

Neusa H. McWilliams

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PROFILE:

Research interests: Sustainable development in Latin America, and the challenges created by globalization, migration, environmental degradation and climate change.

- Over 10 years teaching introductory and upper division courses in geography.
- Long-term research collaboration with academic institutions in Chiapas, MX

LANGUAGES: Spanish and Portuguese. Fluent in both

EDUCATION:

Doctor of Philosophy in Geography, degree earned in 1996

Dissertation: "Organic Agriculture and Indigenous Communities in Chiapas, Mexico: An Alternative to Rural Development". Committee: Bernard Nietschmann, James Parsons, Miguel Altieri

Master of Arts in Geography, degree earned in 1991

Thesis: "Intensification of Agriculture within the Basin of Mexico during the Aztec Period". Committee: James Parsons, Roger Byrne, Brent Berlin

National School of Anthropology and History (ENAH), Mexico City

Bachelor of Art Archaeology (Paleoethnobiology), degree earned in 1989

Mexico Autonomous National University (UNAM)

B. A. in Biology, 1986

Other training:

San Francisco State University, College of Extended Learning

Introduction to Geographic Information Systems, 1997

UC Berkeley Extension

Geographic Information Systems, 1997

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AWARDS:

Spring 2014 College of Languages, Literature & Social Sciences Dean Recognition Faculty award.
University of Toledo, Ohio

Professional Memberships: Association of American Geographers, American Anthropological Association, East Lakes Division of the Association of American Geographers, Latin America Geographical Association.

PUBLICATIONS (Refereed):

“Alternatives to Rural Development: Organic Agriculture and Indigenous Communities in Chiapas, Mexico” in *Journal of Latin American Geography* vol. 13(1), March, 2014.

“Migration and Indigenous communities in the Southern states of Oaxaca and Chiapas, Mexico” in *Perspectives on Global Development and Technology*. Vol. 13(2) 2014. Brill

Doctoral Dissertation: *Organic Agriculture and Sustainable Development among indigenous communities in Chiapas, Mexico*, Geography Department, University of California, Berkeley.

Submitted for publication:

“Autonomy, Women’s Rights and Migration, Twenty Years of the Zapatista Experience” in *Gender, Place and Culture*. Routledge Taylor & Francis Group

“Carbon Credit as Funding Mechanisms for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Mexico” chapter in book to be published from 2013 AAG Session Crises in the countryside? Exploring connectivity and change in rural futures. Martin Phillips (ed.). University of Leicester. Ashgate Publishing, Surrey UK

PUBLICATIONS (Non-Refereed):

1990 “Functional Interpretation of a Residential Unit of Teotihuacan, Xolalpan Phase” in **VII Coloquio sobre Paleobotanica y Palinologia**. Sanchez-Martinez, Fernando and Susana Xelhuantzi-Lopez (ed) Cuadernos de trabajo 42. INAH, Mexico

1989 “El Uso de la Flora y Fauna en una Unidad Habitacional en Teotihuacan” **XXI Reunion de la Mesa Redonda de la Sociedad Mexicana de Antropologia: La Sociedad Mexicana Contemporanea una vision Antropologica**. Merida, Yucatan

TEACHING HISTORY:

University of Toledo, Geography and Planning Department. Spring 2010 to present

Full-time Instructor of Human and Cultural Geography, World Regional Geography, Geography of Latin America, and Environmental Geography, online and lectured, 2013-present

University of Michigan, Dearborn Geography Department, Fall 2012.

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Part-time Lecturer Upper Division class: Economic Geography.

Hayward State University, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, 1998 to 1999

Part-time instructor of introductory courses on Cultural Geography and upper division courses on the Geography of Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean,

San Francisco City College, Earth Sciences Department, 1997 to 1998

Part-time Instructor of Cultural Geography courses.

San Francisco State University, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, 1996 to 1997

Part-time instructor of introductory and upper division courses in The Human Environment, Introduction to Climate Change, and Introduction to Cultural Geography.

National Hispanic University, Liberal Arts Department, San Jose CA, 1996 to 1999.

Part-time instructor of Introduction to Geography, Introduction to Earth Sciences, and Geography of Latin America classes, in the Liberal Arts Department.

Part-time instructor of Interpretation techniques in Languages Department

National School of Anthropology and History (ENAH-UNAM), Mexico. 1985 to 1987

Part-time instructor of Maya Archaeology, Introduction to Mesoamerica Culture.

CONFERENCES:

*April 2014 "Migration effects on indigenous women in Chiapas" **Association of American Geographers, annual meeting** Tampa FL. Session 'THE SOCIAL IMPACTS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION ON THOSE LEFT BEHIND' Session Organizer: Richard C. Jones.

*October 2013 "Migration and Globalization: Local Alternatives." **East Lake Division of Association of American Geographers annual meeting**, Toledo, OH.

