

Office of the President
September 12, 2006

1. Fall Semester Opens, Launching 2006-07 Academic Year

Classes of the 2006 Fall Semester began Wednesday, August 23, bringing thousands of students back to the University of Kentucky campus. As they moved back to campus, students were greeted with activities ranging from receptions and socials to concerts and theater presentations, climaxing with UK FUSION, a community-campus event in which students, faculty, and staff volunteer nearly 4,000 hours of community service to 54 local social service agencies. Students also found more flexible dining plans, extended hours of operation, several new facilities, and new Hearth Healthy dining options made available by UK Dining Services. Eleven dining plans are available this year, seven specifically designed for residential students ranging from 336 meals per semester to 110 meals. Four additional dining plans are designed especially for UK employees and commuting students.

2. UK Advances in *U.S. News & World Report's* Latest College Rankings

The University of Kentucky rose to 54th among American public universities in the latest college rankings by *U.S. News & World Report*, an improvement over last year's rank of 59th. The magazine's annual rankings shows UK also improved its standing among all public and private universities in the United States. In last year's rankings, UK was listed in a tie for 120th. This year, the university moved up into a tie for 112th.

3. UK Breaks Research Funding Record, Topping \$290 Million

UK has broken its own research funding record, bringing in \$290,365,000 in grants and contracts during fiscal year 2006. The record amount, a 6 percent increase over last year's \$274 million, demonstrates both UK's increasingly high standing among research institutions nationwide, as well as a commitment by UK to invest financial and human capital toward a goal of being a catalyst for positive change in Kentucky.

4. World Media Focus on UK's Research on Lung Cancer Blood Test

Lung cancer research done by Edward A. Hirschowitz and Li Zhong continues to attract national and worldwide attention in media outlets including *The Wall Street Journal* and the global radio program *The Voice of America*. Because of the extremely high death rate lung cancer carries, Hirschowitz, Zhong, and their team have focused their research efforts on a blood test to help identify lung cancer in high-risk people at an early and more treatable stage. The blood test has been under development for the past five years and is not quite complete, but their research has shown it to be 90 percent

accurate in correctly predicting non-small cell lung cancer in patients years before any CT scan can detect it. Worldwide, 10 million people are diagnosed with lung cancer each year. In the United States, Kentucky has the highest incidence and death rate from lung cancer – 49 percent higher than the national average.

5. Gatton College Launches “Global Scholars” Program for Overseas Experience

The UK Gatton College of Business and Economics welcomed its first class of Global Scholars during a special ceremony and reception on Aug. 19. A part of Gatton’s Project Destiny initiative, this first class of Global Scholars is composed of 31 exceptional first-year students who are seeking to develop their professional acumen and leadership skills. The selective admission criteria utilized in the program includes an ACT score of 28 or higher (or SAT score of 1240 or higher) and an unweighted high school grade point average of 3.6 or above. Perhaps the single most important aspect of the four-year Global Scholars program is the requirement that all of the students will spend one semester abroad during their junior year studying with students from one of a growing list of UK’s partner universities.

6. UK Chandler Hospital’s ENT Specialty Named One of Nation’s Top 50

UK Chandler Hospital, the flagship of UK HealthCare, has been ranked among the nation’s top 50 hospitals by *U.S. News & World Report* in the specialty of ear, nose, and throat care. The rankings “identify centers that take on and excel at tough procedures and conditions – centers where the sickest patients are sent for advanced care,” according to the ranking explanation published in the magazine’s July 17 “America’s Best Hospitals” issue. Out of the 5,189 hospitals evaluated, only 176 scored well enough in quality measures to be ranked.

7. UK’s Alzheimer’s Disease Center Wins \$6.5 Million in Renewed Funding

The UK Sanders-Brown Center on Aging received \$6.5 million in renewed funding for its Alzheimer’s Disease Center from the National Institute on Aging, a division of the National Institutes of Health. The award will support research, teaching, and service activities and a multidisciplinary team involving 13 faculty members from 10 academic departments and 20 doctoral and staff members. Under the direction of Dr. William Markesbery, the grant funds five large cores and 10 pilot projects. In the past five years, researchers at the center have generated more than 350 scholarly publications related to Alzheimer’s disease, and the center has been part of or supported 52 research grant awards.

