

Office of the President
June 9, 2009

1. Nearly 6,000 Receive Degrees at UK's 142nd Commencement

More than 5,900 graduates were recognized at the University of Kentucky's 142nd Commencement ceremony on May 9 in Lexington's Rupp Arena. Those included the spring 2009 graduates as well as those who received their degrees in August and December 2008. Various recognition ceremonies for individual colleges and programs were scheduled as well. Each year one student is chosen to address the graduating class. Drew Trimble, a political science and communication major from Paintsville, Kentucky, was selected from a number of student applicants. William English Kirwan, the third chancellor of the University System of Maryland, presented the Commencement address.

2. UK Forms \$24 Million Carbon Research Group with Industry, Government

The UK Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER) has created a consortium with government agencies and electric utilities and their research organizations to seek cost-effective technologies to reduce and manage carbon dioxide emissions from coal-fired power plants. It is anticipated that Kentucky state government and the industrial partners will provide \$24 million over 10 years to support the research. On April 27, Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear and UK President Lee T. Todd, Jr. announced the consortium, which builds on ongoing carbon management research at CAER initiated by E.ON US in 2006. The consortium is designed to split the cost of research into large-scale carbon dioxide capture systems, which often has shown to be too expensive and risky for a single utility or government agency to undertake. By teaming the state, UK, several electricity-generating companies, and the utilities' national research organization, the consortium will share the costs and risks over the 10-year life of the project. The founding industry members of the consortium are E.ON US, Duke Energy, Kentucky Power Co., East Kentucky Power Cooperative, and the Electric Power Research Institute. Each member will contribute \$200,000 a year to the consortium. The Kentucky Department of Energy Development and Independence has shown its support with a one-to-one match up to \$1 million annually, as approved by the Kentucky General Assembly in the 2008 budget.

3. Three Students Named Beckman Scholars, Will Conduct Mentored Research

UK students Laura Crawford, Jessica Houtz, and Martha "Marti" Robinson have been named the 2009 Beckman Scholars, providing each of them with \$19,300 over 14 months to support their own scientific research projects under faculty mentorship. Crawford, a junior from Corbin majoring in agricultural biotechnology, is performing her project under the mentorship of Diane Snow, professor and researcher in the Spinal Cord

and Brain Injury Research Center. Houtz, a junior majoring in agricultural biotechnology from Lexington, will perform her research under the mentorship of professors Karyn Esser, in the Department of Physiology in the College of Medicine, and Bruce O'Hara, in the Department of Biology in the College of Arts and Sciences. Robinson, a sophomore from Knoxville, Tenn., majoring in biology, is performing her project under the mentorship of Robin Cooper, professor and researcher in the biology department in the College of Arts and Sciences.

4. UK Sports Teams Surpass NCAA Target for Academic Progress

The NCAA released its Academic Progress Rate report this spring, showing that all 22 of the University of Kentucky sports teams surpassed the NCAA target score and that 12 of the 22 squads exceeded the national average for public universities in their sports. The women's soccer team led the way for UK with 983 out of a possible 1,000 points, followed by women's swimming (981), men's basketball (979), women's outdoor track (977), gymnastics (977), and men's cross country (975). The marks are a four-year composite, covering the 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08 school years, that measures academic eligibility and retention of student-athletes. The NCAA target score for each sport is 925. The 12 Wildcat teams that exceeded the national average among public universities in their sports included baseball (949), men's basketball (979), women's basketball (973), men's cross country (975), football (948), women's soccer (983), women's swimming (981), men's indoor track (967), women's indoor track (972), men's outdoor track (970), women's outdoor track (977), and rifle (967). From a department-wide standpoint, the current report can be considered UK's most successful in the five-year history of the APR.

