2016-2017 Awards & Honors



ORC FACULTY

Daron Acemoglu has been named to the 2017 class of Andrew Carnegie Fellows, a prestigious honor supporting research in the social sciences and humanities.

Website: https://news.mit.edu/2017/three-mit-scholars-carnegie-fellowships-0426

Sinan Aral has been appointed to serve on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Alan Turing Institute in London—the British national institute for data science, headquartered at the British Library.

The 7-member Scientific Advisory Board, an independent group which will provide strategic advice to the Institute's Board of Trustees and leadership team on its research program, is comprised of experts from organizations around the world in academia, industry, and government, with a diverse range of skills and specializations spanning privacy, machine learning, engineering, microeconomics, and entrepreneurship.

Sinan Aral has received the 2017 Jamieson Prize for Excellence in Teaching, established to honor educational innovation and excellence. This prize recognizes impact on the Sloan School through dedication, passion, innovative thinking, and unwavering commitment to students' learning.

Cindy Barnhart was awarded the degree Doctor of Science from the University of Toronto, honoris causa, for her leading contributions to the field of operations research and her outstanding service to her students and academic community.

To watch the Convocation Address, please visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=soC1tJiGNOs

To read the U of T News profile, please visit: https://www.utoronto.ca/news/uoftgrad16-engineering-leader-cynthia-barnhart

Cindy Barnhart was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Website: https://www.amacad.org/content/members/newFellows.aspx?s=a

Dimitris Bertsimas was awarded the 2016 Harold Larnder Prize. The award was presented at the 58th CORS Annual Conference at the Banff Centre on May 30, 2016.

Website: http://www.cors.ca/?q=content/node/625

Dimitris Bertsimas was named 2016 IFORS Distinguished Lecturer. The award was presented at the 28th European Conference on Operational Research at the Poznan University of Technology on July 4, 2016.

Website: http://www.euro2016.poznan.pl/dimitris-bertsimas/

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Dimitris Bertsimas and **Allison O'Hair**, PhD '13 have been honored with selection for the "Class Central's Top 50 MOOCS of All Time" list, based on thousands of reviews by Class Central users.

The course, 15.071x The Analytics Edge, delivered via edX and ranked #2 in Class Central Computer Science "Data Science and Big Data" courses, was one of three MIT courses in the "Top 50 MOOCS of All Time" list.

The award was announced this week in a Class Central blog post: https://www.class-central.com/report/top-moocs/

Dimitris Bertsimas received a Sloan Outstanding Teacher Award for course 15.727 and 15.071 "The Analytics Edge" taught in 2017.

Dimitris Bertsimas was appointed Editor in Chief of INFORMS journal of Optimization.

Vivek Farias and **Devavrat Shah** have received the 2016 Best OM Paper in Management Science Award from the MSOM (Manufacturing and Service Operations Management) Society of INFORMS (Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences). This award honors their outstanding contribution among the prior three years of articles published in Management Science.

Vivek and Devavrat's winning paper, co-authored with Srikanth Jagabathula (NYU Stern), is entitled "A Nonparametric Approach to Modeling Choice with Limited Data" (Management Science 59(2), 2013).

Patrick Jaillet has received a Ruth and Joel Spira Award for Excellence in Teaching, from the School of Engineering, to acknowledge "the tradition of high-quality engineering education at MIT."

Retsef Levi and **Tom Magnanti** have received the 2016 Harold W. Kuhn Award, an annual prize which recognizes an exceptional paper published in Naval Research Logistics (NRL) during the previous three years. Their winning paper, co-authored with Jack Muckstadt (Cornell), Danny Segev (Univ. of Haifa), and Eric Zarybnisky (past MIT ORC PhD student), is entitled "Maintenance Scheduling for Modular Systems: Modeling and Algorithms" (NRL 61: 472-488, 2014).

Jim Orlin has won the ACM SIGecom (Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on E-commerce) Test of Time Award, which recognizes papers published between 10 and 25 years ago that have had "significant impact on research or applications that exemplify the interplay of economics and computation."

Jim's winning paper, co-authored with John J. Bartholdi, III (Georgia Tech), is entitled "Single Transferable Vote Resists Strategic Voting" (Social Choice and Welfare, 8: 341-354, 1991). The award committee characterized Jim's paper as being one of two that in many ways catalyzed an entire field, noting its influence on the subfield of computational social choice.

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Carolina Osorio has won the 2016 Outstanding Paper in Urban Transportation Planning and Modeling of the Transportation Science and Logistics Society of INFORMS for the paper "A Simulation-based Optimization Framework for Urban Transportation Problems" (Operations Research 61(6):1333-1345, 2013), co-authored with Michel Bierlaire.

Georgia Perakis has won the 2016 Best Paper Award Competition of the INFORMS Service Science Section. Her winning paper, co-authored with Lennart Baardman, Maxime C. Cohen, Kiran Panchamgam, and Danny Segev, is entitled "Scheduling Promotion Vehicles to Boost Profits." Georgia actually had two papers that were finalists for this Best Paper Award: the other, co-authored with MIT ORC PhD student Charles Thraves, was "On a Variation of Two-part Tariff Pricing of Services: A Data Driven Approach".

