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Office of the President  
April 27, 2010

1. UK Reaffirmation of SACS Accreditation Process Commences

The University of Kentucky is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges to award Associate's, Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees. Accreditation must be reaffirmed every 10 years by a peer review process that includes preparing a Compliance Certification and a long-range Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to improve student learning. Reaffirmation of UK will take place in 2013. Due to the time needed to develop the QEP, a new SACS requirement, UK has initiated the reaffirmation process by appointing a Leadership Team, chaired by President Todd, and a QEP Topic Selection Team, co-chaired by Dr. Deanna Sellnow, faculty in Communication, College of Communications and Information Studies, and Dr. Diane Snow, faculty in Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Research, College of Medicine. Over the next year, members of the QEP Topic Selection Team will review student learning assessment results and engage the entire university community and its stakeholders in a discussion about how student learning can be improved at the University of Kentucky. Regular updates on the progress of the QEP and the reaffirmation process will be provided at future Board meetings.

2. UK Medicine Alumni Generate \$6.3 Billion, Create Nearly 50,000 Jobs in Kentucky

In total, 2,730 University of Kentucky College of Medicine alumni currently practice across the Commonwealth, generating \$6.3 billion annually into Kentucky's economy and creating at least 49,140 jobs, according to UK's Office of Health Research and Development. The University of Kentucky's Office of Health Research and Development defines the alumni's impact into their local economies as the spending for capital improvements, goods, and services; by staff; by the physicians and their families; by patients; by visitors to the patients in hospitals; and by students and residents who may work with a physician in a community. College of Medicine alumni are currently practicing – and impacting communities – in 88 percent of Kentucky's counties.

3. UK Nursing Researcher Wins \$1.9 Million from NIH for Cardio Research in Prisons

UK College of Nursing researcher Debra Moser has been awarded \$1.9 million by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Nursing Research to implement a cardiovascular risk reduction intervention in four Kentucky Department of Corrections state-run prisons. The intervention consists of a 12-week program of health education with behavior change strategy sessions delivered by certified health educators and an aerobic exercise program led by exercise specialists. Short- and long-term effects will be measured immediately after the 12-week intervention and three months later. At least 400 inmates will be involved from four state prisons. The program will focus on teaching participants self-responsibility for managing

their cardiovascular health and provide knowledge and skills for cardiovascular risk reduction in prison once released from prison. The study is currently in progress and will run through January 2012.

4. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Holds Roundtable at UK

John Fernandez, assistant secretary for economic development for the U.S. Department of Commerce and head of the Economic Development Administration, held a roundtable discussion at UK on the role of technology commercialization and entrepreneurship in economic development. UK President Lee T. Todd, Jr. invited Fernandez to campus when they met at a recent summit in Washington, D.C. Invited state, local, and UK leaders along with entrepreneurs from UK spinoff companies participated in the discussion. Fernandez also visited Escent Technologies in UK's ASTeCC campus incubator, one of UK's most recent spinoffs from engineering and pharmacy. Since 2006 UK's Von Allmen Center for Entrepreneurship in the Office for Commercialization & Economic Development has partnered with the EDA in their University Technology Center program to broaden and strengthen Kentucky's economy and create jobs.

5. Senior Lesley Mann Wins Prestigious Scholarship for Graduate Study at Cambridge

Lesley Mann, a UK agricultural biotechnology senior, has been awarded one of only 29 prestigious Gates Cambridge Scholarships presented nationally to students hoping to pursue graduate studies at the University of Cambridge in England. This is the third national scholarship honor bestowed upon Mann, who is a previous recipient of both the Beckman Fellowship and the Goldwater Scholarship. Mann, the daughter of Bobbi and Charlie Mann of Calhoun, Ky., will use the scholarship to Cambridge to study for a master's degree in bioscience enterprise. Mann will join the 28 other U.S. Gates Cambridge Scholars this fall, as the international graduate-study scholarship program celebrates its 10th anniversary. These scholars, from 20 states and 24 colleges and universities, were whittled down from an initial field of around 800 applicants from across the nation and a list of 104 finalists after interviews in Annapolis by four panels of academics and others from Cambridge and several U.S. universities. Mann is one of only seven students representing a public university.

