

SAMANTHA M. SOLANO

Assistant Professor in
Landscape Architecture
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EDUCATION

Harvard University, Graduate School of Design [2014-2016]
Master of Landscape Architecture, Cambridge, Massachusetts

University of Nevada, Las Vegas [2004-2010]
Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, Las Vegas, Nevada

Università degli Studi della Tuscia [Summer 2007]
Landscape Architecture Study Abroad Program, Viterbo, Italy

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Assistant Professor in Landscape Architecture & Regional Planning [2020 - Present]

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Architecture
Assistant Professor in Landscape Architecture [2017 - Present]
Visiting Assistant Professor in Landscape Architecture [2016 - 2017]
Co-Director of Urban Futures Lab [2018 - Present]
@Las Lab Researcher [2018 - Present]

Harvard University, Graduate School of Design
Teaching Assistant [Spring 2015]

College of Southern Nevada
Design Instructor [2014 - 2015]

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal, JUXTOPOS, [juxtopos.com], Las Vegas, Nevada
Research & Experimental Design Firm
Selected Projects:
INVERSION: LA+ "Iconoclast" design competition entry.
NOMAD LAND: Metacities for a Trans-Territorial Civilization: Wikipotopia Design Competition, in collaboration with PROXIIMA

Co-Founder, The VELA Project, [velaproject.org], Las Vegas, Nevada & Miami, FL
Research & Data Visualization in Landscape Architecture
Selected Projects:
Where are the Women?: presented in (4) National ASLA General Sessions

Landscape Designer, [N]Site Studios, Las Vegas, Nevada
Architecture and Urban Design Firm [2013 - 2014]
Selected Projects: Residential Design
Phases: Concept & Design Development

Landscape Designer, Southwick Landscape Architects, Henderson, Nevada
Landscape Architecture Firm [2008 - 2010]
Selected Projects: Phase II Sunset Park, Clark Country Wetlands Trail-head, St. Rose Pkwy Trail
Phases: Concept & Design Development

Architecture Design Intern, MGA Architects, Las Vegas, Nevada

Architecture Firm [2006 - 2008]

Selected Projects: Maduka Medical Complex, Wynn Macau

Phases: Concept & Design Development

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

*“Pedagogical Pluralism.” Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra and Joshua Vermillion, in *T-Squared: Theories and Tactics in Architecture and Design*, Samantha Krukowski (ed). London: Intellect Books. Forthcoming, Fall 2020

* “Notational Topographies and Experiential Literacies through Constructive Drawings” Co-authored with Alberto de Salvatierra, in *Representing Landscapes: Analogue*, Nadia Amoroso (ed), London and New York: Routledge Publishers. ISBN-10: 1138485578

*“Re-imagining the Arid” in *From the South: Global Perspectives on Landscape and Territory*, Flavio Sciaraffia et al (ed), Universidad del Desarrollo, Facultad de Arquitectura y Arte. ISBN: 978-956-374-029-5

“Emerald Territories” in *Frontier City: Strategies for Boston Harbor* (Harvard GSD Studio Report), Adriaan Geuze & Daniel Vasini (ed) Harvard University Graduate School of Design ISBN-10: 1934510653

“The People’s Park” in *The Barracks of Pion: Developing the Edge of the Park of Versailles* (Harvard GSD Studio Report), Michel Desvigne & Inessa Hansch (ed) Harvard University Graduate School of Design ISBN-10: 1934510513

Articles, Essays, & Abstracts

*“Gender Equity in Landscape Architecture Education: A Call to Action,” Co-Authored with TJ Marston, Stephanie Rolley, Roberto Rovira and Catalina Aragon, submitted panel for the 2020 Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Conference [CELA], in review.

*“Anticipating the Arid as the Next Frontier: Opportunities to respond to growing and emerging challenges in urban dry-lands,” Co-Authored with Nideroest, submitted abstract for the 2020 Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Conference [CELA], in review.

*“Re-mapping the Global Arid Landscape,” in *Proceedings of the North American Cartographic Information Society [NACIS]*, Fall 2019.

*“Distinguished Landscapes: A Comparative Spatial Atlas of ASLA’s Award Winning Projects from 1981-2018,” in *Proceedings of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Conference [CELA]*, Spring 2019.

*“Constructing Site: Notations of Temporal Systems in the Landscape,” Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra and Joshua Vermillion, in *Proceedings of the National Conference on the Beginning Design Student*. Spring 2019.

*“Oases: The Potential of Desert Rivers as Urban Greenways in Phoenix, AZ and Las Vegas, NV,” accepted abstract for the 6th Fabos Conference: Urban Greenway Planning: Adapting to Expanding and Contracting Cities. Fall 2018.

*“Pedagogy in Flux: Monsters, Time and Pluralism in Architecture Foundations,” Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra and Joshua Vermillion, abstract for ACSA Conference “Black Box”. Not Accepted.

* “The Spatial Indeterminacy of Time: De[MONSTR]ative Architectures as Beginning Design Pedagogy.”

Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra and Joshua Vermillion, in: Proceedings of the 2018 National Conference on the Beginning Design Student [NCBDS]. Cincinnati: University of Cincinnati Press, 2018.

* "On the Liminal Fertility of Urban Binaries in the Sin City of Neon Lights." Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra, in Proceedings of the 2018 ACSA/COAM International Conference "New Instrumentalities." Madrid: COAM/ACSA, 2018

* "The Arid Debate: Transforming the Wet Discussion," in Proceedings of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Conference [CELA], 2018.

* "Blurred Margins: Nevada's Nuclear Terrains," abstract for "Military Landscapes," Dumbarton Oaks 2018 Garden and Landscape Studies Symposium. Not Accepted.

* "Immersive Cartographies: Geo-spatial Data and Video Games," in Proceedings of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Conference [CELA], 2018.

"Novel and Non-Nascent Technologies in Landscape Architecture: V.R., Tomorrow: A.R., Today," Co-Authored with Phillip Zawarus, in Vertex: A Compendium of Research and Design, Alberto de Salvatierra (ed), Las Vegas, 2018.

"On the Liminal Fertility between the Sacred and the Profane in the Sin City of Neon Lights," Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra, in Vertex: A Compendium of Research and Design, Alberto de Salvatierra (ed), Las Vegas, 2018.

* "CNC Mediated Representation," Co-Authored with Joshua Vermillion & Shai Yeshayahu, in 2017 Proceedings of the National Conference on the Beginning Design Student. University of Utah, Salt Lake City, March 2017.

* "Immersive Narratives: Bridging Video Game Technologies with Landscape Representation Methods –An Interactive Study," in Proceedings of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Conference [CELA], 2017.

"Black Landscapes Matter," AESIR LAB 2(6). Web. 28 October 2015. <http://aesirlab.com/writings/vol2-6>

"Empowering the Everyday Landscape," AESIR LAB 1(5). Web. 22 July 2015. <http://aesirlab.com/writings/vol1-5>

EXHIBITIONS

"The Geo-Synthetic City: Combinatory Urban Topologies," Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra & Joshua Vermillion, Undergraduate Architecture Exhibition," UNLV School of Architecture; Las Vegas, NV. 2019.

*GLEECerin: Notational Models," Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra & Joshua Vermillion, in The Portmanteau Exhibition as part of ACSA 2018 Fall Conference "Play with the Rules." University of Denver Colorado. Denver, CO. 2019

*GLEECerin: Notational Models," Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra & Joshua Vermillion, in The Portmanteau Exhibition as part of ACSA 2018 Fall Conference "Play with the Rules." Schroeder Galleria, Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM). Milwaukee, WI. 2018.

*NOMAD LAND: Metacities for a Trans-Territorial Civilization," Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra, in: Wikitopia International Competition Exhibition. Nomura Conference Plaza Nihonbashi. Chuo, Tokyo. 2018 November 2018.

"The Garden of Earthly Delights". Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra, Joshua Vermillion, & Travis Allen, Undergraduate Architecture Exhibition Architecture Studies Library, UNLV School of Architecture; Las Vegas, NV. 2018.

"De[MONSTR]ative Architectures: Apotheosis of the Unfamiliar," Co-Authored with Alberto de Salvatierra & Joshua Vermillion, Undergraduate Architecture Exhibition, UNLV School of Architecture; Las Vegas, NV. 2017.

GUEST LECTURE / PRESENTATIONS

"The VELA project: Where are the Women" presented for the Mind the Gap Lecture Series at the University of Pennsylvania Weitzman School of Design, Summer 2020 [via Zoom]

"The VELA project: Where are the Women" presented for WxLA at the National ASLA Conference, Fall 2019.

"Arid Mapping and Landscape Architecture" presented at the Desert Green Conference. Las Vegas, NV, Fall 2019.

"Re-mapping the Global Arid Landscape" to be presented at the North American Cartographic Information Society [NACIS] 2019 Conference. Tacoma, Washington, Fall 2019

"Supporting Women in the Workplace: What can we (as a profession) do?" presented at the Florida ASLA Conference & Expo, Orlando, Florida, Summer 2019.

"Distinguished Landscapes: A Comparative Spatial Atlas of ASLA's Award Winning Projects from 1981-2018," presented at the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Conference [CELA]. Sacramento, California, Spring 2019.

"Constructing Site: Notations of Temporal Systems in the Landscape," presented with Alberto de Salvatierra and Joshua Vermillion, at the National Conference on the Beginning Design Student. Denver, Colorado, Spring 2019.

"On the Liminal Fertility between the Sacred and the Profane in the Sin City of Neon Lights," presented with Alberto de Salvatierra, at the 2018 ACSA/COAM International Conference "New Instrumentalities." Madrid, Spain, Summer 2018

"The Arid Debate: Transforming the Wet Discussion" presented at the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Conference [CELA]. Blacksburg, Virginia, Spring 2019.

