University of Kentucky

Executive Vice President for Health Affairs

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UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Founded in 1865 as a land-grant institution adjacent to downtown Lexington, the University of Kentucky (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’s campus now covers more than 918 acres and is home to nearly 31,000 students and approximately 14,500 full-time employees, including more than 2,300 full-time faculty. UK is one of a small number of universities in the United States that has programs in agriculture, engineering, a full complement of health colleges (dentistry, health sciences, medicine, nursing, pharmacy and public health), law and fine arts on a single campus, leading to groundbreaking discoveries and unique interdisciplinary collaboration.

The state’s flagship university consists of 17 academic and professional colleges where students can choose from more than 200 majors and degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The colleges are Agriculture, Food and Environment; Arts and Sciences; Business and Economics; Communication and Information; Dentistry; Design; Education; Engineering; Fine Arts; Honors; Health Sciences; Law; Medicine; Nursing; Pharmacy; Public Health; and Social Work.

Research at the University is a dynamic enterprise encompassing both traditional scholarship and emerging technologies, and UK’s research faculty, staff, and students are establishing UK as one of the nation’s most prolific public research universities. UK research expenditures were more than $361 million last year. UK attracted $236 million in research grants and contracts from out-of-state sources. With more than 50 research centers and institutes, UK researchers are discovering new knowledge, providing a rich training ground for current students and 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 Gluck Equine Research Center is one of only three facilities of its kind in the world, conducting research in equine diseases.

The Kentucky Wildcats are the men’s and women’s intercollegiate athletic teams of the University of Kentucky, a founding member of the Southeastern Conference. With 22 varsity teams, UK has won 10 national championships with its latest being the 2012 men’s basketball championship. UK also boasts the 1988 women’s cross country national championship, the 2011 rifle, and seven other men’s basketball titles.

Since 2011, UK has:

1. Invested $2.3 billion in infrastructure including new residence halls, classrooms and research facilities, dining facilities and healthcare facilities. More than 90 percent of that investment has been financed through public-private partnerships, philanthropy, internal sources and re-allocations.
2. Raised the first year class from about 4,000 to 5,000 students annually and increased the in-state/out-of-state split from about 80/20 to 67/33.
3. Achieved near record high retention and graduation rates.

In 2015, under President Eli Capilouto’s leadership, UK adopted a new 5-year strategic plan. The plan articulates a vision for the University, its people, and its long-term growth as an outstanding public research institution with a deep connection and sense of service to the Commonwealth. It also numerates strategic objectives in five key areas that clearly delineate priorities for investment and growth; and frames key strategic initiatives and action
steps that describe how progress will be judged and measured within each objective. The specific strategic objectives are:

1. **Undergraduate Student Success**: To be the University of choice for aspiring undergraduate students within the Commonwealth and beyond, seeking a transformational education that promotes self-discovery, experiential learning, and life-long achievement.

2. **Graduate Education**: Strengthen the quality and distinctiveness of our graduate programs to transform our students into accomplished scholars and professionals who contribute to the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world through their research and discovery, creative endeavors, teaching and service.

3. **Diversity and Inclusivity**: Enhance the diversity and inclusivity of our University community through recruitment, promotion, and retention of an increasingly diverse population of faculty, administrators, staff, and students, and by implementing initiatives that provide rich diversity-related experiences for all to help ensure their success in an interconnected world.

4. **Research and Scholarship**: Expand our scholarship, creative endeavors, and research across the full range of disciplines to focus on the most important challenges of the Commonwealth, our nation, and the world.

5. **Outreach and Community Engagement**: Leverage leading-edge technology, scholarship, and research in innovative ways to advance the public good and to foster the development of citizen-scholars.

The University of Kentucky’s financial operations are strong with revenues growing to over $3.2 billion in fiscal year 2016, representing an increase of over 41% since 2011. Driven by sound financial management, the University’s growth in revenues has been largely due to expanding healthcare operations, as well as increases in enrollment, grant awards and philanthropic support. In 2016, UK welcomed record-setting first-year classes and moved total enrollment above 30,700 – the largest in its history.

