

University Relations Committee
October 14, 2008
Patterson Office Tower, 18th Floor, Room H

University Relations Committee Members in Attendance:

Pam May, Chair; Jo Curris, Everett McCorvey, Billy Joe Miles, and Sandy Patterson

Pam May opened the meeting with roll call of members and a welcome to the two new members of the University Relations Committee, Dr. Everett McCorvey and Jo Curris.

Minutes from the previous (12/10/07) meeting of the University Relations Committee were approved.

Dr. Judy “JJ” Jackson, Vice President of Diversity, spoke to the committee regarding her first 3 months at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Jackson will aid in collaborations across campus to define and strengthen the diversity of the institution. Dr. Jackson noted that most of our benchmark institutions have a strategic plan for diversity and that grants go to those institutions showing a change to their culture. Dr. Jackson said her goal at the University is to help collaborations spring up around campus—infuse new energy. Diversity brings a value to the educational experience. Areas of focus for diversity are: recruiting, hiring, promoting, retaining faculty and staff, as well as, training search committees, and preparing UK to receive the diversity we seek. She noted that some deterrents to diversity are power struggles and those in authority simply “cloning” themselves. The University must move forward. “Don’t tether yourself to the past. Everybody wants to do what they came here to do,” Jackson said.

Kim Kluemper, Director for Corporate Partnerships spoke to the committee. The Corporate Partnerships area was developed one year ago. The office serves as the liaison for businesses to navigate and make connections with the University for many purposes such as research, product development or general information. Corporate Partnerships is to develop mutually beneficial partnerships between local and state businesses and the University. The office is in line with the University’s Top 20 Business Plan in the areas of outreach and engagement. Kim toured several businesses in Owensboro for possible partnerships; corporate visits to Paducah are planned for mid November. Lexington companies in which partnerships have begun are: Lexmark, Tempur-Pedic, ACS, and Apple computers.

Motion was made and seconded for meeting to adjourn at 10:05a.m.