Name of Committee: Awards Committee


Name of Chairperson: Helen MacGillivray
Year of Appointment of the Chair: 2013

Committee Members:
ISI Council Representative: Xuming He
ISI-at-large Representative: not appointed
BS: Nancy Reid
IAOS: Lesley Tang
IASC: not appointed
IASE: John Harraway
IASS: Monica Pratesi
ISBIS: Kwok Leung Tsui
TIES: not appointed

Ex-officio
ISI Director: Ada van Krimpen
ISI Permanent Office Liaison: various

Activities in 2017:

1. Tinbergen Committee for 2017 award
Chair: Yves-Laurent Grize (Switzerland)

Members:
Irena Ograjensek (Slovenia)
Chun-houh Chen (Taiwan)
Neville Weber (Australia)
Wayne Oldford (Canada)
Dominique Haughton (USA)
Linda Haines (Sth Africa)

Ex-officio:
Nalini Ravishanker (USA)

For financial reasons, the Board of the Stichting Internationaal Statistisch Studiefonds notified that for 2018 onwards, only two awards could be made. By the closing date of 9th December, 2016, 66 applications were received from 59 applicants in 22 different countries, with 17 female applicants and 42 male applicants. The 2017 awards, presented at WSC 2019 were: First prize, Marcelo Bourguignon Pereira, Brazil; second prize Christian Eduardo Galarza Morales, Brazil. The prizewinners presented their papers in a special Tinbergen session at WSC 2017.

Across 2017, following input from the Board, the 2017 Tinbergen Committee and the Awards Committee Chair, the Chair worked with the Board on new descriptors and criteria for the Tinbergen Awards to better focus on research in applied problems of clear benefit to developing countries or regions. Work on descriptors, criteria and the call for applications for the 2019 awards was finalised in October 2017.
2. Mahalanobis Committee for 2017 award
Chair: Jon Rao (Canada)

Ex officio members
Director General, Central Statistics Office of India or Designate:
Director, International Statistical Institute: Ada van Krimpen
Chair of ISI Awards Committee Chair or designate: Helen MacGillivray

Members
Australia/New Zealand/North America: Graham Kalton (USA)
South America: Clarice Demetrio (Brazil)
Asia: Haishan Fu (China)
Africa: Awa Thiongane (Senegal)
Europe: Jean-Michel Poggi (France)

During 2016, based on input from India and feedback from the Chair of the 2015 Mahalanobis Committee, the Chair of the Awards Committee prepared a rubric which could be used by future Mahalanobis Committees for assistance in arriving at their overall recommendations. This rubric was approved by the EC and by the Indian Ministry.

The call for applications for the 2017 award, reflecting the revised MoU and the input from India and the previous Committee, went out in early September. By the closing date of 30th November, 2016, 4 nominations were received. The 2017 winner, Professor Rahul Mukherjee, received his award at WSC 2017, where he gave a presentation in the special Mahalanobis session.

3. ISI Pearson Committee 2017
Chair: Iain Johnstone (USA)

Ex officio members
Chair, 2015 Committee: Nancy Reid (Canada) reid@utstat.toronto.edu
Director, International Statistical Institute: Ada van Krimpen

Members:
Wilfrid Kendall (UK)
Geert Molenberghs (Belgium)
Agnes Herzberg (Canada)
Rob Hyndman (Australia)
Arup Bose (India)

The call for nominations for the 2017 prize incorporated suggestions from the Chairs of the 2015 Pearson Committee and the Awards Committee, and was sent out early September, 2016. By the closing date in November, 8 external nominations were received. The Pearson Committee also acts as a search committee and in addition considers previous nominations which are still eligible.

The 2017 Award Winners were Roderick J. Little and Donald B. Rubin for their book "Statistical Analysis With Missing Data", published by John Wiley & Sons in 1987. Professor Little was presented with the award at WSC 2017 where he gave a presentation in the special Pearson session.

4. WBTFSCB
Chair: Helen MacGillivray (Australia) following Victor Perez Abreu’s withdrawal due to health problems
Members:
Wei-Liem Loh (Singapore)
Ross Darnell (Australia)
Alessandro Fasso (Italy)
Lisbeth Cordani (Brazil)
Alexey Ponomarenko (Russia)
Mounir Ghogho (Morocco)
Linda Young (USA)

Ex-officio:
Delia North (South Africa)

Applications were made through the submission system for WSC2017 with a closing date of 6th January, 2017. As for WSC2015, successful applicants could also choose either a short course or a satellite, and Associations provided recommendations of 3-4 applicants. By the closing date, 127 eligible applications were received, significantly fewer than the unusually large number (over 200) received for WSC 2015. The process devised by the Awards Committee Chair for 2015 was used again in 2017 with all evaluators reporting approval and satisfaction with the process, and 41 awards were made.

5. Service Awards
As per the TOR, members of the Awards Committee were asked if they have any suggestions for ISI Service Awards. The ISI Service Awards are decided by the EC. The 2017 ISI Service Awards were presented at WSC 2017 to Fabrizio Ruggeri, Belkacem Abdous, Hasnae Fdhil and Irena Krizman.

6. Matters for EC consideration:
(i) The ToR are being rewritten to include the Chairs of the above four ISI Awards Committees instead of the Council and at-large representatives, and the roles of the Committee made more practical and clearer.

(ii) The existence of a separate local committee for awarding funds from a number of sponsors to support attendance to WSC 2017, caused significant problems. The local committee required the WBTFSCB Chair to forward unsuccessful WBTFSCB applications from those eligible for these sponsoring funds, to the local committee. The WBTFSCB Chair devised the most equitable way of complying, but this increased the already existing delays and difficulties due to local IT problems, as well as increasing the workload for the Chair.

In future, only one committee should consider applications for funding to attend WSC for funding schemes with the criteria of contribution to the WSC. Specific criteria of sponsors (e.g. specific countries, regions, age groups etc) can readily be taken into account.

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