

## **Carla R. Van West, Ph.D., RPA**

### **Director, Preservation Research Programs**

Dr. Carla Van West earned a Ph.D. in anthropology from Washington State University, a M.A. in anthropology from the University of Arizona, and a B.A. in anthropology from Elmira College in New York State. She also holds a teaching certificate for community college education from the State of Arizona.

Dr. Van West has more than 35 years' experience in the archaeology of the U.S. Southwest and also has engaged in fieldwork in Scotland, Cyprus, and Egypt. Dr. Van West's frequently cited dissertation involved an innovative approach to linking Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology with paleoclimatic data for locations in southwestern Colorado. Before joining the staff of the Foundation, Dr. Van West was Senior Principal Investigator at Statistical Research, Inc. in Tucson, Arizona. Among her larger, more complex projects were the development of the Fort Huachuca Cultural Resource Management Plan for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; the coordination and research direction of a five-year on-call contract with the Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Region, for survey, testing, data recovery, Historic American Building Survey and Historic American Engineering Record documentation, National Register nominations, and public outreach services; and the design and direction of the Fence Lake Archaeological Project in west-central New Mexico for the Phoenix-based utility company, Salt River Project.

Dr. Van West is currently serving her third five-year term as a Board Member of the Western National Parks Association, a not-for-profit cooperating association established to assist the National Park Service with its education, research, and interpretation missions. During her tenure, she was elected to be a Board officer, serving as Chairman and Vice Chairman. In addition, she has served on Budget and Finance and Publication committees and has chaired the Research, Performance Review, and Strategic Planning committees. Dr. Van West is the current chair of the Research Committee. She is also a Research Associate of Crow Canyon Archaeological Center and regularly serves as a research scholar and seminar leader for their public outreach field programs.