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Spring 2007

## Graduate, Spring-Summer 2007

Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food, and Life Sciences (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville)

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# THE GRADUATE

*For Alumni and Friends of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences  
and the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture*



*Commencement marks  
largest graduation class  
in College's history*

*Page 10*



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

1871

DALE  
BUMPERS COLLEGE  
of AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND LIFE SCIENCES

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**COVER:** Cordia Harrington, left, was recognized as Outstanding Alumna, and Brittany Adams, Senior Scholar and John W. White Outstanding Student, delivered the address during Commencement May 12 in the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center. The Class of 2007 is the largest ever with a preliminary count of 225 graduates. (Photo by Fred Miller)

## New Alumni Society Board members



**Debra Culpepper**

### **Debra Culpepper** – Southwest Region

Debra Harris Culpepper, MS '76, of Prescott is currently teaching Environmental Science at Hope High School. After receiving her degree, she was a

Family and Consumer Science teacher at Ramay Junior High in Fayetteville. While teaching in Fayetteville, she was a member of the Infant Development Center Board and served as house-mother at the Farm House Fraternity. She and her husband, Duncan Culpepper, JD '79, have been married 34 years and have two daughters, (Laura Knight of Lufkin, Texas, and Beth Harp of Rogers) and a grandson, Cooper Knight.



**Penny Storms**

### **Penny Storms** – Northwest Region

Penny Michaelis Storms, BSHE '75, is manager of communications and media relations for Ozarks Electric Cooperative in Fayetteville. She has worked for Kitchen Consultants

in Whittier, Calif., Joyner Brokerage Co. in North Little Rock and Associated Milk Producers. She is a member of the Cooperative Communicators Association and is currently president-elect of Altrusa International, Inc. of Fayetteville. She has served as president of Altrusa of Fayetteville's Foundation board and as president of the NWA Chapter of Executive Women International. She and her husband, Pat, live on a farm in Benton County and have three sons, Jarrod, BSIE '03; Daniel, BSBA '05; and Robert, a junior Marketing major.



**Angela Waldrip**

### **Angela Waldrip** – Southeast Region

Angela Eason Waldrip, BSHE '79, of Moro worked in Dillard's Executive Training Program, then as a home economist with

the Rice Council for market development. She and Mark Waldrip, BSA '77, have four children: Allison, BA '07, the current Miss University of Arkansas and a first-year law student; Nathan, a junior AgriBusiness and Business Finance major; and Lauren and Katie, 16-year-old twins. The family is active at First Baptist Church in Marianna.



**ALUMNI SOCIETY HONORS SENIORS** – Members of the Bumpers College Alumni Society Board of Directors treated graduating seniors to dinner and door prizes at the annual Senior Dinner April 4 at the Janelle Y. Hembree Alumni House. Board members and seniors from different areas of Arkansas pictured are (back row, from left) Brian Helms of Bryant, David Daniel of Springdale, Brian See of Valley Springs, Cory Wilson of Searcy, David Davault of Paragould and Boyce Johnson of Marion. (Front row) Neda Tilley of Leslie, Susan Kemp of Mountain View, Josh Evatt of Vilonia, Ashley Swaffar of Farmington, Dilynn Dodd of Springdale and Dean Greg Weidemann.



**Northwest**

Betty Bradford, Fayetteville  
Penny Storms, Fayetteville

**Northeast**

Boyce Johnson, Marion

**Central**

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Brian Helms, Bryant  
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Debra Culpepper, Prescott

**Southeast**

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Programs, Division of Agriculture*  
Donna Graham, *Associate Dean*  
Ashley Harris, *Director,  
Bumpers College Alumni Society*  
Kellie A. Knight, *Development  
Director*

*The Graduate* is published for alumni and friends of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences and the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture. Send alumni news and other correspondence to Ashley Harris, Bumpers College Alumni Society Director, AFLS E108, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

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*From the Dean*



Dr. Gregory J. Weidemann  
Dean and  
Associate Vice President  
—Academic Programs

## Class of 2007 the largest ever

As I write this column just prior to our May commencement, this is an opportune time to reflect back on the academic year and the wonderful and exciting things our students are doing to enrich their academic experience.

As of this writing, the preliminary unofficial number of graduates in the class of 2007 is 225. This is by far the largest graduating class ever and a clear indication of our continued remarkable growth as a college. This growth is a testament to our relevant programs, growing reputation and dedicated faculty and staff. Last year we surveyed all of our students participating in graduation about their plans after graduation. More than 85 percent of our students had been accepted to graduate or professional schools or had jobs prior to graduation. Not only have our students received a great education, they are taking that education into the workplace or furthering their education.

This summer, more than 50 students will participate in a variety of international internships and study tours. While we have not yet met our goal of having at least 10 percent of our student body participate in some type of international activity prior to graduation, our numbers increase each year. Students who are fortunate enough to participate in an international experience return with the self confidence that we do indeed live in a flat world and the recognition that they can compete with anyone on the world stage.

As one example, several of our students will be participating in a university-wide service learning project in Belize. Our college project will be the development of a farm for a local school where a number of children are undernourished. The students have spent the spring studying Belize and preparing a project plan. This summer, our students will travel to Belize to determine appropriate crops and animal species for the local conditions, production needs and market outlets for any excess commodities produced. This provides a great opportunity for our students to use what they have learned in the classroom in a team effort. As the project evolves, it will utilize students in Animal and Poultry Science; Crop Science, Soil and Environmental Sciences; Agribusiness; Food Science; Human Nutrition; Horticulture and other disciplines working together. What a great opportunity for our students to learn by doing for such a noble endeavor.

Recently, I attended presentations from our Interior Design students who worked with the management and owners of the Crescent Hotel in Eureka Springs to design a renovation of their dining room. The hotel hosted the students over two days and explained their needs and gave the students the chance to study the space. The students worked over a six-week period to develop a total renovation of the space using the skills they have learned in class. Owners Marty and Elise Roenigk, general manager Jack Moyer and key staff members attended the presentation of these group projects and will use elements of the winning design to renovate the space. This is another wonderful example of our faculty reaching out to local businesses to develop partnerships to provide real world experiences for our students. It is not only a wonderful opportunity for our students but also a great opportunity for the hotel to take advantage of the energy and creativity of our students to assist in a planned renovation.

I could name many more exciting projects and learning activities, but hope that these two perhaps give you some idea of the real world, hands-on, enhanced learning activities that our dedicated faculty provide to our students that go well beyond the normal classroom experience. Every day I am truly excited about what our faculty and students are doing in Bumpers College. ■

# Dear Alumni



Charlene Reed  
President, DBCAFLS  
Alumni Society

**G**reetings from your DBCAFLS Alumni Society! On May 12, Bumpers College held Commencement, and approximately 225 graduating seniors walked across the stage for their diplomas. The class of 2007 is intelligent, resourceful and classy. It was an honor for me to offer congratulations from the U of A Alumni Association. Attending this graduation made me reflect on my own undergraduate ceremony 31 years ago. I don't remember everything, and some of the details I do recall are rather humorous.

- Graduation was held in Razorback Stadium and **only one** University ceremony was held for the **entire** campus.
- I wore a purple **polyester** knit dress under that hot robe. (I'm sure my cotton farming husband and son will cringe at this one!)
- I graduated with honors, but I didn't know this until I lined up to walk in and someone put this red stole around my neck. I remember asking, "What's this for?"
- For the life of me, I cannot recall who received special degrees, outstanding alumni awards, **who spoke or what anyone said**. (This also may make my husband Stanley cringe since he speaks or gives greetings at about ten graduation ceremonies a year as U of A Board of Trustees Chairman.)
- I fixed chicken spaghetti for my parents and husband as a celebration meal.



