

Editor Alastair Bonnett
Co-Editor Louise Bracken



AREA PRIZE

For new research in geography

Purpose

Part of *Area's* mission is to be accessible to new researchers, including postgraduate students and academics at an early stage in their careers. The purpose of the *Area Prize* is to encourage submissions from new researchers and to reward excellent geographical research. The winner of the prize will receive a cash prize of £500.

Eligibility

To be eligible for consideration, at the time of submitting their paper, authors should be engaged in full or part-time postgraduate research, or be within three years of the completion of their PhD, or of equivalent professional standing. This time limit excludes any periods of formal career breaks taken for family care responsibilities, health or other personal reasons, or periods spent working outside academia (e.g. in a business or policy environment).

Application Procedure

At the time of the initial submission of their paper to the *Area* office, the author should indicate in their covering letter that he/she wishes to be considered for the *Area Prize*. The covering letter should explain the basis upon which the author is eligible. In the case of joint and coauthored papers with more senior researchers, the supervisor (in the case of current or recent postgraduate students), the principal investigator (in the case of Postdoctoral Research Staff) or the co-author (if written with a more established colleague) should also provide a covering letter explaining their input into the production of paper. Normally, the lead author of the paper should be the person who is eligible for the prize.

The assessment process

Papers are subject to the normal *Area* refereeing process and, if accepted, are published. By September/October of each calendar year the final list of all the papers published in that particular volume number (i.e. Vol. 40 for 2008) will be known. At that stage, all of the papers eligible for the *Area Prize* will be collated. The Editors Committee of the RGS-IBG will then decide which paper to award the prize to. The final decision will be made in relation to *Area's* mission to publish the very best of geographical research and scholarship across the field of the subject.

Award of the Prize

The winner of the *Area Prize* 2008 will be announced to the recipient in approximately April 2009, and officially at the AGM of the RGS-IBG in June 2009 together with the other RGS-IBG prizes.

Any questions concerning the *Area Prize* for new research in geography should be addressed to the Editor of *Area*, Alastair Bonnett, Royal Geographical Society (with The Institute of British Geographers), 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR email area@rgs.org or Alastair.Bonnett@newcastle.ac.uk tel +44 (020) 7591 3026 fax +44 (020) 7591 3001