A Message from President Eli Capilouto

In 1997, the Kentucky General Assembly charged the University of Kentucky with a mandate to become a Top 20 public research university. It was the correct course of action then and remains the correct course of action today. States with Top 20 research institutions have healthier citizens, a highly educated workforce, lower crime rates, and lower Medicaid costs than the national average. In order to maximize the benefit of our noble pursuit, we must balance our mandate with a commitment to our land-grant mission and the people of Kentucky.

UK Healthcare has reached a phenomenal capacity to serve the Commonwealth through our state-of-the-art patient care pavilion and emergency room, advanced biomedical and biological research, and a network of affiliate healthcare agencies throughout Kentucky. UK Healthcare’s passion for people and our vision for a medical campus of the future have inspired leading physicians and researchers from across the United States to join us in our effort. Since their arrival, they have balanced a research agenda with outreach trips to our affiliate hospitals so Kentucky families can receive quality healthcare at home and travel to Lexington only for advanced, life-saving medical procedures.

Our outreach and service extend beyond our healthcare enterprise. The UK School of Music’s Opera Program and Symphony travel across Kentucky performing at middle and high schools. Secondary students in rural communities do not have the same exposure to the arts as those living in metropolitan areas. More often than not, our outreach program is the only access a student has to any arts program, let alone one of nationally renowned caliber.

The Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, recently ranked a top Ph.D. program in Public Administration by the National Research Council, is helping the state maximize its research capacity. Faculty from the Martin School have engaged in a series of presentations regarding Kentucky tax revenue policies and expenditure habits with state policy makers in the Legislative Research Commission and the State Budget Office. The series has been a mutually beneficial dialogue as Martin School’s expertise aids Kentucky in addressing many of the new realities states face in the changing economy.

Over the last several years, the UK College of Design has become a major resource for communities looking to redevelop areas in creative ways to address the economic challenges they face. The Kentucky River Cities project grew from a single project in Henderson to include one in Paducah and one in Louisville. Design students are working closely with local leaders to address ways they can repurpose defunct infrastructure.

Closer to home, UK’s Office of Commercialization and Economic Development assists faculty and staff researchers as they move their ideas and designs through the business modeling process and into burgeoning small businesses. Recently, the Lexington Venture Club assessed the success rate of a number of start-up companies benefiting from angel investment funds and venture capital. Eighty-eight early-stage companies that participated in the survey (39 of which were UK affiliated) successfully leveraged $64 million in capital into $94 million in high-tech entrepreneurial revenue for Lexington and the Bluegrass Region.

The exciting things the University of Kentucky is doing off-campus signals a diverse community of global scholars engaging in a cooperative exchange of ideas on campus. Our academic mission is the core of our institution and our faculty, staff, and students are at the heart of our endeavor. With students from all 120 Kentucky counties, each of the 50 states, and 115 countries worldwide, our campus environment is the opportune setting to prepare our students for a global society.

We are blessed with a strong faculty core who support over 200 academic programs spread across 16 colleges and professional schools. While we relish in a wide variety of curricular opportunities, UK offers exciting co-curricular activities that complement what our students learn inside the classroom and encourage them to actively participate in the broader Lexington community.

The University of Kentucky emphasizes our outreach and service mission while balancing the preparation of a future generation for a world that never stops evolving. I encourage you to take a closer look at all UK has to offer.

Sincerely,
Eli Capilouto

President
The 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 accomplishes this achievement 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’s campus now covers more than 716 acres and is home to 28,000 students and 13,500 employees.

UK is one of only seven universities in the U.S. that has programs in agriculture, engineering, medicine, and pharmacy on a single campus, leading to groundbreaking discoveries and unique interdisciplinary collaboration. 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.

The student body is diverse, representing 115 countries, every state in the nation, and every Kentucky county. The University continues to attract the best and brightest from Kentucky and beyond. 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, Marshall, Udall and Gates. UK had its 13th Truman Scholar named in 2008, and has had two Gates Cambridge Scholars in the past three years (Andrew Lynch of Whitley County, Kentucky – 2008; and Lesley Mann of McLean County, Kentucky – 2010).

Since 1997, the University has pursued an ambitious mandate of becoming a Top 20 public research university while balancing its important mission as a land-grant institution by serving the people of Kentucky. UK President Eli Capilouto has embraced this goal in a way that promises an impact on every Kentucky resident.

