

Robinson Scholars Program

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211 Funkhouser Building
Lexington, KY 40506-0054

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increases at our public colleges and universities. "Accessibility, the touchstone of public higher education, has been threatened by these sharp tuition increases," says UK Provost Kumble Subbaswamy. "We are very grateful that the State legislature has responded affirmatively to President Todd's funding plan as articulated in the Top 20 Business Plan and urge our legislators to stay the course. We also strongly encourage our friends and alumni of the Robinson Scholars Program to support the University by contributing generously to scholarship funds to ensure that academically talented first-generation college students from eastern Kentucky and elsewhere can attend the flagship institution of the Commonwealth" says Subbaswamy.

Education holds the key to Kentucky's future. Through programs like the Robinson Scholars Program, the University of Kentucky is working to make that future a brighter place for Kentucky's youths. The Program and the University are working to revitalize small communities by opening doors of opportunity. These doors lead to education, industry and revitalization.

Patchwork *of* Promise

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UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

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The Key to Education

This year, my daughter attends kindergarten for the first time. My husband and I have witnessed her transformation over these short 5 years. As she transitions to a new school, I am reminded of the transitions our own Robinson Scholars are making: from eighth grade to high school; from high school to college; and our college seniors preparing to graduate next spring. Both of my families – my own family and our Robinson Scholars family - believe education is the key to a successful and purposeful life.

Education holds the key to life's possibilities and access to it is so very important for our young people. It is with these thoughts in mind that I sincerely thank you for making a difference in the lives of our students. Thank you for your guidance, your contributions, and your love.

Our staff holds the distinct privilege of guiding young minds through some of their most formative years. We are honored to assist our Scholars throughout their journey. We recognize that

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your participation and advocacy is an instrumental part of that and we are extremely grateful to you.

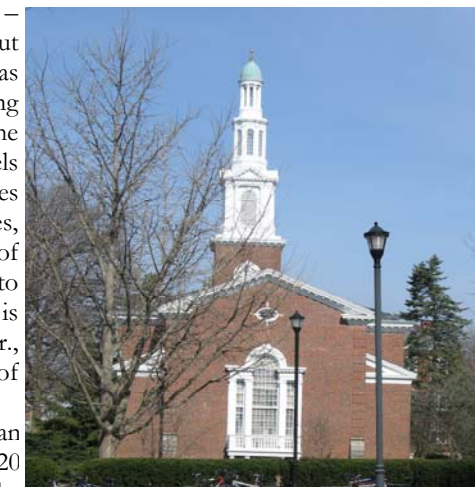
Warmest Regards,

Bobbi Silver
Development Officer

Robinson Scholars and UK's Top 20 Plan

The state of Kentucky is in crisis – not one created by natural disaster, but its impact on the state is felt just as forcefully. With Kentucky lagging behind in college graduation rates, the Commonwealth suffers from low levels of education. This affects the daily lives of all Kentuckians through lower wages, fewer jobs and a decreased standard of living. This alone is reason enough to declare a state of emergency, which is exactly what Dr. Lee Todd, Jr., president of the University of Kentucky, has done.

His ambitious Top 20 Business Plan seeks to make UK one of the Top 20 research universities in the nation by the year 2020. As part of this goal, UK seeks to increase the number of college graduates and recruit more students from every Kentucky county, thereby increasing the state's intellectual capital and helping to increase economic growth.



In this capacity, the Robinson Scholars Program plays an important role. The 29 eastern Kentucky counties served by the Program are traditionally underrepresented in institutes of higher education. By identifying, mentoring and nurturing first-generation college bound students from these areas, the RSP produces college material students with the tools to succeed.

The impact graduates of the Robinson Scholars Program have on their community is immense. Many return to the region, sharing their knowledge, improving their communities and inspiring others to achieve college degrees. As a full scholarship, the Program covers all tuition, room and board and book fees for Scholars. "This frees our alumni to make significant decisions about their careers by attending professional schools...without a looming financial burden hanging over them," says Bobbi Silver, Development Officer for the RSP.

