Leslie McLees

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Phone: +1-541-221-9040 **Curriculum vitae**

**PROFESSIONAL EXPEREINCE**

2014 – Present Undergraduate Coordinator, Advisor & Instructor  
Department of Geography, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon

2019 – Present Instructor

Social Science Division, Lane Community College, Eugene, Oregon

2017 – Present Geography Education Committee

Gray Family Foundation, Eugene, Oregon

2016 – Present President of the Parent Board (2019-2020, Vice-president 2018-2019)

Oak Street Child Development Center

2016 – 2018 Geography Education (EDGE) Program Director

Department of Geography, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon

2016 – 2017 Associate Director

Carnegie Global Oregon Program, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon

2014 – 2015 Undergraduate Advisor,

General Social Sciences Program, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon

2012 –2014 Assistant Professor

Department of Geography & Planning, Appalachian State University,   
Boone, North Carolina

**EDUCATION**

2012 PhD. University of Oregon. Dissertation: Understanding the Urban: The role of urban agriculture in the urban system of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

2005 M.A. Geography, University of Hawai‘i-Mānoa: Pictures of ‘Paradise:’ Understanding perspectives of development in the community of North Kohala.

1999 B.S. Zoology, Washington State University

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

2018 – Present Summer Academy to Inspire Learning (SAIL) Geography Program Coordinator

2017 – Present Geography Summer Program Coordinator

2014 – present Academic and Career Advising

2014 – present Internship Coordinator, Geography Club Advisor

2014 – Present Website and social media for Department of Geography

2014 – Present Development of alumni and employer outreach network

2014 – present Geography course scheduling

2019 Tykeson College and Career Center Flight path coordinators search committee (6 positions)

2018 Tykeson College and Career Center Director of Advising search committee

2017-2019 All-Campus Advising Association Awards Committee

2017-2019 Tykeson College and Careers Social Science Advising Pilot Program (Social Sciences Discovery Center) and Tykeson Working Group (Program under University of Oregon College of Arts & Sciences)

2017 & 2019 Department of Geography Office Specialist search committee

2012-2014 Appalachian State committees: Department Personnel Committee, Graduate Admissions Committee, Graduate Exam Committee, Gamma Theta Upsilon.

2013 Committee for Opening up Social Justice Center on Campus of Appalachian State University.

2011-2012 Assistant Director of the Carnegie Global Oregon project, Carnegie Initiative on International Ethics at the University of Oregon.

2011 Committee member on Honor’s College undergraduate thesis project (as a PhD student).

2011 Redesigned the Peace Studies Certificate Program at the University of Oregon.

2010 Advocacy work on land tenure regularization for urban farmers in Dar es Salaam in conjunction with the Sustainable Cities: African Network NGO.

2009-2012 Graduate School Advisory Board, University of Oregon.

2008-2012 Reading & writing group organizer, Department of Geography, University of Oregon.

2009 Faculty Search Committee for position in Sustainable Urbanism, Department of Geography, University of Oregon.

2007-2009 Undergraduate Advisor for the Department of Geography at the University of Oregon.

2007-2009 Director of Geography Awareness Week and GIS Day activities, University of Oregon.

2007, 2008 Organizer of weekly speaker series at University of Oregon, Department of Geography.

2004-2006 Evaluating freshmen writing placement exams. Mānoa Writing Program, University of Hawai‘i - Mānoa.

**TEACHING APPOINTMENTS**

**University of Oregon**

Introduction to Human Geography

Human Geography

Our Digital Earth

Geography of Oregon

Geography of the US & Canada

World Regional Geography

Geography of Sub-Saharan Africa (upper-division)

Contemporary Food Systems

The Professional Geographer

Fundamentals of Geography for Educators I and II (graduate seminars)

**Lane Community College**

The Natural Environment

World Regional Geography

**Appalachian State University**

World Regional Geography

Introduction to Human Geography

Urban Geography

Senior Seminar: Professional Development

Graduate Seminar: Urban Political Ecology and Sustainability

Graduate Seminar: Urban Informality

**University of Hawaii System**

*University of Hawai‘i  
Kapi‘olani Community College  
Honolulu Community College  
Trans Pacific Hawai‘i University*

World Regional Geography

The Natural Environment

The Natural Environment Lab

**PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS**

McLees, L. 2020 Invited guest presenter: President’s luncheon. The importance of the liberal arts in the modern workforce: Academic and career advising at the University of Oregon. American Association of Geographers. Denver, CO. (forthcoming)

McLees, L. 2020 Non-Academic Career Workshop for Graduate Students. American Association of Geographers. Denver, CO. (forthcoming).

McLees, L. 2020 Panel moderator: Teaching and Advising about Careers in Geography. American Association of Geographers. Denver, Colorado (forthcoming).

