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What’s Up?

Got a new job or promotion? Moved to a different city? New addition to the family? Let us know about those milestones and anything else you’d like to share with the alumni. Feel free to fax a note or newspaper clippings.

Please include your name (current and maiden), mailing address, phone number, graduation year(s), degree(s), e-mail address and your news (new job, promotion, award, etc.).

Mail your note to: Ashley Harris, DBCAFLS Alumni Society, AFLS E108, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701; or fax to 479-575-7273; or e-mail: awharris@uark.edu.

The Arkansas Alumni Association has been the keeper of University of Arkansas traditions for more than 130 years. The mission is simple: to serve our alumni and to promote the University of Arkansas. You don’t have to be a graduate; friends of the university are welcome to join.

Your membership not only benefits you; it also benefits the U of A by supporting Scholarships, Student Recruitment, Student Alumni Board, Homecoming, Reunions, Faculty Awards and more.

Take a minute to sign up today. Call one of the numbers below or check our website for more information on joining or renewing your membership.

479-575-7758 • 1-888-275-2586
http://alumni.uark.edu

The GRADUATE
Opportunities in academics, research and service

One of the privileges of this job is meeting students from each of our 14 undergraduate majors and graduate programs who are full of enthusiasm and have remarkable talents and abilities. Our outstanding faculty not only do an excellent job of teaching fundamentals and practical applications in their disciplines, but they also provide opportunities for students to “learn-by-doing.” Whether you call it experiential learning, hands-on learning or service-learning, we find that it is an important part of the student’s education.

Every major provides learning opportunities outside the classroom, thanks to the dedication and creativity of our faculty and often with the help of alumni and friends. You can see examples of undergraduate student research in the DISCOVERY student journal, available online at http://arkansasagnews.uark.edu/397.htm. The articles in this 10th annual volume of DISCOVERY cover areas of crop management, animal science, agricultural marketing, dietetics, agricultural systems technology management, human nutrition and food science.

This year, our department of plant pathology is observing the centennial anniversary of its creation. It is one of the oldest stand-alone plant pathology departments in the nation. Our departments of plant pathology and entomology offer only graduate programs, but they teach courses that are vital to the education of undergraduate students as well as our graduate students pursuing master’s and doctoral degrees.

Our partnership with the Division of Agriculture allows our graduate students to be fully engaged in hands-on learning as they work alongside faculty members on research projects. We would be hard pressed to conduct our research programs without their creativity, critical thinking and hard work.

Many students returned to classes this fall after completing summer internships that provided a sample of career opportunities available to them after graduation. Internship sponsors include employers throughout Arkansas, the United States and abroad through our outstanding Global Studies Program. We are very grateful to those employers, many of whom are alumni, for contributing to the education of our students.

As interim dean, I attend many functions and I always find Bumpers College Ambassadors at work before I arrive and after I leave. These student volunteers not only contribute to the success of many alumni, faculty and student functions, they are also truly outstanding ambassadors for our college. Their duties include helping to inform prospective new students about the opportunities available in our 14 majors.

In summary, Bumpers College students have the opportunity to build their knowledge base and skill set, not only through the classroom, but in research endeavors and service efforts as well. We encourage them to make the most of their time here while laying the foundation for the future.
Dear Alumni

“The diligent farmer plants trees, of which he himself will never see the fruit.”

— Cicero

I guess you noticed over the years that I love inserting quotes to start my messages. I enjoy doing that often as the “message” of the quote is often more powerful than my feeble words. This is one of my favorite quotes as it provides direction, instruction and motivation for me. As a student of agriculture, it is a wonderful parallel as many of life’s experiences relate to nature and the laws of nature. The question is, “are we planting productive seeds in the young lives of our communities and our state?” As alums we have been blessed to attend the University, enhance our skills, and network with friends and associates who have undoubtedly enriched our lives. The question is what have we done with our newly developed resources to assist others?

For my departing words as president, I thank those who are actively engaged in planting, cultivating and harvesting the fields. If you are not involved, I encourage you to take a little time to give back to a place that has provided so much to our lives individually and our state collectively. Serving as president of the DBCAFLS Alumni Society has been a fantastic journey for me and I want to take time to thank everyone who I have interacted with over the past few years. The position and the experience have given me the unique opportunity to glimpse the harvests of earlier plantings. I can only hope that we can continue the rich tradition.

— Ron Rainey

Ashley Harris, coordinator of alumni and student relations for Bumpers College, has been appointed to the board of directors for the National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association (NAADA). She will serve a term of two years as the committee chair for student programs.

NAADA, headquartered in Alexandria, Va., provides education and support for professionals, volunteers and students who work to expand the human resources and financial support for land-grant colleges of agricultural sciences and related programs. Harris will help coordinate activities for student and alumni professionals at annual conferences and other events.

Harris said, “This is a wonderful professional opportunity for me, and I look forward to serving NAADA in this role and representing the University of Arkansas.”

Harris has been with the University of Arkansas since October 2000. She coordinates and implements all Bumpers College sponsored recruiting events, activities and programs. She also advises and manages the college student ambassador program and represents the college at the university level in admissions, recruitment and student involvement.

Harris was previously a special assistant to Sen. Tim Hutchinson and an executive assistant for the Dutko Group — a public policy management corporation in Washington, D.C. She is a 1995 graduate of the University of Arkansas with a B.A. degree in journalism, advertising and public relations. She is a life member of the Arkansas Alumni Association, serves as a house board member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma National Sorority and is a sustaining member of the Junior League of Northwest Arkansas.

Keith Lusby, head of the Bumpers College department of animal science and interim head of the poultry science department and interim head of the Center of Excellence for Poultry Science, was elected president of the Arkansas Cattlemen’s Foundation. The foundation owns and maintains the office building for the Arkansas Cattlemen’s Association in Little Rock and raises and dispenses funding for projects that help the cattle industry.