5. Three UK Students Receive Fulbright Scholarships for Study Abroad

Three UK students will receive government-funded Fulbright Scholarships for graduate study and research abroad for the 2009-2010 academic year. UK's new Fulbright fellows are: Allison Harnish, a doctoral student studying anthropology and gender and women's studies, who will do research in Zambia; Ross Lovely, a College of Law and Patterson School for Diplomacy and International Commerce graduate, who will work on his Master of Laws degree in polar law in Iceland; and Aelega Schortman, a doctoral student in anthropology, who will do research in Honduras. The Fulbright Fellowship Program, funded by Congress, is a national grant competition for U.S. citizens or permanent residents to work and/or study abroad during the course of their studies or after graduation. Grants cover travel and living costs for the academic year and necessary tuition at overseas universities. The goal of the program is to increase understanding between the United States and foreign countries. Selection for any Fulbright Student Program emphasizes leadership potential, academic and/or professional excellence, and commitment to mutual understanding.

6. Two UK Alzheimer's Disease Researchers Ranked in the Top 100 Worldwide

UK researchers William Markesbery and Allan Butterfield have been ranked among the top 100 researchers in the world for the productivity and impact of their scientific study of Alzheimer's disease. The study ranking the researchers is published in the current issue of the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*. Markesbery, ranked 23rd on the list, is professor of pathology and neurology in the College of Medicine and director of the UK Sanders-Brown Center on Aging. Butterfield, ranked 39th on the list, is the UK Alumni Association Endowed Professor of Biological Chemistry and director of the UK Center of Membrane Sciences. Having two such researchers in the top-100 Alzheimer's researchers worldwide puts UK in the company of Columbia University, the University of California at San Francisco, and Johns Hopkins University.

7. UK Startup Officer Presents Plant-based Technology at BIO Convention

John Littleton, a UK pharmacy professor and chief scientific officer of Naprogenix Inc., presented his new plant-based technology at the BIO International Convention, "Heat, Fuel, Feed the World," in Atlanta last month. The invitation to present was one of only two dozen invitations extended from the editors at *Genetic Engineering*. Also attending BIO from UK were Commercialization & Economic Development Vice President Len Heller, Dean Harvey, Deb Weis, Taunya Phillips, and Tina Carpenter; Engineering Associate Dean Eric Grulke; Kentucky Tobacco Research and Development Center Director Maelor Davies; and representatives from UK startups Naprogenix, Scout Diagnostics, and Coldstream Laboratories Inc. UK was in the international exhibition under the umbrella of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and co-sponsored an invitation-only reception hosted by Governor Beshear. An estimated 20,000 biotech industry leaders attended the convention at the Georgia World Congress Center.

8. College of Design Develops Initiative on Energy Initiatives

In response to the green movement worldwide, the UK College of Design has developed an initiative focused on how design affects and can respond to issues associated with energy initiatives both locally and beyond. This program, Design + Energy Initiatives, and the college's response to some of those energy questions over the past year were the focus of a free public exhibit held May 8 at the LOT, in downtown Lexington. To properly study and respond to concerns surrounding energy initiatives the College of Design has entered into strategic partnerships with a number of energy researchers, providers, and manufacturers to launch their Design + Energy Initiatives program. Projects featured in the exhibit included the Henderson Project; Solar Decathlon; Project Aeolus; Urban Renewal Furniture Prototypes; and Fly Ash Furniture Prototypes.

9. Gaines Center Selects 12 Undergraduates for 2009-10, 2010-11 Academic Years

The Gaines Center for the Humanities has selected 12 outstanding undergraduates as new scholars for the university's Gaines Fellowship Program for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 academic years. Gaines Fellowships recognize students' outstanding academic performance, demonstrated ability to conduct independent research, interest in public issues, and desire to enhance understanding of the human condition through the humanities. Fellowships are awarded for the tenure of a student's junior and senior years, or for the last two years of a five-year program. The Gaines Fellowship carries a stipend of \$2,000 in a scholar's junior year and \$3,000 in the senior year. The 12 students selected as Gaines Scholars are as follows: Ben Barnes of Katherine, Australia, majoring in kinesiology; James Chapman of Hopkinsville, majoring in political science and international studies; Kit Donohue of Lexington, majoring in international studies and mathematics; Jason Grant of Lexington, majoring in English, linguistics, and French; Nazeeha Jawahir of Lexington, majoring in chemistry and philosophy; Bailey Johnson of Lexington, majoring in English; Rachel Keller of Harrodsburg, majoring in international economics, Spanish, and English; Christina Kuchle of Fort Mitchell, majoring in forestry and natural resource conservation management; Jonathan Laurel of Mason, Ohio, majoring in architecture; Raven Newberry of Paducah, majoring in geography; Katherine Reynolds of Bowling Green, majoring in history and anthropology; and Stephanie Straub of Florence, majoring in English and philosophy.