A decrease in state funding has accelerated the pace of tuition

Please see Top 20 on page 4

Scholars Identified As Top Leaders on UK Campus

The Robinson Scholars Program is dedicated to developing the future leaders of Kentucky, enabling them to make positive changes in our communities, our state and our world. Through workshops, community development projects and leadership training programs, the Program coaches and encourages each and every Scholar to realize their full potential. As a result, five Robinson Scholars have been selected to participate in the third annual University of Kentucky Leadership Summit.

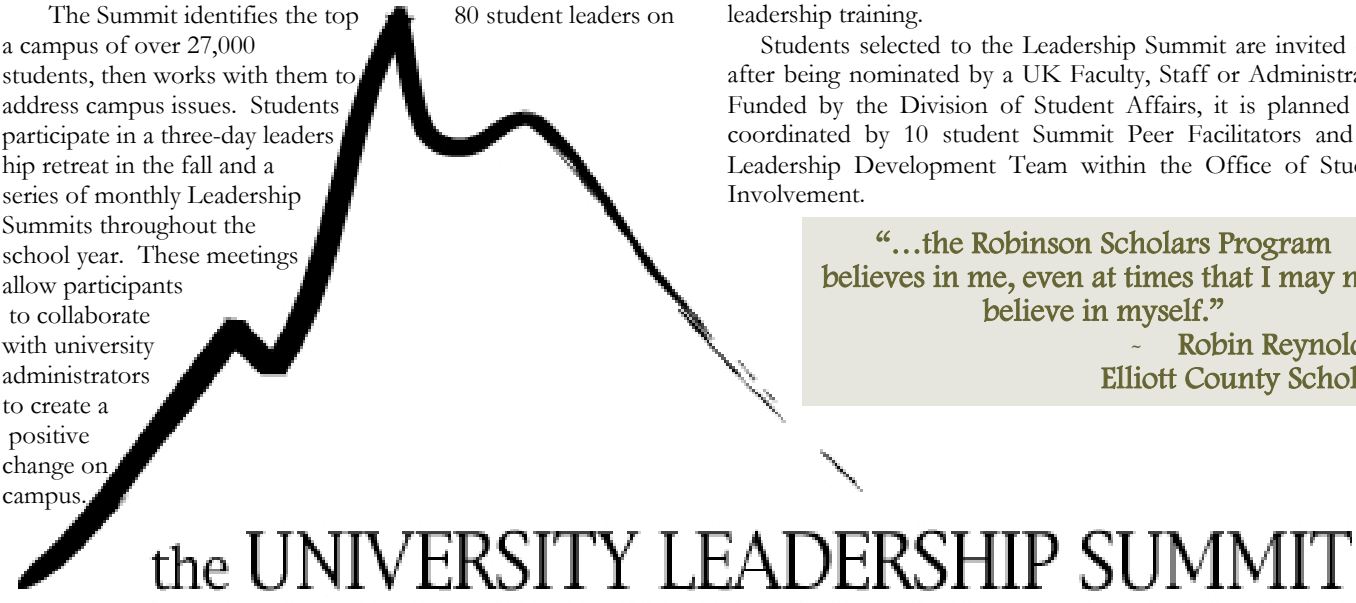
The Summit identifies the top 80 student leaders on a campus of over 27,000 students, then works with them to address campus issues. Students participate in a three-day leadership retreat in the fall and a series of monthly Leadership Summits throughout the school year. These meetings allow participants to collaborate with university administrators to create a positive change on campus.

"I was nominated by a member of the RSP team and am incredibly honored that she would consider me up to par with the top 80 leaders at the University," says Robin Reynolds, an incoming senior from Elliott County. "It shows that the Robinson Scholars Program believes in me, even at times that I may not believe in myself."

This prestigious experience aims to build unity among campus leaders, create a collaborative campus climate and provide basic leadership training.

Students selected to the Leadership Summit are invited only after being nominated by a UK Faculty, Staff or Administrator. Funded by the Division of Student Affairs, it is planned and coordinated by 10 student Summit Peer Facilitators and the Leadership Development Team within the Office of Student Involvement.

**"...the Robinson Scholars Program believes in me, even at times that I may not believe in myself."
- Robin Reynolds, Elliott County Scholar**



Making a Difference: Equitable Resources Foundation, Inc.



Katy Hall, left and Colby Kurkowskí, right, at the RSP start of semester activities.

