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Office of the President
May 5, 2020

1. University Impacts Due to Novel Coronavirus

President Eli Capilouto has kept in close contact with the UK community through email and video messages during the coronavirus crisis. Here is a rundown of some of those messages. His first communication about the novel coronavirus was January 23; it noted no cases of the virus had been confirmed in Kentucky but asked anyone who had traveled to China and developed symptoms to contact University Health Services. As the situation developed, other messages followed: the appointment of UK work groups to handle different facets of the developing situation, travel restrictions, efforts to contact Education Abroad students in China and continued health related information. On March 6, Capilouto informed the campus that Kentucky's first confirmed COVID-19 patient was in Chandler Hospital. On March 11, he announced online or alternative learning, following Spring Break until April 3. Also, that day efforts began to bring all Education Abroad students home following a national suspension of most European travel. On March 17, Capilouto announced the decisions to extend remote learning through the end of the semester, have students move out of campus housing, postpone Commencement and have non-essential staff work remotely. In a message April 3, he announced summer school would move to fully remote learning, housing and dining credits were being offered for students who had to leave campus housing early, and UK HealthCare had plans to set up a field hospital for anticipated COVID-19 patients.

2. UK HealthCare Establishes Field Hospital for Expected COVID-19 Cases

In expectation of a surge in COVID-19 cases, UK HealthCare has established a 400-bed field hospital in Nutter Field House, the UK football team's practice facility on the south side of campus near Kroger Field. Work by Emergency Disaster Services, a Lexington-based logistic and emergency support services company, began April 3, and the field hospital was ready in less than two weeks. The field hospital features partitioned rooms, nursing stations, shower, restroom and handwashing units, as well as towel and laundry service. UK HealthCare is considering deployment needs for the hospital and training the appropriate staff.

3. COVID-19 Testing Being Done by UK HealthCare

Tucked away on the 6th floor of Chandler Hospital, UK HealthCare's clinical microbiology lab is home to one of the most important factors in fighting the COVID-

19 pandemic — patient testing. Since March 21, the lab has been testing for COVID-19 for UK HealthCare patients. The testing uses the Abbott M2000 instrument, which allows UK's lab scientists to test up to 94 samples in a single run.

4. University of Kentucky Researchers Unite to Fight COVID-19

Researchers and faculty from multiple disciplines across the University of Kentucky are coming together as part of the global effort to treat, understand, and eradicate COVID-19. The **COVID-19 Unified Research Experts (CURE) Alliance** team, a new workgroup within the College of Medicine, is bringing together experts from across the campus to focus on advising COVID-19 patient care and clinical trials based on emerging research and potential treatment options. The team is made up of a wide variety of UK researchers including experts in virology, infectious disease and epidemiology, pharmacy, lung biology and physiology, respiratory disorders, and clinical trials.

5. Researchers Seek to Develop Antiviral Membrane Mask

College of Engineering Professor Dibakar Bhattacharyya, director of UK's Center of Membrane Sciences, is contributing his decades of membrane expertise to help address the spread of the COVID-19 virus. He has the concept and the means to develop a medical face mask that would capture and deactivate the virus on contact. Bhattacharyya's idea is to create a membrane mask with a more porous and spongy structure that will include charged domain and enzymes, which would capture and effectively deactivate the virus. He says it would also have future applications to protect against a number of human pathogenic viruses. He plans to collaborate with researchers across campus including Thomas Dziubla, Isabel Escobar and Zach Hilt from the College of Engineering, Allan Butterfield in the College of Arts and Sciences, and Thomas Chambers with the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment.

6. UK Family Helps Each Other and Community During Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the need for health care supplies, for assistance for businesses that have had to close, and for those businesses' employees who are out of work. The rippling effect of need is being met in many ways by many people across the University of Kentucky. A few examples include: the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment's (CAFE) James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits has made hand sanitizer for UK HealthCare workers and created an instructional video for distillers who want to do the same; The College of Design is involved in designing and producing face shields for UK HealthCare workers to prevent the spread of germs; the College of Fine Arts has been working with UK HealthCare on 3D printing of face masks for front-line workers; CAFE's Community and Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky and Kentucky Small Business Development Center have been assisting small businesses suffering during the health crisis; College of Public Health faculty and students assisted the Fayette County Health Department's efforts to contain

the virus; UK Dining partner Aramark, UK's Food Connection, and Bluegrass Farm to Table found a new outlet for local farmers whose products were no longer needed by UK Dining when students left campus; and UK Dining chefs prepared 200-300 meals a day with donated food for organizations including The Nathaniel Mission, Lighthouse Ministries, Moveable Feast, The LEE Initiative, and Fayette County Public Schools.

