



Eastern Kentucky University Highlights & Achievements

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- Dr. Jerry Cook, the long-time Eastern Kentucky University Foundation professor of physics received the 2008 Acorn Award. With the presentation of the 2008 award to Cook, EKU now boasts more Acorn Award recipients than any other college or university in Kentucky.
- Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Yamanashi in Japan have renewed their exchange agreement.
- Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Kentucky are joining efforts to host annual environmental research camps 2009-11 that will enable undergraduate students from around the nation and Appalachian middle and high school math and science teachers to examine carbon cycling at the watershed scale and its relationship to coal mining in southeastern Kentucky. The three summer-long camps, funded by a \$537,400 grant from the National Science Foundation's Research Experience for Undergraduates, are expected to attract 8-10 students from across the U.S. and two to four teachers each year. The participants' time will include classroom time at EKU, laboratory time at UK and two weeks of field camp in and around Perry and Letcher counties in eastern Kentucky.
- Because of the number of Eastern Kentucky University graduates who call foreign countries home, the EKU Alumni Board recently approved a name change: from the EKU National Alumni Association to the EKU International Alumni Association. Approximately 250 of Eastern's 120,000-plus alumni reside in a country other than the U.S. The leading known addresses are in Canada, 47; Japan, 34; and Thailand 25. In all, EKU alumni reside in 50 countries.
- The newly established Department of American Sign Language and Interpreter Education (ASLIE) at Eastern advances the University as a national leader in a growing field. Housed in EKU's College of Education, the Department is unique in the Commonwealth, combining an Interpreter Education Program (a major in interpreting and a minor in American Sign Language), a Center on Deafness and Hearing Loss, and an active outreach in-service training program. In fact, in all the states surrounding Kentucky, only four public institutions have a baccalaureate interpreter education program. Currently, only 34 public and private baccalaureate degree programs are scattered around the U.S.
- An Eastern Kentucky University junior has been named the state's top health education student. Justin Gilliam, a health education/school health major from Carlisle, received the 2008 Outstanding College/University Health Student Award from the Kentucky Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance (KAHPERD).
- An Eastern Kentucky University social work educator is visiting South Africa as part of a citizen ambassador program established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956. Dr. Norma Threadgill-Goldsen, assistant professor of social work at EKU, is one of two from Kentucky traveling with more than 100 delegates to visit social service and health agencies and educational institutions in Johannesburg and Capetown Oct. 13-23. She has also been invited to give a presentation to the delegation and the South African host agencies, "Child Protection and Family Care in South Africa and the United States."
- Eastern Kentucky University will host a two-day program for doctoral students of color from across the United States. The fourth College of Education Doctoral Symposium and Dissertation Workshop for Students of Color will be held on campus Nov. 14-15. The program will examine concerns relating to retention, persistence and quality-of-life issues teach survival skills for succeeding in a doctoral program and promote networking with other doctoral candidates.
- Dr. John Wade has been named dean of Eastern Kentucky University's College of Arts & Sciences. Wade, with 31 years experience in higher education, had served as interim dean of the College since July 2007.
- The National Science Foundation has awarded a grant of \$378,616 to Eastern Kentucky University to examine the potential impact of climate change on fires and the ecology of forests in northwestern Asia and compare that to recent research suggesting climate change has altered fire regimes in the western U.S. The study is directed by Dr. Neil Pederson, assistant professor in EKU's Department of Biological Sciences.

Former Governor Paul Patton receives special recognition at the KCTCS President's Gala and 10th Anniversary Celebration

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System celebrated its 10th anniversary at the annual President's Gala Benefactors Awards Dinner November 1 in Lexington with a special recognition of former Kentucky Governor Paul E. Patton, who is credited with the creation of the two-year college system.

Gov. Patton was the mastermind who in 1997 engineered the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act, House Bill 1, which called for 13 two-year community colleges and 15 technical schools to be governed by one board of regents. "We will have a system of higher education which is more responsive, more efficient, and more relevant to today's realities and tomorrow's needs. We can afford to do no less," Gov. Patton said.