8. Markey Cancer Center Wins FDA Approval for Clinical Tests of Novel Drug

The Markey Cancer Center at the UK Chandler Hospital has obtained Investigational New Drug status for DB-67 from the Federal Drug Administration and is conducting the first clinical trials of this drug in cancer patients. One of the drug’s creators, Tom Burke of the UK College of Pharmacy, died of colon cancer a few years

ago. After that, the pharmaceutical company involved with the drug's development and testing released its licensing of the drug. Dr. Jeffrey Moscow, pediatric oncologist and director of the Experimental Therapeutics Program at UK, put together a team of experts to complete all the necessary pre-clinical studies and to assemble the application package for the FDA so the drug could be used in a human clinical trial. Moscow said that while DB-67 is in the same class of other cancer-fighting drugs currently used, its structure is a bit different, making it unique and hopefully more potent. Pre-clinical testing of DB-67 showed that more of the drug's anti-cancer properties could be delivered to the body compared to other drugs currently used.

9. Health Professionals Attend Race, Ethnicity, and Culture Conference

UK's Area Health Education Center and the President's Commission on Diversity held the 4th Annual Cultural Competence Conference, "Reflections on Race, Ethnicity, and Culture: Considerations for Health Professionals," for more than 600 UK health professions students on August 23. UK is one of the few institutions in the United States offering this comprehensive conference to its health professions students. UK was the first in the United States to sponsor a conference to mark the beginning of a lifelong journey of awareness and examination of cultural issues in each student's professional career. The conference serves as a cornerstone for a learning process through which students acquire knowledge and skills related to cultural competence in courses, symposia, experiential activities, and life experiences.

10. College of Pharmacy Bestows White Coats on Pharm. D. Class of 2010

The UK College of Pharmacy welcomed 132 professional Pharm. D. students in the Class of 2010 during a formal white coat ceremony held August 18 at the UK Singletary Center for the Arts. Assistant Dean Heidi Anderson led the ceremony attended by more than 200 students' families and friends. The first-year pharmacy class includes students from 50 counties in Kentucky and continues the tradition of being composed of nearly 90 percent Kentucky residents. The class of 2010 also is composed of 19 minority students, the largest percentage in school history. The academic qualifications of the incoming students remain superior with the overall grade point average of admitted students at 3.6 on a 4.0 scale and an average score of 86 percent on the PCAT (pharmacy college admission test).

11. Kentucky, West Virginia Form Alliance to Increase Minorities in STEM

Ten Kentucky and West Virginia universities announced an alliance to share information and programmatic strategies in recruiting, training, and steering outstanding minority students into studies and careers in math, science, engineering, and technology (STEM). The Kentucky-West Virginia Alliance for Minority Participation, spearheaded by UK, will develop effective strategies that will result in the doubling of the number of engineering, science, and mathematics baccalaureate degrees awarded to minority students in both states over five years. The target number of baccalaureate degrees after five years is 270, a 111 percent increase. The program is funded by the National Science

Foundation under the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation. Electrical Engineering Assistant Professor Ingrid St. Omer prepared the grant for the program, which partners UK, the University of Louisville, Centre College, Kentucky State University, Western Kentucky University, Bluegrass Community and Technical College, West Virginia University, Marshall University, West Virginia State University, and the West Virginia State Community and Technical College.

12. Robinson Scholars Program Inducts Its 10th Class

The Robinson Scholars Program announced its 10th class of scholars to enter the program at a recognition ceremony held June 24 in Hazard. The 29 members of the new class bring to 538 the number of eighth-graders from 29 Eastern Kentucky counties who have been selected to participate in the scholarship program since 1997. Meanwhile, the rising high school sophomores in the Robinson Scholars Program took part in the Water Pioneers Program presented by the Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute. The program, which ran June 11-16 in Mammoth Cave National Park, gave the students an opportunity to learn more about the environment and, more specifically, watersheds.

13. UK Writing Professor Sees Novel Climb to Bestseller Summit

UK writing professor Kim Edwards' first novel, *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*, has been steadily climbing the top book seller lists. Edwards' novel recently reached first on *The New York Times* bestseller list. *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* has also risen to first on the Barnes & Noble bestselling paperback list, first on *Publishers Weekly's* trade paperback list, first on *Book Sense*, and second on the *USA Today* Top 150. The novel, released at the end of June 2005, is a testament to the way life can take unexpected turns, and how two families' lives are intertwined in mystery, loss, and grief. It is a tale of redemptive love. Published as a hardcover last year, it sold 30,000 copies. There are now more than 1 million copies of *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* in print in the United States, with editions out or forthcoming in Great Britain, France, Germany, Norway, Denmark, Brazil, China, Taiwan, Spain, Israel, and Italy.

