2017 Presidential Recognition Award
Florida State University, Department of Anthropology

Though most Registered Professional Archaeologists are from the applied sector, there are many RPAs in academia. One university that really stands out is the Department of Anthropology at Florida State University (FSU). The Anthropology Department at FSU requires its archaeological faculty to be RPAs.

As the current Chair of the Department, Rochelle Marrinan, notes, "The decision to require RPA certification was made by the archaeological faculty and is part of our hiring criteria. It is an internal departmental standard. We are proud to have been the first department to have an RPA-certified field school and several of our faculty members have served on the SOPA and RPA boards and as officers. We also try to have our masters-level students close to, or ready for, RPA certification at graduation. RPA is the only national certifying body for any variety of anthropology. As universities use measures to meet performance and preeminence standards, these kinds of certifications become important."

The Register thanks the Anthropology Department at FSU for its long-term support. In recognition of the Department’s commitment to the promotion of archaeological professionalism and ethics, the Department is receiving the Register’s 2017 Presidential Recognition Award.