

Office of the President  
October 14, 2008

1. President Todd Praises UK Students, Faculty, Staff in 'State' Address

In his State of the University Address on September 18, University of Kentucky President Lee T. Todd, Jr. recounted the accomplishments the school has made despite deep budget cuts experienced over the last year. And he thanked members of the campus community for their hard work and encouraged them to keep pushing toward the goal of becoming a Top 20 public university. Noting UK's capacity as a Top 20 university to improve the state's economic success and improve the social and physical health of its citizens, Todd urged the campus community to not let recent financial setbacks distract them from the goal. Among the many accomplishments cited were:

- Record high freshman African-American enrollment this fall at 341;
- Record number of Governor's Scholars and Governor's School for the Arts Scholars at 389;
- Record high rate of freshman to sophomore retention this fall at 81 percent;
- Twenty research papers accepted to last year's National Conference on Undergraduate Research;
- Forty UK graduates working for Teach for America, which recruits college graduates to teach in urban and rural public schools to eliminate educational inequity;
- Total research expenditures for fiscal year 2007 increased to a record high \$332 million;
- Thirteen new Commonwealth Collaboratives, outreach projects that engage top faculty members in helping solve some of Kentucky's most intrinsic economic, health, and environmental problems; and
- Strong leadership in the health care arena as construction continues on its new \$700 million Chandler Hospital and for the new College of Pharmacy Building.

2. UK Enjoys Record Year for Applications for Admission

More students than ever applied for admission to UK this year. Meanwhile, the school is experiencing a record number of minority students in its 2008 freshman class. According to preliminary figures, UK's 2008-2009 freshman class is 4,044 students, up from 3,865 last year. This brings the preliminary undergraduate enrollment to 18,995 and overall enrollment to 26,901 this fall. Minority enrollment increased significantly with African-American enrollment reaching an all time high of 341 in the freshman class, a 32 percent increase over last year. Hispanic enrollment is at 61 this year, a 39 percent increase. Quality of the freshman class continued to improve with the average ACT score increasing from 24.3 last year to 24.4 this year and the average GPA jumping from 3.48 in 2007 to 3.52 this year. The number of Governor's Scholars and Governor's Performing Arts Scholars hit a record high of 389 in UK's freshman class compared to 348 last year.

National Merit Scholars are up by four to 32 this year and the number of National Achievement Scholars increased to two.

3. UK Maintains Leadership in International IdeaFestival

UK continues to be a leading presenting sponsor of the international IdeaFestival, held last month in Louisville. UK presented the lecture “Surviving Rwanda,” by Immaculee Ilibagiza, and also had two faculty presenters. Additionally, many UK students participated in a variety of ways. The festival, which began in 2000, is a unique event that has been described as a process, “space” and network for the exploration of ideas and innovation across and at the intersections of different fields that include design, science, business, arts, technology, industry, spirituality, medicine, media, literature, international affairs, and more. Ilibagiza, who was born in Rwanda and educated there in electronic and mechanical engineering, hid with seven other women in a small bathroom for 91 days during 1994’s Rwandan genocide. She shared her story and thoughts on this unimaginable experience, including the important role that faith played in her survival. UK’s two faculty presenters were Philipp Kraemer, professor of psychology and chair of the Chellgren Center for Undergraduate Excellence, and Everett McCorvey, director of UK Opera Theatre and Lexington Opera Society Endowed Chair in Opera Studies. The festival also was the venue for the announcement of the winner of the UK College of Design’s inaugural \$100,000 Curry Stone Design Prize. MMA Architects of South Africa and its principals, Luyanda Mpahlwa and Mphethi Morojele, were honored for their ingenious, yet simple design re-envisions for low-income housing for a Cape Town shantytown. The Curry Stone Prize is given annually to breakthrough design solutions with the power and potential to improve our lives and the world we live in.

4. College of Pharmacy Holds ‘Topping Out Ceremony’ for New Building

The new UK College of Pharmacy Building, scheduled for completion in 2010, has reached its maximum height in construction. To commemorate this milestone, a ceremony was held on August 26 to place the final steel beam at the top of the building. The new College of Pharmacy building will be the first academic building constructed as part of UK’s academic medical campus of the future, a 20-year, \$2.5 billion expansion project on the south side of campus that will further accelerate research and health education in Kentucky. The 280,000 square foot facility will be the largest academic building in Kentucky and among the largest in the nation. Standing five stories high, it will house state-of-the-art academic and research facilities, two 235-seat auditoriums, a 110-seat classroom, a 54-seat classroom, a teaching laboratory, small group learning classrooms, and study areas. The innovative research laboratories will be created to foster collaboration and interaction.

