

Office of the President  
December 11, 2007

1. UK Hosts Conference on Strategies, Tactics to Engage Communities

The University of Kentucky brought leaders from several out-of-state universities and *The New York Times* to discuss strategies and tactics for deeper community involvement at the Kentucky Engagement Conference 2007 held November 28 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel. Organized by UK Associate Provost for University Engagement Phil Greasley, the conference featured speakers on topics including “Engaging Communities through the Arts,” “Engaging Minority and Underserved Communities,” “Building and Sustaining Campus-Community Partnerships,” and “Assessing the Impact of Engagement.” Speakers included Randy Jones, regional education manager for *The New York Times*; Samory T. Pruitt, vice president for community affairs at the University of Alabama; and Hiram Fitzgerald, associate provost for university outreach and engagement at Michigan State University. The event brought together administrators and faculty from UK, the University of Louisville, Northern Kentucky University, and several other Kentucky regional universities.

2. Engineering’s Extended Campus Receives \$2.25 Million for Research Wing

The University of Kentucky College of Engineering Extended Campus Program has received final approval for a \$2.25 million research wing to be included with the \$16.5 million Emerging Technology Center on the West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC) campus in Paducah. The UK College of Engineering provided \$1 million. The remaining \$1.25 million was raised from private donations in the Purchase region. The research wing will be named after the late Fred Paxton, a longtime supporter of engineering initiatives in Paducah. UK’s Paducah engineering program, in collaboration with Murray State University and WKCTC, offers studies leading to bachelor’s degrees from UK in mechanical engineering and chemical engineering.

3. UK Researcher Wins Nearly \$4 Million to Develop “Dirty Bomb” Treatments

Michael Jay, a researcher in the UK College of Pharmacy Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has received \$3.96 million from the National Institutes of Health for further development of treatments to be used in radiation emergencies such as after exposure to dirty bombs. Jay received \$1.2 million in 2005 to begin the study and says after synthesizing a series of compounds, he and his colleagues quickly focused in on one that they will continue to study in the product development phase.

#### 4. Terry B. Mobley Development Awards Announced

Four University of Kentucky employees have received the third annual Terry B. Mobley Development Awards for outstanding performance and professional achievement. The awards honor the career of Terry B. Mobley, longtime development officer who is currently UK vice president for institutional advancement. Winners of the Professional Achievement awards are Kathy Farah, administrative director for the UK Development Office and Betty Hickey, donor relations specialist in the College of Engineering. The winner of the Central Development Front Line Award is Nikki Russell, senior administrative services assistant in the UK Development Office. The Development Service Award, given to a UK employee who is not a professional fund raiser, but who has demonstrated tremendous support for fundraising efforts, went to Terry L. Birdwhistell, associate dean for special collections and digital programming in UK Libraries. In addition to earning a \$500 cash stipend, the award recipients' names were added to a permanent display in the lobby of the William B. Sturgill Development Building on Rose Street.

#### 5. Lexington Fourth-grader Wins \$40,000 Scholarship to UK

A lucky fourth-grader has some extra motivation for earning good grades in elementary, middle, and high school after winning a grand-prize drawing for a scholarship to the University of Kentucky worth a total of \$40,000. Emily Rogers had the lucky ticket for the giveaway that took place at the finale of a celebration November 12 honoring Fayette County elementary students who earned “Distinguished” marks on all subjects of their Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS) tests. The scholarship entitles 9-year-old Rogers, a fourth-grader at Julius Marks Elementary, to \$10,000 per year for four years at the University of Kentucky if she has continued to perform well academically in high school and meets UK’s admission requirements at the time of enrollment.

