

MELANIE M. COLAVITO

Curriculum Vitae, November 2016

Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy
International Arctic Research Center
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EDUCATION

- 2015 Ph.D., School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona, GPA 3.955
Major: Geography; Minor: Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis
Dissertation: *The Role of Science in Collaborative Forest Management*
- 2013 Graduate Certificate in College Teaching, University of Arizona
- 2009 M.A., School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona, GPA 3.912
Thesis: *Public Participation Geographic Information Systems as a Method for Developing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan: A Case Study of Summerhaven, Arizona*
- 2009 Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), University of Arizona
- 2007 B.A., School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona, *Summa Cum Laude*, GPA 3.936
Major: Geography; Minors: Creative Writing (with Honors) and Spanish
Honors Thesis: *The Geography of Home: A Collection of Essays About Place*

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2016 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy, International Arctic Research Center, University of Alaska, Fairbanks

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Manuscripts

Colavito, Melanie. In Press. The Role of Science in the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program. Manuscript accepted by the *Journal of Forestry*.

Colavito, Melanie. 2015. Enhancing Scientist-Manager Relationships to Foster Ecosystem Resilience. In Keane, R.E., Jolly, M., Parsons, R., Riley, K. (eds.). *Proceedings of the large wildland fires conference; May 19-23, 2014; Missoula, MT. Proc. RMRS-P-73.*

Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, pp. 269-272.

Apel, Mark and **Melanie Colavito**. Dec. 2014/ Jan. 2015. From Maps to Megawatts: A GIS Based Renewable Energy Opportunity Analysis for Arizona. *The Western Planner* 35(5): 3-6.

Manuscripts in Review

Colavito, Melanie. In Revision. Utilizing scientific information to support resilient forest and fire management in the Southwest United States. Manuscript accepted with minor revisions by the *International Journal of Wildland Fire*.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Colavito, Melanie, Sarah Trainor, Andrea Thode, Barbara Wolfson, Alison York, Collin Haffey, Carolyn Kimball. Communicating Fire Science Through Art: Comparative Case Studies in Arizona and Alaska. To be submitted to *Ecology and Society*.

Colavito, Melanie, and Sarah Trainor. Assessment of the Application of Climate Information in Wildfire Management and Decision-Making in Alaska. To be submitted to *Global Environmental Change*.

Colavito, Melanie, and Sarah Trainor. The Role of Boundary Spanners in Wildland Fire Science and Management in Alaska. To be submitted to *Weather, Climate, and Society*.

Timm, Kristin, **Melanie Colavito**, and Sarah Trainor. What Is the Difference Between Science Communication and Co-Production? To be submitted to *Weather, Climate, and Society*.

Colavito, Melanie, and Mark Apel. A GIS-Based Renewable Energy Opportunity Analysis for Utility-Scale Solar Energy Development in Southern Arizona. To be submitted to *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*.

Conference Proceedings

Colavito, Melanie. 2015. Connecting Science and Decision-Making in Wildland Fire Management. In *Proceedings of the 13th International Wildland Fire Safety Summit & 4th Human Dimensions of Wildland Fire Conference*, pp. 132-140.

Colavito, Melanie, Erik Glenn, Mark Apel, and Iris Patten. 2011. LUCIS Modeling for Renewable Energy in Cochise County, AZ. In *International ESRI User Conference Proceedings*.

Meyers, Melanie, Gary Christopherson, and Glen Buettner. 2010. Developing GIS in Small Communities for Wildfire Protection Plans. In *International ESRI User Conference Proceedings*.

Technical Reports

- Colavito, Melanie.** 2014. Fostering Resilience in Southwestern Ecosystems: Workshop Evaluation Report. Results from Post-Workshop Interviews. Submitted to the Southwest Fire Science Consortium, 11p.
- Apel, Mark, Iris Patten, **Melanie Colavito.** 2012. Renewable Energy Opportunities Summary Report. *University of Arizona Cooperative Extension*, 16p.
- Colavito, Melanie.** 2010. Mt. Lemmon GIS Manual. Submitted to the Mt. Lemmon GIS Group, 56p.

