Lona Robertson Named Interim Dean

Lona Robertson, associate dean of the Bumpers College since February 2011, was named interim dean by U of A Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Ashok Saxena and Vice President of the U of A System Division of Agriculture Mark Cochran. She began her appointment on June 1.

A joint statement from Saxena and Cochran read: “We are very pleased to announce the selection of professor Lona Robertson, associate dean, to serve in the position of interim dean. Dr. Robertson has the experience and stature to serve in the interim dean’s position, and has our full support and that of Chancellor (Joseph) Steinmetz. She will serve in this role until a permanent dean is appointed.”

Robertson joined the faculty in the School of Human Environmental Sciences in January 2006. She was associate professor and coordinator of what is now the apparel merchandising and product development program.

“I am very excited to have the opportunity to serve the students, faculty and staff as interim dean of the Bumpers College,” said Robertson. “I look forward to working with the department heads, staff and faculty to continue to develop our academic programs and strengthen our relationships across campus. I want to thank Provost Saxena and Dr. Mark Cochran for this opportunity.”

Prior to coming to Arkansas, Robertson spent 11 years at Oklahoma State University, including five as assistant dean for academic programs and services in the College of Human Environmental Sciences. In 2015, she was one of 22 Fellows of the Food Systems Leadership Institute recognized for completing the executive leadership development program, and for contributions to individual organizations, higher education and food systems.

Robertson grew up in Indiana and Florida. She earned her bachelor’s degree in fashion merchandising and a master’s degree in clothing and textiles from Florida State University. She was an assistant professor of textiles, apparel and merchandising at Indiana State from 1986-95. While at ISU, she earned her doctorate in education from Indiana University in 1995 and then joined the faculty at OSU.

Mike Vayda, dean since 2010, left to become provost at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. The search for a permanent dean is expected to begin in the fall.
Hi, Family and Friends of Bumpers College!

Mike Vayda, our dean since 2010, left in May to become provost at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. I was appointed interim dean on June 1, and look forward to serving our students, faculty and staff, and connecting with you as we continue to grow the prominence of our college.

You may notice this issue of The Graduate is larger than previous issues. We’ve expanded by several pages and decided to publish once a year with more stories, and expanded photo and class notes sections rather than publishing smaller issues in summer and winter. We will mail hard copies to everyone and continue distributing an electronic version via email.

In this issue, we remember Dale Bumpers, our college’s namesake who passed away in January, and celebrate the accomplishment of our equine program in the Department of Animal Science, which earned facility accreditation.

You’ll get to know Bill Bowden, our Outstanding Alumnus for 2016, and Kerri Boling, our Alumni Society Outstanding Young Alumna. They share stories about their past and careers, and offer advice for students and young graduates.

The School of Human Environmental Sciences elevated its signature events for apparel merchandising and product development, and hospitality innovation. We have photo features from the Metal & Shine AMPD Benefit Fashion Show and SMASH – Students Mastering the Art of Southern Hospitality, formerly A Class Act.

Speaking of apparel, did you know our students designed and created outfits sold on dolls nationally by Walmart? You may have seen My Life As dolls in stores with a U of A logo on the box, crediting apparel students. How is that for real-world experience and program promotion?

Another student, Victoria Maloch, recently completed a year-long term as secretary for the Metal & Shine AMPD Benefit Fashion Show and SMASH – Students Mastering the Art of Southern Hospitality, formerly A Class Act.

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We are wonderfully represented by current students, faculty, friends and supporters, and graduates like you! Thank you for staying connected and supporting your college!

Lona Robertson

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN
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"The Bumpers College is more than a school, it is a family, and I am very honored that I got to be a part of that family. Right away, the faculty and advisors took an interest in me. They challenged, encouraged and provided me with many opportunities to develop the knowledge and confidence needed to pursue my goals."

Kerri Boling, litigation and regulatory attorney at Tyson Foods and 2016 Bumpers College Alumni Society Outstanding Young Alumna on her time as a Bumpers College student (More Q&A pages 20-21).
1 • Chancellor Joseph E. Steinmetz, who has 30 years of experience as a research leader on brain systems that support learning and memory, taught BC students in human development and family sciences. Steinmetz lectured students in associate professor Glennda Revelle’s senior-level course, “Infancy: Brain, Learning and Social Cognition.” Steinmetz was the executive VP and provost at Ohio State University before becoming UA chancellor on Jan. 1. In the photo, students are (L to R): Kendale Nichols, Chassidy Hurst, Heather Bradshaw and Devon Taylor with Revelle (back left) and Steinmetz. (photo by John Douglas Gearhart)

2 • The U of A soil judging team, made up of BC students, won the Region IV title in Texas last fall and earned a spot in the national championships for the sixth straight year. Kris Brye, professor of applied soil physics and pedology in the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences, is the coach. The team includes (from left): Tim Moore, Brye, Rebecca Anderson, Marya McKee, Lynnette “Dave” Smith and Quintin Williams. Individually, McKee was the top overall scorer in the region while Moore was 10th and Anderson 12th. In the spring, the squad placed ninth at the National Collegiate Soil Judging Contest in Kansas for its first top 10 finish in 15 years. McKee finished sixth individually in the country.

3 • Sam Harris, center, poses with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and his wife Christie. Harris, an honors freshman double-majoring in agricultural business and agricultural communications, received the Elaine Szymoniak Award as the top Borlaug-Raun International Intern at the World Food Prize Laureate Award Ceremony in Iowa last fall. He conducted research and interned in India through the World Food Prize Foundation.

4 • Yvonne Vizzer Thaxton (right), professor of poultry science and director of the Center for Food Animal Wellbeing, was inducted into the American Poultry Hall of Fame at the International Poultry and Processing Expo in January. Michelle Hall (left) of the American Poultry Historical Society, made the induction. Thaxton writes the Poultry Perspective blog on Meatingplace and served as executive editor of Poultry Magazine from 2001-10. She was recognized for a career of service to the poultry industry, academia and various government agencies. Thaxton and her late husband Paul (inducted in 2010) are the first husband and wife to be inducted into the Poultry Industry Hall of Fame. (photo by Sara Landis)

5 • Apparel merchandising and product development students (from left) Judy Weech, Katelyn Stellar, instructor and dancer Lance Cheramie, instructor Stephanie Hubert and Alyssa DeShong pose with a dress they designed and constructed under Hubert’s guidance for professional dancer Aura King. The dress was worn by King when she and partner Cheramie performed a theatrical Viennese waltz at the Winter Showcase at Dance King Studio in Bentonville.