#### 6. Fox News Praises College of Medicine Student’s Pathology Blog

UK College of Medicine student Trent McBride has a lot to blog about these days. McBride, a third-year pathology resident, along with fellow pathology residents Kenneth Youens, Diana Cardona, and Gretchen Galiano, founded a pathology blog called Pathtalk.org that was recently recognized on the Fox News Health home page as Best Health Blog. Pathtalk.org is an informal pathology blog that serves multiple purposes including education, entertainment, advice, discussion, and commentary. McBride found that many of the UK pathology residents were interested in the blog when he first began soliciting participation. However, it is his hope that down the road, the audience goes beyond resident participation and that more practicing pathologists join the conversation and add content.

#### 7. UK Cosmetic Surgery Researchers Show Breastfeeding Does Not Cause Sagging

A new study shows that breastfeeding does not increase breast sagging. UK plastic surgeon Brian Rinker and his colleagues conducted the study with patients at UK HealthCare Cosmetic Surgery Associates. The study found that breastfeeding does not adversely affect breast shape. Rinker and his colleagues interviewed 132 women who had

come to UK for a breast lift or augmentation between 1998 and 2006. The women were, on average, 39 years old; 93 percent had had at least one pregnancy, and most of the mothers – 58 percent – had breastfed at least one child. Additionally, the research team evaluated the patients’ medical history, body mass index, pre-pregnancy bra cup size, and smoking status. The results showed no difference in the degree of breast ptosis – the medical term for sagging of the breast – for those women who breastfed and those who didn’t. However, researchers found that several other factors do affect breast sagging, including age, the number of pregnancies, and whether the patient smoked.

8. UK Law Grads Excel in Passing Kentucky Bar Exam

UK College of Law graduates had the highest bar-passage rate of all Kentucky law school graduates on the July 2007 bar exam, according to the Kentucky Board of Bar Examiners. Graduates of the UK College of Law achieved an overall passage rate of 89 percent compared to an 81 percent passage rate among all candidates who took the Kentucky Bar. Among those attempting to pass the bar for the first time, 91 percent of UK law graduates passed on their first attempt compared to 88 percent overall.

9. UK Libraries Dedicates Papers of Appalachian Author James Still

UK Libraries held a dedication ceremony in honor of the James Still Papers October 21, in the Great Hall of Special Collections and Digital Programs in the Margaret I. King Building. The papers of the esteemed Appalachian author contain nearly 50 cubic feet of material including literary manuscripts, notes, correspondence, memorabilia, newspaper clippings, photographs, and personal records. The program included a panel discussion on Still led by UK professor and author Gurney Norman and featured Still biographer Carol Boggess, former Berea College Appalachian Center director Loyal Jones, and Appalachian poet and essayist Anne Shelby. The program featured a talk by author Ted Olson, associate professor at East Tennessee State University and editor of *From the Mountain, From the Valley: New and Collected Poems* by James Still (published by the University Press of Kentucky), and a musical performance by noted Appalachian musician and storyteller Randy Wilson.

10. Kentucky Geological Survey Provides Maps to Science Teachers

The Kentucky Geological Survey set up a display at the annual fall conference of the Kentucky Science Teachers Association in Lexington held November 1 through 3. Hundreds of copies of maps, charts, posters, and other publications were given to science teachers for classroom use. The free publications ranged from large-scale geologic maps of Kentucky to posters on karst and carbon sequestration, to page-size geologic, physiographic, and county maps of the state.

11. Kentucky Women Writers Conference Brings Novelists, Poets, Filmmakers

The 28th annual Kentucky Women Writers Conference was presented September 27 through 29 in downtown Lexington under the leadership of Julie Wrinn, new director for the conference. Featured presenters included: Nickole Brown, poet and marketing director at Louisville’s Sarabande Books; Lee Byrd, novelist, children’s author, and founder of Cinco Puntos Press; Nathalie Handal, poet and playwright; Sally Jenkins,

Washington Post sportswriter and author of eight books; Sedika Mojadidi, documentary filmmaker; Jessica Care Moore, poet, publisher, and creator of the Black Family Channel's SPOKEN!; Naomi Shihab Nye, poet and author of more than 20 books; Helen Oyeyemi, a popular young British-Nigerian novelist; Ann Pancake, a fiction writer whose first novel concerns mountaintop removal; and Michelle Slatalla, *New York Times* columnist and author of the Eastern Kentucky memoir *The Town on Beaver Creek*.