6. 2010's DanceBlue Raises More Than \$636,000 for UK Pediatric Oncology Clinic

With sore feet, worn-out bodies, and emotions running high, committee members revealed a grand fundraising total of \$636,638.58 at the fifth annual DanceBlue dance marathon to a crowd of several thousand people. Whether participating as a dancer, volunteer, committee member, or even just a supporter, DanceBlue is something no one ever forgets, especially the last few hours. With a family talent show featuring children from the clinic and an emotional memorial hour to remember those who have lost their battle with cancer, the reveal was a much anticipated moment. DanceBlue began in 2006 by raising \$123,323.16 and has increased every year. With this year's total, DanceBlue has contributed more than \$2 million to the Golden Matrix Fund and the UK Pediatric Oncology Clinic. Nearly 600 dancers completed DanceBlue. All of the money raised at this annual 24-hour no-sitting, no-sleeping dance marathon benefits children with cancer and their families and cancer research.

7. Gatton College Hosts Former India President Kalam, Holds ‘Global Business’ Forum

As part of an ongoing effort to ensure that its students truly are “world-ready,” the UK Gatton College of Business and Economics is hosting A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, former president of India, for two weeks. As part of President Kalam’s stay, on April 9, the Gatton College held a day-long forum titled “A Global Business Bridge: Linking Kentucky & India” at the Lexington Downtown Hilton. The forum was co-chaired by President Kalam and Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear. The forum sought to develop and deepen strategic business and economic relationships between two of the world’s largest democracies. The program included comprehensive presentations by senior executives and academic thought leaders from both the United States and India, along with breakout panel and discussion groups. Other dignitaries who were scheduled to attend were U.S. Rep. Ben Chandler, Kentucky; U.S. Rep. Jim McDermott, Washington State, founder and co-chair of Congressional India and Indian-Americans Caucus; and Meera Shankar, ambassador of India to the United States. The forum was supported by the Kentucky World Trade Center, Commerce Lexington, Greater Louisville Inc., Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky’s Economic Development Commission.

8. Distinguished Attorney William T. Coleman Jr. Delivers Ray Lecture

The UK College of Law welcomed William T. Coleman, Jr. to campus earlier this month as its Roy R. and Virginia F. Ray Distinguished Lecturer in Memorial Hall. Coleman was the first African American to clerk on the U.S. Supreme Court, and therefore offers inspiration for many who aspire to achieve in the field of law. He has also been the person behind the scenes as adviser and confidant to a number of prominent U.S. government officials. Coleman gave two lectures, titled “Statutes or Regulations Certain U.S. Banking and Investment Systems Should Have” and “Challenges Facing Us over the Next Twenty Years to Remain the Greatest Nation in the World.” A recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, Coleman is a senior partner and the senior counselor in O’Melveny and Meyers’ Washington, D.C. office. A magna cum laude graduate of Harvard Law, he graduated first in his class with the Fay diploma. Coleman clerked for Justice Felix Frankfurter, served as secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation in the Ford Administration, and has advised six former U.S. presidents. The Roy R. and Virginia F. Ray Distinguished Lecture Series is the pre-eminent lecture series at UK Law. Established in 1977, the Ray Lecture has featured outstanding jurists and public figures discussing legal topics of current interest.

9. UK to Host Confucius Institute to Promote Exchange Between China, Other Countries

UK will be one of fewer than 300 organizations worldwide to host a Confucius Institute, a nonprofit educational entity devoted to promoting exchange between China and other countries. The distinction was officially granted by the Office of Chinese Language Council International, colloquially known as Hanban. Classes in conversational Chinese, business Chinese, and Chinese art and culture will be available in downtown Lexington beginning this fall, with statewide outreach through distance learning by the institute’s second year. The UK Confucius Institute will be distinct from many others in the country in that it will focus not only on language teaching, but also on the rich history of Chinese art and music. Each year, UK’s

partner institution, Shanghai University, will send at least two faculty members to Lexington to teach language classes and organize events promoting cultural exchange between China and the United States; in addition, Shanghai University will send visiting faculty to the UK College of Fine Arts to offer master classes or to participate in regular classes. Additional services to be provided by the institute include training Chinese language teachers in our K-12 system; providing Chinese language teaching resources; offering Chinese language proficiency exams; and providing testing for the certification of Chinese language teachers.

