Marx Navarro Castillo

Marx used his DeCormier award to conduct excavations at Miguel Aleman, a site located on the Pacific coast of Chiapas, Mexico. A total of 7 complexes of suboperations were excavated, in different areas of the Ejido. The location of these test pits were decided based on the information recorded by remote sensing instruments, which gave us information about the artifacts located underground, and also the data recovered during our survey. Each of these excavations provided information of distinct nature. For example, Complex of Suboperation 2 was situated in an area of burials. Thus, in an area of 4x3 m was found a total of 4 burials, and 21 vessels, some of them were funerary urns. In the case of Suboperation 4b, this was identified as an archaeological midden, due to the amount of artifacts found and also the depth of the unit which reached 3 m. As a matter of fact the excavation could have continued but the water table impeded it. Marx also considers that education plays an important role in respect to the archaeological work, since there are many urban myths about what the archaeologists do. Thus, he gave a talk to the people of the Ejido, where he tried to inform them about what archaeology is, how important it is for having a better understanding about our history, especially in a country like Mexico. In general, he was open to questions and concerns that the people had about our work.