5. Alltech Announces Major Fellowship Program for UK

Alltech initiated its Margin of Excellence program by naming Anne Koontz its first Alltech - University of Kentucky Margin of Excellence Fellow. The Margin of Excellence program was developed by Alltech to reward dedication of graduate students

in the study of science while promoting technology and development in Kentucky. The fellowship is a stipend of \$40,000 per year for a maximum of five years for each graduate fellow. This stipend is in addition to any awards given by the university. In addition to the yearly stipend of \$40,000, the fellowship provides funds for travel to conferences and other laboratories, bonuses for extraordinary performance, mentoring, and unique links to the industry.

6. UK Cuts Ribbon to Mark Official Opening of Limestone Crossing

President Todd, former UK trustee Alice Sparks, and more than 250 Limestone Crossing Priority Club members officially opened the Limestone Crossing Welcome Center and model during a ribbon cutting ceremony September 4. It is located near Brannon Crossing retail center in Jessamine County. Limestone Crossing, a Life Fulfilling Community® initiated by UK, will be geared to those 62 and older and will focus on lifelong learning, personal growth, and optimal health in life's later years. Limestone Crossing will be the only community of its kind in the area, offering members distinctive benefits that include state-of-the-art amenities and a Health Assurance Guarantee contract that will ensure access to unlimited private care accommodations in assisted living and skilled nursing. Members of the community will also have exclusive privileges at UK, which include being able to audit classes, use research facilities, and attend sporting and cultural events, among other things.

7. Former UK Golfer J.B. Holmes Helps Americans Take Ryder Cup

Former UK golfer J.B. Holmes was one of two Kentucky natives on this year's successful Ryder Cup team, which took the prized cup from the European team for the first time since 1999. Holmes and fellow Kentuckian Kenny Perry helped the American team maintain the crowd's enthusiasm during the biennial event, held at Louisville's Valhalla Golf Club in mid-September. As a member of the winning team, Holmes was able to designate \$200,000 to charities of his choice; part of his allocation, \$90,000, was directed to UK. Meanwhile, the UK Wildcat Marching Band performed during the Ryder Cup's opening ceremony.

8. UK Creates Third Fine Arts Extension Agent Post in Muhlenberg County

UK established the third Cooperative Extension Service agent focusing on the fine arts, assigning the agent to Muhlenberg County. Funding to establish a fine arts agent in Muhlenberg County is coming from the private sector. The Office of Development is coordinating the fundraising efforts for the position and currently the program is scheduled to be up and running by January 1, 2009. In April 2005, UK became the first and only land-grant university in the nation to create a Fine Arts Extension Program when Stephanie Richards was hired as the first agent charged with developing an innovative program to strengthen the arts in Pike County. The program is now known as Pike Arts. Two years later, another location in Greenup County became the second Extension office to hire a fine arts agent, Cora Hughes.

9. UK Researchers Explore Drug to Prevent Cocaine Overdose Effects

Devastating bodily harm caused by cocaine overdose may soon be avoided because of new drug discovery made by UK researchers. By tweaking a naturally occurring enzyme, Chang-Guo Zhan, professor in the UK College of Pharmacy, and his colleagues created a molecule that could flush a cocaine overdose out of the body before it can cause irreparable damage to the body. Currently, doctors can only try to relieve the symptoms of a cocaine overdose. If the enzyme undergoing research works in humans, it could remove the drug from a user's body. Enzymes in the body combine cocaine with water and then, over a sequence of reaction steps, break it down into two harmless products. However, this process takes up to 90 minutes to dispose half of even a tiny dose, and much longer for a large overdose. Zhan says the molecule his team created can break down cocaine much faster.