Lusby, animal science department head since 1995, was on the animal science faculty at the Oklahoma State University from 1976 to 1995.
Bumpers College has joined the world of social media networks with pages on both Twitter and Facebook, which are popular online social media networks. Each site has its own dynamic. The college’s Twitter page is at http://twitter.com/bumperscollege. It’s not necessary for a viewer to have a Twitter account to see it. Just go to the page to see a list of the recent Twitter postings (or “tweets”). Postings are limited to 140 characters but may be linked to more text on a Web page.

The advantage of having a Twitter account, and then signing on to become a “follower” of the Bumpers College page, is that the college’s posting will automatically appear on the follower’s own Twitter homepage along with the postings of the other people or institutions that someone follows on Twitter.

The college’s Twitter page had nearly 100 followers by the middle of the fall semester. Students may find Twitter a convenient place to see announcements of future club meetings, but it also contains links to feature articles that would interest other groups with ties to the college (such as several stories about students experiences as overseas interns while participating in the college’s Global Studies Program).

Leslie Edgar, an assistant professor of agricultural and extension education, teaches courses that cover the importance of communications, including social media. “We discuss the importance of Twitter for being able to ‘follow’ persons or organizations of interest,” Edgar said. “Students are encouraged to follow them and determine their communication topics and habits.”

The college’s Facebook page has a similar orientation, but one needs to hold a Facebook account to view it. Once on Facebook, the easiest way to find it is to type “Dale Bumpers College” into the search box. Then it’s easy to sign up as a “fan” of the page just by clicking on a box that says “Become a Fan.”

Facebook has tools that make it easier to display some content that wouldn’t be practical on other Web sites. For example, albums with numerous photos are easy to post there and allow viewers to scan through them in search of familiar faces. A photo album from the senior dinner in May contains 52 photos of students at the event.

Alumna joins FHNH program as instructor

Shannon Carpenter, BSHE ’07, joined the Bumpers College faculty this fall as an instructor in the foods, human nutrition and hospitality major in the School of Human Environmental Sciences. She teaches foods and dietetics courses.

Enrollment in the major increased 20 percent this fall for a total of 276 students and has grown by 272 percent since 1999, when only 75 students were enrolled. The major includes three concentrations in general foods and nutrition; dietetics, which prepares graduates for an internship and exam to become a registered dietician; and hospitality and restaurant management.

Carpenter received a B.A. degree in history and Russian studies from the U of A in 1999. After four years as an Alltel field analyst she returned for the BSHE degree with a dietetics concentration. She added an M.S. degree in clinical nutrition at the University of Memphis where she conducted the dietetics internship and passed the exam to become a registered dietician.

Carpenter is a graduate of El Dorado High School, but she and her family have lived in northwest Arkansas for many years.
College hosts reception at Butterfield Trail Village

Interim Dean Lalit Verma and other faculty and staff hosted a reception for alumni and emeritus faculty and staff living at Butterfield Trail Village in Fayetteville and students who have received scholarships sponsored by many of the residents there.

Verma said at least 30 residents have ties to the college and have contributed more than $1.5 million to in support of students, faculty and programs. The group holds 22 degrees from the college and has invested 383 years of teaching and service.

Brooke Jackson, an agricultural business major speaking on behalf of the students, said the scholarships make it possible for some to stay in college and they allow others to devote more time to their studies rather than jobs to help meet expenses.

“Personally, this scholarship means the world to me,” said Jackson, who was able to study abroad this summer in Byron Bay, Australia.

Don Tyson honored with gift of Razorback statue

A son of the late architect Paul Young Jr., Paul Young III, honored a northwest Arkansas leader and close family friend, Don Tyson, with the gift of a razorback statue located in front of the John W. Tyson Poultry Science Building. The statue was dedicated in a short ceremony July 2.

“Today’s dedication ceremony brought together two families who have played a significant role in the development of northwest Arkansas,” said Chancellor G. David Gearhart. “Having grown up in Fayetteville, I can say both of these families have had a substantial impact on our community. I am pleased to have a new statue on our campus that represents their generous, philanthropic hearts.”

Paul Young Jr. assisted in the design of five Arkansas state parks. In 1933, he was assigned to Devil’s Den, fell in love with the area, and decided to open an architectural firm, Paul Young & Associates. Over the next 48 years, he designed many of the churches, schools, commercial, industrial and residential structures in the area.

Alumni gather for tailgate party and silent auction

For the second year in a row, Bumpers College teamed with the Arkansas Alumni Association for the annual DBCAFLS Alumni Society tailgate party and silent auction at the Razorback pre-game rally Oct. 10 as Arkansas hosted Auburn.

More than 80 members and guests of the DBCAFLS Alumni Society didn’t let the chilly, early-morning game time keep them from gathering at the Janelle Y. Hembree Alumni House for a hearty breakfast, Razorback cheers and Hog calls. The silent auction raised nearly $1,500 for scholarships.

Party pictures, which can be downloaded and printed, can be viewed on the AAA Flickr site at: http://www.flickr.com/photos/arkansasalumni/sets/72157622555426762/

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON SPEAKERS
— Ginger Graham and Amanda Simpson spoke on behalf of donors and recipients, respectively, at the Bumpers College Scholarship Luncheon Oct. 9.

College hosts scholarship donors and recipients at annual luncheon

Bumpers College scholarship donors and recipients got acquainted with each other during the annual Scholarship Luncheon Oct. 9 in the Alltel Ballroom in the Arkansas Union.