14. Three UK Grads Win Honorable Mention at Italy's Design Competition

Praxis, a team of three 2006 UK graduates, was one of only three United States teams to receive honorable mention recognition in Italy's "Living Box – Housing Unit of the Future" design competition. The Praxis proposal was developed by UK College of Design graduates Jared Altobello, John Butler, and Ryan Meador. The proposal was one of 1,048 competing entries submitted by students and professionals around the globe in what was touted as the world's first design contest for prefabricated housing unit projects.

15. UK Senior Ryan Fischer Wins \$10,000 Astronaut Scholarship

UK senior Ryan Fischer has been selected as one of only 18 Astronaut Scholars named by the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation. The prestigious \$10,000 scholarship is presented to dynamic undergraduates or graduate students who exhibit motivation,

imagination, and exceptional performance in the fields of science and engineering. Fischer is majoring in agricultural biotechnology and biology and is currently working in cardiothoracic research under the guidance of Victor Ferraris, Gill Heart Institute co-director, the Tyler Gill Professor of Vascular Surgery and Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery in the UK College of Medicine Department of Surgery, and Suellen Ferraris, an assistant professor in cardiothoracic surgery in the Department of Surgery.

16. University Press of Kentucky Releases Historian Thomas Clark's Last Book

University Press of Kentucky released noted Kentucky historian Thomas Dionysius Clark's final book, *My Century in History: Memoirs*, which chronicles an American century through the eyes of one of the nation's most celebrated historians. The book captures a century of life in America dating back to Clark's birth in Louisville, Mississippi, in 1903, just months before the Wright Brothers' historic flight. Readers get a rare opportunity for time travel as Clark details not only his memories but also his impact on life during the times. The historian shares details of his work and communications with various leading politicians, professors, athletes, and writers, as well as several other key players in both the South and the world's history.

17. Exstream Software Will Move to Coldstream Research Campus in 2007

One of the world's fastest-growing technology companies will soon call Coldstream Research Campus home. Exstream Software Inc., which develops, sells and supports enterprise document creation software for Fortune 1000 companies around the world, will relocate its corporate headquarters to Coldstream. The privately held company, headquartered in Lexington since 1998, expects to move 150 Lexington-based employees to Coldstream next year.

18. PharmacistCARE Offers Services to Diabetics at Kentucky Clinic North

The UK PharmacistCARE program began offering medication management services to diabetes patients at Kentucky Clinic North. Melanie Mabins, clinical pharmacist with PharmacistCARE and instructor at the UK College of Pharmacy, started seeing patients on Wednesdays in August at the clinic on Elm Tree Lane. Adult patients diagnosed with diabetes will be referred to Mabins by physicians and health care providers at the clinic. She joins Starr Adams, a pharmacist from Kentucky Clinic Pharmacy, who has been serving patients' medication needs at Kentucky Clinic North since 2001. PharmacistCARE provides medication therapy management services focused on diabetes care through individual consultations and group educational classes in an effort to help patients control their disease and lead healthier lives while potentially decreasing health care costs by reducing complications associated with uncontrolled diabetes.

19. Expert Samuel Betances Returns to UK to Focus on Diversity Issues

Diversity expert Samuel Betances returned to UK for an extended two-day visit, allowing more time with faculty, staff, and students. The goals of the popular diversity consultant's stay in late August kicked off the new academic year by focusing on building awareness of diversity and keeping issues related to and support for diversity at the forefront of the UK community's consciousness. It also identified best practices promoting liaison relationships for coalition building and serving the needs of underserved or special populations, focused on cultural celebration and personal sharing, and identified cultural competencies needed by faculty, staff, and students. Betances brought a crowd of UK faculty, staff, and students to its feet as the keynote speaker for the President's Awards for Diversity presentation in April 2006.

20. UK Brings Hundreds of "Classy" High School Sophomores to Campus

UK hosted the newest members of its "Class of Kentucky" program to campus. Class of Kentucky honors one top sophomore from each high school in Kentucky. Students are chosen by their respective schools and must demonstrate strong leadership and academic skills. The program, now in its third year, recognizes academically talented and community-oriented high school sophomores from throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky and is facilitated through UK's Office of Undergraduate Admission and University Registrar.

21. Student Awards and Achievements

Yuriy Bronshteyn, a May 2006 graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in chemistry, received the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship. The 77 new recipients of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation's graduate and professional scholarships were chosen after a nationwide selection process that drew 1,100 nominees. Among the most generous academic awards offered in the United States, the scholarship covers tuition, room, board, fees and books – up to \$50,000 annually – for up to six years.

