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Abstract


Despite the social importance of awards, they have been largely disregarded by academic research in economics. This paper investigates whether a specific, yet important, award in economics, the John Bates Clark Medal, raises recipients' subsequent research activity and status compared to a synthetic control group of nonrecipient scholars with similar previous research performance. We find evidence of positive incentive and status effects that raise both productivity and citation levels.

Keywords: Awards, Incentives, Research, John Bates Clark Medal, Synthetic control method

JEL Classification: A13, C23, M52

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