#### 10. USEF Drug Testing and Research Lab to Relocate to Coldstream Research Campus

The drug testing and research lab for the United States Equestrian Federation will relocate from Ithaca, N.Y. to UK's Coldstream Research Campus the end of the year. According to UK Vice President for Commercialization & Economic Development Len Heller, USEF will move their research and testing operations into a re-fitted, 7,500 sq. ft. lab space in the Kentucky Technology Center complex at Coldstream called the mini campus. The USEF is headquartered at the Kentucky Horse Park and drug tests and licenses equestrian competitions of all levels across the country, in addition to training, selecting, and funding the U.S. Equestrian Team. The 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games will be held at the Kentucky Horse Park September 25 to October 10. The new USEF testing lab at Coldstream Research Campus is anticipated to bring 12 jobs paying an average \$26 an hour including benefits.

#### 11. Small Business Development Center Helps State's Economy, Study Shows

The Kentucky Small Business Development Center (KSBDC) significantly contributes to Kentucky's economy and provides services beneficial to small businesses, according to an independent study conducted by James Chrisman, professor of management at Mississippi State University. Chrisman's findings include:

- KSBDC clients generated \$7.2 million in federal and state tax revenues;
- KSBDC clients added \$88.7 million in incremental sales to Kentucky's economy;
- In total, clients estimated the KSBDC was responsible for retaining \$64.7 million in revenues and saving 1,072 jobs;
- \$10.86 was returned for every dollar invested in the KSBDC counseling services; and
- 91 percent of the responding established business clients would recommend the SBDC's services.

The economic impact of counseling activities was analyzed by comparing clients' sales and employment changes between 2007 and 2008 with the average changes for all Kentucky businesses during this time period. The growth in sales and employment in excess of statewide averages was used to calculate the incremental federal and state tax revenues generated the year after counseling assistance was provided. The Kentucky Small Business Development Center, a division of the University of Kentucky's Office of Commercialization & Economic Development, is a network of 17 service centers located throughout Kentucky.

#### 12. Both UK Basketball Teams Venture Deep into NCAA Tournaments

The UK Men's and Women's Basketball Teams advanced deep into the National Collegiate Athletics Association's 2010 tournaments. The Men's Team reached the finals in the

East Region, while the Women's Team reached the finals in their tournament's Kansas City Region. The Men's Team returned to the Elite Eight for the first time since 2005, while the Women's Team hadn't been in their tournament's Elite Eight since 1982.

13. 'Meet the Dean' Events Offer Encouragement to Youngsters Considering Medicine

The UK College of Medicine and Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is offering a new series to Kentucky's middle and high school students who are interested in health careers. The series, "Meet the Dean," consists of one-hour interactive programs that feature the deans of all health care colleges at UK, allowing students to learn more about careers in health care-related fields. The series was developed to provide high school students, teachers, and counselors an opportunity to interact with the deans and students from each of UK's six health colleges. Eighteen high schools from across Kentucky participated in the first program of the series. Schools and students interested in participating in the "Meet the Dean" series were identified by the eight regional AHEC Health Career coordinators for this collaborative effort between UK, University of Louisville, Kentucky Telecare, and the Kentucky Department of Education.

14. Activist Hasan Ashrawi Presents Lecture Outlining Palestinian Issues

Palestinian activist Hasan Ashrawi presented a free public lecture on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on March 23 at the Singletary Center for the Arts. Ashrawi's talk was the second of two the university sponsored this academic year as part of a continuing campus and community dialogue on the Middle East. In mid-October, the university hosted the visit of former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert. The focus of the presentations by both speakers centered on their views on the prospects and preconditions for peace in the Middle East, based on the unique experiences and prominent leadership roles that each has held in recent years. The goal of the series is to inform the university and Kentucky communities and to facilitate thoughtful dialogue.

15. Center for Smoke-Free Policy Recognizes City Councils from Three Kentucky Cities

City council members from Bardstown, Radcliff, and Glasgow were recognized at the annual Spring Conference hosted by the UK College of Nursing Kentucky Center for Smoke-Free Policy on March 25. The City of Bardstown enacted a comprehensive smoke-free workplace ordinance March 9, and the law will be implemented in June. The City of Radcliff passed a comprehensive smoke-free workplace ordinance in December that was implemented on April 1. The City of Glasgow is the latest community to pass a comprehensive smoke-free ordinance; the ordinance was enacted by the Glasgow City Council March 22 to be implemented within 90 days. The Kentucky Center for Smoke-free Policy sponsors an annual Spring Conference to educate health advocates on the latest research on secondhand smoke and smoke-free policy.

