

The Institute for Mesoamerican Studies

Spring 2021

20TH ANNUAL DAVID SCOTCHMER ESSAY AWARD

This award recognizes outstanding professional writing by graduate students in the field of Mesoamerican studies. The award is named for the late Dr. David Scotchmer, an alumnus of our graduate program (Ph.D. 1991) who died in 1994 just as his career was flowering. David, a pioneer in the study of the Protestant Evangelical Movements in Guatemala, published several significant essays on this subject while he was still a graduate student here. It seems appropriate to remember him in a way that celebrates and encourages the ideal of publishable scholarship by graduate students.

The Award: The award will be \$150 to be used as the awardee sees fit to further her/his research program. The winner will be announced in late-April, 2021.

Eligibility: All students enrolled in the M.A. or Ph.D. program in the Department of Anthropology at the University at Albany with research interests in Mesoamerican studies are eligible for this competition. Student Associates of the Institute for Mesoamerican Studies are given preference.

Essay Requirements: Unpublished essays on any aspect of Mesoamerican Studies are eligible for submission. The essay may be a revised seminar paper, M.A. paper, doctoral dissertation exam essay, or an expanded version of a presentation at a professional meeting. Co-authored student essays are eligible. Co-authored student-faculty essays are not eligible. Papers submitted for consideration should be under 40 pages in length, double-spaced, and should conform to the style of a major professional journal, such as *American Antiquity* or *American Anthropologist*. Students should consult the style guide of the journal and make sure that bibliographic entries, subheadings, and other elements conform to the correct style. All necessary tables and illustrations must be included, but the illustrations do not need to be in final, publishable format.

Procedure for Submission: Three copies of the essay should be submitted to the Institute for Mesoamerican Studies (AS 233) or the IMS mailbox (AS 236), **including a digital copy in PDF to ims@albany.edu** no later than **Friday, March 26, 2021**. A submission cover letter should include the following:

- Context in which the essay took shape, i.e., the circumstances under which it was conceived and written.
- Plans, if any (not required), for submission for publication.

Criteria for Evaluation: Essays will be judged by a committee of IMS faculty for their professional quality, following standard disciplinary criteria.

