

Zellner Award Recipients Announced by ASA Business & Economics Statistics Section

ALEXANDRIA, VA (PRWEB) JULY 15, 2010 -- The Business and Economics Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association, along with co-sponsor Thomson Reuters, is pleased to announce that Francesco Bianchi and Roopesh Ranjan are the 2010 co-winners Zellner Award. The award is given annually for the best Ph.D. thesis dealing with an applied problem in business and economic statistics, and a portion of the winning thesis is eligible for publication in the [*Journal of Business and Economics Statistics* \(JBES\)](#).

Named for Arnold Zellner, past Chair of the Business and Economics Statistics Section and founding editor of the JBES, the award is intended to recognize outstanding work by promising young researchers in the field. The winners of the award, which consists of a \$1,500 cash prize, will be recognized at the Business and Economics Statistics Section meeting and reception in Vancouver at the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) on August 3.

"It is a pleasure to announce, along with JBES, this year's winners of the 2010 Zellner Award," said Andrew Clark of Thomson Reuters. "The Thomson Reuters Indices' sponsorship of this important award reflects our commitment to recognizing academic excellence in the fields of economics and statistics, fields that are of keen interest to all of Thomson Reuters. The Thomson Reuters Index business and the rest of Thomson Reuters warmly congratulate both Francesco Bianchi and Roopesh Ranjan on their achievements."

"Francesco Bianchi's thesis brings state-of-the-art Bayesian methods to the analysis of a macroeconomic model in which the conduct of monetary policy changes over time, perhaps from one [Federal Reserve] Chairman to the next," said Jonathan Wright, JBES co-editor and a member of the 2010 Zellner Award committee. "The thesis combines state-of-the art econometrics and also central questions of macroeconomic policy that makes it a first-class econometric contribution."

"The thesis of Roopesh Ranjan," Wright said, "presents and develops the state of the art in probabilistic forecasting, in which the forecaster provides a probability estimate for a future event. The thesis catches flaws in existing methodology, and contains results that are simple and intuitive, yet powerful and important. The statistical techniques and results developed in this thesis will quickly become widely used in forecasting."

A portion of each of the winning theses is eligible for publication in the *JBES*. Both theses are available to read or download at http://www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/Thesis_FBianchi.pdf and http://www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/ranjan_thesis.pdf.

The ASA and the Business and Economics Statistics Section are very grateful to Thomson Reuters for its generous support of the Zellner Award.

About the American Statistical Association

Headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, the American Statistical Association is the world's largest community of statisticians and the second oldest continuously operating professional society in the United States. For 170 years, the ASA has supported excellence in the development, application, and dissemination of statistical science through meetings, publications, membership services, education, accreditation, and advocacy. Its members serve in industry, government, and academia in more than 90 countries, advancing research and promoting sound statistical practice to inform public policy and

improve human welfare. For additional information about the American Statistical Association, please visit the ASA web site at <http://www.amstat.org> or call 703.684.1221.

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