Graduate, Fall-Winter 2010

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

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New DBCAFLS Alumni Society board member

Russell Jay “Rusty” Burke, BSA '89, of Hope is a regional lending manager for Diamond Bank. He began his banking career with First National Bank of Hope in 1990 where he became vice-president/loan officer. He moved to Diamond State Bank, now Diamond Bank, in 2001 as branch manager for a start-up branch in Hope. In 2007, he became regional lending manager, overseeing the lending functions at Hope, Glenwood and Murfreesboro locations. He has been a member of the Arkansas Alumni Association since 1989 and is a member of the Hope Rotary Club. He enjoys farming, boating and camping. He is married to Sharlene Harris Burke.

Bumpers College Ambassadors for 2010-2011, pictured with Dean Mike Vayda, are, from left, Danilo Tchoupe, Crystal Ahrens, Cody Gallagher, Meghan Ness, Christopher Addison, Megan Crudup, Dean Vayda, Aimee Hasenbeck, Arthur Leal, Kaitlin Mitchell, Brittany Arroyos, Michael Norton and Kendra Meadors.

http://alumni.uark.edu
From the Dean

Dale Bumpers legacy inspires Bumpers College aspirations

I am very pleased to have the honor of serving as your Dean of Bumpers College since July 1. Senator Dale Bumpers was instrumental in facilitating the rise of the Arkansas food processing and food production industries to the world-prominent position they occupy today. Senator Bumpers championed the central concepts of environmental stewardship and sustainability long before they were fashionable, with economic opportunity for all Arkansans a primary tenet of sustainability. Further, Senator Bumpers championed initiatives for child wellness and quality of life.

It is such a pleasure for me to honor Senator Bumpers’ legacy by assisting our talented faculty in serving the state’s needs in workforce development. The 13 majors of our academic programs offer premier opportunities for students to pursue meaningful professional career paths in industries so vital to the continued prosperity of Arkansas, providing “Food, Sustainability and Quality of Life” to our citizens. I am pleased to steward these quality academic programs addressing some of the most important and timely issues facing the nation and the globe.

This is a very exciting time to be a member of Bumpers College, and I am fortunate to be afforded a college with such talented faculty and staff who exhibit boundless energy, enthusiasm, high hopes and enormous promise. They are the heart and soul of the college. We as a college are committed to re-engaging with our students, our alumni and our stakeholders in meeting these aspirations.

You, the alumni, are the life energy of the college, providing us with the intrinsic spirit, heritage, seasoned perspective and legacy. You are also our inspiration, our aspiration, our reason-to-be, reason to serve and reason to excel. I am impressed by the enthusiasm and loyalty that University of Arkansas alumni have for their alma mater and the warm appreciation you have shown for the education, experiences and memories of Bumpers College.

We will continually strive to optimize the student experience, to position our students maximally for lifelong success, and to meet the needs of our stakeholders for the economic well-being of Arkansas and the nation. We recognize that these are three facets of a single goal. I encourage you to share with me your thoughts and suggestions for success. I would also like to hear your personal stories of the U of A to gain a better appreciation for treasured traditions that must be preserved.

Thank you for your enthusiastic support of Bumpers College and the University of Arkansas! I am grateful for your continued participation in your college.

Sincerely,

Mike Vayda

The Graduate is published for alumni and friends of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences and the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture. Send alumni news and other correspondence to Trina Holman, Bumpers College Alumni Society, AFLS E108, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

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Fall greetings from your DBCAFLS Alumni Board. Our most recent board meeting in Fayetteville just happened to fall on the same day of the Arkansas-Alabama football game; funny how things work out. Although the outcome of the game was disappointing, it was a great backdrop for a board meeting and our annual tailgate event. We decided to move the event back to the AFLS Atrium, which was a little more personable setting and still close to the stadium. Nearly 100 people attended, and we had a great time eating barbecue from Penguin Ed’s and pontificating on the upcoming game. Our new college dean, Michael Vayda, led everyone in “Calling the Hogs.” It is always fun to watch someone new to the state participate in that cheer. He did a great job.

A silent auction during the event raised $975, which will be used for scholarships sponsored by the board. We appreciate everyone’s generous giving for the auction and attendance at the tailgate party. If you have never attended, make plans to attend next year. It is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends. We will send out e-mails and regular mail cards announcing the details, date and time of next year’s event. I would like to thank Trina Holman, our society director, for organizing the tailgate. She always does a wonderful job.

Another event recently hosted by the board was our Senior Banquet in the spring to recognize our graduating seniors. The dinner gave us an opportunity to congratulate and welcome them as new alumni. We had good attendance, ate a lot of Mexican food and gave out numerous door prizes. We hope that, through events like this, our newest alumni stay connected to the university.

I would like to welcome Russell Burke as our most recent addition to the board. Russell is from Hope and will represent the Southwest District of our state. We look forward to working with him in the years to come. We are still looking for another board member from that area of the state. If you or someone you know may be interested in being a board member, please contact me at 870-972-4766 or Trina Holman at 479-575-2179.

As a board member, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve you.

— Scott Mason
**Meullenet heads Department of Food Science**

Jean-François Meullenet, a professor in the Department of Food Science, was appointed department head in May, following a nationwide search.

The department’s 14 faculty members and 10 adjunct faculty members provide the curriculum for bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees and conduct interdisciplinary research and extension programs as Division of Agriculture scientists.

Meullenet holds the Tyson Distinguished Professorship in Food Sensory Science and has served as interim head of the department since December 2008.

“I am honored to serve in this role,” Meullenet said. “Our faculty offers great career opportunities for students and conducts outstanding research and extension programs in support of the food industry, which is so critical to our economy and the health and well-being of consumers.”