“No. 1 - show up and be prepared when you show up. No. 2 – with co-workers and around the coffee pot, never talk about the boss or take part in gossip. No. 3 - take the high road and make recommendations for improvements. No. 4 - be well-trained, become an expert and prove yourself. No. 5 - don’t talk so much, listen and look people in the eye. As a U of A graduate, keep the alumni association advised of your mailing and iPhone address. I have been a member for years and pay my dues. I recommend each of you do the same. I enjoyed Alumni Board duty and was on the Bumpers College Alumni Society Board for six years.”

– Bill Bowden, retired U.S. Air Force Major General and 2016 Bumpers College Outstanding Alumnus with advice for recent graduates (More Q&A pages 18-19).
Bumpers College
FAMILY ALBUM
Continued

6 • The Department of Food Science hosted around 30 Springdale High School students from the food products and processing program for experiments and informational sessions. Teachers and BC graduates Chad Burkett (B.S. in poultry science; M.S. in agricultural and extension education) and Josh Rice (B.S. in agricultural business; M.S. in agricultural and extension education) started the program to help meet local industry needs. Students learned about college preparation, food packaging and labeling (Steve Sediman speaking in photo), food chemistry and sensory science, and they toured the pilot plant kitchen and sensory lab.

7 • An interdisciplinary team of two apparel merchandising and product development professors and two from human development and family sciences received the ATEXINC Award for Innovation in Textile Instruction at the International Textile and Apparel Association annual conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Lauren Apple and Kathy Smith (pictured, from left) in AMPO, and Zola Moon and Glenda Reveille in HDF created a textile design course aimed at engaging female middle schoolers in areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. With fewer females considering STEM-related fields, the group targeted girls by using e-textiles and circuit kits to combine activities of traditional interest such as sewing with electronic circuit design.

8 • Andy Proctor, a University Professor of food science, was a Fulbright-Austria NAWI Graz Visiting Professor in Natural Sciences last fall. NAWI Graz is a partnership between the University of Graz and Graz University of Technology in Graz for joint teaching, research and doctoral programs in natural sciences. Proctor organized and chaired a Skype career enhancement seminar series with current food science doctoral student Sarah Shin and doctoral graduate Utkarsh Shah. In the photo, Proctor is at left on the top row. On the screen, Shin is on the left and Shah, now a senior scientist at The Hershey Company, is on the right.

9 • Jade Newsome, a master’s student in plant pathology, won the U of A’s first Three Minute Thesis competition sponsored by the Graduate School and International Education. She won the college round to enter the finals as BC champion to face winners of other colleges on campus. Newsome won the overall title with her presentation “Dissecting Salt Tolerance in Soybean by Profiling Differential Physiological Responses and Gene Expression.” The contest challenges graduate students to summarize their thesis or dissertation research in three minutes to a general audience. The presenters were judged on ability to help audience members understand their research and ability to engage the audience. Newsome works with plant pathology professor Ken Korth.

