

# PR 1

Office of the President  
December 17, 2013

## 1. UK Medical Research Enterprise Achieves Three National Designations

UK recently accomplished the equivalent of a “triple crown” in the academic medical world, becoming only the 22nd medical center in the country to have a National Cancer Institute designation (at the Markey Cancer Center), a federally funded Alzheimer's Disease Center (ADC, at the UK Sanders-Brown Center on Aging), and a Clinical and Translational Science Awards grant (at the Center for Clinical and Translational Science).

## 2. UK HealthCare Honored for Its Quality

UK HealthCare was named a "Top Performer on Key Quality Measures" by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of health care organizations in America. UK HealthCare was recognized by The Joint Commission for exemplary performance using evidence-based clinical processes that are shown to improve care in five areas - the most by any hospital included in the Kentucky listing. Those areas are: heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, surgical care and children's asthma. In October, UK HealthCare also earned national accolades as recipient of the University HealthSystem Consortium's Rising Star Award which recognizes significant improvements in ranking in UHC's annual Quality and Accountability Study, which identifies exemplary performance in patient safety, mortality, clinical effectiveness and equity of care. UHC is an alliance of the nation's leading nonprofit university medical centers. UK HealthCare had the highest jump in rankings in the UHC's history with a Quality and Accountability Ranking of 12th among the nation's 118 academic medical centers.

## 3. UK Among First Colleges Recognized for Programs that Prevent Suicide

UK has been awarded the JedCampus Seal from The Jed Foundation, a leading organization working to promote emotional health and prevent suicide among college and university students. The seal recognizes schools that exhibit comprehensive mental health promotion and suicide prevention programming on campus. With award of the JedCampus Seal, UK is among the first colleges and universities in the nation to be recognized for comprehensive mental health programming on campus. As part of the process to earn the seal, the UK Counseling Center took a voluntary, online self-assessment reviewing its campus mental health and suicide prevention programming and received confidential feedback designed to help enhance programming and resources. The seal is valid for two years.

4. Gatton College Breaks Ground for \$65 Million Expansion

The Gatton College of Business and Economics revealed the architectural plans and held a ceremonial groundbreaking October 11 for a major expansion and renovation of its facilities. President Eli Capilouto and Gatton College Dean David W. Blackwell were joined by Governor Steve Beshear, other state officials, major donors, faculty, staff and students in unveiling details of the \$65 million project expected to be completed in spring 2016.

5. Arts in HealthCare Program Honored Again

UK HealthCare has been honored for its Arts in HealthCare Program. At the Design & Health International Academy Awards, held in Brisbane, Australia, UK was recognized for its stellar use of art in the patient environment. This award comes on the heels of the 2012 Governor's Award in the Arts Business Award and the 2013 Medistar Consumer First Award.

6. UK Receives High Marks for the Helpfulness of Its Website

UK recently earned an 'A' from the My College Options 15th Annual Enrollment Power Index Program funded by the National Research Center for College & University Admissions. Only 160 schools received a ranking this high, which positions UK in the top 5 percent of all college websites. High school students rated around 3,000 college websites on many key features such as the ability for students to apply online, find information on the community or city in which the college is located and the ability to contact the admissions office to set up a campus visit.

7. Pilot Initiative to Focus on Retention and Graduation for First-Gen Students

With a two-year \$100,000 grant from the Louisville-based Gheens Foundation, UK is launching a pilot initiative focused on improving retention and graduation rates for first-generation college students from Jefferson County. These Louisville-area students will receive advising and mentoring that specifically addresses the challenges of first-generation students, all under the guidance of the UK Office of First Generation Initiatives, which directs the campus-wide efforts to recruit, retain and graduate more first-generation students at the University.

8. State's Two Children's Hospitals Join Forces

Kentucky's two children's hospitals — Norton Healthcare's Kosair Children's Hospital and UK HealthCare's Kentucky Children's Hospital — signed an agreement to join forces to better meet the health care needs and interests of Kentucky's children and their families. The new partnership will maximize the hospitals' combined resources to improve care and enhance access to quality services for kids throughout the state and ultimately improve the health of children throughout the Commonwealth.

9. UK Welcomes Largest, Most Talented Freshman Class in History

While enrollment in colleges and universities is declining nationally, UK welcomed its largest ever first-year class, a class also marked by historic levels of students in terms of diversity and academic quality. In addition, preliminary data indicates UK's retention rates between 2011 and 2012 increased by more than 1 percent from 81.3 percent to 82.5 percent.