12. UK Symphony Orchestra Performs Again with Arlo Guthrie at UK, Carnegie Hall

UK Symphony Orchestra (UKSO), under the direction of John Nardolillo, presented a second concert with folk icon Arlo Guthrie November 2 at the Singletary Center for the Arts. The concert celebrated UKSO's successful collaboration with the artist on the CD *In Times Like These*, recorded in March 2006 at the Singletary Center and released in July, and served as a preview to a Thanksgiving weekend concert with Guthrie at New York City's famed Carnegie Hall. The CD continues to garner recognition for the orchestra across the nation. Since July, the CD and project have been mentioned in numerous publications read by audiences of every walk of life. Recent mentions included articles and reviews by *The Washington Post*, *Vanity Fair* magazine, the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, and publications in Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, and Virginia.

13. College of Agriculture Group Wins USDA Partnership Award

The UK College of Agriculture's Wheat Science Group has been selected to receive the first ever U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) Partnership Award for Mission Integration. This national award recognizes the UK wheat group's implementation of a program which incorporates integration of research, education, and extension and exhibits an understanding of the complementary nature of these three functions. In establishing this new award program, the CSREES recognizes the outstanding contributions made by its partners in the land-grant universities and other cooperating institutions.

14. College of Design, Manufacturing Center Exhibit Is Displayed in Europe

The UK College of Design and the UK Center for Manufacturing opened a new architecture installation, "Pitch-Black," in partnership with architect Hernán Díaz Alonso and MP Foundry in October. The installation is currently on exhibit at the prestigious MAK Center in Vienna, Austria. The installation's design was the subject of an independent fabrication seminar led by Drura Parrish, an instructor at the UK School of Architecture, which included students Nick Kinney, Louis Koehl, and James Rich. The College of Design and UK Center for Manufacturing completed the project and cut costs on the installation. The fabrication of the components for "Pitch-Black" took approximately two months at the center under the direction of engineering faculty members Charles Arvin and R. J. Robinson. The opening reception for "Pitch-Black" drew more than 300 people to a private showing at the MAK Center. "Pitch-Black" will be on display in Vienna through February 2, 2008. The work will travel to multiple other locations for exhibition in 2008.

15. UK Hosts Schmidt Youth Vocal Competition for High School Singers

Thirteen young vocalists took honors at the 2007-08 William E. Schmidt Youth Vocal Competition in Kentucky held October 20 at UK. The high school vocal competition saw 29 talented 10th, 11th, and 12th graders compete against peers from Kentucky and surrounding states for nearly \$6,000 in cash awards. The 13 honored vocalists received cash prizes at the inaugural competition and included these top three finalists: first-place winner Alyssa Scott, a West High School senior from Knoxville, Tennessee; second-place winner Alexandra Foote, a South Oldham High School senior from Crestwood, Kentucky; and third-place winner Sarah Tubbesing, a Lafayette High School senior from Lexington. This is the first year the vocal competition has been presented in Kentucky. The contest was made possible as part of a gift presented by the William E. Schmidt Foundation, on behalf of William E. Schmidt and his wife Casiana Schmidt, to UK Opera Theatre (UKOT). Lexington and UK became the third site to host the competition. UKOT is now home to all three William E. Schmidt Youth Vocal Competitions and will coordinate the three states' future competitions.

16. Iron Pour Gives Attention to UK Student Sculptors

The College of Fine Arts Sculpture Program and the SCRAP Student Sculpture Club presented the 15th annual Iron Pour and a week of festivities celebrating the metal arts programs October 29 through November 3. Programming included mold workshops, iron casting lectures, sculpture presentations and exhibits, as well as events scheduled with visiting artist George Beasley, known internationally for site-specific sculpture installations and visual performances that enable viewers to briefly experience the “dance” of iron making. The iron pour, which demonstrates the most dramatic part of the metal-casting process and attracts a national audience of artists, students, and art enthusiasts alike, capped off the week at the metal arts studio at Reynolds Building Number 2.

