

K. MARIA D. LANE
Interim Dean, Graduate Studies
Professor, Geography & Environmental Studies
University of New Mexico

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Geography, University of Texas at Austin, 2006
M.S. Community and Regional Planning, University of Texas at Austin, 2000
B.A. Latin-American Studies, University of Virginia (with Highest Distinction), 1995

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

Interim Dean, Graduate Studies

August 2023–present

Overview of Position. Executive leadership for a staff of 10 in an impactful unit that provides broad support for graduate and professional students across UNM Main and Health Science campuses. Focus areas: program and academic completion, scholarship and fellowship administration, graduate curriculum development and review, mentorship programming, student grievances, general student support.

Current Activities

- Develop a strategic plan that positions Graduate Studies to transition away from human resources work and toward a focus on the educational success and professional development needs of graduate students.
- Evaluate coordination between Graduate Studies and other UNM student support units, including those in Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Division of Equity and Inclusion, and the Office of the Vice President for Research.
- Advance institutional goals to increase the number of underrepresented minority doctoral students by 2030, in alignment with the commitments articulated by the Alliance of Hispanic Serving Research Universities (HSRU) and UNM's Division of Equity and Inclusion.
- Build institutional capacity to support graduate education by creating and delivering professional development and networking opportunities for grad-involved staff and faculty.
- Advance institutional goals by consulting with staff, students, faculty, and administrative leaders across campus to gather insight about the resources, needs, and concerns of graduate education and its supporting infrastructure at UNM.
- Represent the interests of graduate students and graduate education at the institutional level on relevant boards, councils, and task forces.
- Represent UNM interests to the state-wide New Mexico Council of Graduate Deans.
- Support students, staff, and faculty in resolving problems and handling emergency situations as they arise in the course of graduate and professional education.

Director, R.H. Mallory Center for Community Geography

August 2019–December 2023

Center Profile. The Center for Community Geography is located within the Department of Geography & Environmental Studies. It receives donor contributions of \$10,000 per year and funding for one project assistant from the College of Arts & Sciences. The Center's mission is to build partnerships between UNM and its surrounding communities that are effective in

addressing critical human-environment issues. To achieve this mission, it coordinates and funds community-engaged research and learning activities. The Center is led by a Director and Associate Director in GES, with consultation from affiliated faculty on and off campus.

Significant Achievements

- Developed the Center's strategic plan, established its institutional structure, and led its formal launch as founding director.
- Secured funding commitments to establish a viable financial model for the Center.
- Awarded seed funding for community engagement activities in 10 Geography courses.
- Funded 10 students to complete community-engaged projects; established a Community Geography Fellows program to connect students with community-identified needs.
- Brought 8 nationally recognized scholars to UNM for unique visits that combined public-facing events, classroom engagements, academic presentations, and research consultations.
- Envisioned and coordinated the "Indigenous Cartographies @UNM Symposium" (spring 2023) as a collaboration that engaged numerous UNM departments and highlighted the role of Indigenous thinkers in critical cartography research and practice.
- Developed working partnerships with at least two dozen community partners.
- Secured office space in a publicly accessible area of campus.
- Developed and launched a social media strategy.
- Established an affiliation program for faculty at UNM and from outside entities.

Chair, Department of Geography & Environmental Studies

August 2014–July 2019

Department Profile. In 2014, the Department of Geography & Environmental Studies was a moderately sized department with 8 TT faculty members, 1 staff member, and 3 teaching assistant positions. The Department had a M.S. Geography program with two concentrations and two undergraduate majors (B.A. and B.S. Geography). It had around 50 undergraduate majors and 20-25 graduate students.

Significant Achievements

- Led a collaborative effort between UNM and NMSU to design and develop New Mexico's first-ever Geography PhD program. Worked with stakeholders in the educational, business/industry, government, and nonprofit sectors to ensure that program design was responsive to workforce needs and other state priorities. Stewarded the joint program through UNM and state review, including legislative and gubernatorial approval.
- Secured a \$1,000,000 bequest donation plus a standing \$10K annual donation that allowed GES to establish a new Category 1 center focused on community engagement and outreach.
- Proposed and implemented a new course fee structure that more than quadrupled the GES operating budget and allowed for a significant extension of technological resources to students preparing for jobs in the Geographical Information Science sector.
- Oversaw significant growth in personnel resources – 63% increase in TT faculty, 150% increase in staff FTE, and 133% increase in GTA funding lines – to improve departmental contributions to UNM's mission.
- Secured increases to the department's recurring budget allocation in order to launch and support key expansions in curriculum and programming.
- Established an affiliated faculty program.
- Launched a social media and outreach strategy.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

