



STUDENT CONFERENCE AWARD

International Society for Clinical Biostatistics

**Melbourne, Australia,
26 - 30 August 2018**

The Student Conference Award (StCA) is available for registered postgraduate students in biostatistics to attend and present a paper at the Joint International Society for Clinical Biostatistics and Australian Statistical Conference, 26 - 30 August 2018, Melbourne, Australia. Approximately three awards will be granted depending on the number and quality of the applications. Selection will be made on the basis of a summary of a paper to be presented, which should illustrate the application of statistical methodology to clinical or epidemiological research. Results of particular studies are of interest only if the analysis has methodological implications or shows a novel and interesting application of biostatistics. Applications, prepared as described below, should be sent by email to the Chair Nadine Binder, copying the Secretary Katherine Lee.

Chair: Nadine Binder
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Secretary: Katherine Lee
Email: katherine.lee@mcri.edu.au

The closing date for application is **Friday 2 March 2018**.

Procedures for Selection of Student Conference Award Winners

ELIGIBILITY:

- (a) Any student registered for a postgraduate degree in biostatistics is eligible to apply for an ISCB Student Conference Award, provided s/he has not been the winner of a previous ISCB Student Conference Award.
- (b) The application must relate to original work that has not yet been published and is predominantly the student's own work. Acceptable topics encompass all areas of biostatistics, both methodological and applied. However, results of particular studies are of interest only if the analysis has methodological implications or shows a novel and interesting application of biostatistics to clinical or epidemiological research.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE:

Applications should consist of the following:

- (a) A short abstract of the paper prepared according to the ISCB ASC standard conference format, but in blinded format, i.e., the names of the authors and their affiliations should not be included.
- (b) A summary of the paper of no more than 3 double-spaced pages of 12-point text with a maximum of three figures or tables on additional pages. The summary must also be in blinded format, i.e., any indication of the student or further authors should not be included.
- (c) A letter from the student's supervisor, on official letterhead of the student's institution, confirming that the student is registered for a postgraduate degree, and that the paper to be presented is original, not previously published, and is predominantly the student's own work. If the manuscript is co-authored, this letter should also include an indication of the level of involvement of the various authors.

Applications should be received by the Chair and secretary of the StCA Subcommittee by the designated submission due date. Any applications submitted after the due date or incomplete or applications not adhering to the procedures above will not be considered. The items in (a) and (b) should be submitted as attachments in a PDF format (two separate files) to the Chair and secretary using the email addresses given above. The letter from the student's supervisor described in (c) should be submitted separately by the supervisor to the StCA Subcommittee Chair and Secretary. Again this letter should be sent as an email attachment (also in a PDF format).

The Chair will reply to the applicants' email shortly after receipt of the application (within 24 hours). If the acknowledging email does not arrive, the applicant should contact the Chair in due time.

In addition, the abstract, item (a), needs to be submitted as an ordinary abstract for the conference via the conference abstract handling system through the website <http://iscbasc2018.com>

REVIEW:

- a) Applications will be judged by the StCA Subcommittee, and applicants will be notified of the results as soon as possible, usually within six weeks of the application submission due date. Evaluation of applications will concern the quality of the research described and its relevance to the application of statistics to clinical and epidemiological research. The presentation of the application materials and the interest of the work to the ISCB members will be taken into consideration. The decisions made by the Subcommittee will be final.
- b) In selecting papers for Awards, each member of the StCA Subcommittee will independently grade each paper submitted. In the case of ties in total grades, the Subcommittee will make the final selection through discussion.
- c) Members of the StCA Subcommittee must declare a conflict of interest in submissions from students with whom they have had substantial contact. Such contact certainly includes students supervised by or in the same department as Subcommittee members and may also include professional contact with the project as well as family links. The Subcommittee member with a conflict of interest in the submission will not grade it, other grades being scaled accordingly, and will not participate in discussions of that submission.
- d) Applicants must be able to travel to the meeting and present their work to be selected Student Conference Award winners.
- e) The Society intends to make three awards. However, the StCA Subcommittee reserves the right to make more or fewer awards, or even none at all, subject to the approval of the ISCB President.
- f) Applications not selected for the Student Conference Awards may still be considered for selection for an oral presentation at a Contributed Paper session or a poster presentation by the Program Committee, since the abstract has been also submitted separately via the conference abstract handling system. This holds unless the applicant indicates that they do not wish to have their submission considered further.

AWARDS:

- a) The StCA winners will have their papers scheduled in appropriate Contributed Paper Sessions. Their status as Award Winners will be indicated in the Conference Programme.
- b) The ISCB will waive the registration fee and the fee for the Conference Dinner for the StCA winners, and will pre-pay their hotel accommodation. The ISCB will also pay for a pre-conference course for StCA winners. Excursions are not included in the award. Normally, it is expected that the StCA winners will pay for travel, insurance and meals, which expenses will be reimbursed by ISCB, on the basis of appropriate receipts. A fixed per-diem to cover meals will be paid. Full travel costs will be reimbursed, provided that these are incurred economically and requested solely for attending the ISCB ASC conference. Thus full advantage of Apex fares, student discounts and so on should be taken where possible. Adequate insurance cover should be arranged, and will be reimbursed.
- c) On being selected, a student must submit a travel budget to the StCA Subcommittee Chair for approval. If it proves more economical to make a longer visit in order to secure bargain fares, the cost of extra accommodation and meals will be borne by the ISCB.

Once a budget is approved, additional travel costs will be reimbursed only if a convincing case is made of their necessity

- d) In the case of hardship, advance payments will be considered. If for good reason a student has to cancel the trip to attend the Conference, then the ISCB will consider the reimbursement of costs incurred other than those recoverable from insurance.