

Tinbergen Institute

Fellowship Charter 2017-2021

December 2016 (update August 2019)



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Introduction

As part of its mission to stimulate high quality research, Tinbergen Institute (TI) defines quality standards for researchers in the areas of economics, econometrics and finance at the Erasmus School of Economics of Erasmus University Rotterdam, the School of Business and Economics of VU Amsterdam and the Faculty of Economics and Business of the University of Amsterdam. Those who meet TI's quality standards can become TI research fellow. Research fellows are nominated by the TI Director of Graduate Studies; fellowships are granted on behalf of the Board of the Amsterdam-Rotterdam Consortium for Graduate Education (ARC). This document presents the rules concerning eligibility for the various TI fellowships and the application and evaluation procedure.

This version of the Charter is valid until December 31, 2021.

1. Types of Fellowships

Tinbergen Institute takes the academic life cycle of researchers into account by applying different criteria to researchers at the beginning of their academic careers, at the peak of their careers and towards the end of their academic careers. Tinbergen Institute discerns three categories of research fellowships:

- TI Candidate Fellowship
- TI Research Fellowship
- TI Honorary Fellowship

All research fellows (no matter the fellow category) should hold a PhD. For a researcher to be eligible for a fellowship, his or her research field should fit into one of the eight research groups of Tinbergen Institute:

1. Behavioral Economics
2. Complexity
3. Econometrics
4. Finance
5. Empirical Economics
6. Macroeconomics
7. Organizations and Markets
8. Spatial Economics

A TI research fellow is a member of one of these groups. Each group is led by two program leaders. The basic requirement for candidate fellows and research fellows is an appointment at one of the three economics schools participating in Tinbergen Institute. In order to have the opportunity to actively participate in TI, a minimum appointment of 0.2 fte is required. Another requirement for research fellows is that they have an ORCID account: an identifier for researchers which connects researchers to their publications.

2. TI Candidate Fellowship

The candidate fellowship intends to include young researchers in the TI community. Candidate fellows will be actively involved in organizing TI seminar series and are invited to participate in TI activities.

Admission requirements

To be admitted as a candidate fellow, a researcher should:

- have a PhD;
- hold a junior position with a designated research task (e.g., postdoc or (un-)tenured assistant professorship);
- be appointed for at least 0.2 fte at one of the Schools;
- be conducting research that fits into one of the 8 TI research groups.

Candidate fellowships last for a maximum of 6 years after the PhD defense. If a researcher becomes an associate or full professor during that period, he or she automatically loses the candidate fellowship.

In case of pregnancy during her candidate fellowship, the candidate fellow can request an extension of her fellowship for one year per pregnancy.

Tasks

- Carry out and disseminate high quality research;
- Organize TI seminars, workshops and conferences;
- Actively participate in TI activities;
- Actively promote TI and show commitment to its goals;
- Mention the TI affiliation in publications, CV and homepage.

Benefits

- Publish in the TI discussion paper series;
- Budget to invite co-authors to TI;
- Use of work space on TI premises.

Procedure

Researchers who meet the criteria are invited to apply for the candidate research fellowship at any time by submitting a CV to research@tinbergen.nl. Please indicate to which research program you belong at your School, and also of which TI research group you would like to be a member. Candidate fellowships are granted on behalf of the ARC Board.

3. TI Research Fellowship

TI research fellows are selected researchers from the three Schools.

Admission requirements

To be admitted as a research fellow, a researcher should:

- have a PhD;
- have a position with a designated research task;
- be appointed for at least 0.2 fte at one of the Schools;
- be conducting research that fits into one of the 8 TI research groups.
- meet the requirements based on publications and/or citations (see Appendix I).

TI appreciates that academics have a professional life cycle. The ARC Board may decide that a researcher who has been a TI research fellow for many years and who is still an active member of the TI research community (e.g., as a manager of research projects, a coach to young talent, a contributor to TI's doctoral program), may remain a fellow even if he or she does not meet the requirements in terms of publications or citations mentioned above.

In case of pregnancy during her fellowship, the fellow can request a 20% reduction in the threshold value of publication points and citation score. The ARC Board decides whether this request will be honoured.

Tasks

- Carry out and disseminate high quality research;
- Supervise TI students
- Contribute to the TI doctoral program
- Organize TI seminars, workshops, conference;
- Actively participate in TI activities;
- Promote TI and show commitment to its goals;
- Mention the TI affiliation in publications, CV and homepage.

