TEACHING AND LEARNING STATISTICS IN POSTGRADUATED COURSES AT THE INSTITUTE OF NUTRITION AND FOOD TECHNOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF CHILE

Lydia Lera Marqués, Marco Méndez Torres, and Bárbara Leyton Dinamarca
Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology, University of Chile, Chile
llera@inta.cl

This poster presentation deals with our experience in teaching statistics in postgraduate courses leading to the Master’s degree in Nutrition Science, at the Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology. The professional profile of students mainly includes medical doctors, nutritionists and biochemists. All along 2005, we have introduced a new module called “Applications of Statistics and Design of Experiments.” The main objective of this module is the discussion and evaluation of methodological issues in scientific papers. In general, this course has received good evaluations from the students and it has proven to be a useful tool for consolidating the previously acquired knowledge. We will present problems and achievements encountered, as well as some ideas on how to improve the students’ general knowledge, by emphasizing the important role of teaching statistics and the better use of statistical methods in research work.