



CENTER FOR
REGIONAL STUDIES



ANNUAL REPORT

Center for Regional Studies

University of New Mexico

Fiscal Year 2025

Report Compiled by Alisha White

ANNUAL REPORT

CENTER FOR REGIONAL STUDIES

FISCAL YEAR 2024–2025

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The Center for Regional Studies (CRS) is a multidisciplinary outreach center designed to enhance the work of the University of New Mexico (UNM) through student fellowships, faculty research, program funding, digital media and other projects with an emphasis on activities that increase our understanding of New Mexico, the Southwest, Indigenous communities, the U.S./Mexico Borderlands, and the Americas. Our mission is to support new areas of research that implement the best methodological practices for increasing our understanding of the regions of focus. CRS research is sustained by the scholarly inquiry of faculty and students, with a recognition of the important mentorship, teaching and supervision that involves student efforts.

Mission Statement

- To discover, create, preserve, disseminate, and promote a culture of broad inquiry throughout the UNM community and beyond. CRS advances UNM's mission of developing the global perspective of its students through a variety of academic and research opportunities led by expert faculty, post doc recipients, and students as they work to generate and create new and valuable sources of knowledge.
- To contribute to the comprehensive opportunities offered at UNM with a focus on New Mexico and Southwest studies.
- To foster the teaching, learning, research, and public service goals of UNM through linking resources to people and communities throughout New Mexico.

CRS Staff

Dr. Lloyd L. Lee, Director during FY25*

Aracely "Arcie" Chapa, Manager of Multimedia Services and Community Outreach

Alisha Fitzgerald, Program Coordinator

*Dr. Damián Vergara Wilson began as Director of CRS in July 2025, the beginning of FY26.

CRS Advisory Board

The purpose of the CRS advisory board is to provide scholarly and educational support of CRS, which comes primarily through participation in committees that review major requests for funding including applications for: Post-doc Fellowships, Graduate Student Fellowships, Community-Based Research Initiatives, Faculty Development Awards, and Research Scholar Awards. When applicable, the Advisory Board provides guidance and recommendations concerning fundraising, technical issues, the design of programs and strategic planning. Board members were selected based on their diverse expertise with the goal of strengthening the work of CRS in matters related to regional studies and CRS's mission. The CRS advisory board was composed of the following nine individuals during FY25:

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Durwood Ball, PhD

Associate Professor: Department of History

Director & Editor: *New Mexico Historical Review*

Subhankar Banerjee, MS

Founding Director: Center for Environmental Arts & Humanities

Professor: Department of Art

Wendy Shelly Greyeyes, PhD

Associate Professor: Native American Studies

Co-Editor: *Indigenous Studies in Community Building*, UNM Press

Michelle Hall Kells, PhD

Professor: Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies

Natasha Howard, PhD

Assistant Professor: Geography & Environmental Studies

Assistant Professor: Department of Africana Studies

Stephen P. Hull, MA

Director: University of New Mexico Press

Professor of Practice: College of University Libraries and Learning Sciences

Baker H. Morrow, FASLA

Professor of Practice: Landscape Architecture Program, School of Architecture & Planning

Landscape Architect, Author

joni m palmer, PhD, APA, ASLA

Project Director: Southwest Environmental Finance Center, Center for Water and the Environment

UNM Teaching & Research Faculty: Department of Community & Regional Planning

Department of Geography & Environmental Studies

Carla M. Sinopoli, PhD

Director: Maxwell Museum of Anthropology

Professor: Department of Anthropology

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CRS Programs and Initiatives

The Center for Regional Studies is a UNM Research and Public Service Project (RPSP) and has complied with RPSP mandatory reporting. RPSP reports are filed with the UNM Government and Community Relations Office. CRS develops its annual budget as an allocation plan to carry out major programmatic initiatives for the ensuing fiscal year that begins every July 1st. CRS provides funding for specific projects, excluding the operating or recurring costs of academic units or other organizations. CRS allocates a large share of its budget to research and other scholarly activities in support of student, faculty and community-involved projects that show potential for publication, will result in other tangible deliverables, or will contribute to the vitality of our communities.

