

Landscape as Urbanism in Lowland Mexico: Households, Community, and Resilience  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018  
11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.  
Rinker Hall, Room 238

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Reflecting on ideas, definitions, and descriptions of *resilience* and *resilience theory* this presentation will introduce the proposed Phase 1 of a newly proposed collaborative NSF research project investigating the scale, form, intensity, and dynamics of landscape change in the lowlands of Mexico. At its core our proposed research is a study of landscape urbanism and investigates the long-term human impacts of population growth/pressure and the local responses, especially agricultural intensification on landscape in the Maya lowlands of southern Mexico. Our impact inventory and analysis will utilize remote sensing (LIDAR) transects extending from the states of Chiapas north to Yucatan and Quintana Roo. Originally collected by NASA for environmental purposes as part of the REDD+ carbon inventory of southern Mexico, these data offer a uniquely expansive survey of anthropogenic landscape modification and land use resilience across the region. In this first phase, our proposed project will (1) process and repurpose these data; (2) inventory bare earth models; (3) develop and test statistical models for spatial analysis of the landscape and resilience; and, (4) conduct limited field verification using traditional survey, dGPS, and high-resolution UAV LIDAR of three sample regions. The presentation will introduce the project, describe the intellectual background, and describe our proposed research methods. Preliminary results from pilot studies conducted in preparation for this proposed project will also be described.