10. National Battery Manufacturing Research, Development Center to Be Established

The state, UK, and the University of Louisville are partnering with Argonne National Laboratory to establish a battery center that will be situated next to the Center for Applied Energy Research off Ironworks Pike. The partnership will develop a domestic supply of advanced battery technologies for transportation applications that will support U.S. energy independence, reduce greenhouse gases, and strengthen the economy. The center will benefit from the expertise of the CAER's Electrochemical Group, headed by Steve Lipka, the recent recipient of a \$1.2 million award from utility giant E.ON AG of Dusseldorf, Germany, to investigate innovative energy-storage technology ideas.

11. UK Symphony Orchestra's CD Wins Rave Review in *Fanfare*

UK Symphony Orchestra, conductor John Nardolillo, and featured guest performers the UK Women's Choir under the direction of Lori Hetzel, received great reviews for the CD *Epoch - An American Dance Symphony*, featuring the work of composer George Frederick McKay. The most recent review was in the March/April issue of *Fanfare* magazine. The full-page review by Ronald E. Grames compliments the UK Symphony Orchestra and Women's Choir saying, "The performance by Nardolillo and his presumably student orchestra is first-rate. If I had not known, I would have assumed both the orchestra and chorus to be professional." *Epoch* was recorded in 2007 at the Singletary Center for the Arts. The CD from the recording was released in September 2008 by the Naxos record label.

12. Gatton Team Tops National Powers in Supply Chain Competition

A student team from the Gatton College of Business and Economics took top honors recently at an undergraduate supply chain competition hosted by Michigan State University's Eli Broad College of Business. The two-member team of Matthew Choyce, a senior majoring in management, and Ryan Hayes, a senior majoring in decision science and information systems, took on students from 12 other universities across the country in the competition, which involved managing a complex global supply chain through 13 simulated weeks of decisions. Teams were measured on total revenue, order fulfillment, inventory turns, and a profit figure the Broad School calls 'supply chain contribution.' This first-place finish comes just a few months after a three-person team from Gatton, including Hayes, placed fourth nationally as a team in a *Wall Street Journal*-sponsored business quiz competition held at Ohio State's Fisher College of Business.

13. Student Wins Goldwater Scholarship, While Another Gets Honorable Mention

Junior Lesley Jaye Mann, of Calhoun, Kentucky, was named a 2009 Goldwater Scholar and UK sophomore Jenna Shapiro, of Versailles, Ky., received honorable mention recognition by the esteemed scholarship program. Mann was among 278 students nationwide awarded the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship this year. This year's Goldwater Scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit from a field of 1,097 mathematics, science and engineering students who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide. Mann, who is majoring in agricultural biotechnology, has been very involved in undergraduate research since arriving on campus her freshman year and currently is doing research as part of the UK Department of Plant Pathology in the College of Agriculture. Last year, Mann was named a Beckman Scholar here at UK. Mann is a member of the Honors Program and president of the Society for the Promotion of Undergraduate Research (SPUR), where she works to ensure other undergraduates obtain valuable research experience in their area of studies at the university. Shapiro is currently pursuing a chemical engineering major and is a member of both the UK Chapter of the Society of Women Engineers and Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society. She does her undergraduate research at UK's Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Research Center and Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering.

14. KGS Hosts Two Lectures by Chinese Seismic Research Partners

Two researchers from China's Lanzhou Institute for Seismology presented lectures at the Kentucky Geological Survey on April 27. The institute director, Lanmin Wang, spoke about the effects of the major earthquake in China in 2008 on buildings and infrastructure; Zhijian Wu, who had worked as a visiting scholar at KGS in 2006, talked about his work on the problem of permafrost thawing under the rail bed of the Qinghai-Tibet Railroad. KGS has an ongoing earthquake research partnership with the institute.