Georgia Perakis has been selected to be an INFORMS Fellow, Class of 2016. This award honors "distinguished individuals who have demonstrated outstanding and exceptional accomplishments in operations research and the management sciences" and whose "service to the profession and to INFORMS is truly remarkable." Georgia in particular was cited for "exceptional research, spanning theory to practice with important contributions to variational inequalities, the price of anarchy, dynamic pricing and data analytics, and for her dedicated mentorship of a future generation of OR scholars."

Georgia Perakis was named the Sloan School Teacher of the Year.

David Simchi-Levi, and his Phd Students, Yan Zhao and Xiao Fang received the 2017 SIAM Data Mining Best Research paper Award. Their winning paper is entitled "Uplift Modeling with Multiple Treatments and General Response Types." The award was received in the SIAM Data Mining award ceremony on Friday April 28, 2017.

John Tsitsiklis has been the recipient of the 2016 ACM SIGMETRICS Achievement Award in recognition of his fundamental contributions to decentralized control and consensus, approximate dynamic programming and statistical learning.

Website: http://www.sigmetrics.org/achievementaward-2016.shtml

Caroline Uhler was named a 2017 Sloan Research Fellow.

Website: https://sloan.org/fellowships/2017-Fellows

Caroline Uhler received an NSF Career Award for her paper "Gaussian Graphical Models: Theory, Computation, and Applications".

Website: https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=1651995

Juan Pablo Vielma received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) on January 09, 2017.

OPERATIONS RESEARCH CENTER

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Website: https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/09/president-obama-honors-federally-funded-early-career-scientists

Juan Pablo Vielma has been promoted to Associate Professor.

Y. Karen Zheng has been promoted to Associate Professor.

ORC STUDENTS

Ali Aouad was a finalist in the George Nicholson Student Paper Competition for his paper "Greedy-Like Algorithms for Dynamic Assortment Optimization under Multinomial Logit Preferences", co-authored with Retsef Levi and Danny Segev.

Eduardo Candela has been selected as member of the "Best National Engineering Graduates" Class of 2016, an honor granted by the Mexican Association of Engineering Schools and Faculties. The ceremony will take place in Mexico City on June 9th, 2017, during the XLIV National Engineering Conference.

Lennart Baardman, **Maxime Cohen**, and **Georgia Perakis** along with Kiran Panchamgam and Danny Segev received the 2016 INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Best Cluster Paper Award for the paper "Scheduling Promotion Vehicles to Boost Profits".

Maxime Cohen won the 2016 INFORMS Revenue Management and Pricing Section Dissertation Award (https://www.informs.org/Community/revenue-mgt/Awards/Dissertation-Award) for his PhD thesis, "Pricing for Retail, Social Networks and Green Technologies".

Chong Yang Goh and **Chiwei Yan** won the 2017 Hubway Data Challenge Best Data Exploration Tool award presented by Microsoft.

Website: https://www.thehubway.com/blog/2017-datachallenge-winners

Swati Gupta was a finalists in the Best Student Paper Award of the Informs Service Science Section for her paper entitled "An Efficient Algorithm for Dynamic Pricing using a Graphical Representation", coauthored by Maxime Cohen, Jeremy Kalas, Kiran Panchamgam, and Georgia Perakis.

Swati Gupta, **John Silberholz**, and **lain Dunning** received a "Special Recognition" from the INFORMS Computing Society, as a part of the 2016 ICS Student Paper Award (https://www.informs.org/Community/ICS/Prizes/Student-Paper-Award), for the paper "What Works Best When? A Systematic Evaluation of Heuristics for Max-Cut and QUBO".

Joey Huchette, **Miles Lubin**, and **Iain Dunning** were awarded the prestigious INFORMS computing society prize (https://www.informs.org/Community/ICS/Prizes/ICS-Prize) for the mathematical programming modeling language JuMP, 2016.



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Will Ma received 2nd place in the POMS-HK Best Student Paper Competition for the paper titled "Dynamic Recommendation at Checkout under Inventory Constraint".

Website: http://pomshk2017.ust.hk/studentpaper.html

Christopher Marks received a 2016 Best Student Paper Award (https://www.informs.org/Community/Social-Media-Analytics/Student-Paper-Competition) from the INFORMS Social Media Analytics section for the paper "Finding Online Extremists in Social Networks". This paper was coauthored by Professor Jytte Klausen and Professor Tauhid Zaman.

Brad Sturt has been awarded the 2016-17 Sloan Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award from serving as a TA in 15.060: Data, Models and Decisions in Fall 2016.

Rajan Udwani was a finalist in the George Nicholson Student Paper Competition for his paper "Robust Monotone Submodular Function Maximization", co-authored with James Orlin and Andreas Schulz.

ORC ALUMNI

Ilan Lobel was named to the 2017 Best 40 Under 40 Professors by Poets & Quants.

http://poetsandquants.com/2017/03/26/2017-best-40-40-professors-ilan-lobel-new-york-university-stern/

Garrett J. van Ryzin received the 2016 INFORMS Impact Prize for contributions in revenue management.

STUDENTS SUPERVISED BY ORC FACULTY

Peter Yun Zhang (supervised by **David Simchi-Levi** and **Nikos Trichakis**) was awarded 2nd place in the 2017 Supply Chain Management College Student Paper Competition from the Production and Operations Management Society for the paper "Designing response supply chain against bioattacks".

Website: http://poms.org/colleges/cscm/