



## Scholarship Selection Procedures for useR! 2018

The primary goal of providing scholarships is to enrich the diversity of the useR! 2018 conference, by supporting the travel expenses of demographically and geographically under-represented members of the community<sup>1</sup>. Preference is given to applicants who have the potential to positively impact their local R community after the conference.

Procedures:

1. Committee formed to review applications: Di Cook, Thomas Lumley, Alex Whan, Anna Quaglieri, Nick Tierney, Rhydwyn McGuire, Rob Hyndman, Jessie Roberts. The composition of the committee is intentionally diverse, including senior researchers, from academia and industry, and junior researchers.
2. Google form opened to receive applications, asking for this information:
  - Name, email, affiliation
  - Tell us a little about yourself, especially about your R and open source or open data activities.
  - Do you identify with an under-represented, minority, socially or geographically disadvantaged group? Provide some details.
  - Why are you applying for a scholarship?
  - Tell us why attending useR! would help you, and impact the community
  - Where would you be traveling from and to?
  - I would like to be considered for an R Ladies Australia scholarship
3. Advertised on web site Jan 25, 2018
4. Web app called cooe, built to review applications, available at <https://github.com/useR-2018/cooe>, Scholarships branch.
5. Applications closed Mar 4, after receiving 92 applications. (Aim to notify applicants before the early registration deadline.)
6. Applications were rated, with complete information available to reviewers, using these guidelines:
  - The reasons for scholarship request are compelling, based on their R background and potential impact on their community paragraphs.
  - Are they from a country, region or area (especially if close to Australia) not typically represented at useR, or from an under-represented group?
  - Applicant information provided through the form is verified by examining their public profile on twitter, github, R mailing lists.
7. Short-list of 19 applicants (both domestic and international) decided from the top ratings.
8. Short-list applicants voted on by committee. Scholarships offered in order of ranking by votes.
9. Special conditions: R-Ladies scholarships decided on by R-Ladies Melbourne who provided the funding. These were awarded after the other domestic scholarships were decided.

*Note:* As of May 4, 2018 \$14600 in scholarship funding has been awarded.

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<sup>1</sup>Demographically under-represented includes women and members of the LGBTQIA community; geographically under-represented includes countries in regions of south-east Asia, Pacific, Africa, and South America.