

Dear ACS members

We would like to share with you, briefly, our experience in the Yucatan during the Fourth ACS Symposium that took place nearly a month ago. As you know, ACS went to Mexico using an experimental pilgrimage-formatted symposium around the idea of Salons and workshops. We had Lindsay Jones as the keynote and our special guide to the Chichen Itza ruins — which was a true treat for all of us. In addition to the presenters and Lindsay, we had 4 special guests that contributed a great deal to the conversation. Particularly touching and something that changed the dynamic of the meeting for the best was that one of the special guests (Gowri Parameswaran from State University of New York at New Paltz) brought her husband and two boys (16 and 20) who traveled with us. We felt like a big family ... The total number of ACS4 attendees was 15 (not counting Gowri's family).

This size of a group and an intense but well-paced rhythm gave us all many opportunities for free time and personal conversation/exploration. The pilgrimage was thoroughly felt. There is so much going unsaid by this cold narrative! How can one express the experience of walking through the ruins in the moonlight? Or touch the millennia old rocks carved by hands seeking sacred purposes before the world knew of 'America'? I guess you will have to check the photos and sketches to get into what took place in Chichen Itza and Isla Mujeres. Here is a link to several albums of images:

<http://www.acsforum.org/symposium2012/photos.htm>

We have also fully archived the work presented and performed at the ACS4 symposium on the ACS website .

<http://www.acsforum.org/symposium2012/>

Before we go, we want to express our gratitude for the trust, full engagement, and scholarly and friendly contribution of everyone that came to Mexico. Now, ACS is moving to its next symposium: ACS 5 ...

Muchas Gracias!

Julio Bermudez and Robert Hermanson
Co-chairs, 2012 ACS Symposium

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"leap and the net will appear"