

A Message From President Lee T. Todd Jr.

This is one of the most exciting times to be at the University of Kentucky. UK is in the midst of one of this nation's boldest journeys – to transform itself into one of the 20 best public research universities in the nation. Our national aspirations were made clear in our Top 20 Business Plan, which was released in December 2005. The Business Plan is a unique approach for public universities as it lays out a 15-year, detailed financial analysis of the resources it will take to transform the University into a premier public research institution.

Our journey to Top 20 did not start with the formation of this Business Plan. Since 1997 (when Kentucky legislators mandated that UK become a Top 20 public research university), our enrollment, graduation rates, endowment, research funding and annual giving have all soared.

Our Top 20 dreams will continue to depend on our success in the classroom. Buoyed by our excellent students, faculty and staff, UK boasts more than 80 national rankings for academic excellence. We are currently ranked 35th among all public research universities – an increase of five spots since 1997, according to our Business Plan. Already many of our programs rank among the nation's best, including the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, which is ranked 6th in the category of public finance and budgeting, the 8th ranked College of Pharmacy, the Patterson School of Diplomacy's program in International Relations, which is ranked 18th, the 20th ranked Rural Medicine program in the College of Medicine, and the 29th ranked College of Nursing.

A meaningful college experience is not only about classroom knowledge – it also is about personal growth. At UK, students can find growth opportunities in more than 300 campus organizations and activities ranging from basketball games to debate teams to singing and dancing groups. Our students hail from 117 foreign countries, all 50 states and every county in Kentucky. You will have the opportunity to travel the nation and abroad, learning about the many cultures that comprise our world. Through this diverse and enriching environment, students gain another dimension to their education and become more equipped to excel in our rapidly changing world.

With its tradition of excellence and promise of continued growth, the University of Kentucky is a great place to be a student. Just ask the 215,000-plus alumni. Among them are Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners, a U.S. ambassador, an astronaut, a Hollywood actress, a screenwriter, numerous governors, Congressmen and legislators, university presidents, business leaders, and best-selling authors. Today, we stand at a critical point as UK strives to even greater heights. With vigilance and vigor, the University of Kentucky is poised to take its place among the nation's elite.

Sincerely,



Lee T. Todd Jr.
President



President Lee T. Todd Jr.

University of Kentucky – A Place to Dream and Succeed

The innovation, creativity, quality teaching, and service under way at the University of Kentucky touch the lives of people throughout the state, the nation and the world.

UK is a catalyst for change – through ground-breaking research, community outreach and technological advances that contribute to the betterment of the Commonwealth while also fostering a cultural quality of life through our museums, libraries and special events.

Founded in 1865 as a land-grant institution adjacent to downtown Lexington, UK is nestled in the scenic heart of the beautiful Bluegrass region of Kentucky. From its early beginnings, with only 190 students and 10 professors, UK has grown to cover more than 687 acres and is home to more than 26,000 students and nearly 11,000 employees.

UK is one of only a few universities in the country with a teaching and research campus and a medical center all in one central location. The state's flagship university consists of 16 academic and professional colleges where students can choose from some 200 majors and degree programs. The colleges are Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Business and Economics, Communications and Information Studies, Dentistry, Design, Education, Engineering, Fine Arts, Health Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Social Work.

Our student body is diverse, representing 117 countries, every state in the nation, and every Kentucky county. The University attracts excellent students. The average ACT score for first-year students is four points above the national average. UK students compete successfully for prestigious scholarships and awards, such as the Fulbright, Truman, Goldwater and Marshall. UK had its 12th Truman Scholar named in 2005. Also in 2005, UK was selected to participate in the Beckman Foundation Scholarship program for the second time. This program allows UK to award grants of \$17,600 to students to support their own research projects.

Since 1997, the University has pursued an ambitious goal of becoming a Top 20 public research university by the year 2020. UK President Lee T. Todd Jr. has embraced this goal in a way that promises an impact on every Kentucky resident.

“As the state’s flagship institution, the University of Kentucky is mindful of its responsibility to help all Kentuckians,” Todd says. “Our land-grant mission calls on us to make a positive impact across the state. We need to be an educational leader, while remaining accessible to all Kentuckians. We need to be a cultural leader, sharing new ideas and opportunities across the state. And we need to be leading Kentucky’s charge into the new economy. We must be the catalyst for a new Commonwealth.”

The University is working aggressively to achieve its Top 20 goal. In December 2005, UK released its Top 20 Business Plan, a detailed financial analysis of the resources it will take to transform the University into a premier public research institution.

