

Office of the President
April 22, 2008

1. UK Graduate Programs Rank High on *U.S. News*' Listing

Several University of Kentucky graduate programs are listed among the best in the nation according to newly released rankings in the *U.S. News and World Report*'s 2009 edition of *America's Best Graduate Schools*. The UK College of Pharmacy ranked highest on the list as the fifth best pharmacy school in the nation. UK's Rehabilitation Counseling program ranked 19th. The College of Nursing is tied for 26th place for the second year in a row. The Martin School of Public Policy and Administration rose two spots from last year to a ranking of 32nd overall and tied for 21st among public institutions. The Martin School's public finance and budgeting program rose from sixth to fourth place. Clinical Psychology is tied for 33rd place overall and 27th among public institutions. Other rankings included Social Work, 36th; Physical Therapy, 38th; and Communications Disorders, 53rd. The UK College of Law is tied for 59th place overall, rising one spot from last year.

2. UK to Help Lead Statewide Effort to Encourage Girls to Pursue STEM Careers

UK will help spearhead a statewide effort to unite business, industry, government, and education leaders in an initiative to encourage elementary, middle, and high-school girls to study science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). The project wants to increase their participation in these high-paying, economically critical career fields. UK President Lee T. Todd, Jr., who chairs a state STEM task force, helped announce the Kentucky Girls STEM Collaborative Project, which is based on a national model funded by the National Science Foundation. Heading up the program will be Sue Scheff and Carol Hanley, both based at UK. The project will offer mini-grants to help launch collaborative programs to build excitement among students in STEM career fields. Although positioned at UK, the project is broad-based, with a leadership team that includes representatives from Murray State University, Eastern Kentucky University, Centre College, Midway College, University of Louisville, the Kentucky Department of Education, Semicon Associates, and Ceradyne Inc. The leadership team is organizing a kick-off conference at UK on Friday, May 23, to describe the mini-grants and showcase girl-serving STEM projects.

3. Former Indian President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Spends Three Days at UK

Former Indian President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam visited the UK campus over a three-day period in late March, speaking in a number of venues to a variety of audiences from both on and off campus. Kalam presented his ambitious plan titled "Vision 2020," involving a portrait of what India will look like by the year 2020 and discussed other

issues of international importance. Kalam's visit offered students a rare opportunity to converse with a world leader. His visit included receiving an Honorary Doctorate of Science degree at the Singletary Center for the Arts Recital Hall, where he participated in a traditional academic hooding ceremony upon conferral of the degree. UK Provost Kumble Subbaswamy also addressed UK's plans for internationalization. Events also were held by the UK Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce, the Gatton College of Business and Economics, the UK Art Museum, the Kentucky Children's Hospital, and The Arboretum

4. Physician Revolutionizes Gene Research, Challenges Nobel-Prize Finding

A dramatic new study published in the March issue of *Nature* questions some of the mechanisms underlying a new class of drugs based on Nobel Prize-winning work designed to fight diseases ranging from macular degeneration to diabetes. Jayakrishna Ambati, a University of Kentucky researcher in the Department of Ophthalmology and the paper's senior author, has for years been investigating gene silencing, a 1998 discovery that won a Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in unusually quick fashion in 2006. While the prize-winning discovery remains important, the findings made by Ambati's lab show the mechanisms behind it are not as scientists once believed. In fact, Ambati's work imparts the need for caution in current clinical trials using the technology, as it may have potentially harmful effects on subjects. Ambati and his colleagues have made a critical discovery that challenges the view that siRNA's therapeutic effects are imparted solely through RNA interference. Ambati and collaborators argue that siRNA functions generically rather than specifically, thus the new class of drugs being formulated may actually adversely affect blood vessel growth in a variety of organs.

5. UK Chandler Hospital Is Named One of Nation's Best by Thomson

UK HealthCare's Albert B. Chandler Hospital is among the nation's top 100 hospitals. For the fifth time, Thomson Healthcare selected UK Chandler Hospital to receive its "Top Hospitals National Benchmarks" award. Hospitals are evaluated in four areas: clinical process and outcomes, patient safety, operational efficiency, and financial stability. UK Chandler Hospital is the only major academic medical center in Kentucky to be ranked in the top 100. Of the major teaching hospitals studied, only 15 were ranked as performance leaders. The hospital also received top honors in 1993, 1994, 1995, and 2006. This is the 15th anniversary of the 100 Top Hospitals awards.

