Graduate, Fall-Winter 1999

Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food, and Life Sciences (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville)

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Fall of ’99 got off to a great start for the College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences! The College led the campus in enrollment increases, on a percentage basis, again this year. Undergraduate enrollment, for the second consecutive year, is up by more than 12 percent, overall enrollment is up 8.7 percent over last year. The Carnival of Clubs started everyone off on the right foot for the new academic year. So many exciting things are happening — I’ll mention just a few highlights.

The faculty and administration have adopted a new management plan for 1999-2004 — a plan that emphasizes development of the College to meet growth demands and to provide the quality of learning environments our students deserve. “Classrooms for Tomorrow: A Strategic Initiative” has been adopted as the priority from the plan. A group of alumni and friends of the College have formed a Leadership Council and pledged to help secure funds to renovate and modernize our classrooms and auditoriums, especially those in the Agriculture and Home Economics buildings. Donors are being sought to support the renovations, and the classrooms and lecture halls will bear the names of those contributors in recognition of their support for our programs. Dennis Robertson, executive vice president of Farm Bureau, has agreed to serve as the first chair of the group, and Howard Young, distinguished alumnus for 1998 and former executive vice president of the Arkansas Cattlemen’s Association, has agreed to be vice chair. Already we owe this group great appreciation for their volunteer efforts.

The distance education initiative was launched this fall with four courses being offered via compressed video to various locations across the state. Already plans are being laid to offer another set of courses this spring when the new distance education classroom will be ready for use. The slogan of the Division of Agriculture, “Arkansas is Our Campus,” is becoming a reality in the changing relationships of the College with its students — more and more of whom are not on this campus.

Undergraduate research is receiving more emphasis in the College. Small seed grants are being made available to students and professors who elect to partner in research efforts. A journal of undergraduate research is being planned. Gamma Sigma Delta has volunteered to develop the first issue of the journal. In a related activity, a group of faculty are developing an implementation plan for a revitalized Honors Program for the College.

The College history book is now available. It is a good read. The book illustrates accomplishments of the past and drives home the idea that we can make the future brighter and more productive than the past. It is recommended reading for every alumni, student, faculty and friend of the College.

And there is much, much more underway in the College and on the University of Arkansas campus. We hope each of you will find a way to enjoy the activities and progress and become more active in the affairs of the College.
JUST DO IT!

Following the popular Nike slogan, the DBCAFLS Alumni Society developed an aggressive strategic plan to benefit our College and its students and to encourage alumni involvement. Participation of the current Board members and Society members has kept the time goals and objectives on a successful track. Dale Reed, current Society president, mentioned our plan in his message published in the spring edition. Here’s more...

Board members Tina Teague, Don Freeman, Dale Reed and I served as the Strategic Planning Committee. With the assistance of Diane Jones, we have begun to define our organization, develop an operating style and philosophy and establish goals for informational materials for our members.

Don McCaskill has worked diligently to support development efforts of the College. One of our objectives included responsibilities to establish and influence fund raising, constituency building and developing industry relationships. Lawson Hembree provided insight on fund raising. Don also worked with Dean Scifres to initiate the CAFLS Leadership Council. This global group promises to emerge as a force that will affect the College in many ways. A primary initiative of the Leadership Council is the Classrooms for Tomorrow campaign.

Bill Bowden presented a plan to build a support group across the nation. With coordination from Diane Jones, our objective to increase members and visibility has a good start. We will continue to be available to promote the College and the Society.

Our last objective was to develop Recognition Programs for students and faculty. Tina Teague outlined a progressive approach to recognize the “best of our best” by recommending criteria for the award process. These are the “highlights” of our current efforts. Many more people have worked with us on details of each of our objectives. I hope you recognize an alum I mentioned. The complete list of the current Board of Directors is printed on page 2. Feel free to contact any one of us and ask what we are doing.

We encourage all alumni to get involved. As our membership continues to grow, we need leaders to step up to Board positions. Are you one? We need your help on any of our committees. If you have a special interest or talent for one of the objectives, let us know!

Don’t hesitate... JUST DO IT!

Glenyce Estes Feeney
President-Elect, DBCAFLS Alumni Society

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Cover photo — Bumpers College Ambassadors, from left, Carrie Moore, Jody Brewer and Christina Spears celebrate the second year in a row that Bumpers College led the U of A campus in undergraduate enrollment growth.