In recognition of the success of this 10-year metamorphosis of Kentucky higher education, KCTCS founding President Michael B. McCall presented Governor Patton with the First President's Medallion for Distinguished Service.

Highlights of the evening included the unveiling of a special 10-year anniversary book, "Metamorphosis: Kentucky Community and Technical College System

10th Anniversary, 1998-2008." The 120-page hard-cover book chronicles the development of KCTCS System during its first 10 years and features the history and growth of each of the 16 colleges.

In recognizing the 10-year history of the System, KCTCS President McCall also recognized those benefactors who continue to support the colleges. The 2008 KCTCS benefactors honored included NewCities Institute and Kentucky League of Cities (KLC), Lexington; and Siemens, Germany.

KLC and the NewCities Institute are partnering with KCTCS to raise the civic capacity of Kentucky by engaging students in community activities and training seminars. Siemens, a major provider of complete electrical, engineering, and automation solutions, has partnered with KCTCS to assist in the area of workforce development.

In addition, a total of 30 individuals, corporations, and organizations were honored for their contributions, partnerships, and support. More than 700 KCTCS faculty, staff and benefactors attended the event sponsored by Cisco, four underwriters, and 30 corporate sponsors.



A Metamorphosis of Higher Education



Good News from Kentucky State University

Publications and Offerings

- With the endorsement of the Kentucky Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, Dr. Richard Taylor of the Division of Literature, Languages and Philosophy, has published a Lincoln Memorial issue of *Back Home in Kentucky*, recounting the life of Abraham Lincoln. Taylor's writing focuses on Lincoln's lifelong Kentucky connections, the role Lincoln played in enacting the Emancipation Proclamation that eventually led to freeing over four million Americans held in bondage, and his struggle to preserve the Union. The writing has been adopted by several school systems, including Shelby County
- Dr. George Shields, presented his paper entitled, "MWI Quantum Theory: Some Logical and Philosophical Issues" at the inaugural meeting of the Center for Philosophy and the Natural Sciences at California State University-Sacramento. Also, on the basis of his recent lecture at the University of Chicago, Dr. Shields has been invited by the editor of the University of Chicago Martin Marty Center's *Religion and Culture Forum* to submit an extension of his previous presentation entitled, "Postmodern Process Thought: Personal Reflections on Its Contemporary Relevance."
- Dr. Todd Davis has been contracted for publication by McFarland and Company for his article, "The Eternal Vigil: Captain Jack Harkness as Byronic Hero." This article will begin the second section, "Characterization and Torchwood," in the book *Reading the Rift*. Dr. Davis also attended the XXXIV Annual International Byron Society Conference in St. Andrews, Scotland in July where he presented a research paper to approximately 200 Byron scholars from around the world.
- Mr. Victor Gomia, Instructor of English, is contributing a chapter in a forthcoming publication entitled *The Africa We Know: Reading and Writing Across Disciplines in African and Liberal Studies Programs*, scheduled for publication next spring by the Shaw University Department of Humanities.
- Dr. Helen Higbee, Assistant Professor of English, has authored a chapter in the book *Early Modern Academic Drama*, which discusses a Latin play concerning London's Royal Exchange which was written for and likely performed by students at Cambridge University in the 1630's.
- Dr. Karah Stokes, Professor of English, presented a paper on humor at the plenary session at this year's Kentucky Philological Association conference. Her paper was recently accepted for publication in the 2008 *Kentucky Philological Review*.
- Dr. Cynthia Lynne Shelton, Assistant Professor and coordinator of African American Studies in the Whitney Young School of Honors and Liberal Studies, recently authored a chapter in the book, *Black Greek-Letter Organizations in the 21st Century: Our Fight Has Just Begun*. The book is the second volume in the *African American Studies/Cultural Studies Series* published by The University Press of Kentucky. Dr. Shelton's chapter, "Strategic Essentialism and Black Greek Identity in the Post-Modern Era", examines the historical and contemporary process and production of identity formation among members of such organizations.