- **Graduate Students** - CRS awards graduate thesis and dissertation fellowships in the form of scholarships. It also funds many GA-ships for projects that fit our mission.
- **Faculty** - Funding is provided for projects initiated by UNM faculty, postdoctoral, and research scholars.
- **Archival** - CRS supports the acquisition, preservation, and accessibility of archival materials.
- **Dissemination** - CRS promotes the distribution of books, journal articles, exhibitions, public presentations, films, and lectures produced under its auspices.
- **Multimedia Projects** - CRS facilitates the production, presentation, and distribution of documentary films and oral histories. CRS encourages and stimulates projects grounded in collaborative partnerships and on extended fieldwork that utilizes photography, film/video, audio, narrative writing and other creative media to capture and convey contemporary memory, life, and culture.

CRS Research Account 412000

I. Graduate Student Fellowships

CRS graduate student fellowships are provided in the form of scholarships, research or project assistantships, internships, or faculty project-related student employment.

CRS Fellowships

CRS sent out a call for proposals to graduate students, whose research aligned with the CRS mission, to participate in an open competition for its 2024-2025 graduate fellowship award cycle.

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In FY25, CRS provided **\$117,000** in scholarships to twenty graduate students enrolled in various departments and programs listed with their mentors and research topics in the table below. The Ph.D. and M.F.A. students received \$6,000 and the M.A. and M.Sc. students received \$5,000.

Name	Department	Project Title	Degree Program	Mentor
Emily Arasim Beltrán	Community and Regional Planning	<i>Revitalizing Rural New Mexico Community Grocery Stores for Justice, Development and Health</i>	MA	Moises Gonzales
Robin Babb	English, Creative Writing, Nonfiction	<i>Back from the Brink: Documenting the Mexican Gray Wolf Pack of Sevilleta</i>	MFA	Greg Martin
Susana Echeverri Herrera	Sociology	<i>Border Disablement: How embodied borders disable Latina immigrants with breast cancer</i>	PhD	Ranita Ray
Adrianna Fragozo Alvernia	Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering	<i>New Mexico communities' readiness to embrace advances in transit technologies</i>	M.Sc.	Lisa Lorena Losada-Rojas
Joshua Heckman	American Studies	<i>Tales of a Surplus Population: Tierra Amarilla, UNM, and the New Mexico National Guard</i>	PhD	Michael Trujillo
Jessica Lanham	College of Fine Arts	<i>Fragments of a Home</i>	MFA	Jeanette Hart-Mann
Alejandra Lemus	Sociology	<i>Transnational Care Webs of Latina Migrants in the United States</i>	PhD	Jessica Goodkind
Ramona Malczynski	Geography and Environmental Studies	<i>Concrete socionatures – a critical environmental history of Albuquerque</i>	PhD	Maria Lane
Alexander Pearl	American Studies	<i>Go Break Rocks: Geology, Extraction, and Resistance in Carceral New Mexico</i>	PhD	David Correia
Marsella Pérez Macias	Latin American Studies	<i>Human and Environmental Ecologies in Mexico's Bacanora Industry & Impacts of Denomination of Origin Regulations</i>	MA	Ronda Brulotte
Brandy Reeves	English Language and Literature	<i>Maternal "Failures" in the Contemporary Multiethnic American Novel</i>	PhD	Scarlett Higgins
Emma Ressel	Art Studio	<i>Glass Eyes Stare Back</i>	MFA	Meggan Gould
Suyent Rodriguez Candeaux	Department of Sociology and Criminology	<i>The Color of Solidarity: Race & Transnationalism in Cuba's Dissident Movement</i>	PhD	Nancy López
Nahid Samimimotlagh	Economics	<i>Drinking Water Equity in New Mexico: Access, Quality and Affordability</i>	PhD	Jingjing Wang
Joseph Scala	Geography and Environmental Studies	<i>Winemaking as heritage in La Cienega</i>	PhD	Ronda Brulotte
Md Shahinuzzaman	Individual, Family and Community Education	<i>Efficacy of Trauma-Informed Care for Early Childhood Special Education Children: A Cross-Cultural Systematic Review</i>	PhD	Chelsea Morris
Hennessey Star	American Studies	<i>Affective Archival Practices: White Settler Femininity in New Mexico Welfare Institutions</i>	PhD	Michael Trujillo

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Cassidy Tawse-Garcia	Geography & Environmental Studies	<i>Crisis Geographies: Place-based Mutual Aid in New Mexico</i>	PhD	Marygold Walsh-Dilley
Natalia Toscano	Chicana/o Studies	<i>Politics of Acompañamiento: Transnational Organizing, Zapatismo, and the Shaping of Chicana Politics</i>	PhD	Irene Vasquez
Cristal Wilson	Family and Child Studies	<i>La Visión (Vision), La Voz (Voice), y La Mejora Vida (and the Better Life)</i>	PhD	Chelsea Morris

October 24, 2024

CRS Graduate Fellows Meet and Greet

The Center for Regional Studies hosted an in-person gathering for the 2024-2025 CRS graduate fellows so they could meet the CRS staff as well as the other fellows and exchange information about their research projects in an informal setting.