6. Beckman Foundation Chooses UK for Third Round as Awarding Institution

UK has been selected for a third time as an awarding institution for the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation's Beckman Scholarships to support undergraduate research. UK initially was chosen in 2002 and had its status renewed in 2005. The new award is \$115,800 and will fund six scholarships. The scholarships are to be awarded over a three-year period. The scholarships, in the total amount of \$19,300 per student, support undergraduate research from one summer through the academic year and continuing through a second summer. The research is conducted under the mentorship of

a faculty member approved by the foundation, based on the professor's record of research success and previous experience as a mentor of undergraduate researchers. The scholars' research must be conducted full-time during the summers and at least 10 hours a week during the academic year. The scholarship also provides funds for the selected students to travel to academic conferences to present their research. The Beckman Foundation awards only 15 grants per year to competitively selected institutions. Among those chosen as awarding institutions this year are Boston University, Georgia Tech, Indiana University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Vanderbilt University.

7. Student Andrew Lynch Wins His Fifth National Scholarship – in Less than a Year

Andrew Lynch, a chemical engineering senior, has been awarded one of the nation's 45 prestigious Gates Cambridge Scholarships to pursue his graduate studies at Cambridge University in England. This is the fifth national scholarship honor in less than a year bestowed upon Lynch and makes him the only individual to receive all five of these particular national awards: the Astronaut, Beckman, Gates Cambridge, Goldwater, and Udall scholarships. Lynch, the son of Adriana and Robert Lynch of Williamsburg, will graduate in May from UK. He will pursue his doctorate in chemical engineering at Cambridge University.

8. The Scientist Magazine Lists UK as a Best Place for Postdocs

UK ranks 22nd among all American institutions where postdoctoral fellows learn, work, and gain experience, according to *The Scientist* magazine. The magazine cited "training and mentoring" as the reason UK ranked as high as it did. In fact, only four American universities ranked higher than UK on the list, which also included industrial and government institutions where postdoctoral fellows pursue research. UK ranked higher than such universities as the University of Michigan (No. 23), Duke (No. 28) and Vanderbilt (No. 32). The article, "Best Places to Work 2008: Postdocs," is in the magazine's March 2008 issue.

9. Four Are Inducted into College of Engineering Hall of Distinction

The UK College of Engineering inducted four new members into its Hall of Distinction for 2008. The honorees are J. Ralph King, an engineer and attorney who has helped inventors protect their property and created opportunities for many young people through Camp Invention (www.invent.org); Davis Marksbury, founder and chairman of Exstream Software; Wendell S. Norman, an aerospace engineer and former senior vice president of Sverdrup Technology; and the late Larry W. Turner, former chair of the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering and associate dean for extension. The induction ceremony was held in the Student Center Theater April 4.

10. Alumni Association Honors Six as 'Great Teachers'

Six UK professors were honored for excellence in the classroom as the UK Alumni Association's recipients of the 2008 Great Teacher Awards. The 2008 recipients

are: Dibakar Bhattacharyya, College of Engineering; Donald Falace, College of Dentistry; Lisa Gaetke, College of Agriculture; E. Preston Hicks, College of Dentistry; Michael Kalinski, College of Engineering; and Terence Tunberg, College of Arts and Sciences. Dating back to 1961, the Great Teacher Award is the oldest continuous award that recognizes teaching at UK. All nominations are made by students.

11. UK President Todd Names Sustainability Advisory Committee

UK President Lee T. Todd Jr. recently appointed 12 members of a new Sustainability Advisory Committee, including two members from university business operations, Bob Wiseman of Facilities Management and William Harris of Purchasing; two faculty members, Ernest Yanarella of Political Science and Richard Levine of Architecture; two student members, undergraduates Aema Athar and Matthew Harmin; one member from the College of Agriculture, Mark Williams; one member from Student Affairs, Larry Crouch; one member representing the university research mission, Robert Rathbone of the Center for Applied Energy Research; one member from the Lexington community, Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Commissioner of Environmental Quality Cheryl Taylor; and two at large members, Shane Tedder of Residence Life Recycling and Carol Hanley. The newly elected committee co-chairs are Hanley, director of education and communications for the UK Tracy Farmer Center for the Environment and chair of the Bluegrass Partnership for a Green Community, and Williams, associate professor of horticulture in the College of Agriculture.