16. College of Design Hosts 'Design + Politics' Symposium

UK College of Design hosted "Design + Politics," a free public symposium on the role design plays in national, regional, and local governments March 27, at the Lexington Public

Library's Central Library. "Design + Politics" featured two speakers in the morning, Henk Ovink, director of National Spatial Planning for the Netherlands, and Casey Jones, director of the Design Excellence Program for the United States General Services Administration. The afternoon session featured Aaron Betsky, director of the Cincinnati Art Museum and curator of the 11th Venice Architecture Biennale. The symposium concluded with a panel discussion moderated by Speaks that included David Adkisson from the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce; and Holly Wiedemann of AU Associates Inc.

17. UK Office of Adult Student Services Hosts Record Crowd at Back to School Workshop

A record 85 prospective adult students recently attended the UK Office of Adult Student Services' Back to School Workshop. The event was designed to inform and answer questions for those who want to come back to college or want to start from scratch later in life. The Office of Adult Student Services is also the point of contact for Project Graduate, a statewide program which is a partnership between UK and the Council on Postsecondary Education and supported by the Lumina Foundation. Its mission is simple: to bring Kentucky adults who earned 90 or more credit hours but never finished their degrees back to college. Universities across the state are involved. Since the partnership's inception nearly two years ago, 44 Project Graduate students have returned to UK to complete their degrees.

18. Small Business Development Center Receives Extension for Veterans Grant

The U.S. Small Business Administration extended funding to the Kentucky Small Business Development Center to promote business ownership to the military community. The KSBDC will continue programs begun last year to provide targeted services to active and reserve duty military personnel, veterans and spouses, and businesses impacted by deployments. The KSBDC, part of the UK Office for Commercialization & Economic Development, is working with various groups at Fort Knox and Fort Campbell to provide business training and consulting services to those interested in starting, expanding or maintaining a small business.

19. Three University Press of Kentucky Books Win Awards

Three books published by University Press of Kentucky (UPK) received awards from separate organizations this year. UPK author Penny Loeb was recently selected as the recipient of the 2010 Harry Caudill Award for her book *Moving Mountains: How One Woman and Her Community Won Justice from Big Coal*. The Harry Caudill Award of \$2,000 in books from inventory is presented by Bookworm & Silverfish in Rural Retreat, Virginia and is awarded every two years to recognize outstanding investigative writing about Appalachian issues. UPK book *Entangled by White Supremacy: Reform in World War I-era South Carolina* by Janet G. Hudson won the 2009 George C. Rogers, Jr. Award at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Historical Society (SCHS) in Charleston. The award is presented annually by the SCHS to the author of the best book concerning South Carolina history published during the previous calendar year. UPK book *Bluecoats & Tar Heels: Soldiers and Civilians in Reconstruction North Carolina* by Mark L. Bradley has been named the recipient of North Carolina Society's 2009 North Carolina Book Award. The award is presented to a book that "makes a positive contribution and appears to have the best chance of standing the test of time as a classic volume

of North Carolina.” Bradley will be recognized at the North Carolina Society’s annual meeting scheduled for May 21 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

20. UK Trumpet Quintet Places High at National Trumpet Competition

UK Trumpet Quintet took the Fourth Place Ensemble Award at the National Trumpet Competition 2010 held March 14 in Washington, D.C. Held annually, the competition is the single largest and most prestigious forum of its type in the world. The panel of judges and guest artists at the competition represent performers and educators from across the globe. Members of the UK Trumpet Quintet, who study under Mark Clodfelter, associate professor of trumpet and Yamaha performing artist, are Ryan Bickett; Don La Fleur; Jas Lidyard; Andrew McGrannahan; and Eric Millard. This is the third trip to the final four for a UK ensemble in recent years.

21. Undergraduate Admissions Wins Awards for Video and View Book

*The Higher Education Marketing Report* has awarded the UK Office of Undergraduate Admission two of its 25th annual Educational Advertising Awards. UK received a Silver award in the video view book category for its work with Cornett-IMS on this year’s recruitment video. The video highlights the UK student experience by letting current students tell future students what it’s like to attend UK in their own words. *The Higher Education Marketing Report* also recognized UK and Cornett-IMS with a merit award for the student view book, which is given to prospective students across the state and nation to offer a glimpse of opportunities available at UK.

22. California Playwright Wins Rodgers Competition, Has Play Debut at Briggs Theatre

UK Department of Theatre presented the world premiere of *Blur in the Rear View*, the 2010 James W. Rodgers Playwriting Competition winner. The play, by California playwright Aleks Merilo, enjoyed its debut at Briggs Theatre in February. Named for Professor Emeritus James W. Rodgers, the biennial competition award is given to a playwright whose work best represents the new voice of American theatre. This original production featured UK theatre students Sara Macy, Brian Sprague, and Nathan Bush, and was directed by Nancy Jones, chair of UK Theatre.

