

Awards Committee Report to the 2023 AGM

Awards committee membership

Vanessa Cave (Convenor)

Beatrix Jones (ex officio NZSA President)

Jennifer Brown

Matt Edwards

Harold Henderson

Jie Kang

Claudia Rivera

2023 NZSA Awards

The call for nominations closed on Sunday 15th of October. Several nominations were received for each of the Littlejohn, Worsley and Jean Thompson Awards. No nominations were received for the Campbell Award. Winners will be announced at the conference dinner.

Student Travel Awards

Support was given to 12 students to attend the conference totalling \$6000. There were eight students supported from Auckland, two from Otago, one from Victoria and one from Waikato.

ECRs Discretionary Travel Fund

The Awards Committee is seeking an annual budget item of \$3000 to support the participation of early-career researchers (ECRs) in NZSA events.

This initiative aims to foster connections with emerging statisticians and data scientists in New Zealand, particularly those working in industry, and facilitate their attendance at NZSA events.

Unlike the Student Travel Award, which subsidises travel costs for students, ECRs are responsible for the full cost of their attendance at NZSA events. This can be challenging for ECRs seeking employment, or those in an employment situation where the cost of attendance is not covered by their employer.

This fund will provide needs-based financial support to ECRs to attend NZSA events. The fund will be managed by the Awards committee and grants will be awarded at the committee's discretion.

This initiative offers several potential benefits to the NZSA, including:

- *Retention of ECRs:* By offering financial assistance to ECRs, this fund encourages and supports their continued engagement with the NZSA and their active participation in the community.

- *Strengthening Ties with Industry:* This fund will connect ECRs across various industries to the NZSA, promoting collaboration and knowledge exchange. This connection has the potential to attract new NZSA members from diverse sectors.
- *Enhancing Diversity:* Supporting ECRs to attend NZSA events will contribute to diversifying the NZSA community and expanding the spectrum of research interests represented within the association.

Thanks

The Convenor thanks:

- the Awards Committee members for their time and expertise
- everyone who submitted a nomination for the 2023 awards
- Ian Westbrooke and Lisa Thomasen for their help in judging the 2023 awards

Vanessa Cave

13 November 2023