Meullenet developed the department’s rheology and sensory research program and the Sensory Evaluation Service Center for testing consumer responses to food products. He has developed new and enhanced consumer research methods and is the author of over 70 scientific publications.

Meullenet joined the faculty in 1996 after receiving a Ph.D. degree at the University of Georgia. He has a master’s degree in food engineering from the National Superior School of Agronomy and Food Sciences, Nancy, France.

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**Mike Vayda named Bumpers College dean**

Michael E. Vayda became the 13th dean of Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences July 1. He is also associate vice president for academic programs in the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture.

Lalit R. Verma, who served as interim dean for nearly two years, returned to his position as head of the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering.

“Agriculture is such an essential part of the Arkansas economy, and Bumpers College is absolutely essential to the future development of our state,” said Vice President for Agriculture Milo J. Shult, “I am very pleased that we have someone of Dr. Vayda’s stature to lead the college at this critical time.”

Vayda came from the University of Vermont where he was associate dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and associate director of the Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station.

“Michael Vayda has the experience and the energy to continue moving Bumpers College forward,” said University of Arkansas Provost Sharon Gaber. “His academic credentials are as strong as his record of service in agriculture.”

Vayda has served as chair of the Northeast Regional Research Association Experiment Station Directors, executive committee member of the University of Vermont’s “Ag Innovations Initiative,” and president of the Maine Center of Innovation in Biotechnology. He was named a Kellogg Foundation Fellow in the Food Systems Leadership Institute and received the College of Natural Sciences Forestry and Agriculture Outstanding Public Service award.

He has held faculty and administrative appointments at the University of Maine and the University of Vermont, as well as visiting appointments at Princeton University, Northeastern University and Palmer Station in Antarctica.

Vayda has a doctoral degree in molecular biology and a Master of Arts in biochemical sciences from Princeton University, and a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry and Bachelor of Arts in zoology from the University of New Hampshire. He held a post-doctoral appointment at the University of California, Berkeley, in plant molecular genetics.

“Mike Vayda has a strong background in the science and technology that are increasingly important in the field of agriculture,” said Chancellor G. David Gearhart. “His record as a researcher is excellent, and he is highly regarded as a scientist, as well as an administrator. He will provide an energizing, catalytic force for Bumpers College.”

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** — Trina Holman, coordinator of alumni relations, cuts a piece of birthday cake for Bob Spitze, whose 88th birthday was Oct. 12. Bumpers College and Division of Agriculture staff and faculty celebrated Spitze’s birthday with a reception Oct. 15 following the annual Bumpers College Scholarship Luncheon.
Thompsons endow graduate student scholarship

The Lyell and Marcella J. Thompson Endowed Scholarship to assist graduate students in the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences has been established with a $25,000 charitable gift annuity given by the Thompsons.

“I enjoyed teaching and my students very much, my whole life has been concerned with academe, and we can afford it,” Thompson said as reasons for providing the endowment.

Both natives of rural Oklahoma, Lyell and Marki met in high school at Perry, Okla., and were married in 1946 when he returned from Europe after World War II, where he fought in the famous Battle of the Bulge.

After receiving a B.S. degree from Oklahoma A&M and a doctorate from Ohio State University, Thompson worked at the Noble Foundation in Oklahoma for five years and then joined the U of A faculty in 1958. He retired in 1991.

Thompson was director of the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture’s Soil Testing Laboratory for five years. His research interest was the role of trace elements in crop fertility, and he was instrumental in documenting the importance of molybdenum and zinc in crop plant nutrition.

Marki received a B.S. degree in zoology and an M.Ed. degree from the U of A. She taught at Asbell Elementary during most of her 24-year teaching career. “I loved every minute of it and all of the children I taught,” she said.

The Thompsons raised five children in their home near Wilson Park, which they bought in 1959 and where they still reside. Marki is also a painter and fabric artist.

Thompson was active in promoting civil rights at a time when some university administrators discouraged such activities. He was mentor to two of the first African American agriculture graduate students, Frank Haynes, MS ’78, and George Turner, MS ’82, of St. Francis County. Haynes and Turner had careers in the Farmers Home Administration and now live near their boyhood homes at Colt.

Thompson served on the Arkansas advisory committee of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission in the 1960s and was active in a multicultural campus ministry.

Thompson was active in campus governance, serving as chair of the campus faculty and chair of the committee that brought many distinguished speakers to campus.

Having served as a justice of the peace in the Washington County Quorum Court, Thompson has exercised his lifetime authority to perform marriages in at least 1,300 weddings, he said. He is also locally famous for his performance, in costume, of the Mark Twain monologue made famous by actor Hal Holbrook. He remains available for weddings and Mark Twain monologue performances.

Founder Award added to Kattan Scholarship Fund

The Ozark Food Processors Association Ahmed A. Kattan Scholarship in Food Science was established in 1989 to honor the founder of the University of Arkansas Department of Food Science.

Thanks to a recent gift of $10,000 from Ahmed and Anna Kattan, Founder Award scholarships in the amount of $1,000 for the outstanding freshman, sophomore and junior majoring in food science will now be awarded yearly. Recipients will be selected at the end of the spring semester to receive a $1,000 scholarship for the following year. Previously, one or more scholarships were awarded each year from the fund.

The name has been changed to the Ozark Food Processors Association Ahmed and Anna Kattan Scholarship in Food Science.

Kattan organized and served as head of the Department of Food Science from its inception in 1968 until his retirement in 1988. He also provided leadership and service to the food processing industry in Arkansas and the nation.
H.E. Ford Foundation supports poultry education

The University of Arkansas Department of Poultry Science recently received a donation of $18,349 from the Southeastern Poultry and Egg Association Harold E. Ford Foundation.