Ginger L. Graham, of Boulder, Colo., president and CEO of Two Trees Consulting, spoke on behalf of scholarship donors. She and her husband sponsor the Ginger and Jack Graham Endowed Scholarship. She is a 1979 graduate with a B.S. degree in agricultural economics. She also has an M.B.A. degree from Harvard University.

Amanda N. Simpson, a senior from Cave Springs majoring in agricultural business, spoke on behalf of scholarship recipients.

Interim Dean Lalit Verma said 396 students have received 592 scholarships through Bumpers College and the academic departments, so far this year, for a total of about $682,000.

Scholarship endowment to memorialize niece

Patricia Ann Wiggins (BSHE ’62 MS ’73) has included a bequest of $25,000 in her living trust to establish an endowed scholarship for students pursuing degrees in the five majors offered by Bumpers College’s School of Human Environmental Sciences.

The “Kristi Wiggins Endowment Fund” will be named in memory of Pat Wiggins’ niece, who died of brain cancer in 2002 at the age of 30.

Wiggins will also endow a fund in Kristi’s name to benefit Arkansas Children’s Hospital in Little Rock, where she worked as a pediatric nutritionist for 24 years.

“For a while, I grappled with exactly how to properly memorialize Kristi,” Wiggins said. “And then it hit me — I'll give the inheritance she would have received to causes I hold dear. Once I decided exactly what I wanted to do, I felt so good about it. I think this would have really pleased Kristi.”

Wiggins grew up in Crossett and majored in home economics education at the University of Arkansas. She worked for an electric utility company and taught home economics at Pine Bluff High School before returning to the U of A for a master’s degree in clinical nutrition and completing requirements to become a registered dietician.

Wiggins was a nutritionist at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis for several years before accepting a position in 1980 at Arkansas Children’s Hospital. She was a member of the Arkansas Children’s Nutrition Center research team when she retired.

To learn more about creating an endowed fund or including Bumpers College or the School of Human Environmental Sciences in your will, contact Kellie Knight at 479-575-2270 or knight@uark.edu.
Students reach out through National Phone Campaign

Bumpers College students are among those who work the phones during the National Phone Campaign for the University of Arkansas Annual Fund.

Donors contributed about $42,000 to Bumpers College during the campaign last year, Interim Dean Lalit Verma said. He brought food to the phone bank crew Oct. 13 to thank them for their efforts on behalf of the college.

“We hope everyone will take time to visit with our student representatives when they call,” Verma said. He said the campaign has three purposes: to check and update contact information about alumni and friends; provide campus news updates; and provide the opportunity to commit annual support to an area of choice, including a college, department, general scholarship fund or a specific program.

Kellie Knight, Bumpers College director of development, said about 45 students make calls Sunday through Thursday as employees of RuffaloCODY, which conducts the campaign.

“Every gift can help with the cost of in-state tuition and fees at $6,460. Too often we hear our alumni say they didn’t think their small gift could really make a difference. Every gift of any size is another step closer in providing a world-class education for students in Bumpers College.”

The Delta Classic Scholarship Golf Tournament July 24 at the Helena Country Club raised more than $26,000 to fund scholarships for Bumpers College students majoring in crop management or environmental, soil and water science. Department Head Robert Bacon said the tournament has raised more than $238,000 for scholarships in ten years.

Seventy-six scholarships have been awarded, and an endowment is being built for the James L. Barrentine Endowed Scholarship, Bacon said. A former department head, Barrentine started the tournament in 1999.

Delta Classic scholarships of $2,000 each for 2009-10 were awarded to Holden Bell of West Memphis, Jacob Coleman of DeWitt, Will Coleman of Helena, Clay Dubach of Corning, Will Gunnell of DeWitt, Louis Hamilton of Jefferson, Daniel Holaday of Wildwood, Mo., Ashley Millwood of White Hall, Kevin Rorex of Inboden, and Blake Wilkison of Brinkley.

Richie Workman of Little Rock organized this year’s tournament. A local field advisor with Monsanto, he is a member of the CSES Alumni and Friends group.

Corporate sponsors for the tournament were Allen Canning Company, Arkansas Farm Bureau, Isle of Capri and Helena Chemical Company. Hole sponsors for the tournament were BASF; Bayer CropScience LP; Cheminova, Inc.; Coco Distributors; Crop Production Services, Inc.; Delta & Pineland Seed Co.; Dow AgroSciences; Fuller Seed & Supply; Gillette Grain Services; Graves Enterprises; Helena Chemical Company; Hickory Hills Pharmacy; Mary Louise Demoret and V. Poindexter Fiser; Mid-South Ag Equipment; Monsanto; Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.; Producers Rice Mill, Inc.; Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.; Valent; and Division of Agriculture weed scientists John Boyd and Bob Scott.

Delta Classic UA scholarships awarded for CM and ESWS majors

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Francille Firebaugh honored at HESC Homecoming Breakfast

Francille Maloch Firebaugh, BSHE ’55, was guest of honor at the School of Human Environmental Sciences Homecoming Breakfast Oct. 31. HESC Director Mary Warnock presented Firebaugh a plaque that will hang on the school’s Wall of Honor.

A native of Osceola, Firebaugh’s bachelor’s degree from the University of Arkansas was in home economics with a concentration in dietetics. She has a master’s degree in home management and family relations from the University of Tennessee and a doctorate in household economics and management from Cornell.

After 26 years on the faculty and in administrative positions at The Ohio State University, Firebaugh returned to Cornell as dean of the College of Human Ecology and then provost for land-grant affairs.

Francille and John Firebaugh have established a gift annuity to provide scholarships in the School of Human Environmental Sciences.

The event also included tributes to Professor Emeritus Mary Burton and alumna Hazel Spitze, both of whom died in 2009.

Bumpers College Associate Dean Donna Graham said Burton was a pioneer in child development, particularly in providing child care with a focus on development and education of infants and toddlers. She was instrumental in founding the Infant Development Center as a learning laboratory for students and a community service for families.

