

# 982: HUMAN DIMENSIONS OF AGRICULTURE (EDUCATION, EXTENSION, COMMUNICATION, & INNOVATION) - DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

---

## In Workflow

1. Student Records Office - Programs (gdmart@nmsu.edu)
2. AG Academic Dean (deconner@nmsu.edu)
3. Graduate Dean (rkoodali@nmsu.edu)
4. UPAC - Chair (jlakey@nmsu.edu)
5. Provost (sstovall@nmsu.edu)
6. President (leslie86@nmsu.edu)
7. Board of Regents (cavotta@nmsu.edu)
8. Graduate School - Council of Deans (rkoodali@nmsu.edu)
9. Student Records Office - HED (gdmart@nmsu.edu)
10. Student Records Office - CIP (gdmart@nmsu.edu)
11. MA HLC (bgamillo@nmsu.edu)
12. Student Records Office (gdmart@nmsu.edu)

## Approval Path

1. Mon, 03 Jul 2023 15:15:00 GMT  
Gabrielle Martinez (gdmart): Approved for Student Records Office - Programs
2. Fri, 14 Jul 2023 17:42:03 GMT  
Donald Conner (deconner): Approved for AG Academic Dean
3. Fri, 14 Jul 2023 20:50:19 GMT  
cflinch: Approved for Graduate Dean
4. Fri, 15 Sep 2023 22:20:17 GMT  
Joe Lakey (jlakey): Rollback to Initiator
5. Tue, 24 Oct 2023 15:05:23 GMT  
Gabrielle Martinez (gdmart): Approved for Student Records Office - Programs
6. Tue, 05 Dec 2023 22:18:00 GMT  
Donald Conner (deconner): Approved for AG Academic Dean
7. Wed, 06 Dec 2023 00:35:13 GMT  
cflinch: Approved for Graduate Dean

## New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: Mon, 23 Oct 2023 22:55:54 GMT

**Viewing: 982 : Human Dimensions of Agriculture (Education, Extension, Communication, & Innovation) - Doctor of Philosophy**

**Last edit: Mon, 23 Oct 2023 22:55:51 GMT**

Changes proposed by: Steven Frazee (sfraze)

## Submission Information

The Degree Type will factor into the level and the submissions that must occur for HED and HLC.

- Community College Types: Applied Associate Degree, Associate Degree, Certificate, Concentration
- Main Campus Undergrad Types: Bachelor's Degree, Concentration, Minor
- Main Campus Graduate Types: Master's Degree, Doctoral Degree, Certificate, Concentration, Minor

### Degree Type

Doctoral Degree

The Degree Title dropdown has all existing degree titles in Banner, if you do not see the one you are looking for you will select "Other" then in the New Degree Title box you will type out the official title of the degree (as you would want it to appear on a students record, transcript, and/or diploma).

### Degree Title

Doctor of Philosophy

**Academic Level**

Graduate

The Catalog Title will be what is displayed in the catalog page. The standard format is Major (Concentration) - Degree Title. (I.e., Mathematics (Secondary Education) - Bachelor of Science. Note: If there is no concentration you would just list the Major - Degree.

**Catalog Title**

Human Dimensions of Agriculture (Education, Extension, Communication, &amp; Innovation) - Doctor of Philosophy

**College**

Agricult/Consumer/Environ Sci

**Campus**

Main Campus

**Department**

Ag Extension Education

**Effective Catalog**

2024-2025

**Program Format**Global Campus  
Traditional-Face to Face**CIP Code**

13.1301 - 13.1301

**Normal or typical length of time for students to complete the program (in years)**

3

**Curriculum Information****Program Learning Outcomes**

Learning Outcomes	
Outcome 1	Validate expertise by satisfactorily finishing and defending a dissertation that demonstrates original and independent scholarship
Outcome 2	Establish competency by satisfactorily completing a comprehensive written/oral examination
Outcome 3	Use meaningful and relevant social science literature to better understand and research questions in the Human Dimensions of Agriculture
Outcome 4	Critically evaluate social science research to construct arguments which further understanding of research in the Human Dimensions of Agriculture
Outcome 5	Demonstrate capability by completing a minimum of ten outside-of-course experiences in the various human dimensions of agriculture including, but not limited to, education, extension, communications, innovation, and research

**List of academic departments/units and or institutions involved in the delivery of courses**

Department/Unit
Agricultural and Extension Education
Animal and Range Science
School of Teacher Preparation, Administration, and Leadership

The Course Requirements, need to be in the standard format for the catalog because this piece of the form will be imported directly onto the catalog page. See the Student Records Website for a guide. The total number of credits at the bottom of the course list will be the "official" total for the degree. Please make sure it adds up correctly.

**Course Requirements**

Prefix	Title	Credits
<b>Disciplinary Courses (15 Hours)</b>		
AXED 5110	Management of Change, Diffusion, and Adoption of Innovations	3
AXED 5150	Strategic Communications Campaigns and Evaluation	3

AXED 5165	History and Philosophy of Agricultural and Extension Education	3
AXED 5320	Risk and Crisis Communications in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences	3
AXED 5170	Keys for Agricultural and Rural Development	3
<b>Research and Statistics (15 Hours)</b>		
AXED 5510	Research Methods	3
AXED 5515	Data Collection and Analysis	3
EDUC 6440	Qualitative Research I	3
EDUC 6420	Evaluation of Quantitative Research in Education	3
EDUC 6230	Research in Praxis: Qualitative Research II	3
<b>Graduate Electives/Research (6 Hours determined with the student's graduate committee and may include advanced statistical analysis methodologies or advanced study in quantitative and/or qualitative research methodologies. Listed courses are examples)</b>		<b>6</b>
AXED 5996	Special Topics	3
ACOM 5115	Global Issues in Agricultural Communications and Marketing	3
<b>Dissertation (18 Hours)</b>		
ANSC 700	Doctoral Dissertation	18
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>54</b>

The Road Map, need to be in the standard format for the catalog because this piece of the form will be imported directly onto the catalog page. See the Student Records Website for a guide. All courses and the total number of credits at the bottom of the roadmap should match the Course Requirements list.

**Road Map**

**First Year**

		<b>Credits</b>
<b>Fall</b>		
AXED 5510	Research Methods	3
AXED 5150	Strategic Communications Campaigns and Evaluation	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
AXED 5515	Data Collection and Analysis	3
EDUC 6440	Qualitative Research I	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Summer</b>		
EDUC 6420	Evaluation of Quantitative Research in Education	3
AXED 5320	Risk and Crisis Communications in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

**Second Year**

<b>Fall</b>		
AXED 5996	Special Topics	3
AXED 5165	History and Philosophy of Agricultural and Extension Education	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ACOM 5115	Global Issues in Agricultural Communications and Marketing	3
EDUC 6230	Research in Praxis: Qualitative Research II	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Summer</b>		
AXED 5170	Keys for Agricultural and Rural Development	3
AXED 5110	Management of Change, Diffusion, and Adoption of Innovations	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>

**Third Year**

<b>Fall</b>		
ANSC 700	Doctoral Dissertation	6
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ANSC 700	Doctoral Dissertation	6
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Summer</b>		
ANSC 700	Doctoral Dissertation	6
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>54</b>

\*Adjustments will be made for on campus graduate assistants requiring 9 hour in fall and spring semesters.

The admission requirements are needed if the program has a specialized admission process that exceeds the campus requirements for either the Undergraduate or Graduate admission standards.