The foundation, named for a former executive with the U.S. Poultry and Egg Association, promotes advancement of the poultry industry through education and training. Mike Kidd, department head and director for the Center of Excellence for Poultry Science, said the gift will help support recruitment efforts such as the annual Poultry Science Youth Conference, the youth broiler show at the Arkansas State Fair and in-service training for faculty.

“The Harold E. Ford Foundation contributions to the Poultry Science Department are vital to the mission of the department for recruiting future leaders of the poultry industry. The check will be used for numerous activities to educate youth on the career opportunities that a poultry science major has to offer,” Kidd said.

The Harold E. Ford Foundation was founded in 1995 and has disbursed nearly $1 million dollars to poultry science departments across the nation.

Missouri 4-H inducts Nutts to Hall of Fame

Hugh (BSA ’50) and Frances (BSHE ’50) Nutt of Lamar, Mo., were inducted into the Missouri 4-H Hall of Fame Aug. 15 during the State Fair at Sedalia. They were cited as “outstanding supporters of the Barton County 4-H program.”

Hugh was 4-H youth specialist in Barton County for 20 of his 33 years with the Missouri Cooperative extension Service. The couple established a scholarship program for local 4-H’ers. They have been generous supporters of Bumpers College and the University of Arkansas. They provided leadership and gifts to establish the Carnall Hall Alumni Endowed Scholarship.
DBCAFLS Alumni Society hog party

Bumpers College alumni and friends gathered in the AFLS Building atrium for the annual DBCAFLS Alumni Society Tailgate Party at noon Saturday before the Arkansas vs. Alabama football game. They enjoyed catching up with old friends, a barbecue buffet, door prizes and a silent auction to raise funds for the Alumni Society Scholarship fund.

Calling the Hogs at the DBCAFLS Alumni Society Tailgate Party in the AFLS atrium.

Plant Pathology Dept. Head Rick Bennett with Jacob, Grace, Gillian and Melissa.

Past and present board members: Matt Mason, Suzanne Pennington, Ron Railey, Rusty Burke, Jerry Burkett, Scott Mason, Boyce Johnson, Penny Storms, Kyle Moery, Susan Kemp, Roy Runyan, Alumni Society Coordinator Trina Holman, David Daniel, Betty Bradford and Dean Mike Vayda.

Penny Storms, Rusty and Sharlene Burke, Monty and Margaret Henderson and John Kemp.

Alumni and friends visited with Dean Mike Vayda, his wife, Jeanne Marie, and son, Peter, at the DBCAFLS Alumni Society Tailgate Party. Pictured with several board members, from left, are Matt Mason, Dean Vayda, Peter, Jeanne Marie, Susan Kemp, Boyce Johnson and Kyle Moery.

Scott Mason, son Drew, nephew Tyler, John Kemp and Robin Burkett.

Leslie and Eric Vaught.
Plant pathology student awarded fellowships

Plant pathology master’s student Lou Hirsch was awarded a Melhus Fellowship at the American Phytopathological Society meeting in August in Nashville. He is one of only four students, selected from applicants nationwide, to participate in the 10th I.E. Melhus Graduate Student Symposium held during the annual meeting. The symposium featured his graduate thesis work on “Characterization of genes in *Fusarium verticillioides* regulating colonization of maize kernels.”

Hirsch was also offered a Doctoral Academy Fellowship for his Ph.D. studies beginning this fall. The four-year fellowship, one of only about 40 nationwide, is based on academic scores and scholarly activity.

Hundley receives fellowship

The $8,000 Arkansas FFA Association Fellowship was established in August 2010 to allow for the funding of one agricultural communications student who will assist with the design and publication of the association’s quarterly publication, Naturally FFA. Recipients must be a candidate for the M.S. in agricultural and extension education within Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences.

The first recipient of the fellowship is Chase Hundley of Jonesboro, who recently graduated with a bachelor’s degree from Arkansas Tech University. Hundley may retain the fellowship for up to two academic years.

New Web pages feature students and faculty chairs/professorships

**Student Videos.** Bumpers College students talk about their majors and career options in a new video series on the college’s Web site at http://bumperscollege.uark.edu/.

The videos, titled “Why Are You Here? Where Are You Going?” are produced by Fred Miller, an Agricultural Communication Services writer and photographer, with the assistance of Alice Griffin, coordinator of advising and retention. New videos are posted weekly and distributed to students, faculty and staff in the “Bumpers College News” e-mail newsletter.

**Profiles by Major.** The “Student Profiles by Major” section of the Bumpers College Web site has been updated with short profiles and photos of current students in each major. The text, by student intern Alyssa Kilgore, an agricultural education, communications and technology major, includes quotes about why students chose Bumpers College and their majors.

**Chairs and Professorships.** Profiles of Bumpers College and Division of Agriculture faculty members who hold endowed chairs and professorships are provided in a new section of the college’s Web site at http://bumperscollege.uark.edu/5392.htm.

An endowed position is created when a donor provides a significant gift to establish a permanent fund to support scholarly work in a specific area. The endowment is invested, and earnings support the work of the chair or professorship. Chairs and professorships are awarded based on exemplary teaching, research and service. They include:

- Gisela F. Erf, Tyson Professorship in Avian Immunology
- Archie Flanders, The Harold Ohlendorf Professorship in Agricultural Economics
- Billy Hargis, Tyson Chair in Sustainable Poultry Health
- Robert Harrington, Twenty-First Century Endowed Chair in Hospitality
- Yanbin Li, Tyson Chair in Biosensing Engineering
- Jean-François Meullenet, Tyson Professorship in Food Sensory Science
- Karen A. Moldenhauer, Arkansas Rice Industry Chair in Variety Development
- Rodolfo Naya, Tyson Chair in Food Policy Economics
- Derrick M. Oosterhuis, Clyde H. Sites Endowed Professorship in International Crop Physiology
- Larry Purcell, Ben J. Altheimer Chair for Soybean Research
- Steven C. Ricke, Donald “Buddy” Wray Chair in Food Safety
- James McDonald Stewart, Ben J. Altheimer Chair for Cotton Research
- Eric Wailes, L.C. Carter Chair for Rice and Soybeans
- Park W. Waldroup, Novus International Professorship in Poultry Science
Laura Gamble named prospective student coordinator

Dean Mike Vayda has appointed Laura Soles Gamble as prospective student coordinator in addition to her duties administrating scholarships for Bumpers College.

