

Office of the President
October 10, 2006

1. Record First-year Enrollment Attends UK in 2006-07 Academic Year

University of Kentucky President Lee T. Todd Jr. said the momentum generated by UK's push for Top 20 status and an increased admissions focus resulted in the largest, most diverse first-year class in the university's 141-year history. The entering class of 4,192 is an increase of 348 students over last year's total of 3,844. The previous high for a first-year class was 3,961 in 2004. Overall enrollment is expected to be about 27,000, an increase of more than 300 over last year. UK also is reporting a 96 percent increase in first-year African-American student enrollment, with 296 students -- up from 151 last year. The previous record was 256 in 2004-05. Enrollment of Hispanic first-year students jumped 54 percent from 37 last year to 57 this year. Todd said an increased focus on -- and a more integrated approach to -- admissions and recruitment were also key factors in the enrollment growth. Eight admissions counselors were added last year, and the university invested an additional \$500,000 in diversity-related scholarships, one of a number of initiatives aimed at creating a more diverse campus environment.

2. UK College of Medicine Climbs in NIH Ranking for Research Funding

The UK College of Medicine now ranks 30th among public medical schools for research funding received from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), according to rankings for the 2005 fiscal year. This is a move up from 31st last year and 35th two years ago. Jay Perman, dean of the college and vice president for clinical affairs, said the ranking resulted from diligent work by college faculty and reflected the college's commitment to UK's pursuit of Top 20 status. The UK College of Medicine is ranked 57th among 123 public and private schools receiving NIH funding. In 2005, NIH funding to UK totaled nearly \$63 million. Current faculty successes and numerous new faculty recruits are expected to affect the numbers positively in coming years.

3. Church Committee 'Reunion' Brings Former Vice President, Senator to UK

Members of a 1970s congressional special committee that investigated U.S. intelligence agencies came together at UK in late September for a reunion that included their reflections on the post-9/11 needs for intelligence gathering. Former U.S. Senator and Vice President Walter F. Mondale, former U.S. Senator Walter "Dee" Huddleston of Kentucky, and Committee Chief Counsel Frederick A. O. Schwarz Jr. discussed the panel, more commonly known as the Church Committee, and its investigation of U.S. intelligence agencies, their operations, and their alleged abuses of power in a climate of fear that surrounded the Cold War society. The UK forum was the brainchild of Tracy

Campbell, co-director of UK Libraries' Wendell H. Ford Public Policy Research Center and professor of history in the UK Department of History.

4. Appalachian Math, Science Program Issues Third Round of Grants to Schools

UK's highly successful Appalachian Mathematics and Science Partnership (AMSP) issued a third round of Partnership Enhancement Programs (PEP) to elementary, middle and high schools in 20 Appalachian counties in Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. The new enhancement projects total \$564,638 and are part of the largest National Science Foundation grant ever received by UK – more than \$22 million over five years – all aimed at driving up the math and science skills of Appalachian students. Recent surveys of district superintendents and supervisors indicated improvement in both teacher and student performance as well as improved curricular alignment with state content standards as a result of their PEPs. PEP grants are a part of an AMSP-integrated initiative of nine institutions of higher education, 51 school districts, and the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation. UK's higher education partners are Morehead State University, Eastern Kentucky University, Pikeville College, Kentucky State University, Union College, Somerset Community College, University of Virginia's College at Wise, and University of Tennessee at Knoxville. The new PEP awards are aimed at enhancing the math and science skills of Appalachian students through teacher partnerships, seminars, and other methods of focused learning for K-12 students. UK also created the Partnership Institute for Mathematics and Science Reform (PIMSR) program, which partners the UK College of Education and the UK College of Arts and Sciences. PIMSR gives a more permanent UK administrative structure to the Appalachian Mathematics and Science Partnership and is expected to build on the successes of the NSF-funded program.