10 • Hospitality innovation students, in the photo with Amy Bates and her staff, assisted Bates Events in coordinating the Big Night gala, the annual fundraiser for The Jones Center. Associate professor of hospitality innovation Kelly Way and Bates collaborated on the ambassador program, which gives students experience working fundraisers, weddings and corporate gatherings. In addition to the ambassador, another 100 hospitality students plated and served meals for 400 Big Night guests.
Dudley is in apparel merchandising and product development, and were Anna Dudley (second from left) and Lauren Presley-Nguyen. with now Interim Dean Lona Robertson and former Dean Mike Vayda, students were acknowledged. First-Ranked Senior Scholars, pictured in seniors and graduate students, and dean and chancellor’s list and Awards Banquet in April. Each department also named outstanding students for academic achievement at the annual BC Honors 14 • Eleven students from eight majors and concentrations
Arkansas has a long-grained variety of rice that is the favorite of Cuba.”
comments from Lamigueiro: “Arkansas is the No. 1 rice producer in the
Torres and Boon Tan of the Arkansas World Trade Center. One of the
dean for student programs. They were joined by Dan Hendrix, Melvin
education; Robert Wiedenmann, entomology; and Leslie Edgar, assistant
head; Curt Rom, horticulture and associate dean of International Edu-
economics and agribusiness; Mike Kidd, poultry science department
officials they met included John Marcy, poultry science; Jean-Francois
Cruz, ministry of foreign affairs; and Karin Diez, first secretary. BC
students for their selection as Harry S. Truman Scholars. Maloch is an agricultural business major with a minor in agricultural communication. Neighbor is a civil engineering major. Truman Scholars are selected based on a commitment to a
career in public service and are awarded $30,000 in scholarship funds to attend graduate or professional school. This year, 775 students from 305 institutions across the nation applied and 54 were selected with two from the U of A.
16 • Shilpa Samant, a doctoral student in food science, received the 2015 Institute for Perception Award, which recognizes a student with exceptional talent and achievement in sensory science, marketing, psychology, economics or related fields. She also won the Rose Marie Pangborn Graduate Paper Competition, both for her work with pro-
fessor Han-Seok Seo on how the understanding of label information affects consumers’ perception of poultry quality.
17 • Joe Danton (bottom right), a turf science intern at Oakmint Country Club in Plum, Penn., poses in a group photo with Dustin Johnson, winner of the 2016 U.S. Open PGA golf championship this summer.
18 • Godwin-Charles Ogbeide, associate professor of human nutrition and hospitality innovation, Jennifer Henk, assistant professor of human development and family sciences, and Dylan Martinez, doc-
toral student in food science, won “Best Paper Award” at the Central Federation Council on Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Education Conference. From left, Ogbeide and Henk discuss their childhood obesity research, “Fast Food: To Eat or Not to Eat,” with Ozarks at Large producer Timothy Dennis at KUAF.
14 • Eleven students from eight majors and concentrations were recognized for academic achievement at the annual BC Honors and Awards Banquet in April. Each department also named outstanding seniors and graduate students, and dean and chancellor’s list students were acknowledged. First-Ranked Senior Scholars, pictured with now Interim Dean Lona Robertson and former Dean Mike Vayda, were Anna Dudley (second from left) and Lauren Presley-Nguyen. Dudley is in apparel merchandising and product development, and Presley-Nguyen human nutrition.
15 • U of A Chancellor Joseph Steinmetz congratulates Victoria Maloch (left) and Danielle Neighbour for their selection as Harry S. Truman Scholars. Maloch is an agricultural business major with a minor in agricultural communication. Neighbor is a civil engineering major. Truman Scholars are selected based on a commitment to a career in public service and are awarded $30,000 in scholarship funds to attend graduate or professional school. This year, 775 students from 305 institutions across the nation applied and 54 were selected with two from the U of A.
11 • Andrew McLean, developer and manager of the Australian Equine Behaviour Center, was the Animal Science King Visiting Scholar for 2016. An equine behavior expert, McLean presented lectures to students, faculty and staff in Hembree Auditorium in the AFLS Building and one for the general public at the Pauline Whisler Animal Science Center. He founded The HELP Foundation, a non-profit focused on the welfare and training of working elephants in Asia. He spoke on training horses and elephants, learning theory, animal welfare and improving interactions with animals. The King Visiting Scholar program is supported by the Carl B. and Florence E. King Foundation.
12 • Kathryn Miller (far right), a BC AMPD graduate, is co-leading a Mentoring Circle created to help apparel students develop professional and leadership skills. Eight students were selected for the first group to meet with executives. Miller and Ricci Grimes (front left). Grimes is senior director of Walmart’s Ladies Product Development and Miller is director of Jewelry and Accessories Product Development. Meetings focus on resume building, interviewing skills, executive presence and presentation skills, and offer opportunities for job shadowing and store tours. “As a graduate of the AMPD program, and as a member of the AMPD Advisory Board, I am personally invested in developing these students as future leaders and equipping them for corporate apparel retail careers,” said Miller. “I have benefited greatly from my educational experience in this program, and now years later, am honored to have this opportunity to pay it forward.”
13 • In April, a trade delegation from Cuba visited BC and U of A System Division of Agriculture personnel on campus. The group included Juan Lamigueiro, deputy chief of mission; Ysbel Arias Cruz, ministry of foreign affairs; and Karin Dez, first secretary. BC officials they met included John Marcy, poultry science; Jean-Francois Cruz, ministry of foreign affairs; and Karin Diez, first secretary. BC board and I are excited to welcome Dr. Lona Robertson as the interim dean of the college. Dr. Robertson has been at the U of A since 2006 and served as associate dean of the college since 2011. She knows our students, our faculty and is a great ambassador for Bumpers College across campus and the country, and will serve Bumpers College well. See you Oct. 8.
WPS, Penny Storms, President
19 • Mike Vayda, BC dean since 2010, is now provost at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. A reception in his honor was held on the Maudine Sanders Student Plaza and Garden and Hawkins Family Terrace on May 19. Speakers included new Interim Dean Lona Robertson, BC Alumni Society President Penny Storms, CSES department head Robert Bacon, Distinguished Professor of horticulture John Clark and UA System Division of Agriculture Vice President Mark Cochran.

20 • William Tapp, a BC alum who teaches vocational agriculture and education, and serves as FFA sponsor at Gravette High School, attended a June professional development workshop for high school agriculture education teachers and career technical instructors. The two-day workshop was conducted by the agricultural systems technology management program in the Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology.

21 • Kate Shoulders, assistant professor of agricultural education in AECT, received three awards at the national American Association for Agricultural Education conference in Kansas City. She collaborated with others to share Distinguished Manuscript from the Journal of Agricultural Education, an Outstanding Innovative Idea poster presentation and Outstanding Research poster presentation. A co-author of the Distinguished Manuscript entry was Don Johnson, coordinator of the BC agricultural systems technology management program.

22 • The 17th Annual Delta Scholarship Golf Classic was held July 15 at The Ridges at Village Creek in Wynne. The tournament helped the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences collect more than $22,500 for scholarships. Since 2000, the tournament, run each year by CSES alumni and friends (pictured), has resulted in more than $400,000 used to fund 151 scholarships while building an endowment for future scholarships, including Delta Classic Scholarships and James L. Barrentine Endowed scholarships.

23 • Students in the human development and family sciences concentration in the School of Human Environmental Sciences have formed a Southern Early Childhood Association chapter on campus. A group attended the SECA conference in Tulsa, including, from left, Maddie Williams, Bailey Barnett, Julee Cox, Dana Ninkham, Andrea Lopez and Marisa Gamboa. Goals of the Bumpers College SECA chapter are to promote awareness about early childhood education on campus, to participate in professional development through programs and speakers, and to volunteer in Northwest Arkansas communities.

24 • Larry Purcell, holder of the Altheimer Chair for Soybean Research in the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences, has been appointed to an international Scientific Advisory Network created by Plant Impact Plc. The network of scholars and authorities on soybean and wheat crop physiology, bio stimulants, agchem, biochemistry and formulation chemistry advise Plant Impact to help advance innovation in crop enhancement.
Apparel Merchandising

Students Create Doll Clothing for Walmart Toy Product

By Lacey Howard

Students in the apparel merchandising and product development program have designed a doll clothing line now being sold nationwide on a toy product at Walmart.

Kathy Smith, clinical associate professor in the School of Human Environmental Sciences’ apparel program, was contacted by Walmart toy buyer Haley Kochen, a Bumpers College apparel merchandising and product development graduate, about getting students involved in the project.

The clothes are featured on the My Life As product, an 18-inch tall doll wearing various styles of active wear. The doll was created for young girls ages 8 to 12.

