



香港統計學會

Hong Kong Statistical Society

The HKSS – John Aitchison Prize in Statistics

The HKSS - John Aitchison Prize in Statistics, 2025/26 is now open for applications.

The Prize was established in 2022 by the Hong Kong Statistical Society (HKSS), to honour the distinguished career and contributions of Professor John Aitchison (1926-2016), Chair Professor of Statistics at the University of Hong Kong between 1976 and 1989 and founder and first President of the HKSS.

The objective of the Prize is to reward excellence in PhD research, as demonstrated by a research paper, in Statistics or a closely related discipline.

The Prize is awarded once a year or every two years, with its value currently being HK\$12,000. Normally, there shall be only one award made every year, but the Adjudication Panel may recommend multiple awards to be made with the award amount to be shared by the awardees.

Conditions of Entry:

- The Prize is open to those who have had full-time student status for a PhD degree in Statistics or a closely related discipline at a Hong Kong university* anytime within the past two years before the application deadline.

(Note: If the applicant's PhD degree has already been conferred at the time of application, the date of the applicant's final thesis defense must fall within two years prior to the application deadline.)

- The applicant must be a member of the HKSS on the date of the application.

Applications should be submitted by **email** to evan.dai@cityu.edu.hk on or before **19 December 2025 (Fri)**. [Please mark “*Submission of paper for HKSS-John Aitchison Prize in Statistics, 2025/26*” as the subject of the email], and must include:

* A Hong Kong university is defined as a public or private tertiary education institution located in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. This definition excludes tertiary institutions located in other parts of the world that carry the name Hong Kong in their titles.

- A formal letter of application
- A research paper (either already published in an academic journal or unpublished work) written by the applicant. Co-authored papers are allowed. However, the applicant must clearly state his/her contributions in the paper. The submitted paper must be formatted with 1.5 line spacing and should not exceed 30 A4 pages. If more space is needed, additional material (such as more elaborate technical details or simulation results) may be included as Supplementary Material.
- A CV of the applicant
- A letter of support by the applicant's PhD supervisor
- Supporting document showing the date of the final thesis defense (if the PhD degree has already been conferred at the time of application)

The Prize is administered by the Hong Kong Statistical Society and is generously supported by donations from the following organisations:

- Department of Decision Analytics and Operations, City University of Hong Kong
- Department of Mathematics and Information Technology, the Education University of Hong Kong
- Department of Mathematics, Hong Kong Baptist University
- Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, the University of Hong Kong
- Hang Seng Indexes Co. Ltd
- Hong Kong Statistical Society

The Adjudication Panel for the 2025/26 Award comprises

- Prof. Alan Wan (Chair of the Panel) of the City University of Hong Kong,
- Prof. Rob Hyndman of Monash University, and
- Prof. Jinchi Lv of the University of Southern California,

with Mr Evan Dai of the City University of Hong Kong serving as the Secretary.

The award winner will be informed via email and the winner announcement will be posted on the websites of *Royal Statistical Society* and *HKSS* by around Apr 2026. The winner may be invited to give a presentation of his/her work at an award presentation ceremony in April or May 2026.

For submission and enquiries, please email [**evan.dai@cityu.edu.hk**](mailto:evan.dai@cityu.edu.hk).