12. State Environmental Commission Honors UK's 'Water Pioneers' Program

A UK program in which Appalachian high school students gather information about eastern Kentucky watersheds received an Earth Day Award from the Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission at Berry Hill Mansion in Frankfort last week. The Water Pioneers Program, coordinated by UK's Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute, works with high school students in UK's Robinson Scholars Program. The students develop and implement a community project in one of 29 eastern Kentucky counties in coordination with East Kentucky PRIDE educators, Kentucky Water Watch volunteers, and other interested local groups to increase awareness of Best Management Practices for water quality in their respective counties.

13. UK Employees Give Generously to United Way

UK's United Way (UKUW) campaign experienced a record year, raising \$501,474, a 56 percent increase in dollars given in 2006. UK was recognized by United Way of the Bluegrass as its third largest fundraiser, one of the region's top campaigns. The university was presented with several awards, including the Chairman's Award for showing exceptional dedication, both by increasing contributions and by providing community leadership. Associate Vice President for Human Resources and UKUW campaign chair, Kim Wilson, received the Outstanding Executive Involvement Award and UK Treasurer Marc Mathews received the George Hearn Award, named in honor of the 1974-1993 president of the United Way of the Bluegrass.

14. UK PharmacistCARE Offers 'Train the Trainer' Program

A new program will assist pharmacists in setting up medication therapy management services modeled after the University of Kentucky's nationally recognized PharmacistCARE program. The PharmacistCARE "Train the Trainer" program is available to pharmacists interested in implementing the service in their own pharmacy setting and includes instruction on the set-up of the clinical service, marketing, reimbursement, and funding strategies. Individualized training sessions are available in half day or full day sessions. Training is coordinated and led by Amy Nicholas, co-director of Pharmacist CARE, and includes interaction with members of the PharmacistCARE team at their clinical site located at the Kentucky Clinic.

15. Engineering Dean Lester Teaches Leadership Class, Takes Trip to Washington

The first group of students in the new UK College of Engineering Leadership Program spent a portion of their spring break in Washington, D.C., as part of the new leadership course in engineering, EGR 599. The course is taught by College of Engineering Dean Thomas W. Lester. Its goal is to allow students to gain insight into their own styles of leadership by listening to and studying the experiences of accomplished leaders. In addition to the Washington trip, on which students met with members of Congress from Kentucky, class sessions also include several prominent guest speakers who are leaders in engineering, business, politics, and the military.

16. More Than One Hundred 'Teachers Who Made a Difference' Are Recognized

More than 130 teachers from across the Commonwealth were recognized by the UK College of Education's "Teachers Who Made a Difference" program in late March in the Center Theater at the UK Student Center. The program gives Kentuckians an opportunity to thank the teachers, principals, college professors, and other educators in the state for the way they have inspired and motivated students to succeed. The UK College of Education created the program to provide individuals a means to express thanks to educators who have impacted their lives. Since the program's inception, more than 1,000 teachers have been honored. To see a listing of honorees, go online to www.uky.edu/Education/TWMAD/.

17. Pharmacy Students Conduct Annual Legislative Health Fair

UK College of Pharmacy students traveled to the Capitol Building in Frankfort to provide a health fair for legislators and staff on February 26. The health fair gave students the opportunity to put their skills to work and allowed legislators and state employees to concentrate on their own health. More than 50 legislators and legislative staff members attended the event and were screened for cholesterol, blood pressure, glucose, and cardiovascular risk as well as educated about medication management.

18. UK Institute Is Named Leader of 'When Work Works' Initiative

The UK Institute for Workplace Innovation (iWin) was selected as a lead organization for "When Work Works," a national, community-based initiative that highlights the importance of workplace flexibility as a business strategy. Lexington received one of only nine new When Work Works grants and is one of only 30 cities selected nationwide for participation in the initiative. The grant provides local employers the opportunity to apply for the national Alfred P. Sloan Awards. The institute spearheads the Lexington initiative in conjunction with a coalition of community leaders from Commerce Lexington, the Mayor's Office, Business Lexington, the Bluegrass Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management, and the Kentucky Small Business Development Center. The coalition kicked-off the initiative with a business leaders' breakfast featuring speakers Jennifer Swanberg, executive director of iWin, and Jason Chambers, CEO of Kentucky Orthopedic Rehabilitation Team.

19. Good Samaritan Hospital Receives Organ Donation Award from State Affiliate

UK HealthCare's Good Samaritan Hospital is the recipient of the Kentucky Organ Donor Affiliate's 2007 Tissue Donation Performance Award. The award recognizes doctors, nurses, chaplains, and other health care team members who are committed to saving and enhancing lives through tissue donation. Good Samaritan Hospital is one of only eight hospitals, out of 112 that KODA serves, to receive the award.