10. Sanders-Brown Dinner Features Columnist William Safire as Speaker

William Safire, renowned columnist, author, and speaker, will be the guest speaker for the UK Sanders-Brown Center on Aging Foundation's 22nd annual dinner on Thursday, October 16, at the Marriott Griffin Gate Resort in Lexington. Safire is a winner of the 1978 Pulitzer Prize for distinguished commentary and in 2006 was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He was also a senior White House speechwriter for President Nixon and the author of *Freedom*, a novel of Lincoln and the Civil War. In 1972, Safire became a political columnist for *The New York Times* and continues to write a Sunday column for *The New York Times Magazine*. Safire is chairman of the Dana Foundation and the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives. The Dana Alliance is comprised of more than 265 neuroscientists dedicated to raising awareness of the latest progress in brain research.

11. Three College of Design Grads Take Prizes at Furniture Design Contest

Three recent UK graduates took home honors at Design Emphasis 2008, a prestigious furniture design competition that annually features furniture pieces designed and built by students from colleges and universities throughout the U.S. presented in conjunction with the International Woodworking Fair (IWF). The winners were among seven College of Design finalists selected for the juried exhibition held Aug. 19-23, in Atlanta. UK's group was the third largest university delegation of finalists at Design Emphasis 2008. The three UK students taking honors in one of the six competition categories were Daniel Thornberry of Winchester, who took first place in the contract furniture category winning a \$1,200 cash prize; Joseph Bischoff of Louisville, who was presented with a merit award in the design creativity category and a \$500 cash prize; and Paul Masterson of Lexington, who received an honorable mention nod in the design creativity category and a \$300 cash prize. Overall, UK tied with Georgia Tech for the most students earning prize money across the six categories. The other four finalists from UK's Furniture Studio competing in the juried exhibition were Edward Roberts of Mt. Sterling; Lindsey Todderud of Fishers, Indiana; Seth Twardy of Lexington; and Kevin Zwick of Florissant, Missouri. The UK Furniture Studio is under the direction of

Professor Leonard Wujcik. All of UK's seven finalists graduated with bachelor's degrees in architecture in 2008.

12. UK Gets \$2 Million EPA Grant to Study Nanoparticles' Effect on Brain

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded the largest single EPA Science to Achieve Results (STAR) grant for the study of nanotechnology to UK. The \$2 million grant will be used to investigate how the sizes and shapes of nanoparticles affect their ability to enter the brain. The research team is a multi-collaborative effort led by Robert Yokel, professor in the department of pharmaceutical sciences at UK's College of Pharmacy. The team includes expertise from UK's Center for Applied Energy Research, chemistry, engineering and the department of anatomical sciences at the University of Louisville's School of Medicine. The research team, led by Yokel, will study potential health impacts of nano-sized cerium oxide, as a model (or example) of nanoscale material. It is used as a diesel fuel additive. Used presently in Europe, it is claimed to improve fuel efficiency, suppress soot from exhaust and reduce the concentration of other ultra-fine particles in air that have known health effects. The research project will be funded for four years.

13. Oral History Collection Showcases Kentucky's Horse Industry

An oral history collection on the horse industry in Kentucky will showcase the bond forged between the horse and the Commonwealth. For the past two years the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History has been recording the stories of Kentuckians who work with horses. The resulting 110 hours of interviews with 37 individuals represents both racing and non-racing breeds. The Horse Industry in Kentucky Oral History Project is guided by an advisory committee comprised of industry representatives and chaired by bloodstock agent Dan Kenny and honorary chair First Lady Jane Beshear. Among the 37 individuals whose stories have been recorded are Alice Headley Chandler, William McGee, Mackenzie Miller, Ted Bassett, Henry White, Ted Bates, Harry Scott Jr., Tom Embry, Edward Teater, Redd Crabtree, Joan Hamilton, H.T. Derickson, and Bennie Sargent. Transcripts of interviews will be available to the public later this year. Brief excerpts from several of the interviews are on video and can be viewed online at [www.uky.edu/libraries/nunncenter](http://www.uky.edu/libraries/nunncenter). The project received initial funding from the Kentucky Equine Education Project. Additional funding has been provided by the Keeneland Association, Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, Kentucky Downs, Kentucky Oral History Commission, and individual contributors.