Dale Bumpers College  
of Agricultural, Food  
and Life Sciences  
Alumni Society  
**ARKANSAS ALUMNI**

All of the 2007 graduates were given a year's free membership to the Arkansas Alumni Association (a gift for which one must sign up or register online). I challenged them to give back three things to their alma mater.

1. Become involved in the DBCAFLS Alumni Society and local alumni chapter. Use the Alumni Association as a means to network with alumni and friends around the country while giving back to the U of A.
2. Stay in touch by keeping us updated on address and e-mail changes and by sharing your successes with us.
3. Mentor and help recruit future U of A students. Encourage others to become a Razorback!

Congratulations to our graduates, our newest U of A alumni. All alumni are invited to our annual tailgate party that will be held two hours before kickoff of the Auburn football game on October 13. Meet us at the Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences Building patio on Maple Street (next door to the new Pat Walker Heath Center) for food, fun and fellowship.

Go Hogs Go!

Charlene Reed

## Tailgate Party!

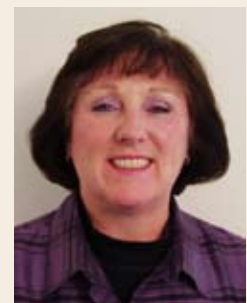


Bumpers College alumni and friends are invited to a catered Tailgate Party picnic on the AFLS Building patio two hours before kickoff of the Auburn game Oct. 13. Go Hogs!

## Alessi joins Dean's staff

Carmen Alessi has joined the Bumpers College administrative staff as assistant to Dean Greg Weidemann. His former assistant, Sandi Caster, is now in the office of Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station Director Mark Cochran.

Alessi came from the UA Office of Planned Giving and was administrative office supervisor for the UA Director of Football Operations from 1990-2005. She has a B.S. degree in education from the U of A and is working on a master's degree in workforce development. She is a graduate of Forrest City High School.



Carmen Alessi

# Biological and Agricultural Engineering Academy inducts three alumni

The Arkansas Academy of Biological and Agricultural Engineering on April 13 inducted Bumpers College alumni William K. Warnock of Fayetteville, Bruce Netherton of Morrilton and Jon J. Classen of Raleigh, N.C.

Warnock was a professor in the UA departments of Agricultural Engineering and Mechanical Engineering and assistant dean of the College of Engineering from 1988 to 2004. He is now headmaster/principal of Haas Hall Academy of Farmington. He has B.S. and M.S. degrees in Agricultural Engineering from the U of A and a Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University.

Netherton, a native of Maysville, is retired after 35 years with Green Bay Packaging of Morrilton, where he was corporate vice president. Previously, he worked five years with International Paper Co. in Pine Bluff, where he began after college as a trainee and worked up to senior pulp mill engineer. He has a B.S. degree in Agricultural Engineering from the U of A, where he also played baseball for the Razorbacks. In 1972, he was named one of the Outstanding Young Men in Arkansas and identified as one of the 25 Distinguished Citizens of Arkansas.

Classen is an associate professor of Biological and Agricultural engineering at North Carolina State University. He has B.S. and M.S. degrees in Agricultural Engineering from the U of A and a Ph.D. from Texas A & M. His area of research is animal waste management, demonstrating and evaluating alternative swine waste treatment systems.

The Arkansas Academy of Biological and Agricultural Engineering was founded in 2002 by the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, which is part of Bumpers College and the College of Engineering. ■



From left, William Warnock, John Classen and Bruce Netherton were inducted into the Arkansas Academy of Biological and Agricultural Engineering.



Yanbin Li shows bird flu biosensor prototype.

## Researchers develop bird flu biosensor

An interdisciplinary team of researchers led by Yanbin Li, professor of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, has developed a portable biosensor for in-field, rapid screening of the deadly bird flu virus.

The inexpensive device specifically and sensitively detects the avian influenza strain H5N1 from poultry swab samples in less than 30 minutes and could help health officials coordinate a rapid response to an outbreak.

“Rapid detection is the key to controlling the spread of avian influenza,” Li said. “Techniques currently used to detect the disease are either time consuming, too expensive or not specific to subtypes of avian influenza viruses. Our device provides robust and reliable results and introduces the concept of real-time detection to facilitate a coordinated and rapid response.”

The research team includes Li; Billy Hargis, Poultry Science; Steve Tung, Mechanical Engineering; and Luc Berghman, Immunology at Texas A&M.

The biosensor can be operated as a stand-alone instrument or connected to a laptop computer. Li said he expects the device to be ready for commercial production in about one year. As a commercial product, the biosensor would cost less than \$8,000, Li predicted, and testing fees would be less than \$10 per sample. ■



# Bumpers College faculty help Alpena students win state science titles

Alpena High School won its second overall championship at the Arkansas Science and Engineering Fair in 2007.

Alpena won the championship over much larger schools, including the Arkansas School for Math, Science and Arts in Hot Springs, Pulaski Academy and Little Rock Central.

The team's accomplishments include back-to-back national championships in the FFA National Agriscience Fair, two state overall championships in the Arkansas Science and Engineering Fair, five Class 1A state championships in the same fair and four overall championships in the Northwest Arkansas Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

Alpena students have won a total of 654 awards since 1997, including 22 state champions, 26 state runners-up, 97 regional champions and one Intel Science Talent Search state finalist. A complete list would go on for pages.

Ask anyone at the school, and they'll give the credit to senior science teacher Mark Welch. Welch shares the credit with bright students, supportive faculty and administrators, and Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences.

"The Bumpers College faculty have bent over backwards to help our kids," Welch said. "Without all the assistance and special techniques they've taught the students, the road to competition would have been a lot harder."

When Welch came to Alpena in 1997, he began a program of independent student research projects and cross-curriculum education. Today, Welch and fellow science teachers David Good and Roger Rose work with English, math and agriscience faculty to help students produce top quality research.

"The students work on these projects on their own time and can count on the support of the administration and faculty," Welch said.

In 2004, agricultural science teacher Chris Adams, MS '91, encouraged Welch to enter FFA Agriscience Fairs. Adams suggested that Bumpers College faculty could help and put Welch in touch with Gary Davis, student recruiter for the Poultry Science Department. Davis helps match Alpena students with Bumpers faculty.

Senior Julie Wilcox studied the effects of lighting color on food consumption in turkeys. She worked with poultry science faculty, including Gisela Erf, avian immunologist; Bob Wideman, poultry physiologist; Keith Bramwell, reproductive physiologist; and graduate student Olivia Bowen.

Wilcox won one regional and three state science fair championships and was the 2006 FFA National Agriscience Fair Microbiology National Champion. She plans to major in Poultry Science in Bumpers College.

Senior Cassandra Kerby conducted research to deter-



University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture faculty have helped Alpena science students excel in regional, state and national science fairs. Front row from left, sophomore Ashley Smith, junior Dalia Garrison, and seniors Cassandra Kerby and Julie Wilcox were among the 17 Alpena students who placed in regional, state and national science and agriscience fairs. Back row, teachers David Good and Mark Welch.

mine whether cool cell poultry houses provided less heat stress for birds than conventional poultry houses. She worked with Erf and Bowen and found no statistical difference between the two types of houses.

Kerby won a state science fair championship and was a runner-up in the Junior Academy of Science competition.

Junior Dalia Garrison is studying how variations in plant anatomy may contribute to how cotton cultivars handle heat stress. She works with Derrick Oosterhuis, cotton physiologist in the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences.

Garrison was a runner-up in the state science fair and won third place in the Junior Academy of Science competition.

Sophomore Ashley Smith studies whether vitamin supplemented feed helps slow the onset of vitiligo in Smyth line chickens, which have been bred with the genetic disorder that causes the non-infectious disease in birds and people. Smith worked with Erf, who also provided the Smyth line chickens.