23. Singletary Center Hosts Opera Performers at Alltech Vocal Scholarship Competition

The 2010 Alltech Vocal Scholarship Competition was held March 14 at the Singletary Center for the Arts. Nine winners from the competition may soon lend their voices to UK Opera Theatre. The first place graduate winner is Michael Preacely, a baritone from Mount Laurel, N.J., and the second place graduate winner is Mark Elliot Golson II, a bass-baritone who graduated from the UK School of Music and will now pursue his doctorate. Additionally, the Kentucky Opera prize was also awarded to Preacely. The undergraduate first place winner is baritone Jacob Waid, a senior at Paducah Tilghman High School from Paducah, Ky., and the second place winner is tenor Jermaine Brown, a senior at duPont Manual High School/Youth Performing Arts School from Louisville. The graduate and undergraduate winners also received AIMS Institute awards. Other special awards presented as part of the competition went to: Francisco Bedoy, a

student at the University of Guadalajara from Ayutla, Jalisco, Mexico, winner of the Outstanding Transfer Student Award; Gabrielle Barker, a student at Lafayette High School/School for the Creative and Performing Arts from Lexington, winner of the Mr. William L. Rouse III Barbara Rouse Kentucky Prize; Juliana Moura, a student at the University of Louisville from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, winner of the Stoll, Keenon, Ogden PLLC Gail Robinson Musicianship Award; Dawn Elizabeth Coon, a graduate of UK from Versailles, Kentucky, winner of the Dippin' Dots Audience Favorite Award; and Seongcho Choi, a student at Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, Kentucky, awarded the Barlow Truckline Encouragement Award.

#### 24. Car Sharing Now on UK Campus

UK Parking and Transportation Services introduced its new car sharing program to campus March 22 in association with Connect by Hertz car sharing company. The program offers students and employees a short-term car rental option providing hourly, daily, and weekly rates. Six vehicles meeting EPA criteria for superior environmental performers are available for rent. Car sharing is a fast growing trend in cities and on college campuses around the country.

#### 25. Student Awards and Achievements

James Chapman, Political Science and International Studies, and Michelle Seger, Political Science and Spanish, both juniors, are two of four interns selected from Kentucky this year for the highly competitive Henry Clay Internship in Public Policy that provides summer internships in Washington, D.C. The Henry Clay Internship in Public Policy is presented by the Kentucky Society of Washington. The program provides a six to eight week summer internship in Washington, D.C., to a qualified rising junior or senior who is attending a Kentucky college or university. Students selected for the program will be placed in an office of a member of the Kentucky congressional delegation or an agency of the executive branch. The internship winners will also receive a \$3,000 stipend to defray living expenses.

Jason Grant, English and linguistics, has been awarded one of five English-Speaking Union Scholarships presented by the English-Speaking Union Kentucky Branch. The scholarship will cover Grant's expenses for summer study in literature at the University of Cambridge. The Kentucky Branch awards a limited number of scholarships to qualified Kentucky college students for courses offered at institutions in the United Kingdom. Student scholarships are awarded for studies in English literature, history, and social sciences at Oxford, Cambridge, and Edinburgh University for the summer of 2010.

The UK College of Pharmacy's chapter of the American Pharmacist Association - Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) has been selected as one of 10 national chapters to receive the 2010 APhA-ASP Project CHANCE Award. The \$2,000 award is given for outstanding proposals for a project that promotes delivery of comprehensive pharmacy services within a 340-eligible entity which requires drug manufacturers to provide certain drugs to covered entities at reduced prices. The proposal submitted by the UK chapter of the APhA-ASP is titled "HIV - ABC (Adherence Buddies and Counselors) Program," and partners with the Kentucky Clinic Pharmacy/Bluegrass Care Center (BCC). The BCC is an outpatient center that provides comprehensive services for more than 900 people infected with HIV and AIDS throughout the city of Lexington and areas extending to Virginia and West Virginia. The project will pair students with clinician identified non-adherent HIV patients. Students will communicate



with patients regarding their appointments at BCC and adherence levels and will also assist patients in filling their pill boxes. The grant will provide funds for these services as well as new pill boxes for these patients.