Equitable Resources is an integrated energy company serving eastern Kentucky, West Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania. Recognizing the importance

Scholars Program," says Patricia Kornick, representative from Equitable Resources. "It is a partnership that fully demonstrates our belief that a commitment to education is a commitment to the community and the vitality of the region's future."

The donation will fund the 2007-2008 scholarships of Katy Hall, an incoming freshman from Floyd county and Colby Kurkowskí, an incoming freshman from Pike County. Katy Hall, valedictorian of her class from South Floyd High School, was an active member of her community. Her extracurricular activities included being a member of the student council and the Academic and Art Gifted and Talented programs. Katy also was the recipient of the 2006 Margurite McGlaughlin Journalism Award. Colby, a graduate of Pikeville High School, also pursued a rigorous pre-college curriculum consisting of several advanced placement classes. Actively involved in sports, she was also a member of the cheerleading squad and soccer team.

Through the support of our local communities and companies like Equitable Resources, the Robinson Scholars Program can continue providing academic and scholarship support to our Scholars, helping them to excel and succeed. The Program is dedicated to improving our communities through education, and we are pleased that Equitable Resources has joined us in this mission.

of giving back to their communities, they established the Equitable Resources Foundation, a community giving foundation that provides financial and volunteer support for educational initiatives and other community issues. The Foundation recently joined the ranks of RSP supporters with their generous donation of \$25,000.

"Equitable Resources is proud to be a part of the Robinson

First Recipient of Alumni Scholarship Fund Award Named



Derek Ferrell, first recipient of the Alumni Scholarship Fund award.

As the number of Robinson Scholars alumni continues to grow, so does the collective desire to help future generations of Scholars. As a result, the Program recently established the Alumni Scholarship Fund. Financed completely through donations from graduated Scholars, the Fund provides scholarship dollars for one UK freshman Scholar per year.

Derek Ferrell, a 2007 graduate from Menifee County High School, is the first recipient of the Alumni Scholarship Fund award. "It really feels good that [alumni] think I'm worthy enough to give their money to. I just hope that I can earn it," says Derek.

Derek pursued a vigorous pre-college curriculum in high school, graduating as valedictorian of his class. Also very active

in sports, he was a member of the school basketball, soccer and softball teams.

Excited about attending UK in the fall, Derek's major is currently undeclared. With an interest in stocks and investing, he is interested in possibly pursuing accounting.

If you are interested in donating to the Alumni Scholarship Fund, please contact Bobbi Silver at 859-519-0938 or bjislv2@email.uky.edu.

Need An Intern?
The Robinson Scholars Program strives to provide our Scholars with worthwhile and meaningful learning opportunities. It is often said that experience is the best teacher, and we encourage our Scholars to expand their education by applying the knowledge and principles they learn in the classroom to the workforce. If you have or want to create an opportunity for our Scholars to intern, please contact Pam McFarland at (859) 257-5874 or pamuel2@email.uky.edu

A blessing. Life changing. Amazing. The opportunity of a lifetime. Ask a Robinson Scholar or their parents to describe the Robinson Scholars Program and that is what you hear. The Robinson Scholars Program changes lives and opens doors. It empowers Scholars to complete degrees from UK and make a positive impact in their world. As a contributor to the Robinson Scholars Program, you can change the lives of deserving eastern Kentucky youth. Your donation helps sustain the scholarship and support resources that make this program so unique and so successful. Please consider making a gift to the Robinson Scholars Program. It is a great investment in our most precious natural resource – our youth and their future.

-Ashley Judd
Actress, Activist, Friend of the Robinson Scholars Program

Robinson Scholars Program Contribution Form

Gift
Enclosed is my/our gift of \$ _____
Make check payable to the University of Kentucky and mail to:
University of Kentucky Robinson Scholars Program
217 Funkhouser Building, Lexington, KY 40506-0054

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Pledge
I/we pledge \$ _____ to be paid in equal installments over _____ years, beginning:
 with the enclosed payment. MC Visa
 with the first payment in 20____. Discover AmEx

Total pledged \$ _____ Amount paid \$ _____
Balance due \$ _____
(Annual reminders will be sent.)

My/our gift will be matched by my employer.
 Form is enclosed.
Credit Card # _____
Expiration date _____
Cardholder signature _____

I would like more information regarding: Annual Giving Planned Giving Fellows Society
Thank you for your kind contribution!