Do you know a great grad?

Dean Charles J. Scifres has called for nominations for the Outstanding Alumnus Award to be given at commencement.

If you know a graduate of the College who has made significant contributions to their profession or community, call the Dean’s Office, 575-4446, and ask for a nomination form. The nomination deadline is January 14, 2000.
Leadership Council helps grow the College

Alumni and friends organized a College Leadership Council this summer in response to a call from Dean Charles J. Scifres for help with development efforts.

Volunteers who met with administrators and faculty this summer and fall were named to the College Leadership Council executive committee. The committee elected Dennis Robertson of Little Rock chair and Howard Young of Atkins vice chair.

Robertson is Arkansas Farm Bureau executive vice president. Young is the 1998 distinguished alumnus and former Arkansas Cattlemen’s Association executive vice president.

Other members are Mark Bryles, BSA ’54 MS ’67, of Blytheville, Adams Land Co. agronomist and 1997 distinguished alumnus; Dale Reed, BSA ’75, Alumni Society president and owner of Gillett Grain Services; Rick Rorex, BSAGE ’80 MSAGE ’81, Riceland Foods vice president in charge of the co-op’s Jonesboro division; and Jim Clower, executive vice president of the Arkansas Cattlemen’s Association.

“The College belongs to the people, and we are asking Arkansas citizens to help us develop and shape it,” Dean Scifres said. “These alumni and friends have committed their valuable time and resources to helping us grow the College. Additional members will be added over time.”

Robertson said, “The state needs a strong College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences on its flagship University campus. Dean Scifres and the faculty have increased enrollment by 12 to 15 percent each of the past two years. We want to help build on that momentum.”

The committee is helping plan and execute the Classrooms for Tomorrow campaign to modernize classrooms and auditoriums and add new information technology learning tools.

“Our mission is to prepare students for an extremely challenging future full of opportunity. In order to accomplish that mission, we must provide the most modern classrooms equipped to take advantage of new information technologies,” the dean said.

Industry leaders help plan hospitality program expansion

The goal of expanding the College’s Hospitality and Restaurant Management program and adding a tourism component in the School of Human Environmental Sciences is gaining support from industry leaders.

Dean Charles J. Scifres, HES Director Stephen Jorgensen and College Leadership Council Chair Dennis Robertson, who is executive vice president of the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation, met Oct. 25 at Embassy Suites in Little Rock with Mike Chouri, Holiday Inn, Northwest Arkansas; Thad Clark, Embassy Suites, Little Rock; Montine McNulty, executive director of the Arkansas Hospitality Association; and Joe David Rice, tourism director for the Arkansas Parks and Tourism Department.

Dean Scifres said, “The group agreed to form a working committee to identify members of a larger task force to begin the planning and development work.”

Jorgensen said, “Our vision includes a substantial endowment built from private and public funding for a facility and faculty that will be a source of pride for the University while providing management training for students.”

Jorgensen said there are models for such programs on campuses where students help manage lodging and food service facilities or work in cooperation with privately owned hotels and resorts.
The relationship between student and teacher is, and always will be, the key to successful learning in Bumpers College. However, to get the most from their University experience, students also need access to modern technology in a setting conducive to learning.

New learning tools are provided in new buildings, such as the John W. Tyson Building of the Center of Excellence for Poultry Science, the Harry R. Rosen Alternative Pest Control Center, and the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center. The new tools in those buildings are also needed in existing buildings constructed in the 1930s, ’60s and ’70s. The College is conducting a Classrooms for Tomorrow campaign — a concentrated effort supported by the new College Leadership Council (see related story) to renovate and update existing classrooms and laboratories in older buildings.

The College is conducting a Classrooms for Tomorrow campaign — a concentrated effort supported by the new College Leadership Council (see related story) to renovate and update existing classrooms and laboratories in older buildings.

The Division of Agriculture slogan, “Arkansas is Our Campus,” also applies to Bumpers College, which has launched a comprehensive distance education program.

Dean Charles J. Scifres said, “The goal is to offer courses for degree seeking students, continuous learning opportunities for our citizens and continuing education for industry. When fully developed, the program will provide ‘next-level’ learning opportunities for Arkansans at every career stage.”

