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## ASECS Announces Winners of 2022 Gottschalk Prize

The American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS) awards the Louis A. Gottschalk Prize annually to an outstanding book-length historical or critical study on the eighteenth century.

The 2022 Gottschalk Prize is awarded to **José Francisco Robles**, *Polemics, Literature, and Knowledge in Eighteenth-Century Mexico: A New World for the Republic of Letters* (Liverpool University Press). One book has also been awarded honorable mention: **James Mulholland**, *Before the Raj: Writing Early Anglophone India* (Johns Hopkins University Press).

**José Francisco Robles** introduces readers to the vibrant intellectual and literary culture of eighteenth-century Mexico as configured by communities of readers radiating from the capital city to the provinces. These well-developed networks, Robles shows, faced head-on the challenges posed by expressions of European superiority, arguing in response for polycentricism as opposed to reductive notions of cosmopolitanism and cultural authority. Writers and thinkers employed a variety of compelling strategies to define Mexico as an important node in a polycentric Enlightened world--from the exploration of its rich and vital pre-Colombian past to its engagement with the major ideas emerging from Europe. Bringing a wealth of research as well as deep cultural knowledge to this project, Robles also explicates the ways in which networks of knowledge vie with traditional forms of knowing in eighteenth-century Mexico, examining the various means by which new ideas permeated and transformed scholasticism, often in conversation rather than in heated debate. Robles's vividly presented and meaningfully analyzed literary landscape expands the eighteenth-century Republic of Letters beyond Europe, providing a sweeping introduction to a wide range of texts, authors, and issues from eighteenth-century Mexico and bringing the Hispanic eighteenth century more broadly into dialogue with all of us.

**James Mulholland's** engagingly written, thoroughly researched study of Anglo-Indian literature, 1770-1820, provides a fresh look at how the infrastructure of the East India Company and the politics of empire produced a unique hybrid literary culture emerging from translocal regionalism. Focusing on means of production as well as content, Mulholland considers diverse texts to extract and assess the values of this colonial culture from its inception. The study's conceptual richness is evident in the ways it both transforms our reading of eighteenth-century Anglo-Indian culture and introduces methodology that can be usefully applied to other historical moments and bodies of work.

The American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies is a not-for-profit educational organization founded to promote the study of all aspects of the eighteenth century. It sponsors conferences, awards research fellowships and prizes, and publishes *Eighteenth-Century Studies* and *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture*.