

CURRICULUM VITA

Laura A. McNamara, Ph.D.
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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Anthropology (with distinction)
Department of Anthropology
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM
May 2001

Master of Arts, Ethnology
Department of Anthropology
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM
December 1994

Bachelor of Science, Foreign Service (cum laude)
Georgetown University
Washington, DC
May 1991

HONORS AND AWARDS

Maxwell Museum Association/University of New Mexico Department of Anthropology.
Ruth E. Kennedy Award for Outstanding Doctoral Candidate in Department of Anthropology.
April 2001.

New Mexico Folklore Society/University of New Mexico Department of Anthropology.
Outstanding Graduate Folklore Student. January 1996.

National Science Foundation.
Honorable Mention, Graduate Fellowship Program. March 1994.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association
American Ethnological Society
Society for Cultural Anthropology

THESIS

McNamara, L. “*Ways of Knowing*” *About Weapons: The Cold War’s End at the Los Alamos National Laboratory*. Doctoral Dissertation, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico. May 2001.

PUBLICATIONS

Denman, K, Gover, A, Guerin, P, McNamara, L. and Morrison, S. “Albuquerque Target Cities: Preliminary Findings.” *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, Volume 31(3), 255-263, July-September, 1999.

McNamara, L. 2000. “Representing Time: The Language of (un)Certainty in Post Cold War Los Alamos.” *Theoria et Historia Scientiarum*: forthcoming.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Isolated in a World of Threats: Science, Secrecy and Nuclear Deterrence at the Los Alamos National Laboratory.” Ruth E. Kennedy Memorial Lecture, Maxwell Museum Association/ University of New Mexico Department of Anthropology, April 11, 2001.

“Saving the Skills of the Cold War: Lessons about Humans, Knowledge and Technology from the Los Alamos National Laboratory.” Presented at the Cooperative Monitoring Center, Sandia National Laboratory, 6 July 2000.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

McNamara, L. 2001. “Emplacing Knowledge: Nuclear Weapons and the Production of Confidence at the United States Nevada Test Site.” To be presented at the annual meetings of the Southwest Texas Popular Culture Association, March 17-21, Albuquerque, NM.

McNamara, L. 1999. “The Death of Weapons; or, Pondering the Dilemma of Knowledge Loss At the Los Alamos National Laboratory.” Presented to the American Anthropological Association, Chicago, IL.

McNamara, L. and Meade, R. 1999. “Changing Times in the American Nuclear Weapons Design Community.” Presented at the conference ‘On Time: History, Science, Commemoration,’ sponsored by the Royal British Society for the History of Science/National Museum and Galleries of Merseyside, Liverpool, England.

McNamara, L. 1998. “‘Project Living’: Home, Family and Community in Los Alamos, NM, 1946-1962.” Presented to the Canadian Historical Association, Ottawa, Canada.

McNamara, L. and Morrison, S. 1997. “Albuquerque Target Cities Preliminary Findings.” Presented to the Society for Applied Sociology, Chicago, IL.

McNamara, L. 1996. “Defending Hearth and Home: Patriotic Myths of Early Los Alamos.” Presented to the New Mexico Historical Society, Las Vegas, NM.

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

May 2001 to present

Technical Staff Member, D-1, Statistical Sciences, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM.

October 2000 to May 2001

Graduate Research Assistant, D-1, Statistical Sciences, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM. Currently completing doctoral thesis on post-Cold War changes in the laboratory's knowledge environment and strategies under development for capture and preservation of weapons related skills and understandings.

February 1998 to September 2000.

Graduate Research Assistant, Archives and History Programs, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM.

Performed ethnographic research for doctoral thesis on knowledge preservation strategies among groups of nuclear design physicists and engineers. Research assistant for history project, "Archiving Operation Julin" documenting the last series of nuclear weapons tests conducted in the United States.

July 1997 to February 1998.

Graduate Research Assistant, Human Resources Division, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM.

Conducted interviews with program designers and participants, observed mentoring sessions, and wrote evaluation of pilot mentoring program for Laboratory's Training and Development group.

December 1994 to July 1997.

Graduate Research Assistant, Institute for Social Research, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM.

While completing coursework for Anthropology Ph.D. program, worked as a research assistant designing different qualitative strategies for evaluating community-based correctional and substance abuse treatment programs for juvenile and adult offenders in New Mexico. Conducted interviews, observed programs, analyzed qualitative data, and wrote reports to help funding agencies assess efficacy of treatment programs. Co-authored a monograph, a conference presentation, and several successful grant applications for monies from the National Institute of Justice.

December 1991 to May 1992.

Information Officer, Joint Voluntary Association, Nairobi, Kenya

As member of JVA staff, counseled refugees on eligibility requirements for United States resettlement programs. Traveled to UN refugee to conduct screening interviews for resettlement. Coordinated refugee assistance efforts with United Nations and U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Services staff members.

June 1991 to December 1991.

Operations Assistant, International Organization for Migration, Nairobi, Kenya Assisted refugee candidates with travel arrangements for resettlement programs in United States, Australia and Europe. Prepared travel documents and escorted refugees through Kenyan customs and immigration checkpoints. Coordinated transit arrangements for traveling refugees with IOM staff in other countries.

REFERENCES

Marta Weigle

Chair, Department of Anthropology
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87130

Louise Lamphere

Professor, Department of Anthropology
President, American Anthropological Association, 1999-2001
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87130

Roger Meade

Principal Archivist and Historian
Archives and History Programs
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Mail Stop C322
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Mary Meyer

Research Ethnographer
Statistics Group, TSA-1
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Mail Stop F-600
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