5. Tragic Crash of Comair 5191 Touches UK Community

The UK community suffered a number of losses in the recent crash of Comair Flight 5191 at Lexington's Blue Grass Airport. Among the victims was UK's longtime director of Cooperative Extension, Larry Turner. Others include former employee Patrick Smith; UK Alumni Association members Homer Combs, Kay Morris, and Leslie Morris II; former UK baseball player Jonathan Hooker and his newlywed wife UK student Scarlett Parsley Hooker; and UK alumni Fenton Dawson, C. W. Fortner, W. Bart Frederick, Charles Lykins, Tim Snoddy, and Betty Young. Turner was also a UK alumnus.

6. Design, Engineering Researchers Work on Technology to See Through Walls

Researchers at UK's Center for Historic Architecture and Preservation (CHAP) in the College of Design and the College of Engineering are developing technology to allow preservationists and conservationists to see through walls. Recently the CHAP program received a substantial grant from the National Park Service's National Center for Preservation Training and Technology to study non-invasive technologies, such as infrared thermography, and interpret the best uses for resources and possible alterations

for using these technologies in various ways in historic preservation. Under the guidance of Michael Spencer, an assistant professor of historic preservation, and Lynn Penn, a professor of chemical engineering, UK is making groundbreaking advancements in the field of materials conservation in historic preservation. Infrared thermography is a non-invasive evaluation technique that is making it possible for preservationists and conservationists to see through walls. Thermography, the use of an infrared imaging and measurement camera to “see” and “measure” thermal energy emitted from an object, utilizes unique heat signatures that are found in all materials but are usually undetectable to the human eye.

7. Seismic Borehole Promises Major Research Results along New Madrid Fault

Drilling and construction have begun in Fulton County, Ky., on the deepest borehole for housing earthquake-monitoring instruments east of the Rocky Mountains – the 2,000-foot-deep Central U.S. Seismic Observatory. The site is near the most active part of the New Madrid seismic zone, providing the maximum amount of data from earthquakes in the zone. Scientific instruments placed in the new seismic hole will allow rigorous evaluation of the effects of earthquakes on bedrock and soil and the resulting ground motions in the region. The project is being overseen by Edward W. Woolery of UK’s Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences and Zhenming Wang of the Kentucky Geological Survey (KGS). When the four-inch (inside diameter) wide, steel-encased borehole is completed and equipped with instruments, it will serve as a permanent observatory for earthquake studies as well as research for earthquake-resistant construction in the central U.S. The borehole is expected to be completed by late October. Five partners involved in the project have committed a total of \$295,652 with a substantial amount coming from the United States Department of Energy through the Kentucky Research Consortium for Energy and Environment.

8. Center Finds Kentucky Students Are Served Healthier Food Choices

As Kentucky kids head back to school this fall, parents may be happy to know that their kids will be offered healthier food choices in school cafeterias. In fact, in a recent study conducted by the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI), a non-profit consumer organization that focuses on issues relating to food and the food industry, Kentucky ranked #1 on the State School Foods Report Card with a grade of A-. Twelve states received a grade of B, 15 states received a C or D, and 23 states received a failing grade. The CSPI rated wellness policies for all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Each policy was graded based on five key considerations: beverage nutrition standards; food nutrition standards; grade level(s) to which policies apply; time during the school day to which policies apply; and location(s) on campus to which policies apply.

9. Work-life Survey: Employees Satisfied But Concerned About Wages, Burnout

Results of UK’s first-ever work-life survey among faculty and staff were reported to the campus community September 12. Results show that while a clear majority of

employees are pleased with their jobs, many of them also have deep concerns about burnout and wages as well as balancing family and work life. The survey, taken over several months during the last academic year, is the first of its kind among Kentucky universities and UK's benchmarks and is one of the few done in higher education nationally. President Todd said the university would move quickly to implement some immediate action items, while moving forward with action teams to recommend how best to enact longer term, and more expensive, initiatives.

