

Discovery The Student Journal of Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences

Volume 14

Article 3

Fall 1-1-2013

Letter from the Dean

Michael Vayda

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Recommended Citation

Vayda, Michael (2013) "Letter from the Dean," *Discovery The Student Journal of Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences*: Vol. 14 , Article 3.

Available at: <http://scholarworks.uark.edu/discoverymag/vol14/iss1/3>

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Letter from the Dean

Enhanced-Learning Experience

The Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences is committed and dedicated to preparing our students to become leaders for the economic and social well-being of Arkansas, the region, nation and beyond by producing graduates for careers that matter—in the areas of food, family and the environment.



Michael Vayda

We are proud of the quality of our students and the work they do. The *DISCOVERY* undergraduate journal gives us an opportunity to highlight the exceptional work of just a few of our students as they report on the results of research projects conducted in partnership with faculty mentors.

The journal is an enhanced-learning experience as it encourages our students to engage beyond the classroom, offers an outlet to share results and findings in a citable publication, and provides a service to society.

We encourage student research by awarding undergraduate research grants. Our students have been competitive for research and travel grants awarded by the Honors College and the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, and many projects are designed to meet the requirements for an honors thesis in the Bumpers College Honors Program.

We are pleased to present this issue to you as an example of the exceptional work of our undergraduates. Congratulations to the student authors, and thank you to the faculty mentors and editors who contributed to their projects.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Vayda". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael Vayda, Dean and
Associate Vice President–Academic Programs