



Report on Activities of the Membership Committee 2014

Committee members: Alexandra Schmidt (UFRJ, Brazil) (chair), Grace Chiu (CSIRO, Australia), Alessio Pollice (Bari, Italy), Ashley Steel (US Forest Service)

Suggested actions that TIES members can take to increase awareness of the society among researchers who work with environmental problems:

1. The board members, and TIES members in general, could make an effort to advertise TIES activities whenever they give talks at environmental related conferences; TIES could provide its members with a template to include in their talks; TIES could advertise itself (through stickers, designated liaison person, etc.) at other meetings that are related to environmental problems, e.g. the International Statistical Ecology Conference ([isec2014.sciencesconf.org](https://www.isec2014.sciencesconf.org)), Statistical Ecology and Environmental Monitoring (<https://www.ecolsoc.org.au/news/2014/08/statistical-ecology-and-environmental-monitoring-seem-2015-conference-be-held>) - TIES could provide its members with a designated e-mail address to nominate such meetings at which TIES could advertise itself.
2. Make sure that the board is as diverse as possible such that we have the best potential to enlarge our network;
3. Involve TIES in other meetings (see above): TIES could support such meetings and play an active role in their organization.
Possible actions to advertise TIES:
 - Produce stickers with TIES logo and distribute them among Board Members: whenever one participates in conferences where they see posters with potential to be published in *Environmetrics* put a sticker on the poster
 - Update TIES brochure to be sent electronically to different departments, societies and members; the update can include some possible reasons why someone should join TIES among the plethora of environment/ecological/statistical/mathematical societies (e.g. TIES is uniquely focused on quantitative environmental research activities that do not necessarily pertain to a particular discipline (statistics/mathematics/engineering/biology/...)).
4. Create an electronic forum where TIES members could have discussions, advertise seminars, workshops, jobs... Do we have the tools to create such a forum on our website? Maybe create a Google Group (such as that for the *Environmetrics* editorial board) or Facebook account?
5. From the list of members, the committee will create a list of researchers that are not members but have the potential to become and will contact them personally;
6. Establish a relationship with other societies or their Sections that involve environmental problems (EnviBayes (Environmental Section of ISBA), Statistics and the Environment Section of ASA, ...)
7. The Newsletter could include interviews with environmetricians. The interview could be done by students.
8. Support more regional activities, like Schools, where more members could be enrolled in the society.



2014 TIES Awards Committee Report

Elena Naumova (Chair), Brent Henderson, Krishan Jandhyala, Petra Kuhnert, Joanna Mills Flemming

Activity and Focus Since Last Meeting

Abdel El-Shaarawi Young Researcher's (AEYR) Award

Screened 7 candidates and presented candidate's qualifications using the developed criteria we have agreed upon:

[A] Statistical and quantitative research quality and impact: Evidence of these may include contributions to the development of new and innovative methodologies for understanding environmentally related natural phenomena.

[B] Strong interdisciplinary work for solving important environmental problems: These may pertain to contributions to the development of quantitative/statistical methods and analytical tools that promote environmental sciences as well as initiation and maintenance of collaboration with researchers and practitioners in relevant interdisciplinary areas.

[C] Contribution to the Environmetrics community: This could center around contributions to the professional development in the field of environmetrics and promotion of the use of statistical and quantitative solutions in environmental sciences.

We reviewed applications for the 4 most promising candidates and ranked each candidate. An individual was recommended to the TIES Board for the Young Researcher's Award. The committee also asked the Board to consider an additional category "Honorable Mention" with no financial commitments, which can be given to highly deserved candidates who will not be eligible for nomination due to age limit.

TIES2014 Best Student Presentation and Best Poster Awards

Planning undertaken for both awards at the TIES2014 conference in Guangzhou, China. Funded jointly by TIES and Wiley.

Planned Activity and Focus Going Forward

- Considering a TIES Founder Award – to be introduced as part of the 25th anniversary conference in Brisbane (June/July 2015). Developing options/s for TIES Board.
- Considering the naming of the Best Student Presentation Award to honour a founding TIES member. Developing options/s for TIES Board.
- Activity relevant to TIES2015 (best student, best poster, Young Researcher awards).