“The University of Kentucky has a diverse set of campus resources centered in Lexington. Our wide array of programs allows us to excel in interdisciplinary studies and fosters an environment of cooperative engagement across all colleges, programs, and research endeavors,” Capilouto says. “We do a great disservice to the people of Kentucky if we dream too little dreams. We need to leverage our resource base to move Kentucky forward into a knowledge-based economy. The University of Kentucky, as the Commonwealth’s flagship institution, is called to improve the general welfare of our citizenry, and we are uniquely positioned to make that future a reality for the people of Kentucky.”

UK boasts over 80 national rankings for academic excellence. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked several of UK’s graduate programs among the nation’s best. The Martin School of Public Policy and Administration is ranked 4th in the category of public finance and budgeting and the College of Pharmacy is ranked 5th. The College of Medicine’s Family Medicine program is 17th and its Rural Health program is 18th. The Institute for the Theory and Practice of International Relations named the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce the 16th strongest master’s degree
programs in international affairs in the world. The College of Health Sciences’ Physician Assistant program was ranked 25th and its Physical Therapy graduate program is ranked 35th; the College of Social Work’s master’s program is 36th; and the College of Law is ranked among the top 50 public institutions. In addition, a study published in the Southern Economic Journal ranks the Gatton College of Business and Economics’ Department of Economics 19th among public institutions in the U.S. U.S. News & World Report ranked the College of Engineering’s undergraduate program 51st among the nation’s public schools that offer a doctorate in engineering.

In 2007, the University of Kentucky became the nation’s first university to raise a billion dollars in its first-ever capital campaign. Reaching its fundraising goal a full nine months ahead of schedule, UK became the 31st American university — both public and private — that successfully completed campaigns of $1 billion-plus. Following the campaign, the University initiated a campus-wide review of all college, UK Healthcare, athletics and special program development efforts. The review is leading to significant changes in areas of staff performance and metrics, predictive modeling of donor prospects, new recognition and endowment levels, and strategies to create a culture of philanthropy among faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and students. As a result, UK is at its highest level of fund-raising success. Total dollars are up over 20 percent and number of donors by 12 percent as we near the end of the first fiscal year after the review.

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. At the heart of the campus is the iconic William T. Young Library, the most visible of the more than one dozen facilities that comprise UK Libraries. The stately architecture features a 93-foot-tall rotunda and a dramatic five-floor atrium allowing natural light to pour in from skylights. With the largest book endowment of all public universities in the U.S., UK Libraries is among the world’s leading research libraries. Its broad scope of advanced technology offers students, faculty, staff, and Kentucky residents special access to current information online in addition to printed resources.

Research at the University of Kentucky 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 nearly $368 million last year. During last fiscal year, research grants and contracts from out-of-state sources resulted in a nearly $350 million contribution to the state’s economy, accounting for more than 8,800 jobs and $182.9 million in personal income.

With more than 50 research centers and institutes, UK researchers are discovering new knowledge, providing a rich training ground for current students (the next generation of Kentucky 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 into diseases of the horse. And the Center for Applied Energy Research conducts groundbreaking research across the energy disciplines. 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 Advanced Science and Technology Commercialization Center (ASTeCC) in the heart of campus provides lab space for faculty 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 other public and private institutions across Kentucky, in other states, and abroad.

The UK 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 dynamic Medical Center take pride in achieving excellence in education, patient care, research, and community service. The 473-bed UK Chandler Hospital and Kentucky Children’s Hospital are supported by a growing faculty and staff. The University recently completed construction of a new $532 million patient care pavilion at UK Chandler Hospital, which serves as a cornerstone for the Commonwealth’s Medical Campus of the Future. UK Healthcare serves a unique role in the Commonwealth, as the only Level 1 Trauma Center in Central and Eastern Kentucky. While our new patient care pavilion is the leading healthcare facility for advanced medical procedures in the region, our talented physicians consult with and travel to our network of affiliate hospitals so Kentucky citizens can receive the best healthcare available at home. UK Chandler Hospital 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 business 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 an impact on Kentucky families. UK is working to help alleviate some of the nagging issues that have held Kentucky back through its Commonwealth Collaboratives initiative. This effort provides incentives to senior researchers to focus their time and talent on solving some of Kentucky’s most pressing problems. UK faculty and researchers are leading efforts to improve educational, social, and economic conditions in all 120 Kentucky counties.

UK’s agenda aims to accelerate the University’s movement toward academic excellence in all areas and gain worldwide recognition for its outstanding academic programs, its commitment to undergraduates, its success in building a diverse community, and its engagement with the larger society. It’s all part of the University’s strategy to help position Kentucky as a leader in American prosperity.