Pauline Chhooi, Jessica Cunningham, and Lindsey Mattingly, Education, received a scholarship from the Kappa Delta Pi international honor society for education. Kappa Delta Pi is one of the oldest and most prestigious honor societies in the country. The scholarships, totaling \$9,000, were the most that any chapter has ever won in a single year.

Sarah Clark, Seth Larkin, Tyler Whisman, and Lindsey White, Pharmacy, were named national finalists in the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) Pruitt-Schutte National Business Plan Competition. The top three teams were announced at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy national meeting. The teams will now compete in the finals of the contest by giving live presentations of their business plan at the NCPA national meeting in Las Vegas on Oct. 6-7. NCPA and the NCPA Foundation established the NCPA Pruitt-Schutte Student Business Plan Competition in an effort to promote interest in independent community pharmacy ownership.

22. Faculty and Staff Awards and Achievements

William H. Adkisson, Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine, has been selected as the recipient of the prestigious 2005 Kentucky Air National Guard Outstanding Physician Assistant of the Year Award. This award recognizes and rewards outstanding individual performance of duty and achievement during the previous calendar year. Adkisson was recognized for his contributions as a physician assistant with the Air National Guard.

Eric Anderman, Education, has been elected president of the American Psychological Association's Division 15 - Educational Psychology. As president-elect, Anderman will lead researchers in the educational psychology division and encourage participation in APA work groups advancing the field of psychology at local, regional, national, and international levels.

Rodney Andrews, Matt Weisenberger, Brock Marrs, and Ari Geertsema, Center for Applied Energy Research, made presentations this summer at the International Carbon Conference in Aberdeen, Scotland.

Terry Birdwhistell, UK Libraries, who lent his expertise to upcoming events surrounding the Kentucky Oral History Commission's 30th anniversary by participating in panel discussions on issues facing oral history in Kentucky and internationally, will be honored for his pioneering work in this field. The two-day celebration, "Kentucky Conference on Oral History: Accomplished Past. Challenging Future," was September 8-9 in Louisville.

Valerie Bryan and Karen Badger, Social Work, presented one of five dissertations selected for presentation at the 18th National Symposium on Doctoral Research in Social Work.

Paul Bummer, Pharmacy, received the 2006 William T. Miles Award. Bummer is the first recipient of the award to be given annually to a UK College of Pharmacy faculty member who has made significant contributions to the Lexington community.

Clyde Carpenter, Historic Preservation, and his home were featured in a recent television episode of "reZONED" on the Home and Garden Television (HGTV) cable channel. Carpenter's work on his unique residence, an 1850 Kentucky stable and carriage house, was part of an episode that aired July 30, July 31, and August 20.

Julie Cerel, Social Work, received the American Psychological Association's Society for Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology Junior Faculty Mentoring award. Cerel will be matched with a senior faculty clinical child psychology mentor for the next three years.

Julie Cerel, Social Work, had a two-year study titled "Childhood Bereavement: Psychopathology in the 2 Years Postparental Death" published in the June *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*. The study also was noted in articles presented in issues of both *Psychiatric News* and *Medical News Today*.

James G. Cibulka, Education, has received the Stephen K. Bailey Award from the Politics of Education Association during the annual conference of the American Educational Research Association in San Francisco. The Bailey Award recognizes scholars and theorists who have shaped the intellectual and research agenda within the field of politics of education.

Patrick DeLuca, Pharmacy, received an honorary doctorate from the University of Perugia, Italy, during a ceremony on May 30. The University of Perugia is one of the oldest higher learning institutions in Europe and the tradition of granting honorary degrees is a rich and honored one; the first honorary doctorate given by the school was to Pope John XXII in 1311.

Stephen Dobson, Entomology, received \$1.2 million from the National Institute of Health for his research on eradication of a primary filariasis vector population at an endemic field site.

Charles Fox, Entomology, co-edited with Jason Wolf of the United Kingdom a new book titled *Evolutionary Genetics: Concepts and Case Studies*. The book introduces readers to major concepts in the expanding field of evolutionary genetics.

Richard S. Gates, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, received the Henry Giese Structures and Environment Award from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers.

Rich Gates, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, has been recognized as a Patriotic Employer by the U.S. Secretary of Defense's National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. The prestigious honor is awarded to supervisors with policies and practices supportive of their employee's participation in the National Guard and Reserve.

