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Letter from the Dean

Michael Vayda

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Letter from the Dean

Publishing Research in *Discovery* Helps Students Become Leaders, Innovators, Entrepreneurs

We in the Bumpers College are proud of our students and their accomplishments. The *Discovery* undergraduate journal highlights the work of our students conducting research projects under the mentorship of outstanding faculty. This is one example of the value-added educational experiences provided by our dedicated faculty to prepare our students for professional careers in the businesses associated with foods, agriculture, the environment, and human quality of life.

We are proud to showcase their work in the *Discovery* journal and promote their abilities as leaders, innovators, policy makers, and entrepreneurs, making them first-choice candidates of prospective employers.

The journal encourages students to engage beyond the classroom, offers an outlet to share results and findings in a citable publication, and provides a service to the college, the university, our friends and supporters, and society as a whole.

We encourage student research by awarding undergraduate research grants. Our students have been competitive for research and travel grants awarded by the Honors College, the Bumpers College, extramural benefactors, and the Arkansas Department of Higher Education. Many projects are designed to meet the requirements for an honors thesis in the Bumpers College Honors Program and some have been funded by our Undergraduate Creative Projects/Research Grants Program.

We are pleased to present the exceptional work of our students, which is a testament to them, our faculty mentors, and their research. Congratulations to the student authors, and thank you to the faculty mentors and editors of this year's journal.



Michael Vayda

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

Michael Vayda, Dean and
Associate Vice President–Academic Programs