

**Winner of the 2016 Graduate Prize
Sofia Zepeda (University of Arizona), "She Has Got a Husband at Sea:
Seamen, Women, and the State, 1792-1815."**

The committee appreciated Ms. Zepeda's effective use of primary and secondary sources, clear writing, and balancing of several different questions of gender, war and statehood. She argued, "...cultural constructions of gender surrounding seamen, women, and the British navy shaped national policies that maintained the patriarchy of both the family and the state." Women assumed many roles as the Napoleonic Wars and other changes dramatically affected British society. Ms. Zepeda's work suggests that there is much to study about men and women, rich and poor, when a polity is fighting a full-scale war. This is a fine example of applying the cultural history lens to questions of law, gender, and war, particularly as our studies of twentieth-century wars often highlight the advance of women in society during and after conflicts.