

## Media News



Courtesy Photo/NMSU



Ethan Hooper  
Humans 4 Humans,  
President at the tabling  
event



## Message from the Department Head

I always look forward to writing my letter for our bi-annual newsletter. It gives me the opportunity to reflect on the semester and reminisce about our students, faculty and department. I think that everyone is grateful that we seem to be at the tail end of the pandemic, and life at NMSU and around the country is returning to normal (or at least a new normal). Faculty and students are no longer required to wear masks on campus or in classes. I know from teaching that it is very difficult to instruct wearing a mask and it is difficult to hear students questions when they are wearing masks. I am sure students had an equally challenging time trying to hear and understand the faculty. We are proud that we made it through the past few years, but thankful that we can, once again, move forward. It is also nice to see all the students back on campus. Students can be found interacting in groups and participating in all types of activities near their dorm rooms or outside Corbett Center. Hallways are once again busy with students rushing between classes and heading off to get lunch or dinner. It is really nice to see this and it reminds me of how much I missed these interactions and campus life.

I do have some exciting news. Our chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma (Criminal Justice Honors Society) just returned from their Las Vegas conference where they took home over \$8,000.00 in scholarships and prizes. Our thanks to Dr. Carlos Posadas who is the faculty advisor for the organization. He traveled with them to Las Vegas and enjoyed watching them compete. These outstanding students have brought much pride and recognition to our program and university. They enjoyed the opportunity to travel and participate in a face-to-face conference after two years of participation in virtual conferences. I am also happy to report that our Mentoring Center is once again a busy place. The Mentoring Center is an office that the department has set aside for recruiters and representative from any number of CJ agencies around the country to sit down and meet with our students. Often students have the opportunity to apply and interview for positions in the field while still on campus. In speaking with one such recruiter last week, he pointed out that this is just a great time to be in the criminal justice field. He indicated that there are a lot of job opportunities for our students, and they should be grateful. The demand for our students continues to grow and we, as a department, are excited about the future prospects for our students.



BE BOLD. Shape the Future. | New Mexico State University | <https://crimjust.nmsu.edu/>

### Message from the Department Head

In other news, we are happy to announce that Ida D’Antonio-Hangen has been hired as a College Track faculty member starting this August. As many of you may know, she has acted as a visiting professor for the past couple of years, but it will be nice to have her in a permanent position now. In our next newsletter we will have a feature article about her outstanding career in the FBI and her goals for our department and students. She will make an outstanding contribution to our faculty and students will benefit from her knowledge and expertise.

As I always do in this letter, let me encourage our alumni to reach back to the department and let us know how you are doing. Each time I ask, I always get two or three emails from our alumni. We really love hearing from you and often I discover that our paths crossed at some point in our career. As a side note, just last month I heard from the youngest son of Ron Pincomb. Ron was a long-time faculty member of the department and a mentor to many who attended NMSU. I considered Ron a close friend and it was nice catching up with his son. So please feel free to reach out to us and if you are ever in the area, we would love to see you again on campus. Often our alumni return to campus in a recruitment role, representing their agency in speaking with our students. You are always welcome!!

### Media News



Professor Ida D’Antonio speaking at the H4H event

Alpha Phi Sigma March 21, 2022

**Attendance Scholarship**

7 out of the 9 members who attended conference received an attendance scholarship. The attendance scholarship is a random raffle where members names are put into the drawing for attending different events at the conference. Attendance scholarships range from \$10-\$500. At this conference Alpha Chi Alpha members received attendance scholarships ranging in the amount of \$10 to \$400.

Alina Lucero was unable to attend conference this year due to prior arrangements. However, Alina was still awarded the Student Member Achievement Award.

One of the events of the Alpha Phi Sigma Conference was attending the Mob Museum in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Alpha Chi Alpha members were able to attend the Academy of Criminal Justice Science portion of the conference as well. Graduate members were able to caught Dr. Trojillo presentation.

