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## Letter from the Dean

Michael Vayda

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## Value-Added Learning

The *DISCOVERY* undergraduate journal is one of the ways Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences encourages students to engage in value-added learning experiences beyond the classroom. The student authors are reporting on the results of research projects they have conducted with faculty mentors.



Michael Vayda

The *DISCOVERY* journal provides a reporting outlet for our student scholars and scientists. It does not supersede publication elsewhere, but it does provide a forum for students and faculty to share their results and findings in a citable publication.

We encourage student research by awarding undergraduate research grants, and our students have been very competitive for research and travel grants awarded by the Honors College and the Arkansas Department of Higher Education.

Many undergraduate research projects are designed to meet the requirements of an honors thesis in the Bumper College Honors Program, which enables our students to enrich their educational experience and provide a very tangible service to society in the process.

We are proud to present these articles as examples of the work of our undergraduate students. I heartily congratulate the student authors and extend thanks to their faculty mentors and to the editors who reviewed their manuscripts.

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Michael Vayda, Dean and Associate Vice President–Academic Programs