

## News Archive for 2019

### Congratulations to our MSc Prize Winners!

A huge congratulations to our MSc students who have won Winton Prizes this year!

*Winner of the Winton Prize for Academic Excellence in MSc Data Science and Joint Winner of the Winton Prize for Best Dissertation in MSc Data Science*

Michailia Panagiotidi, MSc Data Science



*Winner of the Winton Prize for Best Dissertation in MSc Statistics and Winner of the Royal Statistical Society Prize for Best Graduate from an Accredited MSc Programme*

Sahra Ghalebikesabi, MSc Statistics (Research)



Sahra told the Department of Statistics that 'I extend my most sincere thanks to Winton for making the award possible. I would have not succeeded without the support of my friends and family and the great supervision by Milan Vojnovic. The months of research I put in writing the dissertation have encouraged me to pursue a PhD in Statistics at the University of Oxford.'

*Joint Winner of the Winton Prize for Best Dissertation in MSc Data Science*

Jurriaan Parie, MSc Data Science

*Winner of the Winton Prize for Academic Excellence in MSc Statistics*

Joel Teo, MSc Statistics (please note that Joel is on the 9 month programme, so he graduated in summer but we only decide the winners after we have the results from the 12 month programme later in the year)

---

### **Interview with Chris Skinner published in International Statistical Review!**



[Professor Chris Skinner](#) was interviewed by the International Statistical Review and he reflects on his career as a statistician. There are wonderful moments in the interview such as when he received his CBE from the Queen at Windsor Castle in 2010. The full interview can be found in the [International Statistical Review](#).

Please note that this article is only available to institutions that subscribe to the Wiley's Online Library.

---

### **Excellence in Education Awards**



Huge congratulations to all of our Excellence in Education Award winners! We are very proud of what fantastic educators you are! James Abdey, Beatrice Acciaio, Yining Chen, Angelos Dassios, Clifford Lam, Gelly Mitrodima and George Tzougas all received this award at the Excellence in Education Awards ceremony at the Shaw Library on 21st November 2019. More information can be found here - <http://bit.ly/ExcellenceinEducation19>

Designed to support the School's aspiration of creating 'a culture where excellence in teaching is valued and rewarded on a level with excellence in research', the Excellence in Education Awards are made, on the recommendations of Heads of Department, to staff who have demonstrated outstanding teaching contribution and educational leadership in their departments.

Dr Clifford Lam reflects on his experience of being an educator at LSE below.

Dr Lam was asked - When thinking about your students, what are some of the important things you would like them to learn during their time at our School?

His answer was - To build up the best foundation possible from their time in LSE, so as to be able to think and learn independently.

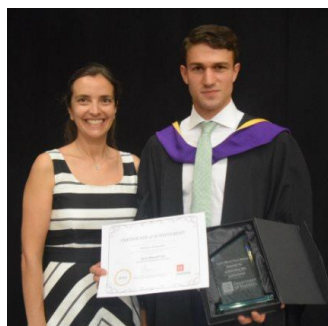
.....

### **Congratulations to our Undergraduate and MSc Prize Winners!**

A huge congratulations to our Undergraduate and MSc Prize Winners for summer 2019!

*Winner of the Cyril Offord Prize for outstanding BSc performance*

Nicolo Grometto



*Winner of the Winton Capital Prize for academic excellence in Statistics with Financial Applications*

*and the Farr Prize for best performance in final BSc examinations*

Natalia Hong



*Winner of the Winton Capital Prize academic excellence in Statistics with Financial Applications*

*and the IMA Prize For Outstanding Performance in the Final Year of an Institute of Mathematics and its Applications approved course*

Garrick Wan



*Winner of the Ranjesh Bhansali Prize for Overall Performance by an Quantitative Methods for Risk Mangement student*

Zezhun Chen



---

### **Professor Fiona Steele receives Honorary Degree**



Congratulations to Professor Fiona Steele OBE FBA, who received an honorary DSc degree from the University of Aberdeen.

Professor Steele, Deputy Head of Department, is an eminent statistician whose principal interests are in methodological research, with applications in demography, education, family psychology and health.

The honorary degree recognised Professor Steele's achievements and distinction in social science.

[Watch the degree conferment and interview](#) with Prof. Steele.