Graham said Burton’s legacy is an inspiration for the campaign to raise funds for a campus Child Development Center on par with centers on the campuses at peer universities. She died May 2 at the age of 94.

Hazel Taylor Spitze, BSHE ’43, and her husband, Robert G.F. Spitze, BSA ’47, both retired as professors at the University of Illinois. They established an endowed scholarship for students in human environmental sciences, and they endowed the coveted Spitze Land Grant University Faculty Award of Excellence, among other gifts.

SILENT AUCTION — A silent auction at the School of Human Environmental Sciences Homecoming Breakfast Oct. 31 raised funds for the Phi Upsilon Omicron honor society and student clubs in hospitality, apparel studies and family and consumer sciences. Bidding on donated items are, from left, alumna Frances Nutt, Assistant Professor Kelly Way and alumna Betty Bradford.

“Á Class Act II”
February 19-20, 2010 · Crescent Hotel, Eureka Springs

More details are coming soon on this 2nd annual weekend get-a-way hosted by the University of Arkansas Hospitality and Restaurant Management Program.
Biological engineers solve problems in living systems

The biological engineering major prepares students to apply engineering principles and practices to solve problems in biological systems. Graduates are grounded in both areas to understand the complex interactions in living systems on a large scale, such as a farm, or on a very small scale at the cellular and molecular levels.

Formerly known as agricultural engineering, the major is offered by the biological and agricultural engineering department in the College of Engineering and is a joint major in both Bumpers College and the College of Engineering.

By their junior year, most students choose a concentration in one of the following areas:

- **Biomedical/Pre-medicine.** Students learn to design implantable devices such as artificial hips or pacemakers, dialysis machines, or nanotechnology diagnostic and treatment procedures.

- **Ecological engineering.** The science of ecology and engineering practices are combined to solve environmental problems such as wastewater treatment, erosion control, stream restoration, watershed management and ecological risk assessment.

- **Biotechnology.** Students study the basic building blocks of life to understand how to enhance the use of plant, animal and microbial materials. A broad range of applications includes agriculture and food processing, human and veterinary medicine, and industrial materials and systems.

Harrington presented Distinguished Alumni Award

Cordia Harrington, BSHE ’76, was one of three Arkansas alumni to receive the Citation of Distinguished Alumni Award Oct. 30 at the Janelle Y. Hembree Alumni House. The award recognizes exceptional professional and personal achievement and extraordinary distinction in a chosen field.

Other recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award for 2009 were Gov. Mike Beebe, JD ’72, and Art Meripol, BA ’77, senior travel photographer for *Southern Living* magazine.

Harrington is president and chief executive officer of the Tennessee Bun Co. in Nashville. She has launched seven successful companies involving real estate, restaurants and commercial bakeries. In 1996, she established The Tennessee Bun Company, which became the most automated, fastest bakery in the world, producing 60,000 buns an hour. McDonald’s is the company’s biggest client, but they also supply buns to Chili’s, KFC and Pepperidge Farm in 40 states east of the Rockies and the Caribbean.

A foods and nutrition major at the U of A, Harrington was the 2007 Outstanding Alumna for Bumpers College and established the Cordia Harrington “Bun Lady” International Experience Endowed Scholarship to benefit the Bumpers College Global Studies Program.

POULTRY SCIENCE YOUTH CONFERENCE — High school students who attended the Poultry Science Youth Conference July 7-10 pose in the lobby of the John W. Tyson Poultry Science Building. Students learned how food technologists develop new products at the Tyson Discovery Center in Springdale and developed their own products in test kitchens in the poultry science department. Sponsors were the Farm Bureau, Harold E. Ford Foundation and the Center of Excellence for Poultry Science.
Agricultural engineering major linked interests in two disciplines

Alan Fortenberry, chief executive officer of the Beaver Water District, excelled in math and science at Leachville High School in Mississippi County and was steered toward engineering as a college major, but he had grown up on a farm and, “I loved agriculture,” he says. His college fund was money he had earned raising and selling feeder pigs and registered Angus cattle.

His inner conflict was resolved when he discovered the agricultural engineering major at the University of Arkansas. Degrees were granted through the engineering college, but the major included agriculture courses, an arrangement that continues for today’s biological engineering major in the department of biological and agricultural engineering.

Fortenberry was the only “cursed engineer” in the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity at the time. He said he still values his fraternity brother friendships and the mentoring he received from Animal Science Professor Paul Noland, who was the AGR faculty adviser.

The agronomy, soils and crops courses Fortenberry took were valuable parts of the curriculum for the BSAGE degree he received in 1972 and the M.S. degree in environmental engineering he received in 1977, he says. He worked for soil scientist Les Hileman in the Division of Agriculture Soil Testing and Research Laboratory on research projects, including one using compost to reclaim soil damaged by brine from oil wells.

The working relationship with Hileman continued in Fortenberry’s first job with the Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation Commission, now Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC). His next position was with the McGoodwin, Williams and Yates engineering firm, based in Fayetteville, which included designing water treatment plants. He joined Beaver Water District in 1991 and was named CEO in 2001.

Beaver Water District, established in August 1959, is an essential public utility to allow economic growth in the agricultural, industrial and residential sectors of northwest Arkansas, Fortenberry says. The district provides treated drinking water for more than 250,000 residents and for agricultural and industrial uses. A recent study projected that the district’s current allocation from Beaver Lake should be good through about 2050. The lake also provides flood control, power generation and recreation.

Water quality is part of the continuing challenge of meeting the growing demand for a safe, dependable and economical supply of water, Fortenberry says.