Gamble has worked in the university’s office of academic scholarships and has held management positions with the Fayetteville branches of Kaplan Test Prep and Accenture.

Gamble coordinates procedures for selecting recipients and awarding scholarships, which totaled more than $800,000 for 2009-2010. She works with college and campus faculty and staff to inform prospective students of academic and future career opportunities available through the majors offered by Bumpers College.

A native of Oklahoma City, Gamble received a B.A. degree in English from Oklahoma City University in 1992. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in higher education at the University of Arkansas. Gamble and her husband, Jim, a professor in the university’s English department, live in Fayetteville.
Alumna illuminates passion for art

Ruth Soller, BSHE ’78, never dreamed, when she was studying fashion merchandising in the School of Human Environmental Sciences, that she would one day be hanging her artwork from Denver to Florence, Italy.

Soller’s portfolio includes landscapes, portraits, architectural scenes, animals, still lifes and religious themes painted in a surreal style.

Although art was not her major, some of Soller’s apparel studies classes required fashion designs be drawn by hand in the days before computer graphics. But her interest in art goes back to her youth.

“I took art lessons as a child in Fayetteville,” Soller said.

After graduation from the university, Soller worked for Dillard’s in Little Rock for a year and a half, then for Baptist Medical Center. Later, she worked as a sales representative for Kraft Food Service.

In 1984, she married Steven Soller, BA ’78 MS ’82, an Air Force officer who had received his degree in psychology/sociology. They moved around the country with each change in duty station.

Soller’s career as an artist began after her first son was born in 1988. “I began painting while he was taking naps, and it began to grow from there,” she said. “Steven was stationed in Montana at the time, and my first showing was at the Montana State Fair.”

Later, while stationed in California, Soller’s work was shown and sold at several locations around San Pedro. Her main outlets were the Palos Verde Art Center and San Pedro Art Association.

The next move was to Montgomery, Ala., where Soller joined an art co-op gallery operated by the Society of Arts and Crafts.

“I sold a lot of house portraits in Alabama,” Soller said, “mostly for officers’ wives who had French provincial style houses.”

Steven Soller retired from the Air Force, and they now live in Broomfield, Colo., where Soller’s artwork is represented by Gallery East in Loveland.

Soller continues to exhibit whenever she gets a chance. And she gets chances often. Her work has been accepted in juried art shows all across the country, and even abroad.

“Last year, I was invited to show in the Florence Biennial art exhibition,” Soller said. “My husband and I were able to go to Italy last December for that and to travel the country.”

This year, Soller was invited to show in the Salmagundi Club in New York and attended the reception there last July. And the opportunities keep coming. “It’s been exciting,” she said.

Soller had two large paintings accepted for a show at the Denver International Airport. They will be exhibited for four months, beginning in October 2010, and then move to the Colorado State Capitol from March through June 2011.

Examples of Soller’s art can be seen on her Web site: solleroriginals.com.

— By Fred Miller
Fellow students, faculty and staff gathered in the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center for a photo with Danael Suttle, second from left, prior to his departure for the Cambridge Stud Thoroughbred Farm in New Zealand.

**Student research published in DISCOVERY journal**

Articles by undergraduate students on the results of research conducted with Bumpers College faculty mentors were published in the 2010 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 articles in this 11th annual volume of DISCOVERY report on research in animal science, horticulture, human development, bioenergy, education methodology, environmental sciences and wildlife management.

The 2010 edition of DISCOVERY features articles on student research.

**Equine science alumni off to running start**

Two recent graduates with equine science career goals are off to a running start thanks in part to prestigious internships.

Brianne Sharp of Harrison was accepted to Sheikh Mohammed’s Darley Flying Start Program. “This is like the Rhodes Scholarship of the racehorse industry,” says Kathi Jogan, barn manager and event coordinator of the D.E. King Equine Program. Interns accepted into the program will learn from some of the greatest horsemen in the world, visiting at least five different countries with all expenses paid.

Danael Suttle of Camden gave a presentation on his recent experiences as a summer employee of Three Chimneys Farm in Lexington, Ky. He left Aug. 28 to work at New Zealand’s premier thoroughbred farm, Cambridge Stud, for six months. Suttle has accepted a job at Three Chimneys Stallion Division when he returns to the U.S. early next year. Notable stallions that he will be working with at Three Chimneys include Smarty Jones, Big Brown and Dynaformer.

**Ewell Welch named AEAB Distinguished Alumnus**

The Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness presented the department’s Distinguished Alumnus of the Year award to Ewell Welch, Arkansas Farm Bureau executive vice president, at an Oct. 29 seminar on the Southern Risk Management Education Center.

Welch, who served as Bumpers College Alumni Society president in 2002-2003, received the Bumpers College Outstanding Alumnus award in 2005.

Since graduating from the University of Arkansas in 1977 with a master’s degree in agricultural economics along with a B.S.A. degree, Welch has held positions of increasing responsibility with the Arkansas Farm Bureau, culminating in his current position as executive vice president since 2002. He was instrumental in establishing the Arkansas Foundation for Agriculture and serves on the board of directors. He also serves on the LeadAR Advisory Council and Arkansas FFA Foundation board of directors.

