

**ASA Nonparametric Statistics Section
Student Paper Awards Announcement**

Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) 2012
San Diego, California, U.S.A.

In order to encourage participation in the American Statistical Association (ASA) Section on Nonparametric Statistics' Section-sponsored sessions, the Section will be providing awards to the top three student papers that are submitted and presented in the Section sessions at JSM 2012. Each of the three winners will receive an award certificate, a \$250 prize and a one-year membership in the ASA Nonparametric Statistics Section.

For a paper to qualify for one of the Best Student Paper Awards, a student must be the primary contributor to the paper and the student will not have graduated before December 31, 2011. The student should submit a manuscript, via electronic mail, of at most 15 pages, double-spaced, in PDF file format to:

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on or before **December 15, 2011**. Please submit a blinded, as well as an unblinded version. The manuscript is not required to be in publication form. However, it must describe the research problem, the significance and background of the research, the research design and/or mathematical techniques employed, the results or anticipated results, and the conclusions. Furthermore, the manuscript or research must contain statistical theory, methodology, or application classifiable as nonparametric or semiparametric, *broadly interpreted*. The student should also obtain a brief note/letter from his/her thesis or dissertation advisor certifying that he/she will not graduate before December 31, 2011, and that he/she is the primary contributor to the paper. This letter, with advisor's signature, can be scanned into a PDF file and submitted together with the manuscript.

The manuscript will be rated on the following components: importance and significance of research problem, quality of exposition, and quality of technical (e.g., statistical, mathematical, or computational) arguments. The winners will be determined by an Awards Committee appointed by the Section on Nonparametric Statistics, and notified by January 15, 2012. On the basis of the manuscript submitted for the competition, the Committee will select six finalists for the awards in a double-blinded process. However, a competitor can qualify to be a finalist for the award only if he/she has officially registered and submitted an abstract, which must be related to the manuscript, for JSM 2012. Note that the deadline for submission of an abstract and registration for JSM 2012 is February 1, 2012.

The six finalists will be notified of their finalist status before January 15, 2012 and, once they are registered for the conference, will be put in a special JSM session sponsored by the ASA Nonparametric Statistics Section. During the session, each finalist will have a 15-minute presentation with the order of presentation determined in a random manner. After all the presentations, there will be a 15-minute Q&A period. The members of the Awards Committee will attend this special session and rate the finalists' presentations. The ratings of the manuscript and the presentation will be combined according to a 50:50 split. On the basis of the overall score, the Committee will determine the three winners.

The Chair of the ASA Nonparametric Statistics Section, Professor Raymond Carroll (Texas A&M University), will announce the winners during the General Business Meeting of the Section to be held during JSM 2012. Finalists are encouraged to attend this Section Business Meeting.