A major priority of Beaver Water District is working with the ANRC, the Division of Agriculture and others to promote public awareness of the need to protect the quality of water in watersheds that drain into Beaver Lake.

“It is much easier and more economical to protect and preserve the water quality in Beaver Lake than to clean it up,” Fortenberry says. “Part of it is to overcome public apathy about the need to protect water quality.” Another concern is avoiding “simplistic” actions intended to protect water quality that are not based on sound engineering and scientific principles and facts, he says. Ill-considered actions may not only impose unnecessary restrictions, they can have unintended consequences that reduce the quality of water in a watershed, he says.

Fortenberry and his wife, the former Patricia Rose, also from Leachville, who has a B.S. degree in medical technology from UA-Medical Sciences, have three children and six grandchildren.

— Howell Medders
Equine program engages top students

When Marci Jennings Crosby became head of the equine program at the University of Missouri, Columbia, she decided to model her program after the Dorothy E. King Equine Program at the University of Arkansas.

Crosby was uniquely positioned to do so. A 2004 graduate of the U of A, she joined the university’s program as one of its first students at its inception in 2000.

“I think that experience gave me an edge in getting this job, because I’d already been through so much of what they wanted to do here to grow the program.”

After graduation, Crosby spent a breeding season working for the Hagyard Equine Medical Institute in Lexington, Ky. Later, after earning a master’s degree in equine reproductive physiology, she became the equine instructor and extension specialist at Missouri.

The Dorothy E. King Equine Program is part of the department of animal science in the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture and Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences. Enrolled students follow a rigorous circuit of classes that takes them through the entire cycle of horse care, breeding, training and marketing.

“They learn to feed, breed and foal out,” said Nancy Jack, director of the U of A program. “They train horses and learn to prep, market and sell them.”

Graduates from the program work in horse production and breeding, Jack said. They are representatives for feed, health and other equine products companies. They teach high school classes in animal science. And every year, about half go to veterinary medical school or pursue graduate degrees.

Student-run equine programs and events that put the students’ new skills to work augment their education and provide the primary funding for the program, Jack said. Each fall, they plan and execute a horse sale that typically sees 500 people bidding on horses. Each spring the University of Arkansas Horse Festival averages 2,500 visitors to an extravaganza of clinics, equine entertainment and demonstrations. The students assist each spring with a Division of Agriculture adult education workshop on equine reproductive techniques. The students also assist with a commercially operated Lippizan horse show held each year at the university’s Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center.

“We run this program like a business,” Jack said. “I tell them, this is your horse sale, your horse show.”

Jack said this level of involvement induces a sense of ownership for the students. “They are very committed,” she said. “They’re very loyal and protective of the program.”

The students work in every area of the program, Jack said. They feed the horses 365 days a year, examine their health, care for and train them. They take care of the tack. “They even clean the bathroom in the horse barn,” she said.

“The students are completely engaged,” Jack said. “The barn is like a clubhouse for them.”

Jack enforces a dress code, too. When in class or working around the horse barn, there are no bare midriffs, sleeveless shirts or any clothing that presents safety hazards while working around horses or that would be considered inappropriate should a prospective buyer drop by.

“We are training young people in skills that are very much in demand in any business,” Jack said. Those skills include responsibility, being prompt, public relations, public speaking and always being prepared to answer questions about their business and passion.

“We demand a lot of these students and they know coming in that the classes and internships are work,” Jack said.

The nine-year-old program has 65 students going through the entire program. In addition, almost all of the 155 animal science majors, as well as students from almost every other college in the university, take at least one or two equine classes.

— Fred Miller
The Bumpers College commitment to experiential learning in each of its majors includes internship opportunities throughout Arkansas, coast-to-coast, and abroad. Here are just a few samples.

Kristen Byrne of Dierks, a poultry science major, was a summer intern at the Scottish Agriculture College (SAC) Growth Genetics, Animal Breeding and Development Team in Edinburgh. Her duties included assisting with genetics research related to the effect of quantitative trait loci (QTL) on meat yield in sheep.

Byrne shared a flat with three other Bumpers College student interns. Helen Wicks was also at SAC. Kimberly Santos and Kyndl Brunson were interns with the Royal School of Veterinary Studies in Edinburgh. They had time for sightseeing, which included visits to Edinburgh Castle, Stirling Castle and a weekend in Ireland where they saw Loch Ness and the Blarney Stone.

“The people were amazing,” said Byrne. “The whole program was amazing and the country was gorgeous. I would do it again in a heartbeat.”

Byrne plans to pursue a Ph.D. degree and work in immunology research for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The internships were arranged through the Bumpers College Global Studies Program.

Morgan Balmer of Dallas, an interior design major, was a summer intern at the Duncan Miller Ullmann design firm in Dallas, which provides design services for the hospitality industry worldwide.

Balmer said she worked on projects for two hotels in China and the new Eilan Hotel in San Antonio. She also designed an innovative hotel room footprint and presented it to one of the partners and senior design staff.

“I learned a lot and felt like I made a contribution. I designed a pattern for a corridor carpet, which was accepted and is being used. I now have no doubt that this is exactly what I want to do (for a career),” Balmer said.

Scott Wasser, a horticulture, landscape and turf science major, was a summer intern at Chrystal Downs Country Club, Frankfurt, Mich., which is ranked No. 16 in the United States by Golf Digest.

“It was an incredible experience in every way,” said Wasser, who is president of the UA Turf Club. Highlights included working with nationally ranked superintendent Mike Norris, intensive greens management experience, free golf every afternoon, and living in one of the leading Lake Michigan resort areas. He and an intern at a nearby public course traded jobs for a day, which was also a great experience, he said.

A native of Edwardsville, Ill., Wasser learned about the Bumpers College turf program at a college fair in St. Louis.

