



**College of Agricultural, Consumer  
and Environmental Sciences**



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**New Faculty**

**January 2022 — August 2022**



**RACHEL E. ZWEIG, EXT AGRIC AGENT  
ADMIN AND PGM UNIT SANDOVAL COUNTY**



Since graduating from Hendrix College with bachelor's degrees in Chemistry and Mathematics, I have lived in Madrid, Spain (Fulbright research grant), rural Morocco (living with local families to learn the culture and languages), and the Netherlands (to complete my Master's in Soil Science from Wageningen University).

While working alongside farmers in Morocco, I realized I could combine my passions for agriculture, sustainability, the outdoors, science, and helping others into a career of agricultural extension and training. Outside of work, I enjoy playing soccer, hiking, being in the garden, and playing cello.

**SAWSSAN BOUFIOUS, EXT SPECIALIST/AG MARKETS  
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS & AG. BUSINESS**

Dr. Sawssan Boufious joined the Extension Economics Department as Extension Specialist/ Assistant Professor. Previously, she served as Post-Doctoral Research Associate at the Southwest Florida Research and Education Center/IFAS of the University of Florida in Immokalee, FL. Her research and extension programs focus on sustainability with a high interest in issues affecting producers' profitability and their economic behavior regarding the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices.



Dr. Boufious holds a Ph.D. and M.S. in Agricultural and Applied Economics from Texas Tech University, Lubbock, and a Ph.D. in Economics and Management Sciences as well as a M.S. in Corporate and Market Finance earned at Mohammed V University of Rabat, Morocco.

**CHRISTINA DIMITRIOU, ASST PROFESSOR**  
SCHOOL OF HOTEL, RESTAURANT & TOURISM MANAGEMENT



Dr. Christina K. Dimitriou will be teaching at the School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management. She has a Bachelor of Science in Tourism Business Administration from the Technological Educational Institute (T.E.I) in Larissa, Greece, a Master of Social Science degree in Tourism Policy and Management from the University of Birmingham in Birmingham, England, a Doctor of Philosophy in Hospitality Administration from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX, and a Vocational and Technical Teacher Training Academy Certification from the Pedagogical and Technical School of Volos in Greece. She is a certified hospitality educator (CHE) as well as a certified online instructor and she is fluent in Greek, English, and French.

Dr. Dimitriou has been teaching undergraduate and graduate courses, face-to-face, online, and hybrid at a university level for over twenty years in Europe and the United States.

**LAUREN E. BAKER, EXT ASSOC 1**  
ADMIN AND PGM UNIT GRANT COUNTY

I was born and raised in Silver City, New Mexico. After leaving, I moved to Arizona, Colorado, Minnesota, and most recently, Alaska.

I graduated from Colorado State University with my Bachelors degree in Psychology and a Minor in Biology. I'm so happy to be back in my hometown and



**PHILLIP D. ALDEN, EXT FAMILY CONSUMER SCI AGENT**  
ADMIN AND PGM UNIT BERNALILLO COUNTY



Phillip grew up in Quay county showing horses, swine, lambs, goats, chickens, and ducks through 4-H from novice to senior level. He was also heavily involved in several family and consumer science related projects.

He is currently very involved with several horse associations here in New Mexico. Phillip has a Bachelors degree in psychology and a Masters degree in business administration. working for NMSU.

**Dean's Message**



I am delighted to introduce to you the faculty that have joined since January this year. It is a great pleasure welcoming new faculty in teaching, research, and extension activities into the College of ACES. All of this brings about a new environment, and we are glad we had the opportunity of hiring again as we had some time.

We are back in business again trying to fill all the open positions. As we continue with the process, I encourage you to visit with these new colleagues and welcome them.

If you have already worked with them, it is always good to know and look at their expertise. Most of them are new to the culture of NMSU and the College of ACES. This will be a great opportunity for you to interact with them.

