl.info>

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

February 15, 2013

Dear Colleague,

It is a pleasure to welcome you as a participant in the Eighth International Research Forum on Statistical Reasoning, Thinking and Literacy (SRTL-8) to be held in Two Harbors, MN, USA on August 18-24, 2013 at [Superior Shores Resort & Conference Center](#). The Forum is sponsored by the University of Minnesota, The American Statistical Association (ASA) Section on Statistical Education, Springer Publishing Company, and Alakef Coffee Roasters.

Researchers in Statistics Education from eight countries around the world have been invited to share their work, discuss important issues, and initiate collaborative projects. With emphasis on *Reasoning about uncertainty in the context of making informal statistical inferences*, an interesting range of diverse research presentations and discussions have been planned and we all look forward to a stimulating and enriching gathering. Papers presented at SRTL will later be published in CATALST Press, the profits of which will go to fund later SRTL gatherings.

The structure of the scientific program will be a mixture of formal and informal sessions, small group and whole group discussions, long (90 minutes) and short (30 minutes) presentations and the opportunity for extensive analysis of video-taped research data.

All participants are asked to submit their completed registration **by May 1, 2013** and payment by **May 15, 2013** to avoid a late fee. Paper presenters are requested to submit their presentation paper (details below) by **May 15, 2013**. In preparation for SRTL-8, it is very important that all participants read the entire set of presentation papers before arriving to allow the focus during presentations to be on discussing data, analysis, and implications. These presentation papers will be made available by **June 30, 2013**.

We look forward to welcoming you to a stimulating meeting and a memorable visit to Two Harbors, MN.

Warm regards,

Joan Garfield
Co-chair
[jbg at umn.edu](mailto:jbg@umn.edu)

Dani Ben-Zvi
Co-chair
[dbenzvi at univ.haifa.ac.il](mailto:dbenzvi@univ.haifa.ac.il)

Bob delMas
Local organizer
[delma001 at umn.edu](mailto:delma001@umn.edu)

Andy Zieffler
Local Organizer
[zief0002 at umn.edu](mailto:zief0002@umn.edu)

PUBLICATION

We envision two forms of publication for papers presented at SRTL8.

- Journal article, and
- An edited book

We invite SRTL-8 participants who would like to publish their paper in a journal to submit to the paper as quickly as possible after SRTL.

We also invite you to submit a chapter (based on your SRTL-8 paper) to an edited book, *Reasoning about Uncertainty in the Context of Making Informal Statistical Inferences* (working title). This book will be edited by Andrew Zieffler, Bob delMas, and Joan Garfield and published by *Catalyst Press* through CreateSpace and Amazon.

Members of the SRTL community will be asked to serve as reviewers for chapters submitted for inclusion in the book. If an author has had the SRTL-8 paper accepted for publication in a journal, then we would ask for permission to include the paper in the book or that the chapter be based on the journal article with reference given to that publication. (See Garfield and Ben-Zvi (2008) for examples of book chapters that were based on papers recently published in journals).

We envision that all SRTL-8 participants and chapter authors would receive a free PDF version of the book. Paperback copies would be sold via Amazon and any profits would be contributed to help fund future SRTLs.

More details (e.g., formatting, editorial guidelines, etc.) will be distributed to SRTL-8 participants in the May announcement. The rough outline below offers a proposed timeline for submission, review, and publication.

- October 1, 2013: Initial submission of chapters
- October–November: Review process
- December 15, 2013: Feedback/reviews sent to authors
- February 15, 2014: Resubmission of revised chapters
- August, 2014: Publication of book

SPONSORS

A sincere thank you to the sponsors who have helped to make the Research Forum possible:

- The American Statistical Association (ASA) Section on Statistical Education
- Springer Publishing Company
- The University of Minnesota
- Alakef Coffee Roasters

SRTL-8 SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMMITTEE

By reviewing the proposed papers, the members of the Scientific Program Committee have helped to shape the scientific program of SRTL-8.

