

FCR 6

Office of the President
September 17, 2002

Members, Board of Trustees:

DELTA DENTAL PLAN OF KENTUCKY PLEDGE

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees accept a pledge of \$750,000 by the Delta Dental Plan of Kentucky of Louisville, Kentucky, to create and endow the Delta Dental Plan of Kentucky Clinical Research Center Endowment in the College of Dentistry.

In accordance with the Council on Postsecondary Education guidelines, the Board of Trustees acknowledges that it has primary responsibility for the implementation of the Endowment Match Program and is responsible for providing oversight of all endowment funds.

Background: Delta Dental Plan of Kentucky is Kentucky's oldest and largest dental insurer. It has a long-standing commitment to dental education and has supported various student activities at the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville. The endowment will provide important research support focusing on oral-systemic disease relationships and oral health disparities in Kentucky. The Center will foster strong research collaborations between the UK College of Dentistry and the Delta Dental Endowed Chair of Systemic Diseases in the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. These collaborative efforts will enable Kentucky to be more competitive nationally for oral health research funding. In addition, the Center will serve as a training laboratory for our students and encourage them to become the next generation of oral health research scientists. The pledge is eligible for matching funds from the state's Research Challenge Trust Fund. The pledge will be paid in full before November 1, 2002.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____