Smith won third place in the Junior Academy of Science competition.

Welch said that, since Bumpers College faculty began working with his students, Alpena has never been beaten in a regional or state science fair.

"The Bumpers College faculty teach our students advanced techniques, let them use precision equipment and help in innumerable ways," Welch said. "It amazes me that they'll drop whatever they're doing to come help us."

Bumpers faculty are equally impressed with Welch. "He's a wonderful science teacher," Erf said. "I have never seen anyone so dedicated." ■

— by Fred Miller

*"The students work on these projects on their own time and can count on the support of the administration and faculty."*

— Mark Welch

# Junior high students explore agricultural and life sciences

Students from 10 north-central Arkansas junior high schools probed the structure of DNA, built batteries from potatoes and tested the chemical foundations of foods with Bumpers College faculty, staff and students.

The Prospective Student Relations Committee sponsored the Bumpers College Science Day program “Exploring Your World Through Science” April 9 at North Arkansas College in Harrison.

Diana Bisbee, coordinator of off-campus education, said the outreach program was aimed at building interest in Bumpers College majors for ninth-grade students. Bumpers College faculty, students and staff introduced the students to various areas of science important to agricultural, food and life sciences.

“Agricultural science programs traditionally have been good sources of prospective students,” Bisbee said. “With the Science Day program, we’re reaching out to other science programs to show them what Bumpers College has to offer to traditional science students.”

Faculty mentors and graduate students led hands-on activities on such diverse topics as Kirchoff’s voltage laws, the language of DNA, the difference between bacterial and fungal diseases in plants, textiles used in the space vehicles and clothing, plant breeding and other sciences.

Gary Davis, student recruiter for Poultry Science and a member of the PSRC, said the outreach was also for the junior high school science teachers.

“Science teachers often don’t know the science involved in agricultural and related areas,” Davis said. “We need to continually tell the story to reach the students and to inform and involve the science teachers.”

Bisbee said the PSRC plans to expand the outreach to other areas of the state. A follow-up for students interested in Bumpers College will be to bring them to campus during their junior or senior year in high school. ■

— by Fred Miller



Dr. Ainong Shi and Dr. Stella Kantartzi show, from left, Megan Turner of Valley View High School, and Kyla Mabeline Stewart and Amber Ross of Lead Hill Junior High School how to read the language of DNA. The outreach event was aimed at building interest in ninth-grade students in Bumpers College majors.



**VOLUNTEER AWARD** —The Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences (CSES) Club received the 2006 Volunteer Group of the Year award from the City of Fayetteville’s Department of Parks and Recreation for the club’s project of helping to restore a wetland area at Bryce Davis Park in Fayetteville. Tiffany Bogan, Josh Meyer, Bodie Drake and Evy Rice are pictured with the award plaque.

## CSES honors alumni and friends

The Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences honored the contributions of alumni and friends at an April 5 banquet. Josh Allen of Springdale and Steve Brown of Lowell were named Friends of the Department, and Jim Bidlack of Edmond, Okla., received the Outstanding Graduate Award.

Josh Allen is executive vice president for operations of Allen’s, Inc., formerly Allen Canning Company at Siloam Springs. In 2004, he was listed by the *Arkansas Business Journal* as a Top 40 Under 40 Executive. In 2005, he was appointed a four-year term on the first State of Arkansas Agriculture Department Advisory Board.

Steve Brown is director of raw products for Allen’s, Inc. After receiving a B.S.A. degree in dairy science in 1974 from the U of A, he was employed as a field man by Pioneer Foods, which was later acquired by Allen Canning.

Jim Bidlack has a B.S. degree from Purdue, an M.S. degree (1984) in Agronomy from the U of A, and a Ph.D. degree from Iowa State. He is a professor of Biology at the University of Central Oklahoma and received UCO’s Presidential Partner’s Excellence in Teaching Award. ■



# Tyson Foods endows chair, professorships

Dean Greg Weidemann announced Nov. 27 that Tyson Foods, Inc., has endowed a new faculty chair and two new professorships in Bumpers College and the University of Arkansas System's state-wide Division of Agriculture.

Current faculty members who are nationally recognized in their fields were named to the positions. They are Billy Hargis, holder of the Sustainable Poultry Health Chair; Gisela Erf, holder of the Avian Immunology Professorship; and Jean-François Meullenet, holder of the Food Sensory Science Professorship.

Investment returns from the endowments of \$1.5 million for the chair and \$500,000 for each professorship will be used for the teaching and research programs of each faculty member. The endowments were from a gift announced in June 2005 by Tyson Foods to the University's Campaign for the Twenty-First Century. A total of \$1.25 million from the Tyson gift has been designated for the endowed positions, and that amount was matched by the University's matching fund program.

"We are pleased to be able to support the work of these three outstanding scientists. Their work is important to our industry, and it will bring benefits to everyone involved in the poultry industry for years to come," said John Tyson, chairman of the board of Tyson Foods.

Weidemann said, "I am extremely grateful to Tyson Foods for these endowments. They will strengthen three important programs conducted by scientists who are highly respected in academia and within the poultry and food industries."

Weidemann said Hargis, Erf and Meullenet are also outstanding teachers and mentors to both undergraduate and graduate students. "They provide our students

with the opportunity to study with scientists who are among the best anywhere in their disciplines," he said.

Hargis is a professor of Poultry Science and director of the J.K. Skeeles Poultry Health Laboratory. His research focus is sustainable poultry health systems, including the use of probiotics and bacteriophage therapy as alternatives to chemicals for control of bacteria that can cause disease in poultry and foodborne illness in humans. Hargis has a Ph.D. degree and a doctorate in veterinary medicine from the University of Minnesota and is a diplomate of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians. He was a professor of Veterinary Pathobiology and Poultry Science at Texas A&M University prior to joining the UA faculty in 2000.



Billy Hargis



Gisela Erf



Jean-François Meullenet

Erf, professor of Poultry Science, is one of the nation's leading scientists studying immune function in poultry. Her research includes study of the Smyth line chicken, which exhibits a genetic autoimmune condition similar to vitiligo in humans. Her work provides insight into immune development and function in humans as well as poultry. Erf has bachelor's and master's degrees in Animal Science from the University of Guelph in Ontario and a doctoral degree in immunology from Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.

Meullenet, associate professor of Food Science, coordinates the Sensory Service Center for product testing. His research focuses on sensory testing methods and the relationship between consumer acceptance and sensory properties of food. Meullenet has a master's degree in Food

Engineering from the National Superior School of Agronomy and Food Sciences in Nancy, France, and a doctoral degree in Food Science and Technology from the University of Georgia.

## Hembree gift funds Animal Science award

H.L. Hembree is donating \$15,000 over five years to establish the Sugar Hill Farms Undergraduate Award in Animal Science.

Hembree, a former chairman of the board of trustees whose family made possible renovation of the H.L. Hembree Auditorium, said the award is to honor the career of Dr. Paul Noland, a leading researcher and teacher in swine nutrition and management who served as head of the Department of Animal Science from 1987-93. His work as a consultant in Central America,

particularly Panama, was recognized by presentation of that country's highest award for a non-Panamanian, the Manuel Amador Guerero award.

The Sugar Hill Farms Undergraduate Award will be given to an undergraduate student to support a research project in the area of beef cattle.

Sugar Hill Farms is a purebred Angus farm near Ozark founded by H.L. Hembree and operated by H. Lawson Hembree IV.

## Alumnus to endow Cralley Fund for Plant Pathology

Dr. George and Mrs. Arline Bruehl of Pullman, Wash., have established a charitable remainder trust that will be used to endow the Elza Monroe "Monty" Cralley Fund for Excellence in Plant Pathology.