A web site for the dolls says they are “discovering who they are, what they’re good at, what they like. They are kind and genuine. My Life As dolls are committed to nurturing young girls on their path to self-discovery.”

A total of 17 designs have been produced by Bumpers College students, six in 2014 and 12 more recently. Each outfit comes with a hangtag featuring the U of A logo and stating the outfit was “designed by an apparel student.”

Smith said 24 students made presentations to the Walmart buyer team the first year and they were supposed to choose one design, “but they took six instead, because the designs were that good.”

The newest outfits are a rose swimsuit, watermelon dress, gardener, hi/lo tribal skirt, polka dot dress, pom-pom ruffle dress, aqua and pink hi/lo skirt, two surfer girl swimsuits, hip hop dancer, red polka dot swimsuit and pink wetsuit.

“Projects such as the My Life As doll designs allow students to interact directly with professionals in the apparel industry,” said Smith. “Students can proudly build their resumes and portfolios with hands-on experiences which will set them apart from their peers as they begin their careers. This is key for the future of the program and for prospective students as they make choices for an academic program that best fits their needs in a professional environment. Walmart and the U of A have allowed the apparel students in AMPD to showcase their work in a national retail arena.”

Industry-based software was used to navigate the apparel production process. Students were put into groups to develop strategies and unique designs for the dolls, beginning with researching current clothing trends. Each group presented designs to the retail executive team, consisting of key suppliers for the product line. Six designs were selected to be designed as part of the spring 2015 outfit assortment. The process typically takes 12 months.

“It is very seldom that you find this kind of opportunity, especially at a collegiate level, where you get the chance to work with the No. 1 retailer in the world,” said Callahan. “I feel that you can’t get first-hand experience of how it is to work on the product development and retail merchandising process.”

Kochen, who graduated from U of A in 2010, viewed the class project as an opportunity to give back to the program that launched her career.

“This is a great learning experience, understanding the cost implications of all of the design decisions that you make and designing a garment that would hit a certain cost threshold,” said Kochen, who has been with Walmart since 2010. “A lot of beautiful things I love can’t be executed because of cost, but I’m learning that you can make beautiful designs that still fit within our Every Day Low Price model. I’m excited to be able to give back to the program that has been so good to my career. I didn’t envision doll clothing, but it’s a really fun program to do.”

“It builds skills on a corporate level and gives you first-hand experience of how it is to work on the product development side,” said Callahan. “I feel that you can’t get that kind of experience anywhere besides at the University of Arkansas.”
Instructors Earn National Site Accreditation, Certification from CHA

Facilities and instructors in the D.E. King Equine Program in the Department of Animal Science earned national accreditation and certification, respectively, during the spring from the Certified Horsemanship Association.

The equine program hosted the CHA team for an extensive on-site review March 31 through April 3 as it examined compliance standards and observed management of the following: horses, student staff, volunteers and equine facilities. Reviewers also monitored protocols and rules, and tracking systems at the D.E. King Equine Pavilion.

"This is a major accomplishment for our program, the department and the college," said instructor and barn manager Kathi Jogan. "There were 56 standards we had to address. Everyone involved in this process did an amazing job."

"We realize our equine program is top-notch," said Polly Haselton Barger, lead reviewer for the association. "This is a major accomplishment for our program, the college, the department and the university."

"We have never been so impressed with the information presented to us documenting standards as we were with what Dr. Jogan and the University of Arkansas presented to us," said Polly Haselton Barger, lead reviewer for the association. "In fact, this is the first time we have ever asked for copies of the standards compliance notebooks. We intend to use them as teaching tools for our reviewer teams."

The Equine Facilities Manager Certification process is a 20-hour clinic which evaluates participants on skills and knowledge of facility and horse management. Participants demonstrate skills and take written tests at levels up through Level 4 certification.

Level 1 is a stable worker, qualified to work in a barn under supervision of a manager; Level 2, stable manager, qualified to manage a small private stable of up to 10 horses with one or two employees; Level 3, herd manager, qualified to manage a public facility of up to 35 horses and three or four employees; and Level 4, equine facility manager, qualified as general manager of a commercial operation with more than 35 horses and five or more employees.

Nine students, along with Jogan, participated in the clinic. Jogan earned Level 4 certification while all nine students earned either Level 2 or 3.

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"Never has anyone achieved the perfect scores recorded by Dr. Jogan on the CHA EFM Level 4 Certification review in the 10 years this program has been in place," said Haselton Barger. "Students completing certification were Caitlin Barnettt, Taylor Breeding, Morgan Crosby, Mackenzie Curtis, Eugenia Fletcher, Laura Kirkley, Brandon Oates, Brooke Satterwhite and Sheri Thomson. Barnettt, Curtis, Fletcher, Kirkley, Satterwhite and Thomson are animal science majors. Breeding is in agricultural economics and agribusiness, Crosby in child development and Oates kinesiology."

"Our mission is to enhance and broaden students’ educational and experiential learning opportunities to better prepare them for career placement and life-long learning," said Looper. "To accomplish this mission, the Department of Animal Science provides hands-on training, experience and development of skills by students. Accreditation from the CHA is the industry’s stamp of approval that we are providing our students high-quality equine education and training."

"The reviewers were very impressed with our students’ preparation and professionalism," said Jogan. "Through this site accreditation, we are recognized as being shoulder to shoulder with the best-managed equine facilities in the country."

Jogan was awarded a grant from the American Quarter Horse Foundation, which funded the accreditation and certification process.

The Bumpers College offers an equine science concentration for animal science majors and an equine science minor for students with other majors. All U of A students are welcome to participate in equine activities at the King Equine Pavilion, which is home to 10 horses – Daily, a black tobiana APHA gelding; Des, an AHA gelding; Willie, a registered AQHA gray gelding; Sport, a bay tobiana gelding; Te, a chestnut overo pinto mare; Bling, a sorrel Appaloosa gelding; Liscious, registered in the American Miniature Horse Registry; Solid, a registered bay Appaloosa gelding; Zeus, an unregistered black ranch type gelding; and Breeze, an APHA solid palomino gelding."