A native of Havana, Ark., Ewell and Deanna Willey Welch, a U of A alumna, have two children, Wesley and Natalie Welch Sims, who graduated from the university in 2001 and 2003, respectively.
The Department of Horticulture presented its 2010 Distinguished Alumni awards to Vickie Caraway, BSA ’77, of Hawaii and Terry Delany, BSA ’95, of Fayetteville. The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Roy Rom, retired professor of horticulture.

Caraway grew up on a farm at Sidney, Ark. She moved to Hawaii in 1989 and since 1999 has been the state botanist for the Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Department of Land and Natural Resources, in Honolulu. She has more than 25 years experience in natural resource management and specializes in the eradication of invasive species and the preservation of rare and endangered native species.

Delany is the founder and president of GroundServ, a full-service property maintenance company. After graduation, he began the company, known then as Southeast Landscape Management Co., with a pickup truck, trailer and lawn-mower. Within six years the company was grossing more than $1 million annually and today grosses more than $2 million and employs more than 40 people. Delany also serves as a small business consultant.

Rom, a native of Milwaukee, Wisc., served in the U.S. Army as an Air Corps trainer. After the war, he coached the Yale University lightweight crew team for five years, then worked in the millinery industry for two years before deciding to go to graduate school and major in horticulture. He joined the University of Arkansas as a horticulture specialist in 1958, where he built a 32-year career as a scientist and teacher. He also established the Rom Apple Orchard where generations of northwest Arkansas residents came to know him as “Dr. Apple.”

Dean Mike Vayda has appointed Trina Holman as Bumpers College liaison for alumni, development and recruiting. She also serves as DBCAFLS Alumni Society director.

Holman facilitates communication between external stakeholders, department heads, faculty, college staff and development personnel for the campus and Division of Agriculture. Since March 2008, she was an assistant to development and recruiting directors Kellie Knight and Ashley Harris, respectively, who moved to other positions in 2010.

Holman was previously an editor in the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station communications unit, creative services manager for the Arkansas Press Association and has held positions as graphic designer, photographer and editor with a printing company and two newspapers. She is a member of National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association and serves on the membership committee.

A native of New Jersey, she grew up in Hot Springs and is completing requirements for a B.A. degree in agricultural communication at the University of Arkansas. She and her husband, Lance, have four children and live in Farmington.
F

our Bumpers College faculty members were elected fellows in their professional societies.

Donna L. Graham, a professor in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education and associate dean from 2002 to 2010, was elected a senior fellow of the American Association for Agricultural Education.

Larry C. Purcell, professor of crop physiology and holder of the Alzheimer Chair for Soybean Research, was elected a fellow in both the American Society of Agronomy and the Crop Science Society of America.

Professor Richard J. Norman, whose specialty is nitrogen fertility in rice, was elected a fellow in both the American Society of Agronomy and the Soil Science Society of America.

Professor Charles P. West, whose specialty is forage and biomass physiology and ecology, was elected a fellow in the Crop Science Society of America.

Faculty members elected society fellows

Ogbeide honored for innovative teaching

Godwin-Charles Ogbeide, assistant professor of hospitality management, was presented the McCool Breakthrough Award from the Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education at the council’s national meeting in July in Denver.

The award was based on Ogbeide’s innovative program to incorporate service learning projects into his Event Management course. His course involved students in planning and managing the Fayetteville Lights of the Ozarks Parade and Pet Parade, which raised thousands of dollars for local charities and a fund to benefit hospitality students.

PET PARADE PROCEEDS — Stephanie Persons, left, and Assistant Professor Charles Ogbeide present a check for $1,520 to Justine Middleton of Fayetteville Animal Shelter for part of the money raised from sponsorships of a Pet Parade organized by students in the hospitality and restaurant management program as a Lights of the Ozarks event on the Fayetteville square in December 2009.

“A Class Act”

February 18-19, 2011 • Crescent Hotel, Eureka Springs

More details are coming soon on this 3nd annual weekend get-away hosted by the Bumpers College Hospitality and Restaurant Management Program.
Ph.D. graduate wins top entomology society award

Rebecca Trout-Fryxell received the Entomological Society of America John Henry Comstock Award for 2010, which goes to the most outstanding Ph.D. student in the southeastern branch of the Entomological Society of America.

Trout-Fryxell received a Ph.D. degree this spring. Her major professor was C. Dayton Steelman, professor emeritus, and Allen Szalanski, associate professor, was also a mentor. Her research was on population genetics of ticks and bacterial pathogens vectored by ticks in Arkansas.

Trout-Fryxell is the second student in the Department of Entomology to receive this prestigious award in the past five years.

The 2010 University of Arkansas Aubrey E. Harvey Award, which is for the graduate student who has performed the most outstanding research on the Fayetteville campus during the preceding year, also went to Trout-Fryxell. She is currently a postdoctoral research associate at the University of California-Davis working on mosquito population genetics.

Alumni host entomology graduate students on field trip

Adam Chappell, MS ’05; John Riggins, PhD ’08; John Smith, AMS ’06, and Matt Cordell, BS ’02 MS ’04, hosted a group of entomology graduate students at the Chappells’ farm at Cotton Plant during a tour of agricultural sites around the state Aug. 16-18.

Entomology Department Head Rob Wiedenmann and Professor Tim Kring led the tour, which also included stops in Jonesboro, Stuttgart, Lonoke, Rohwer and Mena. Topics included pest management in cotton, rice and soybeans and applications of veterinary entomology, bee keeping and a project in which wasps that parasitize fire ants have been released for biological control.

