Spitze Land Grant University
Faculty Award for Excellence
Recipients

James N. Moore ............................................ 1995
George E. Templeton ..................................... 1996
Justin R. Morris ............................................ 1997
Ronald E. Talbert ......................................... 1998
Fred Stephen ............................................... 1999
John Kirkpatrick Skeeles Sr. ....................... 2000
Robert D. Riggs ............................................. 2001
Lawrence R. “Dick” Oliver ......................... 2002
Terry J. Siebenmorgen ............................... 2003
Max V. Meisch .............................................. 2004
Derrick M. Oosterhuis ................................. 2005
Sung Man Lim .............................................. 2006
Duane Wolf ................................................... 2008
Park Waldroup ............................................. 2009
Eric J. Wailes ............................................... 2010
John R. Clark ............................................... 2011
The Spitze Land Grant University Faculty Award for Excellence

The Spitze Land Grant University Faculty Award for Excellence recognizes meritorious and comprehensive scholarly performance in the areas of academic responsibility unique to the Land Grant mission: teaching and advising, research and publication, extension and public service, and participation in professional associations and faculty governance. Tenured faculty members with at least 10 years of continuous service with the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences or the Division of Agriculture are eligible for consideration.

The award includes an unrestricted cash award of $6,500 from a fund established by Robert G.F. Spitze and the late Hazel Taylor Spitze. The Spitzes have also provided generous endowments for student scholarship funds.

Bob Spitze, a native of Berryville, and Hazel Spitze, a native of DeQueen, are both graduates of the College with B.S. degrees in General Agriculture and Home Economics, respectively. They went on to earn doctoral degrees, hers in Education from the University of Tennessee and his in Agricultural Economics from the University of Wisconsin. As professors at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign they have made lasting, nationally recognized contributions through the Land Grant University System.

Professor Donna L. Graham is a model of the faculty member that the Spitze Award for Excellence is intended to recognize. She has a long and sustained record of excellence in teaching and student mentoring; research and scholarly activities; service to students, colleagues, the agricultural and extension education profession and the Academic Program Section of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities; and leadership as a departmental and college administrator.

Dr. Graham’s career began in 1970 with her appointment as Assistant Home Economist in Jefferson County. She also served as a Family and Consumer Sciences Agent and Extension Specialist at the area and state levels before joining the faculty of the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education in 1985. Her many accomplishments include leading an initiative to develop the curriculum and gain approval for Extension Education as a major and minor for University of Arkansas students. She created six courses in the Extension Education curriculum and has taught 12 courses. She developed the Extension Education curriculum for the Master of Science in Agricultural and Extension Education.

Dr. Graham served as Interim Director of the AEED department and was the Bumpers College Associate Dean for Resident Instruction from 2002-2010. Since rejoining the teaching faculty, Dr. Graham has served as Graduate Studies Coordinator and is helping to extend educational opportunities by developing the online M.S. in AEED degree program. She is a nationally known expert on higher education and has received many awards recognizing her accomplishments. She recently was co-chair of a national summit of land grant institutions, “Creating Change: Building Capacity for a Sustainable Future,” and she was a lead writer for a document on strategic goals for the Association of Public Land-Grant Universities.

Dr. Graham has B.S.A and M.S. degrees from the University of Arkansas and a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Extension Education from the University of Maryland.