Investment earnings from a sizeable endowment will be used for graduate student fellowships and a variety of other purposes.

Dr. Bruehl, BSA '41, retired professor of Plant Pathology at Washington State University, worked for Dr. Cralley as a UA student. He said the endowment is to honor the memory of Dr. Cralley, who was internationally known for his work in plant diseases of rice and cotton. "Dr. Cralley was a preeminent plant pathologist in his early career, and he established credibility for university programs to identify and provide solutions to major crop disease problems," Bruehl said.

Dr. Cralley was head of the Department of Plant Pathology from 1953 to 1959 and was director of the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station from 1959 to 1973.

Dr. Bruehl has a doctorate in Plant Pathology from the University of Wisconsin. He served in USDA research positions in Brookings, S.D., and Puerto Rico and at Washington State University from 1954 to 1985 where he focused on diseases of grasses.

## Figurine collection donated to Division of Agriculture

The Melvin and Lorraine Fields Collection of poultry figurines and images from around the world is on display in the John W. Tyson Poultry Science Building.

Melvin Fields acquired more than 500 pieces during some 40 years in the poultry business. His wife, Lorraine Fields of Poway, Calif., donated the collection to the University of Arkansas in his memory. The value of the collection is estimated at more than \$65,000.

The Fields Collection was dedicated June 6. The pieces — in crystal, enamel, bronze, teak, gold, silver, porcelain, rose quartz, terra cotta, jade, serpentine, steatite, wood and other materials — represent many different art forms and are on exhibit on the first and second floors of the Poultry Science Building.



**POULTRY COLLECTION** — A wood carving from Bali of a farmer hand-feeding a rooster is one of the more than 500 pieces in the Melvin and Lorraine Fields Collection, dedicated June 6 in the Department of Poultry Science.

## Knight named Director of Development

Kellie Knight was recently named the director of development for Bumpers College. She had been assistant director of development in the College of Engineering since October 2002.

Mark Power, former Bumpers College development director, was named executive director of University Development. Commenting on Knight's appointment, Power said, "With her background in fundraising, particularly here at the U of A, she will be a definite asset to the Bumpers College fundraising program."

Knight has spent a large part of her career working with volunteers and students including time spent overseeing the 4-H program in Houston, Mo. She has a B.S. degree in Agricultural Communications from the University of Illinois.



**Kellie Knight**

## Events raise money for scholarships, research programs

An annual horse festival and three golf tournaments raise money for Bumpers College scholarships and Division of Agriculture research.

Nearly 4,500 people attended the 2007 University of Arkansas Horse Festival March 31, which raised about \$15,000 for the Dorothy E. King Equine Program. The festival began with Cowboy Trades Day displays by equine industry vendors, demonstrations of equine skills, a "meet the breeds show" and other outdoor exhibitions and activities.

Two indoor shows featured live entertainment, including The One-Arm Bandit Gang, Boston Mountain Gunslingers, the Mounted Fury Medieval Exhibition and other events. Other events at the festival included carriage rides, performance by the Fayetteville Fiddle Choir and the Kids Corral, featuring story telling and campfire songs and a stick horse parade.

Seventeen four-person teams participated in the ninth Golf and Sports Turf Classic at Stonebridge Meadows Golf Course April 23. The tournament netted about \$10,000 for turfgrass research and undergraduate scholarships. Over its nine years, the tournament has netted more than \$100,000 for the Horticulture Department's turfgrass programs.

Thirty teams at the Eighth Poultry Science Scholarship Golf Tournament April 24 netted more than \$18,000. Since it began, the tournament has raised more than \$140,000 for Poultry Science Department scholarships.

The annual Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences Department's Delta Classic tournament will be held July 13 at the Helena Country Club. The tournament has raised more than \$160,000 for the department since 2000.

# Commencement 2007



**T**he Class of 2007 of Bumpers College is the largest ever with a preliminary unofficial count of 225 graduates receiving baccalaureate degrees, including those who graduated last summer and fall. A record attendance estimated at 2,400 students, faculty, staff and guests nearly filled the Whitaker Animal Science Center for Commencement May 12.

The **2007 Outstanding Alumnus** is Cordia Harrington, BSHE '75, CEO and owner of four companies based in Nashville, Tenn., which bake and distribute buns and other products for major restaurant companies. Harrington was interviewed by *Time* magazine as one of the leading women entrepreneurs in the United States and has received numerous awards recognizing her accomplishments.



Cordia Harrington

After graduating from the University of Arkansas as a Foods and Nutrition major in 1975, Harrington began her business career in real estate in Russellville and soon moved to Effingham, Ill., where she bought three McDonald's restaurants and served on the corporation's bun committee. Her enthusiasm for "everything to do with buns" won her the nickname of "The Bun Lady." When the company needed a new bun supplier, Harrington was chosen in 1996 to build and operate the Tennessee Bun Company bakery. She later added the Nashville Bun Company, Bun Lady Transport and Cold Storage of Nashville.

Harrington says her success has given her the opportunity "to give others the opportunity to succeed beyond their wildest dreams." The Cordia Harrington "Bun Lady" International Experience Endowed Scholarship fund in Bumpers College was endowed

by Harrington to help students take advantage of study-abroad opportunities. She says an opportunity she had as a U of A student to study in Osaka, Japan, her sophomore year was a life-changing experience.

Involvement in activities as a UA student helped develop her organizational skills, Harrington says. She was social chairman at Humphreys dormitory her freshman year, a student affairs volunteer, freshman orientation leader, and she held various positions in Chi Omega sorority.

Harrington is active in her church and serves on the boards of many charitable organizations. She and her husband, Thomas Harrington, CPA, have five children.

## Commencement speaker and Senior Scholar

Brittany Adams, daughter of Jeff and Jeannie Bonds of Jonesboro, is also one of two John W. White Outstanding Student Award recipients. The Senior Scholar award is given to graduating seniors with a 4.0 grade point average. A Food Science major, Adams plans to pursue graduate studies with the goal of a career in research with a food company or as a university professor. She completed internships at Queen Margaret University in Edinburgh, UK, and with Simmons Pet Food in Siloam Springs. She is a member of the Dean's Student Advisory Board and was Food Science Club president, among other activities.



Brittany Adams

Two **John W. White Outstanding Student** award recipients this year are Brittany Adams (see Senior Scholar Award above) and John Christopher "Chris" Looney, son of Dr. Charles Looney of Camden and Cathryn Looney of Monroe, La. Looney is an



Chris Looney

Agricultural Business major with an economics concentration. He was the U of A mascot, Big Red and Ribby, in 2005-06. He plans to pursue graduate studies in Agricultural

Economics to prepare for a career in investments and economics research in business or government. His many activities included Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity officer, Bumpers College Ambassador and community service, including Battered Women's Shelter volunteer.

The **Dale Bumpers Distinguished Scholars** award is presented to an outstanding undergraduate transfer student and outstanding master's and doctoral students.

The undergraduate transfer student recipient is Troy Weatherley, son of Dwayne Weatherley of Conway and Deanna Taylor of Enola. He transferred from Arkansas State



Troy Weatherley

University-Beebe as an Agricultural Education, Communication and Technology major and plans to teach high school agricultural science. As a student worker at the Savoy Swine Research Unit, he has assisted in research on animal environment and nutrition interactions. He has been active in Collegiate FFA/4-H, Collegiate Farm Bureau and Block and Bridle.