Eugenia Fletcher, an animal science major, completes a skills demonstration during the Certified Horsemanship Association accreditation and certification review.

Left: Students participate in an educational session during the Equine Facilities Manager clinic.

Below: The group participating in the CHA review included (from left) Taylor Breeding, Caitlin Barnettt, Sheri Thomson, Rash Huff, Morgan Crosby, CHA reviewer Millie Binkley, Laura Kirkley, CHA program director Polly Haselton Barger, Brandon Oates, animal science instructor and barn manager Kathi Jogan, Amanda Pattan, Eugenia Fletcher, Michelle Corts and Brooke Satterwhite. Not pictured: Kim Copps.

Opposite page; Animal science major Brooke Satterwhite participates in a skills demonstration for the CHA team.

Photos by Kim Copps.

For left, Eugenia Fletcher, an animal science major, completes a skills demonstration during the Certified Horsemanship Association accreditation and certification review.

Left: Students participate in an educational session during the Equine Facilities Manager clinic.

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Opposite page; Animal science major Brooke Satterwhite participates in a skills demonstration for the CHA team.

Photos by Kim Copps.

By Robby Edwards
Maloch Returns to U of A After Year on the Road as National FFA Officer

By Lacey Howard

Victoria Maloch, a senior in the Bumpers College, returned to the U of A this past year following a yearlong commitment as secretary of the National Future Farmers of America Organization.

Maloch, a native of Magnolia, is interning this summer in Washington, D.C., but was on campus working on her agricultural business and pre-law double-major after carrying in Washington, D.C., but was on campus working on her commitment as secretary of the National Future Farmers of America Organization.

Her term from October 2014 through October 2015 included traveling more than 300 days and 100,000 miles around the country to promote agricultural advocacy and leadership development.

"We broke the attendance record at the national convention (in Louisville, Kentucky) with over 65,000 people," said Maloch, who also served as Arkansas state FFA president as a senior in high school.

"It made us the largest youth convention in the country."

Duties and responsibilities included interacting with business and industry leaders, FFA members and teachers, corporate sponsors, government and education officials, state FFA leaders and the general public. Her group led personal growth and leadership training conferences for FFA members across the country, and helped establish policies to guide the future of FFA and promote agricultural literacy.

"I learned no matter where you are, from, how many members your state has, how much funding your state or school does or does not get, FFA changes student lives across the country," said Maloch. "That is why this organization has remained so strong and continued to reach new all-time membership highs each year."

She said personal highlights included "meeting members across the country and seeing them have influential experiences involving agriculture, education, leadership and more; meeting U.S. Ambassador to Japan Caroline Kennedy at the Japanese Embassy to discuss FFA and agricultural trade with Japan; and meeting Deb Eschmeyer, executive director of Let's Move (childhood obesity initiative) in the East Wing of the White House."

FFA is headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, but Maloch was rarely there. Her favorite trips included "New England in the fall for chapter visits, Hawaii for its state convention in the country." Maloch was the first national FFA officer from Arkansas in 21 years.

"My generation is constantly put down as lazy, arrogant and entitled," said Maloch, who plans to go into public service and work in public policy. "I wish everyone could give anyone hope for the future."

"Watching Victoria interact with her FFA peers during her year as national FFA secretary illustrated how hard work and dedication, passion for a mission and lifelong learning, and the value of studying leadership can yield outcomes," said Cassandra Cox, an instructor in the Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology.

Maloch is minoring in agricultural communications and plans to obtain a Juris Doctor and Master of Laws in agricultural and food law from the U of A.

"Victoria earning the position of national FFA secretary illustrated for fellow students and members the importance of actions speaking louder than words," said Cox. "Her enthusiasm and vigor for agriculture, leadership and FFA work on public service and public policy. "I wish everyone could interact with the almost 630,000 FFA members, though. This generation's FFA members are truly living to serve and would give anyone hope for the future."
Nayga in AEAB Wins U of A SEC Faculty Achievement Award

Researching Childhood Obesity, Food and Nutrition Labeling, and Food Deserts

Rodolfo Nayga, whose research on poverty, nutrition, obesity and novel food technologies has won worldwide recognition, received the U of A Southeastern Conference Faculty Achievement Award last spring.

By Dave Edmark

Every year SEC universities select a faculty member with outstanding teaching and scholarship records as award recipients. SEC Faculty Achievement Award winners receive a $5,000 honorarium. The award was established in 2012 by SEC presidents and chancellors in recognition of faculty accomplishments, scholarly contributions and discoveries. Nayga, who joined the faculty in 2009, is the first Bumpers College professor to win the award.

“I am very pleased that Rodolfo Nayga has been recognized for his world-class research and teaching,” said Provost Aschik Seneka. “The University of Arkansas has been represented by several fine faculty members since the SEC Faculty Achievement Award was started in 2012, and Dr. Nayga is every bit as deserving of the recognition as the past recipients. His research and his teaching both are focused on improving people’s lives, a particular goal of the Bumpers College and the U of A System Division of Agriculture.”

“I am honored to be chosen for this award but also humbled since there are a lot of excellent professors who have great research and teaching programs at the University of Arkansas,” said Nayga.

The common theme in his research is the desire to evaluate and find ways to improve food programs and policies for the betterment of society as a whole. Findings from recent work with colleagues at the U of A on the effect of food deserts and school food programs on childhood obesity have garnered national media attention.

“Dr. Nayga is an internationally recognized food policy scholar whose research on consumer behavior and food access are helping drive the conversation on how we as a nation address food security and health issues, ” said Mark Cochran, vice president-agriculture and head of the U of A System Division of Agriculture.

Nayga was one of the first economists, along with his dissertation adviser at Texas A&M where he earned his Ph.D. in 1988, to utilize scanner data from supermarkets for food demand analysis and policy. He used data to delve into food demand analysis by looking at consumption behavior at a more disaggregate level than what had been done previously with traditional food consumption datasets.

“The use of these relatively large scanner data made it possible to analyze the effects of various economic and non-monetary factors on demand for specific food products, rather than aggregated commodities for policy analysis,” said Nayga. “This showed that the statistical estimation results from the use of scanner data can contradict the patterns in aggregate data.”