10. 'Turning the Corner Series' Brings Contemporary Musicians to Singletary Center

The Singletary Center for the Arts announced its 2006-07 Turning the Corner Series. Designed to respond to the musical interests of the UK students, the series continues to draw the best in contemporary music to the Singletary Center's stage for reasonable prices that a student can afford. The series opened with a concert presented by two members of Grammy award-winning band Wilco, including UK alum Glenn Kotche. Other acts scheduled include the East Village Opera Company, The North Mississippi Allstars, Jars of Clay, and actor Gareth Armstrong who will present "Shylock."

11. Journalist Nick Clooney Brings Darfur Documentary to UK for Showing, Speech

Journalist Nick Clooney, a member of the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame at UK, presented "In Search of Darfur" at the William T. Young Library Auditorium on September 18. "In Search of Darfur" chronicles the April 2006 trip made by Clooney and his son, actor/director George Clooney, to Darfuri refugee camps in Chad. The Darfur region of Sudan continues to be the scene of brutalities against civilians by the Janjaweed militia operating at the behest of the Sudanese government. Clooney spoke about the situation in Darfur, what he and his son observed, and what role Americans can play in providing assistance. Clooney's visit was sponsored by the UK and Eastern Kentucky University student chapters of the Society of Professional Journalists, the Bluegrass professional chapter of SPJ, and the UK School of Journalism and Telecommunications.

12. UK Libraries Brings Leaders to Campus to Show Its Film-to-Digital Process

UK Libraries Preservation and Digital Programs welcomed 25 representatives from other institutions, as well as leaders from both the National Endowment for the Humanities and Library of Congress to campus in early September for "meta | morphosis: a university of kentucky film-to-digital institute." The institute educated others on UK's digitization process. UK is the only institution selected for the National Digital Newspaper Program doing their digitization in-house.

13. Law Professor's Research Is Cited in *New York Times* Editorial

A *New York Times* editorial published in mid-September cited UK College of Law associate professor Lori Ringhand's research on judicial activism. Conservatives

often portray more liberal justices as activists, but until Ringhand's study, there was little empirical evidence supporting or rebutting this assertion. Ringhand used Supreme Court voting records to see just how often individual justices invalidate legislation and overturn precedent, two actions that often are identified as "activist." The research found that, although their causes varied, conservative justices were more likely to take "activist" roles than liberals when reviewing federal legislation, and liberal justices were more likely to be activist when reviewing state legislation. While the results are not surprising to those who follow the Court closely, Ringhand says, the evidence is now concrete rather than rhetorical.

14. Art Museum Opens Three-month Exhibition of 19th Century French Landscapes

UK Art Museum opened an exhibition of 19th century French landscapes called "A Romance with the Landscape: Realism to Impressionism" in early September. The exhibition includes paintings and works on paper from such artists ranging from Charles François Daubigny to Claude Monet. A related exhibition, "American Impressionism," will run concurrently and features paintings by artists such as John Singer Sargent, Julien Alden Weir, Willard Metcalf, and Wilder Darling, a regional Impressionist from Ohio. The exhibition was organized by Janie Welker, UK Art Museum's curator of exhibitions and collections, and Linda Stratford, an art historian and Lilly Scholar at Asbury College. It closes December 10.

15. Nunn Center for Oral History Launches Kentucky Horse Industry History Project

The UK Libraries' Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, in cooperation with the Kentucky Historical Society, is initiating an ambitious project to document the history of the Kentucky horse industry. With start-up funds provided by the Kentucky Equine Education Project and UK, the Nunn Center has begun collecting the first-hand experiences and stories of people who work with horses in Kentucky.

16. House Calls Program Welcomes Newest Members of UK's Community

In early September, every new UK student received a residence-hall visit from a volunteer of the new House Calls program. Faculty or staff person welcomed the newest members of the campus community and provided pertinent information, such as where to find academic support, how to get involved in campus life, where to find key services, and how to be successful in the college classroom. The new program, adopted by the UK Office of Residence Life, was scheduled during "Get Smart" week, which is designed to promote academic success among undergraduate students.