• For graduate programs, the Graduate School asks for the following information (Provide a summary of the documents and specific information each student will need to provide to be considered for the program): Description, Statement of Purpose/Letter of Interest; Specialty Letter of Interest; Resume; Writing Sample; GRE; GMAT; Special Questions (if yes, what questions need to be answered); Letters of Recommendation (how many are required); NMSU Faculty Representative (if yes, how many); Foreign Language; WES Evaluation; Special License or Verifications (what license/verification)

#### **Admission Requirements**

- A master's degree in an appropriate field from an accredited university.
- An acceptable grade point average in undergraduate and graduate studies (an undergraduate GPA of 2.80 required for enrollment in a Masters' Program and a graduate GPA of 3.0 for enrollment in a Doctoral Program).
- An acceptable score on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Three years of appropriate professional experience.
- Three letters of recommendation from academic or professional sources.
- Letter of intent describing the applicant's goals for academic and professional development.

**Does this program lead to licensure, yes or no?**

No

**Is credit for prior learning built into the program, if yes explain?**

This degree program requires a minimum of 39 semester hours of graduate coursework along with the development of a dissertation (9 hours) beyond a master's degree (total of 48 hours post-master's degree). Based on have a minimum of 30 hours in a Masters' Program this degree program would be a minimum 78 hour graduate program.

#### **Faculty Members Employed to Teach in the Program**

##### **Existing Personnel**

Dr. Steve Frazee, PhD

##### **FTE**

1

##### **Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program**

AXED 5110, Management of Change, Diffusion, and Adoption of Innovations

AXED 5996 Special Topics

ANSC 700 Doctoral Dissertation

##### **Courses taught in other programs currently offered**

AXED 1110, AXED 4230, AXED 4710, AXED 5165, AXED 5110

##### **Description of academic qualifications**

· Doctor of Philosophy Degree (1986) Texas A&M University

Major: Agricultural Education

Support Areas: Mechanized Agriculture

& Ag-Business Management

Dissertation: Relationship of participation in FFA activities with career choice and job satisfaction

· Master of Education Degree (1978) Texas Tech University

Major: Agricultural Education

· Teacher Certification (1976) Texas Tech University

Major: Agricultural Education

· Bachelor of Science Degree (1975) Lubbock Christian College

Major: Agriculture/Animal Science

##### **Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses**

Jan 2020 to present Department Head and Professor

Department of Agricultural & Extension Education

College of Agriculture, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences

New Mexico State University

August 2016-2018 Interim Dean

College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

Texas Tech University

Sept 2008-Dec. 2019 Department Chair & Garrison Endowed Chair for Rural Youth Development

Dept. of Agricultural Education & Communications  
Texas Tech University

2004-2020 Professor, Agricultural Education  
Dept. of Agricultural Education & Communications  
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

1996-2004 Associate Professor, Agricultural Education  
Dept. of Agricultural Education & Communications  
Texas Tech University, Lubbock,

1988-1996 Assistant Professor, Agricultural Education  
Dept. of Agricultural Education & Communications  
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Established the PhD in Agricultural Communications and Education at Texas Tech University in 2011.

Member of the committee that established the joint online doctoral program with Texas Tech and Texas A&M in 2000 called Doc @ Distance.

#### **For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability**

28 refereed Journal articles

96 refereed papers and posters in conference proceedings

Thorn, L., Meyers, C., Frazee, S., & Akers, C. (2023) Identifying stakeholders' needs for agricultural communications in higher education curriculum in Australia. *Journal of Applied Communications* 106(4) 10.4148/1051-0834.2462

Baldock, K. D., Murphrey, T. P., Briers, G. E., Rayfield, J., Frazee, S. (2022). Agricultural educators' adoption of Inquiry-Based Learning (IBL): Effects of beliefs. *Journal of Agricultural Education*, 63(4), 188-203

Funded Grants and Contracts \$4,795,973.00

New Mexico State University

Frazee, S.D. & Hill, N. (2021-2025) Young Agri-Scientists: Connecting diverse students to each other and FANH careers through experiential learning in mentored research and science communication. USDA NIFA Hispanic-Serving Institutions –Funded \$975,314.00.

Edgar, D., Norris, S., Hill, N., Frazee, S., Lombard, K., Mesbah, A., Bittner, L., Trueblood, C., & Dean, T. (2021–2026). Impacting career engagement in agricultural, consumer and environmental sciences (ICEnACES). United States Department of Agriculture, Research and Extension Experiential Learning for Undergraduate (REEU) Fellowships Program. Funded \$626,218.00.

Frazee, S. Precision Agricultural Technology. Funded by New Mexico State University Agricultural Experiment Station - \$51,000 – July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022. (100% - \$51,000)

#### **For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research**

· Thesis Committees/Chaired: 52

· Dissertation Committees: 21

· Dissertation Committees Chaired: 14

---

#### **Existing Personnel**

Dr. Don W. Edgar, PhD

#### **FTE**

1

#### **Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program**

AXED 5510 Research Methods

AXED 5515 Data Collection and Analysis

ANSC 700 Doctoral Dissertation

#### **Courses taught in other programs currently offered**

AXED 105, AXED 331

#### **Description of academic qualifications**

Doctor of Philosophy Agriculture Education Texas A&M University – College Station, TX Conferred – May 2007

Master of Science Agricultural Education Tarleton State University – Stephenville, TX Conferred – August 2003

Bachelor of Science Agricultural Services & Development Tarleton State University – Stephenville, TX Conferred – December 1992

#### **Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses**

Professor New Mexico State University 07/01/2020 – present [12 month: 75% Teaching / 25% Research]

Associate Professor University of Georgia 08/2018 – 05/2020 [9 month: 75% Teaching / 25% Extension]  
Associate Professor University of Arkansas 08/2013 – 05/2018 [9 month: 65% Teaching / 25% Research / 10% Service]  
Assistant Professor University of Arkansas 08/2008 – 07/2013 [9 month: 75% Teaching / 15% Research / 10% Service]  
Assistant Professor South Dakota State University 08/2007 – 05/2008 [9 month: 100% Teaching]  
2020 Distinguished Teaching Award, Southern Region American Association of Agricultural Education  
2017 North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Teaching Award of Merit  
2016 University of Arkansas Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food, and Life Sciences (DBCAFLS) John White Award recipient  
2015 Inductee into the University of Arkansas Teaching Academy

**For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability**

Journal Articles (Career; N = 45 published) (n = 0, In Press) (n = 1, In Review)

Gonzales, A. G., Edgar, D., Norris, S. (In Review). The importance of diversity and inclusion in New Mexico agricultural education. *Journal of Agricultural Education*.

Lamm, K. W., Pike, L., Edgar, D.W., & Powell, A. (2022). Evaluating the impacts of 4-H participation: Development and preliminary validation of a scale. *Journal of Agricultural Education*, 63(2), 115-126. <https://doi.org/10.5032/jae.2022.02115>

Porter, J., Fuhrman, N., Peake, J. & Edgar D.W. (2022). All-terrain Vehicle Safety Knowledge and Behaviors among 4-H'ers. *Journal of Human Sciences & Extension*.

Sanders, C. E., Edgar, D. W., Cox, C. K., & Edgar, L. D. (2022). Exploring Interactions Between Arkansas Urban Producers: Social Networks and Modes of Information Seeking. *Journal of Human Sciences and Extension*, 10(1), 12. <https://scholarsjunction.msstate.edu/jhse/vol10/iss1/12>

Grants Received [Total funds: \$6,929,053; Edgar (%) \$938,090]

2021: PI, USDA NIFA REEU: Impacting Career Engagement in Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Funded: \$613,590

2020: Co-PI, USDA NIFA BFRDB: Transitioning Land to a New Generation: Preparing Trainers to Help Facilitate Transfer. Funded: \$750,000 and Edgar's portion \$22,800.