Three food science students had summer internships at Allens, Inc., in Siloam Springs, and two are still there as part-time employees while finishing their degree requirements.

“I love it here,” said Kaylee Daugherty of Lincoln. The others were George Anderson of Morristown, N.J., who is also still working part-time, and Brett Blakely of North Little Rock. Allens, Inc., is a leading manufacturer of canned and frozen vegetable products.

Daugherty said she and the other interns learned about the entire operation. She worked in the research and development department, and her activities included product development, nutritional analysis and...
labeling, and quality control. The interns completed their summer jobs with a presentation to CEO Roderick Allen and other executives.

“I learned that all the departments work with research and development. We need information from everyone. I plan to work in this industry after I graduate, hopefully for Allens,” Daugherty said. “After a few years in a job I would like to get an M.B.A. (Master of Arts in Business Administration degree)”

Joseph Wilson of Eureka Springs, a food, human nutrition and hospitality major, hopes his six-month internship at Disney’s Grand Floridian Resort in Orlando this summer and fall leads to a coveted professional management internship with the resort.

As a bell services dispatcher, Wilson dealt with a variety of guest issues ranging from routine assistance with luggage to lost parents and belongings. He received the quarterly “Unbelievable Employee” award and took several hospitality management classes provided by Disney.

“It’s been a great learning experience, and I’ve enjoyed meeting people from all over the country,” Wilson said.

Ben Thrash, a crop management major, is conducting an undergraduate research project that he began during a summer internship at the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture’s extension and research center at Lonoke with Extension Entomologist Gus Lorenz.

“It was actually my third summer; I really enjoy the work,” Thrash said. “We travelled all over the state putting out tests.”

He said he learned to conduct field experiments to test insecticides in cotton, rice and soybeans. He also helped determine treatment thresholds — the level of insect population in a field that justifies the cost of treatment. His research project is to re-evaluate the recommended treatment threshold for three-cornered alfalfa hopper in soybeans.

Thrash is from Conway, where his family has farmed for several generations and now produces row crops and beef cattle. He plans to pursue a graduate degree in entomology.

Nathan Jones of Conway, a biological engineering major, was a watershed planning intern this summer with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s watershed and aquifer protection unit in Denver.

He built an interactive MS Access program to educate local watershed and conservation groups about effective management. He also spent time in the field taking water samples, fish stocking and doing ecological surveys in the Rocky Mountain region.

“I spent every weekend kayaking, mountain biking, backpacking and caving,” Jones said. “I made great connections and learned a lot about nonpoint source pollution and watershed management.” Jones is the top ranked student in the College of Engineering. Biological Engineering is a joint major in Bumpers College and Engineering.

Angela Medley of Fort Smith, an apparel studies major, was a summer intern with the Asia Development Management Group, based in Fayetteville, which markets hand-knotted Tibetan rugs and other wool products made by nomadic Tibetans.

“I was asked to further their current product line, and I began the task of designing pillows,” Medley said. “I was able to help facilitate the production of these pillows and visited Tibet in July to better see how everything was coming together. The trip was such an amazing gift that opened my eyes to the needs of others, but even more so it allowed me to better see how I can use my skill set to address those needs.”
Emily Rappold of Prairie Village, Kan., an apparel studies major, sent a cold query to Milly, N.Y., which resulted in an interview with the New York City design firm, and the interview led to a summer internship. “I worked on photo shoots, a charity event and attended many meetings. I was very prepared for this internship, but I also learned a lot on the job and applied what I had already learned,” Rappold said.

Sarah Nagashima, an apparel studies major and a 2009 All American on the University of Arkansas gymnastics team, designed a leotard for the UA team as an intern at DareDevils Activewear in her home town of Bothell, Wash. When she graduates, Nagashima said, “I would like to work in a design firm in Seattle and eventually start my own business.”

As a gymnast, Nagashima is an all-around competitor in the vault, bars, balance beam and floor exercise. Teammate Stacy Bartlett — a food, human nutrition and hospitality major — is a balance beam specialist. Nagashima and Bartlett won All-Scholar honors from the National Association of Collegiate Gymnastics Coaches/Women in 2008-09.

The 2009 team placed fifth in the NCAA Championships, and Nagashima was one of three Gym’Backs who advanced to the NCAA Championship event finals.

Kameron Sullivan of Prairie Grove, an animal science major, was a summer intern at the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC), Edinburgh. Sullivan worked with the Animal Health Group at SAC’s animal research location at the Bush Estate. He assisted with a variety of laboratory and field research projects with sheep, rats and cattle.

“The internship in Scotland was an amazing experience,” Sullivan said. “The rules, laws and research approaches are so different from those in the U.S. It was well worth the effort. I would absolutely recommend it to others.”

Sullivan received a Cordia Harrington “The Bun Lady” International Experience Endowed Scholarship to help with his travel. The internship was arranged through the Bumpers College Global Studies Program.

Max Wyss of Rector, an agricultural education, communication and technology major, was a summer intern with the crop services arm of the broadly diversified E. Ritter Company, a major employer in eastern Arkansas.

“When I interviewed for my internship, I told Dan Kennedy (general manager of Ritter Crop Service, based in Marked Tree) I was worried about the future of agriculture. He said as long as people eat, there will be all kinds of jobs in agriculture. I now know that is absolutely true,” Wyss said.

He worked in a farm supply warehouse with duties that ranged from loading merchandise to inventory management to treating seed. “I learned a lot by watching how everything worked,” he said. “I learned that customer satisfaction is number one and how inventory in the warehouse can tell you what’s selling and what’s not.”

Wyss is interested in an agricultural sales job that leads to a management position and would like to eventually have his own business.

