

# ISIF AWARDS

## ISIF AWARD PROGRAM

To encourage excellence and advancements in the research community for information fusion, the International Society of Information Fusion (ISIF) sponsors awards for significant achievements in the field of information fusion. In addition to the two best paper awards [see p. 28], the Yaakov Bar-Shalom Award for a Lifetime of Excellence in Information Fusion and the Young Investigator Award for Contributions in Information Fusion were given this year.

The 2021 ISIF Awards Committee was chaired by Dr. Dale Blair and included Dr. Craig Agate, Prof. Yaakov Bar-Shalom, Dr. Chee-Yee Chong, Prof. Paulo Costa, and Dr. Larry Stone. This committee represents a highly accomplished and experienced group of researchers who span the breadth of scientific areas of study that are most prominent in the ISIF community. All awards are presented at the awards banquet at the International Conference on Information Fusion. Additional details of the award and selection processes are available at [www.isif.org](http://www.isif.org).

## YAAKOV BAR-SHALOM AWARD FOR A LIFETIME OF EXCELLENCE IN INFORMATION FUSION

The premier ISIF award is the ISIF Yaakov Bar-Shalom Award for a Lifetime of Excellence in Information Fusion. This award is given for a lifetime of contributions to information fusion. It was first given in 2015 and subsequently named in 2016 for the first recipient, Yaakov Bar-Shalom, whose career began in the pre-internet days of punched cards. The ISIF Yaakov Bar-Shalom Award recognizes a researcher or engineer for outstanding contributions to the field of information fusion throughout his or her career. Contributions include technical advances, technical vision and leadership, education and mentoring, novel applications of information fusion and associated engineering achievements, and service to ISIF.

**Ed Waltz** is selected as the recipient of the 2021 ISIF Yaakov Bar-Shalom Award for a Lifetime of Excellence in Information Fusion. Mr. Waltz's contributions to the development and application of data fusion technology to defense and intelligence and his thoughtful leadership in the field are the basis for his selection of the award. Dr. Jim Scrofani of the Naval Postgraduate School nominated and endorsed Mr. Waltz for this honor.



2021 recipient Ed Waltz.

Mr. Waltz is a Professor of Practice in Intelligence at the Naval Postgraduate School and an Adjunct Professor of Intelligence at the Pat-

rick Henry College in Purcellville, Virginia, USA. From 2013–2018, he was Chief of the Advanced Concepts Division, US National Reconnaissance Office, where he led research in “intelligence process research focused on automating intelligence collection and data integration” (2016). He is a recipient of the US Department of Defense’s Joe Mignona Data Fusion Award (2004) and received the National Intelligence Meritorious Unit Citation for “implementing an automated, problem-centric, integrated intelligence architecture” (2015).

## W. Dale Blair

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## ISIF YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD

The ISIF Young Investigator Award recognizes a young ISIF member for outstanding contributions in the field. The goals of the ISIF in granting this award are to encourage individual effort and to foster increased participation by younger researchers and engineers. This ISIF award consists of a commemorative recognition plaque and travel grant to receive the award.

**Florian Meyer** is the recipient of the 2021 ISIF Award for Young Investigator. Several nominations were submitted for the 2021 award, including the nomination by Dr. Stefano Coraluppi of Prof. Florian Meyer.



2021 recipient Florian Meyer.

Prof. Meyer's publication record and his contributions to graph-based localization and tracking are the basis for the award. Prof. Meyer received the Dipl.-Ing. (M.Sc.) and Ph.D. degrees (with highest honors) in electrical engineering from TU Wien, Vienna, Austria in 2011 and 2015, respectively. He is an Assistant Professor with the University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA, jointly between the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. From 2017 to 2019, he was a Postdoctoral Fellow and Associate with Laboratory for Information & Decision Systems at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, and from 2016 to 2017, he was a Research Scientist with NATO Centre for Maritime Research and Experimentation, La Spezia, Italy. Dr. Meyer is the recipient of an NSF Career Award. He is an Associate Editor for the *IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems* and the *ISIF Journal of Advances in Information Fusion*. Dr. Meyer was a keynote speaker at the IEEE Aerospace Conference in 2020.