- Arthur Bakker – Utrecht University, The Netherlands

- Bob delMas – The University of Minnesota, USA
- Katie Makar – The University of Queensland, Australia
- Dave Pratt – The University of London, UK
- Andrew Zieffler – The University of Minnesota, USA

LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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srtl2013@gmail.com
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VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION

The SRTL-8 Research Forum will be held at Superior Shores Resort & Conference Center in Two Harbors, Minnesota. We will organize transport from the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport (MSP), leaving about 1:00pm on Sunday August 18, arriving at Superior Shores about 4:00pm. We recommend that you fly into the MSP Airport the day before and stay at a hotel near the airport on the night of August 17. (Feel free to e-mail us if you need hotel recommendations.) Another option is to fly into Duluth, which is about twenty miles south of Superior Shores. For the way back on Saturday August 24, we will leave at about 2:00pm from Superior Shores and arrive at about 5:00pm at MSP airport. If you intend to leave on Sunday August 25, we again recommend that you stay at a hotel near the airport.

We will stay at the [Superior Shores Resort & Conference Center](#). This hotel is located on sixty wooded acres and includes over a mile of coastline on Lake Superior. **Participants have the option of staying in a basic lodge room, a jacuzzi room, or a suite room.**

- **Lodge room:** includes two double beds, small refrigerator, microwave, coffeepot, TV/DVD player, full bathroom, wireless internet, and air-conditioning.
- **Jacuzzi room:** includes a king bed and full bath, jacuzzi AND/OR fireplace, flat screen television and DVD player, microwave, small refrigerator, coffee maker, wireless internet and air-conditioning. The additional cost for the suite is \$56 more per night (tax included), i.e. an additional \$336 for 6 nights.
- **Suite room:** includes a full kitchen (fully stocked with all kitchen amenities), king bed in bedroom, separate living room with a pull-out sofa sleeper, 2 TV/DVD players,

fireplace, jacuzzi, full bath, patio with grill, and wireless internet. The additional cost for the suite is \$78 more per night (tax included), i.e. an additional \$468 for 6 nights.

Superior Shores features indoor and outdoor pools, hiking trails, an 18-hole golf course, and a 2000 foot pebbled beach. Most meals will take place at Superior Shores, but a couple of the dinners will take place at other restaurants. Please let us know of any dietary restrictions you have so that we can alert Superior Shores.

All participants are required to attend the entire Forum program. The program will begin on Sunday afternoon August 18, 2013 at 17:00. Meetings will take place through to Saturday August 25, at 14:00, interspersed with local excursions around the North Shore.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 1, 2013	Registration opens for SRTL-8 at http://srtl.info
May 1, 2013	Deadline for all participants to submit their registration form
May 15, 2013	Presentation papers are due (see details below) Deadline for all participants to submit their payment
June 30, 2013	Final Announcement: Full scientific and social program Presentation papers made available to participants No refund for cancellation after this date
August 18, 2013	SRTL-8 Begins
August 24, 2013	SRTL-8 Concludes
September 13, 2013	Deadline for special issue title and abstract submission

REGISTRATION AND ACCOMPANYING FEES

Registration Fees for participants and accompanying persons are given in the following table:

Payment Details (in Dollars)	Fee (US\$)
<i>Participant</i> – including conference, lodge room accommodation, all meals and excursions, and transport from and to MSP Airport.	1,200
<i>Participant</i> – including conference, jacuzzi room accommodation, all meals and excursions, and transport from and to MSP Airport.	1,536
<i>Participant</i> – including conference, suite room accommodation, all meals and excursions, and transport from and to MSP Airport.	1,668
<i>Accompanying person</i> – including accommodation, all meals and excursions, and transport from and to MSP Airport.	675

- If you prefer to share a room, a cheaper price is possible (contact srtl2013@gmail.com).
- Payment for accompanying person(s) will be required at the same time as the registration fee for participants.
- Please contact srtl2013@gmail.com as soon as possible with special requests.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

We will set up a registration form at <http://srtl.info> where you can register from March 1, 2013. Unfortunately, we have no credit card facility. We will therefore send every participant an invoice and ask you to pay before May 15, 2013, by **check in U.S. dollars or bank transfer**.

