

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

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## Letter from the Dean

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## Letter from the Dean

One of my favorite aspects of our college is that our students have a wide variety of careers they can pursue with a degree from the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences.

Based on specific interests and passion, they can go in any number of directions to make a difference and impact the lives of many in the state, across the country, and beyond. Research offers a number of directions and options as well, depending on what questions you want to be answered and what problems you want to be solved. This year's issue of *Discovery*, our undergraduate journal, is a good illustration. Of the ten projects presented this year, eight different majors are represented.

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 address topics 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 them, along with their expert faculty mentors. Our faculty work with students to produce what you see here because they care about them 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 Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology; the Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences; the Department of Poultry Science; 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 projects. 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, Dean  
Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences



*Deacue Fields*