17. High Court Streamed Live on College of Law Web Site

Kentuckians across the commonwealth can now watch courtroom arguments from the comfort of their homes. Through a unique partnership with the Kentucky Supreme Court, oral arguments before the court are being streamed live on the UK College of Law Web site at [www.uky.edu/Law/news/07\\_10\\_23\\_KYSupremeLIVE.html](http://www.uky.edu/Law/news/07_10_23_KYSupremeLIVE.html). This allows the general public, students and media to have easy access to oral arguments being presented to the Supreme Court, to see how the Supreme Court of Kentucky works, and to bring a more open court system to Kentucky.

18. UK Opera Alumnus Sojola Performs in Off-Broadway Production

UK Opera Theatre alumnus Phumzile Sojola received rave reviews for his performance in the off-Broadway production of “Three Mo’ Tenors.” The show that features the extensive musical repertoire of six classically trained black vocalists has toured the country with a program that includes music from various genres including opera, pop, jazz, gospel, blues, and spirituals. The show and Sojola received acclaim for performances at New York’s Little Schubert Theater in the New York *Daily News* and

*The New York Times*. Sojola and the cast's success was also recognized again as the cast rang the NASDAQ Stock Market Opening Bell on October 9.

19. JAMA Features UK Art Museum Painting on Its Cover

A painting from the UK Art Museum collection graced the cover of the October 10 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. "Self-Portrait," a painting by Philip Evergood, was given to the UK Art Museum in 1976 in memory of Robert B. Mayer by his wife and family. The *JAMA* issue includes a full-page artist biography by Kristen Quaranta, the publication's assistant editor.

20. Student Awards and Achievements

Sara Abdmishani, Library and Information Studies graduate student, was recently awarded the American Library Association's (ALA) Spectrum Scholarship. Established in 1997, the Spectrum Scholarship Program recruits students and awards scholarships to American Indian, Alaskan native, Asian, black, Hispanic, native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islander students for graduate programs in library and information studies.

Doug Carr, Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, won honorable mention for the best dissertation award presented by the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management. He was recognized at the APPAM conference last month.

Yu Fan Cheung, Matthew Storrie, and Brian Buckner, Design, received second place honors in Columbus Re-Wired, an urban design ideas competition focused on downtown Columbus, Ohio. The UK team members graduated with architecture degrees from the College of Design in May 2007. Columbus Re-Wired asked participants to create a design for an integrated transportation network that transforms the livability and sustainability of the Columbus area. The UK team's entry, "Stop/Gap," proposed an alternative downtown nexus site. The design moved the intermodal downtown transportation hub site from the Arena District to a new site that would straddle the Scioto River and connect downtown and Franklinton. "Stop/Gap" earned the UK team a \$4,000 cash prize.

Chris DeLotell, Journalism and Telecommunications, won third place for Sports Story of the Year at the Associated Collegiate Press' national meeting in Washington, D.C.

Brad Luttrell, Journalism and Telecommunications, won honorable mention for Picture Story of the Year at the Associated Collegiate Press' national meeting in Washington, D.C.

Beth McDonald, Music, took home first place in the Tuba Artist Division of the 22nd Annual Leonard Falcone International Euphonium and Tuba Festival held in Twin Lake, Michigan. McDonald defeated 10 semifinalists and more than 120 total competitors to take home a \$2,250 cash award, a gold medal, and the chance to perform with a band in the final round. A student of UK tuba professor Skip Gray, McDonald is a member of the UK Honors Program majoring in both music performance and political science.

Sean Rose, Journalism and Telecommunications, won the national collegiate Reporter of the Year Award from the Associated Collegiate Press.