April 3 and 29, 2025

CRS Fellows Snapshot Event

CRS held gatherings on April 3, 2025, and April 29, 2025, for its 2024-2025 Graduate Research Fellows in the Frank Waters Room of Zimmerman Library on UNM's main campus. Moderated by CRS's Arcie Chapa, each CRS fellow presented "snapshots" of their research followed by Q&A from the audience which consisted of UNM faculty, staff, students, and some of the fellows' faculty mentors.

Video link: [CRS Fellows Snapshot Event 2025](#)

Library Assistantships

During FY25, CRS provided **\$98,526.14** to the Center for Southwest Research & Special Collections (CSWR) to support five Graduate Research Assistant positions at .50 FTE during the 2024-2025 academic year. Every April, CSWR hosts a symposium where each of the CRS/CSWR fellows gives a presentation highlighting their work as a GA.

CSWR Assistantship	Level	Salary	Fringe	Assignment
Maxwell Bush	M.A.	19,248.74	3,900.56	University of New Mexico Archives
Judy Garcia	M.A.	4,407.51	4.83	University of New Mexico Archives
Sherri Haynie	M.A.	853.39	66.22	Withdrew
Joshua Heckman	Ph.D.	21,174.83	1,144.88	CSWR Reference and Instruction
Maria Monta Jameson	Ph.D.	21,174.83	3,902.69	Archival Manuscript Digital Imaging
Travis Thompson	M.A.	19,248.74	3,398.92	Distinctive Native American Collections
		\$ 86,108.04	\$ 12,418.10	Total = \$98,526.14

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New Mexico Historical Review Assistantships

CRS provided **\$126,903.45** in GA-ships to the *New Mexico Historical Review* (NMHR) for students to work as editorial assistants for twelve months during FY25. Under the direction of Dr. Durwood Ball, NMHR Director and Editor, the fellows were trained in the essentials of scholarly editing and publishing. Throughout the 2024-2025 year, six students worked as NMHR editorial assistants.

NMHR Assistantship	Level	FTE	Salary	Fringe	Assignment
Meghann Chavez	Ph.D.	25	3,545.46	91.68	Editorial Assistant
Katie Despeaux	Ph.D.	25	21,249.97	1,096.12	Editorial Assistant
Carlyn Pinkins	Ph.D.	50	26,531.54	4,267.63	Editorial Assistant
Adam Polk	Ph.D.	50	13,554.37	2,461.37	Editorial Assistant
Joseph Ukockis	Ph.D.	50 & 75	36,043.28	4,369.83	Editorial Assistant
Ariel Wiebe	Ph.D.	50	11,887.13	1,805.07	Editorial Assistant
			112,811.75	14,091.70	Total = \$126,903.45

II. CRS Summer Internships

During the summer of 2025, CRS awarded \$5,000 stipends to six UNM students for eight-week summer internships in New Mexico. These awardees, who were selected by a committee, were given the opportunity to gain work experience with organizations in the state of New Mexico. \$22,500 of the \$30,000 was paid in FY25. The remaining \$7,500 was paid in FY26.

Student Name	Classification	Internship	Stipend
Nicholas Chavez	PhD Student	National Hispanic Cultural Center - Preservation of Spanish Dialects in New Mexico	5,000
Mariana Marchesi	PhD Student	Upward Bound Summer Institute - Teaching and developing lesson plans	2,500
Kara Roanhorse	MA Student	Youth United for Climate Crisis Action (YUCCA) and Earth Care	5,000
Md Shahinuzzaman	PhD Student	Museum of International Folk Art - Visitor Surveying and Data Analysis Project	2,500
Saiqa Shahzadi	PhD Student	AfroMundo - Community-building arts and humanities organization in New Mexico	2,500
Jacob Westenberger	Bachelor's degree in progress	New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science - Managing the Paleo Lab and Geosciences Collection	5,000
			\$22,500

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III. SCRC Archivist's Assistant

