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Office of the President
June 17, 2008

Members, Board of Trustees:

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER FOR MUSCLE BIOLOGY

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of the Center for Muscle Biology in the College of Medicine.

Background: The Center for Muscle Biology will build on existing strengths to create a nationally-recognizable program that expands research, promotes educational activities, and enhances the university's progress toward Top 20 status. The Center will foster basic and translational research collaborations, expand training opportunities for graduate and professional students, provide an intellectual environment for new programmatic grants, enhance faculty recruitment, and give muscle biology at UK an identity for national recognition.

The goals of the Center are to foster collaboration among clinical and basic scientists, catalyze translational research, stimulate educational activities, and increase national recognition for the University in the field of muscle biology. To achieve these goals, the Center will promote specific research and education related initiatives by integrating the activities of NIH-funded investigators from five colleges and centers.

Creation of the Center is expected to stimulate development of new institutional awards including program projects grants, center grants, and T32-funded training grants. The Center will provide a nexus for promoting scientific collaboration and developing translational research. Clinical and basic scientists will work together to address muscle-related concerns ranging from cachexia to cardiomyopathy, from ventilatory insufficiency to sarcopenia of aging.

The proposal has been reviewed and recommended by the Senate Committee on Academic Organization and Structure and the Senate Council, and recommended for approval by the University Senate. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____