Benefits

- Publish in the TI discussion paper series (also published at SSRN);
- Budget to invite guests and seminar speakers with support from the TI staff;
- Budget to organize large scale conferences and workshops with support from the TI staff;
- Close contact with excellent trained candidates for a PhD position;
- Use of work space on TI premises..

Procedure

Researchers who meet the criteria are invited to apply for the candidate research fellowship at any time by submitting a CV to research@tinbergen.nl. Applicants are requested to send their CV, including a publication list, indicating the publications on the basis of which they want to be evaluated. Decisions are based on articles and (contributions to) books that have been published or of which the electronic version has been made available through the publisher's website.

Please indicate to which research program you belong at your School, and also of which TI research group you would like to be a member.

Research fellowships are granted on behalf of the ARC Board. By default, the appointment of all fellows will terminate as of 31 December 2021. At that moment, research fellows will be re-assessed based on the criteria that are valid at that moment.

The ARC Board has the authority to deviate from these guidelines whenever specific considerations make this necessary. In case the applicant disagrees with the decision of the Board, the Board will establish a committee of appeal. The decision of this committee will be final.

4. TI Program Leader

A Program Leader is a (Co-)Leader of one of the Research Groups and of one of the fields/majors in the TI MPhil program. The Program Leaders together form the Research Council of TI.

Criteria

A program leader should:

- be a TI research fellow;
- should have the experience and the capability to manage a research programme;
- should have an overview of developments in his/her field which are relevant for the curriculum of the MPhil programme.

Tasks

As TI research fellow. In addition:

- Provide academic leadership as (Co-) Leader of a research group, covering one of the domains of research at TI;
- Actively and collaboratively participating in activities related to research programme development, research ethics policy, periodic research assessments, evaluations and accreditations of TI and its programmes;
- Actively advise the Director of Graduate Studies on developments in the field that have a bearing on the curriculum of the MPhil programme;
- Building the reputation of the research programme and the doctoral programme in the international research community;
- Being actively committed to TI to establish and implement its goals;
- Coaching early and mid-career talent.

Procedure

A Program Leader is nominated by the Director of Graduate Studies and appointed by the ARC Board after consultation with the Dean of the nominated fellow's School. The duration of the appointment is five years. Appointments are not automatically renewed, and may be terminated earlier if a Program Leader does not meet the regular fellowship criteria any longer or demonstrates shortcomings in the management of the research programme or his or her commitment to TI.

5. TI Honorary Fellow

TI grants Honorary Fellowships to honor respected researchers who have contributed extraordinarily to the development and growth of TI as a research institute.

Criteria

Honorary fellows are:

- highly qualified researchers;
- who have made extraordinary contributions to the development and growth of TI as a reputable research institute.

Tasks

Honorary Fellows are:

- expected to positively contribute to the reputation of TI;
- may provide (solicited and unsolicited) advice to the General Director on any aspect they deem relevant to TI.

Benefits

Honorary Fellows will be kept informed about major TI activities, issues and achievements and will be invited to major TI activities and events.

Procedure

On special occasions, TI's Director of Graduate Studies invites members of the Research Council to propose candidates for an honorary fellowship. The ARC Board decides on the honorary fellowship. If the decision is positive, the honorary fellowship will be awarded in a festive meeting. The appointment as honorary fellow is for life.

6. Academic Integrity

TI fellows are an example for students and hold high standards regarding academic integrity. Therefore, TI expects its fellows to follow the general principles of professional academic practice at all times, and to adhere to the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Scientific Practice: Principles of Good Scientific Research and Teaching (https://www.vsnunl.nl/en_GB/research-integrity).

In case of violations of this Code by any of its fellows, it is up to the board of TI to decide upon disciplinary measures. These measures can include, but are not restricted to, withdrawal of the TI fellowship and its privileges.

Appendix I Publication requirements TI research fellowship

This appendix describes the publication requirements one has to meet to become a TI research fellow.

Publications

1. Anyone applying for a TI research fellowship should submit at least two and at most five publications from a five-year period. These publications taken together should yield at least five (5) publication points. The five-year period is either the five calendar years prior to the year of application or the five calendar years including the year of application.
2. Publication points are earned through publishing articles in peer reviewed journals or through writing or contributing to books.
3. The majority of publications that are submitted for admission should be articles in journals that are part of the TI journal list defined below. In particular, if one submits five publications, a minimum of three (3) publications have to be articles in journals on the TI journal list. If one submits two articles, both should have been published in a journal on the TI journal list.