CRS funded a student employee to work 20 hours per week for the Spanish Colonial Research Center (SCRC) during FY25. The student completed the organization and identification of microfilm and photostatic copies to be transferred to Zimmerman Library for use by researchers, students, and the public. This project represents a significant creation of a unique and rare collection based on over 500,000 documents, maps, and sketches collected for over 30 years by the SCRC that will allow the University of New Mexico to provide archival materials, unavailable anywhere outside of separate Spanish archives worldwide, which are now housed in one location. The amount CRS provided to the SCRC for the student was **\$15,000.**

IV. CRS Funding for Special Projects

\$48,176.35 of financial assistance was awarded to UNM faculty members and student organizations whose special projects coincide with the mission of CRS. Examples of special projects include book subventions (indexing, maps or colored pictures, anthologies), travel expenses, honoraria for guest speakers, oral history projects, conferences, special events, and graduate student project assistantships.

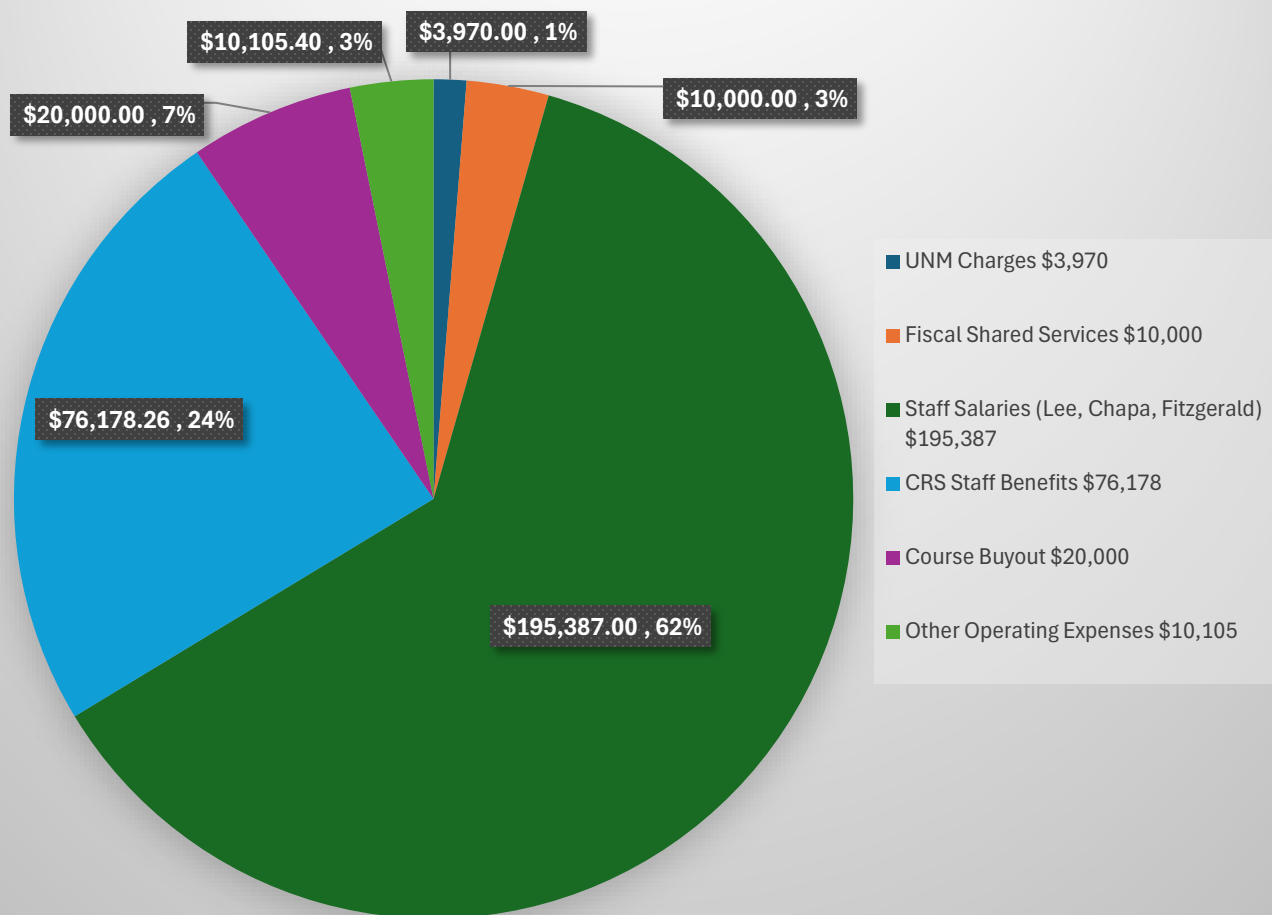
Name (PI)	Department/Unit	Project	Award
Gustavo Garcia	Chicana and Chicano Studies	<i>Oaxacan Art and Politics: The Ungovernable Aesthetics of Colectivo Subterráneos</i>	2,000.00
Myrriah Gómez	UNM Honors College	Book Talk: Zones of Encuentro by Lillian Gorman	1,000.00
Matthew David Goodwin	Chicana and Chicano Studies	Critical Mystery Studies: An Interdisciplinary Symposium	3,000.00
Marissa Greenberg	English Language and Literature	<i>Shakespeare and Social Justice</i>	2,020.00
Wendy S. Greyeyes	Kiva Club	68th Annual Powwow Celebrating Nizhoni Days	3,000.00
Agustin Leon-Moreta	School of Public Administration	New Mexico Project for Housing Policy Solutions	3,150.00
Bethany Lycan	High Desert Linguistics Society	High Desert Linguistics Society's 16th Biennial Conference	3,000.00
Joseph P. Sánchez	Spanish Colonial Research Center	Book Indexing: <i>The Tarahumara Rebellion of 1690: Embattled Settlers and Missionaries in Northern New Spain</i>	486.00
Damián Wilson	Spanish & Portuguese	Travel for the 12th National Symposium on Spanish as a Heritage Language	954.35
	CRS/ UNM Press Partnership	Donated 68 new books to 30 underserved public and tribal libraries in the state of New Mexico. UNM Press gave CRS a 45% discount for each book.	29,566.00
			48,176.35

