



PEABODY MUSEUM *of* ARCHAEOLOGY & ETHNOLOGY

JEFFREY QUILTER

*William and Muriel Seabury Howells Director*

27 February 2013

Dr. Rolfe D. Mandel  
Senior Scientist & Executive Director  
Odyssey Geoarchaeology Research Program  
University of Kansas  
Kansas Geological Survey  
1930 Constant Avenue  
Lawrence, KS 66047

Dear Dr. Mandel:

Please accept this letter as my recommendation and support of the awarding of the Rip Rapp Archaeological Geology Award to Dr. Daniel H. Sandweiss of the University of Maine. I believe that there is no one more deserving in the field of the award, today.

I have known Dan since he was a graduate student at Cornell University and although our career paths have sometimes diverged, sometimes drawn us closer, I always have admired and respected the quality of the work and of the man. As you may know, Dan's remarkable abilities have resulted in great achievements so that he is now Dean and Associate Provost for Graduate Studies at the University of Maine, Orono, Professor of Anthropology and Quaternary and Climate Studies at the same institution, and active as a leader in the Society for American Archaeology and in many other capacities. Despite all of these achievements Dan still maintains an impressive research schedule and out-put of papers.

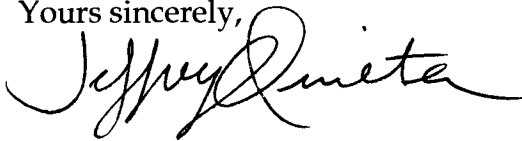
Simply put, Dan is the leading scholar on geological archaeology and climate change in early Peru. Pioneering studies have been carried out by a number of older scholars, such as Michael E. Moseley, with whom Dan has collaborated but Dan has raised the standard of bringing together geological data with other information to newly synthesize our understandings of climate change at a time when ancient civilizations were beginning to grow on the coast of Peru. His work on ancient beach ridges and his study of the Ostra Base Camp as evidence of coastal uplift, in particular, are outstanding pieces of research that will remain critical reference points for research for decades to come.

I value Dan's abilities in geological archaeology so greatly that he was the logical person to turn to as a collaborator for my NSF-funded Peru Human Ecodynamics Project that was launched last year. This, as well as my reaching to him to serve as a co-organizer of a conference and co-editor of a book on El Niño events and other climatic catastrophes in ancient America – all mostly investigated through geological archaeology – are but more examples of the esteem in which I hold him as a scholar.

Dan is also one of the most generous and friendly colleagues I know. Peruvian archaeology is often a contentious field and yet he is well liked and admired by just about everyone who works in the region. He also is extremely generous to students, undergraduate and graduate, alike.

I can think of no one more deserving of the award than Dan. I am sure that you will consider him seriously and I am at your service if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffrey Quilter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "J" and "Q".

Jeffrey Quilter  
William and Muriel Seabury Howells Director

JQ:lo