Chappell and his parents, Dwayne, BSA ’78, and Nancy, BA ’77, and brother Seth (BS, ASU) live at DesArc and farm 6,000 acres of cotton, soybeans and milo at Cotton Plant. “We are having a pretty good year,” Adam said, with good cotton yields in a year when the price of cotton is near record levels.

“My graduate work definitely helped when I was working as a consultant and now as a full time farmer,” Chappell said. “I have a good understanding of the science involved,” he said, which helps with decisions about technology options for managing crops.

“We went to school together and are still close friends,” Chappell said of the alumni who joined the group in Cotton Plant. John Riggins is a faculty member at Mississippi State University; Clint Allen is a research entomologist at the USDA-Agricultural Research Service Southern Insect Management Unit at Stoneville, Miss.; John Smith is a research scientist with Bayer CropScience; and Matt Cordell is a research scientist with Ag Chem Environmental Services.

FIELD TRIP — Posing for a group photo at the Chappell farm in Cotton Plant were, from left, Seth Chappell, Amber Tripodi, John Smith, Ace Lynn-Miller (kneeling), Matt Cordell, John Riggins, Jessica Hartshorn, DeWayne Chappell, Tim Kring, Nancy Chappell, Chad Andrews, Natasha Wright, Kevin Durden and Adam Chappell.
Richard “Richie” Workman, BSA ’97, said his two years as chair of the Delta Classic Scholarship Golf Tournament at Helena Country Club have been rewarding on many levels.

“Most rewarding is the satisfaction of providing scholarships for students in eastern Arkansas,” he said. Close behind is the fellowship with other alumni and friends and members of the Bumpers College faculty, staff and student body, he said. He also is an avid golfer.

A Pine Bluff native and Watson Chapel High School graduate, Workman was a four-year letterman as a pitcher on the Razorbacks baseball team from 1993-97. He is now a Monsanto territory sales manager for south-central Arkansas. He and his wife, Grace, and daughter live in Little Rock.

After receiving his B.S.A. degree, Workman, a crop management major, had sales positions with Terra International in Tennessee and Erwin Keith, Inc., seed company in Pine Bluff before joining Monsanto in 2007.

Workman credits Jim Barrentine, former head of the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences, who began the annual tournament in 1999, along with current department head Robert Bacon and Holly Yeatman, recruiting coordinator, for providing leadership from year to year to make it an enjoyable and successful event.

The tournament has raised more than $260,000 for scholarships, including more than $25,000 pledged July 30.

Accidents claim lives of two from college family

The Bumpers College family was saddened by the deaths of Jacob Cade Coleman, 19, of DeWitt in an automobile accident Aug. 7 in Arkansas County and Kelly Ryan Fitch, 25, of Harrison as a result of injuries suffered in a boating accident Aug. 19 on Bull Shoals Lake in Boone County.

“Cade and Kelly were outstanding young men,” said Robert Bacon, head of the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences. “On behalf of the faculty, staff and students, I extend heartfelt condolences to their family members and friends.”

Cade Coleman, the son of Lawrence Craig and Ronda Raga Coleman, was a freshman majoring in crop management.

Kelly R. Fitch, the son of Robert and Patricia Fitch, a former student in crop, soil and environmental sciences, was employed as a technical assistant to Assistant Professor Thad Scott, CSES.

Delta Classic scholarships awarded to CSES students

The Delta Classic Scholarship Golf Tournament held July 30 at the Helena Country Club raised more than $25,000 to fund scholarships for Bumpers College students majoring in crop management or environmental, soil and water science.

Robert Bacon, head of the Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences, said the tournament has raised more than $263,000 for scholarships in 11 years.

Delta Classic scholarships of $2,000 for the 2010-2011 school year were awarded to Holden Bell of West Memphis, Jacob Coleman of DeWitt, Will Coleman of Helena, Clay Dubach of Corning, Jerrod Harris of Kennett, Collin Hornbeck of DeWitt, Fabian Pina of Lowell, Zach Smith of DesArc, Ethan Spratlin of Holly Grove, Ben Thrash of Conway and Beth Wallbrown of Fayetteville.

Eighty-seven 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.

Richie Workman of Little Rock, a territory sales representative with Monsanto, was chair of this year’s tournament. Other CSES alumni and friends involved included Dean Bell, Grant Carter, Adam Compton, Matt Cordell, Josh Cunningham, Gloria Fry, Otis Howe Sr., Darrin Malone, Kelly Malone, Johnny Roach and Dale Smith.

Corporate sponsors were Allen Canning Company, Arkansas Farm Bureau, Isle of Capri, Helena Chemical Company and Monsanto. Hole sponsors for the tournament were Ag-Pro Companies; BASF; Bayer CropScience LP; Cache River Valley Seed, LLC; Cheminova, Inc.; Coco Distributors; Crop Production Services, Inc.; Delta and Pineland Seed Co.; Dow AgroSciences; DuPont Crop Protection; Erwin Keith, Inc.; Fuller Seed and Supply; Gillett Grain Services; Helena Chemical Company; Hickory Hills Pharmacy; Hornbeck Seed Co, Inc.; Mary Louise Demoret and V. Poindexter Fiser; Morris Farm Center; Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.; Producers Rice Mill, Inc.; RoundUP; Syngenta Seed; UA Department of Entomology and UA Weed Science.
Class Notes

E-mail your class notes to Trina Holman, tfholman@uark.edu, or fax to 479-575-7273 or mail to Bumpers College Alumni Society, AFLS E108, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

1940s

Lorita Lashley Simmons, BSF ’73, and H.H. Simmons, BSA ’49, Fayetteville, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on April 28.

1950s

Bobby D. Barnett, BSA ’50 MS ’54, South Pasedena, Fla., was honored by the American Poultry Historical Society as a “Poultry Pioneer and Legend” for his long-time contribution to the poultry industry. He spent his career as a researcher, professor and head of the Poultry Science Department at Clemson University.