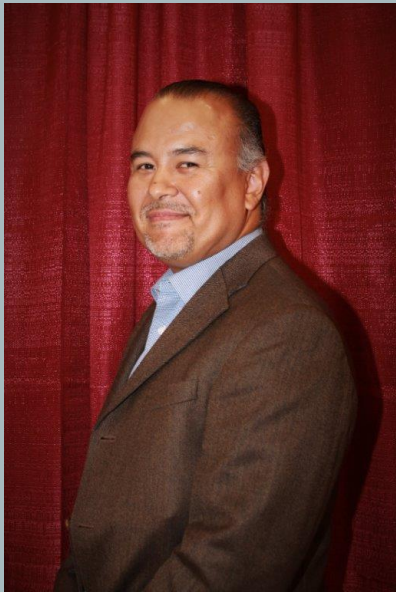
**Combining the chapter and individual awards Alpha Chi Alpha at New Mexico State University won a total of \$8,125**

APS Newsletter photo



*Dennis Giever*  
[dgiever@nmsu.edu](mailto:dgiever@nmsu.edu)

## Dr. Carlos Posadas



**Carlos E. Posadas,  
Ph.D.**

Associate Professor  
Assistant Department  
Head  
Internship Coordinator  
Faculty advisor to Alpha  
Phi Sigma (the Criminal  
Justice Honor Society).

[cposadas@nmsu.edu](mailto:cposadas@nmsu.edu)

### Connect with Us:

[CJ Facebook Page](#)

[CJ Twitter Page](#)

[CJ Instagram Page](#)

## Message from Dr. Posadas

Hello NMSU CJ Alumni, my name is Carlos Posadas, and I am an associate professor currently completing my 16<sup>th</sup> year here at NMSU.

I also earned my Bachelor of Criminal Justice degree from NMSU (Class of May 1998). Over the years I have had the opportunity to serve many students in various capacities, many which I continue to do today, including as an instructor, academic advisor, internship coordinator, graduate program director, and, most recently as the faculty advisor to Alpha Phi Sigma (the Criminal Justice Honor Society).

By far, my favorite responsibility here at NMSU has been working with students and helping them realize their academic and professional goals. I have been fortunate to witness many of your successes be it graduation with your BCJ, MCJ, law degrees, doctoral degrees, as well as seeing many of you become professional practitioners at the local, state, and federal levels both in and out of the criminal justice system. My service to students also includes working on university wide grant proposals and projects such as the *Seal of Excelencia* and the *First-Gen Forward* initiatives.

Regarding my research agenda, my collaborative approach has allowed me to work with many of my colleagues and I owe them a debt of gratitude for agreeing to work with me and for inviting me to work with them. My most recent publications include a textbook, *Criminal Justice Research Methods*, and two journal articles with my colleague Dr. Hyunin Baek that look at underage drinking and juvenile delinquency.

Other research projects throughout the years include publications dealing with student success at Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs; here at NMSU), juvenile justice (disproportionate minority contact), and the national border patrol museum in El Paso.

I have presented my research at national and regional academic conferences including the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), the American Society of Criminology (ASC), and the Western Social Sciences Association (WSSA). Current projects include a juvenile justice and delinquency textbook. I was originally hired to teach methods and statistics. Over the years, I have taught courses in research methods, advanced research methods, introduction to criminal justice, juvenile justice, immigration & justice, serial killers and even a couple of freshmen year experience courses. I have taught both undergraduate and graduate students and served on many graduate exam and thesis committees.

In 2011, I was awarded the Rousch Excellence in Teaching Award and was recognized as a Star Teacher by the NMSU Teaching Academy in 2017. Teaching continues to be an extremely rewarding part of my job here at NMSU.

I love hearing from you so please do check in and let us know how you are doing and what you are up to these days.

Best Wishes!

**BE BOLD.** Shape the Future. | **New Mexico State University** | <https://crimjust.nmsu.edu/>

## Kayla Graves



### Kayla Graves

Alpha Phi Sigma (the Criminal Justice Honor Society) President

College of Arts and Sciences Student Ambassador Secretary

[kaylamg@nmsu.edu](mailto:kaylamg@nmsu.edu)

#### Connect with Us:

[CJ Facebook Page](#)

[CJ Twitter Page](#)

[CJ Instagram Page](#)

## Message from Kayla

The **Golden Lifetime Achievement Award** is given out to a golden alumni Alpha Phi Sigma member who has made an impact within the community and APS. It is an award that is rarely given therefore it is a great honor when received. Co-advisor Andrea Joseph was one of the recipients this year.