Professor, Department of Geography & Environmental Studies, 2020-present
Associate Professor, Department of Geography & Environmental Studies, 2013-2020
Assistant Professor, Department of Geography & Environmental Studies, 2007-2013
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, 2006-2007

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

Presidential Teaching Fellow, University of New Mexico, 2023-present
Society of Women Geographers, Elected Member, 2019-present
Distinguished Visiting Scholar, Queen's University, Belfast, 2016
Outstanding New Teacher of the Year Award, University of New Mexico, 2010
Price/Webster Prize, History of Science Society, 2006
CLIR-Mellon Fellowship for Dissertation Research in the Humanities, 2003-2004
Echols Scholar, University of Virginia, 1991-1995

PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS

Lane, K. Maria D. (2024) *Fluid geographies: water, science, and settler colonialism in New Mexico* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).
Lane, K. Maria D. (2011) *Geographies of Mars: seeing and knowing the red planet* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).

PUBLICATIONS: SELECTED ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS (*student or advisee)

NOTE: Complete academic CV available at geographylane.wordpress.com.

- *Nebbiai, Martina, *Natali Cáceres-Arteaga, and **K. Maria D. Lane** (2023) "Liminal waters, contested imaginaries: Andean *comunas* and Ecuador's new water law." *Water International* 48(7): 883-900. DOI: [10.1080/02508060.2023.2286100](https://doi.org/10.1080/02508060.2023.2286100).
- Ayala, Michael Ayala, **Maria Lane**, and Rommel Montúfar (2023) "Motivations to adopt agroecology in rural communities of the northern Andes of Ecuador." *ESPOCH Congresses: The Ecuadorian Journal of S.T.E.A.M.* 3(1): 666-693. DOI: [10.18502/epoch.v3i1.14479](https://doi.org/10.18502/epoch.v3i1.14479).
- Lane, K. Maria D.** (2020) "Engineering." In *SAGE Handbook of Historical Geography*, eds. Mona Domosh, Michael Heffernan, and Charles W. J. Withers (London: Sage), 698-719.
- *Beene, Daniel and **Lane, K. Maria D.** (2020) "Unmappable variables: GIS and the complicated historical geography of water in the Rio Grande Project." In *Historical geography, GIScience, and textual analysis* (Springer), 163-177.
- Lane, K. Maria D.**, *Hayley Pedrick, and *Kristian Mueller (2020) "Adding beer to the geography curriculum." *The Geography Teacher* 17 (3):77-82. DOI: [10.1080/19338341.2020.1796739](https://doi.org/10.1080/19338341.2020.1796739).
- *Cáceres-Arteaga, D. Natali and **K. Maria D. Lane** (2020) "Agro-ecological practices as a climate change adaptation mechanism in four highland communities in Ecuador." *Journal of Latin American Geography* 19 (3): 47-73. DOI: [10.1353/lag.2020.0071](https://doi.org/10.1353/lag.2020.0071).