The Big Read

- The Big Read of Frankfort program will run from October 15 to November 15 and will be led by Dr. Thomas McPartland of the Whitney Young School and Dr. George Shields, Professor of Philosophy, with assistance from Diane Dehoney of the Paul Sawyer Library and Irma Johnson of KSU's Community Outreach Program. This year's Big Read of Frankfort program will encourage the community to read Ernest J. Gaines' National Book Critics Circle Award winning *A Lesson Before Dying*, a book about a young African-American man in Louisiana in the 1940's who was wrongly accused of murder but will surely be sent to the electric chair for the crime. Kentucky State University is hosting a second Big Read because, for a second year in a row it won a second National Endowment for the Arts "Big Read" grant award. The program will feature group study in KSU classrooms as directed by some of KSU's own Whitney Young Honors Core students, group study at local service area high schools and libraries, movie showings, panel symposia, and a special lecture by Marcia Gaudet, a colleague and scholar of Gaines' work at the University of Louisiana, at 11 a.m. Oct. 23 in Bradford Hall Auditorium.

Fine Arts

- The Music Department hosted the Kentucky Music Educators Association District-7 Middle School Honor Choir Festival in September with over 300 middle school choristers from twelve area middle schools participating in a day of rehearsals and an evening concert.
- Dr. Carl Smith, Director of the KSU Concert Choir, along with four students, Amir Hall, Allyson Hankins, Brandon Lockhart, and Arlicia Shorter attended the First Annual HBCU Choral Conference held in Washington, D.C. in September. The conference featured a day long Conductors Summit, chaired by Dr. Smith. The summit was attended by 60 college conductors and guests. The Conference Chorus was comprised of 105 students who presented a magnificent concert at the Kennedy Center for the Arts Concert Hall before a packed auditorium. Dr. Smith received the Legacy Award for tenure and accomplishment. The conference was also attended by Dr. Barbra Buck, Chairperson of the Division of Fine Arts, President Mary E. Sias, Mr. Hinfred McDuffie and Mr. Steve Mason. There were several KSU graduates in attendance as well.

Academic Support

- The Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) served 682 students during the spring semester with 84% of the regular clientele passing their tutored courses with a grade of “C” or better. ACE, through its continued training and outreach to students, received a three-year (June 2008 – May 2011) recertification as a Learning Service Center from the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). In addition, CRLA has authorized ACE for that same period of time to certify individual tutors who qualify based on CRLA criteria.
- The FRIENDS (Finding Resources In Education for Nontraditional Students) program is actively serving KSU’s nontraditional and commuter student population, having served 223 students during the 2007-2008 academic year, and 98 students since the start of the fall 2008 semester.
- The annual FRIENDS Open House was held in September. Recent collaboration with the Office of Continuing and Distance Education has resulted in the application for a campus chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda, a national honor society for nontraditional students.