**As Alpha Phi Sigma President,** I ensure that the organization runs smoothly. I coordinate with the other officers and advisor to schedule meetings, create events, and recruit new members. I truly love APS and being the president for the past year has been a great honor. Alpha Phi Sigma is not just an honor society, it is truly a second family. I have made some of my closest friends through APS. APS has also allowed me to network with organization, I have never thought possible of such as La Pinon and La Casa. I highly recommend joining APS to any Criminal Justice or related major students as it is a great way to get involved on campus and within the community.



Alpha Phi Sigma March 21, 2022

## ALPHA PHI SIGMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Las Vegas, Nevada | 80th Anniversary | March 16, 2022-March 19, 2022

Members of the Alpha Chi Alpha Chapter of New Mexico State University attended the Alpha Phi Sigma Conference along with the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada March 16, 2022-March 19, 2022. Members competed in different competitions, hosted a crime scene investigation, and attended different seminars from guest speakers.

Alpha Chi Alpha hosted the Crime Scene Investigation Competition. Originally Boise State was supposed to host the CSI competition after winning the previous CSI competition at the 2019 Alpha Phi Sigma Conference. However due to travel restriction from COVID, Boise State passed the torch to NMSU. The crime scene scenario was that four mob members were illegally gambling in a suit at the Rio All Suites Hotel and Casino. The mob members were also human trafficking a young girl (Taylor). When a John (Rene) came in the night before, he saw the large amount of money within the hotel room, Rene decided to come back the next night to rob the Mob members. That is when a lieutenant to the mob boss slit Rene throat. Before fleeing the scene the mob members drug Taylor and planted the knife in her hand to frame her.

THIS IS A MOCK CRIME SCENE. EVERYTHING IS FAKE AND NO ONE WAS ACTUALLY INJURED.

Alpha Phi Sigma March 21, 2022

## HISTORY MADE

One of the competitions at conference is the Knowledge Test. The Knowledge Test is separated into Graduate and Undergraduate Categories. The Undergraduate Test is a test focuses on Criminal Justice. The Graduate Test focuses on Criminology. Before the 2022 conference, New Mexico State University has never placed in the knowledge test. However, through preparation and training the 2022 Alpha Chi Alpha Conference team changed that. Kayla Graves placed second in the undergraduate category Odelle Duffy placed second in the graduate category and McKensi Spears placed third in graduate category.

Team Bonding

**BE BOLD.** Shape the Future. | **New Mexico State University** | <https://crimjust.nmsu.edu/>

## Cody Lawrence



### Cody Lawrence

Human 4 Humans  
Graduate Student  
Organization

[cody22@nmsu.edu](mailto:cody22@nmsu.edu)

### Connect with Us:

[CJ Facebook Page](#)

[CJ Twitter Page](#)

[CJ Instagram Page](#)

## Message from Cody – Human 4 Humans

Hello, my name is Cody Lawrence and I am currently a junior here at New Mexico State University.

My passion for Human 4 Humans happened very recently actually. This semester helped opened my eyes when I took the Human Trafficking course that is taught by professor Ida D'Antonio-Hangen. I never really understood the huge issue that I currently see involving human trafficking. My passion has barely started, but I believe that this will be my calling in life. I want to help those who are unfortunate in life and help fight for everybody's life. The thing that motivates me to go into this career pathway and start solving these acts that are committed against humans was due to me imagining my own family. I absolutely cannot see my future daughter, son, niece, nephew, cousin, etc. getting involved and being tortured in this disgusting act that people are doing to people. My ultimate goal is to give these victims the life that was taken away from them. Nobody should ever have to go through this. My main purpose in Humans 4 Humans is to raise awareness among those people who never understood this crime against humanity that I personally never understood till recently. People need to understand what people are actually going through so that we can start making a difference. Changing someone else's life and making it modern-day slavery will always be wrong.

