A Message from President Eli Capilouto

Nearly 150 years ago, at the birth of our storied institution, the nation and our state set in motion a profound idea that a university had the ability to change people’s lives through unmatched, quality in higher education; innovative and life-altering research and discovery; and outreach that uplifts the communities and people it serves.

Today, the University of Kentucky is finding new ways to carry out its mission – its nearly 150-year-old covenant – to our students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends, and the people of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. It is the idea that we have been charged to lead as our state’s flagship through a multi-faceted mission of education, research, service and health care.

We are blessed with a strong faculty core that supports more than 200 academic programs spread across 17 colleges, professional schools and the UK Library system. UK has recently restructured and implemented its undergraduate education program, creating the new “UK Core,” which is providing students with a comprehensive education that will prepare them for lives of leadership, meaning and purpose.

On campus, we have undertaken an innovative effort to restore and rebuild our residential communities. We are engaged in a public/private partnership with Memphis-based EdR to create living-learning spaces for our students to discover and collaborate in a way that enhances the overall college experience.

By 2016, we will add more than 5,700 modern residence hall beds in 12 new facilities on our campus – among the largest growth periods in the institution’s history. Included in this purposeful expansion are 202 technology-rich academic learning spaces to enhance the college experience.

Our endeavor to build a campus that supports a new century of promise includes several capital projects vital to the long-term future of the institution: the renovation and expansion of the Gatton College of Business and Economics, a new Academic Science Building, a renovated Commonwealth Stadium and Nutter Training Center, a dramatic renewal of the student center, and the continued fit-out of Chandler Hospital.

Each project will be self-financed through private philanthropy, creative partnerships, clinical revenue and institutional resources. Most notable is the generosity of our donors who will completely finance a new Gatton College and the bold partnership with UK Athletics – one of the few self-sustaining programs in the nation – which will pay for two-thirds of the Academic Science Building.

Our capital priorities are a critical component of our future, but our campus is more than bricks and mortar – it is the faculty, staff and administrators who open doors of opportunity for our students and the programs that comprise the comprehensive college experience we offer. The University’s wide variety of academic opportunities are complemented by exciting co-curricular activities that add richly to what our students learn inside the classroom and encourage them to actively participate as part of a global community. We emphasize our outreach and service missions to better prepare our future generation for a world that never stops evolving.

The exciting things the University of Kentucky is doing off campus signal a diverse community engaging in a cooperative exchange of ideas. Our academic mission is the core of our institution and our faculty, staff and students are at the heart of that endeavor. With students from all 120 Kentucky counties, each of the 50 states and more than 100 countries worldwide, our campus environment is the opportune setting to prepare our students for a global society.

UK HealthCare has strategically developed an incredible capacity to serve the Commonwealth through our new, state-of-the-art patient care pavilion, advanced biomedical and biological research, and a network of health care partners throughout Kentucky. Recently, UK HealthCare was distinguished as a Top Performer by the Joint Commission, the largest medical accreditation body in the nation, and won a Rising Star award from the University Health System Consortium.

Our 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 efforts. Since their arrival, they have balanced a research agenda with outreach to our affiliate and partner hospitals so Kentucky families can receive high-quality health care at home and travel to Lexington only for the most advanced, complex medical care and procedures.

The University of Kentucky has a vibrant fine arts program and is a cultural hub for arts engagement in the Commonwealth. UK English professor and director of the African American and Africana Studies Program, Frank X Walker, was named Kentucky Poet Laureate. Student performers in the UK Symphony Orchestra played alongside the world’s best musicians in the Boston Pops tribute concert for the 75th Anniversary of Keeneland Race Course. The School of Music’s Opera Program and Symphony travel across Kentucky performing at middle and high schools. In many instances, our outreach program is the only...
access a student has to any arts program, let alone one of nationally renowned caliber.

Over the last several years, the College of Design has become a major resource for communities looking to redevelop resources in creative ways to address the economic challenges they face. Recently, faculty and staff architects have helped repurpose houseboat manufacturing facilities in southeast Kentucky to build energy efficient residences for families in the region.

Closer to home, UK faculty and staff researchers translate their ideas and designs through the business modeling process and into burgeoning small businesses. In addition to attracting venture capital for start-up companies, UK faculty and staff lend their intellectual expertise to national and multinational companies located in Lexington. UK’s Coldstream Research Campus is home to 62 companies in the biotech, pharmaceutical, equine health and service industries, including the global headquarters and regional offices for Tempur-Pedic, A&W Restaurants, Bingham McCutchen and Hewlett-Packard.

In countless ways, the University of Kentucky endures as a modern flagship, land-grant research institution, emblazoned anew by an enduring and timeless commitment to improve our state, nation and global community.