Keith Smiley, Journalism and Telecommunications, won honorable mention for News Photo of the Year at the Associated Collegiate Press' national meeting in Washington, D.C.

Adam Sovkoplas, Music Composition doctoral student, premiered a new composition at the second annual Festival of New Organ Music in London, England. The work, titled *George Frederic Handel*, was performed by renowned organist Paul Ayres at St. George's Church Hanover Square in London October 19.

Will Vincent, a second-year critical care Pharmacy resident, was named Kentucky Society of Health-System Pharmacists Resident of the Year.

Three UK College of Pharmacy students were elected to regional offices for the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists. Noelle Rizzo was elected member at large. Amanda Rapson was elected regional delegate. Emily Antony was elected midyear regional meeting coordinator. Rizzo is a third-year pharmacy student, and Rapson and Antony are both second-year students.

## 21. Faculty and Staff Awards and Achievements

Joseph Baber, Music, received the 2007-08 ASCAPPLUS Award for writers in the concert music division presented by the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP). ASCAPPLUS is an annual cash and recognition awards program recognizing the recent activity of member writers in three divisions of music – concert, jazz, and popular. Winners are selected based on the merit of their catalog activity, with special emphasis given to their recent performances.

Beth Barnes, Journalism and Telecommunications, was elected to and will serve as a member of the Hearst Journalism Awards Program Steering Committee. This fall, she chaired the accreditation site visit team that evaluated the Communication Department at Buffalo State University and served as an accreditation consultant for the journalism and mass communication programs at Michigan State University and Northwestern State (Louisiana) University.

Tom Barnes, Forestry, received the 2007 Naturalist of the Year Award, presented by the Kentucky Society of Natural History.

Anna Brzyski, Art, is the editor of the new art history anthology *Partisan Canons*. Brzyski's anthology has pulled together evidence from various art historians and researchers that demonstrates that the canon's content is always historically and culturally specific and dependent on who is responsible for its production and maintenance. Released by Duke University Press, the publication includes examinations of art canons found in the United States, Europe, Asia, and Africa from the 17th century to the present day.

Paul Bummer, Pharmaceutical Sciences and Membrane Sciences, received a five-year, \$1.59 million grant from the National Cancer Institute for his project "Formulation of Dosage Forms and Drug Delivery Systems for Anti-tumor Agents."

Aaron Cook, UK HealthCare Pharmacy Services and Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science, was named Pharmacist of the Year by the Kentucky Society of Health-System Pharmacists. Cook is a neurosurgery/critical care clinical pharmacy specialist for UK HealthCare Pharmacy Services and adjunct assistant professor for the UK College of Pharmacy Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science.

Debra Cotterill, Cooperative Extension Family and Consumer Sciences agent in Mason County, was elected in September to serve a two-year term as the treasurer for the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Nancy Cox, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture associate dean for research and director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, was selected to be a member of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics

Advisory Board. The board advises the secretary of agriculture and land grant colleges and universities.

Gary Cromwell, Animal and Food Sciences, received the New Frontiers in Animal Nutrition Award from the Federation of Animal Science Societies at the American Society of Animal Science meeting in July.

Burt Davis, Center for Applied Energy Research, was awarded \$328,200 by the Governor's Office of Energy Policy for his project titled "Catalysts Studies in Support of Commercial CTL projects in Kentucky."

Mark L. Farman, Plant Pathology, is principal investigator, and Michael Goodin, Plant Pathology, is co-principal investigator on a three-year, \$990,000 grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture-National Research Initiative to study the localization of secreted proteins during penetration and invasive growth of the rice blast fungus, *Magnaporthe oryzae*.

Merl Hackbart, Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, received the S. Kenneth Howard Award, presented by the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management. This award recognizes "exemplary work and professional integrity of an individual who has devoted a significant part of his or her public service career to the advancement of public budgeting and financial management."

