



Society for American Archaeology

**—Award for Excellence in Latin American and
Caribbean Archaeology —
(2018)**

Current Committee Charge: The committee is charged with selecting a recipient for the Award for Excellence in Latin American and Caribbean Archaeology, to be presented annually in recognition of a member (regardless of national origin) who has made a lasting and significant contribution to the practice of archaeology and/or to the construction of archaeological knowledge in Latin America or the Caribbean.

Committee Composition: Committee composition is one chair and eight members, with representatives from the Southern Cone of South America, the Andes, Amazonia/Brazil, northern South America, Central America, the Maya region, central and northern Mexico, and the Caribbean. The chair shall be selected by the SAA Board and the committee shall be coordinated through the Awards Committee.

Term Length: Three years

Award Cycle: N/A

Committee Chair and End of Term: Calogero M. Santoro [2020]

Committee Chair Contact Information: Calogero M. Santoro, calogero_santoro@yahoo.com, Antofagasta1520, 100236 ARICA, CHILE 56-58-220-5896

Committee Members and Ends of Terms: Sonia Alconini [2018], Florencio G. Delgado Espinoza [2018], Anabel Ford, RPA [2020], Thomas C. Hart [2020], Juan G. Martin [2018], Leah D. Minc [2020], Shawn G. Morton [2020], Josh M. Torres, PhD, RPA [2018]

Committee on Awards Chair: Mark Slaughter [2019]

Award Description: The Award for Excellence in Latin American and Caribbean Archaeology will be presented annually to an individual who has made a lasting and significant contribution to the practice of archaeology and/or to the construction of archaeological knowledge in Latin America or the Caribbean. In selecting the recipient of this award, the committee will pay particular attention to the cultural context in which the nominee works and to the different pathways to creating and promoting excellence in Latin American and Caribbean archaeology. The award is open to individuals at any point in their careers.

Who Is Eligible to Submit Nominations or Apply for the Award: Any SAA member may nominate an individual for this award. Awardees must be members of the SAA.

Nomination/Submission Materials Required: Nominators are required to submit 1) a nomination letter, 2) a detailed curriculum vita of the nominee that includes a complete bibliography of local and international research publications, 3) brief description of the academic and/or cultural impact of research, publications and other relevant activities and 4) at least two supporting letters; one supporting letter should be from a Latin American or Caribbean archaeologists and one supporting letter should be from a Latin Americanist/Caribbeanist. All nominations and supporting documents are requested in PDF format to be sent via email to the committee chair.

Nomination/Submission Deadline: January 2, 2018

Other Special Requirements: All nominations and supporting documents are requested in PDF format to be sent via email to the committee chair.

Selection or Evaluation Criteria: Excellence in Latin American and Caribbean archaeology is seen as a context-specific concept that must be evaluated in terms of the economic, political, cultural, academic and professional circumstances within which each candidate has pursued the practice of the profession and/or generation of archaeological knowledge, through such activities as research, institutional development, teaching and training of students, public awareness, cultural heritage preservation, among others.

Committee Deliberation Process (e.g. dates, venue): All communication is via email. Immediately following the deadline for nominations and supporting materials and reception of all existing documents by the committee chair by January 4, files are forwarded to the committee members to begin deliberation. Committee members are requested to finish reviewing documents and submit recommendations by January 25. A final decision is made by January 27, at which time the text of the award citation is prepared and distributed among the committee members for final opinions. The decision and citation are communicated to the Chair of the Committee on Awards, who in turn notifies the Executive Director and President by January 31.

The committee, upon consultation with the nominator(s), may roll over second and third-ranked candidates for an additional year of eligibility for the award (as per Motion 132-74B, Board of Directors Meeting #132, October 2013).

Nature of Award (e.g. monetary, medal, symposium): The awardee is recognized by the SAA through a plaque presented during the business meeting held at the Annual Meeting, a citation in The SAA Archaeological Record, and acknowledgment on the awards page of the SAA Website.

Awardees

2017 None

2016 Robert 'Dick' Drennan

Robert 'Dick' Drennan has earned the Award for Excellence in Latin American and Caribbean archaeology in view of his unique and lifetime academic, professional and personal achievements. He has been extremely influential in the development and professionalization of Latin American archaeology, and his mentorship, friendship and guidance have served to inspire a generation of archaeologists in the entire region. Dr. Drennan has been a champion for the collection and presentation of archaeological data in ways that both ensure cross-case consistency and allow their use in comparative projects, fostering the use of more rigorous methods across the discipline of archaeology. His unrelenting dedication to professional collaboration and dialogue across Latin America has laid an unprecedented foundation and a solid ethical model that will continue to bear fruit for generations to come.

2015 Jeffrey Parsons

2014 Luis Alberto Borrero

2013 Luis Lumbreras

2012 None

2011 Jeremy A. Sabloff