This finding impacted academia, food policy evaluation and modern food consumption research, and resulted in large-scale scanner data for food demand analysis and food policy decisions becoming standard protocol.

His research in the economics of food and nutritional labeling helped expand policy makers’ understanding of how consumers comprehend food labels and how they influence health-related outcomes such as diet quality and obesity. His studies illustrated the differential impact of the use of various types of nutritional labels, such as nutrient content and health claims, on the quality of diets. The USDA, FDA and non-governmental organizations have used his research results to better understand the effectiveness of nutritional and food labels in improving food consumption and diet quality of consumers.

The USDA’s Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program was created to increase food access. “While consumption among students in the country’s poorest elementary schools by reimbursing schools offering fresh food at no cost to students. Nayga and colleagues at the U of A studied the program and found evidence that students in participating schools benefited with lower body mass index measures. The cost for each student is estimated at $50 to $75 per year, making the program economically significant.

“The rise in childhood obesity is a combination of many factors—one is the extent to which the commercial food environment provides a broad assortment of affordable foods that make up a healthy diet,” said Nayga. “One concern is many families live in what are termed ‘food deserts,’ areas where healthy food choices are not readily available and thereby place children at a greater risk for obesity. As a result, food deserts have captured the attention of policy-makers who have employed large-scale interventions and healthy food financing initiatives targeting those areas, usually in large cities.”

Nayga has studied food deserts to see if they play a role in childhood obesity. His team discovered food deserts are a risk factor and it would be reasonable to include an area’s food desert status in the criteria for prioritizing interventions for childhood obesity.

“There is also some evidence that school-based interventions could offset weight gain associated with living in a food desert,” said Nayga. “More research is needed to demonstrate that school-based interventions are effective in food desert areas with chronically poor environmental conditions.”

Nayga has also served on the faculty at Texas A&M, Rutgers and Massey University in New Zealand. He has been a visiting professor and Fulbright Senior Scholar at Wageningen University in the Netherlands and a Taiwan National Science Council Fellow at National Taiwan University.

Nayga has published more than 230 refereed articles in academic journals and been cited at least 6,000 times by researchers. He has served on the editorial boards of 15 scholarly journals. Nayga has received more than $16 million in research grants from numerous agencies and delivered about 400 invited talks and lectures around the world.
Growing up, experience in agriculture:

I grew up on a family farm in Swifton, Arkansas. My father was a cotton and soybean farmer, and my mother was a homemaker. I learned to work with the farm machinery from a young age. I also participated in 4-H, a youth program that offers educational opportunities to enhance the lives of children and their families through hands-on learning experiences. I learned about crop rotation, soil science, and animal husbandry. This experience was invaluable, as it provided me with a strong foundation in agriculture.

Most significant thing learned in college:

Concentrate on the subject at hand. The associate dean, Dr. Hudson, invited me to his office the first week and told me his door was always open. That was a great lesson I practiced my entire career. My professors taught me to concentrate and listen carefully. Dr. Ray in animal husbandry only read pop quiz questions once. My science, chemistry, math and English professors stayed close to their notes, so if I listened and took notes, tests could be passed. Listening was a life-long habit. Being ready to give a brief presentation on the subject if called on served me well in my Air Force career. I was able to think on my feet and speak briefly with a recommendation to improve a mission.

Why the Air Force:

ROTC was mandatory for freshmen males at land grant colleges. We were in the Korean War and the Cold War was on the horizon. We entered ROTC and knew we would be drafted out of college. I was committed to becoming an officer and flyer before I graduated. Korea was over, but I entered and began flying. I was a navigator-bombardier on strategic bombers, mainly the B-52. The Vietnam War started and I flew 44 combat missions, received two Air Medals and was a commander for operations. In my flying career, I saw the world and flew to many countries. My job was to concentrate on the tasks under my responsibilities. I worked as if that would be the last job I would have. I was proud of what the Air Force assigned me to do. I wore a starched shirt and crease in my pants every day.

Becoming a two-star General:

I had no say in assignments or promotions. My commander did these then told me afterward. I served at 12 bases, four of them twice. In my last command, I had 27,000 people. I had several major air command assignments and the Pentagon twice, and was an instructor at the Air War College for three years, teaching seminars and classes on Air Force operations.

My all-time hero was General Curtis Lemay, the “father” of Strategic Air Command. He built a strong bomber and missile force that became the most superior and best-trained force in the world. He insisted on the best training and standards. He was tough, but fair. I looked up to him and wanted to be the best for him.

Playing baseball for the Razorbacks (1950-54):

I received a small scholarship in agriculture, walked on as a freshman, made the team as the starting shortstop, and had a freshman letter and three varsity letters. My name and letterman years are on the wall in the A Club room (at Baum Stadium). My coach (Bill Ferrell) was outstanding. I learned how to play hard and take a good swing. He wanted 100 percent on every play, every pitch. I owe so much to him for learning to be competitive. I hit .294 my senior year. I still hear from two teammates. Lyle Wilkerson, our catcher, is in Riverside, California, and a high school baseball coach; and Francis Long, our second baseman, lives near Fayetteville and was in the Air Force.

A book you recommend:

I am currently reading The Wright Brothers and recently finished Sycamore Row by John Grisham. I like biographies, especially on Margaret Thatcher and Henry Kissinger. I listen to Morning Joe on MSNBC as I drive to morning board meetings in Oklahoma City.

Growing up in Swifton:

I started school in 1938 and graduated in 1950. I saw the town and county run by returning WW II veterans. Hoyt Wilmuth became our postmaster, Floyd Wilmuth one of seven storeowners, Ira Ferrell a farmer and chairman of our school board, and W.O. Hulett county judge. They were just four of our great leaders who grew up, and learned to follow and lead in WW II. They were our heroes. They supported our school and churches, were great men, and had great wives and children. I am proud of Swifton and still operate my family farm (soybeans and wheat). I go there once a year to visit, attend Swifton Methodist Church and have coffee with the boys. Sam Boyce, my lawyer, once told me years ago, never go back to your roots. You will ruin them.