Burl Seversike

Burl Seversike of Olympia, Wash., is receiving a master's degree with an emphasis in Crop Physiology. He plans to pursue a doctorate with a



focus on applying plant physiology and molecular biology to cropping systems issues. As an undergraduate, he spent three months working with farmers in Africa, and he has a career goal of assisting small-scale farmers. He has received a number of other awards, including first place in the Arkansas Crop Protection Association's M.S. paper competition the last two years.

Carol Ojano-Dirain received a doctorate in 2006 in Cell and Molecular Biology and is a program associate in the UA Center of Excellence for Poultry Science where she conducts research on mitochondrial function and feed efficiency in broilers. She taught a graduate seminar and manages a physiology laboratory. She has received many other awards, including the prestigious Alltech Student Research Manuscript Award at the International Poultry Science Forum for the last two years.



Carol Ojano-Dirain



Grant Hunt

The **Spitze Public Policy Legislative Internship Award**, sponsored by Dr. Robert Spitze and Dr. Hazel Taylor Spitze, provides for a student internship in the United States Congress. This year's recipient is Grant Hunt, son of Kirk and Lori Hunt of Brinkley. He is an Agricultural Business major with a pre-law concentration and plans to attend law school and pursue an LLD degree in Agricultural

Law. He has been president of FarmHouse Fraternity and the AgriBusiness Club and was scribe in Alpha Zeta. Other awards include the FarmHouse Outstanding Member and Beginning Scholar.

The **Presidential Scholar**, the junior with the highest grade point average, is Laura Carpenter, daughter of Jim and Anne Carpenter of Benton. She is an Honors Program student majoring in Apparel Studies with minors in Marketing and French. She is treasurer of the Fashion Merchandising Club and Alpha Delta Pi Sorority and a member of Gamma Beta Phi, Phi Upsilon Omicron and Alpha Zeta Honor Societies.



Laura Carpenter

The Bumpers College Alumni Society sponsors an annual scholarship and names two Ring Scholars each year, who each receive a class ring when they graduate.



Brent Koonce

The **Alumni Society Scholarship** recipient is Jonathan Brent Koonce, son of Thomas and Kay Koonce of Little Rock. An Animal Science major with a pre-vet concentration, he completed an undergraduate research project and was employed as an animal science research laboratory assistant. He plans to pursue a veterinary medicine degree and a career in research in the area of animal behavior.

**Alumni Society Ring Scholars** are Agricultural Education, Communication and Technology majors

*(Continued on Page 12)*

## *Honors Program Distinguished Graduates*



Brittany Adams



Carmen Albright



Stacy Cornforth



Megan Ellis



Heather Markway



Tyler McClendon



Laura McKenzie



Christina Pope



Gilia Thomas

Nine members of the Class of 2007 who successfully completed the Bumpers College Honors Program and are **Honors Program Distinguished Graduates** are listed with their major and faculty mentor.

- Brittany Adams, Jonesboro, daughter of Jeff and Jeannie Bonds: Food Science, Navam Hettiarachchy.
- Carmen Albright, Ozark, daughter of Jeff and Alice Albright: Agricultural Business, Jennie Popp.
- Stacy Cornforth, Bartlesville, Okla., daughter of Fred and Joy Cornforth: Animal Science, Jeremy Powell.
- Megan Ellis, Huntsville, daughter of Jennifer Ellis and Billy Ellis: Interior Design, Jennifer Webb.
- Heather Markway, Saddle, daughter of Eric Markway and Terry Mathews: Environmental, Soil, and Water Science, Duane Wolf.
- Jonathan Tyler McClendon, Marianna, son of Larry and Betty Jo McClendon: Agricultural Business, Andrew McKenzie.
- Laura McKenzie, Rogers, daughter of Mike and Karen McKenzie: Animal Science, Nancy Jack.
- Christina Pope, North Little Rock, daughter of SFC Charles and Tammala Pope: Animal Science, Charles Rosenkrans Jr.
- Gilia Thomas, Springdale, daughter of Janie Bartlett and Albert Thomas: Environmental, Soil, and Water Science, Denise Greathouse.

(Continued from Page 11)

Ronald Koch, son of Ronnie and Joyce Koch of Clarksville, and Melissa Osburn, daughter of Dobbin and Diane Osburn of Mountainburg.

Ron Koch plans to attend graduate school and pursue a teaching career in agricultural science. A FarmHouse Fraternity officer, he was a Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol delegate and spring 2005 Pledge Class President. He was president of Alpha Tau Alpha agricultural education fraternity and a member of Collegiate FFA/4-H and Alpha Zeta.



Ron Koch

Melissa Osburn was president of Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow. She served as an AEED R.E.P.S. recruiter for her major, has helped plan fundraising events for children as a Fellowship of Friends Foundation board member and is a member of Alpha Zeta and Alpha Tau Alpha. She was a member of the college's first Student Advisory Board. As a 4-H Alumna, she works with youth on livestock projects.



Melissa Osburn

Nancy Jack, assistant professor of Animal Science, is the 2007 recipient of the **Jack Justus Award for Teaching Excellence** and the **John W. White Outstanding Teaching Award**. Dr.



Dr. Nancy Jack

Jack developed the Dorothy E. King Equine Program, which includes public educational activities and the new Equine Science minor. She has spearheaded fund raising through donations and events that are very well attended by the public. Her teaching includes hands-on activities and group problem solving and attracts students from varied majors campus-wide. She has M.S. and Ph.D. degree in Animal Nutrition from New Mexico State University.

### The Bumpers College Alumni Society Outstanding Advising Award

recipient is Kathleen R. "Kathy" Smith, an Apparel Studies instructor in the School of Human Environmental Sciences. As a graduate teaching assistant from 1991 to 1993 and an Instructor since 1994, she has played a major role in the emergence of Apparel Studies as the most popular major in the College. She advises students on academics, internships and career goals, and is advisor to the Fashion Merchandising Club. She is a graduate of the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, NY, has a B.S. degree from The Ohio State University and an M.S. degree from the U of A.



Kathy Smith

### John W. White Outstanding Research Award

recipient Dan Donoghue, associate professor of Poultry Science, is a leading authority on drug, chemical and pathogen contamination of poultry. He served on a multi-agency group to develop and implement programs to reduce residues in the human food supply. Other awards include the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine Scientist of the Year Award. Dr. Donoghue has a Ph.D. degree in Poultry Science from Texas A&M University and M.S. and B.S. degrees, respectively, from Brigham Young University and the Medical University of South Carolina.



Dr. Dan Donoghue

### The John W. White Outstanding Extension State Faculty Award

goes to John Jennings, extension forage specialist and professor of Animal Science. He conducts statewide programs in grazing management, soil fertility, establish-



Dr. John Jennings

ing legumes and reducing winter feed costs. He is executive secretary for the Arkansas Forage and Grassland Council. He received his B.S. degree from Southwest Missouri State University, an M.S. degree from the University of Arkansas and a Ph.D. degree from the University of Missouri.

### The John W. White Outstanding County Extension Educator Award

recipient is VeEtta Simmons, staff chair of the Crittenden County office of the Cooperative Extension Service. She has led extension programs since 1975 in Crittenden County. She has served in many leadership roles, including the Farm Family of the Year Selection Committee, TEA Coalition, FEMA, Vision 2010, and the state chapter of NEAFCS, the extension professional society. She is a graduate of Arkansas AM&N College (now UA-Pine Bluff) and the University of Central Arkansas with B.S. and M.S.E. degrees in Home Economics Education.



VeEtta Simmons

### The Division of Agriculture Non-Classified Support Personnel Award

recipient is James A. "Pete" Hornsby, a research associate in the Department of Animal Science and manager of the Stocker and Receiving Cattle Research Unit at Savoy. He designed and supervised construction of the remodeled unit. He manages research projects and the budget for the unit. His many contributions include leading tours for producers and school children, helping to teach laboratory classes and marketing timber from the 3,000-acre Savoy property.



