

## **Statistical Perspective in Medicine and Pharma Industry**

6th – 8th November 2014

Faculty of Medicine, "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu

**ISCB Keynote speaker:** David W. Warne

### **Course Evaluation**

*Prepared by Anca Vitcu*

The event was envisaged as a non formal training with a heterogeneous audience composed of members of the academic community with different research interests coming from dissimilar fields (biostatistics, pharmacy, computer science), and practitioners from pharma industry. The aim of this non formal approach was to provoke the audience to share the problems they confronted with and solutions they came across:

- 1) on the use of Bayesian methods in terms of model development and data analysis;
- 2) the quality matters concerning the project, the people involved and the sequence of the applied processes;
- 3) the use of dynamic network analysis as a tool for business management.

It was the first time that the audience was invited to participate to a multifaceted dialogue in a framework defined by a complex experience. With the outstanding guidance and charming support of the keynote speaker (Dr. David W. Warne), persons who attended the meetings just to listen playing a minor, a passive role, became important characters in a scenario which made their mind speak - share and confront ideas. This way of building a relationship between the speaker and an interdisciplinary audience proposed by Dr. Warne encouraged a successful way of learning and communication about new insights of the same fields seen through the perception of an interdisciplinary approach. Dr. David W. Warne proved generous with the examples and scenarios accumulated based on a work experience developed in different cultural areas. Is also important to mention the flexibility of the invited speaker discourse, the meetings and discussions were adapted to different environments (formal, informal and non formal) and contexts.

The interdisciplinary and interactive lectures were very well structured, presentations were highly professional, and the keynote speaker charismatic, friendly and always open to provide additional information and support.

	<b>Event</b>	<b>Course content</b>	<b>Examples</b>	<b>Documentation</b>
<b>No. Participants</b>	51 (31 answers)	51 (31 answers)	51 (31 answers)	51 (31 answers)
<b>Average evaluation score<sup>*)</sup></b>	4.39	4.45	4.35	4.45

<sup>\*)</sup> 5 – Excellent, 4 – Very good, 3 – Good, 2 – Satisfactory, 1 – Poor

- 23 of 31 participants asserted that their **expectations** where **met**; and 28 of 31 participants estimated that the course had a **correct length** in terms of time resources and the proposed aim.
- All participants recommend the course to be attended considering it a notable event, Dr. David W. Warne enthusiasm and openness being remarkable.

## Final conclusions

Dr. David W. Warne proposed a new approach of the training sessions, abandoning the classical academic style in favour of a non formal approach better tailored for a complex structured audience. This way of connection with the audience was of great help in the covering of the gap between the academic and industry communities.

The content, the documentation and the quality of information provided was highly appreciated. The expertise, teaching and communication abilities of the keynote speaker (Dr. David Warne) were also greatly valued. Addressed to participants of different expertise and concerns, the solution focused discussions succeeded to offer guidelines and dedicated answers to each participant.

We strongly recommend the title “**Statistical Perspective in Medicine and Pharma Industry**” coordinated by Dr. David W. Warne to be included on the official list of ISCB short-courses.

## Organizing Committee:

**Liana Bera** (Faculty of Medicine, “Lucian Blaga” University, Sibiu)

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