Land Grant Programs

- Dr. Changzheng Wang, principal investigator, and Dr. Lingyu Huang, co-investigator in human nutrition, conducted body composition analysis for over 60 participants at the 15th annual Youth Festival in Frankfort in September. They also provided information on nutritional strategies to lower the risk of obesity and osteoporosis. The event included many booths related to health and activities for young people in the area. Representatives of the Community Research Service of the Land Grant Program at Kentucky State University have been invited to the event for the past 10 years.
- The Kentucky State University Land Grant Program, the Ohio Pawpaw Growers Association and the PawPaw Foundation held a Pawpaw Workshop in September at the Kentucky State University Research and Demonstration Farm. Eighty-seven people attended the workshop to share information about the production and uses of pawpaw. There were poster and oral presentations concerning progress in pawpaw variety trials, management of orchards, storing and handling fruit, the nutritional value of the fruit, marketing pawpaw, tours of the KSU orchards, and a tasting event.
- Dr. Kirk W. Pomper, principal investigator of horticulture in the KSU Community Research Service, presented a “Pawpaw 101” seminar and held a pawpaw tasting at the 10th Annual Ohio Pawpaw Festival in September in Albany, Ohio. Over 3,000 people attended the festival and learned about and tasted the pawpaw fruit. An article titled, “Picking Up on Pawpaws,” in the September issue of *Country Roads Magazine*, mentions the Kentucky State University pawpaw program. An article in the fall issue of *Taste Magazine* titled, “Pawpaw: the Forgotten Fruit,” also discusses the KSU pawpaw program.
- Dr. George Antonious of Community Research Service recently published a new book chapter in *Tomatoes and Tomato Products: Nutritional, Medicinal and Therapeutic Properties*, published by Science Publishers. The book chapter, titled “Presence of Zingiberene and Curcumine in Wild Tomato Leaves,” indicates that volatile metabolites of *Lycopersicon* species such as zingiberene and curcumene have a role in tomato flavor, human health-related properties and host plant defense against arthropod herbivores. The research study was carried out at KSU Research Farm and Greenhouses and supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture CSREES grant.

“Good News” Report from Morehead State University

- President Wayne D. Andrews was named to the Presidents’ Advisory Committee of Gov. Steve Beshear’s Higher Education Work Group.
- Dr. Michael Seelig, senior assistant to the provost and interim affirmative action officer, was appointed interim vice president for academic affairs at the Council on Postsecondary Education.
- Several faculty members were awarded a planning grant from the National Science Foundation. MSU faculty involved include: Dr. Douglas Dennis, chair of the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences; Dr. Carol Wymer, associate professor of biology; Jen O’Keefe and Elizabeth Roland, assistant professors of science; and Dr. Lesia Lennex, associate professor of education. “Enhancement of Science Education in Northeastern Kentucky” is a two-year grant in the amount of \$210,250. Its purpose is to work with regional school districts to develop a partnership and instructional strategies that enhance science education at the elementary and middle school level, specifically for students in grades 5-8.
- Morehead State University’s May 2008 graduates of the Baccalaureate Nursing Program have achieved a 96 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses.
- Past and present members celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Black Gospel Ensemble during MSU’s Homecoming in October.
- Dr. Gary B. LaFleur, associate professor of speech, recently attended the joint meeting of the Kentucky Communication Association and the Tennessee Communication Association in Burns, Tenn., where he was honored with the “Presidential Award for Distinguished Service.”
- Brent Jones, director of information technology, was awarded a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture. MSU’s successful proposal for this grant, a project to fund the implementation of online distance learning pods, was one of 143 eligible applications in the 2008 fiscal year.
- Morehead State University, its partners, along with sixth grade students at Inez and Warfield middle schools, kicked off “Martin County on the Move” at the Roy F. Collier Center in Inez. The primary goals of the Martin County Initiative are to reduce the number of overweight individuals or those at risk for becoming overweight, with the focus on increasing physical activity and improving family involvement in changing physical activity and eating patterns. Another goal will be to improve opportunities for community-based wellness programs. MSU was awarded two federal grants (approximately \$785,000) with the goal of increasing physical activity and improving nutrition in children, their families and members of the community in Martin County.
- Morehead State University at Mt. Sterling hosted a Celebration of Student Achievement to celebrate the campus’ first five years of student success. Mt. Sterling is the largest of five MSU regional campus centers. Degrees offered include nursing, social work and general business. Interdisciplinary associate and bachelor’s degrees also are offered.

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Fostering excellence
Creating community
Building partnerships



National leadership

In addition to her university duties, Dr. Maeve McCarthy, MSU mathematics professor, is the executive director of the Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM). Her appointment represents the first time a tenured, full professor has served in that capacity. The AWM has programs in place that provide encouragement to girls and women, including teacher partnerships, a large mentoring program and a number of opportunities that allow for the enthusiastic exchange of ideas. Its membership is primarily academic women and is dedicated to advancing the role of women in the field of mathematics.



