Letter from the Dean

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As Dean of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, I am continuously impressed by and pleased with the passion of our students and their motivation to answer questions, solve problems, bring attention to issues and truly make an impact in 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, policymakers, entrepreneurs, educators, 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. Many of our outstanding faculty work with them to produce what you see here.

In this issue, you’ll find results of projects by students and their mentors from the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, the Department of Animal Science, the Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences, the Department of Food Science, and the Human Nutrition and Hospitality Innovation Program in our School of Human Environmental Sciences.

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 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 that highlight and exemplify those qualities in our student researchers and future leaders.

Congratulations to the student authors on completing your 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 work in a citable publication as a service to them and our readers.