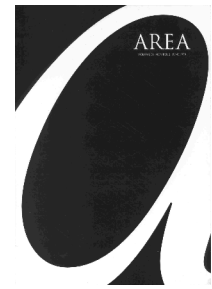


Editor
Alastair Bonnett

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

The winner of the Area Prize will be selected from authors of papers accepted for publication in Area each calendar year (volume number). To be eligible for consideration, at the time of submitting their paper, authors should be engaged in full or part-time postgraduate research, or within 3 years of starting their first research or teaching appointment, or within 3 years of completion of their research degree.

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

The paper will be subjected to the normal Area refereeing process and the decision as to whether or not to accept a paper for publication will be based on the referees' reports and the judgment of the editor. Once a paper has been finally accepted, it will enter into the production process and a preliminary publication date arrived at. By September / October of each calendar year the final list of all the papers published in that particular volume number (i.e. Vol. 38 for 2006) will be known. At that stage, all of the papers eligible for the Area Prize will be collated. The files for all the eligible papers (including the various referee reports) will then be reviewed by the Editor and Co-Editor of Area and a shortlist drawn up for presentation to the Editors Committee of the RGS-IBG. The Editors Committee will then decide which paper to award the prize to. This committee includes the editors of Area, Geographical Journal and Transactions. In any one year, the exact length of the shortlist will be dependent upon the

number of eligible papers. 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 2007 will be announced to the recipient in approximately April 2008, officially at the AGM of the RGS-IBG in June 2008 (together with the other RGS-IBG prizes) and awarded at the Annual Conference in August 2008.

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