



Student Prize speech by Ray Butler

This prize is sponsored by the Northern England Chapter of ISACA. ISACA is the global professional body for those involved in IT governance, Security and assurance. Founded in 1969, ISACA has over 80,000 members in more than 100 countries. The Northern England chapter serves around 400 members with educational and networking opportunities in – guess where?

The prize is named for EuSpRIG's co-founder, David Chadwick. We do that to honour his contribution both to EuSpRIG's development and to educating students about spreadsheet risks. The first winner of the prize was one Simon Thorne. To prove that no good deed goes unpunished, Simon is now a leading light in EuSpRIG and edits the conference proceedings. Let this be a terrible warning to this year's winner.

What do we look for in judging the prize? Obviously, the main author has to be a full-time student. The paper has to – among other things – speak to EuSpRIG objectives, add to the body of knowledge. So “Ooh there's a problem” is unlikely to win. Crucially for me, the paper has to be readable and useful to a lay audience. Judging is always both a joy and a pain – It's really hard to choose, and the standard keeps going up and up.

This year's winner ticks all the boxes. The paper describes an elegant and helpful contribution to the debate on control and testing good practice. This year's prize goes to Ruth McKeever from Dundalk Institute of Technology for “How range names hinder novice debugging performance”
Congratulations!

Ray Butler, ISACA and EuSpRIG founder