

AAG HAZARDS SPECIALTY GROUP GILBERT F. WHITE THESIS/DISSERTATION AWARD

Description:

The Hazards Specialty Group encourages graduate students who have completed a hazards-related master's thesis or PhD dissertation to apply for the ***Gilbert F. White Thesis/Dissertation Award***. The award is given to a graduate student whose recent thesis or dissertation is considered, by an appointed review committee, to be an outstanding example of hazards geography research.

Graduate students must submit one complete copy of their thesis or dissertation in digital (PDF) format to the Hazards Specialty Group Chair by the posted deadlines. Recipients of the ***Gilbert F. White Thesis/Dissertation Award*** receive a copy of the two-volume collection of White's papers (*Geography, Resources, and Environment: Themes from the Work of Gilbert F. White*, Univ. of Chicago Press), an invitation to the Hazards Workshop in Boulder, a certificate or plaque, and a \$500 award. Winners are also invited to participate in the ***Gilbert F. White Award Symposia*** organized for the annual meeting the following year. The student's research is showcased and discussion is invited from panelists and audience members.

Protocol:

1. AAG Hazards Specialty Group members will receive annual calls for applications to the Gilbert F. White Award. Unless otherwise indicated, applications should be submitted to the AAG Hazards Specialty Group Chair no later than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the AAG. Questions regarding deadlines should be directed to the current AAG Hazards Specialty Group Chair.
2. Applicants must notify the AAG Hazards Specialty Group Chair of their desire to be considered for the Gilbert F. White Award and provide one complete copy of their thesis or dissertation in digital PDF file format. Applications should be submitted no later than two years following the award of the graduate degree.
3. All submissions will be reviewed by a committee of not fewer than 2 persons. These persons will be selected by consensus of the officers of the AAG Hazards Specialty Group and invited to serve on the committee by the Chair. Only one reviewer need to be an officer of the AAG Hazards Specialty Group. It is the responsibility of the AAG Hazards Specialty Group Chair to organize student submissions and forward them to the review committee.
4. Reviewers will complete a form numerically evaluating each thesis/dissertation they read. These evaluation forms will be collected by the AAG Hazards Specialty Group Chair.
5. If the review committee finds no submissions in that year to be appropriate for the award, no award will be given. Should reviewers strongly disagree (with one strongly supporting a thesis/dissertation and another believing the work is undeserving) the specialty group officers will review the work in question and make a final determination.
6. All reviews should be returned to the AAG Hazards Specialty Group Chair no later than 15 days prior to the AAG annual meeting. The Chair will compile the evaluation scores, share this information with the review committee and specialty group officers, and the award decision will be determined by consensus.
7. If the applicant pool is particularly strong, the review committee may select up to two winners in one year and split the monetary award.
8. Gilbert F. White Award recipients receive a copy of the two-volume collection of White's papers (*Geography, Resources, and Environment: Themes from the Work of Gilbert F. White*, Univ. of Chicago Press), an invitation to the Hazards Workshop in Boulder, a certificate or plaque, and \$500.
9. Recipients may be invited the following year to have their thesis/dissertation highlighted in the Gilbert F. White Award Symposium panel session at the annual AAG meeting.
10. It is the responsibility of the AAG Hazards Specialty Group Chair to communicate information about the current award recipient to AAG officials.

**AAG HAZARDS SPECIALTY GROUP
GILBERT WHITE AWARD EVALUATION FORM**

■ Name of Applicant:

■ Title of Thesis/Dissertation

■ Degree:

_____ Master's

_____ Ph.D.

■ University:

■ For each item below rank the thesis or dissertation between 1 and 5, with 1 indicating your lowest approval and 5 indicating your highest approval.

Single click to type below

	LOWEST				HIGHEST
	1	2	3	4	5
The overall research design					
The rigor and appropriateness of the research methodology					
The originality of the work and/or the methodology					
The quality of the writing					
Geographic content Note: The student does not have to be in a Geography department, but their research must be geographic in its approach.					
Hazards component Note: Awards should not be given to theses or dissertations that only peripherally study hazards.					
The overall appropriateness of the thesis/dissertation for the Gilbert White Award					
	LESS		EQUALLY		MORE
Compared with the other theses/dissertations you have read, would you consider this one to be less, equally, or more deserving of this award?					

■ Please provide written comments below.