ISI & Sections’ Awards 2010-2011

Featured at the 58th ISI WSC 2011

ISI Awards Committee
ISI & Sections’ Awards 2010-2011

ISI Awards Committee Meeting
  Wednesday, 24th August, 07:00-08:30

ISI & Sections' Awards Ceremony
  Thursday, 25th August, 15:00-15:45

ISI Mahalanobis Award
ISI Jan Tinbergen Awards
IAOS Prizes for Young Statisticians
IASC ERS Young Researchers Awards
IASE ISLP Best Cooperative Project Award in Statistical Literacy
IASE ISLP Poster Competition
IASE ICOTS Prizes for Best Papers by Early Career Authors
IASS Cochran-Hansen Prize
ISBIS Best y-BIS Paper Award
TIES Abdel El-Shaarawi Young Investigator Award
Science Foundation Ireland Award
Foreword

By Jef Teugels, ISI President

After the 2009 ISI Session in Durban, the ISI Executive became aware of the very diverse array of prizes, honours and other awards provided by the ISI and its Sections for their members, and felt it desirable to advertise the existence of all these awards as widely as possible, using the ISI’s various communication outlets.

The Executive felt that better publicity was particularly important in non-English speaking countries. Further, if all the awards were bestowed during a single ceremony at the ISI’s biennial World Statistics Congress, then greater prestige might have been attached to them.

In September 2009, ISI Council Members were offered the opportunity to help bring this about, and Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi volunteered his time and energy for the task. The current brochure shows how well he succeeded. Everybody involved in developing and implementing the new process has been surprised by the number and variety of the different awards. More importantly, the benefits deriving from improving publicity about their existence have been spectacular. The number of applicants for the Mahalanobis Award rose from 3 in 2009 to 26 in 2011, and similar increases were noticed for other prizes.

Participants at the World Statistics Congress in Dublin will be able to witness the first Awards Ceremony. The large number of winners and the quality of what they have achieved show that the ISI and the Sections are recognizing important achievements by their members. It is my very special privilege to act as spokesman for the entire ISI family to congratulate all winners for their accomplishments and to wish them success for the future. We hope they all retain a special memory of what has happened here in Dublin.
Foreword

By Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi, ISI Awards Committee Chair

On behalf of everyone associated with the organization of the 2011 ISI & Sections’ Awards Ceremony, it is my greatest pleasure to introduce to you this tremendous initiative. Earlier this year, the ISI Awards Committee, in collaboration with the ISI President, ISI Director and ISI Permanent Office, decided to launch this initiative for the first time ever in the history of the ISI at the World Statistics Congress in Dublin. The ISI Sections welcomed this idea with a lot of enthusiasm and actively contributed to completing the Awards Brochure by providing descriptions of the prizes, names of the winners and their photographs. The Ceremony will feature the special participation of the Indian Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for presenting the ISI Mahalanobis Award. Presidents and representatives of ISI Sections will also join in the Awards Ceremony to hand over Prizes and Awards to the winners.

This initiative will give the deserved visibility and importance to the wide range of Awards and Prizes in the ISI family as well as to their outstanding recipients.

I would especially like to thank the members of the several judging and selection committees, who worked at the levels of both ISI and the different Sections for their outstanding availability and objectivity.

Our sincere gratitude goes also to the partners and sponsors that provided scientific, financial and logistical support needed to make this ceremony happen.

I truly hope you will all enjoy attending the Awards Ceremony and look forward to making this Ceremony a traditional and renowned happening at ISI World Statistics Congresses!
ISI Mahalanobis International Award in Statistics

The award is a biennial initiative of the Indian Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, representing the Government of India, in memory of the eminent Indian statistician Professor P.C. Mahalanobis. It is given to a selected statistician from a developing country who has worked there in recognition of his/her lifetime achievement in Statistics and the promotion of best statistical practices.

Professor P.C. Mahalanobis (1893-1972) was an Indian scientist and applied statistician. He is best remembered for the Mahalanobis distance, a statistical measure. He made pioneering studies in anthropometry in India. He founded the Indian Statistical Institute, and contributed to the design of large scale sample surveys.

2011 Award Winner: Victor Yohai

Professor Victor Yohai, Emeritus Professor of the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, won the award for his groundbreaking contributions to the fields of mathematical and Computational Statistics, and immense dedication for the development of Statistics in Argentina as well as in Latin America. Prof. Yohai is internationally recognized as an outstanding scientist, a generous teacher and one of the leading experts in Robust Statistics. He is widely credited as the founder of the "Argentinean school" in Robust Statistics whose research achievements are continuously cited worldwide. His impressive body of research includes fundamental advances in statistical thinking and numerous technical breakthroughs that span over forty years.
ISI Jan Tinbergen Awards

The Jan Tinbergen Competition is an initiative of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) given to young statisticians from developing countries for best papers on any topic within the broad field of statistics. Papers submitted must be unpublished, original works that may include material from participants’ university theses. Each winner will receive a monetary prize and be invited to present his or her paper at the World Statistics Congress (WSC) of the ISI.