2019: Co-PI, FW-HTF-RL: Cultivating Capacities for Responsible Hacking, Creating, and Making the Future of Work in Agriculture. Tidwell, J.H., Edgar, D.W., Grubert, E., Sadakar, S., & Yopp, A. Funded by the National Science Foundation at \$1,996,465.

**For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research**

· Thesis Chaired: 13

· Thesis Committee: 23

---

**Existing Personnel**

Dr. Shannon Norris-Parrish, PhD

**FTE**

1

**Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program**

AXED 5150 Strategic Communications Campaigns and Evaluation  
ACOM 5115 Global Issues in Agricultural Communications and Marketing  
ANSC 700 Doctoral Dissertation

**Courses taught in other programs currently offered**

ACOM 1130, ACOM 3115, ACOM 4115, ACOM 5115, AXED 5150

**Description of academic qualifications**

Ph.D. 2020

Texas A&M University, Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications

Certificates: Advanced Research Methodology; Homeland Security

Dissertation: "Enabling the enablers: Developing USASOC curricular and training support for agricultural assessment in conflict zones"

M.S. 2015

Oklahoma State University, Agricultural Communications

Thesis: "Mentorship and servant leadership: Perceptions of first-year college students"

B.S. 2013

New Mexico State University, Agricultural and Extension Education

Minor: Animal Science

**Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses**

Assistant Professor August 2020–Present

New Mexico State University, Department of Agricultural and Extension Education, Las Cruces, NM

Duties:

- Design, develop, and deliver agricultural communications courses, focused in writing, for undergraduate and graduate students.
  - Advise graduate students in focus areas of agricultural communications, education, and extension, as well as youth development and food security.
  - Research effective communication modalities for science communication.
  - Collaborate with community leaders and stakeholders to develop alumni and supporter relations to the department and college
- Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant August 2017– August 2020 Texas A&M University, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, College Station, TX

#### **For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability**

Summary of Publications and Scholarly Work:

Refereed Journal Articles 5

Scientific Abstracts in Refereed Journals 19

Scientific/Technical Reports 6

International Refereed Conference

Proceedings/ Presentations 9

National Refereed Conference

Proceedings/Presentations 6

Regional Refereed Conference

Proceedings/Presentations 15

Peer-Reviewed Poster Presentations 33

Murphrey, T. P., Richburg, A. W., Leggette, H. R., Norris-Parish, S. L., & Parrella, J. A.

(Submitted). Ready, set, communicate: Measuring usability of instructional modules designed to improve communications skills of students studying agricultural sciences. *Journal of Applied Communications*, 107(2), 1–28. <https://doi.org/10.4148/1051-0834.2478>

Baker, C., Parrella, J., Norris, S. L., Leggette, H. R., & Walther, D. (2021). Learning to improvise, not criticize: Using improvisation techniques to enhance students' ability to engage in civil discourse about science. *Communication Teacher*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17404622.2021.1988668>

Norris, S. L., Leggette, H. R., Murphrey, T. P., Richburg, A., & Bush, M.\*\* (2020). Science communication: Context-specific reusable learning modules for strengthening students' communications skills. *NACTA Journal, Teaching Tip*.

[https://www.nactateachers.org/images/TeachingTips/TT\\_2020-0248.pdf](https://www.nactateachers.org/images/TeachingTips/TT_2020-0248.pdf)

Note: Awarded the 2021 NACTA Bob Gough Teaching Tip Award.

11 Total Funded Grants \$41,744,960

Mast, N. L., et al. (PD), Löest, C., & Norris-Parish, S. L. (2023–2028). LEADING Hispanics to federal agency employment (LEADING: Leading and Enhancing Agricultural Development In the Next Generation). USDA-NIFA, NEXTGEN Program (USDA-NIFA-ARPAED-009362). Funded \$20,000,000.00.

Role: Co-principal investigator leading educational component of the project.

Lamba, J., Ghimire, R., Zhang, J., & Norris-Parish, S. L. (2023–2027). Developing effective adaptation strategies to enhance the resilience of farmers under changing climate. National Science Foundation (NSF 22-633). Funded \$10,000,000.00.

Role: Key personnel leading educational component of the project.

Robinson, C., Norris, S. L., Brewer, C., & Hustedde, R. (2022). Appreciative inquiry and community capital summit: Creating a shared vision of a resilient food system.

USDA-NIFA, Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program, Conference Grant. Funded \$50,000.00.

Role: Co-principal investigator. Coordinate involvement with agricultural stakeholders.

#### **For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research**

• Thesis:

o Chair: 7 students

o Committee Member: 8 students

• Non-Thesis – Creative Component:

o Chair: 9 students

o Committee Member: 5 students

• TOTAL:

o Chair: 16 students

o Committee Member: 13 students

---

#### **Existing Personnel**

Dr. John William Norris, PhD

FTE

1

**Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program**

AXED 5165 History and Philosophy of Agricultural and Extension Education  
AXED 5170 Keys for Agricultural and Rural Development  
ANSC 700 Doctoral Dissertation

**Courses taught in other programs currently offered**

AXED 2110, AXED 4215/5215, AXED 5155, AXED 5165, AXED 5170

**Description of academic qualifications**

Auburn University; Auburn, AL | Graduate Certificate: Educational Leadership; 2021  
GPA: 4.00

Mississippi State University; Starkville, MS | Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.); Agricultural Science; 2021  
GPA: 3.78; Program Concentration: Agricultural and Extension Education

Dissertation Topic: Perceptions of Career and Technical Education Administrators on STEM and Employability Skills Integration into School-Based Agricultural Education.

Auburn University; Auburn, AL | Education Specialist (Ed.S.): Adult Education; 2018  
GPA: 3.67

Auburn University; Auburn, AL | Master of Education (M.Ed.): Agriscience Education; 2017  
GPA: 4.00

Auburn University; Auburn, AL | Bachelor of Science (B.S.): Agriscience Education; 2016  
GPA: 3.80; Summa Cum Laude; Dean's List – Spring 2015; Summer 2015; Summer 2016

Central Alabama Community College; Alexander City, AL | Associate in Science (A.S.); 2016  
GPA: 3.37; Academic Scholar; Dean's List – Spring 2014

**Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses**

New Mexico State University- Assistant Professor; Las Cruces, NM | 2022 – Present  
Appointment: 75% Teaching, 12.5% Research, 12.5% Extension

Wetumpka High School- Agriscience Instructor; Wetumpka, AL | 2018 - 2022

**For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability**

1 journal article in press and 3 in review

15 peer reviewed conference presentations

Norris, W. & Frazee, S. (Accepted, 2023) Effectiveness in the Classroom: A Quantitative Evaluation of Agricultural Educators' Competence Levels Regarding the Qualities of an Effective Teacher. To be Presented at the Western Region Conference for the American Association of Agricultural Educators. September 18-20. Logan, UT

Norris, W. & Frazee, S. (Accepted, 2023) Agricultural Education for All: Importance and Ability of Agricultural Educators to Integrate Special Education Competencies into Professional Practice. To be Presented at the Western Region Conference for the American Association of Agricultural Educators. September 18-20. Logan, UT

Norris, W. & Norris-Parrish, S. (Accepted, 2023). The Emotional Duties of an Agricultural Educator: Evaluating the Confidence Levels of Agricultural Educators to Support Students with Adverse Childhood Experiences. Presented at the National Conference for the American Association of Agricultural Educators. May 15-18. Raleigh, NC.

