Teaching Statistics Peter Holmes Prize announced

News

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The Teaching Statistics Trust are pleased to announce a new award for *Teaching Statistics* – The Peter Holmes Prize. In honour of the journal's founding Editor, the Peter Holmes Prize will be awarded to the best classroom idea published in *Teaching Statistics* in a given year.

Peter Holmes became the Director of the Schools Council Project on Statistical Education at the University of Sheffield in 1975. In 1983, the Centre for Statistical Education, a joint venture between the University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University was founded with Peter as its Director. This later became the Royal Statistical Society Centre for Statistical Education (RSSCSE) when it moved to the University of Nottingham in 1995.

Peter founded *Teaching Statistics* with Vic Barnett in 1979, and he continued to act as Editor until 1987. Peter's hard work enabled *Teaching Statistics* to establish itself as *the* journal for all those involved in statistical education around the world.

The 2012 Peter Holmes prize has been awarded to Chris du Feu for his article, "*Classroom projects – full steam ahead*", in which he describes practical work suitable for secondary students based on eBay selling prices. Peter selected this article as it has a clear classroom application and opens up a wide range of similar situations in which students may be interested. Furthermore, it encourages individual thinking about defining a problem and solving it in a context with the tools available, and promotes both teachers and learners to use statistics as an investigational method rather than a set of techniques to be learned.

The Peter Holmes Prize stresses the on-going importance of practical classroom ideas to the journal, as it continues to be aimed at teachers of students aged up to 19 who use statistics in their work, with a particular emphasis on addressing classroom problems.

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