



Meet Bridget Guerrero

Bridget Guerrero, PhD

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Bridget Guerrero is an Associate Professor of Agricultural Business and Economics at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, TX. She received a Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness in 2002 and a Master of Business Administration in 2003 from West Texas A&M University. She earned her doctoral degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics from Texas Tech University in 2010. She is originally from Vega, Texas where her family farms. Bridget worked for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service for 10 years prior to joining the faculty at West Texas A&M University where much of her research was focused on water-related issues pertaining to agriculture. Bridget's research interests include socioeconomic modeling, water policy, production agriculture, regenerative agriculture, and renewable energy. She has been part of many multi-disciplinary and multi-state research projects including the Ogallala Aquifer Program, the Ogallala Water CAP, and RegenAg. Agriculture uses a large percentage of water across the United States and the policy environment is ever changing. Thus, she feels that good information to help decision-making is so valuable for many different types of stakeholders. She incorporates her research into the classroom to help the next generation think about water use and how to make the most efficient use of resources, while remaining economically viable. Education is extremely important in bringing about change.

Statement

UCOWR's mission of expanding the capacity of universities and their partners to address current water resources challenges through sharing expertise, fostering leadership, and developing interdisciplinary collaborations is extremely important for the state of the world today. I grew up on a small family dryland farm with a small cow/calf component. I was very involved in 4-H growing up, which helped me to learn many life skills and set a solid foundation for leadership. Agriculture provides the learning platform for so many of the fundamental life skills that our youth need. I am a firm believer that meaningful change can happen when we invest time to teach and train with information that is backed by sound scientific research. During my first term on the board, we were able to increase graduate student engagement at conferences. As an active UCOWR board member I would continue to focus on connecting youth groups, higher education, agricultural organizations, and Extension groups to ensure that education pertaining to water quality, quantity, and conservation happens at multiple levels and is relevant to real-world happenings. UCOWR also provides a good platform for interdisciplinary collaborations and I aim to utilize this as an opportunity to help involved individuals build solid leadership skills. Finally, I would continue to encourage different organizations to join UCOWR and increase the reach of the organization to build new avenues of sharing and learning in order to create effective change.