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V. Operating Expenses (Index 412000)

UNM Charges	\$ 3,970.00
Fiscal Shared Services	\$ 10,000.00
Staff Salaries (Lee, Chapa, Fitzgerald)	\$ 195,387.00
CRS Staff Benefits	\$ 76,178.26
Course Buyout	\$ 20,000.00
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses	\$ 10,105.40
	\$ 315,640.66

FY25 Operating Expenses - Index 412000
\$315,640.66

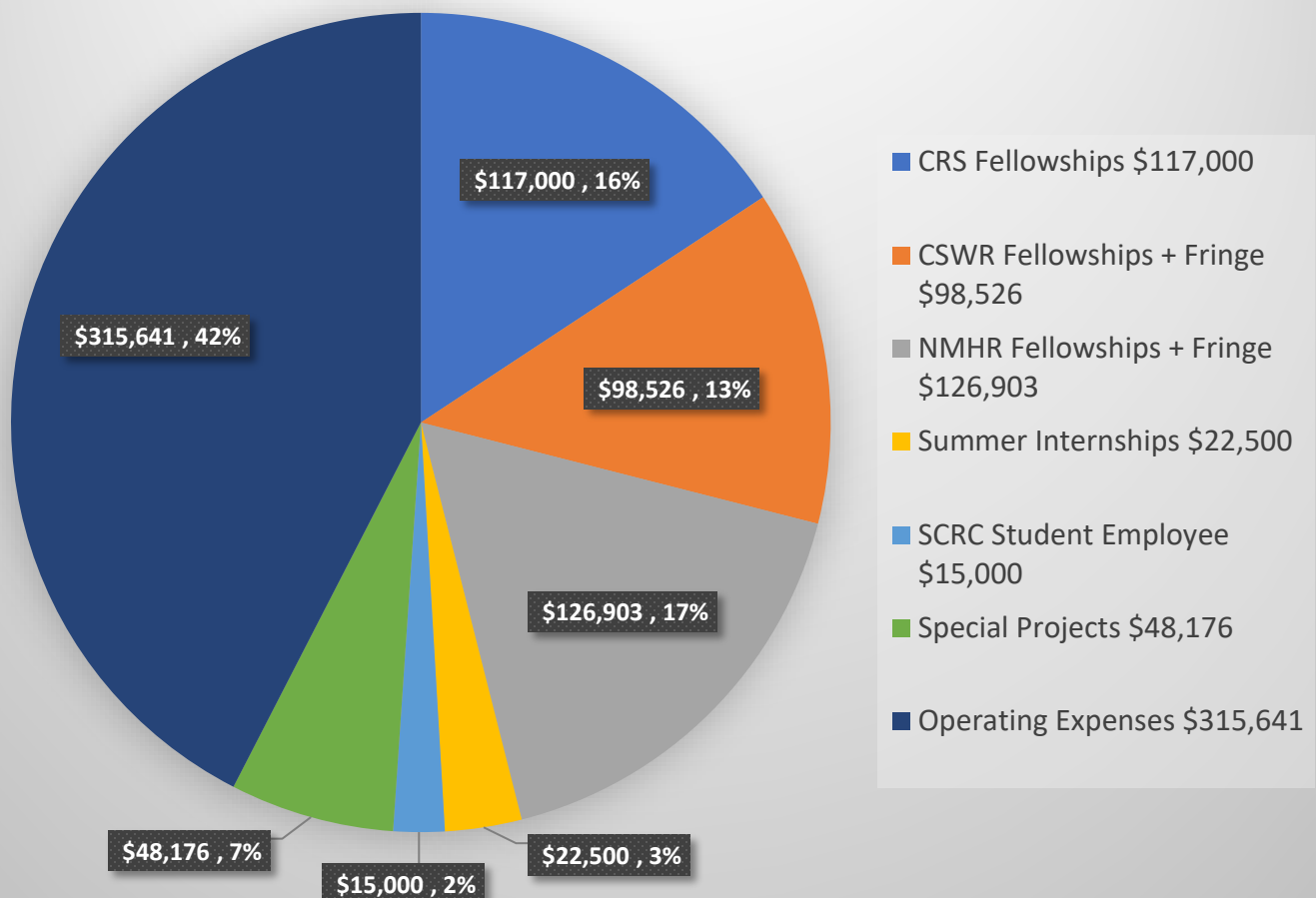


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VI. Total Expenses (Index 412000)

Beginning Balance	\$ 711,400
CRS Fellowships \$117,000	\$ 117,000
CSWR Fellowships + Fringe \$98,526	\$ 98,526
NMHR Fellowships + Fringe \$126,903	\$ 126,903
Summer Internships \$22,500	\$ 22,500
SCRC Student Employee \$15,000	\$ 15,000
Special Projects \$48,176	\$ 48,176
Operating Expenses \$315,641	\$ 315,641
Total Expenses	\$ 743,747
Reserves	\$ 145,173
Ending Balance	\$ 112,826

Index 412000 Expenses in FY25 \$743,746.60



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CRS Endowment Account 412003

I. CRS Faculty Development Awards

Faculty members from UNM departments and academic programs were encouraged to respond to a Call for Proposals for faculty development projects that would complement the mission of the Center for Regional Studies. Funding was awarded to the following individuals for their projects.

Name (PI)	Department/Unit	Project	Award
Jennifer Denetdale	American Studies	<i>The Photographs of Milton Snow and the Making of the Modern Navajo Nation, 1937-1959</i>	\$3,000.00
Anthony Fettes	Landscape Architecture	<i>Indigenous Landscape Studio (LA503) Planning & Design Collaboration with the Hozho Center - Borrego Pass, NM</i>	\$4,500.00
Mary Rice	Language Literacy and Sociocultural Studies	<i>Publication Subvention for OER Textbook on Decolonial Writing Pedagogies</i>	\$2,909.00
			\$10,409.00

II. Community-based Research Awards