Moody’s and S&P currently rate the University of Kentucky Aa2 Stable and AA Stable, respectively. Per Moody’s, the University’s current rating reflects its status as Kentucky’s flagship university, increasing enrollment trends, consistently solid cash flows, sound fiscal management, increasing cash and investments and a manageable leverage position. The stable outlook reflects the rating agency’s view that operations will remain positive and future borrowing of the University will remain manageable.

The University’s fiscal year 2017 operating budget increased over 4.3%, compared to fiscal year 2016 creating a consolidated operating budget of over $3.5 billion for support of the academic, research, healthcare, and service enterprises. This increase was primarily due to the projected continued success of UK HealthCare and additional tuition and fee revenue.

For more information, please visit [http://www.uky.edu/sotu/2015-2020-strategic-plan](http://www.uky.edu/sotu/2015-2020-strategic-plan)

**HEALTH COLLEGES**

The University of Kentucky has six health colleges: Dentistry, Health Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Public Health. With this convergence of health colleges, there are unique opportunities for academic and clinical collaborations that don’t exist on many campuses. One such collaboration is the UK Center for Health Services Research, which serves as a component of the University of Kentucky’s efforts to become a national model for a thriving public, residential, research-intensive campus. The Center particularly focuses on how best
to enhance the value of healthcare delivered by a well-integrated health delivery system to individuals, families, organizations, institutions, communities, and populations.

**UK COLLEGE OF MEDICINE**

Founded in 1960, the UK College of Medicine provides innovative, high-quality education through its nationally recognized curriculum, emphasizing early clinical experiences, continuity as a guiding principle, integration of the basic and clinical sciences, and innovative teaching and learning methods such as small-group tutorials, standardized patients, computer-assisted instruction, clinical training models, and interactive lectures and laboratory exercises. The college’s mission is to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes that promote professionalism, teamwork, life-long learning, empathy, scholarship, cultural sensitivity, and leadership, with the goal of providing excellence in education, healthcare and research within the Commonwealth and beyond.

The College of Medicine has over 200 basic science faculty and over 650 clinical science faculty. Grants and contracts in the College of Medicine reached $129.2 million in fiscal year 2016 including in excess of $66 million in NIH funding. The college accounts for more than 40% of UK’s grants and contracts. Currently, the college has more than 245,000 net square feet of research space.

The College of Medicine has recently undertaken several expansion efforts in developing regional campuses. In particular, plans to develop a regional medical school campus in Northern Kentucky for four-year medical education were announced in February 2017. This program is the third regional medical school campus announced by UK designed to increase the overall number of physicians in the Commonwealth. The Morehead campus was the first expansion and is the current site for the Rural Health Leadership Program (RPLP). The campus at Bowling Green is projected to begin enrolling students in 2018.

**UK HEALTHCARE**

Established in 1957, UK’s academic medical campus includes the University’s clinical enterprise, UK HealthCare (UKHC). UK HealthCare is fully integrated with the University of Kentucky, reporting to President Capilouto through the Office of the Executive Vice President for Health Affairs. Over the past 12 years, UK HealthCare has experienced dramatic and unprecedented growth under the leadership of Michael Karpf, MD. Specifically, annual hospital discharges increased 88% from 2004-2015 and for 2017 are projected to reach 38,000. This strategic growth moved UK HealthCare from the 25th percentile of academic medical centers to the 75th percentile. Inpatient transfers from outlying communities near and far will reach 19,000 annually in 2017. Case complexity (based on CMI) has increased dramatically, ranking UKHC well above the 75th percentile for academic medical centers. Ambulatory visits also increased and are projected to be 1.5 million this year. At the same time, overall improvements in the quality of care and patient safety led to UK HealthCare receiving the UHC Rising Star Award in 2013 and becoming a national leader in patient safety in 2015. By all accounts, UK HealthCare has developed into a formidable academic healthcare institution not only in the state of Kentucky, but nationally.

