

Call for Student Participation 2006 Association for Borderland Studies Conference

The Association for Borderlands Studies (ABS) extends a special invitation to graduate and undergraduate students who are interested in borderland issues to participate actively in the Association's activities, especially by attending and participating in our upcoming meeting in **Phoenix, Arizona from 19-22 April 2006**. Towards this goal, we offer a student paper competition that can make attendance and participation at the meetings enjoyable (and potentially quite profitable) for students.

Student Paper Competition - The leadership of the ABS is very pleased to continue the award of **four** cash awards for student papers presented at the conference - \$250 for best graduate student paper/\$125 for second place graduate paper and \$150 for the best undergraduate student paper/\$75 for the second place undergraduate paper. In addition to the cash prizes, the first place graduate and undergraduate papers will be automatically considered for publication in the Journal of Borderland Studies. See <http://www.absborderlands.org/2JBS.html> for information on the Journal.

The specific guidelines of this paper competition are as follows; papers not adhering to these guidelines will be returned to students and not considered for the competition:

- 1) Papers must be sole-authored by the student submitting the paper, not co-authored with a faculty advisor or other student(s).
- 2) Papers must be original work developed as a conference research paper, not a project report for funded work.
- 3) Manuscripts should be no longer than 25 pages, double-spaced with 12 point text and 1 inch margins, or approximately 6000 words in length. Manuscripts should also comply with the guidelines for articles to be submitted to the Journal of Borderland Studies; please see <http://www.absborderlands.org/jbs/jbsmanscrptstyle.htm> for these formal guidelines.
- 4) Students must present the paper at the conference to qualify for the prizes.
- 5) Students must also be full time students and current members of the ABS at the time of the conference, although students can certainly join as part of the registration process; that is the idea! **We ask that students have their faculty advisor confirm their student status and level of study at the time the paper is submitted via EMAIL communication to Dr. Sergio Peña, Chair of the Committee on Student Participation, at spena2@utep.edu.**

To have a paper considered for the Student paper Competition, students must do the following things by the dates indicated:

- Students must submit a typed, professional quality manuscript to **Dr. Sergio Peña** by **1 March 2006**. Members of the Committee on Student Participation will evaluate the written document towards the award of the cash prize, yet the ABS reserves the right not to grant prizes if papers are not of adequate professional quality. Contact the Chair of the Committee on Student Participation, **Dr. Sergio Peña**, at spena2@utep.edu for further information.

- **Submit a proposal packet to Dr. Christopher Brown at abs2006@nmsu.edu by 1 December 2005.** This packet must include the title of the presentation; an abstract not to exceed 150 words; names, affiliations and e-mail addresses of all authors; and audio-visual needs. Please note we need your packet by 1 December to coordinate with the WSSA people on the overall conference organization.
- **Pre-register for the conference through the WSSA webpage at http://wssa.asu.edu/wssa_conference.htm; submittal of the paper to Dr. Peña only handles the requirement for the paper competition.** Please note that all participants must register with the WSSA who handles the overall conference organization. Doing this in advance will save participants money (due to a reduced early registration fee) and aid the conference organizers in tracking participation.
- **All participants in the 2006 ABS Annual Meetings also must be paid up members of the ABS, and this can be handled online through a secure payment site at <http://absborderlands.org/member/index.html>.** We have had some trouble with this in the past, and it is very important that people make sure they are paid up members in order to participate in the meetings. If people are not comfortable with doing this on line, please contact Dr. Christopher Brown at brownchr@nmsu.edu for a membership form that can be mailed in with a check.

Deadline for papers - Final submittal of an electronic copy of the paper in Word or WordPerfect format must be received by Dr. Peña by 1 March 2006, and we also ask that students submit a hard copy of the paper as a backup by the same date via conventional mail. Contact information for Dr. Peña and the address to which the papers should be sent follows:

Dr. Sergio Peña, Assistant Professor
 Institute for Policy and Economic Development
 Master in Public Administration Program
 Room 210, Kelly Hall
 University of Texas at El Paso
 El Paso, TX 79968-0703
spena2@utep.edu

So....come and join us for what promises to be an interesting, informative, and enjoyable conference in the coming year, our 30th Anniversary! Phoenix is a great town, and Doreen Barrie, the WSSA Program Chair, has done a great job in setting up a quality venue for us. We look forward to having students join the Association as new members, and we hope that the above steps help students to attend and participate in the 2006 Association for Borderland Studies Annual Conference being held in **Phoenix, Arizona from 19-22 April 2006.**

NOS VEMOS ALLI EN PHOENIX!!!