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The Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences

Erhan Cinlar

2002 IOE Alumni Merit Award Recipient

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Erhan Çinlar is the Norman J. Sollenberger Professor of Engineering at Princeton University, and chair of the Department of Operations Research and Financial Engineering. He is best known for his work on probability models in manufacturing and telecommunications, and his extensive research in Markov processes and martingales.

Professor Çinlar earned bachelor's degrees ('63) in both industrial engineering and mathematics, a master's degree ('64) in mathematics, and a PhD ('65) in industrial engineering, all from the University of Michigan. After leaving Michigan, he went on to teach industrial engineering and management sciences at Northwestern University. In 1985, he joined the civil engineering and operations research faculty at Princeton University, serving as chair of the department from 1997 until 1999, when he became the chair of its newly created Department of Operations Research and Financial Engineering.

In recognition of his contributions to probability theory and its applications, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics elected Professor Çinlar a fellow in 1974. In 1992, the Turkish Council for Scientific and Technological Research recognized him with its Science Prize for his contributions to engineering and mathematics. He was elected to the International Statistical Society in 1993.

Throughout his career, he has held numerous leadership positions in the fields of operations research, probability and applied mathematics. In particular, he has served on the editorial boards of 11 scientific journals for a total of 137 work-years, and was the editor-in-chief of Mathematics of Operations Research, the premier research journal in its field, from 1987 to 1992.