For a third year, CRS partnered with UNM's College of Arts and Sciences (A&S) for its "Community-based Research Initiative." The award supported UNM faculty who were working towards the development and implementation of practical and real-life solutions to the challenges facing New Mexico or Southwest communities in the twenty-first century. The project was to be co-directed by a College of Arts & Sciences department or program faculty member and a community-based partner. While keeping the project aligned with CRS's mission, the goal was for both partners to benefit from the research. CRS awarded **\$37,992.38** for two community projects in FY25.

Name (PI)	Department/Unit	Project	Total Award	CRS	A&S
Jill P. Morford	Linguistics	<i>Incorporating Hand Talk (North American Indigenous Sign Language) into Language Revitalization for Signers and Speakers</i>	\$19,992.38	\$14,992.38	\$5,000.00
Gwyneth Doland	Communication and Journalism	<i>Mapping the Changing Local News Ecosystems of New Mexico</i>	\$28,000.00	\$23,000.00	\$5,000.00
				\$37,992.38	

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III. CRS Postdoctoral Fellowship

New Ph.D. graduates had answered a call for proposals for a CRS Postdoctoral Fellowship. Dr. Zonnie M. Gorman was selected by the evaluation committee to receive **\$51,758** (\$48,000 salary + \$3,758 benefits) to work during the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Dr. Gorman spent her time at the Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections (CSWR) processing the Carl N. Gorman Collection (1907-1998). This 52-box collection chronicles the life of Carl Gorman through correspondence, publications, news clippings, magazine articles, circulars, pamphlets, handwritten notes, reports, and course materials that cover a wide swath of Carl's life and careers. The collection is a contribution to distinctive Southwest Indigenous history which is now accessible to researchers worldwide.