1960s

Shirley E. Friend McAllister, BSHE ’62 EdD ’69, Sun City, Ariz., was honored in December 2009 with the Golden Apple Award by the Sun City’s Chapter of the National Organization for Women for “outstanding service on the behalf of women of the world.” She was also honored in January with the West Democratic Headquarters Mofford Merit Award, named for the former and first female Arizona Governor, Rose Mofford.

Lawrence R. Oliver, BSA ’64 MS ’66, was awarded the 2009 Southern Regional Teaching Award at the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities annual meeting.

1980s

Celise Weems, BSA ’08 MS ’09, is the new safety coordinator in the organization and member programs department at Arkansas Farm Bureau in Little Rock. Weems will assist in developing safety policies and conducting safety activity programs for schools, civic clubs and other organizations. She received an M.S. degree in agricultural economics and served as a Bumpers College ambassador and president of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences at the University of Arkansas.

1990s

Jeffry Shannon Miller, PhD ’91, Hatfield, is the head of the Department of Agriculture at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia.

Jason Keith Norsworthy, MS ’97 PhD ’00, West Fork, was awarded the Outstanding Early Career Weed Scientist Award by the Weed Science Society of America. The award is presented to an early career member demonstrating originality and creativity and making a notable contribution to the field.

Anthony Dean McAdoo, BSA ’98 MEd ’05 EdD ’10, Fayetteville, has been appointed by Governor Mike Beebe to a three-year term on the Arkansas Division of Volunteerism Advisory Council, which advises the Department of Human Services on the development of policies, goals and priorities pertaining to the promotion and encouragement of volunteer activities.

Mark Alan Archer, BSA ’99, has recently completed 10 years with Farm Bureau Insurance as the senior claims adjuster for Yell County. He lives in Dardanelle with his wife Aneta and two sons.

2000s

Matthew C. Glass, BSA ’02, Marion, was recently appointed to the board of Mid-South Community College in West Memphis.

Weddings

Olivia Tucker Bowen, BS ’04 MS ’05 PhD ’08, and Matthew Floyd Faulkner, BS ’05 PhD ’10, were married Sept. 4 and reside in Georgia.

Ruth Marion Curtner, BSHE ’08 MS ’10, and Clark Anthony Donat, BA ’07 JD ’10, were married April 10 and reside in Springdale.

Glencye Gail Estes Feeney, BSHE ’69, and Don Bennett were married August 26 and reside in Little Rock.

Wendy J. Hatfield Hazzard, BSHE ’04 MS ’09, and William R. Hazzard Jr., were married Sept. 12, 2009, and reside in Fayetteville.

Kelli Frances Kostelnik, BSHE ’07, and Rusty McEntire, BS ’09, were married July 10.

Brittany Dawn Lavy, BSHE ’09, and Charles E. Priest, BSBA ’08, were married on May 15 and reside in Fayetteville.

Amanda L. Mellers, BSHE ’09, and Neil A. Mellers, BSBA ’09, were married March 14, 2009, and reside in Rogers.

Births

Polly H. Glass and Matthew C. Glass, BSA ’02, a son, Tapp Allen, March 19, Marion, Ark.

Mauria Jackson Kemper, JD ’04, and Nathan Paul Kemper, MS ’05, a daughter, Grace Ellen, May 13, Fayetteville.

Tracey Bowen Powell, BSA ’97, and Jeremy G. Powell, BSA ’97 PhD ’09, a daughter, Emma Kate, April 20, Rogers.

IN MEMORIUM

1930s

Sarah S. Finch, BSHE ’35, Corsicana, Texas, Feb. 21.


Robert Carpenter Brockwell, BSHE ’39, Jonesboro, July 15. After graduating, she worked for the Farmer’s Home Administration and later taught third grade at the Clifton Gansus School in New Orleans and eighth-grade science in both Pocahontas and Jonesboro.

Thayer D. Hendrickson, BSA ’39, Greenbriar, April 5. He was a veterinarian who established two existing veterinary practices in Arkansas — the Bellevue Animal Clinic in Little Rock and Faulkner County Veterinary Clinic in Greenbriar. He was voted Veterinarian of the Year in 1961.

1940s

Cecil M. Bittle, BSA ’40 MS ’50, Hope, Ark., May 5. He served from 1946-77 as director of the Fruit and Truck Branch Experiment Station, which was renamed Southwest Branch Experiment Station and is now the Southwest Research and Extension Center at Hope.

Stewart F. Rowe, BSA ’40, Greenville, Texas, Aug. 25. He was a World War II veteran and an insurance agent.

Donna Driver Schmelzer, BSHE ’41, Little Rock, April 16.

Evelyn T. Gilbert, BSHE ’41, Fayetteville, May 5.

Warren Barham, BSA ’41, Prescott, Ark., April 16. He was assistant professor of horticulture at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, director of raw products research for Basic Vegetables in Vacaville, Calif., professor and head of the Horticultural Sciences Department at Texas A&M University, and formed Barham Seeds, Inc. He was a pioneer in the development of seedless watermelons.

Hazel Furlow, BSHE ’42, Dallas, Texas, July 13.

Gayle Smith Daves, BSHE ’43, Springdale, July 14. She was a volunteer for a number of agencies, including the Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, CEO and most recently with the Cancer Support Home.

Juanita Nicholson, BSHE ’43, Natalia, Texas, June 26. She was a retired school teacher.

Mary Bruce Clendening, BSHE ’44, Athens, Ga., March 21, 2009. She retired after twenty years as professor emeritus from the University of Georgia.