Web-Based Publications

- Colavito, Melanie.** March-April 2015. Preview: Managing fire, understanding ourselves. *Wildfire Magazine* [Online]:
<http://wildfiremagazine.org/article/preview-managing-fire-understanding-ourselves/>

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Proposal Pending, Joint Fire Science Program, “Knowledge Co-Production to Facilitate the Co-Management of Wildland Fire Risk: A Pilot Project, ” September 2017 – September 2019, Sarah Trainor and Andrea Thode, Co-PI’s
- 2016 Travel Support, Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy Annual Steering Committee Meeting, Anchorage, AK
- 2016 Travel Support, NOAA Regional Sciences and Assessments (RISA) Annual Meeting, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
- 2016 Travel Support, “Evaluating Co-Produced Climate Science: Developing Metrics and Measures” Workshop, Desert Research Institute, Reno, NV
- 2015 Louise Foucar Marshall Foundation Graduate Fellowship, The University of Arizona Marshall Foundation (\$10,788 and two semesters of graduate tuition)
- 2014 Travel, Research, and Educational Experience (TREE) Grant, Association for Fire Ecology and the Joint Fire Science Program (\$400)
- 2013 Summer Research Award, Redd Center for Western Studies, Brigham Young University (\$1300)
- 2013 Graduate Student Travel Award, Institute of the Environment, University of Arizona (\$500)

- 2012 1st Place Social Sciences and Law Division (Grad), University of Arizona Student Research Showcase (\$250)
- 2012 Tony Gonzales Scholarship, Arizona Geographic Information Council Symposium, Prescott, AZ (support to cover conference fees and lodging)
- 2012 James Buttery Graduate Award for GIS Remote Sensing, School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona (\$1500)
- 2010 – 2015 Conference Travel Grants, School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona (6 grants, amounts varied)
- 2011 Grad Research Blitz Honorable Mention, Institute of the Environment, University of Arizona (\$100)
- 2007 Women’s Network Travel Grant, Association of Pacific Coast Geographers (\$400)
- 2006 Phi Beta Kappa Society, University of Arizona Chapter
- 2003 – 2007 Undergraduate Dean’s List, University of Arizona

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Paper Presentations

- Colavito, Melanie.** *The Role of Science in Collaborative Forest Restoration: A Case Study of the USDA Forest Service’s Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program.* 13th Biennial Conference of Science & Management on the Colorado Plateau and Southwest Region, Flagstaff, AZ, October 2015.
- Colavito, Melanie.** *Connecting Science and Decision-Making in Wildland Fire Management.* IAWF Managing Fire, Understanding Ourselves: Human Dimensions in Safety and Wildland Fire Conference, Boise, ID, April 2015.
- Colavito, Melanie.** *Enhancing Scientist-Manager Relationships to Foster Ecosystem Resilience.* Large Wildland Fires Conference, Missoula, MT, May 2014.
- Colavito, Melanie.** *Science and Collaboration in Forest Restoration.* Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, April 2013.
- Colavito, Melanie,** Mark Apel, Iris Patten, and Erik Glenn. *Modeling Land Use Suitability for Renewable Energy Development in Arizona.* Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, New York City, NY, February 2012.

Patten, Iris, Mark Apel, and **Colavito, Melanie**. *From Shapefiles to Megawatts: Evaluating Land Use Suitability for Renewable Energy Alternatives*. Arizona Planning Association Meeting, Tucson, AZ, September 2011.

Colavito, Melanie, Iris Patten, Mark Apel, and Erik Glenn. *LUCIS Modeling for Renewable Energy in Cochise County, AZ*. ESRI International User's Conference, July 2011, San Diego, CA, July 2011.

Colavito (Meyers), Melanie, Gary Christopherson, and Glen Buettner. *Developing GIS in Small Communities for Wildfire Protection Plans*. ESRI International User's Conference, San Diego, CA, July 2010.

Poster Presentations

Colavito, Melanie. *What if... We Could Help Communities Build Solar Energy Facilities?* Cats at the Capital Student Research Showcase, Phoenix, AZ, March 2013.

Colavito, Melanie. *From Shapefiles to Megawatts: A GIS-Based Renewable Energy Opportunity Analysis for Rural Areas*. University of Arizona Student Showcase, Tucson, AZ, November 2012.