- Gong, Xi and **K. Maria D. Lane** (2020) “A case study of institutional twitter usage by U.S. geography departments.” *Professional Geographer* 72(2): 219-237. DOI: [10.1080/00330124.2019.1653770](https://doi.org/10.1080/00330124.2019.1653770).
- Lane, K. Maria D.** (2019) “Commentary: old and new,” special issue on “Interdisciplinary Research on Past Environments through the Lens of Historical-Critical Physical Geographies,” edited by Kirsten Greer, Katie Hemsworth, Adam Csank, and Kirby Calvert, *Historical Geography* 46: 151-159. DOI: [10.1353/hgo.2018.0029](https://doi.org/10.1353/hgo.2018.0029).
- Dunnett, Oliver O., Andrew S. Maclaren, Julie Klinger, **K. Maria D. Lane**, Daniel Sage (2019) “Geographies of outer space: progress and opportunities.” *Progress in Human Geography* 43(2):314-336. DOI: [10.1177/0309132517747727](https://doi.org/10.1177/0309132517747727).
- Lane, K. Maria D.** (2018) “Bridging the Florida Keys: engineering an environmental transformation, 1904-1912.” In *American Environment Revisited*, eds. Geoff Buckley and Yolonda Youngs (Rowman & Littlefield), pp. 235-253.
- *Cáceres-Arteaga, Natali, Oscar Ayala-Campaña, Darwin Rosero-Vaca, & **K. Maria D. Lane** (2018) What does the future hold? Historical climate analysis and projection of future climatic scenarios for the Andean canton of Pedro Moncayo, Ecuador. *Revista Geográfica de America Central* 3(61E): 297-318. DOI: [10.15359/rgac.61-3.15](https://doi.org/10.15359/rgac.61-3.15).
- *Healy, A., C.D. Lippitt, D. Phillips, and **M. Lane** (2017) “A comparison of suitability models to identify prehistoric agricultural fields in western New Mexico.” *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 11: 427-434.
- Lane, K. Maria D.** (2016) “Pros and cons of a cosmopolitan classroom,” in *Going Inward: the Role of Cultural Introspection in College Teaching*, eds. S. D. Longerbeam and A. F. Chávez (New York: Peter Lang Publishing), pp. 181-190.
- Lave, Rebecca, Matthew W. Wilson, Elizabeth S. Barron, Christine Biermann, Mark A. Carey, Chris S. Duvall, Leigh Johnson, **K. Maria Lane**, Nathan McClintock, Darla Munroe, Rachel Pain, James Proctor, Bruce L. Rhoads, Morgan M. Robertson, Jairus Rossi, Nathan F. Sayre, Gregory Simon, Marc Tadaki and Christopher Van Dyke (2014) “Intervention: critical physical geography.” *Canadian Geographer* 58(1): 1-10.
- Perramond, Eric P. and **K. Maria D. Lane** (2014) “Territory to state: law, power, and water in New Mexico,” in *Negotiating Territoriality: Spatial Dialogues between State and Tradition*, eds. Allan Charles Dawson, Laura Zanotti, and Ismael Vaccaro (New York: Routledge), 142-162.
- Lane, K. Maria D.** (2013) “Reading Boulder Dam: landscape alteration as national transformation in 1930s America.” *Aether: Journal of Media Geography*, 11: 102-126.
- Lane, K. Maria D.** (2011) “Water, technology, and the courtroom: negotiating reclamation policy in territorial New Mexico.” *Journal of Historical Geography*, 37: 300-311.
- Lane, K. Maria D.** (2008) “Astronomers at altitude: mountain geography and the cultivation of scientific legitimacy,” in *High Places: Cultural Geographies of Mountains, Ice, and Science*, eds. Denis Cosgrove and Veronica della Dora (London: I.B. Tauris), 126-144.
- Lane, K. Maria D.** (2006) “Mapping the Mars canal mania: cartographic projection and the creation of a popular icon.” *Imago Mundi: The International Journal for the History of Cartography*, 58: 198-211.
- Lane, K. Maria D.** (2005) “Geographers of Mars: cartographic inscription and exploration narrative in late Victorian representations of the red planet,” *Isis: An International Review Devoted to the History of Science and its Cultural Influences*, 96: 477-506.