Fit-friendly



Murray State University was recognized by the American Heart Association as a Start! Fit-Friendly company in Forbes magazine for its employee wellness programs. MSU received one of 90 Gold Awards given throughout the country for offering outstanding fitness opportunities for its employees. MSU has a state-of-the-art fitness center in its Bauernfeind Wellness Center, which is available to students, faculty and staff, and has recently implemented charted walking trails on campus and a Noon Walking Club.



Campaign '08

Murray State and KFVS TV partnered during the month of October on a study of young voters and the upcoming presidential election. Each Tuesday in the month a segment has aired on KFVS that features MSU students and faculty experts with their take on the election process.

Music biz



MSU music business students and their instructor, Chris Palmer, attended the recent International Entertainment Buyers Association (IEBA) conference, where talent buyers, promoters, venues, booking agents, managers and artists come together to discuss the live performance world and share ideas on how to grow the business. The students got a firsthand view of the world of live performance and concert booking and the issues within the industry. They heard performances from artists including Josh Gracin, Lee Greenwood and the Oak Ridge Boys, and also attended panel presentations on a wide variety of topics such as the effect of the current economic crisis, how to market shows and approaches to use with major corporations to secure sponsorships.

Fighting childhood hunger

Students at Murray State University have chosen to fight childhood hunger by participating in the nationwide Backpack Program as their service project in Murray. Recognizing a great need in the community, MSU students set a goal of providing 6,000 backpack meals to pre-school through fifth-grade children throughout this school year. By adopting the Backpack Program as their community service project, students recognize that proper nutrition is vital to the growth and development of children. The program was designed to continue where school food programs leave off — meals are sent home with qualifying children for the weekend or periods when school is not in session.





NKU Degree Production Grows 24% in Five Years

Northern Kentucky University awarded 1,706 baccalaureate degrees in 2007-08, an increase of five percent over the previous year and an increase of 24 percent from 2002-03.

To build on its student retention and graduation rate, the university is conducting a comprehensive review of its general education program, developing an active learning pilot program, strengthening advising at all levels of the undergraduate curriculum and identifying a student learning outcomes assessment instrument.

Several other initiatives have also been implemented to retain students and focus them on graduation, including a One-Stop Center that integrates student communications for the offices of admissions, bursar, financial assistance and the registrar.

The center assists students in finding answers to questions effectively and efficiently. In addition, all 2,000 of NKU's first-year students were called and surveyed to inquire about their experience at the university, with support and help offered to each student contacted.

NKU Helps Maximize Nonprofit Service to KY Citizens

The NKU Institute for Nonprofit Capacity (INC) has marshaled the intellectual capacity of the university to help non-profits become stronger both as individual organizations and in collaboration with one another during this time of significant economic downturn.

INC recently unveiled a new website, <http://inc.nku.edu>, that provides a detailed catalogue of university resources available to local nonprofits. Many of the services are free.

"Some of the services we are able to offer might surprise people," Vissman said. "We have everything from a Virtual CIO program – which sends students out into local organizations to assess their IT capacity, report on where the organizations stand and recommend solutions to possible problem areas – to services to help with marketing, branding and fundraising."

Prof. Receives One of NSF's Most Prestigious Awards

NKU Ashland Endowed Professor of Integrated Science Dr. Hazel Barton has received a \$710,691 National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) grant for her worldwide cave research on microbial communities.

Career awardees are considered by NSF to be the "most likely to become the leaders of academic research and education in the 21st century. Barton is the first recipient of this award at NKU, and is among a very few number of faculty in the nation to receive the award.

Dr. Barton carries out her research primarily in undergraduate research labs, integrating her work directly into the curricula and involving large numbers of undergraduate students. Her findings could result in unprecedented isolation of microbial species that could, in turn, lead to breakthrough developments in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries.

