Augustus ‘Gus’ Guikema

520 Vassar Dr SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106
aguikema04@unm.edu | (505) 860-5893

Education

M.S., Geography, University of New Mexico, 2027 (Anticipated)

B.A., Economics and Geography (Double Major), University of New Mexico, 2025

A.A., Liberal Arts, San Juan College, 2022

Research Interests

Wildlife Conservation in New Mexico, Water Resources, Political Ecology

Research Experience

Guikema, A. (2025). “Invasive Species and Engineered Landscapes: Rethinking Oryx Management in the Tularosa Basin.” Undergraduate honors thesis. Advisor: Dr. Benjamin Warner.

University of New Mexico Bureau of Business and Economic Research. (2025). “Albuquerque’s Creative Economy.” Prepared for the City of Albuquerque Arts and Culture Department.

Montoya, M.J.R., Guikema, A., Kochan, C., & Mier y Teran Ruesga, C. (2024). “Pluriversal Economic Systems and the ‘Obligation to Incorporate’: A Loss Valuation Review.”

University of New Mexico Bureau of Business and Economic Research. (2024). “New Mexico Survey of Housing Stability Services.” Prepared for the Office of the Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham.

Professional Experience

Graduate Research Fellow, University of New Mexico Center for Regional Studies, Albuquerque, NM, August 2026 — Present

Teaching Assistant, University of New Mexico Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Albuquerque, NM, August 2025 — Present

Student Research Assistant, University of New Mexico Bureau of Business and Economic Research, Albuquerque, NM, September 2023 — August 2025

Community Geography Fellow, R.H. Mallory Center for Community Geography, Albuquerque, NM, August 2024—May 2025

Undergraduate Research Fellow, The Intermountain West Transformation Network, Albuquerque, NM, January 2024—May 2024

Conservation Work Crew Member, Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, NM, May 2023—August 2023

Teaching Assistantships

Fall 2026, GEOG-1160L, Home Planet: Water, Land, and Life Laboratory, Principal Instructor, 55 students

Spring 2026, GEOG-1175 World Regional Geography, Dr. David Correia, 61 students

Fall 2025, GEOG-1175 World Regional Geography, Dr. David Correia, 103 students

Honors and Awards

2026, Graduate Fellowship, University of New Mexico Center for Regional Studies

2026, Interdisciplinary Research Award, University of New Mexico Accelerating Resilience Innovations in Drylands

2025-2027, New Mexico High School Graduates STEM Graduate Scholarship, New Mexico Higher Education Department

2025-2026, Presidential Scholarship Alumni Graduate Award, University of New Mexico

2024-2025, Community Geography Fellowship, R.H. Mallory Center for Community Geography

2022—2025, Dean’s List, University of New Mexico

2022—2025, Presidential Scholarship, University of New Mexico

2024, Research Fellowship, The Transformation Network, University of New Mexico

2023, Charles “Chuck” Dubois Conservation Award, Philmont Scout Ranch

2022—2023, University of New Mexico Honors Transfer Scholarship, San Juan College

2022, Merrion Distinguished Scholar Award, San Juan College

Presentations

Guikema, A. “Fugitive Commodities: Elk, Value, and Conservation in Southern New Mexico”. Oral Presentation, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, March 2026.

Guikema, A. “Invasive Species and Engineered Landscapes: Rethinking Oryx in the Tularosa Basin”. Oral Presentation, Southwest Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Las Cruces, NM, October 2025.