SELECTED FUNDING AWARDS

- (under review) Co-PI. “Institutional Transformation Alliance: Leaders in Diversity, Engagement, Research, and Empowerment in STEM (LIDERES).” National Science Foundation, AGEP program. UNM-led collaboration with Arizona State University and University of Oregon. (Mala Htun, Principal Investigator). Proposed for 1/2025-12/2029, \$4,400,000.
- (under review) Co-PI. “Community Engagement Academy in Humanities and Social Sciences.” Mellon Foundation. Tim Castillo, Principal Investigator. Proposed for 1/2025-12/2028, \$500,000.
- (under review) Principal Investigator for UNM subaward. “Collaborative Research: NSF INCLUDES Alliance: Latinx Pathways to STEM Advanced Degree Attainment (PASADA).” National Science Foundation. Subaward under UC Santa Barbara (Barbara Walker, Principal Investigator). Proposed for 7/2024-6/2029, \$799,666.
- Principal Investigator. “Broadening Participation in STEM Graduate Degrees and the U.S. STEM Workforce.” National Science Foundation. Subaward under the Council of Graduate Schools (PI: Suzanne Ortega). 10/2024-9/2027, \$45,000.
- Principal Investigator. “Community Engaged Learning for Environmental Justice.” UNM Teaching Allocation Committee. Spring 2024, \$5,000.
- Principal Investigator, as of 8/2023. “Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP).” National Science Foundation. 9/2019-8/2024, \$3,364,382 in student fellowships.
- Co-PI. “Proposal for Development of a Faculty-Led Study Abroad Course: Community Governance and Environmental Politics.” UNM Study-Abroad Allocations Committee. (Jami Nuñez, Principal Investigator.) Summer 2023, \$3,500.
- Principal Investigator. “Student Experience in Geovisualiation of Historical Data on Native Trails.” U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, CP-CESU, 8/2022-7/2024 \$172,733.
- Co-Investigator. “Place-Based Reparative Environmental Histories Symposium.” Social Science and Humanities Research Council. (Kirsten Greer, Principal Investigator.) Spring 2020, CAN\$25,000.
- Principal Investigator. “Student Experience in National Trails GIS Development Activities.” U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, CP-CESU. 7/2016-4/2018, \$25,383.
- Principal Investigator. “Re-Imagining the Islands: Environmental Change in the Florida Keys.” UNM Research Allocation Committee. 12/2015-5/2017, \$8,382.
- Principal Investigator. “Intersections of Authority: Science, Law and the Management of Water Resources in New Mexico's Rio Grande Valley.” National Science Foundation, Science and Society Program. 6/2008-5/2011, \$132,412.

SELECTED INVITED LECTURES AND RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- 2024, “Fluid geographies: what are we missing in modern water management?” Keynote presentation for Transect of the Americas Annual Workshop, Albuquerque, NM: May.
- 2024, “*Native Trails* and the challenge of community engagement.” Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Honolulu, HI: April.
- 2023, “Fluid Geographies: water, knowledge, and settler colonialism in New Mexico.” Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers. Denver, CO: March.
- 2022, “Rails, reefs, and the re-imagining of the Florida Keys,” Colloquium at Louisiana State University: September.

- 2020, “Connected landscapes of Cuba and Montreal: Redpath Sugar’s islands, 1850s-1970s” (with co-authors Kirsten Greer and Andrew Smith). Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers, Antigua, Guatemala: January.
- 2018, “Fluid geographies: water, science and settlement in Territorial-era New Mexico.” Keynote lecture for Critical Historical Geographies Workshop, Dartmouth College: May.
- 2018, “Managing water in Territorial-era New Mexico: Hydraulic expertise and the science of settlement.” Symposium presentation to joint master’s program in Integrated Management of Water Resources and Irrigation, Universidad Central de Ecuador and Universidad de San Luis Potosi, Quito, Ecuador: March.
- 2018, “Making the Florida Keys American: a historical geography of islands.” Department of Geography colloquium, University of Nevada-Reno: February.
- 2018, “Geography of beer: the pedagogy of recruitment.” Meeting of the Southwest Division of the Association of American Geographers, Baton Rouge, LA: October.
- 2018, “Slow scholarship and the digital age.” In session on “Maps and Stories: What does the future look like for historical geographers?” International Conference of Historical Geographers. Warsaw, Poland: July.
- 2018, “Connecting Havana and Key West: a historical geography of islands.” Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers. San Jose, Costa Rica: May.
- 2017, “Managing water in Territorial-era New Mexico: Hydraulic expertise and the science of settlement.” Nipissing University symposium: “Challenging Canada 150: Settler Colonialism and Critical Environmental Sciences,” North Bay, Ontario: October.
- 2017, “Bridging the Florida Keys: science and spectacle,” Spatial Humanities Working Group, University of New Mexico: November.
- 2016, “Colonial geographies of Mars: past, present and future.” SSC School Seminar, Queen’s University, Belfast UK: October.
- 2016, “Geographies of Mars.” Humanities Center at DePaul University, Chicago, IL: October.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

World Regional Geography, Physical Geography, World of Beer, Critical Cartography, Geography of New Mexico and the Southwest, Geography Senior Capstone, Geographic History and Methods, Approaches to Geographic Research, Environmental Issues Seminar, Southwest Seminar, Professional Geographic Practice