**THURSDAY, 2PM
12/12/2024**

FRANK WATERS ROOM
ZIMMERMAN LIBRARY

ZOOM LINK:
<https://unm.zoom.us/j/93061631155>

DR. ZONNIE M. GORMAN

Dr. Gorman recently received her doctorate in History from UNM and completed a graduate minor in Museum Studies. Her interests include Diné masculinity and identity, the intersection of Indigenous masculinities and 20th-century wars, and memory and memorialization. Gorman is a professional longtime public historian, lecturer, and consultant on the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II.



"Kies-aanies" c. 1955

CRS POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

The Center for Regional Studies at The University of New Mexico selected Dr. Zonnie M. Gorman to hold the Center's postdoctoral fellowship from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.



Presents

Culture, Art, & War: The Legacy & Collection of Carl Nelson Gorman (1907-1998)



CRS's Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Zonnie M. Gorman, will give her presentation about processing this large collection. She will share some of the material and offer new insights from Carl's long, prominent life as an artist, teacher, historian, and culture bearer.



Carl Gorman was a member of the pilot group that established the Navajo Code Talker program.

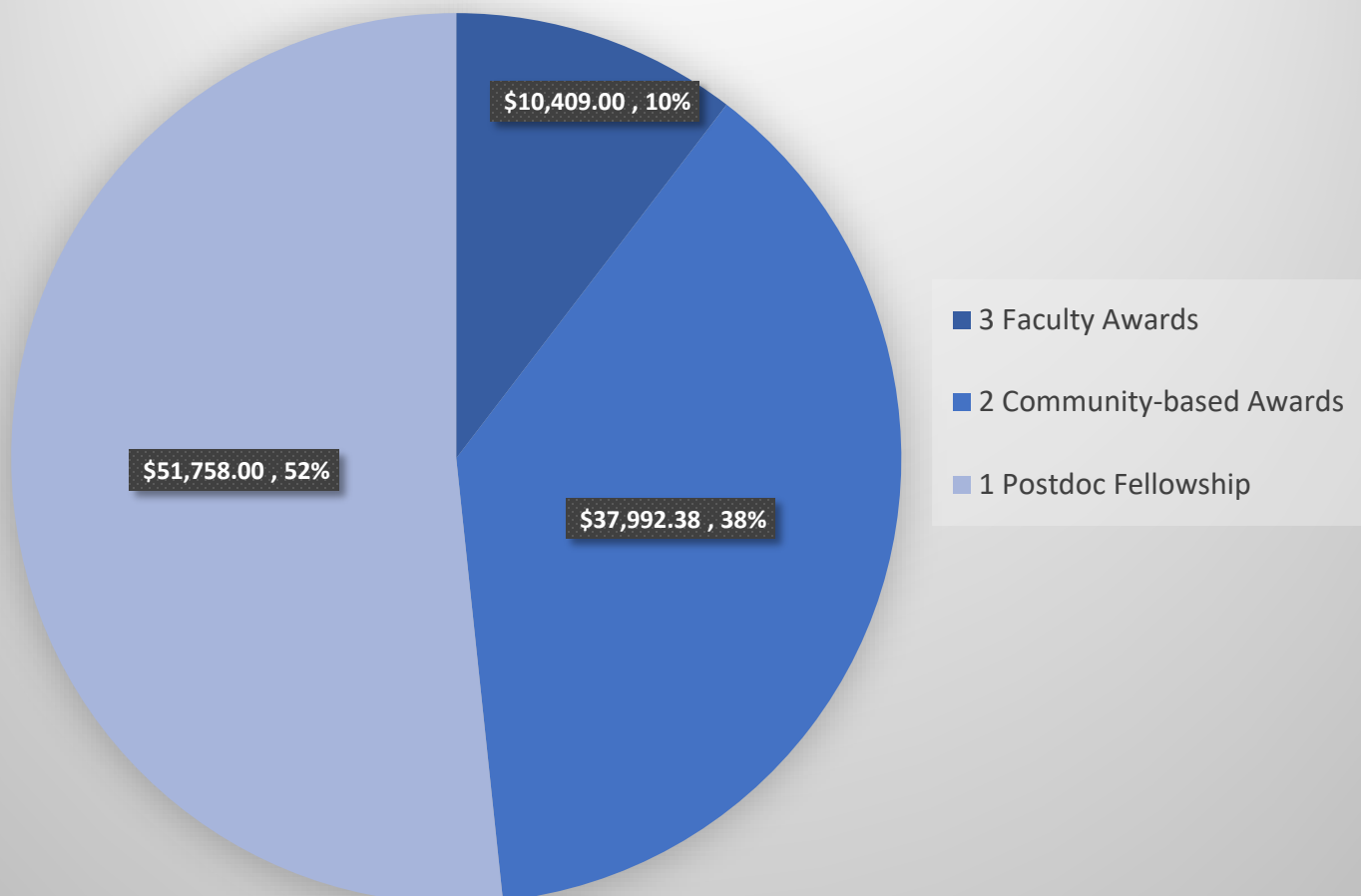


Carl Gorman was a professional artist and art instructor at UC Davis and UNM Gallup.

VI. Index 412003 – FY25 Endowment Spending

FY25 Allocation	\$ 74,822.00
FY25 Reserves	\$ 347,293.00
Beginning Balance	\$ 422,115.00
3 Faculty Awards	\$ 10,409.00
2 Community-based Awards	\$ 37,992.38
1 Postdoc Fellowship	\$ 51,758.00
Total Awards	\$ 100,159.38
Ending Balance	\$ 321,955.62

FY25 Spending
Index 412003 - Endowment Account
\$100,159.38



NCP Public Service Account 412009

I. Native Curriculum Partnership

The mission of UNM's Native Curriculum Partnership (NCP) is to create films with corresponding curricula related to various Indigenous topics and perspectives, such as Indigenous Education and Indigenous Art and Activism. Link to website: [NCP/IndigNM Website](#)

In 2022, the Center of Regional Studies, the Department of Native American Studies, and the Institute for American Indian Education came together to form UNM's "Native Curriculum Partnership." For a third year, in 2025, NCP was awarded \$200,000 in Research and Public Service Project (RPSP) funding and collaborated with local tribal leaders, Native educators, and community consultants to continue the process of creating Indigenous film and curriculum materials for K-12 students in New Mexico.