3 grants submitted year 1 at New Mexico

Co-PI, (2023). Youth AGvocates in Underserved Communities: Investigating and Evaluating Smart Farming for Pest Management. USDA NIFA. Education and Workforce Development. (\$750,000). (In Review).

Co-PI, (2022). An Integrative Approach to Expanding Agricultural Opportunity. USDA NIFA. New Beginnings for Tribal Students Program for \$500,000; NMSU's portion: Subaward for \$140,088. (Funded).

Co-PI, (2022). Cultivating the Next Generation of Diverse Food and Agriculture Professionals (NEXTGEN): A National Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Program. USDA NIFA. NEXTGEN for \$20,000,000; NMSU's portion: 20% (\$4,000,000). (Not Funded)

**For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research**

1 Dissertation Committee  
6 Thesis Committee Chair  
4 Non-Thesis Committees

---

**Existing Personnel**

Dr. Leslie Edgar, PhD

**FTE**

.25



**Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program**

ANSC 700 Doctoral Dissertation

**Courses taught in other programs currently offered**

Associate Dean for Research & Agricultural Experiment Director

**Description of academic qualifications**

2007 Ph.D. Texas A&M University Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communications  
Support Areas: Agricultural Communications, Agricultural Leadership, and Distance Education

2002 M.S. Utah State University Agricultural Systems, Technology & Education  
Support Area: Adult Extension Education

2000 B.S. Utah State University Animal Science  
Minor in Business Management

**Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses**

Associate Dean of Research and Director Agricultural Experiment Station May 2020 – Present  
New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico  
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES)

Professor and Department Head March 2018 – May 2020  
University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication Department (AECT) in the College of  
Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES)

Graduate Coordinator July 2018 – July 2019  
University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication Department (AECT)

Professor, Agricultural and Science Communication July 2016 – Feb. 2018  
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology Department (AECT)

Assistant Dean for Student Programs Aug. 2015 – Feb. 2018

Director of the Bumpers College Honors Program and the International Programs Office  
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences (Bumpers College)

Director of International Programs Sept. 2013 – Feb 2018

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences (Bumpers College)

Associate Professor August 2012 – June 2016

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology Department (AECT)

Assistant Professor August 2007 – July 2012

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Agricultural and Extension Education Department (AEED)

Agricultural Communications Concentration

Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication (finalized while serving as department head)  
University of Georgia

**For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability**

Refereed Journal Articles: Published 70, In Press 1, Under Review 1 (Career)

Note. \*Student Directed Research

70. \*Sanders, C. E., Edgar, D. W., Cox, C. K., & Edgar, L. D. (2022). Exploring interactions between Arkansas urban producers: Social networks and modes of information seeking. *Journal of Human Sciences & Extension*, 10(1), 1-11. doi: <https://doi.org/10.5471/NVSQ9174> (Co-author)

69. Raczkoski, B. M., Edgar, L. D., Robinson, J. S., Edwards, M. C., & Baker, M. A. (2021). Measuring students' perceived costs of studying abroad: Instrument development and validation. *Journal of Agricultural Education*, 62(4), 221-236. doi: <https://doi.org/10.5032/jae.2021.04217> (Co-author)

68. \*Dobbins, C. E., Edgar, L. D., & Dooley, K. E. (2021). Facilitating the scholarship of discovery: Using the mini-ethnographic case study design. *Journal of Experiential Education*, 44(4), 1-14. doi:10.1177/1053825921999685 (Co-author)

GRANTSMANSHIP AND PROGRAMMATIC SUPPORT (prior to experiment station appointment)

Funded Proposals: (Edgar's portion: \$990,794; Total funded: \$2,690,885)

Co-PI, ALEC Agricultural and Science Communication Postdoctoral Research Associate. Funded by CAES Experiment Station (2 years). Total project funds \$150,000.

Co-PI, ALEC Community Diagnostics + Social Impact (CD+SI) Toolkit Postdoctoral Research Associate. Funded by CAES Experiment Station (2 years). Total project funds \$150,000.

PI, ALEC Recruitment Enhancement. Funded by UGA Graduate School (Spring 2019). Total project funds \$1,000.

PI, ALEC Graduate Student Accepted Student Day. Funded by UGA Seal the Deal Grant Program (Spring 2019). Total project funds \$1,000.

**For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research**

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (UA Honors Program)

Committee Chaired: Total of 3 (Career)

Committee: Total of 1 (Career)

GRADUATE RESEARCH

Graduate Committee Chaired: Total of 18 (Career)

M.S. – Thesis (13)

M.S. – Non-Thesis (5)

Committee Member: Total of 21 (Career)

Ph.D. – Dissertation Committee (2)

M.S. – Thesis Committee (11)

M.S. – Non-Thesis (8)

---

**Existing Personnel**

Dr. Lacey Roberts-Hill, PhD

**FTE**

1

**Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program**

AXED 5320 Risk and Crisis Communications in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences

AXED 5996 Special Topics

ANSC 700 Doctoral Dissertation

**Courses taught in other programs currently offered**

ACOM 1120, ACOM 2120, ACOM 3125, ACOM 4130, ACOM 4120, ACOM 5320

**Description of academic qualifications**

Texas A&M University: Ph.D. in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications Graduation: Aug 2020

Certificate: Nonprofit Management, The Bush School of Government

Dissertation Title: Picturing Development: Visualizing International Agricultural Development and Communication

Oklahoma State University: M.S. in International Agriculture Graduation: Dec 2016

Creative Component: 2016 Sam Noble Foundation Scholar. Watoto Fellowship in Uganda

West Texas A&M University: B.S. in Agricultural Media and Communications Graduation: Aug 2013 Minor: Agricultural Business and Economics

**Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses**

Assistant Professor; Department of Agricultural and Extension Education

Aug 2020-Present

New Mexico State University

Freelance Photographer and Graphic Design Aug 2011-Present

Las Cruces, NM

Instructor, School of Human Sciences Aug 2020-Aug 2021

Mississippi State University

Graduate Research Assistant Aug 2017-Aug 2020

Texas A&M University; Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication

USAID Higher Education Virtual Student Federal Service Intern Sept 2018-May 2018

Washington, D.C.

**For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability**

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND ABSTRACTS 4 total

Roberts-Hill, L., Roberts, R., & Roberts, T. G. (In press). A Journey to a global scholar identity: An autoethnography of agricultural and extension faculty's experiences. *Journal of International Agricultural and Extension Education*.

Redwine, T., McKim, B., Roberts, L., & Rogers, T., (2018). Eye-tracking: A biometric tool for measuring visual literacy in agricultural communications students. *Journal of Agricultural Education*. (In Review).

Walter, G., Roberts, L., & Rutherford, T., (2019). So You Want to be a Faculty Member: Preparing Doctoral Students to Lead Graduate Courses. [Special Supplement: Abstracts]. *NACTA Journal* 63(1), 24.

