

JEROEN VERMUNT RECEIVES THE INAUGURAL LEO GOODMAN AWARD

We are extremely pleased to announce that Jeroen Vermunt is the first recipient of the Leo Goodman Award of the ASA Methodology Section.

The Leo Goodman Award, established in 2004 by the Methodology Section of the American Sociological Association, recognizes contributions to sociological methodology made by a scholar who is no more than 10 years past Ph.D. The Goodman award is made every other year.

This year's award committee consists of Scott Eliason, Adrian Raftery, and Yu Xie (chair), has awarded the 2005, and the first, Leo Goodman Award, to Jeroen Vermunt of Tilburg University, The Netherlands. Since he received his PhD in 1996, Vermunt has made outstanding contributions to sociological methodology as well as innovative uses of sociological methods in substantive research.

Jeroen Vermunt's primary methodological contributions are in the area of categorical data analysis, with particular attention to latent heterogeneity. Using a latent class analysis approach, he has incorporated into loglinear event history analysis methods for handling missing data, unobserved heterogeneity, censoring, and measurement error. He has also successfully applied the same approach to classification and clustering analysis, and multi-level and random coefficient models for categorical data. In his recent work, he has made original and important contributions to the analysis of ordered data with different flexible constraints.

An important feature of Vermunt's work is that he has made his methodological work accessible for social scientists by developing user-friendly computer programs: LEM and Latent Gold (the later of which he jointly developed with Jay Magidson). He has taught and presented workshops worldwide, and has collaborated and published together with many substantively interested social science researchers.

In sum, in the nine years since his PhD, Jeroen Vermunt has established himself as a major contributor to sociological methodology and a distinguished scholar of social science research. To recognize his important contributions in his early career, the Methodology Section of the American Sociological Association is pleased to present Jeroen Vermunt with the 2005 Leo Goodman Award.