*"Less than 20 inches" presented at the International Landscape Collaborative [ILC] inaugural summit, Santiago, Chile, Winter 2017

"Everyday Memorials" in, Voices and Visions of St. Louis: Past, Present, Future Conference. Cambridge, MA, April 2016

"OutLANDish," lead organizer of the International Landscape Architecture Student Conference [LABash], 2008 - 2010

GRANTS & AWARDS

Research Grants

"The Visualizing Equity in Landscape Architecture Project: Women-Led Firms, Women-Led Projects" co-investigator with TJ Marston (Florida International University), Landscape Architecture Foundation Deb

Mitchell Research Grant (\$25,000) Shortlisted, Not Accepted

“Design strategies across the spatial-temporal water gradient: landscape architecture’s response to water scarcity” co-investigator with Jessica Rossi-Mastracci (University of Minnesota), Landscape Architecture Foundation Deb Mitchell Research Grant (\$25,000) Not Accepted

“Vegetal Equity in Las Vegas, Nevada” Nevada Department of Forestry: Urban Forestry Grant (\$30,000) September 2019 - May 2020. Not Accepted

“Vindicating Vegas” co-investigator with Alberto de Salvatierra. Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts 2019 Cycle. Not Accepted.

“Enhancing Public and Environmental Benefits of Urban Forests through Successful Parking Lot Design.” co-investigator with Nevada Department of Forestry. 2018 LSR Competitive Program. Not Accepted.
Travel Grants

University Faculty Traveling Committee Spring 2020 Cycle. (\$750.00)
University Faculty Traveling Committee Spring 2019 Cycle. (\$750.00)
UNLV College of Fine Arts Conference Travel Award 2018-2019 Cycle. (\$1,000.00)
University Faculty Traveling Committee Spring 2018 Cycle. (\$1000.00)
UNLV College of Fine Arts Conference Travel Award 2017-2018 Cycle. (\$500.00)

Awards

Student Design Honor Award. Nevada Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Spring 2010

Student Design Honor Award. Nevada Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Spring 2008

1st Place Design Recipient. “Las Americas” National Organization of Minority Architecture Students, UNLV Design Competition, Spring 2008

VISITING CRITIC FOR STUDIO REVIEWS

University of Minnesota. Landscape Architecture Fall 2019 Final Reviews
University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Landscape Architecture Spring 2019 Final Reviews
Arizona State University. Landscape Architecture Thesis Spring 2019 Final Reviews

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Landscape Architects
North American Cartographic Information Society
National Organization of Minority Architects
International Landscape Collaborative

SERVICE & RESPONSIBILITIES

National

WxLA Scholarship Juror: 2019
Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture [CELA] Conference: Abstract Reviewer 2019
Landscape Research Record 2019 Issue: Paper Reviewer 2019 “Landscape Planning and Ecology” track.
Landscape Research Record 2019 Issue: Paper Reviewer 2019 “General” track
Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture [CELA] Conference: Abstract Reviewer 2018 for AIA/ACSA Intersections Symposium: Paper Reviewer 2018 for “Intersections”

Local

Nevada Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects: UNLV Faculty Liaison, 2016 - Present

UNLV Student Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects: Faculty Advisor, 2016 - Present

UNLV NOMAS Student Chapter: Faculty Advisor, 2019 - Present

University Committees

Associate Professor in Urban Transformation Search Committee Member, 2019-2020

Assistant Professor in Interior Design Search Committee Member, 2019-2020

Assistant Professor in Foundation Design Search Committee Member, 2017-2018

College of Fine Arts Executive Committee Member, 2018-2019

Associate Professor in Interior Design Search Committee Member, 2018-2019

Research, Innovation, & Publications Committee Member, 2018-2019

Director of School of Architecture Search Committee Member, 2017-2018

Assistant Professor in Foundation Design Search Committee Member, 2017-2018

Curriculum & Student Experience Committee Member, 2017-2019

Technology & Applied Sciences Committee Member, 2017-2019

COURSES TAUGHT

2019 - 2020

LAND 282: Foundations Studio III Spring 2020

LAND 180: Foundations Studio I Spring 2020

LAND 280: Foundations Studio II Fall 2019

LAND 467: GIS for Landscape Architects Fall 2019

2018 - 2019

LAND 282: Foundations Studio III Spring 2019

LAND 455: Theory in Landscape Architecture Spring 2019

LAND 280: Foundations Studio II Fall 2018

LAND 467: GIS for Landscape Architects Fall 2018

2017 - 2018

LAND 386: Landscape Architecture Studio II Spring 2018

LAND 495: Special Topics in Landscape Course Spring 2018

LAND 280: Foundations Studio II Fall 2017

LAND 467: GIS for Landscape Architects Fall 2017

2016 - 2017

LAND 282: Foundations Studio III Spring 2017

LAND 455: Theory in Landscape Architecture Spring 2017

LAND 342: Planting & Irrigation Spring 2017

LAND 280: Foundations Studio II Fall 2016

LAND 367: Advanced Digital Media Fall 2016

LAND 330: Design with Climate Fall 2016