Pete Hornsby

The Division of Agriculture Classified Support Personnel Awards go to Judy Haney with the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station and Roberta Bufford with the Cooperative Extension Service.





Judy Haney, accounting technician II, has provided comprehensive accounting services since 1991 for the Food Science Department, where she was first employed as a clerk-stenographer

Judy Haney

in 1977. She also has served as office manager during transition periods for that position and assists in training new office staff. Ms. Haney has been recognized as a campus-wide Employee of the Quarter.

Roberta Bufford, administrative office supervisor in the White County office of the Cooperative Extension Service, manages administrative activities and assists with program activities and events. She was first employed as a clerk-stenographer in 1976. She was promoted to secretary in 1977 and to her present position in 1997.



Roberta Bufford



FUNCTIONAL FOODS PROGRAM TEAM (left to right):  
Dr. Luke Howard, Dr. John R. Clark, Dr. Teddy Morelock and Dr. Brad Murphy.  
Not pictured: Dr. Terry Siebenmorgen and Dr. Rosemary Rodibaugh

The **John W. White Outstanding Team Award** goes to the Division of Agriculture's Functional Foods Program. The program includes research to evaluate and characterize phytonutrients in various foods and ways to improve retention in fresh and processed foods. It also includes extension efforts to increase the benefits of functional foods to consumers. Team members are Luke Howard, professor of Food Science; Terry Siebenmorgen, university professor of Food Science; Rosemary Rodibaugh, professor of nutrition and state extension nutrition specialist; John R. Clark, professor of Horticulture; Teddy Morelock, university professor of Horticulture; and Brad Murphy, professor of Horticulture. ■



**RING SCHOLAR** – Chasadee Franklin, right, of the Poultry Science Alumni Group congratulates Ashley Swaffar of Farmington on receiving the alumni group's Senior Ring Scholar Award at the Poultry Science Club's awards luncheon April 17. Swaffar was Senior Ambassador for Bumpers College and won first place for an undergraduate research paper in January at the International Poultry Scientific Forum in Atlanta.



**"BUN LADY" BENEFACTOR** – Jada Thompson, left, and Sharon Linder, who received Global Studies travel grants from the Cordia Harrington "The Bun Lady" International Experience Endowment visited with Harrington May 11 at a reception in the AFLS Honors Hall. Grants were awarded for study abroad last summer to Thompson, Agribusiness and Poultry Science, who went to Western Europe; Linder, Apparel Studies, Scotland; and (not pictured) Marion Curtner, Food, Human Nutrition and Hospitality, Spain; and Stephen Jones, Food Science, Scotland.



## McClendon continues Lee County line of cotton leaders

Lee County has provided many leaders for agriculture in Arkansas, the Mid-South and the nation. Contributions of the late legendary Lon Mann and Dan Felton Jr. and their families were recognized by the University of Arkansas System's Division of Agriculture at the April 6 dedication of the Dan Felton, Jr. Building at the Lon Mann Cotton Research Station, formerly the Cotton Branch Experiment Station, in Marianna.

The current generation includes Larry McClendon, BSA '74 — farmer, ginner, association executive and winner of the 2006 Cotton Grower Achievement Award sponsored by *Cotton Grower* magazine, Case IH and Monsanto. He was the *Cotton Grower* Marketer of the Year in 2002, and the National Cotton Ginners Association (NCGA) named him National Cotton Ginner of the Year in 2003.

McClendon is president of the NCGA and vice chair-elect of the National Cotton Council, to be followed by a term as chairman. Lon Mann had also held both positions.

After graduating from the U of A in 1974 as an Agricultural Economics major, McClendon considered a public sector career like his dad, Johnny McClendon, who was county tax assessor and an Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service field man. He chose farming, instead, starting with 500 acres in 1975, and now has one of the state's largest operations.

"The first 10 or 12 years (which included severe droughts in the early 1980s) were not very productive; it was all I could do to hang on," McClendon said. "After that, it sort of fed on itself." At a time when many farmers went out of business, his love for the life and its people kept him going: "I have a love for agriculture and a love for the people in agriculture. There are some incredible people in this business, and I can't say that enough."

One of McClendon's role models was Lon Mann, who became a mentor and provided him the opportunity to learn cotton ginning from the ground up. In 1991, McClendon bought Mann's gin company and named it the McClendon-Mann Gin Co. Mann was active in the business until his death in 2003. "I miss him. I always held him in the highest regard," McClendon said.

In 1995, the Dan Felton and Co. gin, operated by Trent Felton, BSA '74, merged with McClendon-Mann to form today's McClendon, Mann & Felton Gin Co. with Felton and McClendon as partners. The two have been friends since



Tyler McClendon  
BSA '07

Larry McClendon received the 2006 Cotton Grower Achievement Award sponsored by *Cotton Grower* magazine, Case IH and Monsanto. He and Trent Felton, who both received BSA degrees in 1974, are partners in the McClendon, Mann and Felton Gin Company in Marianna.

fifth grade and attended the U of A together. McClendon now manages the gin operation and Felton manages the warehouses. They run eight Continental Eagle gin stands in three buildings in Marianna and Brickeys.

Larry and Betty Joe McClendon have two children, Ashley, 30, and Tyler, 22, and three grandchildren. Ashley works on the farm, and her husband, Bobby Byrd, is a farm manager.

Tyler received his U of A degree in Agricultural Business this spring and accepted a job as a fixed income sales analyst for Wachovia Securities in Charlotte, N.C. A role in the family business "is always on our minds and we talk about it frequently," dad said. "He'll be there for a couple of years, and then probably go back to get a graduate degree. I want him to get all the education he can get."

McClendon is described as a good farmer and businessman who is eternally optimistic and willing to take calculated risks and adopt innovations.

"I've heard some of the craziest ideas over the years, like herbicides you could spray over the top, insecticides that are contained in the seed, six-row cotton pickers with on-board module builders and satellite imaging that will allow you to better manage your crop," McClendon said. "Most of those crazy ideas now have practical applications on cotton farms."

McClendon said he is confident in the future of cotton, which currently faces unfavorable market conditions. "We have worked through some pretty tough problems in the past, and I think that by applying our collective intelligence we can solve the problems we have today." ■

— by Howell Medders

## Developing tomorrow's leaders for the business of agriculture

**A**gribusiness is a term that applies to a huge sector of state, national and world economies engaged in producing, processing and marketing food, fiber and now, "energy" products.

The Agricultural Business major is a business degree program to prepare graduates to become agribusiness leaders at the local, state, national and global levels.

Graduates are in demand for careers in production management and consulting, banking and finance, merchandising and sales, market and policy analysis, purchasing and logistics, operations research, quality analysis, public service and other areas.

Students can specialize in Farm Business Management, Agribusiness Management, Agribusiness Marketing or Agricultural Economics. Degree programs include a pre-law option and preparation for the UA Law School's unique graduate program in Agricultural Law. The Agribusiness Minor is a popular option for students in many other majors.

Paid internship opportunities for Agribusiness majors provide on-the-job training and opportunities to network with potential employers.

The Agricultural Business Club brings students, faculty members and professional people together for fun and fellowship, service projects and learning experiences. Each year a team of agribusiness undergraduate students competes in two academic quiz bowls.

The Global Studies Program provides opportunities for study tours, internships and semester or yearlong study in other countries. Undergraduate students can apply for grants for research projects and have the results published in the *Discovery* student journal.

The Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness offers four program tracks leading to the Master of Science (M.S.) degree in Agricultural Economics (AGEC). The four tracks focus on research and analysis, agribusiness, international agribusiness or agricultural law. ■

## Agriculture Secretary visits campus

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns began a visit to Northwest Arkansas April 12 with a tour of the U of A Division of Agriculture's Center of Excellence for Poultry Science. He said he saw "cutting edge research with the potential to change the world."



