Scholarships - The Lifeblood of Our College

Recently endowed scholarships by alumni and friends of the College are providing more of our students with the financial help they need to complete their education. Such generosity is also teaching these future alumni to remember that students coming after them will need the same opportunities they received.

Our most recent scholarship is a memorial to Bobbye Jo Halbrook (MS 1963) in remembrance of her interest in and work with children. Endowed by her family and husband, Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Economics Waymon Halbrook (BSA 1950; MS 1964), the scholarship will be given yearly to students majoring in human development and family studies.

The Jim "J.B." Brooks Scholarship is endowed by the Ozark Food Processors Association, friends and family in memory of Mr. Brooks, founder, chief executive officer and chairman of the board of Razorback Farms and an active member of the Ozark Food Processors Association. It will be awarded to graduate students in food science.

The Caviness Scholarship honors Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Agronomy Charles Caviness (BSA 1949; MS 1956), his wife, son and daughter-in-law. Awarded to agronomy students, the scholarship is endowed by family and friends in recognition of Dr. Caviness' contributions to the Arkansas soybean breeding program.

Betty Swope, associate for administration in the office of the vice president for agriculture, and friends have endowed the Frances Wauneta Dickinson and Betty J. Swope Scholarship for students majoring in horticulture. The scholarship honors Ms. Swope for her long years of service and is a memorial to Ms. Dickinson (BSA 1972; MS 1974), who received her degrees in horticulture and was an avid supporter of horticultural education.

Mark Your Calendars!

Spring College Events

Thursday, April 17
Scholarship Luncheon for Donors and Recipients, Arkansas Union Ballroom

Academic Festival College Convocation, Arkansas Union Theater, 1:00 pm with reception to follow. All are welcome.

Friday, May 2

Retirement Reception for Associate Dean Charlene Moony, Arkansas Union Gallery, 2-4 pm. All alumni are invited, but an RSVP is requested if you plan to attend. Please notify the Dean’s Office, AGRI 206, 575-2252, by Friday, April 21.

Study Abroad Opportunity in Europe

Cathy Carr, a masters’ candidate in human development and family studies, is the first student to take advantage of the new European Studies Program in our College. The program is centered in the Scottish Agricultural College, Edinburgh, Scotland, where Ray Barclay, agricultural publications, is resident director. The program is designed to expose our students, especially undergraduates, to other cultures and perspectives while enhancing their educational opportunities. Short term projects of several weeks are possible as are longer periods of a semester or year, where students can participate in resident instruction. It is anticipated that study abroad will be expanded to continental Europe and to non English speaking countries. Scholarships are available on a competitive basis to help defray expenses.

During her three-week stay in Edinburgh, Kathy worked with the Royal Hospital for Sick Children and with the organization, Children in Scotland. She spent time with the home care team of the hospital, which works to make parents and children...
partners in managing illness with support from the team. She was impressed by the focus on prevention in the universal health care of the United Kingdom.

With Children in Scotland, an umbrella agency of volunteers and professionals working with children and their families, Kathy worked with a special needs development officer and visited a preschool program, a teen night and a support group all geared to special needs children. Especially valuable were her exchanges with professionals in child development and policy making.

For Cathy, the study abroad opportunity fulfilled the hopes of the program's founders. She has renewed enthusiasm about her human development program, sees new ways to learn more, and is looking for an excuse to get back to Scotland.

Alumni News

Pictures taken at last fall's homecoming were of poor quality, but not the reception itself or the alumni updates. Among those attending were:

W.J. Rimmer (BSA 1949; MS 1967), a retired county Extension agent of 33 years who resides in Van Buren and is the father of three U of A graduates; Donna (Hudson) Demuth (BSH 1951), who worked briefly as a home economist for the Texas Electric Company in Ft. Worth before raising her family. She and her husband, who recalled antics like mule riding that one had to endure when dating a home economics student, live in West Memphis; Carolyn (Bruce) Ward (BSH 1958; MS 1963), who worked with the Extension Service until the birth of her four daughters and is a retired special education aide. She and her engineer husband, Charles, lived for many years in Chicago and are pleased to be back in Arkansas in Rogers. Eugene Miller (BSA 1959), a retired farmer and automobile businessman who lives with his wife in Hazen and has two children who are U of A graduates; Becky (Thaeton) Henderson (BSH 1973), who resides with her family in Little Rock and worked briefly in school food service and taught before her marriage; and Bobby Malone (BSA 1959; MS 1964), a retired Extension agent who lives in Harrison. He marveled at the changes on campus and remembers the two story old white building near the old gym on Maple and Garland where animal science classes were held and the old meats lab with Mr. Heck near Agri Park.