*March 2013 "Carbon sequestration and sustainability in Chiapas" **Association of American Geographers, Annual meeting** Los Angeles, CA. Session: 'Crises in the countryside? Exploring connectivity and change in rural futures' organized by Dr, Martin Phillips.

*October 2010 "Alternatives to Rural Development; Organic Agriculture and Indigenous Communities in Mexico" **International Geographical Union Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Spaces**. Conference on Local Food Systems in Old Industrial Regions: Challenges and Opportunities. Toledo, Ohio

*July 1996 "Small scale agricultural production and marketing in coastal Chiapas" **Appropriate Technology in Indigenous Communities Conference**. Organizers: *Frente Indigena Oaxaqueno Binacional*.

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*1996 “Organic Coffee Production and Indigenous Groups in Chiapas, Mexico” **Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting**, San Francisco, CA.

*1995 “Chiapas Sustainable Rural Development and Social Unrest” **Interview on NPR**

*1994 “Indigenous Communities and NAFTA” **Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting**.

*1994 “Análisis Crítico de la Cafecultura Orgánica en el Estado de Chiapas, México” **Coffee Symposium**. El Colegio de la Frontera Sur, México

* 1994 **Radio interview by Latino Broadcast and Media Services**. Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. University of California, Riverside, August 1st.

* 1994. “Indigenous Groups in Mexico and coffee production” graduate seminar colloquium, University of California at Berkeley, Geography Department.

*1993 “The Politics of North American Economic Integration: Impact on Indigenous People in Mexico” **Indigenous Peoples First Nations in the Americas: Land, Ecology, Human Rights, and Self-Determination Conference**. University of California, Berkeley.

*1993 Panel Discussant “Session: The Politics of North American Economic Integration: Impact on Indigenous Peoples in Mexico”. **Indigenous Peoples First Nations in the Americas: Land, Ecology, Human Rights, and Self-Determination Conference**. University of California, Berkeley

*1993 “Chiapas and NAFTA” **Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. Annual Meeting: Abstracts and Summaries**.

*1989 “El Uso de la Flora y Fauna en una Unidad Habitacional en Teotihuacán” **XXI Reunión de la Mesa Redonda de la Sociedad Mexicana de Antropología: La Sociedad Mexicana Contemporánea una visión Antropológica**. Mérida, Yucatán

1989 “Functional Interpretation of a Residential Unit of Teotihuacán, Xolalpan Phase” in **VII Coloquio sobre Paleobotánica y Palinología**. INAH, México

1989 “Teotihuacán, Mitos y Realidades” **Jornadas Juaristas**. México

OTHER EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

City of San Jose, Water Recycling Program 1999 to 2002

Geographic Information Systems Analyst

City of Fremont, Long-term Planning Department 1997 to 1999

Coordinator of the City’s Technical Coordinating Committee and Planning assistant

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Oaxacan Indigenous Bi-national Front. 1994 to 1996

Project Coordinator: Organic Community gardens.

EL COLEGIO DE LA FRONTERA SUR, Tapachula, Mexico. 1992 to 1994

Visiting Research Scholar, Project Director

University of California, Berkeley Herbarium, SMASCH Project 1990 – 1992

Database entry and conversion into ArcView and ArcInfo.

California Coastal Commission, internship 1991

University of California at Berkeley, University Herbarium graduate student research assistantship 1990

University of California, Quaternary Paleoecology Laboratory, graduate student research assistantship 1988 to 1989

Instituto de Investigaciones Antropologicas, Laboratorio de Paleoethnobotanica y Ecologia Humana, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, research assistant 1984 to 1986.

GRANTS & Scholarships:

1998 Arizona State University, NSF-Funded Human Geography in Action Workshop.

1994 UCMEXUS Dissertation grant

1993 World Affairs Council of Northern California, Asilomar Student and Teacher Scholarship recipient.

1993 Scholar exchange research grant at CIES-Tapachula, Chiapas.

1992-1993 Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation grant in women's studies.

1992 Center for Latin American Studies International and Area Studies, Travel grant.

1991 Carl O Sauer Memorial Fellowship Award UC Berkeley Geography Department.

1990 Center for Latin American Studies International and Area Studies, Travel grant.

1990 Center for Latin American Studies, Travel grant

1990 CONACYT (National Council of Science and Technology in Mexico) Complementary research grant.

1990 University of California at Berkeley, Carl O Sauer Memorial Fellowship award.

1990 University of California at Berkeley, University Herbarium graduate student research assistantship.

1989 - 1994 CONACYT (National Council of Science and Technology in Mexico) Ph D academic scholarship.

1988 – 1991 SEP (Secretary of Public Education, Mexico) student scholarship.

1988 University of California No-Resident Tuition Scholarship

1988 University of California at Berkeley, Department of Paleontology, lab assistantship in the Museum of Paleontology.