15. UK Monoclonal Antibody Receives FDA Orphan Drug Status

Using a monoclonal antibody developed at UK, Tolera Therapeutics Inc. has been granted “orphan drug status” by the FDA for TOL101, which is designed to prevent acute rejection of organ transplants. TOL101 is a biologic protein that is designed to safely and specifically target T cells, components of the immune system which play a key role in the rejection, and ultimate failure, of transplanted organs. The monoclonal antibody used in the development of TOL101 was developed by Dr. John Thompson, director of research at the VA Hospital and former UK College of Medicine chair of internal medicine. Orphan drug status is given to drugs intended to treat rare diseases or conditions – those affecting fewer than 200,000 people annually in the U.S. – and will facilitate TOL101’s entry into the clinic.

16. UK Formally Launches Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

UK’s newly approved chapter of Phi Kappa Phi was formally welcomed into the national honor society during ceremonies at the Hilary J. Boone Center in late April. Founded in 1897 at the University of Maine, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation’s oldest, largest, and most selective all-discipline honor society. Each year, approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff, and alumni are initiated into the organization. Its chapters are on more than 300 campuses in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. The program included the installation of the chapter and its initial officers. In addition, the ceremony inducted the inaugural UK members of the chapter: President Lee T. Todd Jr., as the first faculty member; Carl Nathe, with UK Public Relations and Marketing, the first staff member; and two undergraduate in-state students, Jenna Brashear, a rising senior from Beaver Dam, and James Tyler Chapman, a rising junior from Hopkinsville. F. Douglas Scutchfield, Peter P. Bosomworth Professor of Health Services Research and Policy, is the UK chapter’s founding president.

17. Small Business Center Recognizes 10 High Performing Kentucky Businesses

The Kentucky Small Business Development Center inducted 10 businesses into the second class of Kentucky Pacesetters at the Capitol Rotunda in May. The Pacesetter Awards recognize Kentucky businesses that are changing the economic landscape of the Commonwealth by introducing innovative products, increasing sales and/or production, and boosting employment. In addition, all inductees meet the minimum qualifications of a second stage business, including minimum sales of \$500,000, six or more employees, and three or more years in business. This year’s inductees are Bella Rose, Lexington; Celerity Automation, Paintsville; Chaney’s Dairy Barn, Bowling Green; City Wide Maintenance of Cincinnati, Fort Wright; Digitech Services Inc., Glasgow; Light’s Enterprises, Ashland; Comfort Keepers, Owensboro; T.E.M. Electric Co. Inc., Louisville & Lexington; Taylor’s Concrete Cutting Services, LLC, Franklin; and The Combs Group – CBJ Machine & Hydraulics, Pineville. The center is part of UK’s Office for Commercialization & Economic Development.

18. Gatton Launches Student-Run Online Research Journal

Students at the Gatton College of Business and Economics launched the *Gatton Student Research Publication (GSRP)*, an online research journal that highlights research conducted by Gatton undergraduate students, found at Gatton's Web site gatton.uky.edu. *GSRP* seeks to encourage undergraduate research at the Gatton College. Through a student-review process, *GSRP* creates a platform for undergraduate output to become highly visible to the university and to the community.

19. UK Students Take First, Second Places at 'Idea State U'

UK students fared very well in the recent statewide business concept and business plan competition, Idea State U, held at the Lexington Convention Center. UK's undergraduate concept team, "2nd Generation, High Altitude Wind Energy," took first place in its category, earning nearly \$2,500 in award money. Matt Dieruf, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and a freshman electrical engineering major, and, Matthew Menard, a senior marketing and management major in the Gatton College of Business and Economics, combined on the project, which visualizes a company that would produce alternative energy and help Kentucky meet goals for using renewable resources and achieving other objectives. UK's graduate student team, "Mantra Indian Grill," was awarded second place in the business plan division, earning more than \$21,000 toward their future endeavors. The Mantra team was comprised of Matt Cooper, Michael Jones, and Sharath Vemuri, all first-year MBA students. The Mantra trio also won the graduate elevator pitch competition. In addition, Holly Hapke, a lecturer in marketing at the Gatton College, was recognized with a \$250 award as one of the top faculty advisers among all of the schools represented. The Idea State U competition is sponsored by the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development.