14. Appellate Judge Discusses Racial Fairness at UK Law Courtroom

UK Libraries and the UK College of Law presented a talk September 17 titled "Racial Fairness Commission: What is fair, what is just?" by Judge Denise Clayton, the first African-American woman appointed to the Kentucky Court of Appeals. Clayton detailed the work of the commission, created in 2001 by Chief Justice Joseph E. Lambert of the Kentucky Supreme Court to review racial fairness in the courts of Jefferson County. Prompted by complaints of unfairness from the African-American community,

the commission was asked to study sentencing, bail, jury selection, and courtroom environment. Clayton, who has chaired the commission since 2005, discussed three reports issued by the commission on sentencing, bail and jury selection. The commission's findings and recommendations have proven to be significant beyond the borders of Jefferson County, reflected in changes to administrative procedures and in proposed legislation for the entire state of Kentucky.

15. Students, Public Are Treated to Complete Reading of Homer's *Iliad*

The Gaines Center for the Humanities presented a free public performance by noted film and television actor Eldon Quick of book one of Homer's *The Iliad* on September 8 in the Worsham Theater in the UK Student Center. The following week, the center invited the public to a reading of the entire epic poem by several community leaders, local celebrities, and students on September 15 on the lawn of the Singletary Center for the Arts. The events were co-sponsored by the Honors Program and the Classics Division of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages.

16. UK Agriculture Team Joins National Center to Study Nanoparticles' Effects

A team of UK College of Agriculture scientists will join colleagues from other institutions to explore the potential ecological hazards of nanoparticles. The National Science Foundation and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have awarded \$14.4 million to create the national Center for Environmental Implications of NanoTechnology. Paul Bertsch, a UK soil scientist, will lead the Kentucky team collaborating with the Duke University-based center. Nanoparticles are as much as a million times smaller than the head of a pin, and have unusual properties compared with larger objects made from the same material. These unusual properties make nanomaterials attractive for use in everything from computer hard drives to sunscreens, cosmetics, and medical technologies. However, the environmental implications of these materials are virtually unknown. The research team plans to define the relationship between a vast array of nanomaterials - from natural to manmade to incidental byproduct nanoparticles - and their potential environmental exposure, biological effects, and ecological consequences. Nanomaterials that are already in commercial use as well as several present in nature will be among the first materials studied.

17. Resonance House Project Wins National Award for 'Green Homebuilding'

Resonance House, located in downtown Lexington and built through a partnership that included the UK College of Design, was awarded LEED® Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). The certification is for achievement in green homebuilding in the LEED for Homes program. LEED for Homes is a national third-party certification system for energy efficient, healthy, green homes. Resonance House is the first and only Kentucky home to be certified by the USGBC to date. Other partners included the private nonprofit Design Lab Inc. Gregory Luhan, the Kentucky Housing Corporation-John Russell Groves Professor in Affordable Housing Design and the associate dean for research at the College of Design, led the collaborative effort, which

included assistance from several local professionals, UK faculty members, and more than 40 students studying architecture, interior design and historic preservation at the college.

18. Author Joyce Carol Oates Headlines Kentucky Women Writers Conference

The Kentucky Women Writers Conference returned to the Bluegrass September 11 through 13. The longest running event of its kind, it is a premier destination for women writers at all stages of development — published and unpublished. This year’s conference was headlined by author Joyce Carol Oates and poet Natasha Trethewey, and also featured such renowned writers as Samantha Thornhill, Laura Benedict, Malín Alegría, and Kim Osorio.

19. UK Law Grad Honored with \$250,000 Heinz Award for the Environment

Thomas J. FitzGerald, UK Law ’80, founder and director of the Kentucky Resources Council, has been selected to receive the 14th annual Heinz Award for the Environment, among the largest individual achievement prizes in the world. FitzGerald has dedicated his career to helping citizens and organizations within Kentucky and across the country secure full and fair implementation of policies intended to safeguard their health, safety, and quality of life. He is an authority on the enforcement of the national Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, the federal law designed to protect against the adverse environmental and societal effects of surface coal mining operations, as well as other regulatory issues affecting the environment.

20. UK Art Museum Presents ‘Master Works by Kentucky Painters’

The UK Art Museum opened a new show of more than a century of Kentucky’s artistic heritage titled “Master Works by Kentucky Painters, 1819-1935” on September 14. The exhibition features portraits, landscapes, still lifes and historical subjects by artists who lived or worked in Kentucky. “Master Works,” which runs through November 30, showcases paintings from private collections and public institutions as well as the museum’s own holdings. The opening reception for the show, co-sponsored by the Gaines Center for the Humanities, included readings by Jane Gentry Vance, poet laureate of Kentucky and English professor, and writer Ed McClanahan and traditional music performed by the Wild Horse Trio.

