



Division of Population Health Sciences
Medical Research Institute
University of Dundee

POPULATION HEALTH SCIENCES SEMINAR

4.00 pm Thursday 22nd March 2012

**“Statistical Analyses of Health
Incidence Data”**

**Taps Maiti
Michigan State University
USA**

Host: Professor Chris Whatley

Central Teaching Area
The Mackenzie Building, Kirsty Semple Way

Abstract: Public health has become an important research focus due to its immense importance in developed and developing societies. Statistical techniques are increasingly applied to analyze public health data to understand the underlying salient features. In this talk we will discuss recent developments on analysis of joint distributions of point processes, change point analysis and spatial clustering of cancer incidence data, functional prediction of obesity and some applications of small area estimation methods.

Background: Tapabrata (Taps) Maiti is currently Professor and Graduate Director, Department of Statistics and Probability, Michigan State University (MSU), USA. He is a world-leading researcher in statistics and a Fellow of the American Statistical Association – the leading learned society in the discipline. Taps is on the editorial board of several leading academic journals, including Journal of the American Statistical Association. In addition to his position in MSU, Taps is a Special Government Employee in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Previously, he has worked in several institutions: Iowa State University, U.S. Census Bureau, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Harvard Medical School.

Taps' research highlight a unique combination of skills and expertise in statistical theory with a firm focus on applications to real life data. In statistics, his expertise includes small area sampling, spatial mapping, hierarchical modelling and Bayesian methodology. Besides publishing numerous research articles in prominent peer reviewed journals on these topics, he has substantial experience working with secondary health data collected by US agencies such as National Center for Health Statistics and Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Taps has also researched spatial maps using the well-known Scottish lip-cancer and Michigan lung cancer data and Michigan school district education assessment tests, and successfully applied his research to estimating United States unemployment rate and household median income for all states and poverty rate estimation for US school districts.

Taps is actively looking for collaborators in the areas of public health, biostatistics and genetics, both at the senior and student levels. During his short visit to Dundee University (18-22 March 2012), Taps will be very happy to discuss research in cognate areas with anyone interested.