Today, UK HealthCare is the clinical home to 712 residents and fellows, 547 medical students (140 per class), along with students from all six of the UK health colleges. UKHC also employs more than 10,000 full and part-time workers and is one of the largest employers in the region. Physicians and other medical professionals are trained in the most sophisticated, most up-to-the-minute medical techniques so that no Kentuckian, no matter how sick they are or how rare their illness, needs to go far from home for the treatment they need. As an academic research institution, healthcare professionals are continuously pursuing the next generation of cures, treatments, protocols and policies. Their discoveries have the potential to change what’s medically possible within our lifetimes. At the same time, educators and thought leaders in health policy and delivery are
transforming the healthcare landscape in Kentucky to provide the right care in the right place for everyone in the state.

Since 2003, the number of licensed inpatient beds at UK HealthCare has grown from 463 to 825. UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital and Kentucky Children’s Hospital total 604 beds, with 221 beds at UK Good Samaritan Hospital. Approval has been obtained for a total of 945 beds and is waiting licensure. UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital includes the only Level 1 Trauma Center for both adult and pediatric patients in Central and Eastern Kentucky. The UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital was also named No. 1 in Kentucky in the U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospitals rankings released in 2016. It is the only hospital in the state rated as High Performing in cancer. UK HealthCare also includes Kentucky Clinic, the multi-disciplinary ambulatory clinic located next to UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital as well as 143 outreach clinics and programs throughout Central and Eastern Kentucky. Together, UK HealthCare conducts approximately 1.5 million ambulatory visits annually.

UK HealthCare has inpatient partnerships with the Lexington VA Medical Center, Shriner’s Hospital and Eastern State Hospital. In April 2017, Shriners Hospital will relocate to the UK HealthCare campus as a free-standing building across from the UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital. It will continue to be owned and operated by Shriners Hospitals for Children but will bring together the pediatric orthopedic expertise Shriners is known for with the top-rated specialty and subspecialty pediatric care of UK HealthCare. Eastern State Hospital is a 239-bed psychiatric facility that opened in 2013 and is managed by UK HealthCare.

In January 2016, UK HealthCare joined nine other healthcare systems across the Commonwealth of Kentucky to form the Kentucky Health Collaborative. The Collaborative’s primary objective is to raise standards of care across the state, address the Commonwealth’s poor health statistics and reduce the cost of care through greater operational efficiencies. Other charter members include: Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Baptist Health, Ephraim McDowell Health, LifePoint Health, Norton Healthcare, Owensboro Health, St. Claire Regional Medical Center, St. Elizabeth Healthcare, and The Medical Center at Bowling Green.

UK is one of an elite group of 21 universities in the nation to house a trifecta of nationally accredited research institutions, including a National Cancer Institute-designated cancer research center (Markey Cancer Center), an NIH-funded Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) and the National Institute on Aging-funded Alzheimer’s research center (Sanders-Brown Center on Aging).

In 2016, UK HealthCare achieved Magnet status, the highest institutional honor for nursing excellence from the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Magnet Recognition Program, and the Kentucky Neuroscience Institute (KNI) received the Stroke Gold-Plus Quality Achievement Award by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association for maintaining nationally recognized standards for the treatment of stroke patients.

Looking forward, UK HealthCare has outlined a strategic plan through 2020 that has as its foundation patient-centered care.

Specifically, through care that is patient- and family-centered in its design and delivery, UK HealthCare will differentiate itself in a progressive, powerful way. This plan also lays out the following chapters of its strategy:

1. **Growth in Complex Care:** UK HealthCare aspires to be a medical destination for Kentucky and beyond by focusing on nine service lines that demonstrate collaboration among multiple specialties, coordination across various sites of care and development of new models of care.

2. **Strengthen Partnership Networks:** Collaborating and partnering with community providers will be key as UK HealthCare positions itself for a future in which patient care must be delivered seamlessly across the continuum, from prevention to post-acute care.
3. **Value-Based Care and Payments**: For UK HealthCare, increasing the value of patient care has been and will continue to be the imperative through 2020.