Four courses were offered this fall, and five are set for spring in cooperation with other campuses in ACTA (Arkansas Consortium for Teaching Agriculture), which includes 12 two-year and four-year campuses. Courses are also available at the Cooperative Extension Service headquarters in Little Rock.

“Associate Dean Randy Luttrell and the faculty are to be commended for seizing this grand opportunity,” the dean added.

The College and Division of Agriculture are equipping a distance education classroom in the Poultry Science Center with the latest compressed interactive video (CIV) technology, which allows teacher and students at all locations to see and speak to each other. A second CIV classroom is planned for the Agriculture Building as part of the Classrooms for Tomorrow campaign.

Contact Randy Gottfried, 575-3471, <rgottfri@comp.uark.edu> for information on courses and locations.

Courses planned for spring and teachers are Pest Management by Max Meisch, Tom Yazwinski, Gene Milus and Dick Oliver; Intro to Plant Science by David Longer; Food Safety and Sanitation by Mike Johnson; Advanced Child Development by Sue Martin; and Gerontology by Jean Turner.

The offerings this fall were Parent and Family Dynamics by Steven Dennis, Child Development by Sue Martin, Principles of Experimentation by Ron McNew and Philosophy of Agricultural Education by George Wardlow.

Donations in any amount from alumni and friends are essential to the success of the campaign. Our friends in industry, charitable foundations and government are much more responsive when we can show widespread grassroots support.

Your gift will help provide renovations and new furniture, addition of fiber optics cable for access to advanced information technology, and audio-visual equipment. The largest expense is for the wiring and other infrastructure to accommodate current and future technology.

Improvements are targeted for the Agriculture, Animal Sciences, Plant Sciences, Home Economics and Food Science buildings.

For information on naming opportunities and other Classrooms for Tomorrow details, contact Dean Charles J. Scifres, Associate Dean Randy Luttrell, or any member of the College Leadership Council executive committee.

Make your tax-deductible contribution payable to University of Arkansas and mail it to:

Classrooms for Tomorrow
Dean’s Office
205 Agriculture Building
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701
New Faculty

A dozen new faculty members have joined the College since last fall.

Stephen Jorgensen arrived in August as director of the School of Human Environmental Sciences and assistant dean of Bumpers College. He was associate dean in the College of Human Sciences at Texas Tech, which has one of the largest and most innovative human sciences programs. An Iowa native, he received his B.A. from Hamline University and his Ph.D. in family sociology from the University of Minnesota. He is president of the National Council on Family Relations.

Kathy Smith, MS ’93, Apparel Studies instructor, has an A.A.S. degree from the Fashion Institute of Technology and a B.S. from Ohio State. She teaches retail product development.

Jennifer Webb, assistant professor, Interior Design, has bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Tennessee and a Ph.D. in human environmental sciences from Oklahoma State. She is an NCIDQ certified interior designer and holds a gerontology certificate. The influence of the built environment on human behavior, especially in the elderly, forms the core of her research.

Marjorie Fitch-Hilgenberg, BS ’74 MS ’76, assistant professor in the Food, Human Nutrition and Hospitality program, is a registered dietician with a Ph.D. in nutrition science from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She has corporate experience in the food industry as well as a background in university teaching and research in lipid metabolism and x-linked immunodeficiency diseases.

Rong Murphy, research assistant professor, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, has B.S. and M.S. degrees in industrial microbiology from China and two M.S. degrees in food science and chemical engineering and a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the U of A. She previously worked for a bioengineering company and has research interests in thermal processing, food safety and process modeling.

Kenneth Korth, assistant professor, Plant Pathology, comes from the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Ardmore, Okla. His B.S. degree is from the University of Nebraska, and his Ph.D. is from North Carolina State. He uses new methods of biotechnology to study molecular mechanisms of plant/insect interactions and enzyme regulation.

Jennie and Michael Popp, who are married, and Andrew McKenzie, are new assistant professors in Agricultural Economics and AgriBusiness. Dr. J. Popp is working on the economics of sustainable soil use in row crops and animal waste management. She was a Peace Corps advisor to agricultural cooperatives in Togo, West Africa. She has a B.S. from the University of Scranton and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Colorado State.

Dr. M. Popp returns to the U of A after several years absence to resume research and teaching in farm and agricultural engineering with an emphasis on risk management. His undergraduate degree is from the University of Manitoba, his M.B.A. from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and his Ph.D. from Colorado State.

