



Dr. Mary Ellen Lane
Executive Director

Dr. Mary Ellen Lane has degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a doctorate in Egyptology from the University of Paris IV Sorbonne. For nineteen years, she has been Executive Director of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, which currently has nineteen members in the Near and Middle East, South and Southeast Asia, Europe, West Africa, and the New World. She has helped to secure support for existing centers and worked to establish centers in areas of the world where infrastructure was lacking to support research exchange. She has worked with American and host-country scholars and officials to establish and make viable the West African Research Association, the Hong Kong-America Center, the American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies, Mexico-North Research Network, the Center for Khmer Studies, the Center for South Asia Libraries, the Palestinian American Research Center, the American Academic Research Institute in Iraq and the American Institute for Afghanistan Studies.