20. Widow of Music Innovator Frank Zappa Keynotes Musicology Session at UK

The John Jacob Niles Center for American Music hosted the 2008 annual meeting of the American Musicological Society (AMS) South-Central Chapter March 14-15. The highlight of the two-day event was a keynote address by Gail Zappa, widow of the late music legend Frank Zappa, and a free public concert of music by or that inspired Zappa performed by UK Chambers Winds. The AMS South-Central Chapter annual meeting included six musicology sessions at the Niles Gallery, located in the Lucille Little Fine Arts Library.

21. Twenty-seven UK Pharmacy Students Inducted During Rho Chi Ceremony

Twenty-seven UK College of Pharmacy students, as well as UK faculty members Penni Black, assistant professor, and Kelly Smith, assistant dean of academic affairs, were inducted as new members of Rho Chi, the national honor society for pharmacy. The students were presented with the Rho Chi key during a ceremony March 6 at Spindletop Hall. In addition, Trish Freeman, associate professor and director of professional practice programs, was presented the Rho Chi Chapter Alumni Award.

22. Two of UK's Oldest Residence Halls to Close at Semester's End

In early February, UK officials told current residents of Boyd Hall and Jewell Hall that the two buildings will not house students in the 2008-2009 academic year. The closure will save University Housing about \$300,000 annually in staffing, utility, and maintenance costs for the two halls, both located on the north end of campus. With no air conditioning and outdated utility services, Jewell and Boyd residence halls are UK's least attractive student housing facilities. They consistently have low occupancy percentages and high maintenance costs.

23. Student Awards and Achievements

Melinda Ault, Jason Gibson, and Robert Pennington, all doctoral students in Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling, made presentations at the American Council on Rural Special Education annual conference.

Matt Buckman, School Psychology, co-presented a paper "Exploring the Discrepancy Between Student and Teacher Perceptions of Bullying" at the National Association of School Psychologists annual convention.

Carey Creech-Galloway, Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling graduate student, contributed an essay on teaching students with severe disabilities to the most recent edition of "Exceptional Children: An Introduction to Special Education" by William Heward.

Brooke Reed, School Psychology, presented a paper titled "Perceptions of School Psychology: Undergraduate Psychology Advisors Role in Recruitment" at the National Association of School Psychologists annual convention.

Danny Ruberg, Architecture, took home the first place design award in the 2007 American Institute of Architecture Students' Pediatric Outpatient Rehabilitation Center Design Competition sponsored by Kawneer Company Inc. The competition challenged students to design a pediatric outpatient rehabilitation center and family support facility using architectural aluminum building products and systems. Ruberg's design for Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, evolved from his research into pediatric health care design, Kawneer aluminum thermal building systems, and sustainable design.

Dominique Talbert, Pharmaceutical Sciences postdoctoral fellow, has received a University of Kentucky Lyman T. Johnson Postdoctoral Fellowship. The fellowship provides a \$35,000 stipend and up to \$5,000 in research support. Talbert, of Lexington, graduated with a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Tennessee State University in Nashville. She returned to Lexington and received her doctorate in pharmacology from UK in 2007.

Melissa Wheatley, School Psychology, presented a poster titled "Quality and Content of IEPs for Students With Autism" at the National Association of School Psychologists annual convention.

24. Faculty and Staff Awards and Achievements

Mark Abel, Kinesiology and Health Promotion, contributed the paper “The Effect of Pedometer Tilt Angle on Pedometer Accuracy” published in the *International Journal of Fitness*.

Belva C. Collins and Lee Ann Jung, Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling, made presentations at the American Council on Rural Special Education annual conference.

Belva C. Collins, Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling, published “A Comparison of the Acquisition and Maintenance of Teaching and Functional and Core Content in Special and General Education Settings” in *Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities* along with former and current master’s degree students: Carey Creech-Galloway, Abby Evans, Jennifer Karl, and Angela Miller.

Belva C. Collins, Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling, contributed an essay titled “What Happened to a Functional Curriculum?” to the most recent edition of *Exceptional Children: An Introduction to Special Education* by William Heward.

Carol Pitts Diedrichs, Libraries, has received the 2008 Ross Atkinson Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services. The award recognizes her extraordinary service to the field of library science in the U.S.

Heather Erwin, Kinesiology and Health Promotion, published “Test-retest Reliability of a Preadolescent Environmental Access to Physical Activity Questionnaire” in the *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*.