Dr. McKenzie was born in England and earned his bachelor’s degree at the University of Dundee and his M.S. at Stirling University, both in Scotland. Before pursuing his Ph.D. in economics at North Carolina State, he worked for M&A Analysis in London. His research includes modeling price dynamics of Arkansas commodity markets and use of futures and options.

New on the Food Science faculty are assistant professor Ya Jane Wang and research assistant professors Wade Yang and Terry Howell.

Dr. Wang has a B.S. degree from the National Taiwan University, an M.S. from the University of Minnesota and a Ph.D. from Iowa State. Her research focus is on carbohydrates and their interactions with other food constituents during processing and storage.

Dr. Yang earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in food engineering in China, an M.S. from the University of Manitoba and a Ph.D. in bioresource engineering from the University of Saskatchewan. His research focus is rice drying, milling and quality assessment.

Dr. Howell is a native of Amarillo, Texas, with B.S. and M.S. degrees in agricultural engineering from Texas A&M. His Ph.D. in biological systems engineering is from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He is researching rice storage and value-added food processing.
Undergrads get grants

Ten undergraduate student research projects were selected out of 19 submitted for special $500 research grants from the College and the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station.

Results of these and other projects will be eligible for publication in an undergraduate research journal planned for 2000 by the Experiment Station and College.

Grants were awarded to the following students and faculty sponsors.

- Niki Loupe, Jason Emmert. Application of phase-feeding for broiler chickens during the starter and grower phases.
- Marura Lenjo, Jean-François Meullenet. Developing instrumental methods for assessing sensory texture characteristics of rice.
- Ashley Hammac, David Miller. Proposed options for improvement in rice production in eastern Arkansas.
- Joyce Jong, Dustan Clark. Livability of balut embryos stored under varying temperatures.
- Chrislyn Drake, John Clark. Determination of chilling requirement of Arkansas blackberry cultivars.
- Gus Stout, Patrick Fenn, Eric Jackson. Infection and development of Phomopsis longicolla in soybeans resistant and susceptible to seed infection.
- Jerry Fendley, Terry Siebenmorgen. Fissure characterization of rice kernels using video microscopy.
- Julie Hamilton, Tom Yazwinski. Preliminary investigation into the feasibility of inducing overlap immunologic competence in gallinaceous birds with Ascaridia dissimilis and A. galli.
- Reema Persad, Nick Anthony. Reproductive behavior in the emu.

Poultry Science hosts PSA

The Center of Excellence for Poultry Science hosted the national Poultry Science Association meeting in August. Student, faculty and staff accomplishments were recognized with the following national awards.

- Dr. Robert Wideman, Broiler Research Award; Dr. Gisela Erf, Purina Mills Teaching Award; Gary Davis, PSA Poultry Science Recruitment Award; graduate students David Cawthon and Shannon Vandaveer, certificates of excellence for research papers.

Best in the USA

The UA Horticulture Club was named the best in the nation among those with 30 or fewer members at the American Society for Horticultural Science meetings in Minneapolis.

Jennifer Gibson, Calico Rock, was president and Curt Rom is advisor. Crislyn Drake, Rogers, was elected national newsletter editor.

The Horticulture Club was named the best U of A campus student organization for 1998-99.

National champs

A student team from the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department won a national student design competition at the American Society of Agricultural Engineers meeting in Toronto. They designed and built a chicken thigh deboner in cooperation with Ed Fryar of Twin River Foods, Fort Smith, and faculty advisor Joel Walker.

Team members were Scott Millsap, Jerry Findley, Chris Brock, Warren Brandon, Greg Schleuterman and Marcus Tilley.

TRC supports excellent teaching

Help with motivating students, encouraging critical thinking, technology based instruction and using the internet were among the top needs identified by College faculty in a needs assessment by George Wardlow and Don Johnson, Agricultural and Extension Education.

The study led to creation of the College Teaching Resource Center.

Wardlow, Johnson and graduate student Bryce Duling provide information and materials to help faculty use new information technology and improve basic teaching skills and methods.