17. Loyola University Chicago Professor to Speak on Girls' and Boys' Aggression

James Garbarino of Loyola University Chicago will present "The Origins of Aggression in Girls and Boys" as the 4th Annual Irma Sarett Rosenstein Lecture on Early Childhood Interventions at 1 p.m. Wednesday, October 11, in the William T. Young Library Auditorium. Garbarino holds the Maude C. Clarke Chair in Humanistic

Psychology at Loyola, and he has served as a consultant or advisor to a wide range of organizations, including the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, and the FBI. A light lunch will precede the lecture, which is free and open to the public. The UK College of Social Work is sponsoring the event.

18. UK Air Force ROTC Unit Chosen for National Advertising Campaign

The UK Air Force ROTC was chosen for a national Air Force ROTC advertising campaign. The UK program will be featured in national print advertisements as well as in video interviews for the U.S. Air Force ROTC Web site. Production of the ads took place on campus in mid-September. The print advertisements and video interviews will depict not only student cadets participating in ROTC-related activities, but also their lives as college students. The ads will be used to recruit high school students into the Air Force ROTC program. There are currently about 75 students enrolled in the UK Air Force ROTC program. The program offers college scholarships and guarantees a job after graduation. Graduates of the program must serve four years of active duty with the U.S. Air Force.

19. UK Participates in Citywide Aluminum Recycling Effort

The university joined with the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, Fayette County Public Schools, and other members of the Bluegrass Partnership for a Green Community to compete in the 2006 U.S. Conference of Mayors City Recycling Challenge, September 15-30. The contest challenged Lexingtonians to collect and recycle aluminum beverage cans in competition against other cities of similar size nationwide. The awards will be announced November 15.

20. Art Department's Series brings Artist and Art Historian to Campus for Lectures

The Department of Art 2006-07 Visiting Artists and Scholars Series presented free public lectures by artist and educator Renée Shaw and art historian David Ehrenpreis in early September. Shaw is an award-winning digital video artist that has been recognized at various film festivals. Ehrenpreis is director of the Institute for Visual Studies at James Madison University and is known internationally for his research on 19th and 20th Century German visual culture.

21. Fiber Artist Bob Adams Visits UK to Lecture on Quilting

Fiber artist Bob Adams came to UK in late September as the UK College of Fine Arts' latest artist/speaker in this year's Visiting Artists and Scholars Series. Adams merged his previous art skills with quilting after taking a class at the 1998 International Quilt Festival that taught him how to use fabric dyes as paint and cotton as a canvas. His work has been included in three different Quilt National exhibitions, a prestigious fiber art event held at Dairy Barn Arts Center in Ohio. Adams has presented numerous workshops at such nationally recognized programs as Ohio's Nancy Crow Timber Barn

and New York's Quilting by the Lake. Among his future scheduled workshops are two programs located in England, Committed to Cloth Summer School and Festival of Quilts.

22. College of Law Inducts Three into its Hall of Fame

The UK College of Law inducted three people in mid-September into its Hall of Fame. The three inductees are retired Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge Julia Kurtz Tackett, who was the state's first female prosecutor, the first woman to serve as judge in the Eastern District of Kentucky, and the first woman to serve as president of the Kentucky Bar Association Young Lawyers Section; Pierce W. Hamblin, a distinguished attorney sought after for his skills as a legal mediator; and G. Chad Perry, who for 50 years served the Paintsville community both as an attorney and as a public official, winning recognition as "Outstanding Private Citizen" by the Eastern Kentucky Leadership Conference in 1999.