21. Student Awards and Achievements

Kevin Fox, Education, recently was awarded a \$1,000 grant from the National Education Association as part of their CLASS (Community Learning through America’s Schools) program.

Donnie Keathley, Electrical Engineering, received a \$10,000 Astronaut Scholarship from the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation. Apollo 14 astronaut Edgar Mitchell made the presentation to Keathley during a visit to campus September 18. The Astronaut Scholarship is the largest monetary award given in the United States to science and engineering undergraduate students based solely on merit. Nineteen scholarships are

dispersed each year through the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation to outstanding college students majoring in a science or engineering field.

Xuwei Liang, Computer Science doctoral student, and Jun Zhang, Computer Science professor, were recognized for a paper selected as one of the two at the 2008 International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biomedical Engineering, Shanghai, China, May 15-18, 2008. The paper, titled "White matter integrity analysis along the cingulum paths in mild cognitive impairment - a geodesic distance approach," was selected from approximately 2,200 submitted papers.

Natasha Mamaril, Educational Psychology graduate student, recently received a 2008-2009 International Fellowship from the American Association for University Women in the amount of \$18,000. Formerly a biochemical engineer for 3M, Mamaril will spend her fellowship year conducting a thesis project titled "Through the Pipeline: A Qualitative Investigation of Women's Success in Engineering."

Forty UK freshmen, 20 from the College of Engineering and 20 from the Gatton College of Business and Economics, were welcomed into the Scholars in Engineering and Management (SEAM) program August 22. The College of Engineering and the Gatton College partnered to develop SEAM, a unique program aimed at preparing students to enter the cross-disciplinary environment of leading technology companies. Michael Bowling, a UK graduate in electrical engineering and now vice president of entertainment strategy and portal services for AT&T Entertainment Services, encouraged the students to get involved in campus activities and take advantage of their time at UK.

## 22. Faculty and Staff Awards and Achievements

Aaron Beighle, Kinesiology and Health Promotion, co-authored a recently published book titled *Promoting Physical Activity & Health in the Classroom*.

Craig N. Carter, Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center, was inducted as a Distinguished Practitioner in the National Academies of Practice, Veterinary Medicine category. He also received a Bronze Star Medal for his U.S. Army Reserve deployment to Iraq, March through July, 2008.

Deborah Chung, Journalism and Telecommunications, presented several papers and posters at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication meeting in Chicago this summer.

Carol Cottrill, Pediatric Cardiology, has been named the 2008 recipient of the Catholic Church Extension Society's Lumen Christi Award for her lifesaving ministry in the mission areas of Appalachia and her generous presence in caring for poor families in desperate need of medical care. The national award, which means "Light of Christ" is presented annually by Catholic Extension to recognize outstanding missionary work in America. This year marks the 31st annual Lumen Christi Award given by Catholic Extension.

Judy Goldsmith, Computer Science, co-organized a doctoral consortium at the International Conference on Automated Planning and Scheduling in Sydney, Australia, in September.

Paul Goodrum, Civil Engineering, received the 2008 Outstanding Researcher Award from the Construction Industry Institute.



Don Gross, Political Science, was quoted by McClatchy News Service in a story on presidential elections and Kentucky politics. Gross has also appeared on National Public Radio and FOX News as a political analyst.

Jane Hayes, Computer Science, is the principal investigator on a \$750,000 collaborative grant from the National Science Foundation. The three-year grant, titled “Traceability+: a Service Oriented Framework to Support Value-Added Software Traceability,” also involves researchers at DePaul and Kent State Universities.

Phillip Hutchison, Journalism and Telecommunications, presented “Greater Satisfaction through Consumption: Exploring Alternative Textual Strategies Implicit in eBay.com.” at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication meeting.

Wayne Karem, Michael Kalinski and Donn Hancher, Civil Engineering, have written a paper selected to receive the Outstanding Paper Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers *Journal of Performance of Constructed Facilities*. The paper, “Settlement of Mine Spoil Fill from Water Infiltration: Case Study in Eastern Kentucky,” was part of Karem’s Ph.D. work under the direction of Kalinski and Hancher.