## 26. Faculty and Staff Awards and Achievements

Stan Brunn, Geography, was part of an international team of observers monitoring the parliamentary elections in Tajikistan in February. He was one of 12 Americans selected by the U.S. government to serve on the international team.

Christy Burch, Violence Intervention and Prevention Center, and Diane Snow, College of Medicine and Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Research Center, received the 2010 Sarah Bennett Holmes Award for a staff and a faculty member respectively. Sponsored by UK Women's Forum, the award is given annually to women employees for their contributions to issues affecting women and who promote the growth and well-being of women.

Joe Chappell, Plant and Soil Sciences, was named a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Mark Coyne, Plant and Soil Sciences, received a three-year, \$124,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service for the study of forage systems for sustainable agriculture production in the Mid-South.

Suanne Early, Central Advising and Transfer Center, and Jerzy "Jurek" Jaromczyk, Computer Science, were both honored as the recipients of the 2010 Ken Freedman Outstanding Advisor Award. Early and Jaromczyk have been described by their students and colleagues as advisers who "have high energy" and "are greatly respected" in their jobs.

Jeff Ebersole, Center for Oral Health Research, has been elected president of the American Association of Dental Research (AADR) for 2010-11. The AADR provides an invaluable service to all dental, oral, and craniofacial researchers, including those at dental schools, other health professional schools, industry institutions, as well as in the biotech sector. As the only nonprofit association of its kind, the organization strives to bring its members the latest news updates, research reports, educational programs, and networking opportunities for the dental research community. Ebersole's term will run through March 2011.

Mikael D. Jones, Pharmacy Practice and Science, has been selected as the recipient of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy's (ACCP) 2010 New Educator Award. The annual award recognizes an ACCP member, who in less than six years since completing their training, has made outstanding contributions to the discipline of teaching and to the education of health care practitioners. The ACCP New Educator Award will be presented during the Opening General Session of the 2010 ACCP Spring Practice and Research Forum in Charlotte, N.C.

Benjamin Karp, Cello, received the Studio Teacher of The Year award from the Kentucky American String Teachers Association chapter at the 2010 luncheon at Kentucky Music Educators Association in Louisville.

Y. Charles Lu, Mechanical Engineering at UK College of Engineering's Paducah campus, has been selected as a 2010 Society of Automotive Engineers' (SAE) Ralph R. Teetor Educational Award recipient. Lu's research focuses on solid mechanics; micromechanics and nanomechanics; materials; polymers, elastomers, and composites; finite element modeling and design; and vibration. The SAE Teetor Program stimulates contacts between younger engineering educators and practicing engineers in industry and government.

Robert Miller, Plant and Soil Sciences, received a four-year, \$1 million grant from R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company for tobacco breeding and cultural practices.

Jay Perman, dean of Medicine and vice president of Clinical Affairs, was named Public Health Hero of 2010 by the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department's Board of Health for his commitment to improving the health of Lexington residents. The board gave special emphasis to Perman's involvement with the UK Jumpin' Jaguars after-school program that meets twice a week to promote healthy, active lifestyles.

Michael Speaks, dean of Design, traveled to Taipei, Taiwan, in late January to serve as a juror on a panel to select the design for the Taipei Pop Music Center (TPMC), a \$120 million dollar building complex scheduled for completion in 2014. Speaks joined a panel of distinguished architects and educators from around the globe. The winner was New York based Reiser + Umemoto RUR Architecture. When completed, TPMC will be the premier venue for pop music performance in the Mandarin-speaking world. Speaks was also in Taiwan to discuss exchange programs with several Taiwanese universities, including the National Chiao Tung University Institute of Architecture and to give a series of lectures including keynote addresses for Taipei City Mayor Hau Lung-bin's Forum on City Branding and a lecture for the Archculture Forum in Taichung.

Kathy Swan and Gerry Swan, Education, along with colleague Mark Hofer of the College of William and Mary, were awarded the 2009 National Technology Leadership Initiative (NTLI) Award in social studies, the fourth time in the past six years Kathy Swan has been so honored. The team's paper was titled "Measuring the Impact of Digital Documentaries in a High-Stakes Testing Environment." Swan and her colleagues spent a week in two fifth-grade classrooms with teachers who each had one group of students creating digital documentaries on Irish immigration and the other group working with the teachers' traditional curriculum. While they did not find that the movie-making students performed any better on traditional pre/post-measures than students who did not work on documentary projects, they did find that students gained from the experiences.