

SAS® GLOBAL FORUM  
2007 orlando **FLORIDA**

Attending the world's  
largest SAS conference.

What do SUGI and SGF mean to SAS users in  
Australia?

# History of SUGI

- **First meeting of SAS users in Florida, 32 years ago**
- **SAS Institute incorporated in the next year.**
- **Began as small gathering of technical users.**
- **Now around 4000 technical, industry and management specialists meet each year.**
- **Renamed SAS Global Forum for 2007.**

# Structure and content

- Industry focus sessions
- Executive stream
- 2.5 days of technical papers including:
  - Tutorials
  - Hand-on workshops
  - Applications Development
  - Systems architecture
  - Statistics
  - Posters

# Being involved

- Session CoOrdinator assists speakers and attendees.
- Speaker presents their ideas, eligible for paper awards
- Invited speaker has longer time for presentation, and access to Tutorials & workshops
- BoF sessions (ad-hoc gathering of Birds of a feather)
- Section Chair selects speakers / papers, constructs the section programme, plans conference
- Conference chair appointed 3 years before own conference and assists CC for next years.
- EC governance is past and future CCs and SAS reps.

# Presentations

- **SAS Education provides up to 3 days training pre conference.**
- **Specialist seminars held on day of opening night.**
- **Papers presented for 2.5 days.**
- **SAS contribute to all sections, and have special theatre and demonstrations.**
- **Vendors show their wares and discuss products.**
- **Some conferences also have post conference SAS Education training.**

# Other events

- **Opening session with news and entertainment.**
- **Welcome reception to meet fellow attendees.**
- **Random access lunch to network and gossip.**
- **Keynote lunches to hear excellent speakers.**
- **Kick back party with SAS band to celebrate.**
- **Entertainment evening at local venue.**
- **Meeting places in demo room.**
- **Technical forum to discuss coming SAS changes.**
- **Light relief, this year from Dilbert artist; Scott Adams.**

# Encounters

- **Networking, peer meetings, BoFs**
- **SAS Band**

# Opportunities

- **Always too little time for so much content.**

# Achievements

- **From registration to check-out, well organised.**
- **Papers up on web before conference with interactive scheduler.**
- **Great mix of “best of the best” and “opportunities for new presenters”.**
- **User groups joined SAS and vendors to discuss regional opportunities.**
- **People familiar from Sascommunity.org & Sas/I around to meet over a drink.**
- **Papers from conferences going back to the '90s available through search on [support.sas.com](http://support.sas.com).**

# Preparing & presenting

- **Meet or email next years Section Chairs ASAP and fly idea.**
- **Stay in touch and submit idea when call for papers happens. (Now until Sept 17th.)**
- **Be prepared to rework idea to fit SCs plan for section.**
- **Be well prepared with paper and stay ahead of deadlines.**
- **Communicate issues as soon as they happen with your plan to overcome.**
- **Papers are needed at ALL levels from beginner to advanced.**

# Getting there

- **Book flights and accommodation early.**
- **Explore some personal time activities.**
- **Get paper in well ahead of deadline.**
- **Prepare presentation early, send to Section Chair, burn on CD and post to your hotel, carry 2 copies.**
- **Start on personal schedule as soon as it is released, select papers.**

# Review

- Why go?
- Why travel over 20 hours?
- What have they got that we haven't?

# A point of view

- David H. Johnson FRSA
- Principal Business Systems Consultant
- DKV-J Consultancies
- [www.dkvj.com](http://www.dkvj.com)
- [snug@dkvj.com](mailto:snug@dkvj.com)

# Powerful presentations



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