Welcome all of you, it is great to have you as part of the ACES family.

Sincerely,

Rolando A. Flores Galarza  
Dean & Chief Administrative Officer



**ALWIN D'SOUZA**, ASST PROFESSOR  
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS & AG. BUSINESS



Alwin has a Ph.D. degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Agribusiness from Arizona State University. He has extensive experience working with farming communities and stakeholders in South Asia (India, Nepal, and Bangladesh), focusing on conservation agriculture, contract farming, food security, and food loss and waste. He is currently working on projects related to consumer's behavior toward food waste in the United States.

Alwin's research interests lie in identifying mechanisms that lead to efficient production of agricultural commodities and marketing perishables in the supply chain. Prior to joining the faculty position at NMSU, he was an Assistant Professor at the Department of Agriculture at Arkansas Tech University. He has taught several agribusiness courses ranging from Supply Chain Management, Finance, Marketing, Data Analytics, and Economics. Alwin has also been active in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion activities at Arkansas Tech University.

**ANGELA M. PRADA**, EXT ASSOC 1  
ADMIN AND PGM UNIT LOS ALAMOS COUNTY

I grew up in Santa Fe, NM and always had a strong affiliation for agriculture, particularly animal husbandry. I obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science from NMSU in the spring of 1996 and then worked more than 20 years as a veterinary technician in both small and large animal day practice and emergency medicine.

I became involved as a 4-H volunteer when my children joined the program, then transitioned from administrative assistant in my county's extension office to Ag/4-H agent. I am very passionate about the role agriculture plays in the lives of every single person, regardless of lifestyle or background and enjoy sharing useful practices with the people in my community, most especially youth.

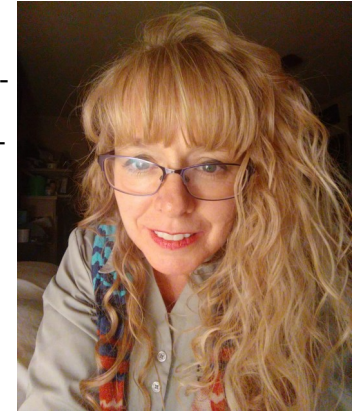
**ANNA L. DAVIS**, EXT AGRIC AGENT  
ADMIN AND PGM UNIT TORRANCE COUNTY

Anna grew up in rural central New Mexico. She was heavily involved in 4-H and FFA, taking part in the swine, goat, sheep, rabbit, and leathercraft projects. She attended Northern Arizona University starting in 2018 and received a Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences & Disorders with a minor in Disability Studies as well as a minor in Psychology. She also received the American FFA Degree.

**BONNIE S. MIKKELSON**, EXT AGRIC/4H AGENT  
ADMIN AND PGM UNIT GUADALUPE COUNTY

Susann Mikkelson is the Cooperative Extension Agent for NMSU Cooperative Extension - Guadalupe County, providing education and programming for adults as well as 4-H and other youth in a wide range of topics including 4-H youth development, agriculture and related, health and nutrition, food preparation and preservation, food safety, personal financial and household management topics, technology and community and economic development.

Susann has over 30 years' experience in public service and rural economic development work, including experience in small business development, nonprofit management and leadership, community organizing and development, as well as marketing and public relations, training and education, public speaking, journalistic and technical writing, and fundraising.



**BRYCE BITSIE**, EXT AGRIC AGENT  
ADMIN AND PGM UNIT TAOS COUNTY



Bryce Bitsie is the new Taos County Extension Agent for the New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service. He is a graduate of New Mexico State University and Purdue University. His masters research at Purdue focused on reducing methane output through administration of methane-reducing supplements in feedlot diets. Bryce has interests in livestock nutrition and cattle management that began at his family's Hereford cattle operation in Northwestern New Mexico.

Bryce looks forward to building relationships with diverse local and state wide partners to offer a range of programs that are inclusive of Taos county residents from all walks of life.