PR 5

Office of the President
June 12, 2007

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of Martha L. Peterson (faculty member) for a three-year term ending June 30, 2010 and the reappointment of Phillip R. Patton (trustee member) for a three-year term ending June 30, 2010 to the Board of Directors of the University of Kentucky Research Foundation (UKRF).

Background: In accordance with the UKRF Articles of Incorporation, members of the Board of Directors of the University of Kentucky Research Foundation are appointed by the Board of Trustees to serve three-year terms. The Nominating Committee of the UKRF Board has recommended and the UKRF Board of Directors has endorsed the appointment of Martha L. Peterson and reappointment of Phillip R. Patton.

In accordance with the guidelines of the Nominating Committee of the Board of Trustees, the committee approves and recommends the reappointment of trustee member Phillip Patton to the UKRF Board.

Action taken: ☑ Approved ❑ Disapproved ❑ Other _____

Martha L. Peterson, Ph.D.

Dr. Peterson is a professor in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics. She received her Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia before coming to the University of Kentucky College of Medicine in 1989. She has active research funding from the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health and the KY Lung Cancer Grant Program.

Dr. Peterson's research focuses on understanding gene regulation at the RNA level. The human genome project has discovered that there are many fewer genes than originally expected. However, because of a number of regulatory reactions that occur at the RNA level of gene expression, this limited number of genes can lead to production of a much greater diversity of protein products. Understanding how these reactions are regulated is essential to being able to identify and correct defects in these processes that may occur in human diseases. Several model systems are studied in the lab, including genes that are regulated during B lymphocyte or liver development and in cancers of these tissues.

In addition to teaching and mentoring both graduate and undergraduate students at UK, Dr. Peterson has mentored high school students and teachers. She is on the editorial board of *The Journal of Biological Chemistry* and has served on the Biochemistry of Gene Expression Grant Review Panel for the National Science Foundation. She is a member of the Association for the Advancement of Science, the RNA Society, the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and the American Association for Microbiology. From December 2006 – June 2007, she has been a part time Special Assistant in the Office of the Vice President for Research, coordinating some of the internal faculty support programs administered by the office.