

December 4, 2025

Dear NMSU community,

After a national search, I'm pleased to announce that Dr. Allen Bottorff has accepted the position of Vice President for Administration and Finance at New Mexico State University. He will begin his new role on Jan. 7, 2026.

Dr. Bottorff is a strategic finance and operations executive with more than two decades of senior leadership experience in public higher education, complemented previously by over a decade of professional engineering practice in the private sector. He joins NMSU after a distinguished tenure as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Florida Polytechnic University, where he strengthened financial resilience, established credit standing, expanded capital capacity, and optimized administrative systems across the institution.

His leadership philosophy emphasizes transparency, collaborative governance, values-driven innovation, and institutional stewardship.

"I'm inspired by NMSU's land-grant mission and its role as a statewide R1 institution serving diverse communities across New Mexico – all values that strongly align with my professional purpose and with the commitments outlined in NMSU's leadership profile for this role," Dr. Bottorff said. "I look forward to partnering with President Ferme, the Board of Regents, faculty, staff, and stakeholders across the NMSU system to modernize administrative and financial systems, enhance operational excellence, and fortify the university's long-term financial sustainability in support of its land-grant mission."

At Florida Poly, Dr. Bottorff led the university's first S&P Global investment-grade rating; executed a \$76 million housing bond issuance; established the institution's first self-owned residential system; successfully implemented zero-based budgeting; created a centralized Grants Administration unit; and modernized compensation, human resources, financial operations, and enterprise administration.

Prior to his work at Florida Poly, Dr. Bottorff held senior executive roles at multiple colleges and universities in Florida and Tennessee, where he built a reputation for stabilizing finances, modernizing business operations, improving compliance and audit outcomes, and strengthening institutional infrastructure.

Dr. Bottorff's professional background additionally includes regional sustainability leadership as a founding member and treasurer of the Southeast Sustainability Group, a multi-state consortium of institutions and organizations including Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the University of Tennessee, Clark-Atlanta University, Nissan, and Indian River State College. There, he led financial stewardship and grant development for initiatives focused on low-carbon energy, sustainable transportation, waste reduction, and building energy efficiency.

He holds a Ph.D. in higher education leadership and administration and a Master of Science in civil engineering from Florida Atlantic University, an MBA from Amberton University, and a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from the University of Central Florida.

I'd like to thank our interim vice president for Administration and Finance, Chris Kinsley, for his service to NMSU and for chairing the search committee for this important position. I would also like to extend my thanks to the other members of the search committee for their time and thoughtful input.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Bottorff to NMSU.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Valerio C. Ferme". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Valerio C. Ferme

President

New Mexico State University