Checks should be made out to SRTL8 and mailed before **May 15** to:

Joan Garfield
178 Education Sciences Building
56 East River Road
Minneapolis, MN 55455
USA

CANCELLATIONS

All cancellations and changes must be made electronically by emailing srtl2013@gmail.com.

If a cancellation is made after the full registration fee has been paid, but before May 1st 2013, the refund will be the amount paid. If a cancellation is made after May 1st, 2013, the refund will be the amount paid minus \$150. Unfortunately, we will not be able to make refunds after June 30, 2013. Note that all refunds will be made in U.S. Dollars.

FUNDING

A limited amount of funding toward the registration fee may be available for junior scholars. If you require funding assistance, please contact Dani Ben-Zvi (dbenzvi@univ.haifa.ac.il) immediately.

LETTERS OF INVITATION

Participants who need an official letter of invitation for funding purposes should email their request to srtl2013@gmail.com.

INVITED PARTICIPANTS

The tentative list of delegates at the time of publication is:

	First Name	Last Name	Country	Role
1	Janet	Ainley	UK	Discussant
2	Pip	Arnold	New Zealand	Presenter
		The		
3	Arthur	Bakker	Netherlands	Presenter, Sci. Committee
4	Dani	Ben-Zvi	Israel	SRTL co-chair
5	Rolf	Biehler	Germany	Discussant
6	Stephanie	Budgett	New Zealand	Presenter
7	George	Cobb	USA	Keynote speaker
8	Robert	delMas	USA	Presenter, Local Organizer, Sci. Committee
9	Helen	Doerr	USA	Presenter
10	Daniel	Frischemeier	Germany	Presenter
11	Elizabeth	Fry	USA	Local Organizer
12	Joan	Garfield	USA	SRTL co-chair, Local Organizer
13	Sibel	Kazak	UK	Presenter
14	Cliff	Konold	USA	Presenter
15	Sandra	Madden	USA	Presenter
16	Katie	Makar	Australia	Presenter, Sci. Committee
		Manor		
17	Hana	Braham	Israel	Presenter
18	Jennifer	Noll	USA	Presenter
19	Maxine	Pfannkuch	New Zealand	Discussant
20	Susanne	Podworny	Germany	Presenter
21	Dave	Pratt	UK	Presenter, Sci. Committee
22	Andee	Rubin	USA	Discussant
23	Jill	Wells	UK	Presenter
24	Lucia	Zapata	Colombia	Presenter
25	Andrew	Zieffler	USA	Presenter, Local Organizer, Sci. Committee

THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

The working language of the Research Forum is English, all electronic communication will be in English, all sessions will be conducted in English, and all written materials produced will be in English. All participants will be able to download the papers by July 1, 2013 from the secure portion of the SRTL Website (<http://srtl.info>), so that they can be read before attending the Forum.

The activities of the scientific program include:

- Keynote by George Cobb: *Reasoning about uncertainty: why our tensions are essential*
- Research presentations to the entire group. There will be 10 long presentations (90 min) and 3 short presentations (30 min). Each presenter, or team of presenters, will be allocated about 90 or 30 minutes, which includes interactive whole group discussion and a small subset of video clips, if desired.
- Small group discussion around each cluster's thematic topic (1 hour).
- Short opening session each day for reflection on the presentations and discussions of the previous day (30 minutes).
- Optional afternoon devoted to viewing and discussing research using video-tape data.
- Panel presentation by discussants (90 minutes).