UK HealthCare will continue to leverage its strength as an academic medical center in order to meet the objectives laid out above as well as count on five strategic enablers—a service line operating model, technology, strategy implementation, facility planning and branding and marketing.

For more information, please visit: [http://ukhealthcare.uky.edu/home/](http://ukhealthcare.uky.edu/home/) and see Appendix A.
The University of Kentucky is seeking a highly accomplished, dynamic and inspirational leader to become the next Executive Vice President for Health Affairs (EVPHA) to lead UK HealthCare through its next phase of growth. The new EVPHA inherits a rapidly evolving healthcare system well positioned for continued success in the blended missions of quality clinical care, teaching, research and service. This position truly represents one of the most exciting leadership opportunities in U.S. healthcare today and the right leader will be poised to have tremendous impact locally, regionally, and nationally.

The EVPHA is the senior executive for health sciences and health affairs at the University of Kentucky. As such, the EVPHA establishes the leadership standards, strategic direction, and performance expectations for the organization and its officials. Specifically, she/he provides the leadership, strategic direction, visioning, future planning, and coordination for the overall academic, research, and clinical delivery enterprises across UK Healthcare.

As one of three senior executives (Executive Vice Presidents and Provost) at UK who report to the President, the EVPHA serves as an important member of the President’s Council, which is responsible for the entire University enterprise. Therefore, a critical role for the EVPHA is to conduct himself/herself as a leader not only in matters of health sciences and health affairs but also across the entire University. With the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration and the Provost, the EVPHA works collaboratively across the campus, its varied programs, and within its leadership structure to assure a harmonious, collaborative, and cohesive leadership environment.

- Based in Lexington, Kentucky
- Seven Direct Reports
- Reports to President, University of Kentucky
KEY RELATIONSHIPS

Reports to

Eli Capilouto, DMD, ScD
President, University of Kentucky

Direct reports

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, UKHC
Vice President and Chief Clinical Operations Officer, UKHC
Vice President, Health System Administration and External Affairs, UKHC
Associate Vice President, Clinical Network Development, UKHC
Chief Compliance Officer, UKHC
Director of UK HealthCare Development
Vice President and Dean of the College of Medicine (for Clinical Affairs; reports to the Provost for Academic Affairs)

Other key relationships

University of Kentucky Board of Trustees
Provost
Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration
Deans of Dentistry, Health Sciences, Nursing, Pharmacy and Public Health
Clinical and Basic Science Department Chairs-Medical Group
Vice President for Research
Other members of the President’s Council
Faculty
Staff
Patients and families
External constituencies (e.g., other Kentucky healthcare providers, government leaders, regulators, Kentucky Hospital Association, Kentucky Medical Association)
KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Below are the major responsibilities for the EVPHA, not necessarily in priority order.

- Develop, articulate and implement a clear vision for UK HealthCare which advances the strategy of providing subspecialty care, collaborating with regional providers and making UK HealthCare indispensable to the Commonwealth.

- Lead a $2 billion and growing healthcare enterprise, which includes accountability for all operations, management and financial performance of UK HealthCare.

- Develop strong external relationships with communities, local, state and federal government, and the Kentucky Health Collaborative.

- Develop and execute a plan to expand ambulatory practice settings.

- Continue advancement of UK HealthCare as a best in class academic medical center through the execution of the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan.

- Enhance campus/community collaborations in areas where opportunities exist to build diversity and increase inclusion, innovation and collaboration.

- Create and cultivate a culture that promotes physician and staff engagement.

- Provide leadership for the growth of research across the health sciences at UK.

- Collaborate with the Dean of Medicine and the other Health College Deans to educate future physicians and other healthcare providers as well as recruit top caliber faculty in strategic support of the advancement of UK HealthCare and the University.

- Actively participate in philanthropy and activities that promote both the University and UK HealthCare.

- Provide leadership and oversight of the master facilities planning process for the health system and provide leadership in the continued transformation of UK HealthCare’s physical plant.

- Advise the President of the University of Kentucky on all healthcare matters.