Steve Greb and Cortland Eble, Kentucky Geological Survey, were the lead authors of a new informative publication, *Coal and the Environment*, from the American Geological Institute. The full-color nationally distributed booklet addresses issues related to coal from its origins to methods of mining it to the environmental concerns relating to its use.

Thomas R. Guskey, Educational Policy Studies and Evaluation, received the Relating Research to Practice Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions individuals have made toward increasing practitioner and lay-group understanding of how education research can improve education practice, from the American Educational Research Association.

James Harwood and John Obrycki, Entomology, received \$360,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Biotech Risk Assessment Program for tracking the movements of transgenic toxins through complex food webs.

Deborah Hill, Forestry, was presented the President's Award by the National Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals at its meeting in Utah.

Kay Hoffman, Social Work, has been named to a Kentucky blue ribbon panel on foster care and adoptions.

Lee Ann Jung, Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling, received a research grant of \$800,000 from the U.S. Department of Education to study methods to help infants and toddlers with disabilities.

Richard Labunski, Journalism and Telecommunications, had his book *James Madison and the Struggle for the Bill of Rights* reviewed in a recent issue of the *New York Times* book review, which has a circulation of 1.7 million readers.

Florence Lankster, Social Work, received the Career Achievement Award from the Midwest School Social Work Council.

Greg Luhan, Architecture, made presentations on Resonance House's "green initiatives" and sustainable-oriented mission this summer. His lecture, "A Sustainable

Approach to Housing,” was presented two times at The Housing Management Conference held in Louisville. Luhan’s paper entitled, “The Resonance House, A Demonstration House for LEED Homes,” was featured at Greening the Heartland 2006: Advancing Sustainable Practices, a national conference held in Kansas City.

Fred Payne, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, was named a Fellow of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers at its July meeting in Oregon. Only 2 percent of members achieve the grade of Fellow. Payne is honored for his leadership and achievements in food process control and the food industry.

Ken Record and Peggy Piascik, Pharmacy, received the College of Pharmacy’s 2006 Michael J. Lach Faculty Award for Innovative Teaching Practices. Piascik and Record were nominated in recognition of a behavioral modification activity developed for students in the first professional year.

Melody Ryan, Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been chosen to receive the 2006 Rho Chi National Faculty Advisor Award. Rho Chi is the academic honor society in pharmacy. The award is presented annually to recognize unique contributions and accomplishments of outstanding faculty advisors in building leadership and developing chapter programs.

Suzanne Segerstrom was recently awarded a \$1.75 million National Institute of Health (NIH) grant to study how daily life and thought styles affect psychological and physical well-being in adults aged 60 and over. The grant, titled "Thoughts, Stress and Immunity," will follow about 150 people for five years and look at how lives and thought patterns change over time. She will be following what happens to a person's psychological well-being, endocrine function, immune system, and cognitive abilities over this period of time.

Michael Sharkey, Entomology, received \$650,000 from the National Science Foundation for the research project titled “TIGER: Thailand Inventory Group for Entomological Research.” The funding is for three years.

Suzanne Springate, patient care manager at UK Markey Cancer Center, was named 2006 UK Chandler Hospital Employee of the Year.

Timothy Stombaugh, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, earned the Nolan Mitchell Young Extension Worker Award for 2006 from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers. The award was presented to Stombaugh at the organization’s meeting in July in Oregon.

Liz Swanson and Mike McKay, Architecture, were selected as a “Top 10” finalist for their proposal submitted at the Urban-Open International Design Competition in Chicago. The UK submission will be part of traveling exhibitions, including Chicago’s “Garden in a City” exhibition, which highlights urban landscapes, and the United States Green Building Council annual conference. The competition had over 200 participants from around the world.

Vishwas Talwalkar, Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine, was recently awarded the Ignacio V. Ponseti Scientific Poster Award for Outstanding Scientific Poster by the Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America for his presentation titled “Three Dimensional Shape Analysis in Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease.”

Martin B. Tracy, Social Work professor emeritus, has been named a Martha Ozawa Center for Social Policy Studies Fellow.

Sharon Turner, Dentistry, has been appointed to the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) by the American Dental Education Association board of directors. CODA is the governing body that establishes, maintains and applies standards that ensure the quality and continuous improvement of dental and dental-related education.

John van Willigen, Anthropology, and his daughter, Anne van Willigen, a consultant for the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, have co-authored a book titled *Food and Everyday Life on Kentucky Family Farms*. The book, published by the University Press of Kentucky, shares experiences of early 20th century farm life in Kentucky and describes the transformation of rural life.