Fendley Ragland of Harrison, an agricultural business major, served as the Spitze Public Policy Legislative Intern sponsored by Bumpers College in the Washington, D.C., office of Sen. Blanche Lincoln. He completed requirements for a B.S.A. degree this summer with an agribusiness major and a minor in finance and is pursuing a master’s degree in agricultural economics.

Ragland assisted Sen. Lincoln’s agriculture and trade adviser on researching and monitoring legislative issues pertaining to agriculture, including domestic and international food security issues, various international trade agreements, and all matters before the Senate Agriculture Committee, which she chairs. He also conducted U.S. Capitol tours for visiting Arkansans and assisted the communications office.

“I really enjoyed being around the people working on important issues and meeting Arkansas people who came up. I learned a lot helping the staff research legislation, such as cap and trade, health care and support for agritourism,” Ragland said.

— Howell Medders
Faculty members join emeritus ranks

Nine Division of Agriculture and Bumpers College faculty members joined the emeritus ranks as of June 30 or before. Those retiring in five academic departments were as follows.

**Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences**

Professor **Tommy C. Daniel** joined the faculty in 1989 and was previously a professor at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He taught courses in environmental soil and water science. His research focus was water quality, runoff, agricultural nonpoint pollution and eutrophication with special emphasis on phosphorus.

Professor **E. Moye Rutledge** joined the faculty in 1968 after receiving a doctorate in agronomy from The Ohio State University. He taught courses in soil classification and genesis and septic systems. Areas of his research emphasis included the suitability of soils for various uses, especially for the treatment of wastes by septic systems; loess deposits as soil parent materials; the genesis and classification of soils; and composition and interpretation of soil map units.

**Entomology**

University Professor **M.V. “Max” Meisch** joined the faculty in 1970 after receiving a doctorate in entomology at Texas A&M. He taught a popular course on “insects and people” and field and laboratory studies in entomology. His research specialty was medical entomology with a focus on bionomics and control of ricefield mosquitoes and black flies.

Professor **C. Dayton Steelman** accepted a position as associate director of the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station in 1983, coming from Louisiana State University where he was experiment station assistant director. He moved from administration to the entomology faculty in 1986 where he taught courses in forensic, medical and veterinary entomology. His research interests included arthropod pests of beef cattle and poultry and tick-borne diseases in wildlife populations.

**School of Human Environmental Sciences**

Professor **Sue S. Martin** joined the home economics faculty in 1977, coming from John Brown University where she was an assistant professor. She taught courses and conducted service and research programs in child development and family relations with a focus on improvement of early childhood education services in Arkansas.

Professor **Mary Margaret “Peggy” Whan** was appointed head of the home economics department in 1988, coming from North Dakota State where she was assistant dean of the College of Home Economics. She returned to the teaching faculty in 1999. Her teaching, research and service interests focused on family economics and home management and the general human environmental sciences major.

**Poultry Science**

Professor **Frank Jones** joined the Division of Agriculture as extension poultry section leader in 1997. In addition to extension education programs he conducted research in pre-harvest food safety, animal and poultry feed production, prevention of mold growth and mycotoxin contamination in poultry feeds and commercial egg production.

**Food Science**

Distinguished Professor **Justin Morris** joined the Division of Agriculture in 1964 as an extension horticulturist for processing crops and was appointed assistant professor of horticultural food science in 1967. He was named director of the Institute of Food Science and Engineering in 1995. His teaching, extension and research have focused on grape and wine production and processing with an emphasis on mechanized vineyard management and the influence of the pre-harvest complex on juice and wine quality.

Professor **Michael G. Johnson** came to the U of A in 1984 from Clemson University. He taught courses in food microbiology and fermented foods. His research in food safety and microbiology included interests in pathogen detection using monoclonal antibody and nucleic acid probes, *Listeria monocytogenes*, antibiotic resistance of pathogens and control of pathogens with heat and chemicals.
Entomology honors distinguished alumnus

Richard Brown, professor of entomology and plant pathology at Mississippi State University, was presented the 2009 Distinguished Alumnus Award for the department of entomology during a reception Sept. 11. Brown is also a faculty member of the Mississippi State Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine.

Brown, an Arkansas native, earned a bachelor of science degree in zoology at the University of Arkansas in 1970 and a master’s degree in entomology in 1973. Brown’s three siblings also are U of A alumni: Stanley Brown, BS ’63; Joyce Bequette, BSE ’64 MEd ’83; and Elvin Brown, BSA ’63 MS ’69.

Plant Pathology observes centennial

The Department of Plant Pathology observed its 100th anniversary this fall with a Centennial Seminar Series. It is one of the oldest stand-alone plant pathology departments in a university in the United States.

Seminar speakers included former faculty members Professor Sung Lim, retired department head, and Professor Emeritus Rose Gergerich. Also giving seminars were alumni Steven A. Slack, director of the Ohio Agriculture Research and Development Center; William E. Dolezal, Pioneer Hi-Bred Intl., Johnston, Iowa; Jeff Hoy, Louisiana State University; J.W. Moore, Cimarron Valley Research Station, Oklahoma State University; and Paula Agudelo, Clemson University.

A. Rick Bennett became the eighth head of the department in March 2009, following the retirement of Sung Lim, who had served since 1991. Bennett is former national program leader for plant health in the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.


Undergraduate student research published in DISCOVERY journal

Articles by undergraduate students on the results of research conducted with faculty mentors were published in the 2009 edition of the DISCOVERY journal, which is available online at: http://arkansasagnews.uark.edu/397.htm.

The DISCOVERY undergraduate journal is one of the ways Bumpers College encourages students to engage in learning experiences beyond the classroom. The college awards undergraduate research grants and additional research grants are available from the University of Arkansas Honors College and the Arkansas Department of Higher Education.

