Statistical Computing Section
American Statistical Association

John M. Chambers Statistical Software Award 2003

The Statistical Computing Section of the American Statistical Association announces the competition for the John M. Chambers Statistical Software Award. In 1998 the Association for Computing Machinery presented its Software System Award to John Chambers for the design and development of the statistical computing environment S. Dr. Chambers generously donated his award to the Statistical Computing Section to endow an annual prize for statistical software written by an undergraduate or graduate student. The prize carries with it a cash award of $1000, plus a substantial allowance for travel to the annual Joint Statistical Meetings where the award will be presented.

To be eligible, an entrant must have designed and implemented a piece of statistical software. The applicant must have begun the development while a student, and must either currently be a student, or have completed all requirements for the last degree earned after January 1, 2000. To apply for the award, entrants must provide the following materials:

- A current CV.
- A letter from a faculty mentor at their academic institution.
- A brief, one to two page description of the software, summarizing what it does, how it does it, and why it is an important contribution.
- Access to the software by the award committee for their use on inputs of their choosing. Access to the software can consist of an executable file, Web-based access, macro code, or other appropriate form.

All materials must be in English. We prefer that electronic text be submitted in Postscript or PDF. The entries will be judged on a variety of dimensions, including the importance and relevance for statistical practice of the tasks performed by the software, ease of use, clarity of description, elegance and availability for use by the statistical community. Preference will be given to those entries that are grounded in software design rather than calculation. The decision of the award committee is final.

All application materials must be received by 5:00pm PST, Thursday, February 28, 2003 at the address below. The winner will be announced in the spring of 2003 and the award will be given at the 2003 Joint Statistical Meetings.

Complete information on the competition can be accessed on the website of the Statistical Computing Section (www.statcomputing.org), including the names and contributions of previous winners. A current pointer to the section website is also available from the ASA website at *www.amstat.org.* Inquiries and application materials should be emailed or mailed to:

Chambers Software Award, c/o Lionel Galway
The RAND Corporation, 1700 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90407
Lionel_Galway@rand.org

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