*Photo credit: University of Aberdeen*

---

### **Risk & Stochastics, Ragnar Norberg - a Festschrift**



The book, a festschrift, titled '[Risk & Stochastics, Ragnar Norberg](#)', is a collection of articles written by researchers. Edited by Professor Barrieu, the book honours Professor Ragnar Norberg's life and work.

The book details ground-breaking research in modern actuarial and financial mathematics, while giving insight into the life of a leading academic.

[Professor Barrieu](#) also provided the foreword for the book: "I have felt very honoured to be the editor of this Festschrift, following the conference for the 70th birthday of Ragnar. It started as a birthday present for a colleague, mentor and friend. But this has sadly become a tribute to his outstanding contribution."

---

### **Class Teacher Awards 2019**

Congratulations to Phil Chan and Evangelia Mitrodima who were winners of the 2019 award!

"My goal is to enhance academic support and educational experiences for students. I organise activities to support first year undergraduates in their transition to University and foster a student community. One of these activities is the [Statistics Practitioners' Challenge](#), which involves collaboration with each other and staff on projects provided by industrial partners." Evangelia Mitrodima

"The overall environment for working is great. I get a lot of support from the Department, and teaching keen students makes the effort worthwhile." Phil Chan

Also congratulations to Anastasia Kakou, Ragvir Sabharwal and Tianlin Xu who were highly commended!

The LSE Class Teacher Awards are given to Graduate Teaching Assistants, Teaching Fellows and Guest Teachers in recognition of their contribution to teaching.

---

### **Professor Chris Skinner – Winner of the 2019 Waksberg Award**

Congratulations to Professor Chris Skinner who received the 2019 [Waksberg Award](#).

The Journal Survey Methodology has established an annual invited paper series in honour of [Joseph Waksberg](#) to recognise his contributions to survey methodology. Each year a prominent survey statistician is chosen to write a paper that reviews the development and current state of an important topic in the field of survey methodology. The paper reflects the mixture of theory and practice that characterised Joe Waksberg's work.

Professor Skinner was selected by a four-person committee appointed by [Survey Methodology](#) and the American Statistical Association. Chris will receive an honorarium and give the 2019 Waksberg invited address at Statistics Canada. The paper will be published in a future issue of Survey Methodology.

---

### **Double Master's in Financial Statistics and Chinese Economy with Fudan University**



The Department are excited to announce our partnership with Fudan University, China, to offer a unique two-year [double master's degree](#) in financial statistics (LSE) and Chinese economy (Fudan).

Students will spend a year here at the Department, acquiring a solid quantitative background for careers in the financial industry. The second year will be at Fudan University, where students will apply the quantitative tools learned to solve practical problems for central banking, international organisations or private sector firms.

Upon completion of the course, recipients will be conferred a Masters of Economics in Finance and in MSc Statistics (Financial Statistics) by Fudan and LSE respectively.

“Students will be offered a wide variety of statistics and machine learning module options, with a key focus in financial data analysis. The first year will provide quantitative training at LSE. The second year will see students gain exposure to the fast-growing Chinese economy, acquiring all of important tools for an economist in Fudan.

The course aligns with the emerging concept of “quantamental” individuals, who make decisions based on both quantitative evidence from data, and understanding of fundamentals in a broad horizon. We are delighted with our collaboration with Fudan University and look forward to welcoming our first students on this double degree.” *Dr Lam and Professor Barrieu*

Visit the [course page](#) for more information.

---

### **Visit from Barking Abbey School**



We were very pleased to host a visit from seventeen students in years eleven and twelve from Barking Abbey School on Friday 5th April. Dr Sara Geneletti coordinated this visit with the support of the LSE Widening Participation Team.



The visit began with short presentations on studying mathematics and statistics at university, presented by Professor Fiona Steele, Dr Wicher Bergsma and Dr Gelly Mitrodima. After lunch, the students were taken on a tour of the campus by three of our undergraduate student ambassadors. During the final part of the visit Dimple Wedgewood from Widening Participation led the students in a group task to generate questions about university in general and studying mathematics and statistics in particular, which were then answered by our student ambassadors.

We hope the students were inspired by their visit and we hope to see many of them in the future.

**End of 2019 archive.**