- Serve effectively as a partner and liaison with UK Board of Trustees Healthcare Committee.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Continue to advance and support an appropriate growth agenda for UK Healthcare by recruiting faculty, expanding the physical footprint, building partnerships and exploring creative joint ventures, affiliations and/or mergers. At the same time, focus on ensuring the necessary resources, stability and support are in
place for the existing faculty and staff to sustain and thrive as well as digest the growth that has taken place over the previous 12 years.

- Work collaboratively with the leadership team to develop and implement an ambulatory care strategy for UK Healthcare.

- Develop and implement a strategy to address potential changes in the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid expansion within Kentucky.

- Build a trust-based relationship across the leadership team of UK HealthCare and the University.

- Engage the entire UK HealthCare community to promote wellness and create a culture of balance, transparency and inclusivity that values all opinions.
The Executive Vice President of Health Affairs is responsible for a $2B healthcare enterprise.

**IDEAL EXPERIENCE**

**M.D. or other relevant advanced degree**

The preferred candidate will possess an M.D. degree. An advanced degree in research (Ph.D), health services (D.P.H., M.P.H., or M.H.A.), business administration (M.B.A.), or nursing (D.N.P.) will also be considered for outstanding candidates.

**C-Suite level experience**

Successful senior leadership experience in a complex academic medical center or other similarly complex health-related organization with a strong and consistent financial performance. Although prior CEO experience is preferred, Deans, Department Chairs, Institute Directors, COOs, Presidents, CMOs, or similar leaders within large academic medical centers and emerging leaders with significant leadership roles in health system management will also be considered.

**Demonstrated expertise**

Exceptional skills in all elements of healthcare administration, such as: board and physician relations, strategic planning, academic service line development, patient care, finance, academic medicine, physician joint-venture development, information technology, human resources, government relations, marketing and vendor/payer contract negotiations. Comfort with and ability to work well in ambiguous and matrixed environments.

Financial and business acumen with the strength and judgment to effectively utilize available resources, faculty and staff.

Clear history of success in building and maintaining strategic collaborations.
CRITICAL LEADERSHIP CAPABILITIES

Collaborative Leadership
In a dynamic and evolving environment that is committed to a collaborative approach to advancing the mission of UK HealthCare, the EVPHA must develop cooperative strategies and engage in mutual problem solving.

She/he will do this by:

- Partnering effectively and productively with the President and Senior Leadership of UK to advance the overall healthcare mission;
- Building trust and respect at all levels across the institution and being seen as a “balanced and fair” executive who can implement the vision of UK HealthCare;
- Understanding the distinctive nature of the state of Kentucky and focusing equally on external collaborations as well as internal collaborations; and by
- Demonstrating strong mentoring skills and advancing cohesive teams that leverage individual talents for a better collective outcome.

Strategic Acumen/Agility
Successful candidates will possess the ability to understand and thrive in a complex, multi-faceted organization and quickly comprehend the multiple second- and third-order consequences of decisions. This leader will effectively balance numerous competing needs to make the best strategic decisions for the organization. She/he will work successfully with all stakeholders in a diplomatic fashion and be able to articulate instances where compromise solutions are reached with limited negative repercussions.

She/he will do this by:

- Leading the dialogue around diversity in all its aspects, through understanding, promotion, and advocacy of diversity and inclusiveness. The EVPHA must be a champion of diversity in healthcare delivery, scholarship, leadership, and education, and she/he must promote a high standard of the consideration of diversity and inclusiveness in all critical strategic and tactical decisions.
- Connecting productively with key partners and community leaders to forge long-term collaborations that benefit UK HealthCare as well as patients and families;
- Uniting with investigators and faculty to develop mechanisms and secure research support from traditional as well as innovative and non-traditional sources of funding;
- Providing vision, leadership, and management for the academic enterprise; attracting, retaining and developing faculty and leaders; and setting clear expectations and targets for faculty contributions in collaboration with Deans, Chairs, and individual faculty members; and by

Data Driven Results Orientation
In a complex, multi-constituent environment with much uncertainty in future funding for research and clinical care delivery, the EVPHA must be able to ensure sustainable models of clinical care and research funding, even in an environment of resource reduction or limitations.
She/he will accomplish this by:

- Using data and research to develop and implement creative, yet deliberate, solutions with UK HealthCare and other entities that optimize business performance while maintaining excellent patient care and supporting the broader academic missions;
- Building a shared sense of accountability across UK HealthCare and effectively creating incentives and systems that yield and measure optimal performance across all aspects of the academic mission;
- Making sound strategic and financial decisions in a timely manner, even in the face of incomplete information; and by;
- Working effectively with strategic partners to create win-win business solutions.

