



New Mexico Post Doc Leadership Program – 2017

About Our Guest Speakers

Balas, Heather, President & Executive Director

New Mexico First

A fifth-generation New Mexican, Heather Balas brings over 20 years' experience in public policy, including citizen outreach, voter education, coalition-building, and policy research. She worked in Washington, DC and San Francisco for several years before returning to her home state. Previous employers include the Commission on Presidential Debates, the California Center for Civic Participation, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, and the National Network for Youth. She holds a Masters in political communication from the University of Maryland. Heather is married and is mom to two busy children.

Blakeslee, Sandra, Science Writer

New York Times

Sandra is a science writer based in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She has spent nearly all of her career writing for the New York Times, both as a staff writer and on contract. She also writes and/or collaborates on books ("Dirt Is Good", "Missing Microbes", "Sleights of Mind"). Sandra is a recipient of Templeton Journalism Fellowship, Cambridge University in England, discussing science and religion. She also received three recent honors: fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; fellow of the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry; and, the first journalism fellow at the Santa Fe Institute.

Cripps, Richard, Ph.D., Professor

UNM, Biology

Research Interests: Using genetics and molecular biology to understand muscle development in *Drosophila*: regulation of muscle-specific gene transcription; identification and characterization of new genes required for heart and muscle development; cell biology of developing muscle fibers.

Crossey, Laura, Ph.D., Professor & Associate Chair

UNM, Earth & Planetary Sciences

Research Interests - Aqueous and Sedimentary Geochemistry. Applications of low-temperature geochemistry to problems in hydrochemistry, sedimentary diagenesis, and geomicrobiology. My research approach combines field examination of modern early diagenetic environments (biogeochemistry of water and sediments) with laboratory analysis as well as core and outcrop evaluations applied to evaluate paleohydrology and reservoir/aquifer characteristics. Activities include geoscience outreach, K-12 outreach, and science education research as well as programs to increase the participation of under-represented groups in the science disciplines (such as NM Alliance for Minority Participation).



Daniel, Mary Jo, Ph.D., Director

UNM Faculty Research Development

Dr. Daniel is leading an extensive effort to expand and coordinate faculty research support on the main campus of UNM. She is responsible for campus-wide research initiatives as well as coordinating overall research support. Dr. Daniel served as Associate Director of New Mexico EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) from 2010 to 2015, and brings extensive experience in coordinating and managing statewide programs, particularly those involving science and math education. She has been a co-principal investigator on several NSF grants.

Domandi, Mary-Charlotte, Producer & Host

Radio Café

Mary-Charlotte Domandi is producer and host of the Radio Cafe (on the web at radiocafe.org), a program of interviews on subjects including the art, literature, politics, the environment, science, and the local Santa Fe scene. She has been voted "Best Local Radio Program" in Santa Fe many times over, and is the recipient of the 2012 Mayor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, and the 2011 New Mexico Book Association award for "meritorious service to the literary communities of New Mexico." She is also a Latin music DJ, has studied social and folkloric dance in Cuba, and has interviewed many distinguished Latin musicians.

Emmons, Mark, Ed.D., Associate Dean

UNM University Libraries

Dr. Mark Emmons is responsible for access services, interlibrary loan, reference, instruction, collections, and research data services. He has over twenty years of professional experience as an academic librarian, working at Occidental College before accepting a faculty position at UNM. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies and his Master of Library Science at the University of California, Los Angeles, and his Doctor of Education at the University of New Mexico. Mark is also the author of the book *Film and Television: A Guide to the Reference Literature* and has published extensively about film resources, information literacy and library instruction, and the value of the academic library.

Gannon, William, Ph.D., Director

UNM Academic Integrity & Research Ethics

Dr. Gannon directs all activities regarding academic and research integrity for Graduate Studies at UNM and as a liaison with the Office for the Vice President of Research. Along with assurance of responsible conduct of research (RCR) compliance and a number of other urgent priorities, also contributes to the effort of recruiting, retention, and graduation of outstanding students by analyzing trends in enrollment.

Johnson, George, Writer

New York Times

George Johnson has been writing about science for The New York Times for more than 25 years. He is a two time winner of the AAAS Science Journalism Award and the author of nine books, including "Strange Beauty: Murray Gell-Mann and the Revolution in 20th-Century Particle Physics," "The Ten Most Beautiful Experiments," "Fire in the Mind:



Science, Faith and the Search for Order,” and, most recently, “The Cancer Chronicles: Unlocking Medicine’s Deepest Mystery.” His books have been translated into more than 15 languages, and three of them were short-listed for the Royal Society Book Prize. His column, “Raw Data,” appears monthly in Science Times.

Judge, Ned, Writer, Producer, Director

Ned Judge is a writer, producer, and director of photography. He graduated from Los Alamos High School and went to the University of New Mexico. Ned has been working in documentary and news for 50 + years starting at KOAT TV in 1962. He was at NBC News in Burbank in the 1980’s. He then joined Walter Cronkite’s company, Cronkite-Ward and wrote and produced six programs for the TLC “Understanding” science series. In 2009 he produced an hour with Michio Kaku about cosmological mysteries. His most recent short documentary, “Buffalo Spirit”, aired nationally on PBS this month.

Smith, Gary, Ph.D., Professor
& Assistant Dean, Faculty Development

UNM Organization, Info & Learning Sciences
UNM School of Medicine

Dr. Smith was a faculty member in UNM’s Earth and Planetary Sciences Department for 28 years prior to joining OILS in 2015 and has been a leader of teaching professional learning programs for about 10 years. He is also the lead co-PI and leader of course redesign on UNM’s STEM Gateway project, a 5-year effort funded by the U.S. Department of Education for improving the success of Hispanic and low-income students in entry-level science and math courses that are foundational to STEM degrees. Dr. Smith’s experience focuses on curriculum and instructional design in higher education and training programs, motivating and managing effective change process in educational organizations, and the transfer of research to practice in both professional development and higher education instruction.

Wheeler, Jonathon, Data Curation Librarian

UNM College of University Libraries &
Learning Sciences

Jon's role in the Libraries' Data Services initiatives includes the development of research data ingest, packaging and archiving work flows. Prior to joining the College in 2012, Jon provided access services at the University of North Carolina at Asheville's Ramsey Library and served as an environmental records coordinator on a contract to the White Sands Missile Range in southern New Mexico.

Jon's research interests include the requirements and usability of sustainable architectures for long term data preservation and the disposition of research data in response to funding requirements. Additional interests include workflow development in support of quality control and streamlined data storage, dissemination, archiving, and preservation. Jon earned his master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2009.