Fred Plog Memorial Fellowship applications due November 1, 2015

This award ($1,000) provides support for a graduate student with ABD status writing a dissertation on the North American Southwest or northern Mexico or on a topic, such as culture change or regional interactions, on which Plog himself did research.

Questions and submissions: Deborah Huntley, Committee chair (dhuntley@archaeologysouthwest.org)

Who Is Eligible to Submit Nominations or Apply for the Award: All student members of SAA in good standing who are ABD by the time the award is made at the Annual Meeting of the SAA are eligible to apply for the award.

Nomination/Submission Materials Required: The application consists of 1) a research proposal no more than three single-space pages long (not including bibliography, tables/figures, and a budget) that describes the research and its potential contributions to American archaeology, 2) a curriculum vita, and 3) two letters of support, including one from the dissertation chair that indicates the expected date of completion of the dissertation.

Other Special Requirements: All nominees must be ABD by the time the award is made at the Annual Meeting of the SAA.

Selection or Evaluation Criteria: Committee members evaluate applications according to the merit and quality of applicant’s research plan; the relevance of the research project to work in the North American Southwest or northern Mexico or on a topic, such as culture change or regional interactions, on which Fred Plog did research; the letters of support; and the academic record based on the curriculum vita. How the funds would be used to complete the dissertation will be an aspect of the evaluation.

Committee Deliberation Process (e.g., dates, venue): Electronic copies of applications are circulated to committee members during the week after the submission deadline. Committee members rank applications on scale of 1-3 (3 = highest) and submit rankings to the chair by the third week of November. No later than the first week of December, the committee chair distributes the tabulated rankings to the committee and coordinates a conference call or email discussion to select a fellow.

Nature of Award (e.g., monetary, medal, symposium): The award winner receives $1000. In the case of more than one fellow being selected, the award amount is split equally. In addition, 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.

Past Awardees

2015  Saul L. Hedquist

Saul L. Hedquist has earned the SAA's Fred Plog Memorial Fellowship for his ongoing dissertation research examining the social uses of turquoise and other blue-green minerals in the late prehispanic Western Pueblos of the US Southwest. Hedquist's research determines contextual and stylistic information for turquoise found at archaeological sites across the Western Pueblo region. Regional patterns of turquoise acquisition and exchange are being explored through isotopic analysis. Finally, consultation with Zuni and Hopi tribal members aids in the interpretation of the results. This award
recognizes that Saul Hedquist's research will contribute to the understanding of traditional Pueblo practices involving turquoise and other minerals and fosters collaboration with descendant communities.

2014 Christopher W. Merriman and Kathryn J. Putsavage
Christopher Merriman and Kathryn Putsavage share the Fred Plog Memorial Fellowship to support their innovative doctoral research in the US Southwest. Merriman is examining human adaptations to climate change in the Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene transition in the American Southwest and Great Plains. He is combining theoretical models of expected foraging behavior with climate information derived through geomorphological studies. Kathryn Putsavage is using the Black Mountain type site for the post-Mimbres to better understand the scale, timing, and nature of the Classic Mimbres to post-Mimbres transition. Her research uses pottery and obsidian sourcing to reconstruct social and economic networks before, during, and after the Classic Mimbres period.

2013 Katherine A. Dungan
2012 Joshua Watts
2011 William Reitze
2010 Matthew Peeples
2009 Sam Duwe
2008 Deanna Grimstead
2007 Michael Mathiowetz and Todd Pitezel
2006 None
2005 Greg Schachner
2001 Deborah Huntley
1999 Sarah Herr