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Letter from the Dean

Deacue Fields

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Letter from the Dean

When talking to current students, prospective students, industry partners, friends, supporters, or others, we often mention the multiple directions our graduates can choose for careers with a degree from the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences.

That holds true for research, too, and this year's *Discovery* undergraduate journal is a great example. Of the 12 projects featured this year, 7 different departments and concentrations are represented, showing the versatility, range, and scope of our majors.

As Dean of Bumpers College, it is encouraging and inspiring to see the issues tackled by our students as they strive to answer questions and solve problems that have a far-reaching impact on society.

We are here to serve the people of Arkansas, across the country and around the world, and by tackling the subjects represented here, our students are doing just that. Our innovative programs, faculty experts, and outstanding students are improving the quality of life for everyone as graduates become scientists, innovators, managers, policymakers, entrepreneurs, educators, and most importantly, difference makers.

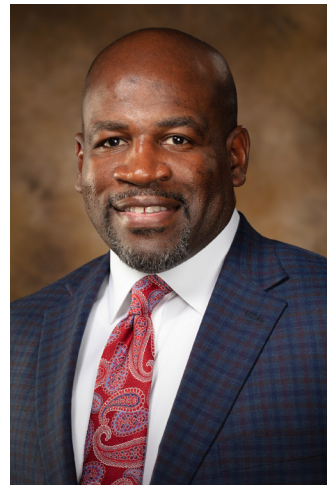
Our students are in the process of launching successful careers, conducting meaningful research, and sharing fact-based findings. *Discovery* highlights the efforts of just a few of our talented students as well as expert faculty. Our faculty work with them to produce what you see here because they care about our students and their development, as well as the research.

In this issue, you'll find 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; the Department of Horticulture; and the human nutrition and dietetics, and human development and family sciences concentrations 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 Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship 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.



Deacue Fields

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deacue Fields".

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