After the military:

After my Air Force career, I worked in higher education for the Oklahoma Chancellor for Higher Education, mainly working on aviation education degrees. I was invited to serve on several civic and charity boards, and served as a regent and trustee for seven years at Rose State College.
Alumni Society Outstanding Young Alumna Q&A

By Robby Edwards

Taylor Adams, vice president of the BC Alumni Society, presents the Outstanding Young Alumna Award to Kerri Boling.

Kerri Boling
Gravette, Arkansas
B.S. in Agricultural Business, 2007
Litigation and Regulatory Attorney, Tyson Foods Inc.

Lessons learned growing up on family’s beef cattle and contract poultry farm:

Being raised a farm kid was the greatest gift I could receive. Valuable lessons I learned growing up on my family’s farm are things I use in my career today, and I’m sure I’ll use those lessons the rest of my life. I learned the value of hard work, discipline and what it takes to never give up, even on the toughest days; the value of teamwork and the importance of collaborating with others to solve problems and achieve common goals; and that you should always be aware of your surroundings - getting caught between a momma cow and her calf is a mistake you will only make once. It also taught me the value of a dollar, the importance of planning for the future and always making sure you have the right tools handy to succeed. Sometimes the most important and rewarding work isn’t necessarily the most glamorous. Sometimes things don’t go according to plan and you must learn to improvise, think outside the box and take risks. Finally, the most important thing I learned is you must always remember to close the gate to the cow pasture.

What you miss about the farm:

It was hard work, but I miss getting to work outside every day and interacting with other farmers. I also miss working with my family.

Fun growing up:

My sisters and I enjoyed participating in 4-H and FFA activities, going to cattle sales, livestock judging and traveling for livestock shows. My parents have always joked that our family vacations were spent showing livestock at the state fair.

Why agricultural business:

I have a background in agriculture and always had an interest in business, and agricultural policy and regulation. It gave me the opportunity to leverage my background and interests. Agricultural business is also very diverse. It gave me the opportunity to study a variety of areas and the ability to specialize in the area I chose.

Why agricultural law:

Agricultural business helped further my interest in agricultural policy, and my passion to understand the laws and regulations that impact food, farmers and agricultural businesses worldwide. I did not have any connections to agricultural law, and honestly did not know a single lawyer growing up, but I had passion, and knew the best way to further my interest and passion was to get a law degree. After an internship in Washington, D.C., one summer working on agricultural issues for a U.S. senator, I decided agricultural law was my calling.

Bumpers College Ambassador:

My favorite and most memorable experiences are all off-campus recruiting activities I got to participate in as an Ambassador. It was always so much fun telling high school students all about the Bumpers College.

International Program experiences in Scotland and Belize:

I’m a big supporter of travel as an educational experience, and I believe everyone should study abroad. I got a lot out of it and wish I had taken advantage of more international opportunities. It really opens up new possibilities, gets you out of your comfort zone and challenges you with uncommon experiences. Immersing yourself into a completely different culture is extremely powerful and your resume will stand out to companies who have expanded globally.

Spitze Public Policy Legislative Internship with U.S. Sen. Blanche Lincoln in Washington, D.C.:

The opportunity to intern in Washington, D.C., to gain a better understanding of our legislative system and government was one of the best and most valuable experiences I have had. It had a major impact on me and is really what pushed me to ultimately decide to pursue a legal career and apply to law school.

Inspiration and motivation:

I get to work and connect with people every day that share my love and passion for agriculture.

Something significant learned in college:

The sky is the limit with an education from the Bumpers College. The studies of food, agriculture, life sciences and the environment are more important and more diverse than ever before.

Advice for young alumni/recent graduates:

You don’t have to know someone in the business, or have a friend who knows someone, I didn’t. If you know you want to do something and you have the passion for it, all you need to do is aim high, not be afraid of failure, learn how to network, work harder than anyone else and be nice to others.

First career break:

My first job out of law school was working for a law firm in Des Moines, Iowa. When I accepted the job, I really did not know many people from Iowa, so it was an awesome opportunity to get outside my comfort zone. It was also very exciting that my first job straight out of law school allowed me to spend 100 percent of my time on food and agricultural related matters, and living in Iowa exposed me to agriculture sectors I was not as familiar with at the time.

Tip to unwind and recharge:

Take time for yourself to do things you enjoy. Go on new adventures, travel and most importantly, surround yourself as much as you can with the people who mean the most to you.

A book you recommend:

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People.

Favorite dish or meal:

Banana pudding!

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Spitze Public Policy Legislative Internship:

I have had several opportunities over the past couple of years to mentor Bumpers College students and participate in several Bumpers programs. I stay connected as much as I can to professors, classmates and people I came to know during my time in the college. It is amazing how often I get to work professionally in my career with people I met at the Bumpers College.

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Favorite dish or meal:

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The hospitality innovation program held its premier event of the year on April 2 at the Chancellor Hotel in Fayetteville. This was the seventh annual fine-dining fundraiser, but it was the first year for a new name. Formerly known as “A Class Act,” it is now known as SMASH – Students Mastering the Art of Southern Hospitality.

Proceeds help fund scholarships for hospitality innovation students, professional development for students and faculty, equipment, supplies and research.

SMASH began with an Arkansas Hospitality Leadership Forum and hospitality alumni reception on Friday, and concluded Saturday with a career networking session for full-time job and internship interviews, a Q&A on revenue management strategies and tourism analytics, and the SMASH reception and dinner.

“This is truly a phenomenal event for our students to showcase their menu design, catering, serving and overall hospitality skills while having the opportunity to earn scholarship funds – all for doing what they do best,” said associate professor and interim assistant director of the School of Human Environmental Sciences Kelly Way. “SMASH allows our students to learn from industry leaders during the forum and have an intimate location to interview for internships and fulltime positions with those leaders who have a vested interest in our students and our hospitality program.”

Students in the “Advanced Apparel Production” class designed and created garments featured in the apparel merchandising and product development program’s “Metal & Shine AMPD Benefit Fashion Show” at the Fayetteville Town Center on April 20.

