

Report of the President 2010-2011
Society for Archaeological Sciences
Sandra L. López Varela

As I turn the page to face new challenges, I want to thank you for your support over the years, for the dialogue during our meetings, and for helping us recognize young talents through our awards. It has been a great honor to work with the current and past members of the Executive Board and Bulletin Staff, as it has been the privilege of representing our distinguished members of the Society for Archaeological Sciences.

California Dreamin'? No! Everything is possible with SAS!!

1. 2011 Elections. SAS has elected Dr. Robert Tykot as our new President-elect (2013-2013)/Vice-president (2011-2013). As of March 31st, 2011 Dr. Patrick Degryse is President of SAS. Dr. Sandra Lopez Varela will act as Past-President in substitution of Dr. Thilo Rehren.

2. R. E. Taylor Poster Award. In 2010, during the SAA and ISA, three students received the award and two an honorable mention. Information regarding the awardees and their submissions are posted on the Internet. The awards were possible thanks to our members' contribution. The students received a 100 US bonus and a subscription to the newsletter. In the future, it is important to observe the fall deadline to publish the award on the SAA Archaeological Record. This should be done every year around June.

2010. R.E. Taylor Award Recipients at SAA in St. Louis:

- Dana Drake Rosenstein (School of Anthropology, University of Arizona), "Luminescence dating of samples from recent contexts in southern Africa".
- Lisa Sonnenburg (School of Geography and Earth Sciences, McMaster University) "Paleoenvironmental reconstruction and water-level fluctuations: Implications for understanding Paleoindian and Archaic archaeology in Southern Ontario".

2010. R.E. Taylor Award Recipients at ISA in Tampa:

Erika Nitsch (Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art, University of Oxford) "Quantifying changes in fish consumption in Roman and early medieval Italy using stable isotope analysis".

Honorable Mention

-Ian Scharlotta (University of Alberta, Department of Anthropology) Baikal Archaeology Project: "Spatial variability of biologically available $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$, rare earth and trace elements in the Cis-Baikal region, Siberia: Evidence from environmental samples and small cemeteries".

-Bridget A. Alex (Harvard University Departments of Anthropology and Human Evolutionary Biology) "Amboseli Hydrogen Isotopes Across Species and Time".

3. Publications.

Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences Journal. During the 2009 meeting it was agreed to support and endorse this new journal and it is already offered to our members at a discounted rate.

The Encyclopedia of Archaeological Sciences Project. Rosalie Robertson, Senior Editor of Anthropology and Archaeology at Wiley-Blackwell is preparing a contract to submit to the board in the next few weeks. The contract will be signed by the President and General Secretary of the society, as well as, the Editor of the SAS Bulletin, in accordance to our bylaws. The Board has agreed that López Varela contracts with Wiley as Chief Editor. The role will be included in the contract.

Several Board Members will collaborate in various activities to make this project possible. The Encyclopedia is not only a reference tool, it is a teaching on-line project in ten modules corresponding with main archaeological science study areas that will serve as Introductions to Basic Scientific Tools for Every Archaeologist. These modules will address: Selection of scientific methods of analysis, Sample analytic criteria for research, Selection of hypothesis testing, Data collection techniques, Modeling of visual material, Reporting tools, Sample instruments and equipment, Keys to problem solving, Weblinks for online resources, Recommended Readings. In the next few days, López Varela is meeting with Rosalie Robertson at Berkeley to work on this project.

4. Business Meeting. The 38th International Symposium of Archaeometry (ISA 2010) in Tampa was the forum for our business meeting. In accordance to its goals, Patrick Degryse obtained funding to sponsor a student research award that has been announced in our webpage.

The possibility of having an SAS conference was explored by Dr. Patrick Degryse and Dr. Sandra López Varela through the Humboldt Foundation. This project has been put on hold, as ISA 2012 will take place in Belgium. But, we are working on the potential of having a Humboldt Kolleg that can take place in different parts of the world. The Kolleg will support both scholars and students to travel to the meeting.

5. Membership Development. Dr. Michael Gregg initiated different actions that have attracted more members to the society. It was agreed during our business meeting to print flyers that are being distributed at the SAA meeting.

SAS is repositioning as a leading organization. The President has been actively working with the group of leaders of international organizations to protect heritage resources. Early this year, López Varela took an active and leading role in issuing a joint statement to protect Egypt's heritage during the recent events in which the world saw the desires of its people to exercise their basic civil rights. SAS has supported various other statements. At the time, the group of presidents is closely following the events in the Middle East.

A blog and wiki created by the General Secretary, Robert Sternberg is portraying a new face to SAS. Most of the announcements and activities in which SAS is participating are continuously posted on the blog.

6. Pending Actions

Webpage. SAS listserv is the primary portal for information distribution to our membership. Not all users are members. Members are not receiving communication through the listserv, partly, because these have not registered to the SAS listserv. Destiny Crider is working on an adequate solution.

Ethics committee. The rapid unfolding events in the Middle East have called for immediate actions, delaying the proposal of an ethics code by the President and the constitution of an ethics committee. The task is pending.

SAS Bulletin. The 2010-2011 publications have not been uploaded yet in our webpage, but will be soon.