Redwine, T., Roberts, L., & Spence, J., (2019) Trusting the Tech: Using Eye-Tracking as a Teaching Tool. [Special Supplement: Abstracts]. NACTA Journal 63(1), 61.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS & ABSTRACTS 19 total

#### GRANTS

Saucier, R., Reynolds, C., Victoria, M., Hainline, M., Roberts, L., Aschenbrener, M. (2022) Southwest Agriculture and Food Safety and Security Education: Preparing Future Leadership for a Safe and Secure U.S. Food System. \$6,514,705.37 (Not Funded)

Edgar, D., Norris, S., Hill, N., Frazee, S., Lombard, K., Mesbah, A., Bittner, L., Trueblood, C., Dean, T. (2022) Impacting Career Engagement in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences. \$613,590.00 (Funded) Roberts-Hill, L. (Collaborator) Completing communication activities after the departure of co-author, Hill, N.

Graves, J., Roberts, L., McCubbins, A. (2022). International Agricultural Education Fellowship-Guatemala. USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service: International Agricultural Education Fellowship Program. \$504,551.00 (Not funded)

Frazee, S., Hill, N. (2021) Young Agri-Scientists: Connecting diverse students to each other and FANH careers through experiential learning in mentored research and science communication. USDA NIFA Hispanic-Serving Institutions. \$999,935.00 (Funded)

Roberts-Hill, L. (Co-Project Implementor) Recruitment and educational material development and dissemination after the departure of co-author, Hill, N.

#### Existing Personnel

Dr. Allen A. Malone, EdD

#### FTE

.25

#### Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program

ANSC 700 Doctoral Dissertation

Will manage the Student Experience Plans

#### Courses taught in other programs currently offered

Serves as Associate Director Cooperative Extension Service

#### Description of academic qualifications

2010 Doctorate of Education (Ed.D.)

Texas A&M University & Texas Tech University

Doctorate of Agricultural Education & Leadership

1993 Master of Science

Prairie View A&M University

Agricultural Economics

1990 Bachelor of Science

Prairie View A&M University

Agricultural Economics

#### Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses

Oct. 2017 – Dec. 2022 1890 Extension Administrator/Director,

Alabama Cooperative Extension System

Alabama A&M University

June 2014 – Sept. 2017 County Extension Director – Harris County,

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Texas A&M University

August 2012 – June 2014 County Extension Agent – Harris County, Agriculture & Natural

Resources

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Texas A&M University

Oct. 2010 – July 2012 County Extension Agent – Fort Bend County, Agriculture & Natural

Resources

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Page | 3

Texas A&M University

#### For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability

2021 More in Our Cities: The Urban Difference Report 2020, Allen A. Malone, Wendi Williams, Shannon Schoeneweiss; Alabama A&M University UNP-2184

2020 More in Our Cities: The Urban Difference Report 2019, Allen A. Malone, Wendi Williams, Shannon Schoeneweiss; Alabama A&M University UNP-2175

2019 More in Our Cities: The Urban Difference Report 2018, Allen A. Malone, Wendi Williams, Shannon Schoeneweiss; Alabama A&M University UNP-2155

2018 More in Our Cities: The Urban Difference Report 2017, Allen A. Malone, Wendi Williams, Shannon Schoeneweiss; Alabama A&M University UNP-2133

2010 The Effectiveness of Leadership Development Programs on Small Farm Producers, Allen A. Malone, Doctoral Dissertation at Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University

2017 – Present Extension Funding

Served as the Principal Investigator (PI) on USDA-NIFA Section 1444 (1890 Extension) funding of \$2.8 million annually, this funding has grown by 13% since 2017. USDA-NIFA also provides Facilities Funding for which I served as PI on 4 awards totaling approximately \$ 14 million. I also provide oversight for \$ 1.3 million in SNAP-ED and EFNEP funding. The state of Alabama provided annual funding to support programming activities of approximately \$4.3 million each year. This funding has grown 10.2% in my brief tenure as Extension Administrator in Alabama. Prior to my arrival the Extension program at AAMU had not received an increase in its appropriation in the previous 6 fiscal year funding cycles.

2020 – Present EXCITE Funding Activity 1 & Activity 2 Provided Agency leadership for a 2-phase funding proposal from the Centers for Disease Control and the Cooperative Extension Section of APLU. The grant was designed to provide outreach education to communities experiencing hesitancy related to the COVID-19 vaccination. Total funding for the 2 activities equates to about \$250,000 in shared funding with Auburn University.

**For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research**

Has not had the opportunity to direct student research as an Extension Administrator

---

**Existing Personnel**

Dr. LaJoy R. Spears, PhD

**FTE**

1

**Course load and courses they will teach in the proposed program**

ANSC 700 Doctoral Dissertation

**Courses taught in other programs currently offered**

Dr. Spears is the Evaluation Specialist for the Cooperative Extension

**Description of academic qualifications**

Iowa State University, Ames, IA, 2011

Ph.D., Agricultural Education and Studies

Curriculum and Instructional Technology

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, 2004

M.S., Agricultural and Extension Education

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, 2001

B.S., Agricultural Economics and Business

**Prior instructional responsibility and other experiences relevant to assigned courses**

2019-Present Evaluation Specialist, Cooperative Extension Service Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural and Extension Education

College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences New Mexico State University

2017-2019 Assistant Professor, Evaluation Specialist

Family Life and Youth Development College of Natural and Applied Sciences University of Guam

2014-2016 Director, Minnesota Youth Institute

Coordinator, Youth Development and Community Engagement College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences University of Minnesota

2008-2010 Program Coordinator, Agricultural Diversity Programs College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Iowa State University

2007-2008 Instructional Development, Brenton Center for Agricultural Instruction and Technology Transfer

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Iowa State University

2006-2008 Interim Distance Education Coordinator, Professor College of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service Tennessee State University

2004-2006 Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development

University of Extension, Institute of Agriculture University of Tennessee

**For graduate programs, document scholarship and research capability**

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Ulery, A., Smith Muise, A., Carroll, K., Chamberlin, B., White, L., Martinez, P., Spears, L., Gleason, J. (2020). Impact of multimedia learning tools in agricultural science classes. *NaturalScience Education*. 49. <https://doi.org/10.1002/nse2.20011>.

Koundinya, V., Siegelin, S., Spears, L., Norris, A., Ghimire, N., Sanders, C., Elgeberi, N., & Mary Halbleib. (2023, April 26-29). Strategies to Face the Challenges of Evaluation Capacity Building When Working with Extension Professionals Not Trained in Evaluation. Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education, Guelph, Canada.

Elgeberi, N., Ghimire, N., Koundinya, V., Sayama, K., Sanders, C., Norris, A., & Spears, L. (2022, November 28-December 1). Using a regional evaluation capacity building model to strengthen evaluation practices: Experiences from Western Regional Evaluation Network. [Roundtable discussion]. National Association of Extension Program & Staff Development Professionals, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Siegelin, S., Spears, L., Ghimire, N., & Narine, L. (2022, November 7-12). Facing the challenges of evaluation capacity building when working with Extension Educators not trained in evaluation. [Panel discussion]. American Evaluation Association, New Orleans, LA.

#### GRANTS

Title: New Mexico Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network

Funder: USDA/NIFA 2021-70035-35570

Role: Co-PI Total: \$500,000

Title: Expanding IPM Extension and Education in New Mexico

Funder: USDA/NIFA 2021-70006-35765

Role: Co-PI Total: \$900,000

#### For doctoral programs, document faculty experience in directing student research

In addition to assisting grad students with their research, Dr. Spears had two experiences at the University of Minnesota that will be invaluable working with doctoral students in the program.