Frank Grace, BSA ’47, Dardanelle, Ark., May 9.
Tokyo to Fayetteville to Tokyo to Seattle

After graduating in December 2009 as an environmental, soil, and water science major, Shuichi “Shu” Kuroishi, returned to his native Japan to work in the United Nations University Institute for Sustainability and Peace (UNU-ISP) in Tokyo and now is pursuing a Master of Public Administration degree with a concentration of environment and natural resource management at the Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington in Seattle.

In an e-mail to his faculty mentors, Mary Savin and Kris Brye, who recommended him for the UNU-ISP position, Kuroishi said he has met UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon, who visited to mark the 65th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

As an intern in 2008 and 2009 for Rep. Takashi Shinohara in the Diet (national legislature), Kuroishi met the recently elected Prime Minister Naoto Kan, who has appointed Rep. Shinohara to the position of Senior Vice Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, which is equivalent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

“I hope you ... are enjoying Arkansas’ beautiful autumn in Fayetteville,” Kuroishi wrote. “Please tell everybody that I say hi and let me know if you get a chance to come to Seattle.”

Odell Yocum, BSA ’48, Conway, Ark., April 20. He was a county agent in Madison County, a teacher in many schools, and an inspector for the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission.

Vernon Lowder Jr., BSA ’49, Little Rock, March 29. He worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

1950s

John H. Grigsby, BSA ’50 MS ’56, Jonesboro, Sept. 9. He taught high school for 15 years at Walnut Ridge and spent many years as a state employee with the Arkansas Rehabilitation Service.


Charles Standefor Jr., BSA ’53, Amory, Miss., April 12. He was a retired farmer.

John Baldwin Jr., BSA ’53, Greenbrier, June 27. He worked at the Arkansas State Plant Board for 28 years, eventually serving as head of the seed certification department until his retirement in 1986.

John D. Clower, BSA ’53, Rogers, March 30. He began his career as assistant county agent for Boone County, later acknowledging his dream to be a physician. He graduated from medical school and moved his family to Rogers in 1962 to begin his practice and retired in 1999.

Patricia Lovelady, BSHE ’53, Amarillo, Texas, Aug. 15. Her teaching career spanned more than 25 years.

E.J. Wchunt, BSA ’54 MS ’55, Avondale Estates, Ga., Oct. 20, 2009. He began his career as a nematologist working for the United Fruit Company in La Lima, Honduras, then for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Byron, Ga. and Booneville.

Robert Lee Watson, BSA ’56 MS ’63, Little Rock, April 24. He was a professor at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock for 33 years, also serving as the chair of the Department of Biology for 19 years and dean of the College of Science and Mathematics for two years.

Amos R. Martin, BSA ’58 MSA ’62, Nacogdoches, Texas, Aug. 13. He served in the Navy during the Korean Conflict and retired from Vineland Laboratory.

Janita Hoskyn, BSHE ’58 MS ’65, Little Rock, June 16. She was a lifelong educator and prior to her retirement was on the faculty at UALR.

Shirley Ann Brock Thompson, BSHE ’58 MED ’82, Austin, Texas, Sept. 9. She was a home economics teacher for 27 years at Cabot High School.

Curtis W. McElhaney, BSA ’59 MS ’60, Charleston, Feb. 17. He was the assistant county agent for Carroll and Franklin counties and county agent for Franklin County. He was also a member of the Chamber of Commerce and was named Citizen of the Year twice for Franklin County.

Bill Clower, BSA ’52 MS ’53, Fayetteville, July 10. He was a poultry nutritionist who rose from poultry research associate to senior poultry research manager for Campbell Soup Company. A recognized leader in his field, he served as president of the Arkansas Feed Manufacturers Association and was co-founder and president of the Arkansas Poultry Nutrition Council.

1960s

Franklin D. Wiser, BSA ’60, Clarksville.

Larry J. Smithson, BSA ’62, Sparta, Mo.

Mark Hawkins Jr., BSA ’62, Mandeville, La., Sept. 2. He was a farmer and a cattleman for 25 years and owner of Parkdale Chemical Company.

Maximo Calo Gacula Jr., MS ’63, Scottsdale, Ariz., May 5. He was a pioneer in the field of statistical research and worked in the research and development department at the Armour/Dial Corporation for 30 years. After retirement, he continued to work as an independent contractor to several companies as a statistician and was an adjunct faculty member at Arizona State University. He authored four books in statistical analysis and founded the scientific journal, The Journal of Sensory Studies.
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- advocate the interests of agriculture in the public arena;
- disseminate information concerning the value and importance of agriculture; and
- provide products and services which improve the quality of life for our members.

Thanks for your support!
Arkansas Farm Bureau is helping to pay for printing of this issue of The Graduate.
An estimated 3,600 visitors attended the 11th Insect Festival of Arkansas Oct. 7, in the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Arena on North Garland Avenue. Entomology Professor Don Steinkraus coordinates the event with the help of the Department of Entomology faculty, staff and graduate students.

Most of the visitors were elementary students from area schools, who were introduced to the fascinating world of insects and other arthropods. Entomology faculty, staff and graduate students were on hand to visit about insects and answer questions.

A new feature this year was an Insect Musical Theater with actors wearing insect costumes accompanied by live music. Other attractions were a large insect and arthropod zoo, live butterfly house, bee-keeping, exotic insects from the University Arthropod Museum, giant cockroach races, games, crafts, insects from different ecosystems, a cotton patch and more.

Photos from the 2010 Insect Festival of Arkansas are in a photo gallery on the Bumpers College Facebook page. Go to the Bumpers College homepage (http://bumperscollege.uark.edu) and click on the Facebook icon on the bottom right.

A WORLD OF INSECTS — The Insect Musical Theater was a hit at the 2010 Insect Festival of Arkansas in the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center Oct. 7.