WEED TEAM WINS — The University of Arkansas Weed Team won first place in the Southern Weed Contest this year. It is the Arkansas team’s 14th win in the past 17 years. The team members are (from left) Trey Reaper (alternate) Jeff Barnes, assistant coach Jason Norsworthy, coach Nilda Burgos, Mike Lovelace, Lance Schmidt, Doug Walsh (alternate), coach Dick Oliver, Oscar Sparks (alternate) and Scott Payne. Four team members placed in the first six individual rankings: Lovelace, first; Barnes, third; Sparks, fifth; and Payne, sixth. Eleven teams competed in Greenville, Miss. The event was sponsored by Novartis.
Bumpers College enrollment of undergraduate students grew by 12 percent this fall for the second year in a row and topped 1,000 for the first time since 1984.

Graduate student enrollment declined 5.6 percent, from 266 to 251, after having increased by 18 percent last fall.

“We are on track to reach our goal of 1,500 undergraduates by 2004,” Associate Dean Randy Luttrell said.

The College’s School of Human Environmental Sciences (HES) grew by 35 percent, with 371 students compared to 274 last fall. Interior design is now the most popular major with 150 students, up 39 percent over last fall.

Double-digit gains were also seen in apparel studies; food, human nutrition and hospitality; and human development, and family studies.

“Stephen Jorgensen, our new director for the School, came from a top HES program at Texas Tech, and we are working hard to provide more faculty and facilities so these programs can reach their potential,” Dean Charles Scifres said.

The largest percentage increase, 132 percent, was in turf and landscape horticulture, with 51 students this fall compared to 22 last fall.

“We have added faculty to accommodate increased interest in horticulture majors,” Luttrell said.

The environmental, soil, and water sciences major continued to increase in popularity, with students shifting to that option from the more traditional crops management major. Pest management, another traditional major with a new curriculum, also grew this fall.

Poultry science enrollment grew by 14 percent. One of the nation’s top programs of its kind, the major has grown steadily since the dedication of the Center of Excellence for Poultry Science in 1995.

The new Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center and recent faculty expansion led to a spurt of 28 percent last fall in animal science enrollment, followed by a slight decline this fall.

“We expect strong demand for the equine program we are adding next year,” Luttrell said.

Agricultural business, which includes a pre-law concentration, is a traditional major that remains in high demand with 144 students this fall compared to 145 last fall.

Food science, a major whose graduates are in high demand by the food industry, grew by nearly 8 percent.

“It’s really an exciting time to be in the agricultural, food and life sciences at the University of Arkansas,” Dean Scifres said.

He expects enrollment to continue growing as students become more aware of opportunities, including:

- addition of the equine program,
- the Global Studies Program,
- more research opportunities for undergraduate students and a planned undergraduate research journal,
- new courses and research in molecular and cellular biology, in cooperation with other colleges, and
- linkage with two-year colleges to prepare transfer students to pursue degrees in agricultural, food and life sciences.

“I can’t emphasize enough the educational value added by our faculty’s dual role as teachers and as Division of Agriculture scientists,” the dean added.

“The linkage of the College with statewide research and extension programs provides assistantships for graduate students to work on issues that directly impact Arkansas producers, consumers, families and communities.”

**FIRST PLACE** — The University of Arkansas team won first place out of 11 teams in the 1999 National Collegiate Poultry Judging Contest held in Fayetteville in November. Team members are Tim Peters (left), Micah Bone, Crystal Cornish and Jon Warner.
The history of the Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences was the focus of Land Grant Days Oct. 28-30.

Gary Zellar and Nancy Wyatt, co-authors of a new book on the history of the College, signed books and presented a lecture and slides Thursday, Oct. 28, in the Poultry Science Center auditorium.

The History of the Bumpers College: Evolution of Education in the Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences in Arkansas (340 pages, Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station, $20) includes a list of all graduates as of May 1999.

Research on the book was started by UA history professor Steven Strausberg, author of A Century of Research (1989), a history of the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station, and From Hills and Hollers (1995) on the poultry industry. Shortly after beginning work on the College history, Dr. Strausberg was diagnosed with cancer and passed away in 1997.

The project was taken over by Zellar, who was completing a doctoral dissertation in history at the U of A, and Dr. Wyatt, assistant professor, Agricultural and Extension Education. Zellar is now assistant professor of history at Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas.

Zellar’s meticulously documented research provides a rich fabric of detail on the struggles, frustrations and successes of early leaders in one of the great success stories of the 20th century — the Land-Grant University.

The reader will learn about those who created a new university curriculum for the study of agricultural science and will meet Hugh Ellis Morrow, who received the first Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degree in 1904.