In other news:

Leland E. Toilet (BSA 1958; MS 1960), chairman and chief executive officer of Tyson Foods, Inc., was one of the recipients of the Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award in November.

Dr. David A. Rickard (MS 1970) is a consultant with MannaTech Services, Westfield, IN.

Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics at Arkansas State University Bert Greenwalt (MS 1980) has been reappointed to the Economic Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Jeff and Kim Morton-Walton (BSH 1987) have a new son, Cole Lauhon. Kim is a family and consumer science teacher with the Omaha, NE, Public Schools.

Larry Johnson (BSA 1988) has accepted a job as field supervisor for the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company in Crawfordsville, AR.

Kim (Arthur) Jones (BSA 1989) has been hired as conference coordinator of the University of Arkansas Continuing Education Center.

Justin Hays (BSA 1990; BSA 1991) is now the agricultural education teacher at Westfork High School.

Terry Swiderski (BSA 1990) completed vet school at Louisiana State University, married and now owns his own veterinary clinic for large animals in Magnolia, MS.

Tony Tidwell (BSA 1994; MS 1996) has joined the product development team of Hudson Foods, Inc., in Rogers.

Faculty Update

The College has recently lost two outstanding researchers, noted teachers and respected gentlemen with the deaths of Distinguished Professor of Plant Pathology George E. Templeton (BSA 1953; MS 1954) and University Professor of Agronomy Bobby R. Wells (MS 1961). Serving the College for 38 years, Dr. Templeton pioneered work on fungal toxins and biological control of weeds with fungal pathogens. He led the development of the first mycoherbicide, Collego, for the control of weeds in a field crop, which earned him an international reputation. Dr. Wells was associated with the Agronomy Department for 30 years, spending his first 16 working with rice research and production at the Rice Research and Extension Center near Stuttgart. Coming to Fayetteville in 1962, he continued his research on plant nutrition and soil fertility, winning numerous awards and international recognition. He was chairman of the Agronomy Department at his death.

Dr. David M. Barnes, a nutritional biologist and assistant professor of poultry science, was one of 60 researchers honored in Washington, D.C., as recipients of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. This prestigious award recognizing potential of young researchers plus a large EPA grant will allow Dr. Barnes to support graduate students to help advance his studies on how an animal's body partitions nutrients to do certain jobs, such as laying eggs or producing milk.

Recent faculty retirements include James N. Moore (BSA 1956; MS 1957) and Feng H. Huang, horticulture, and Jack L. Perkins, animal science. All have received emeritus professorships and will continue to work part-time.

Interior Design Internships

Nineteen interior design students who had completed their junior year spent last summer in eight week internships with architectural and interior design firms throughout the country. According to Sylvan Eldringhoff, associate professor and coordinator of interior design internships, approximately half of the students secured paid internships, a first for the interior design program. Internship sites included Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Houston, Kansas City, Little Rock, Memphis, Nashville, Phoenix, Tulsa and the Fayetteville area.

As intended, the internships provided practical experience, a professional learning environment and contacts important for future employment. Suzanne Boyd, who interned at an architectural firm in Tulsa, saw firsthand "how interior design,
architecture and engineering work together and how all three professions complement each other.

Sarah Ruestow and Claire Plafcan combined their internships at Interior Design Atlanta with the excitement of the Olympic Games, while Elaine Cattaneo, who worked at Cromwell Architects Engineers in Fayetteville, gained experience in space planning, field measurements and computer drafting. Serenity Sharp's internship has led to a full-time job with Architectural Design Guild in St. Louis. As the interior design program continues to grow, so will the number of internships as students fulfill this popular requirement of their degree program.

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Congratulations to the Horticulture Club!

In its first outing, the newly organized Horticulture Club Judging Team won second place in vegetable judging at the Southern Region, American Society for Horticultural Science meeting in Birmingham, AL, in February. Junior Gregg Gainer was elected president of the American Collegiate Branch of the Southern Region, ASHS.

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Alumni Society Update

The Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences’ Alumni Society held its first meeting of 1997 on the U of A campus on Feb. 11. The day began with productive sessions by the membership, student and faculty support, and the Land Grant Days committees. After a catered lunch, the board met to review the successful 1996 year and to set new goals for the upcoming year. These include increasing membership, increasing awareness of agriculture and human environmental sciences throughout the state and planning fantastic Land Grant Days for next fall. Dean Charles Scifres provided a state of the college report, and departmental updates were made by Stephen Myers, horticulture, and Justin Morris, food science.

The day culminated with board members attending the basketball game between the Razorbacks and Auburn University.