



## ISI Mahalanobis Award for 2015



Dr. Carlos M. Jarque from Mexico has been selected as the recipient of the 2015 ISI Mahalanobis Award. He will receive the award at the World Statistics Congress in Rio de Janeiro in July 2015. The award ceremony will be followed by a lecture by Dr. Jarque on “Development and Statistics: Challenges for the 21st Century Digital World.”

The award is sponsored by the Government of India in memory of Professor P. C. Mahalanobis. It was established to recognize the work of a statistician from a developing country (or countries) for her/his lifetime contributions in research, applications, statistical practice and/or development of statistical capacity.

Dr. Carlos Jarque has made extensive and pioneering contributions to the development of statistical theory and methodology, modernization of official statistical systems, use of statistics for economic planning, and application of statistics for policy making and social development. He has received the Mexican National Award in Science and Technology, the Actuarial Science National Award, the Benito Juárez Merit Medal, and the Henry Methorst Medal.

Dr. Jarque received his PhD in Econometrics from the Australian National University and has published more than 100 articles in Statistics, Econometrics, Survey Sampling, Macroeconomic Models, Social Development, Science and Technology, Sustainable Development. His article, “Efficient Tests for Normality, Homoscedasticity and Serial independence of Regression Residuals” with A. Bera, is widely cited, and the Jarque-Bera test has become a standard procedure in econometrics.

Even more impressive are Dr. Jarque’s contributions to the development of statistics in their native country and the international arena. He led the organization and implementation of eight national Censuses and established quarterly National Accounts. As President of Mexico’s National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics (INEGI), he initiated the PROCEDE program that titled (in property) more than half of Mexico and a third of Mexico’s housing units. This was an unprecedented project worldwide, giving property titles to the population and opportunity to link geographic with socio-economic statistical data. He spearheaded the modernization of Mexico’s statistical and geographical information systems and promoted the use of data for economic planning. As Minister of Social Development, he championed the use of statistical data to design, monitor and evaluate social programs.

Internationally, he served (briefly) as Director of the ISI and later as Chair of the United Nations Statistical Commission. At the Inter-American Development Bank, he worked to ensure that sound statistics are at the core of policy setting and decision-making. He introduced a set of statistical indicators to monitor progress of the Bank's strategic framework, and chaired the committee that coordinated Bank-wide efforts to support attainment of Millennium Development Goals, including support to countries for their statistical capabilities.

Dr. Carlos Jarque is a remarkable statistician who has made signal contributions to research, practice, statistical development, and capacity building. The ISI and the Government of India are pleased to select him as the recipient of the 2015 Mahalanobis Award.

The 2015 Mahalanobis Award Committee members were: Anil Gore (Chair), Jairo Arrow, Stefanka Chukova, Chihiro Hirotsu, Jane Hutton, and Victor Yohai. We are grateful to these ISI members for their excellent work.

Helen MacGillivray, Chair of ISI Awards Committee and Vice-President  
Vijay Nair, President