



RSS Honours and Award Winner Citations 2026

Guy Medal Gold – Professor Peter McCullagh

The 2026 Guy Medal in Gold is awarded to Professor Peter McCullagh for a long list of pivotal contributions to statistical theory, which is both broad in range and exceptional in depth. He was principal architect of the theory and application of generalised linear models; for developing group-theoretical foundations and tensor methods for statistical modelling; for exceptional contributions to statistical inference at an unusual intersection of foundational and applied statistics; and for lasting impact across a wide range of areas, including four discussion papers in the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B*.

Guy Medal Silver – Professor Christl Donnelly

The Guy Medal in Silver is awarded to Professor Christl Donnelly for her outstanding contributions to the development and application of statistical and biomathematical methods to analyse patterns of infectious diseases. Her research focuses on the development and use of statistical methods to gain robust insights from dynamical models of disease transmission, demography and interventions, and her extensive publication list includes five papers in the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A*, one of which was presented at an RSS special topic meeting on COVID-19 transmission. She played a key role in the statistical design, conduct and interpretation of studies which transformed our understanding of the epidemiology of COVID-19 and the measures required to protect public health. Her work had a significant influence on policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, and Christl has also led and contributed to modelling work on a range of infectious diseases including Zika virus, Ebola and Foot & Mouth Disease.

Guy Medal Bronze – Dr Maria Skoularidou

The Guy Medal in Bronze is awarded to Dr Maria Skoularidou for her expertise in high dimensional statistics, where she has made important contributions in areas including the estimation of discrete and tabular data. Her contributions are both methodological (developing new methods) and applied, with work published in *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B*. Maria has also advanced our understanding of high dimensional models for healthcare data, in particular her work on developing novel analysis methods for applications in gene expression data. Maria demonstrates versatility as a statistician stretching across statistical methodology to applications in health data, as well as making contributions to machine learning topics.

Barnett Award for Environmental Statistics – Professor Finn Lindgren

The 2026 Barnett Award for Environmental Statistics is awarded to Professor Finn Lindgren for strong and sustained contributions to environmental statistics through significant methodological advances and software development. His paper with Lindgren, Rue and Lindström in *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B* (2011, with discussion) made it possible to fit flexible Gaussian process models to large spatial datasets and has had particular impact on the statistical modelling of climate, ecology and health.

Chambers Medal for Outstanding Service to the Society – Dr Sophie Carr

The 2026 Chambers Medal for outstanding services to the Royal Statistical Society is awarded

to Dr Sophie Carr. Sophie has contributed to the RSS in many ways, most notably through being an outstanding Vice President for Education and Data Literacy, leading this area of the Society's work with skill, energy and efficiency. She has promoted the RSS and RSS aims both internally and externally through talks, masterclasses and blogs. Sophie has been a valued and wise member of both RSS Council and Executive Committee as well as contributing to areas as diverse as Audit and Risk, Official Statistics and, in particular, to AI and Data Science. She is a member of the Society's Data Science Task Force and is a founding member of the Statistical Engineering Special Interest group.