ADVISING AND SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE

Committee Chair

- 5 doctoral committees (2 Geography, 3 Latin American Studies)
- 17 master’s committees (16 Geography, 1 Latin American Studies)
- 2 honors undergraduate committees (Geography)

Committee Member

- 10 doctoral committees (Geography, History, LAS, Anthropology, Civil Engineering)
- 34 master’s committees (Geography, Water Resources, Fine Arts, American Studies)
- 2 honors undergraduate committees (Geography)

Supervisor

- 26 graduate assistantships
- 11 undergraduate assistants and fellows

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Service to Department of Geography & Environmental Studies

Ad hoc reviewer for tenure & promotion cases, 2013-present
Ad hoc mentor to junior faculty, 2012-present
Director of Graduate Programs, 2021-2023 and 2012-2014
Steering Committee, New Mexico Doctoral Program in Geography, 2020-2023
Curriculum Committee 2021-2023
Assessment Coordinator, 2020-2021 and 2007-2011
Personnel Committee, 2020-present
Colloquium Coordinator, 2020-2021
Outreach Coordinator, 2015-2016

Service to College and University

Academic Technologies Advisory Board, 2024
Budget Leadership Team (Tuition & Fees Subcommittee), 2023-2024
Executive Cabinet, 2023-2024
LEAD Council (Liaisons in Equity Advocacy and Diversity), 2023-2024
Deans Council, 2023-2024
Faculty Development Council, 2023-2024
VPR Research Council, 2023-2024
Student Experience Project, implementation faculty fellow, 2021-2022
Core Curriculum Faculty Fellows program, 2018-2019
Criterion Five Committee, UNM Higher Learning Commission Accreditation 2018-2019
General Education Task Force, UNM Faculty Senate, 2016-2019 (chair 2017-2019)
Faculty Advisory Committee, NPS National Trails, 2016-2018 (chair)
Advisory Board, UNM Global and National Security Policy Institute, 2016-2017
Spatial Humanities Working Group, 2015-2018

Professional Service, National and International

Ad hoc reviewer for journal/book manuscripts, 2000-present
Ad hoc external reviewer for Academic Program Reviews, 2019-present
Ad hoc reviewer for grant panel reviews, 2013-present
Convenor, Standing Committee, Intl. Conference of Historical Geographers, 2024-2025
Local Arrangements Committee, Western Historical Association conference, 2024-2025
Scientific Committee, ICHG 2025 conference, 2024-2025
Graduate Deans Affinity Group, HSRU Alliance, 2023-present
New Mexico Council of Graduate Deans, 2023-present
Editor, *Journal of Historical Geography*, 2020-2023
J.B. Jackson Book Prize Committee 2016-2024 (chair 2022-2024)
Editor, *Historical Geography*, 2011-2017
Conference organizer, SW and Great Plains/Rocky Mtn Divisions of the AAG, 2014
Board of Directors, Historical Geography Specialty Group of the AAG, 2009-2012

PUBLIC RECOGNITION AND MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2023 Featured on KUNM *University Showcase* radio program for November 2023: “Graduate Students Strut Their Stuff at LoboBites.” Available at: <https://www.kunm.org/show/university-showcase/2023-11-17/graduate-students-strut-their-research-stuff-at-lobobites>
- 2021 Featured on KUNM *University Showcase* radio program for April 2021: “How Maps Influenced Our Ideas About Mars.” Available at: <https://www.kunm.org/post/how-maps-influenced-our-ideas-about-mars>
- 2021 Featured in print story and video feature about historical episodes in the mapping of Mars. Story by Nadia Drake, “Our obsession with Mars,” *National Geographic*, March 2021: 38-65. NatGeo online feature (story and video) by Nadia Drake, “How these feuding mapmakers shaped our fascination with Mars”:
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/article/how-these-feuding-map-makers-shaped-our-fascination-with-mars>
- 2017 Recognized by the New Mexico Legislature (both House and Senate) for “achievement in the sciences that reflects a keen understanding of the human role in the environment,” January 30.
- 2017 Featured in first episode of a week-long BBC4 radio series on *War of the Worlds*: “The Chances Against Anything Manlike on Mars Are a Million to One'.” Air date: 6 March 2017. iPlayer link: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08gwx12>