Journal articles

1. Journal articles have to be published in peer reviewed journals that have an Article Influence Score (AIS). These Scores are published here: <https://jcr.incites.thomsonreuters.com/JCRJournalHomeAction.action?year=&edition=&journal=> by Thomson Reuters.
2. Articles in the papers and proceedings section or issue of a journal, comments, replies, letters to the editor etc. and articles of less than 6 pages will *not* be considered.
3. TI distinguishes between journals that are part of the TI journal list and those that are not part of the TI journal list.
4. The **TI journal list** consists of
 - all peer reviewed journals that are part of the subject categories “Economics” and “Business, Finance” as published by the Web of Knowledge and that have an AIS;
 - selected Marketing journals (see Appendix II);
 - selected Operations Research journals (see Appendix II);
5. A minority of the publications that an applicant submits may be published in journals that are not part of the TI journal list.

Score of a Journal and Publication Points

The number of publication points P of an article depends on the journal's score S and on the number of co-authors N .

Score of a Journal

The score S of a journal is determined as follows.

1. For a journal for which a positive AIS is reported for each of the years 2012-2015, its score S equals its mean AIS over this four-year period. The journal's score applies to any article published in that journal in the period 2012 to 2021. At the end of 2021, the score of a journal will be updated and fixed for the next period.
2. For some journals, there may not be four years with an AIS. For any such journal, annually, a (new) score S can be calculated based on the average AIS of the most recent 4 year period (where a zero AIS does not count towards the average), and this score can be used for any publication in that journal by the applicant as part of the application procedure. For example, if the AIS of a journal equals 2 in 2012 and 2015, but there are no AIS for 2013 and 2014, then the journal's score equals 2. Once a positive AIS has been reported for 4 consecutive years, the average AIS will be considered the journal's score S until the end of 2021. This procedure facilitates the inclusion of new journals in the TI list.

Publication Points

The number of publication points P of an article is determined as follows (recall that N is the number of co-authors)

$$\begin{aligned}
 P &= S \times (1.25) && \text{if } N = 0 \\
 P &= S && \text{if } N = 1 \\
 P &= S \times (1 - (N-1) \times 0.10) && \text{if } 1 < N \leq 10, \\
 P &= 0 && \text{if } N > 10
 \end{aligned}$$

(Contributions to) books

1. The score S of a book is fixed at one (1). The score S of a contribution to a book (e.g., a chapter in an edited volume) is fixed at a half (0.5). A contribution to a book should be at least 15 pages long. Only publications with a selected list of high-quality academic publishing houses (see Appendix II) will be considered. Book *editing* does not yield publication points.
2. The publication points one obtains with a (contribution to a) book is determined by the same formula that determines the publication points of a journal article.
3. Books and contributions to books may contribute for a maximum of 2 points (40%) to the required publication points.

Citations

Publication points may be partly replaced by citations that appear in the Social Science Citation Index. A researcher meets the admission requirements with at least 2.5 publications points and at least 400 citations according to the SSCI.

Appendix II – TI Journal List

The TI journal list consists of:

1. all peer reviewed journals in the subject categories “Economics” and “Business, Finance” that have an AIS. These subject categories can be found on the ISI Web of Knowledge website.
2. The Marketing journals that are part of the TI list are
 - International Journal of Research in Marketing
 - Journal of Marketing
 - Journal of Marketing Research
 - Marketing Science
3. The Operations Research journals that are part of the TI list are
 - European Journal of Operational Research
 - Journal of the Operational Research Society
 - Mathematics of Operations Research
 - Operations Research
 - Operations Research Letters

Appendix III – Publishers

- Academic Press
- Allen & Unwin, Inc.
- Brookings Institution
- Cambridge University Press
- Columbia University Press
- Duke University Press
- Edward Elgar
- Elsevier/North-Holland
- Harvard University Press
- John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Johns Hopkins University Press
- Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc.
- Kluwer Academic Publishers
- MIT Press Publishers Inc.
- New York University Press
- Oxford University Press
- Prentice Hall Press
- Princeton University Press
- Routledge
- Springer-Verlag
- University of California Press
- University of Chicago Press
- Yale University Press