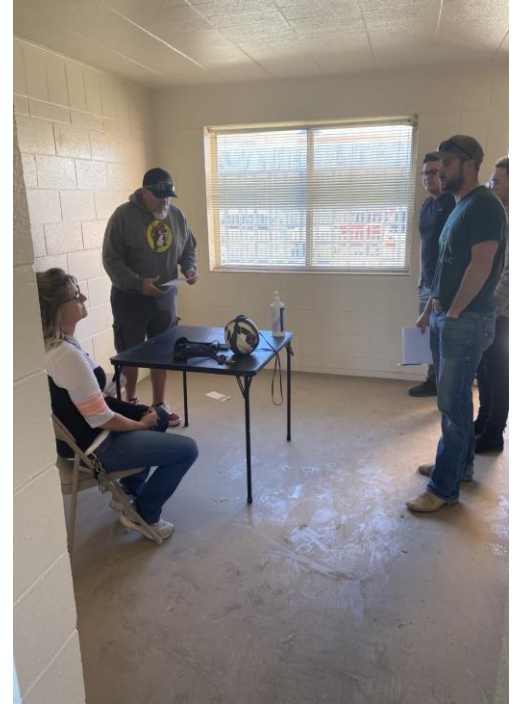


Cody, giving presentation at the sorority

## Classroom Work – Practical with Professor Ida D’Antonio

Students in CJUS 454 Human Trafficking course and CJUS 321 Criminal Investigation course were working on cases since spring break and they have collected some evidence, confronted subjects and tried to get confessions. They have also rescued victims that they found inside.

*Professor Ida D’Antonio*



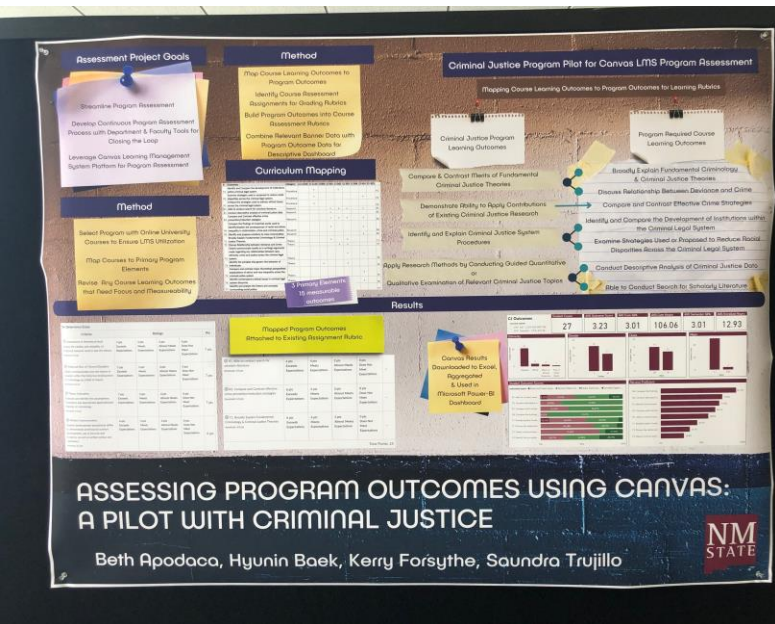
# Faculty Research

Dr. Carlos Posadas and Dr. Hyunin Baek published two papers in top-tier journals

Baek, H., Posadas, C. E., & Kwak, D. H. (2022). Parental Management on Juvenile Delinquency through Low Self-control And Misperception. *Deviant Behavior*, 1-18.

Baek, H., Lee, S., & Posadas, C. E. (2022). Poor Parenting on Underage Drinking Through Frustration and Impulsivity. *Crime & Delinquency*, 00111287211064789

Dr. Saundra Trujillo and Dr. Hyunin Baek attended NMHEAR (New Mexico Higher Education Assessment and Retention) Conference to introduce a NMSU project related to our program.



Dr. Hyunin Baek, Kerry Forsythe, Dr. Saundra Trujillo



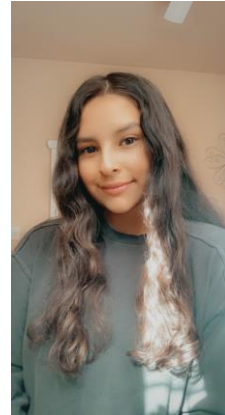
# Criminal Justice Department



Be Bold. Shape the Future.  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Criminal Justice



[Andreia Scarborough](#)  
(our Administrative  
Assistant)



[Alexis Renteria](#)  
(student  
worker/administrative  
assistant)

Thank you Andreia and Alexis for taking care of student and faculty needs. Your personal touches and caring for each individual student is absolutely noticed.  
Thank you both!

Please touch back to us and let us learn about your career and what you have done since you graduated.

Please send a short note or email briefly describing your careers. We might include these in future Newsletters or on our website. It would be nice for our alumni to hear from others and what they have been doing since they left NMSU.

Please check our [alumni success webpage](#)

Please visit the [CJ Giving Page](#) to see how you can contribute to the future success of Criminal Justice Students.