“Our students experience the apparel production process from the initial design inspiration through the construction and marketing of their garments,” said instructor Stephanie Hubert. “This one project gives them insight into the decision-making process experienced by designers, patternmakers, financial teams, factories and more. They expand their vision of what it takes to get fashionable garments into the hands of consumers.”

Raul Torres, a fashion designer in Dallas, was the featured guest designer. A 2011 graduate of the Bumpers College apparel program, Torres is creator and owner of the Rullie Torres Collection, which includes bridal, formal and avant-garde designs.

Proceeds from the show help fund student study tours in the School of Human Environmental Sciences’ apparel program.

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Opportunities For Support – Thank You!

We are preparing students to be leaders of tomorrow in areas of life that affect everyone - food, family and the environment.

If you would like to support future apparel or SMASH events, you can purchase tickets or inquire about sponsorship opportunities through the School of Human Environmental Sciences (hesc@uark.edu, 479-575-4305). Contact Kelly Way (kway@uark.edu) for SMASH or Douglas Gearhart (dgearha@uark.edu) for fashion shows.

If you would like to support other events, or help fund scholarships, internships, facilities, equipment, research or entrepreneurial opportunities, please contact us at 479-575-7906 or extrel@uark.edu.

All checks should be made out to UA Foundation with the event or area of support listed in the memo section, and mailed to Bumpers College Development Office, AFLS E108, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

Thank you!
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THE BUMPERS COLLEGE GRADUATE • FALL 2016

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THE BUMPERS COLLEGE GRADUATE • FALL 2016
Hope, Nov. 30, 2015. He entered military service in 1944 and served overseas more than 14 months as a first lieutenant in the 63rd Infantry Division of the U.S. Army and won the Silver Star Medal, three Bronze Stars, three Purple Hearts, three Battle Stars, three Vietnamese Crosses for Gallantry, Victory Ribbon and American Theater Ribbon. Later, he was employed at the Farmers Home Administration where he remained for the rest of his career.

Pawhuska, Okla., Feb. 21. He served in WWII in the U.S. Department of Agriculture for 30 years, retiring in 1981. Survivors include his wife, two sons, and two daughters, Rita and Cynthia Foster Sero, BSA '82.

Kenneth A. Croft, BSA '50, MS '54, Conway, July 11, 2015. He was 93 and taught agriculture for 20 years in Hot Springs and Melbourne schools, and later worked for the Soil Conservation Services where he retired after more than 20 years.

Willy G. Maddox, BSA '56, Footy, Oct. 26, 2015. Gene served in the U.S. Navy and was a veteran of World War II. After graduating from Bumpers College, he started his career by teaching agriculture to returning veteran students, including a class of more than 200 at a school for war veterans at Eames Junior High.

Charles L. Brown, BSA '51, Chattanooga, Tenn., Nov. 13, 1970. He taught starting technology in Mabelvale High School and later worked as a district agent in the Pulaski County Cooperative Extension Service. He also worked as a homologist for the Arkansas Dairy Association and also opened The Homestead Gift Shop in 1975. Survivors include his wife, Rachel J. Brown, and their children: Jason, Alejandro and Hillary.

Frederick L. Hutton, BSA '74, Springdale, Dec. 26, 2015. He was an animal science graduate, an outstanding FFA advisor, and was inducted into the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1999, inducted into the Arkansas Electric Cooperative Hall of Fame and was an Arkansas State Religious Emphasis Week Perryman Award winner.

Terri Ann Houghtaling, BSE '74, Silverdale, July 20, 2015. Terri was a state weed control research program assistant and superintend-
Dale Bumpers, College Namesake, Passes Away

By Robby Edwards

Dale Bumpers passed away Jan. 1 at his home in Little Rock. He was 90, and had been suffering from Alzheimer’s and a broken hip.

Bumpers served as 38th governor of Arkansas from 1971-75 and four terms in the U.S. Senate from 1975-99 where he was instrumental in showcasing Arkansas agriculture. In 1995, the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees recognized his service by renaming the college in his honor.

During his Senate service, particularly as a member and chair of the Agricultural Appropriations Subcommittee, Bumpers helped bring Arkansas agriculture into national and international prominence. He worked for and secured more than $80 million in funds for facilities and programs that directly benefited the state, such as:

- The 112,000-square-foot John W. Tyson Building, which houses the Center of Excellence for Poultry Science, and other facilities such as the Poultry Health Laboratory, Research Feed Mill, Pilot Processing Plant and USDA-ARS Poultry Production and Product Safety Research Unit, all in Fayetteville;
- The Food Safety Consortium, a research alliance among the U of A, Iowa State University and Kansas State University founded by Congress in 1988 to conduct research on the nation’s food safety issues;
- The National Center for Agricultural Law Research and Information at the U of A School of Law;
- The Center for Alternative Pest Control at the U of A;
- The National Rice Germplasm Evaluation and Enhancement Center at the Division of Agriculture Rice Research and Extension Center in Stuttgart;
- The National Center for Resource Innovation-Southwest at the Fayetteville campus; and
- The High Density Electronics Center at the U of A College of Engineering.

After retiring from the Senate, Bumpers was director of the Center for Defense Information. He served as U of A Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and as Guest Lecturer at Hendrix College. In a 2000 poll of Arkansas political scientists, Bumpers was the only 20th Century governor to achieve the station of “great.”

The Bumpers papers were donated to U of A Libraries special collections by the senator in 2000. The collection, the second-largest held by the libraries, includes biographical, legislative, committee and personal materials, such as speeches, photographs, audio-visual materials and ephemera. They opened to researchers in 2014.

Bumpers was born Aug. 12, 1925, in Charleston. He attended the U of A, spent three years in the Marine Corps during World War II, earned a law degree at Northwestern University and returned home in 1952 with wife Betty. In Charleston, he practiced law, raised cattle and operated a small hardware, furniture and appliance store. He served as city attorney, school board president and president of the Chamber of Commerce. In 2003, his book *The Best Lawyer in a One-Lawyer Town: A Memoir*, was released.

He is survived by Betty, sons Brent and William, daughter Brooke and seven grandchildren.