20. UK Libraries Collaborates on Web Site Offering Resources on Kentucky History

UK Libraries Special Collections and Digital Programs collaborated with Kentucky Virtual Library and the Kentucky Department of Education to create Kyleidoscope, a Web site that provides the state's K-12 educators and students convenient access to some of Kentucky's most unique resources that span history from 1750 to today. Kyleidoscope offers historical information organized by theme, instructional worksheets and historical details. The site provides a timeline of Kentucky's history divided into themes or eras and links to Web resources on those events.

21. UK Libraries, Tates Creek High School Present Video Exhibit of Artwork

UK Libraries and Tates Creek High School are presenting a first-ever video exhibition of artwork by high school students in the William T. Young Library. The free public exhibition showcasing local students' art opened May 11 and will be on display through June 12 in The Hub @ WT's. UK Libraries invited Tates Creek High School Art Department to exhibit student works this spring in The Hub's video windows, thus making the school the first Lexington high school to mount an art exhibition in Young

Library. The video representation features pencil drawings, chalk pastels, tempera paintings, India ink, and ceramics from approximately 150 students that will be on display as part of the exhibition. Students represented in the show take Art I, Drawing I and Beginning Ceramics classes with art instructors Janet Wozniak and Michael Holdren of Bates Creek High.

22. UK HealthCare, Lexington Legends Offer Baby-changing Stations at Ballpark

UK HealthCare is teaming up with the Lexington Legends for a second year to provide baby changing stations at Applebee's Park for the 2009 baseball season. The UK HealthCare-Lexington Legends matchup also includes a promotion known as "Lexington's Little Legend." This year's participant is Jack Andrew Turner, born at UK Chandler Hospital on the Legends' opening day, April 13, 2009. Baby Jack came into the world weighing 8-pounds, 0-ounces and was 21.5 inches long, to his parents, Andy and Lauralee Turner of Lexington. The Legends will also feature pictures of Jack on their jumbotron as he grows throughout the season. The UK Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology's partnership with the Lexington Legends is part of an effort to get the message out about the services the department provides.

23. Student Awards and Achievements

Eli Darby and Ryan Holman, Mechanical Engineering, have been accepted into the United States Navy Nuclear Propulsion Officer Program. These students were not only accepted into the nuclear program, they also were offered teaching positions at the Navy Nuclear Training Facility in Charleston, South Carolina.

Phillip Donald Keathley, Electrical and Computer Engineering, received a National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship. The award from U.S. Department of Defense is for three years at the institution of his choice and covers full tuition plus a \$31,000 per year stipend. He is one of about 200 students nationwide to receive the fellowship and, based on historical data, only one of about 20 electrical engineers.

Regan Merkel and Christopher Schaefer, Law, took second place in the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL) National Trial Competition. The competition is the most prestigious law school trial competition in the nation with more than 300 teams and 1,000 students competing on behalf of approximately 150 law schools. In addition to the team's success as the second best trial program in the nation, Schaefer was awarded the George A. Spiegelberg Award. The Spiegelberg award is personally selected by fellows of the ACTL and given to the student who served as the best advocate in the nation. The Trial Team is coached by Professor Allison Connelly.

24. Faculty and Staff Awards and Achievements

Ron Atwood, Education Emeritus Faculty, received the Honorary Emeritus Member Award from the Association for Science Teacher Education (ASTE) for his years of service and commitment to teaching, research, and ASTE.

Craig N. Carter, Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center, was inducted as a Distinguished Scholar into the national Academy of Practice. Only 150 scientists serve in this capacity at any one time in the United States. Dr. Carter, who is a U.S. Army Reserve Colonel, was presented with a Joint Service Commendation medal for a combat deployment to Iraq in 2008 and received the Legion of Merit upon his retirement ceremony at Army Reserve Medical Command March 22.

Sylvia Daunert, Chemistry and Membrane Sciences, was recently honored with the 2009 Bill Barfield Award for Outstanding Contributions in Water Resources Research from the Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute. She also received UK's 2009 Albert and Elizabeth Kirwan Award.

