During the summer of 2012 Caroline used her Christopher DeCormier Memorial Scholarship to conduct preliminary research for her dissertation project. Her dissertation research focuses on the subsistence foundation of a Postclassic Maya site, Mayapán, in the northwestern Yucatán Peninsula in Mexico. Much of her work will focus on the agricultural potential of ancient farmlands. Preliminary research was done to assess the variety of soil types available to local agricultural experts (Fernando Flores and his two sons) to understand the variability in their production potential. Together with Cuauhtémoc Vidal Guzman (UAlbany ’12), she collected soil samples from local agricultural milpas, local gardens and orchards, and rich soils drom 30 km south of Mayapán that are imported for agricultural use. Garden and milpa plants were also recorded in association with different planting soils. The soils were analyzed and stored locally to serve as a type collection for future field seasons. In addition to the soil collection survey, funds were used to purchase very high-resolution multispectral maps and Landsat data. These maps will ultimately be analyzed to assess the productivity of the land on a larger, regional scale to understand diversity of the landscape. Caroline’s grant helped her to secure additional funding by the National Science Foundation to further the accuracy and extent of the current settlement survey in the area surrounding Mayapán. Data collected through this field project will aid in her dissertation research.