Professor Jan Tinbergen (1903–1994), was a Dutch economist. He was awarded the first Bank of Sweden Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel in 1969, which he shared with Ragnar Frisch for having developed and applied dynamic models for the analysis of economic processes. Tinbergen was a founding trustee of Economists for Peace and Security.

2011 1st Prize Winner: Kodzovi Senu Abalo

Mr. Kodzovi Senu Abalo, Republic of Togo, received the 1st prize for his paper “Etude Comparative des Conditions de Travail des Enfants Issus des Menages Agricole au Burkina Faso, en Cote D’ivoire et au Mali”.

2011 2nd Prize Winners: Kavitha Mehendale & Manjula Kalluraya

Ms. Kavitha Mehendale and Ms. Manjula Kalluraya, India, received the 2nd prize for their paper “Behren Fisher Problem and Distribution Free Tests For Equality of Means”.
2011 3rd Prize Winner: Mahdi Roozbeh

Mr. Mahdi Roozbeh, Dept. of Statistics, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Iran, received the 3rd prize for his paper “Feasible Ridge Estimator in Partially Linear Models”.
IAOS Prizes for Young Statisticians

The field of official statistics offers great challenges and opportunities. To encourage more young statisticians to take an active interest in official statistics, the International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS) sponsors a competition for the best paper in the field of official statistics written by a young statistician. In addition to the monetary prize, the winner will be invited to present the paper at one of the IAOS sessions at the ISI World Statistics Congress (WSC).

2011 1st Prize Winner: Julia Höninger

Dr. Julia Höninger, Germany, won the 1st Prize for her paper “Morpheus: An Innovative Approach to Remote Data Access". Dr. Höninger is as a research associate at the Research Data Centre of the Statistical Offices of the Länder at the State Statistical Institute in Berlin-Brandenburg, Germany. She studied International Economics at the University of Tübingen (Germany) and the Universidade Federal Fluminense (Brazil). Her research interest lies in statistical disclosure control.

2011 2nd Prize Winner: Sarah Conn

Ms. Sarah Conn has been awarded the 2nd prize for the paper: “Widening the Data Net: NSO Leadership Role”. After completing university in 2002, Ms. Conn has worked in two statistical offices, the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Office for National Statistics in the UK, as well as in a number of other Australian Government Departments. While working, she also completed further study in 2005 to achieve her Master of Applied Statistics.
2011 3rd Prize Winner: *Kate Smaill*

Kate Smaill, New Zealand, received the prize for her paper “Trajectory Modelling of Longitudinal Non-response in Business Surveys”.
IASC ERS Young Researchers Awards

These awards are given by the European Regional Section of the International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC) every other year for the best contributions submitted by young participants (age 35 or younger). The awards are presented at the biennial IASC International Conference on Computational Statistics (COMPSTAT). Among 12 applicants in 2010, the following three winners were selected:

Charles Bouveyron

Charles Bouveyron, Assistant Professor of Applied Mathematics at the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, received the award for his contribution "Adaptive Mixture Discriminant Analysis for Supervised Learning with Unobserved Classes". His current research interests are classification of high-dimensional data, classification under uncertainty and weak supervision, adaptive learning, learning with graph-structured data.

Jin Rou New & Eldin Wee Chuan Lim

Miss Jin Rou New and Dr. Eldin Wee Chuan Lim, National University of Singapore, received the award for their contribution "Fourier Analysis and Swarm Intelligence for Stochastic Optimization of Discrete Functions". Ms. Jin Rou New is currently a fourth year undergraduate in the Dept. of Statistics and Applied Probability, National University of Singapore. Her current research interest is in the area of Statistical Demography.
Dr. Eldin Wee Chuan Lim obtained his Ph.D. from the National University of Singapore. He received the HPC Quest Silver Award presented by IBM, ERS-IASC Young Researcher Award and two Best Paper Awards at the 2010 SECAU Security Congress. He is an editorial board member for the journal *Advanced Powder Technology*.

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**Géraldine Laurent & Cédric Heuchenne**

Ms. Géraldine Laurent and Dr. Cédric Heuchenne received the award for their paper "Computational Treatment of the Error Distribution in Nonparametric Regression with Right-censored and Selection-biased Data".

Géraldine Laurent is a PhD-Student and Teaching Assistant in the Operations UER of HEC Management School- University of Liege and member of Centre for Quantitative Methods and Operations Management.

Cédric Heuchenne is Associate Professor of Statistics at HEC Management School - University of Liege and also teaches at the Catholic University of Louvain. His research interests focus on nonparametric statistical inference for complex data structures and especially incomplete data.
IASE ISLP Best Cooperative Project Award in Statistical Literacy

The award is given every two years in recognition of outstanding, innovative, and influential statistical literacy projects that affect a broad segment of the general public and are fruit of the cooperation of different types of institutions (national statistical offices, schools, statistical societies, media, libraries etc). Among the characteristics a project should have to be eligible are:

- Be ongoing and have the potential to remain so in the future as well as be funded (or supported, if the work is completely volunteer).
- Access to the project resources and membership in the project should be free to all.
- It should educate on concepts of statistical theory and data analysis, their use in the development of information about countries and societies, and their application in a broad spectrum of disciplines and areas of society, with concern towards modern data handling, experimentation, and graphical methods.
- Have contents that are pedagogically sound for a general audience (adults and young, media and statisticians, teachers and students, social and natural sciences).
- Involve two or more institutions that would usually not work in cooperation.
- Have international outreach and make creative use of available resources.