The main meeting room is equipped with overhead projection, the viewing and hearing of audio tape, video tape, and DVD, Internet access, and computer access.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Day 1: Sunday, August 18, 2013

Focus of the day: **Welcome and keynote**

13.00	Bus leaves MSP airport
About 16.00	Arrival at Superior Shores Resort
17.00 – 18.00	Welcome session at the hotel with snacks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Getting to know each other• Overview of SRTL in general and introduction to conference theme• Introduction to the scientific program of SRTL-8• Introduction to the social program of SRTL-8
18.00 – 19.00	Keynote address by George Cobb: <i>Reasoning about uncertainty: why our tensions are essential</i>
19.00 – 21.00	Opening dinner at Superior Shores
21.00 – 22.00	Bonfire at Superior Shores on the shore of Superior Lake

Day 2: Monday, August 19, 2013

7.45 – 8.30	Breakfast. Espresso bar open.
8.30 – 9.00	Reflection: Discussion of keynote address
9.00 – 10.30	Long presentation 1
10.30 – 10.45	Break
10.45 – 12.15	Long presentation 2
12.15 – 13.30	Lunch at Superior Shores
13.30 – 15.00	Long presentation 3
15.00 – 15.15	Break
15.15 – 16.15	Small group discussion
16.15 – 18.00	Free time
18.00 – 19.00	Dinner at Superior Shores

Day 3: Tuesday, August 20, 2013

7.45 – 8.30	Breakfast. Espresso bar open.
8.30 – 9.00	Reflection
9.00 – 10.30	Long presentation 4
10.30 – 10.45	Break
10.45 – 11.15	Short presentation 1
11.10 – 12.15	Small group discussion
12.15 – 13.15	Lunch at Superior Shores
13.30 – 18.00	Trip to Duluth
18.00 – 19.00	Dinner in Duluth

Day 4: Wednesday, August 21, 2013

7.45 – 8.30	Breakfast. Espresso bar open.
8.30 – 9.00	Reflection
9.00 – 10.30	Long presentation 5
10.30 – 10.45	Break
10.45 – 12.15	Long presentation 6
12.15 – 13.15	Lunch at Superior Shores
13.15 – 13.45	Short presentation 2
13.45 – 14.45	Small group discussion
15.15 – 18.15	Hike at Goosebury Falls
18.30 – 19.30	Barbecue dinner at Superior Shores

Day 5: Thursday, August 22, 2013

7.45 – 8.30	Breakfast. Espresso bar open.
8.30 – 9.00	Reflection
9.00 – 10.30	Long presentation 7
10.30 – 10.45	Break
10.45 – 12.15	Long presentation 8
12.15 – 13.15	Lunch at Superior Shores

13.15 – 13.45	Short presentation 3
13.45 – 14.45	Small group discussion
15.00 – 17.00	Game day (outdoor sports)
17.00 – 18.00	Video viewing session 1 (optional)
18.00 – 19.30	Free time
19.30 – 21.30	Dinner at Superior Shores

Day 6: Friday, August 23, 2013

7.45 – 8.30	Breakfast. Espresso bar open.
8.30 – 9.00	Reflection
9.00 – 10.30	Long presentation 9
10.30 – 10.45	Break
10.45 – 12.15	Long presentation 10
12.15 – 13.15	Lunch at Superior Shores
13.15 – 14.15	Small group discussion
14.15 – 17.15	Trip to Split Rock Lighthouse and Palisade Head OR Alpine Slide
17.15 – 18.15	Video viewing session 2 (optional)
18.30 – 21.00	Farewell dinner (New Scenic Café)
21.30	Return to Superior Shores

Day 7: Saturday, August 24, 2013

Focus of the day: **Wrap-Up and Plan Ahead - Farewell**

7.45	Bring your luggage down to the meeting room
7.45 – 8.30	Breakfast. Espresso bar open.
8.30 – 9.00	Reflection
9.00 – 10.45	Discussants' Panel: Andee, Maxine, Rolf, Dave, and George
10.45 – 11.00	Break
11.00 – 13.00	Looking Backward and Looking Forward – Whole group discussion
13.00 – 14.00	Farewell lunch at Superior Shores
14.00	Goodbyes – Drive back to Twin Cities

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS

All participants (presenters, co-authors, and discussants) are requested to **each** complete the registration form available at <http://srtl.info> from **March 1, 2013 to May 1, 2013**.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRESENTERS

Presentation papers must be submitted electronically by May 15, 2013 to the SRTL Website (<http://srtl.info>) . See Guidelines for preparing papers below.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISCUSSANTS

Discussants will actively participate in all sessions and discussions. In addition they will have time to share their own reflections and comments on the Forum in a panel on the concluding day.

