



Ron Rainey, Assistant Vice President and Professor with the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture

Dr. Ron Rainey serves as Assistant Vice President and Professor for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. As an administrator, he provides collaborative leadership to diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts; broadband expansion; value-added entrepreneurship; and enhanced collaboration across research, teaching and extension mission areas. Within the Division, he provides leadership to two academic units—Center for Agriculture and Rural Sustainability and the Southern Risk Management Education Center (SRMEC). SRMEC serves the southern region — 13 states and two territories—delivering education that strives to empower producers to manage agricultural risks.

An Extension Economist, Rainey focuses on enhancing farm and ranch value-added entrepreneurship, risk management, and marketing throughout the agricultural sector. He has generated impacts across the food value chain including efforts with farmers, food distribution firms, and retailers. He currently leads multiple United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) efforts including roles with USDA's Risk Management Agency, Farm Service Agency, Office of the Chief Economist, and inaugural Equity Commission.

Over his 30-year career, his programs, expertise, and leadership have been recognized at the state, regional, and national level. He has demonstrated experience working across disciplines and state lines engaging with public and private partners. His programs have secured in excess of \$65 million in grants and contracts.

Rainey believes in the value of education and is a constant advocate and supporter of post-secondary educational opportunities. He continues to be an active alum serving as a Past-President of the University of Arkansas' National Alumni Board of Directors, Central Arkansas Alumni Chapter, and Dale Bumpers College of Agriculture Food & Life Sciences Alumni Society.