

ISIF AWARDS

ISIF AWARD PROGRAM

To encourage excellence and advancements in the research community for information fusion, ISIF sponsors awards for significant achievements in the field of information fusion. This field is diverse and comprises target tracking, detection, estimation, sensor fusion, applications of information fusion, image fusion, information fusion systems architectures, classification, learning, Bayesian and reasoning methods, and data mining. The ISIF Awards Committee for 2016 includes Shozo Mori, Lawrence Stone, Yaakov Bar-Shalom, Elisa Shahbazian, Paulo Costa, and myself as Chair.

ISIF proudly sponsors three society awards and two conference awards. These are

- ▶ ISIF Lifetime of Excellence in Information Fusion,
- ▶ ISIF Young Investigator Award For Contributions in Information Fusion,
- ▶ ISIF Exceptional Service Award,
- ▶ ISIF FUSION Conference Best Paper Award, and
- ▶ ISIF FUSION Conference Best Student Paper Awards.

All of the awards are presented annually during the award banquet at the FUSION Conference. This article shares additional details of these awards. Additional details of the award and selection processes are available at www.isif.org.

The Premier award is the ISIF 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 for a Lifetime of Excellence in Information Fusion recognizes a researcher or engineer for outstanding contributions to the field of information fusion throughout their career. Contributions include technical advances, technical vision and leadership, education and mentoring, novel applications of information fusion and the associated engineering achievements, and service to ISIF. The award consists of a commemorative recognition plaque and a travel grant to receive the award. This award may be given annually, if outstanding candidates are nominated, but it is expected to be given at least once every 3 years because individuals with the anticipated level of contributions to information fusion throughout a career will be rare. The selection process is managed by the ISIF Awards Committee. Nominations are solicited



Yaakov Bar-Shalom at FUSION 2000 in Paris

from the ISIF membership and nominees must have been a member of ISIF for a total of at least 10 years. Anyone qualified to appraise the candidate's contributions may formally nominate the candidate. Nominations are due by the 31st day of January in the year of the award and the award is presented at the annual FUSION conference. Dr. Chee Chong is the 2016 recipient of the ISIF Yaakov Bar-Shalom Award.

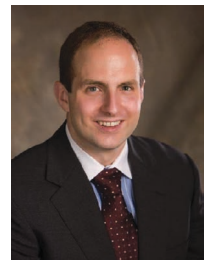
The ISIF Young Investigator Award is sponsored by the ISIF to grant international recognition for outstanding contributions to the art of information fusion by a young ISIF member. The goals of the ISIF in granting this award are to encourage individual effort and to foster increased participation by younger researchers and engineers. This ISIF award consists of a commemorative recognition plaque and travel grant to receive the award. An eligible candidate must be no more than 35 years of age on the first day of January for the year in which they will be honored, and she/he must also be a member of ISIF with at least three years of ISIF membership. Nominations will be solicited from the ISIF membership and the selection process is managed by the ISIF Awards Committee. Anyone qualified to appraise the candidate's contributions to the art of information fusion may formally nominate the candidate. A full nomination package that includes an exhaustive curriculum vita and at least three endorsement letters is required by the 31st day of January in the year of the award. The ISIF Young Investigator Award is presented at the annual FUSION conference. This year is the first year of the ISIF Young Investigator Award and Dr. David Crouse is the first recipient.

This year, ISIF introduces the ISIF Robert Lynch Award for Exceptional Service to recognize an individual who has provided great service to the society. The award was established in memory of Robert (Bob) Lynch who contributed regularly over many years to the organization of the annual FUSION conference and tirelessly to the founding and production of the *Journal for Advances in Information Fusion* (JAIF), the founding

W. Dale Blair



Chee Chong, 2016 Recipient of the Yaakov Bar-Shalom Award



David Crouse, 2016 Recipient of the ISIF Young Investigator Award



Robert (Bob) Lynch

of *ISIF Perspectives on Information Fusion*, and the maintenance of the ISIF web site. The award consists of a commemorative recognition plaque and an honorarium. Good candidates for the service award would have numerous contributions that might include active and prolonged participation in the annual FUSION conferences, exceptional leadership in the organization of FUSION over many years, service to the ISIF Board of Directors in either elected or appointed positions, publications in JAIF, leadership and contributions to the JAIF editorial board and its production, support of the ISIF website and working groups, and other activities that promote ISIF and the area of information fusion. This award may be given annually, if outstanding candidates are nominated, but it is expected to be given once every three years because individuals with the anticipated level of contributions to ISIF will be rare. The nominee shall have made a series of major contributions to ISIF and the information fusion community over multiple years. Nominees must have 10 years of membership in ISIF. Anyone qualified to appraise the candidate's contribution[s] may formally nominate the candidate. A full nomination package that includes an exhaustive curriculum vita is provided to the chair of the ISIF Awards Committee prior to the 31st day of January in the year of the award.

The Jean-Pierre Le Cadre Award recognizes excellence among researchers and scientists in information fusion. Jean-Pierre Le Cadre's career was highly motivated by his pursuit of excellence in his research. Beginning in 2010, the Jean-Pierre Le Cadre Award is for the best paper of the FUSION conference and includes a certificate and an honorarium. The Jean-Pierre Le Cadre Award is managed by the organizing committee for the FUSION conference for that year. The 2015 recipients of the award were Shozo Mori, Kuochu Chang, Hajime Takahashi, and Chee-Yee Chong for coauthoring "An Application

of Interacting Multiple Model Tracking Method to Financial Modeling and Asset Allocation."

Students are the lifeblood of ISIF and the future of information fusion. Tammy Blair played a key role in the organizing committee for multiple FUSION conferences and was passionate about involving students. Tammy died in San Diego, California during the week following the 2009 FUSION conference, where she contracted the Swine Flu. The ISIF Tammy Blair Best Student Paper Award encourages the involvement of young researchers and scientists in information fusion. It honors Tammy Blair's commitment to ISIF and her efforts to involve students in the annual FUSION conference. In addition to the best student paper, as judged by the FUSION organizing committee, two runners-up are recognized annually. All awardees receive certificates and honorariums. Student authors of finalist papers are required to attend the FUSION conference. The 2015 recipient of the award was Muhammad Altarnash Khan for the paper entitled "Improvements in the Implementation of Log-Homotopy Based Particle Flow Filters" that was coauthored with Martin Ulmke.

The ISIF Board of Directors is committed to promoting excellence and achievement in the area of information fusion, and a strong ISIF awards program is considered to be a critical piece of that vision.



Jean-Pierre Le Cadre lecturing at FUSION 2000 in Paris



Tammy Blair at the 2006 FUSION in Florence, Italy