The nine articles in this 10th annual volume of DISCOVERY cover areas of crop management, animal science, agricultural marketing, dietetics, agricultural systems technology management, human nutrition and food science.
1960s

Frank L. Carter, BSA ’65 MS ’68, recently retired after 25 years with the U.S. cotton industry. His tenure included ten years with Cotton Incorporated in Raleigh, N.C., and the last 15 years with the National Cotton Council in Memphis. He provided leadership for grower support of eradication programs for the boll weevil and pink bollworms in the U.S. and northern Mexico.

1970s

Susan Gilbert Kemp, BSHE ’73 MS ’75, of Mountain View, a member of the Bumpers College Alumni Society board of directors, was presented the 2009 Distinguished Citizen Award at the annual Mountain View Chamber of Commerce Banquet in March. Kemp is active in a variety of community organizations. She retired from a teaching career of 26 years at Mountain View High School and Rural Special High School near Mountain View.

2000s

Amber Pugh Ham, BSHES ’03, was accepted to Texas Tech University in Lubbock to obtain her M.S. degree in Family and Consumer Science Education through their Great Plains IDEA program.

Stephanie Slone Snadon, BID ’03, has passed the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) Examination and is now certified.

Matt Dickhut, BSA ’08, is co-director of Arkansas Youth Adventures — Guiding youth ages 11–16+ in Arkansas’ Backcountry. www.arkansasyouthadventures.com

Births

Russ W. Martin Jr., BSA ’01 MS ’04, and wife Emily announce the birth of their second child and first boy, Cole William Martin on March 1, 2009.

Joseph N. Beasley 1924-2009

Professor Emeritus Joseph Noble Beasley, 85, of Farmington died Thursday, May 14, at Washington Regional Medical Center. A veterinarian and poultry pathologist, he joined the University of Arkansas faculty in 1949 and retired in June 1995.

Beasley was one of the first pathologists to work on Marek’s disease of poultry and identified the means by which the disease was spread. Other research involved turkey hemorrhagic enteritis, mycotoxins and bursal disease, and the pathology and pathogenesis of proventriculitis in broilers.

Beasley was born March 11, 1924, in Centerton. He served in the Army and then the Navy as a pharmacist mate. He was on the faculty at Texas A&M University for seven years and at the medical school in Oklahoma City for two years.

Survivors include his wife, Joan Beasley; a son, Michael of California; and a sister, Ruth Raggio of New Orleans.

Lindsay Hale McWilliams, BS ’02, and husband Marty announce the birth of their son, William “Cooper” on May 29, 2009. He joins big sister Marleigh Jo.


Hazel Taylor Spitze 1922-2009

Hazel Taylor Spitze, BSHE ’43, died Aug. 22 in Urbana, Ill. She was a native of DeQueen and graduated from high school in Fayetteville.

Professor Spitze and her husband, Robert G.F. Spitze, BSA ’47, provided several scholarship endowments and also funded the Spitze Land Grant University Faculty Award for Excellence.

The Spitzes met at the University of Arkansas and were married when he returned from U.S. Navy service during World War II. They both obtained Ph.D. degrees, hers in education and his in agricultural economics, and had distinguished academic careers. Hazel retired in 1987 and Bob in 1992 from the University of Illinois, where they had become national leaders in their fields.

She taught at the secondary, adult and higher education levels and developed innovative methods for adult education. She was an invited participant in two White House conferences on nutrition, health and children.

The many awards recognizing Professor Spitze’s accomplishments included Outstanding Alumni of the Year (shared with Bob) by Bumpers College in 1994.

Lance Wright, BSA ’00 MS ’03 JD ’04, and wife Skye announce the birth of a son, Oran Lawson Wright, on March 12, 2009.

E-mail your class notes to Ashley Harris
awharris@uark.edu or fax to 479-575-7273.

Lance Wright, BSA ’00 MS ’03 JD ’04, and wife Skye announce the birth of a son, Oran Lawson Wright, on March 12, 2009.
Arkansas Farm Bureau has a long tradition of supporting Bumpers College students, alumni and the research and extension programs of the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture.

Thanks for your support!
Arkansas Farm Bureau is helping to pay for printing of this issue of The Graduate.
The department of horticulture awarded 2009 Distinguished Alumni honors to Teddy Morelock and Charles Murdoch. George Bradley received the Distinguished Service award from the department. The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Arkansas was recognized as the 2009 Distinguished Friend.

University Professor Teddy E. Morelock, BSA '66 MS '68, died April 18. He conducted a vegetable crop breeding program that developed varieties of southernpea, spinach, mustard and turnip. He was also an Angus breeder and was active in the National Junior Angus Association. He joined the horticulture faculty in 1974 after receiving a Ph.D. degree from the University of Wisconsin.

Charles L. Murdoch, BSA '59 MS '60, is emeritus professor of horticulture and emeritus turfgrass specialist at the University of Hawaii and an adjunct professor of horticulture at the U of A. He lives now in Hot Springs Village. He taught turfgrass management for 25 years at Hawaii and was chair of the horticulture department graduate faculty for 10 years. He also conducted turfgrass research and extension programs.

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Arkansas was an early supporter of an increased research, extension and teaching emphasis in turfgrass management and provided financial support for irrigation systems and research greens at the Arkansas Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Fayetteville. The association supports fundraising efforts, helps fund research and provides a scholarship for turfgrass students. Lee McBurnett, BSA '02, secretary, accepted the award on behalf of the association.

Professor emeritus George Bradley of Fayetteville has a B.S. degree from the University of Delaware and a doctorate from Cornell University. He joined the U of A faculty in 1955 and was department head from 1968 to 1991. After becoming department head, he continued to teach and advise Ph.D. students. He is known for recruiting outstanding faculty who developed renowned research programs in fruit and vegetable crops, ornamental horticulture and forestry.