University of Minnesota

Chapter Advisor, Minorities in Agriculture and Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS), 2015-2016

Member, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resources, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, 2015-2016

#### Documentation of department faculty support

AXED Faculty Support of PhD in Human Dimensions of Agriculture.docx

#### Curriculum Committee Approval

AXED PhD 2023 ACES Curriculum Committee Support Memo.pdf

#### Gray Associates Data

PHD Data.pdf

### NM Higher Education Department

#### Describe your institution's plan for periodic evaluation of program effectiveness. Include criteria that will be used to determine effectiveness.

The Human Dimensions of Agriculture (Education, Extension, Communications, or Innovation) PhD will be an interdisciplinary doctoral program administered by the NMSU Agricultural and Extension Education (AXED) faculty. The AXED faculty will manage admissions and oversee progress of students in the program and any curricular revisions. The faculty will work on reporting assessment of program outcomes as required by NMSU, as well as program statistics required for annual departmental reviews and periodic program reviews required for institutional accreditation; in negotiating workloads.

Due to the advanced nature of the program, the main criteria used to determine program effectiveness in terms of quality will be early career placements or advancements of students completing the program, research projects, with documentation of impact of the research, and documented community impact. NMSU uses Gray Associates to quantify real costs associated with different programs based on measurable inputs including faculty salaries, fractional workloads associated with programs, and credit hour production. This system will be used to measure costs effectiveness compared to other doctoral programs at NMSU. Other standard metrics that apply to all programs such as retention and time to degree will also be used.

AXED will do an extensive 3 year review using data for retention, graduation rate, job placement, and program costs. All students will be given exit interviews upon departure from the program either graduating or withdrawing. AXED will continuously evaluate the curriculum based on peer programs offerings and what current trends are dictating. At three years when the first class graduates, we will conduct an external review with nationally recognized faculty from similar programs and then again every five years.

**The proposed program must meet one or more specified needs within the state or region. Clear and convincing evidence must be provided of the reality and extent of such need.**

The proposed interdisciplinary PhD degree in the Human Dimensions of Agriculture is designed to provide doctoral students with a rigorous program of much-needed research infrastructure and advanced expertise in the collection and analysis of data to advance the social science of agriculture. Such a program is ideally suited to new problem solutions, interpretations, and understandings of issues impacting agriculture in New Mexico and the Western United States with broader implications globally.

"State officials support the need for this program by stating:"

Dr. Jon Boren, State Director for the New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service:

"The Cooperative Extensions Service in New Mexico would benefit greatly from this program as our Cooperative Extension agents are all employed as faculty of NMSU and this would allow for advancement in their Extension careers. As tenured faculty being able to earn a Ph.D., this would benefit both the individual agents and well as the clientele they serve in New Mexico.

There is extreme shortage of qualified individuals to move into administrative roles in the Cooperative Extension Service, both in New Mexico and throughout the nation. The supply does not meet the demand. As an example, in a recent search for an Associate Director of Extension at New Mexico State University, we had one qualified candidate to interview."

Mr. Gary Aycock, New Mexico Supervisor of Agricultural Education and State FFA Advisor:

"Agricultural Education is used across a wide range of agricultural settings and is constantly changing. Preparing students with the knowledge and skills to help design, maintain, and repair agricultural systems must be a critical component of Agricultural Education programs. Educators must be aware of the college and career opportunities in these areas to better stimulate educational student interest in pursuing these careers in the food, fiber, and protein agriculture industries nationwide. Qualified teachers are needed to successfully lead students through their educational experiences. However, many teachers lack the requisite preparation and resources to prepare students for today's and tomorrow's opportunities. This program will target and serve Agricultural Education educators, particularly those who come from non-traditional, underrepresented minority populations, with engagement in immersive, project-based educational techniques in various occupational fields. The students in this program will undergo high-quality instruction and receive numerous resources to take back to their local communities. The approach outlined in the Human Dimensions of Agriculture PhD program will address essential needs in our country, particularly in helping to combat the educational challenges facing rural New Mexico and America."

NMSU's PhD in the Human Dimensions of Agriculture aims to produce graduates who can excel in designing context specific investigations based on sound interdisciplinary theory and methods to identify and implement solutions to a wide range of professions. The doctoral program will train highly qualified scholars in research methods, critical communication, and pedagogical and project management skills needed to lead original research projects or impact studies in the social science aspect of agriculture.

**If the program fills a regional workforce need, describe collaboration between your institution and regional employers in the program development.**

The program objectives of the PhD in the Human Dimensions of Agriculture (HDA) are aligned with preparing students for mid-career advancement and senior level program and project administration in State Departments of Agriculture, the Cooperative Extension Service, the United States Department of Agriculture or any other agricultural agency dealing with public policy and agriculture. Given that many educational institutions, public agencies, non-profits and private firms are adopting internal procedures to promote greater diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), we believe graduates from our proposed PhD program will be in an ideal position to assist employers in meeting this important goal. Research experience in the in the HDA drawing on foundations from education, extension, communications, and innovation will equip new professionals for leadership roles in promoting DEI within a variety of workplace environments at local, state, national, and global levels. For careers related to the social sciences of agriculture, this degree would be useful to those individuals interested in the fields of social development.

The need for this proposed PhD program and its potential impact of economic development is clearly expressed in the accompanying letters of support from the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, the New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service, the New Mexico Agricultural Leadership program, and the New Mexico State University College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Dean Rolando Flores in his letter of support notes how well our proposed program aligns with the university's strategic plan, LEADS 2025, particularly with the aim to "grow research and create activity and to help NMSU attain Carnegie R1 status in research. The program will also be welcomed outside of academia. Dr. Lisa R. Ramirez, director of the Office of Partnerships and Engagement, United States Department of Agriculture believes there are hundreds of mid-career USDA personnel who can benefit from this type of program.

This would be a collaborative effort with the New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service, the New Mexico Agricultural Education & FFA Association, the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, and the United States Department of Agriculture. All states in the Western Region of the US which include Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Hawaii all have the Cooperative Extension Service, Departments of Agricultural Education/FFA, USDA stations, and Departments of Agriculture, all of which would benefit from a PhD program such as this.

**Identify where similar degree programs are offered by other public higher education institutions in New Mexico.**

The PhD in the Human Dimensions of Agriculture offered as either a traditional/resident or virtual/Global would be the only program of its kind in the State of New Mexico and there are no other programs similar to this one at any other public or private higher education institution in the Western United States. Texas Tech University has a similar PhD in Agricultural Communications and Education but is not a Land Grant institution and does not have the connection to the Cooperative Extension Service that we have at New Mexico State University with our Land Grant status.

Oregon State University has the only other PhD program in the Western United States which is a placed based or on-campus resident program. Dr. Jonathan Velez, Department Head of Agricultural Education and Agricultural Sciences strongly supports the

development of the NMSU proposed PhD program. In his letter of support, he states "Recently, I had the opportunity to connect with NMSU faculty and was pleased to hear that the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education were considering a distance-based Ph.D. program. Every year when our department recruits graduate students we are asked "can this Ph.D. program be completed remotely?" Currently, there are no options, to my knowledge, where students can remain in their current jobs while completing a Ph.D. in agriculture and extension education. While place-based learning is still critical for our profession, it is rapidly becoming apparent that we need to adapt our model to meet the needs of current industry and extension professions who are interested in a Ph.D. but are unable to leave their job for 3-4 years and pursue an on-campus degree.

Our university has been a leader in distance education, and I have seen remarkable growth in our current undergraduate degree and graduate certificates. I believe there is a strong market for a Ph.D. program and am excited to hear that NMSU is pursuing a distance degree program."