PRESENTATION FORMAT

The scientific program groups presentations thematically into clusters. A cluster consists of:

- 2-3 presentations (sometimes both long and short), combined with
- small group discussion (60 min), and
- a reflection discussion (30 min on the following day).

This structure allows each presenter to share the details of their research with the entire group, and in addition, permits the entire group to process the research findings and substantively interact with the cluster topic.

Long presentations will be 90 minutes long: 60 min for presentation and 30 minutes for discussion (not necessarily as two blocks). Presenters of long presentations are encouraged to present short excerpts of video clips (if available) and bring hand-outs of transcribed interviews/observations or other materials as needed. In the presentation, just a small subset of short research video will be presented, but presenters will have the opportunity to interact with video research data during two dedicated one-hour long sessions for this task. All presenters are requested to bring their video segments on a CD/DVD (bring several formats just in case one does not work).

Short presentations will be 30 minutes long: 15 min for presentation and 15 minutes for discussion (not necessarily as two blocks). Presenters are requested to prepare their slides accordingly in a concise and clear format, and to include discussion questions. We assume there is no room for video clips in such a short time, however if you wish to show one, please make sure it is no more than 2-3 min long, and provide a transcript.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING PRESENTATION PAPER

As for SRTL 6 and 7, we are asking all presentation authors to present a ‘**presentation paper**’ that includes the front end of a normal paper – abstract (200 words), introduction, literature review, methodology, and any additional information that would help orient the group to the study context. We are hoping this will both inform the group of the necessary details that led up the data analysis (to avoid having to repeat this in the presentation) and to allow for more rigorous discussion at the Forum. Instructions are given below for the format of the presentation paper. It is expected that these papers will be 8–16 pages in length.

To help us group the SRTL-8 presentations by themes (rather than the traditional age level clusters), please clearly address in your SRTL paper the aspect of uncertainty that you focus on in your research. The type of uncertainty could be anything from very informal intuitive articulation of uncertainty among young children – to aspects of uncertainty in design of a study or in its context – to quantification of uncertainty in more formal forms of inference, etc. Please address this issue in the theoretical part of your paper, as well as when you describe how your research addresses reasoning about this type of uncertainty. After we receive all the SRTL papers, we will finalize the order

of the scientific program to address different facets of uncertainty and cluster the presentations accordingly.

Submission

Presenters are requested to submit their presentation paper in DOCX or PDF formats by **May 15, 2011** to the SRTL Website (<http://srtl.info>) so that these can be distributed to SRTL-8 participants before the Forum. This is important to ensure that all participants have time to read the presentation papers before arriving at SRTL-8.

Presentation Paper Structure

A common format is requested for all SRTL-8 presentation papers, unless other arrangements have been made. The structure should be:

- Title and authors details (names, institute, address and e-mails)
- Abstract (200 words)
- Introduction addressing theme, problem, relevance and goal of the research
- Brief review of related literature and theoretical framework leading to specific research questions
- Method – depending on the author’s theoretical approach, this may include an overview of the context, participants, details of any tasks or instruments given and how/why, data collection and data analysis.
- Brief overview of the video clips or results that you plan to share at the Forum.
- Potential implications for research, educational practice, and assessment
- References
- Appendices
- Annotated list of video segments (if included; this may be handed out at the Forum)

We assume that this structure will fit most papers. Be reminded that the focus of your paper should be a *particular aspect* of the Forum theme – *Reasoning about uncertainty in the context of making informal statistical inferences* – **please ensure that you limit the purpose, literature review, and implications for your results to this topic so as to have a focused and coherent presentation paper.**

When writing your paper please give special consideration to the following points, based on lessons learned from past SRTL Forums:

- The opening sections (Introduction, Review of literature/theoretical framework) should focus on issues and literature specifically relevant to the SRTL-8 theme. Make sure your text is explicit about the purposes/goals of the study, as well as about the motivation or justification for raising your specific research questions, e.g., why is it useful to study this particular aspect? How would answering these questions contribute to existing knowledge about developing reasoning about uncertainty in the context of making informal statistical inferences?
- Ensure that your research questions are clarified and that when citing previous research, you describe what was found and how that feeds into or is the basis for raising the question(s) you pose. Avoid stating research questions that are vague or too broad. Clearly show how the questions are grounded in and emerge from gaps in

the literature.