**OTHER PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS**

- Ethical and principled, with impeccable integrity and values
- Effective communicator who seeks to understand and be understood
- Open, fair, and transparent in interactions
- Decisive with the ability to make choices in ambiguous or uncertain contexts to establish and lead a clear path forward
- Aspiration and vision for excellence and ability to motivate and empower others to the same
- Team-oriented leadership style: able to inspire, delegate, cooperate, and hold accountable
- Courageous and optimistic
- Inspirational, passionate, genuine, and enthusiastic
- Fully self-aware and high degree of emotional intelligence
ABOUT LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

Overview
Within a day's drive of two-thirds of the population of the United States, Lexington is strategically located at the intersection of interstates 64 and 75 in Fayette County, Kentucky. Lexington is accessible by air with approximately 100 direct and nonstop flights. Nestled among world famous Thoroughbred horse farms, Blue Grass Airport (LEX) welcomes travelers with one of the most beautiful air approaches in the nation.

Brief History
When European settlers arrived on the scene, the Bluegrass region was in use as a hunting ground by numerous Native American tribes. Daniel Boone was one of the first Anglo-Saxons to explore the area. He helped establish Kentucky's first forts in Harrodsburg and Boonesborough.

Lexington was founded in 1775, seventeen years before Kentucky became a state. William McConnell and a group of frontier explorers were camped at a natural spring when word came from nearby Fort Boonesborough that the first battle of the American Revolution had been fought in Lexington, Massachusetts. In honor of the battle, the group named their site "Lexington". By 1820, Lexington, Kentucky, was one of the largest and wealthiest towns west of the Allegheny Mountains. So cultured was its lifestyle, our city soon gained the nickname "Athens of the West."

Geography
Fayette County consists of 283 square miles of gently rolling plateau in the center of the inner Bluegrass Region. The area is noted for its beauty, fertile soil, excellent pastureland and horse and stock farms. Poa Pratensis (bluegrass) thrives on the limestone beneath the soil's surface, playing a major role in the area's scenic beauty and in the development of champion horses. Numerous small creeks rise and flow into the Kentucky River.

Population
The U.S. Census estimate for Lexington-Fayette County is 310,797 (2014). The estimated population of the metropolitan statistical area (MSA), which is comprised of Bourbon, Clark, Fayette, Jessamine, Madison, Scott, and Woodford counties, is 494,189.

Places of Worship
There are over 230 churches and synagogues in Lexington, representing 38 denominations as well as mosques and a Hindu temple.
Climate/Seasonal Planning
The mean average temperature in Lexington is 54.9 degrees Fahrenheit. Annual precipitation is 45.68 inches. Lexington and the Bluegrass Region have four distinct seasons that include cool plateau breezes, moderate nights in the summer, and no prolonged periods of heat, cold, rain, wind, or snow.

Safety
Lexington's crime consistently ranks below the national average. In addition to foot and car patrols, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Police Department operates two highly visible units that have proven to be effective crime deterrents. The Lexington Mounted Police Unit and Mountain Bike Unit patrol the downtown area on horseback and bicycles to help assure community safety.