The book is being sold to recover some of the printing cost. Order by phone, (501) 575-5670, or use the order form below. Make check or money order to University of Arkansas, and mail with the order form to Communication Services, 110 Agriculture Building, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701.

Alumni Association awards

Bumpers College friend and supporter Don Tyson and Distinguished Professor Derrick Oosterhuis were honored at Homecoming festivities by the Arkansas Alumni Association.

Don Tyson, Senior Chairman of the Board of Tyson Foods, Inc., received the Distinguished Alumni Award for exceptional professional and personal achievement and extraordinary distinction in a chosen field. Tyson has generously supported and provided leadership for Poultry Science programs and scholarships.

Derrick Oosterhuis, Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences, received the Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award for Research and Teaching. His plant physiology research has led to significant advances in cotton crop management. He has written two books and many scientific articles and is in demand as a speaker to scientific societies and producer organizations.

Wayne Sabbe retires

Wayne E. Sabbe, professor in the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences and director of the Arkansas Soil Testing and Research Program, retired in July.

Dr. Sabbe taught Advanced Soil Fertility and Soil and Plant Analysis, was advisor to 16 M.S. and 10 Ph.D. candidates and served on graduate committees of 90 others. His many leadership activities ranged from serving as chair of the Dean’s Faculty Advisory Council to the Council of Agricultural Science and Technology board of directors.

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Memories and Thanks

Dr. Dick Hampton, BSA ’51, retired from a USDA-ARS position in the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Oregon State University, suggested that The Graduate devote a column to alums who want to share reminiscences of faculty and express thanks to faculty who were especially helpful to them when they were students.

Dr. Hampton was pleased that he thanked his mentor, Dr. Curtis Mason, Extension plant pathologist, while Professor Mason was still alive. At right are reprinted several paragraphs from an August 25, 1983, letter from Dick Hampton to Curtis Mason. If other alums want to make this column a regular feature, please send information.

Dear Dr. Mason,

“You can’t imagine the length of time I have remembered you and many of the things you discussed with me when I was a junior and senior student (1950-51) at the University of Arkansas. I believe it was the very first time that I talked to you about a growing interest in plant pathology that you offered me a job in the teaching lab, preparing cultural media and diseased plant specimens for classroom use. Our use of mercuric chloride as a surface disinfectant (and the way we used it) might be looked upon today as foolish or dangerous, but it certainly kept our materials contaminant free! I have a very clear mental picture of you, as you appeared in those days, and also many of the disease specimens that were neatly stored in the freezer, for classroom use. Until a few years ago, when I at long last discarded old laboratory notes and exam papers, I still had some of the detailed drawings from my undergraduate plant pathology courses. To my great delight, I was permitted to teach some of the laboratory sections during my senior year.

All of that exposure to plant pathology that you made possible, and your many worthwhile suggestions on plant pathology careers, were the most decisive factor in my decision to plant my feet in this intriguing and grand discipline. There have been many occasions during the years since to respond to the question, “How was it that you decided on a career in plant pathology?” And each recounting of the story has included your name and the kindly way that you took me under your wing and expressed confidence in my abilities and the wise counsel that you provided. Thus, since so many people down through those years since 1950 have heard your praises sung, I thought it might be time (indeed, past time!) to make these same remarks to you by letter.”

—Dick Hampton, BSA ’51

GROUND BREAKING — Plants were placed in the holes dug during the Oct. 11 groundbreaking ceremony for a new Horticulture Garden surrounding the Agricultural Annex (1905 Agri Bldg). The 10,000 SF garden is made possible by contributions, so far, of an irrigation system installed by alumnus Daryl Revelle of Revelle Irrigation, Springdale, and irrigation materials from Keeling Co., Springdale; zoysia sod by Roger Gravis of Quail Valley Farms, Little Rock; mulch from Love Box Co., Fayetteville; plants from Greenleaf Nursery, Parkhill, Okla., and Westwood Gardens, Fayetteville; and compost from Earthcare Technologies, Lincoln.

Graduate student Kerrey Roberto (left photo) plants a blue mist fothergilla in a hole dug during groundbreaking by (right photo) Research Specialist Scott Starr, left, Associate Dean Randy Luttrell, interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dan Bennett and others not pictured: Hort Club President John Hendricks, intern John Nease, and students Erin Thevenot and Hannah Schrum.
Thank you for your support!