UK boasts more than 80 national rankings for academic excellence. UK is currently ranked 35th among all public research universities for overall excellence, according to the Top 20 Business Plan. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked the Gatton College of Business and Economics’ undergraduate program 37th among public universities and the College of Engineering’s undergraduate program 56th among the nation’s public schools that offer a doctorate in engineering. In addition, graduate programs in the College of Pharmacy, the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, College of Nursing, College of Medicine, College of Arts and Sciences, College of Education, College of Engineering, College of Health Sciences, College of Law, and College of Social Work are highly ranked in *U.S. News & World Report*’s most recent list of the nation’s best. The Martin School of Public Policy and Administration is ranked 6th in the category of public finance and budgeting and the College of Pharmacy is ranked 8th overall. The College of Medicine’s rural medicine program is ranked 20th, and the College of Nursing’s master’s program is ranked 29th. The College of Health Sciences’ physical therapy graduate program is ranked 35th, the College of Social Work’s master’s program is 38th, and the College of Law is ranked among the top 50 public institutions.

In 2000, officials launched The Campaign for the University of Kentucky, a \$600 million fund-raising effort to enhance faculty, students, facilities, academic programs, and public service. The Campaign raised over \$618 million in just over five years – surpassing its original goal of \$600 million. In the fall of 2003 University officials announced plans to expand its fund-raising goal by an additional \$400 million over the next four years, bringing the University’s new total goal to \$1 billion. UK is well on its way, having already raised more than \$860 million.

With its well-manicured landscape and landmark buildings, UK’s campus also offers great facilities that advance the scholarship of its students and the research endeavors of its faculty. The William T. Young Library is among the world’s leading research libraries; its book endowment is the largest among public universities. Its broad scope of technology offers students, faculty and Kentucky residents special access to the most up-to-date information from online journals, government publications, and private studies, as well as more traditional materials.

During the last fiscal year, UK faculty received a total of \$274 million in extramural grants and contracts. In the prestigious National Science Foundation rankings, UK soared from 31st to 28th among all public universities for federal research expenditures. During the last fiscal year alone, research grants and contracts from out-of-state sources resulted in a \$514.3 million contribution to the Kentucky economy, including \$169.3 million in personal income.

Research at the University of Kentucky is a dynamic enterprise encompassing both traditional scholarship and emerging technologies. In more than 50 research centers and institutes, UK researchers are discovering new knowledge, providing a rich training ground for the next generation of researchers, and advancing the economic growth of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Several centers excel in the services offered to the public. The Center for Manufacturing has assisted more than 500 small and mid-sized industrial firms throughout the state. The Gluck Equine Research Center is one of only three facilities of its kind in the world, conducting research into diseases of the horse.

Because UK is one of the few universities in the country with a research and teaching campus and a medical center in one central location, multidisciplinary research is particularly strong. The ASTeCC (Advanced Science and Technology Commercialization Center) building in the center of campus provides lab space for faculty affiliates who represent a variety of colleges and departments and is a hub for multidisciplinary research collaboration and commercialization. UK researchers engage in projects with professors at the University of Louisville, Murray State University, Eastern Kentucky University, and other public and private institutions across Kentucky, in other states and abroad.

The University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center was established in 1957 and is one of the nation’s finest academic medical centers. The faculty, students and staff of our relatively young, dynamic Medical Center take pride in achieving excellence in education, patient care, research, and community service. The growing UK HealthCare enterprise – which includes the 473-bed Chandler Medical Center and Kentucky Children’s Hospital – is supported by more than 500 faculty physicians and dentists, 400 resident physicians, and a staff of 3,200 health professionals committed to high-quality patient care. As the only Level I Trauma Center in Central and Eastern Kentucky, UK HealthCare’s Chandler Medical Center and Kentucky Children’s Hospital care for the most critically injured and ill patients in this half of Kentucky.

UK has demonstrated its commitment to partnerships with businesses and other institutions of higher learning. In Lexington, UK is shaping a better relationship with the community by becoming more active in life throughout the city, especially downtown.

But UK contributes far beyond the borders of Fayette County. UK researchers are dedicated to conducting the type of research that will make a lasting and positive impact on Kentucky families. Last year, UK announced an initiative, the Commonwealth Collaboratives, to address some of the more intractable challenges that have held Kentucky back. UK faculty and researchers will lead efforts to battle conditions in these areas to improve educational, social, health and economic conditions in all 120 Kentucky counties.

UK’s agenda is simple, but profoundly powerful: accelerate the movement toward academic excellence and become known worldwide for the quality of its academic programs, its commitment to undergraduates, its success in building a diverse community, and its engagement with the larger society.

That is the mission of the University of Kentucky.

UK is forging ahead to meet the changing demands of a global society. While touching countless lives, UK’s greatest impact is felt at home. Indeed, the campus of the University of Kentucky is the Commonwealth of Kentucky.