**If similar programs are offered at other public higher education institutions in New Mexico, provide a rationale for offering an additional program.**

Not Applicable

#### **Enrollment and Graduation Projections**

<b>Student Type</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>
New Students	5	5	5	5	5
Continuing Students	0	5	10	10	10
Graduates	0	0	5	5	5

#### **Annual Retention Rate Target (%)**

100%

#### **Target 100% Graduation Rate (%)**

100%

#### **Target Job Placement Rate (%)**

100%

#### **Describe the faculty resources that are needed to initiate the program. Will any additional faculty be needed?**

No additional faculty will be required when the program begins as all classes are currently taught. We have received a commitment from the graduate school for two PhD assistantships and three PhD assistantships internally from the College of ACES to help initiate the program if approved.

The department of Agricultural & Extension Education will be adding two PhD faculty with joint appointments in Family and Consumer Science in 2023-2024. One will be focused on Career and Technical Education and the other will be working in the area of Artificial Intelligence in Agriculture working with robotics in Food Processing and Drones in Agriculture.

The New Mexico Cooperative Extension has proposed a new state specialist position that will have a 25% teaching appointment which will be another PhD added to our faculty that will be assigned to work with students in the area of Extension Education.

#### **Describe the library and other academic support resources that are needed to initiate the program. What, if any, additional resources will be needed?**

New Mexico State University maintains a library on the main campus. We requested David Irvin from the NMSU Library to undertake a collection development project for the Human Dimensions of Agriculture. We worked with David to identify essential journals and databases that this program will require in order for student success going forward. The majority of top tier research journals applicable to conducting research in each area of the Human Dimensions of Agriculture are readily available online. Some professional societies will require student membership to access which is very minimal, but many of the journals can be accessed at no cost. NMSU Library prepared a report in response to the College of ACEs new program proposal for the PhD in HDA. This report assesses the Library's ability to support the program. No additional resources are being requested at this time.

The Library Impact Statement for the PhD in the Human Dimensions of Agricultural is attached with letters of support.

#### **Describe the physical facilities of the institution that will be used for the first five years of the program. Will additional space or modifications of existing space be required within the first five years of program operation.**

There will be no need to modify any of the physical facilities currently used by the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences housed at New Mexico State University.

#### **Describe the institution's equipment and technological resources needed for the first five years of the program? What, if any, additional equipment will be needed?**

The only equipment needed will be computer technology for resident students which will be provided by the AXED Department.

#### **Describe any other operating resources needed to initiate the program.**

Any additional operating resources will be provided by the AXED Department.

**Are there existing external facilities that will be used? Have agreements been established to ensure use of the those facilities?**

Non Applicable

**Provide a clear analysis of the projected cost of the proposed program and the sources of funding that will support it for the first five years that the program will be offered. Include a discussion how any of the needed resources discussed in your attachment. This should be completed in collaboration with your institution's financial office.**

Budget-Information-for-new-PhD proposal in Human Dimensions of Agriculture.pdf

**Letters of Support**

- Gary Aycock Letter of Support.pdf
- Jon Boren Letter of Support\_AXED Dept.pdf
- Jeff Witte Letter of Support New Mexico Dept of Agriculture.pdf
- Rolando Flores Letter of Support Phd.pdf
- Allen Malone Letter of Support.pdf
- Sherry Kollmann Letter of Support.pdf
- Kevin Lombard Letter to support AXED PhD Program.pdf
- Flinchbaugh Support Letter\_ HDA PhD Program.pdf
- Bob Mayberry PhD Support Letter.pdf
- LIBRARY IMPACT STATEMENT Human Dimensions\_6\_30\_23.pdf
- Dine' College Letter of Support.pdf
- Oregon State University Letter of Support.pdf
- NMSU -- NAAE Support Letter -- 2023 09-14.pdf
- ENMU Letter of Support for PhD.pdf

**Accreditation**

**Is the program seeking specialized accreditation?**

No

**Is specialized accreditation required for licensure or practice in the program?**

No

**Has the program already obtained the appropriate specialized accreditation? If so, attach a copy of the letter from the agency granting accreditation?**

No

**If the program has not yet obtained accreditation but has begun the process of seeking or plans to seek specialized accreditation, specify the name of the agency and provide the time-line for completing the process.**

Non-Applicable

**If the program does not plan to seek specialized accreditation, provide a rational for not-seeking accreditation here. (if there is not a specialized accrediting organization for this program, indicate so as your rationale).**

Interdisciplinary PhD programs in the social sciences of agriculture are not accredited.

**If the program includes any of the following, explain how it will ensure that student work and levels of knowledge competencies achieved will be comparable to those achieved through traditional formats: (Award credit for prior learning; use of compressed time frames; use of on-line deliver; inclusion of accelerated formats; or other approaches to learning.)**

Non-Applicable

**Will the program be part of a contractual or consortial arrangement (yes/no, explain)?**

No

**If the program is planning any involvement by external organizations (other than from accredited higher education institutions) in the key operations as identified below, provide the information as requested.**

Type of Involvement	Name of External Organization	Percent of Involvement
Course placement and advising of students	Non-Applicable	0
Design and oversight of curriculum	Non-Applicable	0
Direct instruction and oversight	Non-Applicable	0
Other support for delivery of instruction	Non-Applicable	0
Recruitment and admissions of students	Non-Applicable	0



**Briefly describe the planning process for determining the need for this new program, including the role of faculty in the planning and approval process.**

NMSU has had historical interest in providing advanced graduate training in the agricultural sciences in the STEM disciplines. Momentum behind the current proposal coincided with NMSU LEADS 2025 strategic plan development. LEADS 2025 identifies PhD degrees and research expenditures in Humanities and Social Sciences as playing key roles in elevating the status of the institution and thereby the opportunities for its graduates. An internal call for PhD proposals was sent out in early 2023 from the College of ACES. Dr. Steve Frazee, Department Head of AXED since January of 2020 had a successful track record of establishing the current PhD program of Agricultural Communications and Education at Texas Tech University in 2011. This program is currently ranked as one of the top two programs nationally alternating with Texas A&M University on a yearly basis for graduation numbers and program success. Dr. Frazee was also a member of the group from Texas Tech and Texas A&M that established one of the first joint doctoral programs offered at a distance in 2000 known as Doc @ Distance. Based on his experience, a faculty meeting of the AXED faculty was convened to discuss the framework and need for a PhD in the social sciences of agriculture at NMSU.

A preliminary proposal was presented to the Deans Department Heads Council in March and received unanimous approval to move forward. The AXED faculty continued the proposal development using the Texas Tech PhD as a model while meeting with several potential stakeholders of the program including the New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service, New Mexico Agricultural Leadership program, the New Mexico Agricultural Education/FFA Association, the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, and the United States Department of Agriculture on the need and potential for such a program. Carol Flinchbaugh, Interim Associate Dean, NMSU Graduate School and Sherry Kollmann, Associate Vice Chancellor, NMSU Digital Learning were both consulted and included in the development of the proposal. All faculty in the AXED Department were supportive of the proposal and approved the final draft when submitted.

**Describe the process for assessing and improving student learning in the proposed program.**

PhD students in the Human Dimensions of Agriculture program will be evaluated for academic and professional progress each year. Criteria will include committee membership, and timely coursework completion. Performance on qualifying, comprehensive, and final oral exams and participation in colloquia will be the basis to consider where and how learning outcomes can be improved. These outcomes will be reported through the standard mechanism that NMSU uses for annual assessment of outcomes for all of its academic programs that do not have separate, specialized accreditation.