Bumpers College students received $45,789 in 1998-99 scholarships made possible by donors. Donations also support a variety of other activities that enhance the student's University experience. Beyond that, your financial support is critical to our success.

Many students could not afford a University education without your assistance. Scholarships also help us attract the best students, one of the keys to academic excellence.

Your gifts have a direct impact on the opportunities available to students and on the quality and value of the education they receive.

Thank you!
Outstanding alumni and friends were honored recently by the Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences Department and the Horticulture Department.

Dr. James V. Gramlich, CSES Outstanding Alumnus, has B.S.A. and M.S. degrees from U of A and a Ph.D. from Auburn University. During his career with Eli Lilly and American Cyanamid, his research led to two new herbicides and four patents. He retired in 1995 as president of the Agricultural Research Division of American Cyanamid. He lives in Pennington, N.J., and is president of the Technology Leadership Associates consulting firm.

Stan McDaniel, a 1978 Horticulture graduate, received the department’s Early Career Alumnus Award for 1999. McDaniel, who worked his way through college mowing grass and servicing lawns, is owner of Healthy Lawns and Shrubs in Little Rock, which has 40 employees in three divisions.

Dr. Joe McFerran, BSA ’41 MS ’50, received the Senior Career Alumnus Award. He retired in 1986 after 40 years as a UA horticulture professor. Tomato varieties he developed were the foundation of Arkansas’ commercial tomato industry. He also developed okra and turnip varieties and was an excellent teacher and advisor.

H.L. Hembree III, is the 1999 Outstanding Friend of Horticulture. His long-term support includes assistance for major improvements at the Vegetable Substation at Kibler. He retired in 1988 as CEO of Arkansas Best Corporation, served on the UA Board of Trustees, and provides leadership for many organizations, such as the Arkansas Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts, St. Edwards Mercy Medical Center and Razorback Foundation. He owns Sugarhill Farms at Paris.
Jean (Hampton) Pruitt, BSHE ’57 MS ’59, has returned from a United Nations position with the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria. She now resides in San Francisco and works as a foreign affairs specialist with the U.S. Department of Energy, where she manages nuclear non-proliferation policy grants for U.S. projects in China, Russia, India, the Middle East and the Republic of Korea.

Willard David Beckenholtz, BSA ’62, writes that he has stopped growing corn and soybeans in the heat of the Midwest and has gone to the Oregon coast for some “real retirement living.”

Cynthia Wilks, BSHE ’70 MS ’72, hosted 40 U of A students and staff in Bridgeton, N.J., for Breakaway 1999, an alternative spring break experience linking students to community organizations.

Dr. Steven Slack, BSA ’69 MS ’71, is associate vice president for agricultural administration and director of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Ohio State University.

Dan York, BSA ’75, is investing in a new pecan cracking and shelling plant near Ashdown. His farm on the Red River in Little River County produces several crops, including pecans.

Cordia (Barton) Wilkinson Harrington, BSHE ’76, the “bun lady,” is building a second bakery to serve 40 states for Pepperidge Farm and Trucking. Her Tennessee Bun Company was just selected for Music City (Nashville) Future 50 as one of Tennessee’s fastest growing businesses for 1999.

Gretchen (Scheurich) Mitchell, BSHE ’78, is completing her 19th year as a clinical dietitian at St. John Medical Center in Tulsa, Okla., and is celebrating with a trip to England, Ireland and Scotland this fall.

Joyce Hardin, MS ’79 PhD ’81, is chair of the Division of Science at Hendrix College in Conway.

James Slade Strickland, BSA ’81, is serving his 13th year as Director of Parks, Recreation and Landscape Development for Addison, Texas. He has been recognized by the Texas Parks and Recreation Society, the Texas Forest Service and the American Society of Landscape Architects for excellence in park design and construction.

Susan (Blagg) Holthoff, BSHE ’81, is an eighth-grade career orientation teacher at Dumas Junior High School and is vice president of the Arkansas County Teachers’ Association.

Carol Trout, MS ’81 PhD ’95, is a research plant pathologist with USDA-ARS at the New England Plant, Soil and Water Laboratory in Orono, Maine.

Daniel Reynolds, MS ’84, received the Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award by the Southern Weed Science Society. Dr. Reynolds is in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences at Mississippi State University.

