

## Atlantic World Research Network

Graduate Student Research Prizes—2011-2012 are awarded to the following students:

\$400 AWRN Prize: Steven J. Peach for “From Micco to Chieftain: Tomochichi’s Quest to Revive Late Mississippian Power as a Result of Trans-Atlantic Travel, 1715-1739.”

Department: History

Nominator: Professor Greg O’Brien

Project Description:

This essay reinterprets the life of a famous Muscogee Creek leader, Micco Tomochichi, and, in so doing, analyzes the relationship between chiefly power and transoceanic travel in American Indian history and Atlantic World Studies. In spring 1734, Tomochichi traveled to London to ratify an Anglo-Creek treaty. During his sojourn, he forged an alliance with British royals that resulted in a powerful trans-Atlantic network of political patronage. Upon return home, he leveraged those connections to craft an authoritative chieftainship that harkened back to and drew inspiration from the seventeenth-century Mississippian past.

\$100 AWRN Prize: Donna Patricia Ward for “Currents of Labor, Building the Atlantic World, 1600-1820.”

Department: History

Nominator: Professor Linda Rupert

Project Description:

This project is a website that addresses the challenges of creating an undergraduate course that focuses on the labor and laborers who constructed the Atlantic World from 1600 to 1820. Working in such areas as land clearing, salt raking, harbor dredging, and shipbuilding, laborers were essential for ensuring successful transatlantic trade. Creating a course for history majors and non-history majors about labor in the Atlantic World offers an opportunity to demonstrate history from a bottom-up approach. This website presents the goals of offering such a course along with the challenges in selecting content and course implementation.