Bob Haven, Theatre, was interviewed in a report done for CBS's *The Early Show*. The report took viewers to the 2007 Montana World of WearableArt Awards Show, where Haven had one of only four finalist garments from the United States entered in the 10-day international design competition. Haven's interview aired October 31.

Kim Henken, Human Environmental Sciences, received the Laura Clay Leadership Award from Kentucky Women in Agriculture at their annual conference in November.

Judy Hetterman, Cooperative Extension Family and Consumer Sciences agent in Owen County, was elected in September to serve a two-year term as the Southern Region Director for the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Clair Hicks, Animal and Food Sciences, was named a Productivity Enhancement Program Distinguished Volunteer by the Center for Citizen Initiatives for his involvement in hosting and training Russian delegates.

John Hussey, University Press of Kentucky sales manager, was selected for the Whiting Week-in-Residence Program presented by the Professional Development Committee of the Association of American University Presses. Hussey has completed his five-day residence with Columbia University Press, where he collaborated with staff members on the publishing and promotion of university press books.

Ronald J. Hustedde, Community and Leadership Development, received the 2007 National Excellence in Extension Award given by the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges. In his nomination, it was noted that Hustedde has established outreach programs that "embody visionary leadership, anticipate emerging trends, and demonstrate a commitment to diversity and significant community impacts." He also received the 2007 Excellence in Extension and Public Outreach Award from the Rural Sociological Society.

Richard Labunski, Journalism and Telecommunications, published two op-ed pieces, "Madison and Mozart: June 1788," in the *Louisville Courier-Journal* on June 22, and "The Truth about College Grades" in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* on August 13. He appeared on the June 29 airing of KET's "Comment on Kentucky" to discuss a Supreme Court decision and his book on James Madison.



Doreen Maloney and Dmitry Strakovsky, Art, discussed the intersection of the fine arts and technology through their personal work and research on a new program on the Research Channel. The program, which was created by the Center for Visualization and Virtual Environments, aired several times on October 3 and 6.

Doug McLaren, Forestry, received the 2007 Outstanding Individual Award for Excellence in Environmental Education, presented by the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education.

Bob Perry, Food Systems Initiative, has been elected to the Board of Overseers of Chefs Collaborative, a prominent culinary organization whose mission is to cultivate a more sustainable food supply.

Melynda J. Price, Law, received the “Best Dissertation Award” from the American Political Science Association for the best American dissertation on race, ethnicity, and politics. Her dissertation is “At the Cross: Race and Religion in the Politics of the Death Penalty among African Americans.” Her scholarly work investigates the role of race and religion in the politics and legal processes of the death penalty as well as race and gender issues in both domestic and international politics.

Deanna D. Sellnow, Communication, was inducted into the North Dakota Communication and Theatre Association’s Hall of Fame. As an undergraduate competitor for North Dakota State University (NDSU), Sellnow won the Interstate Oratory Contest and placed first in Communication Analysis while competing for NDSU at the American Forensic Association's national tournament. She is still the only national champion from North Dakota. Her induction marks the 25th anniversary of her first national championship.

Michele Staton-Tindall, Center for the Study of Violence Against Children and Center on Drug and Alcohol Research, received a \$91,800 federal grant from the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment to evaluate a new program at Chrysalis House Inc. in Lexington. The program is designed to increase services to pregnant, postpartum, and parenting mothers in substance abuse treatment at the drug and alcohol treatment facility for women and their children.

William Thom, Regulatory Services, received the Career Achievement Award in Water Quality Education and Research from the Southern Region Extension Water Quality Committee.

Kenneth V. Yeargan, Entomology, has been named a Fellow of the Entomological Society of America. This honor recognizes his outstanding contributions to entomology.

Chan Yun Yoo, Journalism and Telecommunications, recently published a book, *Preattentive Processing of Web Advertising* (Youngstown, NY: Cambria Press). His journal article, “Implicit Memory Measures for Web Advertising Effectiveness,” was published in *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly*.