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Letter from the Dean

Deacue Fields

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Letter from the Dean

This is my first year as Dean of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, and it has been a pleasure, but not a surprise, to learn about the outstanding work of our students as they show the passion they have for their various fields of interest.

Our purpose is to serve the people of our state, across the country and around the world. With our innovative programs, expert faculty and outstanding students, we will continue to do everything we can to improve the quality of life for everyone as our students become scientists, innovators, managers, policy makers, entrepreneurs, and most importantly—difference makers.

Our students are preparing for successful careers, conducting impactful research, and sharing knowledge. The *Discovery* undergraduate research journal highlights the efforts of just a few of our talented students and the research they have completed. Many of our outstanding faculty work with them to produce what you see here.

We encourage undergraduate research by awarding undergraduate research grants. Our students compete for research and travel grants awarded by the University of Arkansas Honors College and the Arkansas Department of Higher Education Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) grants program.

Projects may be designed to meet requirements for an honors project in the Bumpers College Honors Program. One of our goals is to prepare students to be responsible leaders with strong communication skills and problem-solving abilities. Inside this issue you will find studies from across the college that highlight and exemplify those qualities in our student researchers.

Congratulations to the student authors on completing this project. And thank you to the faculty mentors and editors who worked with them to make this collection possible. As a college, we are pleased and proud to present their results and findings in a citable publication as a service to them and our readers.



Deacue Fields

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deacue Fields". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Deacue Fields, Dean
Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food
and Life Sciences