

Biographical Statement 2015

Neva Hassanein

Neva Hassanein is a Professor of Environmental Studies at the University of Montana. Author of *Changing the Way America Farms: Knowledge and Community in the Sustainable Agriculture Movement* (University of Nebraska Press, 1999), Neva has also published articles on contemporary agriculture and the building of community-based, democratic food systems. She earned her Doctorate in Environmental Studies from the University of Wisconsin and her Masters from the University of Oregon.

An engaged scholar, Neva and her students have been involved in many efforts to strengthen Montana's food system through community-based action research – covering a range of topics, such as food policy, farmland protection, institutional markets, beginning farmer programs, and a regional growers' marketing cooperative. In 2005, Neva co-founded the Community Food and Agriculture Coalition of Missoula County and served on their board for five years. Neva was also a founding partner in Grow Montana, a statewide policy coalition, and served on the steering committee for three years. In 2011, she served as President of the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society, an international organization of scholars and practitioners. Neva currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Montana Conservation Voters Education Fund, and the Missoula Chapter of MCV. Neva enjoys gardening, sharing food with friends, hunting wild mushrooms, raising urban chickens and bees, and exploring the natural world.