McLees, L. 2019 Non-Academic Career Workshop for Graduate Students. American Association of Geographers. Washington, D.C.

McLees, L. 2018 Invited Panelist “Teaching and advising about careers in geography.” American Association of Geographers. Boston, Massachusetts.

McLees, L. 2018 Invited Career Mentor. ” American Association of Geographers. Boston, Massachusetts.

McLees, L. 2018 Session Organizer “The role of undergraduate education in the professional development of geographers.” American Association of Geographers. Boston, Massachusetts.

McLees, L. 2016 Invited panelist for “Faculty Perspectives in Assessment.” Association of Pacific Coast Geographers. Portland, Oregon.

McLees, L. 2014 The role of sustainable development discourse in official acceptance of urban crop cultivation in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Association of American Geographers. Tampa, Florida.

McLees, L. 2013 Invited panelist at “Global Opportunities Conference: Creative Solutions for Africa.” Hosted by the Walker College of Business at Appalachian State University.

McLees, L. 2013 Invited seminar series presentation “Negotiating between formal and informal urban systems on the open-space farms of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.” University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

McLees, L. 2011 “Cultivating a social space in the southern city: Open-space urban farms in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.” Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) Annual International Conference. London, England.

McLees, L. 2011 Session organizer: “Urban Spaces in the Global South: Moving Past the

Developmentalist Framework” (two sessions). Association of American Geographers. Seattle, Washington.

McLees, L. 2011 “Urban agriculture and legitimate urban practice: A qualitative analysis of open- space farms in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.” Association of American Geographers. Seattle, Washington.

McLees, L. 2010 “Recognizing urban space in developing places: Everyday practices and urban farms in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.” Oregon Academy of Science Annual Meeting. Portland, Oregon.

McLees, L. 2009 “Saving the farm: understanding the functions of urban-ecological spaces in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.” Center on Community and Diversity (CoDaC). Eugene, Oregon.

McLees, L. 2009 Panel: “Organizing the Edu-factory: Radical Geography and Collective Action in the Academy.” Panel to discuss how academics in radical geography often exempt their own lives from struggle, instead focusing on struggles beyond their own subsistence. Association of American Geographers, Las Vegas, Nevada.

McLees, L. 2008 “Race in the Landscape: Haole resistance to development in Hawai’i.” Association of American Geographers, Boston, Massachusetts.

McLees, L. 2008 “Local spaces of engagement: the effectiveness of community resistance to development in North Kohala.” Oregon Academy of Science, Portland, Oregon.

McLees, L. 2007 “Mobilizing Race in Place: De-whitening resistance to development in North Kohala, Hawai’i.” Association of American Geographers, San Francisco, California.

McLees, L. 2005 “Who says what happens here? Diverse roles of place in a community’s resistance to development.” Association of American Geographers, Denver, Colorado.

**PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

* Software/Platform skills for administrative purposes: Adobe Creative Suite, ArcGIS online, Microsoft Office, UO BANNER system, WordPress, Student Success Collaborative/ Navigate (Advising notes platform), IDR/COGNOS (data generating for metrics)
* Additional software/ platform skills: Nvivo, ArcGIS
* Social Media: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter
* Online course development
* Swahili (intermediate)
* Training in mediation, facilitation and negotiation, onflict Resolution Program, University of Hawai‘i
* Certification to interpret the Myers-Briggs Testing Instrument (2018)
* Certification to interpret the Strong’s Interest Inventory (2018)
* Integrated Career and Academic advising

**AWARDS & RESEARCH SUPPORT**

2019 Open Oregon Educational Resources (OER) Grant to develop OER for World Regional Geography.

2018 Williams Instructional Award to develop a field trip-based course called “Explore Oregon”

2018 College of Arts and Science Online-Hybrid Course Development Initiative funding 2018-2019

2017 University of Oregon, Department of Geography, Ed Price Faculty Service Award

2013 Appalachian State University Humanities Scholars Fellowship. “Using photo voice to explore Informal food networks in Seattle, Washington.” $1800.

2013 Appalachian State University Microgrants Award “Homelessness and food security in Boone, North Carolina: Exploring an invisible population through photo voice.” $300

2010 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant: “Recognizing urban space in developing places: Everyday practices and urban farms in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.” NSF-BCS-GRS #208630. $11,995

2010 University of Oregon Public Impact Fellowship. “Growing security in the city: Everyday practices and urban agriculture in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.” $6000

2010 Charles Reed Fellowship for Graduate Students. $1500

2009 Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (SYLFF) Graduate Fellowships for International Research. “Everyday spaces and social change: Urban farms in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.” $12,000

2009 American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS), University of Oregon Chapter, Summer Research Award. “Use of photography in social science research.” $500

2008 Department of Geography, University of Oregon, Summer Research Award. $500

2008 Center of Community and Diversity (CoDaC) at the University of Oregon, Summer Research Award “Saving the farm: understanding the functions of urban-ecological spaces in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.” $1500

2008 Cultural and Political Ecology Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers Summer Field Research Award “Saving the farm: understanding the functions of urban- ecological spaces in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.” $500

2005 Department of Geography, University of Hawai‘i-Mānoa: Wein’s Award for Academic Achievement and Contributions to the Department.