Mike Johanns

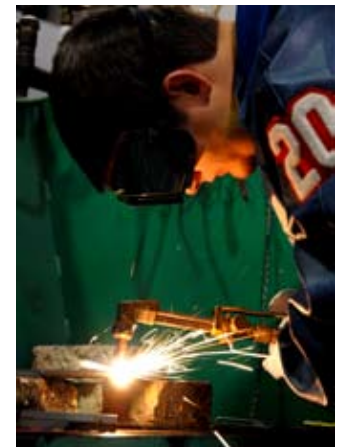
The Poultry Center houses a USDA Agricultural Research Service unit for Poultry Production and Product Safety Research, as well as Bumpers College and Division of Agriculture teaching, research and extension faculty and staff.

After an address in the Law School's new mock courtroom, in which he praised the school's National Agricultural Law Center, Johanns met with farmers and six Central American ambassadors for a trade policy discussion at the Benton County farm of Arthur Henderson.

**ANIMAL SCIENCE HONORS** – Linda Pote, PhD '84, left, was awarded the Advanced Graduate of Distinction Award and Sherman Cullum, BSA '60, was awarded the Graduate of Distinction Award by the Animal Science Department. Paul Belts, not shown, was named Friend of the Department. Pote is a professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine and interim head of the department of basic sciences at Mississippi State University. Cullum is an associate broker for White Land Company in Wynne. Belts is a longtime swine producer and now owns Maplelawn Farm at Gravette.



**FFA CAREER DEVELOPMENT** – Mitch Smith of Taylor High School cuts a pattern with an oxy-acetyline torch during the agricultural mechanics event of the FFA Career Development Events April 13. Bumpers College hosted more than 1,100 FFA students from more than 100 schools for the annual CDEs that demonstrate the meaningful connections between classroom instruction and real-life scenarios.





Dale Bumpers



Betty T. Sloan



Robert L. "Bob" McGinnis



Troy Buck



Harold Loyd "Hal" Lewis

## Hall of Fame inducts Bumpers and graduates

**D**ale Bumpers, three graduates of Bumpers College and an agricultural leader with a doctorate from the University of Arkansas were inducted into the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame March 16 in Little Rock.

The inductees in addition to the College's namesake are Betty T. Sloan, BSHE '45; Robert L. "Bob" McGinnis, BSA '53; Troy Buck, BSA '61 MS '63; and Harold Loyd "Hal" Lewis, PhD '64.

Charleston native **Dale Bumpers** served two terms as governor from 1970 to 1974 and four terms as a U.S. senator, retiring in 1999. He championed causes that benefited agriculture, rural communities and education and aided development with significant government investment. He was a member of the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee; the Senate Appropriations Committee, chairing its Agriculture, Rural Development & Related Agencies Subcommittee; and was chairman/ranking member of the Senate Small Business Committee.

The University of Arkansas Board of Trustees named the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences in his honor in 1995.

**Betty Sloan** of Jonesboro has headed one of Northeast Arkansas' largest farming enterprises as president and manager of the family-owned 15,000-acre E. Sloan Farms and B&G Land Co. She is active in agricultural and social issues, including water quality and quantity, wildlife management and historical preservation.

Sloan, a native of Prescott, is a former home economics teacher. She helped establish the Sloan Heritage Farm adjacent to the Old Davidsonville State Park and was honored by the Division of Agriculture and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission for support of the Acres for Wildlife Program.

**Bob McGinnis** of West Memphis is a cotton producer, a 20-year member of the Arkansas House of Representatives

and chairman of the Arkansas Soil Test Review Board.

A Marianna native, McGinnis was chairman of Cotton Incorporated and served as advisor to the National Cotton Council on federal regulatory issues. He was instrumental in establishing the Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication Program and Soil Testing Review Board. As a public servant and citizen, McGinnis has been a staunch advocate for agriculture.

**Troy Buck** of Alpine in Clark County is an award-winning and innovative vocational-agriculture teacher of 46 years' experience at Hope and Amity, where he established the state's first high school custom meat-processing lab at Centerpoint High School. He is a three-time winner of the Ag Teacher of the Year Award and received the Pilkington Award in 2004, which is the highest honor granted by the Arkansas School Boards Association.

An Alpine native, he currently has 100 head of beef cattle and two poultry breeder houses and produces Bermuda hay on 400 acres.

**Hal Lewis** of Doddridge, president of Scientific Seed Co., H.L. Lewis Farm and Hal Lewis Enterprises, has had a varied career. His work contributed to development of the cotton module builder, boll weevil eradication technology and the micronaire test procedure that helps producers find the best time to defoliate and harvest. As a plant breeder, he introduced three cotton varieties, four commercial soybean varieties and two commercial grain sorghum hybrids.

Dr. Lewis was a professor at Texas Tech University, manager of physiology and biochemistry research for the national Cotton Council and director of research for Cotton Incorporated. A native of Manila, Lewis has degrees from Texas A&M and the University of Houston and a Ph.D. degree in microbiology from the U of A.

The Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce and Arkansas Farm Bureau sponsor the Agriculture Hall of Fame. ■



# Food Science Department ranked No. 4 in nation for 'faculty scholarly productivity'

The Food Science Department of Bumpers College and the Division of Agriculture was recently ranked No. 4 nationally for "faculty scholarly productivity" by Academic Analytics, which ranks 7,294 doctoral programs at 354 universities and colleges.

The index, partly financed by the State University of New York at Stony Brook, rates scholarly output based on the number of book and journal articles published by faculty members, journal citations, awards, honors and grants received. Rankings were published online at [www.academic-analytics.com](http://www.academic-analytics.com).

The only programs ranked ahead of Arkansas in the food science category were at Cornell, Illinois and Massachusetts. Others on the top 10 list, after Arkansas, were Louisiana State, Florida, Wisconsin, Colorado State, Pennsylvania State and Michigan State.

Twelve faculty members direct Division of Agriculture research and extension programs and teach courses for B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Food Science awarded by the U of A through its Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences.

Ron Buescher, Food Science department head, said there are 48 undergraduate Food Science majors this spring and 40 students working on M.S. or Ph.D. degrees.

"Exciting and rewarding careers for our graduates are plentiful in Arkansas and the global food industry," Buescher said. "Our graduates are hired to design and test new products and processing technologies, assure food quality and safety, and improve human nutrition and health.

"The high regard for our faculty in the food industry and research community helps open doors for our graduates for good jobs and career advancement," Buescher added.

**Research Programs.** Buescher said Arkansas is nationally known for research in functionality and health benefits of foods; food microbiology and safety; food processing and packaging; rheology and sensory analysis; food carbohydrate, lipid (fat and oil) and protein chemistry; and developing value-added products using cereal, oil seed, fruit, vegetable and meat commodities important to Arkansas.

Areas of faculty expertise include the following.

- Terry Siebenmorgen directs a rice processing program supported by the Arkansas rice industry and processing companies to increase processing efficiency and the quality of rice products.

- Justin Morris directs the enology and viticulture program, which includes a patented system for mechanized vineyard management being tested in commercial wine vineyards in California.

- Jean-François Meullenet's rheology and sensory analysis program develops new ways to evaluate food quality and consumer preferences. It includes a professional sensory panel that conducts tests for food industry clients.

- Functional foods research by Luke Howard is identifying bioactive components in foods and developing ways to improve their retention. The research identifies and characterizes health beneficial phytochemicals.