- The method section needs to be structured. Try to organize it according to standard subtopics, for example: a) Participants, b) Instruments and/or Tasks, c) Procedure, d) Data collection and e) Data analysis. That said, in certain qualitative or complex studies, you may need to elaborate further on the Approach, Context and/or Setting (to describe considerations that led to a specific design, the learning environment within which the study takes place, etc.).
- The overview of results section should include a *brief* description of the data you intend to present at SRTL-8.
- Potential/intended implications regarding: *research* (e.g., needed changes to models, theories, research methodologies, or future studies, etc.), *educational practice* (teaching methods, technologies and materials, teacher training, etc.), and if relevant also *assessment* and/or *evaluation*.

Format/Template Guidelines

The paper should use the *APA 6* instructions on page size and margins, font type (Times New Roman) and font size (12 pt), but keep table and figures in the text as a service to the reader.

TRAVEL GUIDE

Climate

SRTL-8 will take place in northern Minnesota, which experiences warm temperatures in the summer. In August, the average high temperature typically ranges from 65 to 75°F (approximately 18 to 24°C) with overnight lows ranging from about 45 to 60°F (approximately 7 to 15°C). The region has also been known to experience heat waves that make the temperature go above 80°F (about 27°C), though temperatures this high are rare in August. It is recommended that you check the weather before you pack, and bring some layers for cool weather along with clothing for warm weather. A warm hat and gloves will probably come in handy, especially at night. There is around a 40% chance of some type of precipitation throughout August, so do bring wet weather clothing. Also note that humidity can be high in August, ranging from 60% to 90% in terms of relative humidity, and dew points ranging from 50 to 60°F (approximately 10 to 15°C). For more information on the climate at Superior Shores Resort area, go to:

<http://weatherspark.com/averages/31818/Two-Harbors-Minnesota-United-States>

Electricity

The USA operates on alternating current (AC) 120 volts, 60 Hertz main supply. For more information see <http://electricaloutlet.org/type-a> and <http://electricaloutlet.org/type-b>.

Currency

Currency exchanges are available at the MSP airport. Some banks in the area will exchange currency, but the easiest option is for you to exchange currency to U.S. dollars at the airport when you fly in. Otherwise, ATMs are widely available. Credit cards are accepted in restaurants, hotels and shops. MasterCard and VISA are widely accepted; American Express and Discover are also commonly accepted, but not everywhere.

Weights & Measures

The USA consistently uses the British system for all measures, including road signs (miles/hour) and gas (price displayed is per gallon).

Insurance

It is recommended that participants arrange insurance for medical expenses, loss and accidents that may occur during the Forum. The University of Minnesota cannot be held responsible for any losses, damages or injuries.

Tax and Tipping

Tax is not included in prices. Tips of 15-20% are expected in restaurants, and tipping of around 10-15% is typical for taxis.

Time

Minnesota operates on Greenwich Mean Time -6 hours. International time zones can be viewed at The World Clock - Time Zones Website (www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/).

Visas

Every international traveler needs to check with their own authorities regarding travel visas for traveling to the USA.

Clothing

Although northern Minnesota is typically warm in the summer, please bring layers as the air conditioning can get cold inside of buildings, and the weather can also cool down, especially in the evenings. While the lake water will most likely be too cold for a swim, we recommend bringing a swimsuit if you would like to enjoy the hotel's swimming pool and whirlpool. Because our schedule includes a hiking excursion, you should plan to bring good hiking shoes. A raincoat and other raingear are also recommended (see the **Climate** section above). Mosquitoes are widespread in the summer, so we will supply you with mosquito repellent.