**MANUSCRIPTER REVIEWER**

*African Geographical Review*

*Development Southern Africa*

*International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*

*City*

**PUBLICATIONS**

McLees, L. 2017. Intersections and flow on open-space farms in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Global Urban Agriculture: Convergence of Theory and Practice between North and South. WinklerPrins, A. (ed). CABI International.

McLees, L. 2013. A postcolonial approach to urban studies: Interviews, mental maps and photo voices on the urban farms of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Professional Geographer. 65 (2): 283-295.

Braun, Y., and L. McLees, L. 2012. Changing space and inequality: Economic development and tourism in the highlands of Lesotho. Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society. DOI: 10.1093/cjres/rsr039.

McLees, L. 2011. Negotiating access to land for urban farmers in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania: Histories, benefits and insecure land tenure. The Journal of Modern African Studies. 49 (4): 601-624.

Mahanty, S., J. Fox, M. Nurse, P. Stephen, and L. McLees (eds.). 2006. Hanging in the Balance: Equity in Community-Based Natural Resource Management in Asia. Bangkok: RECOFTC (Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific); Honolulu: East-West Center.

Book Reviews

McLees, L. 2011. (Book Review) Learning from Delhi: Dispersed Initiatives in Changing Urban

Landscapes. Shamoon Patwari and Bo Tang (eds). Written by Maurice Mitchell. Ashgate, 2010, 322 pages, ISBN: 978-1-4094-0102-5. £35.00 (paperback). Online publication for the Urban Geography Research Group (UGRG) of the Royal Geographical Society- Institute of British Geographers.

McLees, L. 2007. (Book Review) From Squaw Tit to Whorehouse Meadow: How Maps Name, Claim, and Inflame. Mark Monmonier. University of Chicago Press. 230 Pages. ISBN: 978-0-2265-3466-4. $16.00 (paperback). Information Bulletin. 38(2):82-83.

**RESEARCH EXPEREINCE**

2013

Research Project

*Homelessness and food security: Exploring an invisible population through photo voice in Boone, North Carolina.*

Designed and received funding for a research project with an undergraduate student. We used photo voice to examine food security and informality with members of the homeless population in Boone.

2010

Doctoral Research

*Growing cities in the global south: The role of urban agriculture in the development of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.*

Designed, received funding for and implemented an independent, eight and a half month field project.

2009

Independent Researcher

*Cultivating community?: Urban community gardens in Eugene, Oregon*

Designed independent research project and conducted interviews on community gardens in Eugene to examine how the experiences of community are influenced by increased regulation of community gardens.

2008

Research Assistant

*Object Effects: Mental Rotation of a Geometric Objects versus Maps.*

P.I. Dr. Amy Lobben, Department of Geography, University of Oregon.

Created computer-based test questions using Adobe Illustrator and Adobe Flash. Recruited subjects for computer lab testing and administered test.

2008

Research Assistant

Dr. Lise Nelson, University of Oregon, Department of Geography:

Conducted archival searches of newspapers and other secondary sources pertaining to migrant housing in Woodburn, Oregon.

Conducted archival research for literature review for book chapter on how ideas of development have changed in geography since the 1960s.

Wrote summaries of patterns that emerged in the literature.

2005

Master’s Thesis

*Pictures of ‘Paradise:’ Understanding perspectives of development in the community of North Kohala.*

M.A. thesis. University of Hawai‘i, Mānoa.

Designed, received funding for and implemented an independent two-month field project.

Conducted interviews and observations on issues related to development in rural Hawai‘i.

2004-2005

Researcher

Sea Grant- Hawai‘i & West Hawai‘i Fisheries Council (Big Island of Hawai‘i)

Conducted interviews with stakeholders on the fisheries council.

Conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the council in navigating and managing the multiple interests represented on the council with regards to the development of local fisheries.

2003-2005

Research Assistant:

*Property, Culture & Technology- Aquaculture in Hawai‘i.*

Dr. Krisnawati Suryanata, Department of Geography &

Dr. Karen Umemoto, Department of Urban & Regional Planning,

University of Hawai‘i- Mānoa,

Assisted with interviews in stakeholders identified in the project.

Transcribed interviews.

Conducted primary analysis on interviews and other primary documents utilizing the qualitative analysis software program NVivo.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

* Association of American Geographers
* Association of Pacific Coast Geographers
* All-Campus Academic Advising Association, University of Oregon
* Career Professionals Consortium, University of Oregon