

AACR 5

Office of the President
September 11, 2007

Members, Board of Trustees:

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of the Center for Clinical and Translational Science that will report to the provost, effective immediately.

Background: Clinical and translational science is essential to progress in the translation of basic biomedical science to clinical practice and also to the development of new basic science hypotheses from clinical observations. This bi-directional flow—from the bench to the bedside and from the bedside back to the bench—is needed to enhance the continuum of scientific investigation and clinical practice and to increase the efficiency and speed of the delivery of therapeutic interventions to improve the health and well being of our citizenry. The Center for Clinical and Translational Science is necessary to enhance the ability of individual clinical and translational scientists to access services, identify research partners, and connect with industry and government agencies in the process. The highly regulated environment of clinical research necessitates the aggregation and integration of resources and expertise along the continuum of clinical and translational science in order to facilitate the conduct of this research.

Community engagement through research partners across the Commonwealth of Kentucky is another key component in the continuum of clinical and translational research to ensure that issues of critical importance to Kentucky receive priority attention as we seek to address health issues and health disparities. Improvements in health and well-being contribute significantly to budgetary health and economic progress for the Commonwealth. Organizing clinical and translational science into an interdisciplinary center is a critical component to foster this growth.

Additionally, the center will allow the university to compete for extramural funds critical to further development in clinical and translational science.

The proposal has been endorsed by administrators, faculty, and staff across the university. The provost of the university supports this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____