Lisa Wood, BSA ’84 MS ’88, is with the Department of Natural Resources in Delaware.

Cynthia Garrett, BSHE ’85, is recently employed with Collin County Community College, Plano, Texas, in the Child Development Department.

Scott Salom, MS ’85, and his wife, Siti Hasim-Salom, B.Arch. ’86, are proud parents of a son, Harris Ashari. Dr. Salom has been promoted to associate professor with tenure in the Department of Entomology at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

Angela (Faulkner) Haws, BSHE ’89, is expecting her first child in March and was named the 1999 Arkansas Young Dietitian of the Year.

Dr. Daniel Rainey, BSA ’90, is assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at Clemson University. We’re pleased that he was on campus recently to interview for a position in agricultural business.

Stan Wullschleger, PhD ’90, was awarded the 1998 Scientific Achievement Award by the Department of Energy and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. His research centers on plant stress and the response of forest trees and some agriculture crops to global climate change.

We are saddened to report the death of Gastov Clerge, BSA ’91, of liver cancer. He was a Ph.D. candidate at Howard University and a full-time employee with the Food and Drug Administration.

Jerry Stephens, BSA ’92, is farm manager for Uphill Farms in Clinton Corners, N.Y. His wife, Mary, is completing requirements to transfer to the U of A for her BSA degree.

Missi (Treadwell) Walker, BSHE ’92, UA Residence Life and Campus Dining Services, picked up a first place award in the 1999 American Society of Interior Designers competition for her creative work on...
Alumni News (Cont. from page 15)

the redesign of the Brough Commons campus dining facility.

Steve Stephens, BSA ’92, is now senior project engineer at Uncle Ben’s Foods in Greenville, Miss.

Two agricultural education graduates, Shana (McArthur) Cook, BSA ’94, and Patti Priest, BSA ’95, have returned to Arkansas as agricultural science teachers at Decatur High School and Glen Rose High School, respectively.

Sandi (Hart) Rommel, BSHE ’94, taught in a day care/preschool for a year before going back to the U of A for an Arkansas Teaching Certificate. She currently teaches fourth grade at Asbell Elementary in Fayetteville.

Beginning January 2000, Alan Pearce, BSA ’96 MS ’98, will become vice president of the Bodcaw Bank in Stamps, Ark.

Randy Beard, BSA ’96, is in Fort Smith as district field inspector for the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.

Tracey (Bowen) and Jeremy Powell, BSAs ’97, reside in Stillwater, Okla., where Tracey is in management training with Wal-Mart and Jeremy is a third-year student at Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Latisha (Fultz) Settlage, BSA ’97, received the Master Scholarship in Agricultural Finance for her thesis project, “Factors Determining FSA Guaranteed Loan Loss Claim Activity in the U.S. for 1989-1998.” Her thesis was selected to represent the U of A in an award competition sponsored by the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools. Both she and her husband, Dan Settlage, BSA ’97, are now working on Ph.D. degrees in agricultural economics at Purdue University.

Julie (Bannister) Woods, BSA ’97 MS ’98, is working in research and development for Cargill in N.D.

Matt Kirkpatrick, BSA ’97 MS ’99, is a field representative for Allen Canning Co., Siloam Springs.

Brenda Kidd, BSA ’98, is president of the Poultry Science Graduate Association, which raised money to host a fish-fry and dance for visiting graduate students attending the Poultry Science Association meetings held recently in Fayetteville.

Alumni Society grows 4 percent

Alumni News (Cont. from page 15)

Alumni Society grows 4 percent

One out of every four graduates of the College is a member of the College Alumni Society and Arkansas Alumni Association (AAA).

Membership increased by 4 percent this year, from 1,879 last fall to 1,948 this September. Dues-paying members account for 26 percent of the total number of Bumpers College graduates listed in the database of names and addresses maintained by the AAA.

Please join us, if you haven’t yet! Call 1-888-275-2586.

Dues are only $15 for graduates from the last 5 years and from the Class of 1960 or before; $25 for other individuals or $30 per couple.

Benefits of membership include the Arkansas Land and Life magazine from the College and the Division of Agriculture; the UA alumni magazine, Arkansas; special alumni events; the Vision newsletter from the College and Agricultural Experiment Station; Library and HPER access; campus parking permits; and a host of special deals on insurance, internet access, car rentals, motels, educational services, travel and more. ■