23. Architecture's Karen Lewis Creates Large Wall from Ale-8-One Bottles

Karen Lewis, Architecture, finished work on a mobile 7-foot tall, 16-foot wide wall with more than 750 Ale-8-One bottles outfitted with various colored fiber optic lighting that is sound sensitive to its surroundings for the Winchester soft drink company. The piece was part of Ale-8-One's 80th anniversary festivities. The wall can be displayed at the bottling company's factory for tours to view and gives the company a unique traveling exhibit for trade shows and possibly art galleries and other cultural events.

24. Red State Ramblers Perform as Part of 'Appalachia in the Bluegrass' Series

The John Jacob Niles Center for American Music presented a free public concert by the Red State Ramblers as part of a series of concerts titled, "Appalachia in the Bluegrass," which explores traditional music in the Appalachian region. The Red State Ramblers, known for having an authentic old-time string band sound, performed in early September in the Gallery of the Niles Center located in the Lucille Caudill Little Fine Arts Library.

25. Student Awards and Achievements

Georganne Way was named the Southeastern Conference Female Cross Country Athlete of the Week in early September. Way posted a personal-best two-mile time of 11:15.4 en route to a first-place finish at the Eastern Kentucky Invitational. She picked up the first victory of her collegiate career in leading four UK runners that finished in the meet's top five. Her first-place finish helped UK soundly defeat Eastern Kentucky and Marshall.

Linda Wermeling, Social Work, successfully defended her dissertation August 17. She is the 16th Ph.D. graduate from the college.

26. Faculty and Staff Awards and Achievements

Leslie Anderson, Animal and Food Sciences, received \$164,000 from the Kentucky Beef Network for the integrated resource management program.

Terry Birdwhistell, UK Libraries' Special Collections and Digital Programs, lent his expertise to the "Kentucky Conference on Oral History: Accomplished Past, Challenging Future," held in honor of the Kentucky Oral History Commission's 30th anniversary in early September. Birdwhistell participated in panel discussions on issues facing oral history in Kentucky and abroad. He was also honored as a pioneer in the field with five other peers at the event's evening session.

Czarena Crofcheck, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, received \$129,000 from the Kentucky Office of Energy Policy for development of heterogeneous catalysts for improved biodiesel production.

Richard Fording, Political Science, received the 2006 Policy Studies Best Paper Award for the best paper on public policy from the American Political Science Association in Philadelphia. The paper was chosen from more than 100 policy papers presented at the discipline's largest annual meeting. The paper, "The Color of Devolution: The Politics of Local Punishment in the New World of Welfare," was co-authored with Sanford Schram of Bryn Mawr College and Joe Soss of the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

Bernhard Hennig, Animal and Food Sciences, received \$2,107,000 from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences for Superfund research involving the interaction of nutrients with the toxic effects of specific environmental contaminants.

Dewayne Ingram, Horticulture, received \$980,000 from the Kentucky Horticulture Council for infrastructure support for growth of Kentucky's horticulture industries.

Larry Jones and Will Snell, Agricultural Economics, and Steve Isaacs, Extension Community and Economic Development, received grants totaling \$144,000 from the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board to conduct the Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program.

Jaime Nebbitt, an education/marketing assistant with the Clinical Research Organization and co-chair of the President's Commission on Diversity, was recently elected parliamentarian of the John D. O'Bryant Think Tank Caucus of National Conference on Race and Equality (NCORE). The NCORE series is recognized as the most comprehensive national forum on issues of race and ethnicity in American higher education. The conference focuses on the complex task of creating and sustaining comprehensive institutional change designed to improve racial and ethnic relations on the nation's campuses and to expand opportunities for educational access and success by culturally diverse, traditionally underrepresented populations.

Michael Reed, Agricultural Economics, received \$1 million from the U.S. Agency for International Development for the University of Kentucky Partnership Program in Indonesia.

Giuliang Tang, Plant and Soil Sciences, received \$167,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service for developing microRNA vectors for gene suppression in agricultural plants.

Bruce Webb, Entomology, received \$123,000 from ParaTechs Corporation for research on enhancement of the baculovirus expression vector system.