Debby Keen, Paul Piwowarski, and Jerzy Jaromczyk, Computer Science conducted several outreach events for high school and middle school students, including a programming event for the Student Technology Leadership Program Conference at Heritage Hall in early May.

Tom Lindlof, Journalism and Telecommunications, has been invited to join in the editorial board of *Southern Communication Journal* for two special issues on the topic of qualitative communication studies.

Tom Lindlof, Journalism and Telecommunications, has published the book *Hollywood Under Siege: Martin Scorsese, the Religious Right, and the Culture Wars* through University Press of Kentucky this summer. The book, which examines the controversy surrounding the making and the release of the 1988 film “The Last Temptation of Christ,” has earned critical acclaim from book critics across the country including the *Los Angeles Times*.

Stephen McMurry, Regulatory Services, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Association of American Feed Control Officials. The award was given for outstanding service performed in developing and implementing a two-phase inspector training program now used by all 50 states.

Pater D. Nagy, Plant Pathology, received a 4-year, \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to study the role of a hot ion pump in RNA virus recombination.

Fred Payne, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, is principal investigator, and Christopher Thompson, Regulatory Services, and Brian Luck, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, are co-principal investigators on an 18-month \$1,175,480 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Their research project focuses on the development of an economically viable milk transport security system for securing milk during transport from the farm to the dairy processor.

David Puleo, Center for Biomedical Engineering, was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering. He was recognized for contributions to understanding bone cell-biomaterial interactions and developing methods for manipulating events at the tissue-implant interface.

Daniel Blake Smith, History, received a favorable review in the *Christian Science Monitor* for his book, *The Shipwreck that Saved Jamestown*, published by Henry Holt and Company.

William E. Stilwell, Education emeritus faculty member, is the first recipient and namesake of an award that recognizes technology partnerships. The 2008 Stilwell K-12 Education Technology Partnership Award recognizes outstanding efforts to improve the educational experiences and opportunities for public school students and teachers in Kentucky. The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) plans to present the award on an annual basis. Stilwell retired from UK in 2006, but continues to work on the College of Education Web site and manage listservs, including more than 140 that are specifically geared toward K-12 teachers and administrators. These K-12 listservs provide ways for educators to communicate regularly on topics of importance and share information, ideas and resources among the groups. Currently, the listservs have more than 30,000 subscribers.

Mark Stuhlfaut, Journalism and Telecommunications, presented “Measuring the Immeasurable: Testing the 4-D Model of Advertising Creativity at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication annual meeting. The paper was co-authored by Chan Yun Yoo, Journalism and Telecommunications.

Zixue Tai, Journalism and Telecommunications, presented “Other People’s Watchdog: Chinese Media Freedom in a Fragmented Authoritarian Framework” at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication annual meeting.

Ann Vail, Human Environmental Sciences, received a grant of \$343,470 (U.S. Department of Agriculture monies) through the Kentucky Health Services Cabinet for the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program, a program carried out by UK Cooperative Extension agents and paraprofessionals to teach food stamp recipients and/or eligible clients and schools about proper nutrition.

Ann Vail, Human Environmental Sciences, received a grant of \$602,473 for HEEL, Health Education through Extension Leadership, from the Cooperative State Research, Extension and Education Service, part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Projects funded with this 2008-09 grant include a women’s mental health pilot program in western Kentucky with the UK College of Medicine; a smoking cessation pilot study with the UK College of Nursing; a men’s health educational program in collaboration with the UK College of Public Health; as well as ongoing support of Get Moving Kentucky physical activity programming, diabetes education, cancer education, and parent education focused on improving health outcomes of Kentucky’s children.

Gary Van Zant, Internal Medicine, has received a Senior Scholar Award from the Ellison Medical Foundation. Van Zant received this award to continue his research on the role of the microRNA 290 gene cluster in stem cell and organismal aging. The honor will award Van Zant \$879,000 over four years for his continued research efforts.

Chan Yun Yoo, Journalism and Telecommunications, presented a paper, “Audience Interactivity as Gratification in the Online Newspaper,” that was chosen as one of the Top Three papers for the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication’s Newspaper Division at the association’s annual meeting.

Three members of the University of Kentucky faculty have been awarded prestigious Fulbright grants for the 2008-2009 academic year. They are Bernhard Hennig, Agriculture; Lars Björk, Education; and Sharon Sheahan, Nursing.