

Simon Sheather received his BSc (Honors) degree from the University of Melbourne and a Ph.D. in Statistics from La Trobe University. Currently, he is Professor and Academic Director of the MS (Analytics) and the MS (Statistics) Online Programs in the Department of Statistics at Texas A&M University. In addition, he is currently the Interim Director of the Texas A&M Institute of Data Science. From 2005 to 2014, Simon served as the Head of the Department of Statistics. Previously, he was a faculty member at the Australian Graduate School of Management at the University of New South Wales.

Professor Sheather's research interests are in the areas of flexible regression methods for big data and smoothing methods in nonparametric statistics. He also

works with industry and government developing practical predictive models for big data. According to Google Scholar, Professor Sheather's published research (which includes more than 80 articles and 2 books) has been cited more than 10,000 times. He is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association. Professor Sheather has chaired or co-chaired the committees of 7 Ph.D. students and more than 150 Master's students. His teaching and mentoring of graduate students has been recognized by his colleagues in the form of 5 teaching awards.