7. UK Great Teachers Honored

The UK Alumni Association 2020 Great Teacher Award winners were honored at a March 3 awards ceremony and recognized during a UK basketball game on the floor of Rupp Arena. They are: Emily Cunningham, College of Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology; Robert Lou Hirsch, College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment, Plant Pathology; David McNear, College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment, Plant and Soil Sciences; Darshak Patel, Gatton College of Business and Economics, Economics; Martha Riddell, College of Public Health, Health Management and Policy; and Anna V. Voskresensky, College of Arts and Sciences, Modern and Classical Languages, Literature and Culture. Initiated in 1961, UK's Great Teacher Award is the longest-running UK award recognizing teaching.

8. For Third Year in a Row, UK Honored as 'Best Employer for Diversity'

In January, Forbes magazine released its list of "Best Employers for Diversity" in 2020, and for the third year in a row the University of Kentucky made the list. The annual ranking recognizes companies across two dozen industries nationally that demonstrate a strong commitment to inclusive workplace practices. UK ranked in the top 100 on the list and second for companies headquartered in Kentucky. The University ranked best in direct recommendations surrounding the topics of age, gender equality, ethnicity, disability and LGBTQ* inclusion, and the existence of positions and public initiatives responsible for diversity.

9. DanceBlue Marathoners Raise Record Amount

In its 15th year, DanceBlue, the student-run dance marathon, broke another fundraising record. After 24 straight hours of dancing, the 900 student participants and thousands of spectators celebrated in Memorial Coliseum as the total of \$2,000,190.20 was revealed March 1. The funds are used to support the children and families battling pediatric cancer in the DanceBlue Kentucky Children's Hospital Hematology/Oncology Clinic. Since the organization's launch in 2006, DanceBlue has raised more than \$17.3 million and involved thousands of students in the many service activities in support of children with cancer.

10. Project Underway to Eradicate Hepatitis C Virus in Perry County, Kentucky

On January 22, University of Kentucky officials traveled to Hazard, Kentucky, to provide updates on the Kentucky Viral Hepatitis Treatment Project (KeY Treat), a three-year, \$15 million study co-funded by the National Cancer Institute and National Institute on Drug Abuse with the ultimate goal of eradicating the hepatitis C virus (HCV) in Perry County, Kentucky. Led by College of Medicine Professor Jennifer Havens, the study is examining whether removing barriers associated with accessing direct-acting antivirals for the treatment of HCV will impact the health of citizens in Perry County. Gilead Sciences, Inc. is providing free doses of the HCV drug, valued at \$50 million.

11. UK Named Top Producer of Faculty Fulbright Scholars

The University of Kentucky has been named one of the Top Producers of U.S. Fulbright Scholars among colleges and universities for 2019-20. The prestigious Fulbright program provides participants — chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential — with the opportunity to study, teach, and conduct research in other countries, while finding solutions to shared international concerns. Totalling eight this academic year, the Fulbright Scholars by college are: College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment — Alex Vazsonyi; College of Arts and Sciences — Stefan Bird-Pollan, Thomas Clayton, and Philip Crowley; College of Communication and Information — Bobi Ivanov and Kimberly Parker Ivanov; College of Education — Richard Allday and Alicia Fedewa.

12. Campus Votes to Name Winslow Street Facility 'The Cornerstone'

A first-ever mixed-use parking, education, and retail facility designed to fuel innovation and foster creativity has been transforming the corner of South Limestone and Winslow Street. The new structure, which will be home to 900 new parking spaces, University of Kentucky esports, an innovation zone and an area of private retail space, now has a name. On March 5, University officials announced results of a campuswide vote naming the facility The Cornerstone, reflecting the building's role as a gateway to an emerging innovation district that will further link the University and city. The multi-vendor dining area on the ground level will be named The Cornerstone Exchange, and its first three establishments will be local favorites West Sixth Brewing, A Cup of Common Wealth, and Rolling Oven.