NKU and Gateway have teamed up for effective facility utilization. NKU has closed its Covington campus (saving \$4 million in immediate repairs) and is working to lease a Gateway facility for the NKU PACE Program.

NKU Helps Students Address High Cost of Gas

NKU has partnered with the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK) on an eco-friendly initiative that is saving students money in the face of high gas prices and a sluggish economy. The U-PASS program allows all NKU students, faculty and staff to ride TANK busses free. Students don't even have to sign up - they just show the driver their NKU ID card and their trip is free. And based on new TANK data, results from the program are already being seen.

Nearly 100,000 trips were made under the U-PASS program from August 2007 through May 2008. Those trips helped to cut traffic and parking congestion at the university while also saving students hundreds of dollars in gas and parking costs. And, what's more, those nearly 100,000 U-PASS trips reduced CO2 emissions by more than 47,000 pounds.

"This is a program that not only saves our students money, but also emphasizes our commitment to serving

as a community leader in environmental stewardship," said NKU President James Votruba.

The program has dramatically increased TANK ridership among students. Over half of those surveyed said they did not ride TANK prior to the free U-PASS program. And to make the ride more time efficient and enjoyable, students in the NKU College of Informatics have developed technology to equip TANK Express busses with free wireless Internet.



Campus Success

- Karen Gill, an alumna of the UK College of Education, has been named the 2009 Kentucky Teacher of the Year by the Kentucky Department of Education and Ashland, Inc. She was also named Kentucky High School Teacher of the Year. Gill teaches science at Henry Clay High School in Fayette County.
- The College of Agriculture's undergraduate landscape architecture program was ranked as the 15th best program in the nation by DesignIntelligence, a publication promoting quality design education, in its annual survey of architecture and design schools.
- UK launched a new partnership that aims to improve the overall health of Fayette County Public Schools. The Physical Activity and Wellness Schools (PAWS) Program will utilize resources and faculty from the College of Education's Department of Kinesiology and Health Promotion to help make students and staff at Clays Mill Elementary and Tates Creek High Schools healthier. Activities range from blood pressure and cholesterol screenings for staff, to nutrition education for students, to planning wellness activities for family nights in an effort to get the whole family engaged in a healthier lifestyle.

Student Success

- On September 25, the UK Symphony Orchestra released a new CD, "Epoch: An American Dance Symphony." It is their first recording with Naxos, the largest classical recording label in the world. UK is the only university in the nation that has a recording contract with Naxos. The CD was the #1 most downloaded classical recording in the world by ClassicsOnline for the last week in September and the third most downloaded recording of the month.
- A 1954 UK graduate established a scholarship program for Muhlenberg County students who want to attend the Gatton College of Business and Economics. Felix E. Martin's estate established a \$2.8 million endowment in his name that will provide scholarships to Muhlenberg students. Martin was a native of Greenville, Kentucky.
- National recognition continues to pour in for UK senior punter and kickoff specialist Tim Masthay. One day after being named a finalist for the Senior CLASS Award as an outstanding student-athlete, Masthay became one of only 11 Division 1-A football players named to the national Good Works Team recognizing community service.

Research and Outreach Success

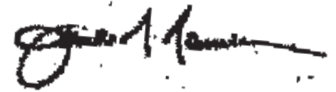
UK researchers have been awarded a \$10.5 million, five-year National Institutes of Health grant to establish a center of excellence to study the links between obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. Lisa A. Cassis, professor and chair of the Graduate Center for Nutritional Sciences, will be principal investigator of the project. She will lead a team of five junior investigators, comprising a mix of physicians, basic scientists, and senior researchers who will serve as mentors, advising and overseeing research projects. Cassis' laboratory focuses on identifying the biological mechanisms that cause obese people to develop cardiovascular disease.

