

[Login](#)

BERKELEY INITIATIVE FOR TRANSPARENCY  
IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

## New Prizes Will Recognize and Reward Transparency in Social Science Research *Early-Career Researchers, Senior Faculty Eligible to Enter Leamer-Rosenthal Prize Competition for Open Social Science*

**Released:** 13-May-2015 9:30 AM EDT

**Source Newsroom:** [Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences](#)

### Contact Information

*Available for logged-in reporters only*

Newswise — Transparent research is integral to the validity of science. Openness is especially important in such social science disciplines as economics, political science and psychology, because this research shapes policy and influences clinical practices that affect millions of lives. To encourage openness in research and the teaching of best practices in social science, the Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences (BITSS) has established *The Leamer-Rosenthal Prizes for Open Social Science*. BITSS is an initiative of the Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA) at the University of California, Berkeley. The prizes, which provide recognition, visibility and cash awards to both the next generation of researchers and senior faculty, are generously supported by the John Templeton Foundation.

The competition is open to scholars and educators worldwide.

“In academia, career advances and research funding are usually awarded on the basis of how many journal articles a scientist publishes. This incentive structure can encourage researchers to dramatize their findings in ways that increase the probability of publication, sometimes even at the expense of transparency and integrity,” said Edward Miguel, PhD, Professor of Economics at UC Berkeley and Faculty Director of CEGA. “*The Leamer-Rosenthal Prizes* will help speed the adoption of transparent practices by recognizing and rewarding researchers and educators whose work and teaching exemplify the best in open social science.”

The competition consists of two categories. The *Emerging Leaders in Open Social Science Research Prize* will award cash prizes of up to \$15,000 to early-career researchers who adopt transparent research practices or pioneer new methods to increase the rigor of research. The *Leaders in Open Social Science Education Prize* will award the work of faculty leaders who teach best practices in social science research with prizes of up to \$10,000. Winners will receive their awards, and have the opportunity to present their research, at the BITSS Annual Meeting in December 2015 at UC Berkeley.

“With the media focusing attention on lapses in ethical conduct and failures in reproducibility, the establishment of scientific prizes to celebrate those who demonstrate the highest standards of openness, transparency, and integrity is most welcome,” said Rush Holt, Chief Executive Officer of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). “Here at AAAS, we have always been dedicated to high standards for reproducibility in research to maintain the credibility of the science we publish and to uphold the principles of good science.”

The prizes are named for economist Dr. Edward E. Leamer (UCLA) and psychologist Dr. Robert Rosenthal (UC Riverside) – academic pioneers who laid the foundation for open social science.

research,” said Dr. happily there is an entum toward the

d. While this demand d institutions that govern ntegrity. This leads to a e this research evidence

re every research dollar hat is why it is so

ars. The deadline to learn more, please go

tions for the problems of ing rigorous field trials, cts of economic follow us on Twitter at

Share

nce, Psychology, Sociology, Edward Leamer, Robert