Elizabeth Easter, Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles, received the George E. Mitchell Jr. Award for Outstanding Faculty Service to Graduate Students from Gamma Sigma Delta, UK Chapter.

Ronald D. Eller, History, was presented with the East Kentucky Leadership Foundation's annual "private individual" award. The honor recognizes individuals whose private service is dedicated to the betterment of the region. Former director of UK's Appalachian Center, Eller is the author of *Uneven Ground: Appalachia since 1945*, which was released last fall. Eller's book recently received the Appalachian Studies Association and Berea College's Weatherford Award.

Tom Guskey, Education Emeritus Faculty, was named to the American Education Research Association's second class of Fellows, one of the highest honors an educational researcher can receive in AERA. The program seeks to honor accomplished education researchers and show new scholars the importance of sustained research contributions.

Rick Honaker, Mining Engineering, was awarded the 2009 Distinguished Service Award from the Coal & Energy Division of the Society of Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

Reinette Jones and Rob Aken, UK Libraries, developed the Notable Kentucky African American database, which won the 2009 Gale Cengage Learning Award for Excellence in Reference and Adult Library Services. UK Libraries will receive the award and \$3,000, courtesy of the Cengage Gale Learning Company, at the July American Library Association awards ceremony in Chicago.

Everett McCorvey, UK Opera Theatre and Lexington Opera Society Endowed Chair in Opera Studies at UK School of Music, was presented with a Kentucky Star Award. The annual awards honor native Kentuckians or 10-year residents who have achieved significant artistic contributions throughout their lifetime. Winners of the Kentucky Star are honored with a bronze star shaped plaque with their name and signature that is embedded into the sidewalk in various locations in downtown Lexington.

Krish Muralidhar, Management, has been appointed to serve a three-year term on the Committee on Privacy and Confidentiality in Statistics of the American Statistical Association (ASA). The ASA is widely considered to be the nation's leading professional association for statistics and appointment to one of its committees is a mark of educational and professional excellence and prestige.

Hatim A. Omar, Adolescent Medicine, received the 2009 William E. Lyons Award from the UK Martin School of Public Policy and Administration. The Lyons Award, named in honor of the late William "Bill" E. Lyons, professor of political science and public administration, is presented annually to a member of the university

community who epitomizes the academic leadership and public service demonstrated by Lyons during his many years as a faculty member at UK.

Melynda J. Price, Law, organized the symposium “Imprisoned by the Past: The Enduring Role of Race in the American Death Penalty” while serving as a visiting professor at University of Texas. She joined the opening panel along with Kentucky Chief Justice Lambert, Steve McGonigle of the *Dallas Morning News*, and Liz Semel who runs the Capital Defense Clinic at Berkeley.

Robert G. Schwemm, Ashland Professor of Law, has been asked to write an article for the *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review* relating to discriminatory/predatory lending and the current economic crisis.

Pam Sigler, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension, received the 2009 Outstanding Extension Specialist award from the Kentucky Association of State Extension Professionals.

Carol Spence, Agricultural Communications Services, was awarded First Place for Best Use of Sound from the Kentucky Associated Press Broadcasters for her radio feature titled “Song of May: Periodical Cicadas Return.”

Laura Stephenson, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension, received a \$90,890 grant for investor education for college students. This project will target UK students and provide investment education via online coursework and classroom instruction and support.

Tammy Stephenson, Nutrition and Food Science, was named Outstanding Faculty Mentor for 2009 by the UK Office of eUreKa! and Society for the Promotion of Undergraduate Research.

Ann Vail, Human Environmental Sciences and assistant director of Family and Consumer Sciences Extension, was presented with the 2009 Visionary Leader Award by the Epsilon Sigma Phi Alpha Kappa Chapter.

Paul Warner, Program and Staff Development in the College of Agriculture, received the 2009 Southern Region Extension Directors Excellence in Leadership Award.

Youling L. Xiong, Animal and Food Sciences and Membrane Sciences, received the Thomas Poe Cooper Award in the College of Agriculture.