Current Committee Charge: The committee solicits nominations and selects recipients for the Fryxell Award for Interdisciplinary Research. The award is presented in special recognition of interdisciplinary excellence by a scientist (not necessarily an archaeologist) whose research has contributed significantly to American archaeology. The award rotates among five categories: general interdisciplinary, physical sciences, zoology, plant sciences, and earth sciences.

Committee Composition: Committee composition is one chair and four members. Each member's term lasts 5 years, during the last of which the member serves as chair. The terms are staggered so that only one member (the chair) rotates off each year. Committee chair rotates among topical foci. Committee membership is by appointment rather than by volunteers. All members require Board approval because everyone may become chair at some point in time.

Term Length: Five years following the award cycle.

Award Cycle: The award cycles through five categories (plant sciences [2017], earth sciences [2018], physical sciences [2019], general interdisciplinary [2020], zoology [2021]…).

Committee Chair and End of Term: Christopher Stevenson [2019]

Committee Chair Contact Information: cmstevenson23805@gmail.com

Committee Members and Ends of Terms: Christine A. Hastorf [2022], Elizabeth J. Reitz [2021], Alan H. Simmons [2020]

Committee on Awards Chair: Mark C. Slaughter [2019]

Board Liaison to Award Committees:

Award Description: The Fryxell Award is presented in recognition for interdisciplinary excellence of a scientist who need not be an archaeologist, but whose research has contributed significantly to American archaeology. The award is made possible through the generosity of the family of the late Roald Fryxell, a geologist whose career exemplified the crucial role of
multidisciplinary cooperation in archaeology. The award cycles through zoological sciences, botanical sciences, earth sciences, physical sciences, and general interdisciplinary studies. The Fryxell Award for 2019 will be presented in the PHYSICAL SCIENCES category.

Who Is Eligible to Submit Nominations or Apply for the Award: Anyone may submit a nomination. The committee does not accept self-nominations. Awardees may be members or nonmembers of the SAA.

Nomination/Submission Materials Required: Nominators must submit a letter that describes the nature, scope, and significance of the nominee’s contributions to American archaeology, as well as the nominee’s curriculum vita. Support letters from other scholars are helpful. Four to six are suggested. Please send submissions to the committee chair.

Nomination/Submission Deadline: March 1, 2018

Other Special Requirements: None.

Selection or Evaluation Criteria: Nominees are evaluated on the breadth and depth of their research and its impact on American archaeology, the nominee’s role in increasing awareness of interdisciplinary studies in archaeology, and the nominee’s public and professional service to the community.

Committee Deliberation Process (e.g. dates, venue): The committee meets electronically after the nomination deadline has passed.

Nature of Award (e.g. monetary, medal, symposium): A half-day symposium is held in honor of the awardee at the SAA Annual Meeting. 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.

Awardees

2017  Naomi Frances Miller
2016  Elizabeth J. Reitz
2015  David Hurst Thomas
2014  Marvin W. Rowe
2013  Anthony Aveni
2012  Christine Hastorf
2011  R. Lee Lyman
2010  Jane E. Buikstra
2009  Michael D. Glascock
2008  Paul Goldberg
2007    Vaughn M. Bryant
2006    Oscar Polaco Ramos
2005    Bruce D. Smith
2004    R.E. (Erv) Taylor
2003    George Rapp
2002    Deborah M. Pearsall
2001    Melinda A. Zeder
2000    Richards S. MacNeish
1999    Henry P. Schwarcz
1998    John W. Weymouth
1997    Vorsila L. Bohrer
1996    Elizabeth S. Wing
1995    Robert J. Braidwood
1994    Garman Harbottle
1993    Herbert E. Wright, Jr.
1992    Richard Yarnell
1991    Paul W. Parmalee
1990    Patty Jo Watson
1989    Joseph B. Lambert
1988    David M. Hopkins
1987    Richard I. Ford
1986    Donald K. Grayson
1985    Roger T. Saucier
1984    None
1983    John E. Guilday (posthumous)
1982    David J. Baerreis
1981    Karl W. Butzer
1980    James B. Griffin
1979    Peter J. Mehringer
1978    C. Vance Haynes