The 2011 Winner will be announced at the ISI & Sections' Awards Ceremony.
IASE ISLP Poster Competition

The goal of the International Statistical Literacy Competition (ISLP) is to increase awareness of statistics among students and teachers throughout the world, to promote statistical literacy resources and to bring together parties interested in statistical literacy in each country. The Poster Competition is open to teams of 2-3 students in two age divisions: students born in or before 1995, and students born in or before 1992. Posters must be the original design and creation of students, but are submitted by teachers to country coordinators. Posters may be about any topic students choose within the general theme of Environment. Data used may be collected by students or previously published by someone else. The posters are first judged within their countries, and the posters of country winners are then uploaded by the country coordinators for judging by the ISLP international panel. This year, 4793 students participated in the competition from all over the world.

The 2011 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners in each age division will be announced at the ISI & Sections’ Awards Ceremony.
IASE ICOTS Prizes for Best Papers by Early Career Authors

The last International Association for Statistical Education (IASE) prizes for best papers by early career authors were awarded at the IASE International Conference on Teaching Statistics which was held in July 2010 in Ljubljana, Slovenia (ICOTS8).

The 2010 winners were:

**Jill Fielding-Wells**, University of Queensland, Australia, for her paper ”Linking Problems, Conclusions and Evidence: Primary Students’ Early Experiences of Planning Statistical Investigations”.

**Andreja Vidic**, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, for her paper “The Impact of Problem-based Learning on Statistical Thinking of Engineering and Technical High School Students”.

Highly commended:

**Jennifer Kaplan**, Michigan State University, USA, for her paper ”Post Secondary and Adult Statistical Literacy: Assessing beyond the Classroom”.

**Jennifer Noll**, Portland State University, USA, for her paper ”Students’ Statistical Reasoning about Distribution across Grade Levels: A Look from Middle School through Graduate School”.


IASS Cochran-Hansen Prize

In celebration of its 25th anniversary in 1999, International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) established the Cochran-Hansen Prize to be awarded every two years for the best paper on survey research methods. Participation in the competition for the Prize is open to young statisticians from developing or transitional countries. The winner of the Prize will be invited to present his/her paper at the World Statistics Congress of the ISI.

2011 Award Winner: Solange Correa Onel

Dr. Solange Correa, Brazil, has worked at the Methodology Department of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics since 1997. She undertook her PhD in Statistics at the University of Southampton, and won the IASS Cochran-Hansen prize for her paper addressing bias in modelling complex data for small area estimation.
ISBIS Best y-BIS Paper Award

The purpose of y-BIS, the young people’s group in the International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS), is to bring together young researchers and professionals working on business, financial, and industrial statistics to help support their career development and enjoyment. The y-BIS Best Paper Award is awarded every two years at biennial international conferences of ISBIS.

2010 Award Winner: Veronika Czellar

Veronika Czellar is Assistant Professor at HEC Paris, France. She studied Mathematics and Econometrics at the University of Geneva, Switzerland, where she got her PhD in 2006. She has been Visiting Scholar at University of Washington and at Ohio State University. Her research interests include: simulation-based estimation and inference, robust statistics, small sample techniques and financial econometrics.

Veronika Czellar received the prize for her contribution “Efficient Estimation of Learning models”.

![Veronika Czellar](image-url)
TIES Abdel El-Shaarawi Young Investigator Award

This annual award was established in 2001 in the name of Professor Abdel El-Shaarawi, the first president of The International Environmetrics Society (TIES), for his outstanding contributions and dedication to TIES. Prof. El-Shaarawi was initiator and organizer of the first TIES conference held in Cairo, Egypt, in 1989. He has been actively involved in establishing TIES as stable and well recognized society.

2010 Award Winner: Marc Genton

Professor Marc Genton, Dept. of Statistics, Texas A&M University, USA, was given the award for his fundamental contributions to statistical theory and practice, teaching, and service to the statistical community. He wrote an impressive number of theoretical and applied papers on several topics linked to environmetrics and significantly contributed to dissemination of knowledge with over 170 presentations at scientific conferences.
Science Foundation Ireland Award

The prize is provided by Science Foundation Ireland for the best poster presentation by an early career statistician at the 2011 ISI Young Statisticians Meeting (YSI 2011). As a satellite meeting to the 2011 ISI World Statistics Congress, and the first of its kind, YSI 2011 seeks to promote the active participation of early career statisticians in the epicentre of the ISI World Congress. The meeting will take place from 19th -21st August 2011, preceding the WSC.

The winner will be announced at the ISI & Sections' Awards Ceremony.