

Discovery, The Student Journal of Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences

Volume 19

Article 4

Fall 2018

A Message from the Department Head of Horticulture and Food Science

Wayne Mackey

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uark.edu/discoverymag>



Part of the [Agribusiness Commons](#), [Agricultural Economics Commons](#), [Agricultural Education Commons](#), [Agronomy and Crop Sciences Commons](#), [Animal Sciences Commons](#), [Botany Commons](#), [Communication Commons](#), [Entomology Commons](#), [Environmental Studies Commons](#), [Family and Consumer Sciences Commons](#), [Food Science Commons](#), [Horticulture Commons](#), and the [Nutrition Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Mackey, W. (2018). A Message from the Department Head of Horticulture and Food Science. *Discovery, The Student Journal of Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences*, 19(1), 4-4. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.uark.edu/discoverymag/vol19/iss1/4>

This Front Matter is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@UARK. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Discovery, The Student Journal of Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences* by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks@UARK. For more information, please contact scholar@uark.edu.

A Message from the Department Head of Horticulture and Food Science

As Department Head for Horticulture and Interim Department Head for Food Science, I get to see the interdisciplinary nature and research that happens between these two departments from both sides. The research articles about blackberries by Dunteman et. al. and peaches/nectarines by Siebenmorgen et. al. published in this issue of *Discovery* exemplify the collaboration between the two department's faculty and students. It also highlights experiences that students can gain at an off-campus research station.

Students at research stations can study a wide range of subjects. For instance, at the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture's Fruit Research Station at Clarksville, students have the opportunity to be involved in fruit breeding directly or indirectly through projects in the areas of sensory science, postharvest physiology, and fruit production techniques among many other research topics.

Both Aubrey's and Mary's projects, although very different in the scope of their research, will lead to improved cultivars of blackberries, peaches and nectarines and ultimately consumer enjoyment of the fruit. These studies highlight the intersection of horticulture and food science and the broad range of experiences that come from interdisciplinary research.

Collaborations such as these give students a broad view of cultivar improvement leading to a greater understanding of the food system. In addition, the students get to interact with faculty across disciplines with mentoring from a group of faculty also enriching their experiences and knowledge. In summary, these two research experiences highlight the potential of many research experiences that students can enjoy across Bumpers College.



Wayne Mackay

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne A. Mackay". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Wayne Mackay, Professor and Department Head, Horticulture; Interim Department Head Food Science.