This research is especially important in Kentucky, where rates for obesity, diabetes, and heart disease are well above the national average. Kentucky has the fourth-highest rate of death from heart disease among the 50 states, according to the Centers for Disease Control. The state comes in at No. 7 for the prevalence of both obesity and diabetes, and it ranks high in other primary risk factors for cardiovascular disease, such as hypertension and inactivity, according to the most recent statistics from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Statewide, 28.4 percent of the adult population is obese, 67 percent are overweight, 9.6 percent have diabetes, 30.7 percent are physically inactive, and 30 percent have high blood pressure.

OCTOBER 2008

A REVIEW OF MAJOR NEWS FROM UOFL

Great things have occurred at the University of Louisville over the past few weeks. They include the grand opening on Oct. 7 of the Louisville Scholar House Gladys and Lewis "Sonny" Bass Campus. This half-block residential complex just northwest of our Belknap Campus offers affordable housing, education and child care for unemployed single-parent families. The \$15.7 million project is a joint effort of Family Scholar House (formerly Project Women), UofL and the Kentucky Housing Corp. All 56 apartments at Louisville Scholar House are occupied. The complex also is home to the Early Learning Center, operated by UofL's College of Education and Human Development, which offers professional child care and early-learning instruction for 130 children, including Scholar House residents as well as children of UofL faculty and staff. There are many other exciting stories from across the campus—stories that demonstrate UofL is making progress toward its goal of becoming one of the nation's premier metropolitan research universities. I hope you will take a moment to review these highlights.



Research Dollars Soaring

The current financial climate hasn't stopped UofL from forging ahead in becoming a nationally known metropolitan research institution. The major research funders are recognizing this, as demonstrated in the grant monies we have secured since July 1, 2008, alone—all of which is being used for studies that will advance our state and improve the lives of every Kentuckian. These research initiatives include:

- \$10.1 million NIH Cancer Research grant
- \$10.3 million NIH Birth Defects Research grant
- \$3.1 million NSF Education Research grant to assess geometry teachers in schools
- \$13.1 million NIH National Children's Study grant
- \$11.6 million NIH Diabetes and Obesity Research grant

Family Practice Building Offers One-Stop Care The Oct. 29 dedication of the new UofL Health Care Outpatient Center marks the region's latest advancement in patient care. Located on the downtown Health Sciences Campus adjacent to University Hospital, the state-of-the-art facility houses the latest diagnostic imaging equipment, outpatient surgical center, outpatient rehabilitation center, dialysis center, pharmacy and laboratory. This "one-stop" medical care strategy draws on the skills of UofL School of Medicine faculty and staff and is designed for ease of use by the patient. The new facility is expected to generate additional clinical income, one of the university's strategic goals to diversify and increase external revenue.

The Green Team UofL's first Campus Sustainability Day on Oct. 22 drew hundreds of enthusiastic students and faculty. In addition to pledging to reduce their personal energy use, they brought along 1,500 floppy disks for recycling. The university also hosted 300 Jefferson County Public School students for the Environmental Youth Summit in which UofL professors and the students created service projects to improve the environment using Belknap Campus as a laboratory. The university's Green Report Card focuses on student engagement as an important measurement of sustainability implementation.

Cardinal Covenant Doing Its Job In 2007 we announced the creation of Cardinal Covenant. Now 225 students who might not otherwise have been able to afford college are attending UofL. Cardinal Covenant targets the 22.6 percent of Kentucky families at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty level. Eligible students can graduate debt-free as long as they meet program requirements. About half the students are from Jefferson County, with the others representing all areas of the commonwealth.

Cancer Vaccines Offer Hope Researchers at UofL's James Graham Brown Cancer Center are among the first in the nation to conduct clinical trials of new "therapeutic vaccines" for melanoma and pancreatic cancer. Therapeutic vaccines are used after a person is diagnosed and help the body fight cancer by boosting the immune system. Early results are promising: In one study, a drug for patients with melanoma triggered several natural immune response mechanisms to attack tumors.