13. Student-centered Initiatives Funded by UK Women and Philanthropy Network

The Women and Philanthropy Network recently awarded \$227,250 to six academic initiatives at UK. The University units and the projects are: Student Support Services — First-Generation Students: Meeting Their Basic Needs; Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement and UK Appalachian Center — AppalachiaCorps Internship Program; College of Nursing — hCATS to the BARN for Student Mental Health and Wellness; College of Education — Helping Families through Graduate

Student Services in Applied Behavior Analysis; College of Engineering — Engineering Smart Start Program: A Summer Program to Prepare Our Students for Math; and College of Pharmacy — Student-Driven Campus Outreach Activities to Prevent Cervical Cancer through HPV Vaccination. The Women and Philanthropy Network was formed in 2007 to motivate and foster women as leaders, donors, and advocates for UK. This brings their lifetime grants to more than \$2.2 million.

14. UK College of Social Work Launches Kentucky Kinship Resource Center

Nearly 2.7 million children across the U.S. are currently in the care of relatives other than their parents. Family members are providing safe homes to children of parents struggling with substance misuse and mental health issues. Data suggests that kinship rates throughout Kentucky are among the highest in the country. In an effort to provide much-needed support for these families, the College of Social Work launched the Kentucky Kinship Resource Center in March. It provides a continuum of services to meet the unique needs of kinship providers across the state. Those services include comprehensive education and training programs; innovative peer support and mentoring initiatives; and broad-based advocacy.

15. UK HealthCare Receives Prestigious Baby-Friendly Designation

UK HealthCare has achieved the highly prestigious international Baby-Friendly designation after a rigorous review process conducted by Baby-Friendly USA, the organization responsible for bestowing this certification in the United States. This distinguished honor demonstrates that UK HealthCare is adhering to the highest standards of care for breastfeeding mothers and their babies.

16. Faculty and Staff Achievements

Ralph M. Crystal (College of Education) won the 2020 Distinguished Career in Rehabilitation Education Award from the National Council on Rehabilitation Education. Alex Flannery (College of Pharmacy) has been named a fellow in the American College of Critical Care Medicine.

R. Kip Guy (College of Pharmacy) has been named an American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow.

Patrick Kitzman (College of Health Sciences) received the Outstanding Advocacy in Neurologic Physical Therapy Award from the American Physical Therapy Association.

Jim Krupa (College of Arts and Sciences) was honored with the National Center for Science Education Friend of Darwin Award.

Bertin Louis, Jr. (College of Arts and Sciences) has been named editor of the "Conditionally Accepted," column in Inside Higher Education.

Everett McCorvey (College of Fine Arts and UK Opera Theatre) has been named winner of the 2020 SEC Faculty Achievement Award for the University of Kentucky.

Ashley Montgomery-Yates (College of Medicine) has been named a fellow in the American College of Critical Care Medicine.

Research by an international group of experts led by Peter Nelson (Sanders-Brown Center on Aging) is being recognized as one of the top science stories of 2019 by Discover magazine; Nelson and the group characterized a different form of dementia that is now called LATE.

Sara Price (Transfer Admissions) was recognized as a Bonita C. Jacobs Transfer Champion-Rising Star winner during the opening session of the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students' 2020 conference.

Eve Schneider (College of Arts and Sciences) has been named a 2020 Sloan Research Fellow.

Mark Shanda (College of Fine Arts) was named the 2020 Kentucky Music Educators Association Administrator of the Year.

Asha Sheno (College of Medicine) has been named a fellow in the American College of Critical Care Medicine.

Suzanne Smith (College of Engineering) has been named an American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Fellow.

David Sogin (College of Fine Arts) was recognized for 40 years of service in Kentucky by the Kentucky Music Educators Association.

Linda J. Van Eldik (Sanders-Brown Center on Aging) published a paper in Clinical Pharmacology in Drug Development reporting the first human clinical study of a drug candidate that suppresses injury and disease-induced inflammation of the brain.

Martina Vasil (College of Fine Arts) was named 2020 University Teacher of the Year for District 7 of the Kentucky Music Educators Association.

Ole Wendroth (College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment) became president of the Soil Science Society of America.

Crystal Wilkinson (College of Arts and Sciences) has been named a 2020 USA Fellow by United States Artists.

