

# 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

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In my position as Senior Associate Vice President for Agriculture – Research and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, I have a great appreciation for the outstanding research being conducted by our faculty members and scientists.

In my position as interim Dean of U of A's Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, I also have a great appreciation for the research being conducted by our students as they take advantage of opportunities to work under the mentorship of our faculty and scientists.

Efforts in both of these areas of teaching and research, along with service and outreach, help us meet our land-grant mission.

Our students have a wide range of career options to pursue, and with that many directions they can choose in terms of research.

Research allows students to ask questions, gather data, and answer questions and solve problems impacting everyone.

This year's issue of *Discovery*, our undergraduate research journal which allows students to publish their work in a citable publication, includes eight projects across seven different majors and disciplines.

You will see projects and findings from the areas of human nutrition and dietetics, birth through kindergarten, and human development and family sciences in our School of Human Environmental Sciences; poultry science (two), animal science, horticulture, and environmental, soil and water science.

It is inspiring and gratifying to see the results of hard work completed as our students have investigated questions and problems, and reached conclusions with potential answers and solutions.

We are here to serve the people of Arkansas, the entire country and the world, and you will see our students are in a position to do so as their findings are published and they prepare to embark on their professional careers.

This issue of *Discovery* highlights the efforts of just a few of them. Our faculty work with them to produce what you see because they care about students and their development, as well as the research and its impact.

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. You have results of studies highlighting and exemplifying those qualities in our student researchers and future leaders.

Congratulations to the student authors on completing these projects. 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 this collection as a service to them and our readers.

Jean-François Meullenet, Interim Dean  
Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences



*Jean-François Meullenet*  
Interim Dean