Investing in Quality A \$3 million gift from Corbin, Ky., entrepreneurs and UofL alumni Terry and Marion Forcht will create the Forcht Center for Entrepreneurship at the College of Business. UofL's entrepreneurship program was recently named one of the top 25 U.S. graduate programs for entrepreneurs by *Entrepreneur Magazine* and *The Princeton Review*.



A LEADING AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WITH INTERNATIONAL REACH

GOV. STEVE BESHEAR PRESENTS \$26,257 CHECK FOR WKU RESEARCH

Gov. Steve Beshear presented WKU with funding for research into a product that could be used to protect horses and livestock from serious disease. Gov. Beshear presented a ceremonial check for \$26,257 in Kentucky Agricultural Development Funds. The funds will support research on the effects of using a surplus dairy product called Re-borne to protect horses and other livestock from diseases that negatively impact mortality rates. The product is being developed by Simpsonville-based Re-borne, Inc.

WKU FACULTY MEMBER PARTICIPATES IN FULBRIGHT CELEBRATION

Dr. Judy Davison of WKU's College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, participated in the Fulbright Commission's 60th anniversary celebration in London, England. Dr. Davison was one of 10 Fulbright alumni from more than 27,000 in the U.S. selected for the Sept. 10 event. She attended a reception at 10 Downing St. hosted by Prime Minister Gordon Brown and participated in other festivities. Dr. Davison was a 2004 Fulbright Scholar at the University of Greenwich in London, an invited panelist and presenter at the 2006 Annual Fulbright Alumni Conference in Morocco and selected for a 2007 Fulbright Senior Specialists project at the National College of Ireland (NCI).

WKU'S DELO DEAN RECEIVES AWARD FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

The University Continuing Education Association (UCEA), South Region, has awarded the Outstanding Service to Continuing Education Award to Dr. Donald W. Swoboda, dean of the Division of Extended Learning & Outreach (DELO) at WKU. The Outstanding Service Award is given to an individual who has contributed substantially to the development and maintenance of his or her institution and who has demonstrated service valued by UCEA South.

WKU ATHLETICS SHINE IN LATEST NCAA GRADUATION REPORT

WKU graduated 68% of its student-athletes from the 2001-02 freshman class, and seven sports posted a graduation success rate of 100% in the NCAA's 2008 Graduation Success Rate Report. The graduation rate is the percent of students who entered school during the 2001-02 school year and graduated within six years (by August, 2007). The 68% graduation rate by WKU student-athletes was the second-highest in the Sun Belt Conference and marked a 13% increase from the 55% rate of the previous year's class (2000-01). Both years were higher than the 49% graduation rate posted by all WKU students in each of these two respective years.

WKU FACULTY MEMBER'S POEM READ BY GARRISON KEILLOR

"The Dental Hygienist," a poem by WKU English faculty member Tom C. Hunley, was featured on the Oct. 25 segment of "The Writer's Almanac" with Garrison Keillor.

Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities

While we don't yet have enrollment numbers for all 20 AIKCU institutions, we are seeing strong enrollment growth throughout the sector among institutions serving traditional students and those serving larger numbers of transfer and adult students. Asbury College, Campbellsville University, Centre College, Lindsey Wilson College, St. Catharine College, and Transylvania University all reported record total enrollments this fall. Other institutions are reporting strong growth, including Brescia University (23% increase in freshmen enrollment and 8.6% overall), Bellarmine University (second straight record entering class), and Mid-Continent University.

AIKCU recently partnered with the Gheens foundation to award eight \$5,000 Gheens STEM Teacher Preparation Scholarships to students representing eight different AIKCU campuses. The competitive scholarships were open to students at any of Kentucky's 20 independent colleges and universities studying to become K-12 teachers in a STEM discipline. Priority was given to minority, female, low-income, and first generation applicants, as well as to those planning to teach in high need school districts. The competitive selection process was developed and overseen by an independent third party (Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation staff). Recipients included three students studying to become high school science teachers, two planning to teach high school math, and three studying to teach middle school math and/or science. Two of the award winners were non-traditional students and at least one other is a first-generation student.

November 2008