Corporations/Industry in Lexington
Traditional products of the area include horses, bourbon, tobacco and handcrafts, but an increasing diversity of products and services contributes to a healthy economy. Major employers in the Lexington area include:

- Ashland Inc.
- Clark Material Handling Company
- General Electric Company
- J M Smuckers (Jif Peanut Butter )
- Johnson Controls
- Lexmark International
- Link-Belt Construction Equipment Company
- Long John Silver's
- Square D Company
- Toyota Motor Manufacturing, U.S.A., Inc.
- The Trane Company
- United Parcel Service
- University of Kentucky
- The Valvoline Company
- Xerox

The Council of State Governments, the National Tour Association and the Association of Retail Travel Agents are national organizations that are headquartered in Lexington. Also, The National Horse Center at the Kentucky Horse Park is the national headquarters for more than 30 equine associations.
10 THINGS UK STUDENTS LOVE ABOUT LEXINGTON

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS
"I think Lexington's really neat because it is a big city, but it has a down-home, humble, southern vibe to it...everyone's really kind." - Danielle Brewer, Columbus, Ohio

"It definitely has the southern hospitality while also having a lot of things to do for a large urban center." - Trey Zimmerman, Lexington

VIBRANT DOWNTOWN
"So it's big in its ideas but it's small and safe, what I mean by big in its ideas is there are tons of restaurants, they're opening up a 21C hotel, there's Thursday Night Live, which has food trucks and live music, and there's a farmer's market and everything just brings the community together." - Elizabeth Mechas, Lexington

"The Distillery District is a great place for people even under 21, and North Lime is great for breakfast but also a night market on the weekend." - Ross Boggess, Lexington

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND
"There's great opportunity no matter what you want to do, you know, job-wise, academically, service-wise; there's everything. I think what makes UK unique is that it is in Lexington, and it has all this opportunity of a big school. It has all this opportunity of the city, and the research, and the academics." - Emily Appel, Lebanon, Ohio

"You have so many more opportunities, not just in places to eat but places to internship at, research opportunities, the hospital's close by." - Elizabeth Mechas, Lexington

CLOSE-KNIT COMMUNITY
"You feel at home here, even though you're far from home. It's just become a great place to live." - Danielle Brewer, Columbus, Ohio

"Lexington is a small enough town to where it's comfortable and you know everybody and you'll see familiar faces, but it's big enough to where you're able to make a big scale difference, and you're able to always meet somebody new." - Ross Boggess, Lexington

BEAUTIFUL GREEN SPACES
"There is the arboretum as well, which is this area of just rolling hills, green grass, beautiful flowers. It's a great place for running, for walks, no matter what you want to do." - Emily Appel, Lebanon, Ohio
"There's also the Henry Clay Estate that has beautiful gardens and really open green space." - Evelyne Mechas, Lexington

LOCATION
"You’re right by Rupp Arena. You’re right by Triangle Park. You're right by all of the downtown little shops and everything. That's what I really love about this city, too. But then you’re also a 10-minute drive from the rolling hills and everything, by the horse farms and a 10-minute drive from Keeneland." - Morgan Seiver, St. Louis, Missouri

QUIRKY CULTURE
"When I go to a restaurant here it has a lot of culture, it has a lot of history, and I really love that about Lexington." - Elaisy Gonzalez, Louisville, Kentucky

"Running downtown is awesome because there are beautiful murals...there's this beautiful Abraham Lincoln memorial mural." - Evelyne Mechas, Lexington

"There's always something going on in Lexington. There's always something related to the arts or creativity. There's always neat things to do." - Danielle Brewer, Columbus, Ohio

LOVE FOR LOCAL
"I love just all the local things, especially all the local restaurants, the local stores. I think that's a big thing." - William Reedy, Corbin, Kentucky

"There's so many unique things to Lexington that have a local feel, and you really get to see the local character, and that's a great character to show. - Ross Boggess, Lexington

ALUMNI SUPPORT
"There are a lot of alumni of UK, and even people that didn't go to UK, that are always willing to help and are always looking to help UK students through experiences and internships." - Ross Boggess, Lexington

EXPOSURE TO NEW THINGS
"I've found little nooks and crannies within Lexington that I didn't know existed at first." - Sierra Hatfield, Harlan, Kentucky

"It's a little more diverse, which I like. I mean, it's definitely exposed me to new ideas, new kinds of people." - William Reedy, Corbin, Kentucky
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