On March 7, 2025, NCP hosted an instructional workshop in Farmington, New Mexico, for high school and middle school students on the importance of filmmaking for native people. NCP members also taught the basics of creating films. Approximately 40 students and 10 adults attended.

Future workshops will include teaching educators how to integrate films into their curriculum, developing students' knowledge and understanding of Native history and present-day activism.

NCP Multimedia

The film production of the two NCP films has advanced with a mix of significant achievements and a few unexpected delays. Production on the film *Roxanne's World* concluded most of the principal photography except for a couple of upcoming milestone events in Roxanne's life that will need to be shot in the fall. This puts the film on track for a post-production phase this winter and completion goal for early Spring 2026.

Concurrently, for the Indigenous Education film, production has mainly been focused on script development. This film will require additional time to ensure the highest quality narrative. This will involve collaborating closely with key scholars and educators to help refine the story for greatest impact and distribution. The goal for completion of the Indigenous Education film is Winter 2026.

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The Art and Activism Film has highlighted the artistic and community work of Roxanne Swentzell. The film offers a view of Swentzell's journey as a ceramic artist and community seedkeeper. Through her community-based projects on permaculture, Swentzell demonstrates the ways Native communities can strengthen their relationships with family, community, culture, and land.

Link to trailer: [Roxanne's World](#)



The Indigenous Education Film focuses on the impact of the *Yazzie/Martinez* consolidated case ruling and demonstrates strengths in tribal education and language revitalization practices. The film will include stories from American Indian educators and their experiences teaching and learning in the Southwest, exploring topics of difficult educational issues impacting Native American communities in New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah.

Link to trailer: [Indigenous Education](#)



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II. Index 412009 – FY25 NCP Spending

Beginning Balance	\$ 354,296.00
NCP Salaries	\$ 35,843
GA Salaries, Tuition, Benefits	\$ 45,636
Film Production	\$ 8,965
Food, Travel	\$ 6,140
Office Supplies/Services/Fees	\$ 5,350
Promotional Items	\$ 2,790
UNM Charges	\$ 823
Total Expenses	\$ 105,547.00
Ending Balance	\$ 248,749.00

FY25 Spending Index 412009 - NCP Public Service Account \$105,547