It is a vision that has been a steadfast commitment throughout our history. It is a promise that will guide us in the future.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

President

University of Kentucky – The Commonwealth’s Flagship Institution

The innovation, creativity, quality teaching and uplifting service under way at the University of Kentucky touch the lives of people throughout the state, the nation and the world. This is the covenant we honor through ground-breaking research, community outreach, intellectually rigorous education 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 918 acres and is home to 30,000 students and approximately 14,500 employees, including more than 2,300 full-time faculty. UK is one of eight universities in the United States that has colleges of agriculture, engineering, medicine and pharmacy 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; the Graduate School; Health Sciences; Law; Medicine; Nursing; Pharmacy; Public Health; and Social Work. Supporting and emboldening our scholarly community is a comprehensive research library system made up of nine facilities, including the world-class William T. Young library.

The student body is diverse, representing more than 100 countries, every state in the nation, and all 120 Kentucky counties. The University continues to attract the best and brightest from Kentucky and beyond. At 25.5, the average ACT score for first-year students is more than four points above the national average. Several hundred students participated in the Governor’s Scholars Program or the Governor’s School for the Arts; and the University enrolled 176 National Merit, National Achievement and National Hispanic Scholars in the last two years. UK students compete successfully for prestigious scholarships and awards, such as the Fulbright, Astronaut, Truman, Goldwater, Marshall, Udall and Gates. UK had its 15th and 16th Astronaut Scholars named in the 2013-14 academic year. Additionally, UK has had 13 Truman Scholars and 18 Goldwater Scholars since 1990, and two Gates Cambridge Scholars in the past six years.

Since his arrival, President Eli Capilouto has set forth an ambitious agenda to honor our covenant with Kentucky as a modern, land-grant and flagship research university lighting the path toward a brighter tomorrow. By focusing on infrastructure growth and improvement; creating opportunities for innovative teaching and learning; fostering a robust research and creative scholarship enterprise; providing life-saving subspecialty care; empowering communities through service and outreach; and encouraging a transparent and shared dialogue about institutional priorities; the University of Kentucky will ensure a new century of promise for the people we impact.

The University

“The University of Kentucky has a broad range of resources centered on a single campus in the heart of the Bluegrass,” Capilouto says. “Our wide array of programs allows us to excel in multidisciplinary studies and fosters an environment of cooperative engagement across all colleges, programs and research endeavors. We do a great disservice to the people of Kentucky if we dream too little dreams. Our renewed commitment to fulfilling our promise to Kentucky will help us position the Commonwealth as a major driver in a 21st century economy. The University of Kentucky, as the state’s flagship and land-grant research institution, is called to improve the general welfare of our citizenry, and we are uniquely positioned to make a brighter future the reality for the people of Kentucky.”

In the last five years, UK has received nearly 100 national rankings for excellence in academics, research, health care and economic development. Five programs are ranked at the top of their respective fields. U.S. News and World Report ranks several of UK’s graduate programs among the nation’s best: the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration is ranked second in the category of public finance and budgeting, and the College of Pharmacy is ranked fifth. The University of Kentucky earned 28 Top 10 rankings and 50 Top 25 rankings over the last several years.

The College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Hispanic Studies and doctoral program in Clinical Psychology have both received top honors for faculty productivity and scholarly activity. UK’s premier professional opera training program was named one of the top programs in the nation by the Tucker Foundation. The Institute for the Theory and Practice of International Relations named the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce among the top 20 master’s degree programs in international affairs in the world. In the last few years, the College of Public Health (overall); the Gatton College of Business and Economics, Ph.D. in business administration; the College of Health Sciences, Physical Therapy program; the College of Medicine, Ph.D. in physiology; and the College of Nursing (overall) have been ranked in the Top 25 in their respective fields. In addition, a study published in the Southern Economic Journal ranked the Gatton College of Business and Economics’ Department of Economics 19th among public institutions in the U.S., and Gatton’s Masters in Accountancy program has among the highest passage rates on the CPA exam. The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment – the foundation of our land-grant mission – boasts the nation’s third largest Cooperative Extension Service, and UK’s College of Law is ranked a top 10 best buy.

In 2007, the University of Kentucky became the 16th American public university – 31st of both public and private – that successfully completed campaigns of more than $1 billion. Moreover, the University was the first institution to reach this milestone in its first-ever billion-dollar capital campaign. Following the campaign, the University initiated a campus-wide review of all college, UK HealthCare, athletics and special program development efforts. As a result, UK is at its highest level of fundraising success.

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 several facilities that comprise UK
The University

Libraries. The stately architecture features a 93-foot-tall rotunda and a dramatic five-floor atrium allowing natural light to pour in from skylights. UK Libraries is among the world’s leading research libraries with a broad scope of advanced technology that offers students, faculty, staff and Kentuckians special access to current information online in addition to printed resources.