- Michael Johnson, Steve Ricke and Phil Crandall focus research on foodborne pathogens and prevention of foodborne illnesses. Ricke holds the Donald "Buddy" Wray Chair in Food Safety and is director of the Division of Agriculture's Center for Food Safety. They and others conduct interdisciplinary research funded by the USDA Food Safety Consortium.

- Ruben Morawicki focuses on food processing issues such as byproduct utilization, waste management, energy efficiency and packaging.

- Research programs by Ya-Jane Wang, Navam Heti-arachchy and Andy Proctor focus on the chemistry and functionality of three primary food components of carbohydrates, protein and lipids, respectively. They address issues that impact food quality and functionality. They also develop new products such as edible protein film coatings for fresh food, soy oil with enhanced conjugated linoleic acid content and health-promoting oligosaccharides and probiotics (beneficial bacteria).

Each program area includes a staff of supporting scientists and graduate students who contribute to the nationally ranked scholarly productivity of the faculty, Buescher said. ■



The Food Science Department is housed in a 52,000 sq. ft. complex of laboratories, classrooms, a pilot processing plant and offices built in stages from 1958 to 2006 at the Arkansas Agricultural Research and Extension Center 1.5 miles north of campus.

## Class Notes

### 1960s

**Dr. Dave Hopson**, BS '66, has recently accepted a new job as area veterinarian in charge for the Missouri Department of Agriculture.

### 1990s

**John Clarence Wolf**, BSA '97 Agricultural Economics, announces his new position as president of Allied Spray Technologies in Evans, Colo.

### 2000s

**Dr. Whitney Brosi**, MS '00, assistant professor of Human Development and Family Science at Oklahoma State University, was named the HDFS Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor. She is in her fourth year as a gerontology faculty member at OSU. Her husband, Dr. Matt Brosi, is also an assistant professor of HDFS at OSU. They have a 14-month-old son, Eli.

**Nicholas Coston**, BS '00, recently joined Labhan Veterinary Hospital in Greenwood as an associate veterinarian.

**Russ W. Martin Jr.**, BSA '01 MS '03, was recently hired as a commercial loan officer with Twin City Bank in Little Rock.

**Roger D. Gattis**, B.S. '03 Agricultural Economics, recently moved to Joplin, Mo., to accept the position of general manager for Overman Green, LLC. He will oversee all merchandising for the company.

## UA wins Linnaean Games regional

The UA Linnaean Games team won first place at the Entomological Society of America's Southeastern Branch meeting in Knoxville March 4-7.

A total of ten schools from throughout the southeast competed in a "quiz bowl" setting.

UA team members were graduate students Jackie McKern of Mount George; Godshen Robert of Cochin, India; Sandra Sleezer of Stillwater, Okla.; Becky Trout of Union, Ky.; and alternate Cesar Solorzano of Guayaquil, Ecuador. Allen Szalanski, associate professor of Entomology, coached the team.

*Send your class notes to  
Ashley Harris  
awharris@uark.edu  
or mail the attached card.*

### Births

**Ronald Rainey** (Alumni Board President-Elect) and his wife Jenel are delighted to announce the arrival of a daughter, Marlee Emma, on March 26, 2007. Marlee weighed 8.4 lbs. and was 21 inches long.

**Raymond Osborn**, BSA '81, and his wife Dana are the proud parents of a son, Luke Garland Osborn, born March 6, 2006.

**Kelley Anne Griffin Lammers**, BSE '95 and **Jeffery David Lammers**, BS '94 MS '96, welcomed daughter Charlotte Anne Lammers on July 27, 2006.

**Nicholas and Mischelle (Fryar) Coston**, B.S. '00, welcomed a son, Brandon Ray Coston, in January 2006, joining sister Abigayle, born in 2004.

**Sue Hum-Musser**, Ph.D. '02, announces the birth of a daughter, Madelin Marie Musser, born on Oct. 27, 2006. She weighed 8 lbs. and 11 oz.

**Russ W. Martin Jr.**, BSA '01 MS '03, announces the birth of his first daughter,



**POULTRY SCIENCE LUNCHEON** – Doug McCloud, complex manager for Tyson Foods, addressed Poultry Science students about jobs at a March 6 luncheon hosted by the Poultry Science Alumni Organization with the Poultry Science Club.

Kylie Estelle Martin, on Oct. 26, 2006, in Little Rock. She weighed 8 lbs. and 6 oz.

### Deaths

**Alexander Clyde McGinnis**, BSA '40, of Batesville, Ark., a retired real estate broker, news writer, columnist and former supervisor of the Farmers Home Administration in Independence County, died Oct. 20, 2006.

**Clifford R. Marsh**, BSA '43, of El Paso, Texas, died on Sept. 6, 2005. He was an ardent supporter of the University and very proud of his Arkansas roots.

**William L. Newberry**, BSA '47, of Arkadelphia passed way on Dec. 26, 2006. He was in the feed and farm business and later in the property and casualty insurance business until retirement in 1982.

**Earl W. Smith**, BSA '40 MS '48, of Santa Rosa, Calif., died June 9, 2006.

**James L. Bradley**, BSA '47 MS '49, of Fort Smith died on Jan. 8, 2007. He worked in sales for 32 years for Central Soya Company and received numerous sales awards. Later, he worked for Mid-South Industrial Sales in Fort Smith until his retirement in 1991. ■

### Patrick Fenn 1947-2007

Patrick Fenn, professor of Plant Pathology, died Jan. 28 at the University of Arkansas Medical Center in Little Rock. He was 59.

Dr. Fenn joined the UA Department of Plant Pathology in 1979 and rose to the rank of professor in 2006. He conducted research in forest pathology early in his career and more recently in fruit crop diseases and seed quality issues in soybean. He and his graduate students discovered three independent dominant genes that conditioned resistance to Phomopsis seed decay of soybeans.

Dr. Fenn's teaching was in the areas of disease physiology and biochemistry and in fungal biology. He actively served the American Phytopathological Society and was a senior editor for APS Press.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, of the home; a son, David Fenn, of Farmington; and a daughter, Elizabeth Fenn, of Nevada.



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## Bumpers students will design, build school farm in Belize

A team of students and faculty from Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences at the University of Arkansas will design and help start a school farm for impoverished children in rural Belize.

The Bumpers College team will spend a month in Pomona, Belize, to develop plans for a sustainable farm for St. Mathew's Elementary School, said Nilda Burgos, associate professor of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences and one of the faculty sponsors for the project. The team will work with the school's principal, agricultural teachers from two junior colleges in the nearby city of Dangriga and Women Working for Children, a Belize service organization.

Jennie Popp, associate professor of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, said the project is part of a university-wide program involving projects around Dangriga, a city of about 10,000 on the Caribbean coast. The program, "Community Development in a Global Context: An International Service Learning Program," is sponsored by the U of A Honors College.

Popp said many of the students at the St. Mathew's school are malnourished. "They come to school hungry, and the school has to determine who they can feed each day because there is not a steady supply of food."

Popp said the school will operate the farm. Produce not needed to feed the children will be sold, and the money used to purchase food the farm doesn't produce.



A group of Bumpers College students will accompany Dr. Jennie Popp and Dr. Nilda Burgos to Belize in May 2007. Front row from left, Mioko Tamura of Saitama, Japan; Laura Sossamon of Ozark; and Evy Rice of Daingerfield, Texas. Back row from left, Heather Markway of Cherokee Village; Kerri Boling of Gravette; Lauren Webb of Royal; Misti Clark of Prairie Grove; and Ashley Jones of Lincoln. The students will design and implement a sustainable school farm for St. Mathew's Elementary School in Pomona, Belize.

"We hope that this farm can serve as a model for other schools in the region that hope to meet the nutritional needs of their students," Popp said.

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# THE GRADUATE

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