Colavito, Melanie, Mark Apel, and Iris Patten. *From Shapefiles to Megawatts: A GIS-Based Renewable Energy Opportunity Analysis for Rural Areas*. Arizona Geographic Information Council Annual Meeting, Prescott, AZ, October 2012.

Colavito (Meyers), Melanie. *The Mt. Lemmon GIS Project*. Arizona Geographic Information Council Annual Meeting, Tucson, AZ, September 2009.

Webinars

Colavito, Melanie. *Connecting resilience science with decision-making: Guidelines for the effective development and application of scientific information*. Southwest Fire Science Consortium, Flagstaff, AZ, July 2015. Available online: <http://swfireconsortium.org/materials/webinars/> or <https://youtu.be/iM01H-ABUks>

Invited Presentations

Colavito, Melanie, and Sarah Trainor. *Assessment of the Application of Climate Information in Wildfire Management and Decision-Making in Alaska*. Presentation at the Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy Annual Steering Committee Meeting, Anchorage, AK, September 2016.

Colavito, Melanie, and Sarah Trainor. *Assessment of the Application of Climate Information in Wildfire Management and Decision-Making in Alaska*. Presentation at the NOAA Regional Sciences and Assessments (RISA) Annual Meeting, Tucson, AZ, February 2016.

Colavito, Melanie, Iris Patten, Mark Apel, and Erik Glenn. *From Shapefiles to Megawatts: Modeling Land Use Suitability for Renewable Energy Alternatives*. Presentation at the Tucson Area GIS Cooperative Meeting, Tucson, AZ, September 2012.

Colavito, Melanie, Mark Apel, Iris Patten, and Erik Glenn. *From Shapefiles to Megawatts: Modeling Land Use Suitability for Renewable Energy Development*. Presentation at the Energy Specialty Group Colloquium, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, April 2012.

Campus Talks

Colavito, Melanie. *Assessment of the Application of Climate Information in Wildfire Management and Decision-Making in Alaska*. Presentation to the Fire Lab Group, School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, October 2016.

Colavito, Melanie. *Co-Production and Boundary Organizations*. Presentation to the Human Dimensions of Forestry Group, School of Forestry, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, September 2016.

Colavito, Melanie. *Developing Your Own Academic Website*. Presentation to the Professional Development Seminar, School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, April 2016.

Colavito, Melanie. *Developing Your Own Academic Website*. Presentation to the Professional Development Seminar, School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, September 2014.

Colavito, Melanie. *Research for Advanced Graduate Students*. Panel Participant for Geography 500 Research Design Class, School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, April 2014.

Colavito, Melanie. *Developing Your Own Academic Website*. Presentation to the Professional Development Seminar, School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, February 2014.

Colavito, Melanie. *Land Use Suitability Modeling for Renewable Energy*. Speed talk given at the Institute of the Environment Grad Student Research Blitz, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, November 2011.

Colavito, Melanie. *LUCIS Modeling for Renewable Energy in Cochise County, AZ*. Speed talk given at the Institute of the Environment Grad Student Research Blitz, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, February 2011.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona (unless stated otherwise)

- 2013 Instructor of Record, Field Methods in Environmental Geography, Pre-session
- 2012 – 2013 Teaching Associate, Master of Science in Geography Information Systems Technology (MS-GIST) Program, Fall 2012 – Summer 2013
- 2012 – 2013 Teaching Observations, Certificate in College Teaching Program, Office of Instruction and Assessment, University of Arizona
- 2013 Faculty Development Intern, Certificate in College Teaching Program, Office of Instruction and Assessment, University of Arizona
- 2013 Instructor, Arizona Methods Workshop, Department of Sociology, University of Arizona, Winter Session
- 2012 Instructor of Record, Field Methods in Environmental Geography, Pre-session
- 2010 Curriculum Writer, Landscape Computer Applications, Art Center Design College (now Southwest University of Visual Arts), Tucson, AZ
- 2009 Lab Instructor/ Teaching Assistant, Geographic Applications of Remote Sensing, Spring Semester
- 2008 Lab Instructor/ Teaching Assistant, Geographic Information Systems, Fall Semester
- 2008 Lab Instructor/ Teaching Assistant, Computer Cartography, Spring Semester
- 2007 Lab Instructor/ Teaching Assistant, Geographic Information Systems, Fall Semester