Heather Erwin, Kinesiology and Health Promotion, will contribute to three presentations made at the upcoming American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Conference: “Demographic Characteristics of Physical Education Teacher Educators by Carnegie Classification,” “Professional Characteristics of Physical Education Teacher Educators,” and “Effects of Media on Physical Education Performance Outcomes.” Erwin, along with Mark Abel and Aaron Beighle, Kinesiology and Health Promotion, and Angela Miller, Educational and Counseling Psychology, also presented a poster at the American Educational Research Association titled “Making Math Move: The Influence of Integrated Physical Activity on Elementary Students’ Math Motivation.”

Mark Farman, Plant Pathology, is principal investigator for a \$990,000 three-year grant from Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service for “The Localization of Secreted Proteins during Penetration and Invasive Growth of the Rice Blast Fungus *Magnaporthe oryzae*.”

Jane E. Hayes, Computer Science, has been selected to receive a prestigious Alumni Achievement Award from Hanover College. The award is given to Hanover graduates who have distinguished themselves in their professions, service to their communities, or service to Hanover College. She will receive her award during Hanover's Homecoming celebration in October.

Kazuko Hioki, Libraries, presented “From Japanese Tradition: Is Kura a Model for a Sustainable Preservation Environment?” before the board of the International Institute for Conservation, which included international representatives from the

Americas, Europe, and Asia, at the British Museum in London. Hioki's research examines the Japanese traditional storage building form called kura, known for superior performance in maintenance of stable interior temperatures and relative humidity without utilizing a dedicated system for heating or cooling. Hioki also discussed the use of traditional Japanese kiri, or paulownia, boxes, collection care, and maintenance practices. Her research on kura, which will next be published by an Internet publication at University of Texas at Austin, is a form of sustainable preservation likely to be popular as the world identifies "green" methods and approaches for various career fields.

Linda Levstik, Curriculum and Instruction, contributed to the book *Researching History Education: Theory, Method and Context*, published by Routledge.

William C. Lubawy, Pharmacy, will receive the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's Robert K. Chalmers Distinguished Pharmacy Educator Award during the association's 2008 meeting in conjunction with the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada (AFPC) annual meeting and seminars in Chicago in July. The award, named for the late Robert K. Chalmers, former AACP president and distinguished educator, consists of a Steuben glass owl sculpture and a monetary prize, and recognizes excellence as an instructor, outstanding achievements as a researcher and scholar, and overall impact on pharmacy education and the profession.

Beth Rous, Educational Leadership Studies, and Katherine McCormick, Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling, along with doctoral student Terri Nowak, contributed to "Using Eco-mapping to Understand Family Strengths and Resources" published in *Young Exceptional Children*.

Beth Rous, Education Leadership Studies, contributed to the chapter "Policy in Early Childhood Education and Early Intervention: What Every Early Childhood Educator Needs to Know" for the book *Practical Approaches to Early Childhood Professional Development: Evidence, Strategies and Resources*, published by Zero to Three Press.

Becky Ryder, Libraries, has been named the winner of the inaugural Library Binding Institute's George Cunha and Susan Swartzburg Preservation Award in recognition of her service to the field of preservation. The Preservation and Reformatting Section of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services will recognize Ryder at an awards ceremony at the 2008 American Library Association Annual Conference this June in Anaheim, California. As the first recipient of this national award, Ryder will receive a \$1,250 grant and a citation.

Ginny Sprang, Social Work, was selected to serve on the National Child Traumatic Stress Network Steering Committee. Sprang will serve as one of 16 members on the committee that sets the vision and priorities of the network and the child trauma field in general.

John Thelin, University Research Professor, Educational Policy Studies and Evaluation, presented "Academics and Athletics: A Part and Apart" at the 2008 National Collegiate Athletic Association's annual conference as part of its Scholarly Colloquium on College Sports. Thelin also presented "Higher Education, Lost & Found" at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education's Annual Trustees Conference.

John Thelin, Educational Policy Studies and Evaluation, published "Expectations and Reality in American Higher Education" in the Fall 2007 issue of *Thought & Action*, the journal of the National Education Association. Thelin also published "Access and

Excess: Selective College Admissions in Historical Perspective” in the January/February 2008 issue of the *Journal of Higher Education*.

Bruce Webb, Entomology, is principal investigator for a \$133,623 grant from the National Institutes of Health’s National Institutes of General Medicine through ParaTechs Corporation to improve protein expression from the Baculovirus Expression Vector System. High-level protein expression is a fundamental need in biotechnology, and the system developed by Webb’s lab in conjunction with ParaTechs improves expression levels by approximately 10 times over the conventional baculovirus system.