17. Student Achievements

Arden Barnes (Journalism and Kentucky Kernel photographer of Cynthiana, Kentucky) was runner-up for Kentucky Student Photographer of the Year at the annual Kentucky News Photographer Association meeting. She also won 1st place for Sports Essay and Multimedia and 2nd place for Spot News.

Noah Beckett (Music Performance, of Lexington, Kentucky) received an Outstanding Soloist Award for his performance on tenor saxophone at the 53rd annual Elmhurst College Jazz Festival held Feb. 20-23, in Illinois.

Kelly Bilz (Library Science, of Edgewood, Kentucky) is one of only nine librarians to be selected for the Library of Congress' prestigious Librarians-in-Residence Program in the nation's capital.

Christopher Burchett, (Music, of Lexington, Kentucky) won the Alltech First Place Graduate Award in the 2020 Alltech Vocal Scholarship Competition.

Michael Clubb (Marketing and Kentucky Kernel photographer, of Knoxville, Tennessee) won 1st place for Portrait, 1st place for Pictorial, and 2nd place for Sports Essay in the annual Kentucky News Photographer Association meeting.

Hailey Combs (English, of Campton, Kentucky) has been awarded an English-Speaking Union (ESU) Scholarship for summer study at the University of Cambridge.

Kirby Davis (music performance, of Greenville, Kentucky) received an Outstanding Soloist Award for his performance on alto saxophone at the 53rd annual Elmhurst College Jazz Festival held Feb. 20-23, in Illinois.

Jania Gomes-Moniz (Music, of Louisville, Kentucky) won the Alltech First Place Undergraduate Award in the 2020 Alltech Vocal Scholarship Competition.

Lauryn Haas (Journalism, of Toledo, Ohio) has been accepted to Fulbright Germany's Berlin Capital Program.

Kristen Karem (Theatre) was recognized with an award at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region IV annual conference for her play "The Houseplant Could Die...Or Not."

Amanda Krugler (J. Rosenberg College of Law, of Florissant, Missouri) was awarded first place in the American Bar Association's 19th Annual Law Student Tax Challenge, J.D. Division.

Jacob O'Donnell (Music Education, of Lexington, Kentucky) received an Outstanding Soloist Award for his performance on tenor saxophone at the 53rd annual Elmhurst College Jazz Festival held Feb. 20-23, in Illinois.

Adam O'Neal (Graduate Student, of Huntington, West Virginia) received an Outstanding Soloist Award for his performance on baritone saxophone at the 53rd annual Elmhurst College Jazz Festival held Feb. 20-23, in Illinois.

Jordan Prather (Information Communication Technology, of Corinth, Kentucky) won 1st and 2nd place for Sports Action in the annual Kentucky News Photographer Association meeting.

Scott Sullivan (J. Rosenberg College of Law, of Fort Wayne, Indiana) was awarded first place in the American Bar Association's 19th Annual Law Student Tax Challenge, J.D. Division.

Hannah Thomas (Biology and Health, Society and Populations, of Hendersonville, Tennessee) has been awarded a Fulbright Canada-MITACS Globalink Research Internship in the program's inaugural year.

Elizabeth Varnado (Musicology, of Louisville, Kentucky) won Song of the Year for "Life Is Good" in the Lexington Music Awards.

Kelsey Waltermire (Theatre, of Lexington, Kentucky) was recognized with an award at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region IV annual conference for her play "From Around Here."

Yuke Wang (Physics, Mathematics, and Computer Science, of Lexington, Kentucky) has been awarded a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. He is one of only 396 math, science, and engineering students nationwide selected to receive the scholarship.

A record number of students made the University of Kentucky Dean's List for the fall 2019 semester. The 7,648 students were recognized for their outstanding academic performance. The previous record of 7,393 was reached in the fall 2018 semester.

18. Alumni Achievements

Blake Denson (Vocal Performance, 2018) is one of five winners of this year's Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

Casey McKinney (Art, 2001) designed the 2020 Kentucky Derby Festival poster, "Pegasus in Bloom."

James W. Stuckert (Mechanical Engineering 1960; MBA, 1961) has been selected as the 2019 Kappa Sigma Fraternity Man of the Year by the Supreme Executive Committee of Kappa Sigma Fraternity.