

Carl O. Sauer Distinguished Scholarship Award

Linda Newson

Professor Linda Newson, is a 1991 recipient of the Carl O. Sauer Distinguished Scholarship Award. She is an historical geographer and received her doctorate from University College, London. She teaches geography at King's College of the University of London.

Professor Newson is a student of the impacts of Spanish colonization on native populations in the Caribbean and Central America. With respect to her regional focus within Latin America, one might say that Professor Newson has directed her attention to regions that were peripheral to the primary thrusts of Spanish colonization--Trinidad, Nicaragua, and Honduras. Her work has contributed greatly to our understanding of the nature of Spanish-Indian contacts in these areas.

The Carl O. Sauer Award recognized Professor Newson's outstanding contribution to the corpus of published historical-geographic information on the demographic impact of the Spanish conquest and its causes. Her research has appeared in numerous journal articles published in Europe, Latin America, and the United States and in three books: *Aboriginal and Spanish Colonial Trinidad* (1976); *The Cost of Conquest: Indian Decline in Honduras Under Spanish Rule* (1986); and *Indian survival in Colonial Nicaragua* (1987).

Professor Newson's interests in the Caribbean and her concern with the fate of the aboriginal populations of the Americas parallel the interests of Carl Sauer. Thus, it is especially fitting that she be named as a recipient of an award that perpetuates his memory.

Gary S. Elbow