
Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies

COPSS Awards

COPSS sponsors five awards, two of which are presented annually and three biennially. All awards are presented at the Joint Statistical Meetings.

- [Presidents' Award](#)
- [George W. Snedecor Award](#)
- [Elizabeth L. Scott Award](#)
- [Florence Nightingale David Award](#)
- [R.A. Fisher Lectureship Award](#)

Presidents' Award

The Presidents' Award is presented to a young member of the statistical community in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the profession of statistics. Established in 1976, it is jointly sponsored by the American Statistical Association, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, the Biometric Society ENAR, the Biometric Society WNAR, and the Statistics Society of Canada, operating through COPSS. The award consists of a plaque and cash award in the sum of \$1,000. The first award was made in 1979, since then it has been awarded annually.

The recipient of the Presidents' Award must be a member of at least one of the participating societies. The candidate may be chosen for a single contribution of extraordinary merit, or an outstanding aggregate of contributions, to the profession of statistics. The Presidents' Award is granted to an individual who either i) will be under age 41 throughout the award calendar year, or ii) will be under age 46 throughout the award calendar year and will have received a terminal statistically-related degree no more than 12 years prior to that year.

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George W. Snedecor Award

The Snedecor award, established in 1976, honors an individual who was instrumental in the development of statistical theory in biometry. The award is for a noteworthy publication in biometry within three years of the data of the award. Starting in 1991 this award is given biennially, in odd numbered years. It consists of a plaque and a cash award of \$1,000. It offers recognition of Dr. Snedecor's pioneering work in improving the quality of scientific methods concerning the use of statistical methodology as the first director of the Statistical Laboratory at Iowa State University.

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Elizabeth L. Scott Award

In recognition of Elizabeth L. Scott's lifelong efforts in the furtherance of the careers of women, this award is granted to an individual who has helped foster opportunities in statistics for women by developing programs to encourage women to seek careers in statistics; by consistently and successfully mentoring women students or new researchers; by working to identify gender-based inequities in employment; or by serving in a variety of capacities as a role model. This award, first awarded in 1992, is given biennially in even numbered years. It consists of a plaque and a cash award of \$1,000.

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Florence Nightingale David Award

This award is named after Florence Nightingale David, an accomplished statistician and the first recipient of the Elizabeth L. Scott Award. The award, sponsored jointly by COPSS and the Caucus for Women in Statistics, is granted to a female statistician who serves as a role model to other women by her contributions to the profession through excellence in research, leadership of multidisciplinary collaborative groups, statistics education, or service to the professional societies. The F.N. David Award, established in 2001, is awarded biennially in odd numbered years. It consists of a plaque and cash award of \$1,000.

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R.A. Fisher Lectureship

The R.A. Fisher Lectureship was established in 1963 by COPSS to honor both the contributions of Sir Ronald Aylmer Fisher and the work of a present-day statistician for their advancement of statistical theory and applications. The Fisher Lectureship is a very high recognition of meritorious achievement and scholarship in statistical science and recognizes highly significant impact of statistical methods on scientific investigations. This award is given annually and consists of a plaque and cash award of \$1,000.

The recipient of this award is required to give a broad based lecture at the award ceremony that emphasize those aspects of statistics and probability which bear close relationship to the scientific collection and interpretation of data, areas in which Fisher made outstanding contributions. The lecturer is also expected to prepare a manuscript based on the lecture and submit it to one of the COPSS society journals. A cash award of \$1,000 is made upon publication of manuscript based on the Fisher lecture.

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