To match the scope, scale and grandeur of William T. Young Library, the University of Kentucky has recently engaged in an effort to revitalize student living and learning spaces. UK’s public/private partnership with EdR will yield more than 5,700 modern beds and 202 active learning spaces in 12 buildings by 2016—a $348 million investment made by our partners. The total project scope has the potential to create nearly 9,000 modern living spaces by 2018.

Over the last three years, the University self-financed the construction of nearly $1 billion in infrastructure to bolster the long-term health and success of the institution. In addition to the aforementioned residential housing projects, UK is investing:

- $65 million to renovate and expand the Gatton College of Business and Economics with the support of generous donors and friends.
- $100 million in a new Academic Science Building that will define cutting-edge, interdisciplinary education and research that spans an array of scientific fields. UK Athletics is funding nearly two-thirds, $65 million, of this modern learning and research space—an unprecedented move in American higher education and NCAA athletics.
- $110 million to enhance Commonwealth Stadium and $45 million to renovate and expand the Nutter Training and Recruiting Center, financed completely by self-generated revenue from UK Athletics.
- $20 million invested in the College of Fine Arts, including a new home for the School of Art and Visual Studies.
- $150 million to continue the fit-out of UK HealthCare’s Chandler Hospital; financed with clinical revenue.
- $165 million to renovate and expand the student center and create a modern facility for the campus and community.
- $65 million to dramatically renew—in partnership with the state and donors—the College of Law.

Research at the University of Kentucky is a dynamic enterprise encompassing both traditional scholarship and emerging fields and technologies. 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. 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, advancing the economic growth of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and exploring art and creativity of diverse cultures.

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. The Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER) is pursuing groundbreaking research across the energy disciplines. CAER staff are pioneering new ways to sustainably utilize Kentucky natural resources through carbon-capture algae technology, biomass/coal to liquid products and the opening of UK’s first LEED-certified research lab to support the development of Kentucky’s growing alternative energy industry. The College of Education’s P20 Innovation Lab is reforming Kentucky classrooms by implementing 21st century learning techniques derived from pedagogical research, preparing new teachers and providing additional training for school and district leaders.

Among the brightest examples of UK’s investment in transformative research is the Markey Cancer Center. As a center of excellence and distinction at UK, Markey’s robust research and clinical enterprise is the cornerstone of our commitment to Kentucky—fundamental to our success in uplifting lives through our endeavors and improving the general health and welfare of our state—burdened by the nation’s highest rate of cancer deaths per 100,000 people. Last summer, Markey earned the prestigious National Cancer Institute designation (NCI)—one of 68 nationally and the only one in Kentucky.

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. Through the collaborative efforts of nearly 200 faculty and staff across 12 departments and colleges, the University of Kentucky was awarded a $20 million Clinical Translational Sciences Award (CTSA) from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). As one of only 60 institutions with this research distinction, UK was awarded the CTSA for its potential in moving research and discovery into the lab into practical and community applications. The CTSA and NCI are part of a trifecta of federal research grants that includes an Alzheimer’s Disease Center. UK is one of only 22 universities in the country to hold all three premier grants from NIH.

Established in 1957, the medical center at UK is one of the nation’s finest academic medical centers and includes the University’s clinical enterprise, UK HealthCare. The 569-bed UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital and Kentucky Children’s Hospital, along with 256 beds at UK Good Samaritan Hospital, are supported by a growing faculty and staff providing the most advanced subspecialty care for the most critically injured and ill patients throughout the Commonwealth and beyond. Over the last several years, the number of patients served by the medical enterprise has increased from roughly 19,000 discharges to more than 35,500 discharges in 2013.

UK Chandler Hospital includes the only Level 1 Trauma Center for both adult and pediatric patients in Central and Eastern Kentucky. In addition, the dramatic growth of UK HealthCare’s clinic enterprise—moving the hospital from the 85th to the 35th percentile, nationally—has created more than 3,500 additional high-paying jobs over the last several years. 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 close to their home and never need to leave the Bluegrass for complex subspecialty care.

The University 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 directly engaging with businesses, local government and civic service organizations. As a $3.0 billion university, UK is the region’s largest employer, providing more than 12,300 full-time jobs and more than $78 million in state and local payroll taxes.

UK’s reach extends far beyond the borders of Fayette County. As an anchor institution for the Bluegrass Economic Advanced Movement, UK’s College of Engineering and graduates of our institution are a critical component of growing an advanced manufacturing economy in Central Kentucky. UK is also part of the Bluegrass Higher Education Consortium, a collection of 13 postsecondary institutions working together to advance the cause of learning. And we work collaboratively with other institutions to establish joint degree programs and improve the pipeline of students transferring between colleges and universities.

UK’s agenda remains committed to accelerating the University’s movement toward academic excellence in all areas and gain worldwide recognition for its outstanding academic programs, its commitment to students, its investment in pioneering research and discovery, its success in building a diverse community and its engagement with the larger society. It’s all part of the University’s fulfillment of our covenant with Kentucky to position our state as a leader.