Teaching activity (GTA), research activity (GRA), professional conference presentations, publications, and external and internal research awards will be considered as products for which target goals can be set. Employment/career advancement will be considered as broad measures of quality outcomes and early career mentorship will be sought. All of these aspects of assessing learning and outcomes will be managed by the AXED faculty. Numerical data that will provide context for the annual formative assessments will include data on each incoming student, including numbers of applicants, acceptances and matriculations, and cumulative transfer credits accepted for each entering student. Level and type of funding for each student receiving an assistantship will be included. A summative evaluation of the program will be done in year five. Program Outcomes will be evaluated using the student PhD dissertations and results of Final Oral Examinations.

**Describe the process for assessing and improving student persistence and completion, in the new program.**

Persistence will be evaluated annually in depth for the first three years of the program.

Students will be recruited holding a Master's degree in the same or related discipline. They will enter the program and establish their graduate committee by the end of their first semester. The committee chair and committee members will provide advising and mentorship each semester and ensure a steady path to completion. As with any doctoral degree, students will work closely with members of their graduate committee.

Students will also meet non curricular examination requirements required by the NMSU Graduate School which include:

PhD Qualifying Exam  
Proposal Hearing  
Comprehensive Exam with Advancement to Candidacy  
Final Oral Examination (Dissertation Defense)

The AXED faculty will specifically discuss at least annually, on a per student basis: (1) in cases of any student leaving the program before completing, the context that led to this result, (2) cases in which a student is not making timely progress towards degree completion and (3) cases in which performance of a continuing student is marginal. In cases (2) and (3) possible interventions specific to the student will be considered.

**If any of the institution's accreditation relationship (including other regional, specialized, or national accrediting agencies) are currently under or recommended for a negative status or action (e.g., withdrawal, probation, sanction, warning, show-cause, etc.)**

Non-Applicable

**If the institution is undergoing or facing substantial monitoring, special review or financial restrictions from the U.S. Department of Education or other federal or state government agencies.**

Non-Applicable

**If the institution's senior leadership or board membership has experienced substantial resignations or removals in the past year.**

NMSU had several leadership changes since 2022. President John Floros resigned in January of 2022 and Chancellor Arvizu assumed the joint role of Chancellor of the NMSU System and Presidency of the Las Cruces campus. Chancellor Arvizu was not renewed by the Board of Regents in 2023 and left on April 7, 2023. Former NMSU President Jay Gogue was appointed to serve as the university's interim chancellor while the search for the university's next permanent chancellor takes place. On April 17, 2023, Alan Shoho became the Provost for NMSU replacing interim Provost Dorothy Campbell who was appointed in the role when Provost Carol Parker was

terminated in 2022. In the past 16 months, the three top executives have either resigned or been terminated at NMSU which is substantial for any university.

**If the institution is experiencing financial difficulty through conditions, such as, a currently declared state of exigency, a deficit of 10% or more, a default or failure to make payroll during the past year, or consecutive deficits in the two most recent years.**

Non-Applicable

## **Institution Specific Information Area**

**Primary target audience for the program (e.g., full#time, part#time, traditional college age, working adults, transfer students, military personnel, or particular ethnic group)**

The PhD in the Human Dimensions of Agriculture will be both full-time resident students and part-time mid-career working professionals or military personnel who continue to serve while working on the advanced degree. AXED receives about three to four inquiries per month from international students asking about a PhD in Extension. AXED currently has a project with Dine' College on the Navajo Reservation in Northwest New Mexico and Northeast Arizona which provides funds for for faculty and tribal members to pursue advanced degrees. As a Hispanic Serving Institution we are focused on the recruitment of Hispanics and other minority groups for this program. Once the program is in the Global Campus, Dr. Sherry Kollmann, Associate Vice Chancellor for Digital Learning will provide two Post-Doc positions to assist with teaching to give faculty more time working with PhD students on research and dissertation writing. Being a part of the Global Campus will enhance our recruitment efforts through their promotion of the program.

**How does the proposed program align with the department, college and university mission?**

NMSU's Strategic Plan is LEADS 2025, is a living document see <https://leads2025.nmsu.edu/>

LEADS is structured such that each academic college and department is to maintain its own corresponding strategic plans that align with those of the institution.

LEADS 2025 has six major goals, addressing:

1. Enhance Student Success and Social Mobility
2. Elevate Research and Creativity
3. Amplify Extension and Outreach
4. Build a Robust University System.
5. Building an Online Global Campus
6. Build, Elevate, and Strengthen Sustainable Systemwide Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Practices

This proposal and AXED feature prominently in the Objectives under Goal 2 which are, broadly, 2.1 and 2.3 to address and amplify the impact of research findings addressing local and global challenges, and 2.2 and 2.4 to intentionally grow research and creativity in the Humanities and Social Sciences, promote international collaboration and amplify the impact of research on society and the economy. Growing non-STEM research expenditures and increasing PhDs in the Humanities and Social Sciences are the top two current priorities listed under Goal 2. Currently the College of ACES does not offer a PhD in the social sciences but has eight academic departments with four departments in the STEM Sciences and four departments in the social sciences. There are multiple PhD's in the STEM sciences currently offered, which magnifies the need for PhD's in the social sciences. NMSU, as part of its commitment to optimizing academic offerings and engaging in high impact practices (LEADS Goal 1, Objectives 1.2 and 1.4) it is committed to launching and growing interdisciplinary PhD's. Goal 5 is important as this degree will contribute to the building of the Global Campus.

**Discuss how admissions criteria and strategies will recruit a diverse student body?**

As a PhD program, the Human Dimensions of Agriculture will target graduate students who wish to pursue a terminal degree in the Social Sciences of Agriculture. This interdisciplinary program differentiates itself from more traditional disciplinary PhD programs by serving a dual population of resident students and place-bound students through distance delivery. We believe that this dual system will provide for a more diverse population of students. Targeted students will typically be seeking mid-career advancement or a career as a university faculty. The program will develop combinations of methods, analysis, and content focus suitable as preparation for working in agriculture and the people who benefit from agriculture. The focus areas of the program make it particularly appealing to gen-Z students who value their own personal roles in social progress.

Currently NMSU's PhD programs are heavily focused in STEM. Increasingly, students seek opportunities to continue beyond a master's to a PhD at the same institution and many AXED graduates would continue to a PhD at NMSU if one were offered. We aim at attracting a sustainable enrollment of about 15 students, with an annual enrollment of about 5 new students. The fact that NMSU is one of the original Hispanic Serving Institutions should be an advantage in the recruitment of minority and underrepresented populations.

**What controls are in place to ensure that the information presented to all constituencies in advertising, brochures, and other communications will be accurate?**

One of the duties of the AXED Faculty for the PhD in the Human Dimensions of Agriculture would be to maintain a web page for the program, in collaboration with the NMSU Graduate School, and develop promotional materials that comply with NMSU standards with the help of NMSU Marketing and Communications.

## **Student Records Office Uploads**

HLC wants CIP Code information that is currently being offered at both the institutional and degree level for 4-digit and 2-digit CIP codes for all new programs. This information will be provided by the University Student Records office and added to the form during the HED submissions workflow step.

### **Reviewer Comments**

**Joe Lakey (jlakey)** (Fri, 15 Sep 2023 22:20:17 GMT): Rollback: Per UPAC 08/17/23, revisions required

Key: 982