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

*School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona (unless stated otherwise)

- 2010 – 2012 Research Assistant, Yavapai County Cooperative Extension and Regional Center for Sustainable Economic Development, University of Arizona
- 2009 GIS Certificate Practicum, Mt. Lemmon GIS (MLGIS) Project, Center for Applied Spatial Analysis

- 2008 – 2009 Research Assistant, Mt. Lemmon GIS (MLGIS) Project and Catalina Rincon FireScape Project, Center for Applied Spatial Analysis
- 2008 Research Assistant, European Study Group and Rocky Mountain European Scholars Consortium
- 2008 Research Assistant, “New Perspectives on Federal Economic Development Policies” Project

SYNERGYSTIC ACTIVITIES

- 2016 Manuscript Reviewer, *International Journal of Wildland Fire*
- 2015 – 2016 Assistance with Public Surveys, “Fires of Change”, Southwest Fire Science Consortium, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ, Fall 2015 – Spring 2016
- 2015 Student Volunteer, IAWF Managing Fire, Understanding Ourselves: Human Dimensions in Safety and Wildland Fire Conference Volunteer, Boise, ID, April 2015
- 2014 Student Volunteer, Large Wildland Fires Conference, Missoula, MT, May 2014
- 2014 Student Volunteer, Forest Health Funding Strategies Workshop, Scottsdale, AZ, May 2014
- 2014 Workshop Planning and Student Volunteer, “Fostering Resilience in Southwest Ecosystems: A Problem Solving Workshop”, Tucson, AZ, February 2014
- 2012 – 2013 Website Committee, School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona, Fall 2012 – Spring 2013
- 2012 Student Volunteer, 2012 Southwest Climate Summit, Tucson, AZ, June 2012
- 2008 – 2010 Student Volunteer, Mt. Lemmon GIS, Summerhaven, AZ, Fall 2008 – Fall 2010
- 2007 – 2010 Various Positions, *you are here: the journal of creative geography*, School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona
 Board Member and Submission Reviewer, Fall 2009, Spring 2010
 Senior Editor, Fall 2008 – Spring 2009
 Editor and 10-year Anniversary Celebration Planner, Fall 2007 – Fall 2008
 Undergraduate Intern, Spring 2007

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2016 Facilitation Trainee, 7-Hour Facilitation Training, Southwest Decision Resources, Cottonwood, AZ, September 2016
- 2016 Participant, NOAA Regional Sciences and Assessments (RISA) Program Annual Meeting, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, February 2016
- 2016 Participant, “Evaluating Co-Produced Climate Science: Developing Metrics and Measures” Workshop, Desert Research Institute, Reno, NV, February 2016
- 2014 – 2015 President, Arizona Bicycle Racing Association (501c3 non-profit), Spring 2014 – Fall 2015
- 2014 GIS Specialist (GISS) Trainee, Southwest Type 2 Incident Management Team #4, Arizona State Forestry, Summer 2014
- 2014 Participant, Forest Health Funding Strategies Workshop, Scottsdale, AZ, May 2014
- 2014 Participant, “Fostering Resilience in Southwest Ecosystems: A Problem Solving Workshop”, Tucson, AZ, February 2014
- 2013 – 2015 Webmaster, School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, Fall 2013 – Spring 2015
- 2012 – 2013 Treasurer, Arizona Bicycle Racing Association (501c3 non-profit), Spring 2012 – Fall 2013
- 2011 – 2013 Participant, Professional Development Seminar Series, School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona, Fall 2011 – Spring 2013
- 2012 Participant, 2012 Southwest Climate Summit, Southwest Climate Science Center, Tucson, AZ, June 2012
- 2011 Participant, “Knowledge to Action: Connecting Climate Science and Resource Management” Workshop, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, March 2011

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Association of American Geographers (AAG)
International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF)
Association for Fire Ecology (AFE)
Society of American Foresters (SAF)

SOFTWARE & HARDWARE PROFICIENCY

ArcGIS (Geographic Information Systems); ERDAS Imagine (Image Processing and Analysis); GEODA (Spatial Statistics); Trimble (GPS); MATLAB, Google Earth, Microsoft Office; NVivo (Qualitative Data Analysis); Drupal, Wordpress