10. Student Center Celebrates 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Student Center is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. Since the Student Union opened May 14, 1938, the facility has provided a space on campus where students can relax, socialize, dine, play, shop, learn and be entertained. Total cost of the original Student Union was \$277,000. As enrollment grew at UK, more space was needed leading to an expansion that was completed in 1964. A new cafeteria and grill opened in the addition and the facility was renamed the Student Center. Eighteen years later, in 1982, the final addition was made to the Student Center at a cost of \$4.2 million.

11. Martin Luther King Center Re-launched With New Purpose

In its storied 26-year service to the University, the Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center has undergone many changes, and with a new calling to address the most vital needs of the students it serves, the center has been launched with a new purpose, new leadership, new programming, new goals, and a new name — the Martin Luther King Center. It will focus on supporting the University's diversity goals by developing and offering programs and experiences designed to prepare all students for the social, cultural, and political challenges of an increasingly complex, multicultural, global community, according to its new mission statement. The new interim director is Kahlil Baker and Gerald L. Smith, professor in the Department of History, is scholar-in-residence.

12. NOHMs Technologies to Locate at Center for Applied Energy Research Campus

Lithium-ion battery manufacturer NOHMs Technologies Inc. will locate a state-of-the-art research, manufacturing, and product development facility at the UK Center for Applied Energy Research campus. President Eli Capilouto joined Governor Steve Beshear, Lexington Mayor Jim Gray, NOHMs CEO Nathan Ball and Bob Quick, president and CEO of Commerce Lexington Inc. to announce the project, which will bring more than \$5.3 million in investment and could create up to 162 new Kentucky jobs.

13. QIPSR Enhances Research and Analysis Techniques Across Campus

Graduate students and faculty interested in brushing up on quantitative research methodology, software knowledge or grant-writing techniques have a new tool. The Quantitative Initiative of Policy and Social Research (QIPSR) is an organization committed to developing cutting-edge research and analysis techniques to enhancing quantitative research among all colleges. The initiative organizes research and statistical workshops, grant writing workshops, practical software workshops including a software festival introducing programs such as STATA, SAS,

SPSS and others, and an annual conference. QIPSR is based in the College of Arts and Sciences and led by Sociology professor Thomas Janoski.

14. Big Blue Goes Green for Seventh Year

Now in its seventh year, Big Blue Goes Green, a popular interactive showcase of sustainability initiatives at UK, was held in October. Hosted by the President's Sustainability Advisory Committee, the Tracy Farmer Institute for Sustainability and the Environment, and the Student Sustainability Council, BBGG 2013 introduced students, faculty and staff to the wide variety of sustainability-related efforts at UK, and recognized the work of the individuals and units responsible for these programs.

15. Residence Life Program Addresses Needs of New Students

The Division of Student Affairs Office of Residence Life sponsored After Office Hours in October. The event, an evolving initiative designed to reach out to students and give them an opportunity to meet with key and influential members of the UK community, sent faculty and staff into the residence halls to meet first-year students and build relationships. They answered questions and provided information on a variety of topics such as academic advising, how to get involved on campus, safety and personal needs.

16. Work-Life Office Celebrates National Work and Family Month

In celebration of the 10th anniversary of National Work and Family Month, the UK Office of Work-Life organized several events in October to appeal to the various needs and interests of employees. Among the topics covered were managing stress, retirement, teen development, virtual dementia tour and financial investments.

17. New App Helps Campus Find Its Resources

Students, faculty and staff have an updated option for managing their UK information. The myUK mobile app, released in early August, offers quick access so mobile devices can be used for many actions such as reviewing the course catalog, finding campus buildings and making tuition payments.

18. Luzzatto Delivers Bowling Lecture

Tamera Luzzatto, senior vice president of Government Relations for The Pew Charitable Trusts, delivered the 2013 James C. Bowling Executive-in-Residence lecture October 22. Luzzatto's presentation, "Experiences in the Change Business" focused on coping with and managing change. Prior to the lecture, the school honored Phil Osborne, president of Preston-Osborne, with the 2013 Excellence in Public Relations Award.

19. College Hosts Innovate to Learn Institute

The College of Education hosted the Innovate to Learn Institute October 28-29. Among the topics discussed was the Kentucky 1:1/BYOD Institute, focusing on the growing trend of schools equipping students with computing devices – known as 1:1, or encouraging students to bring their own devices to school – known as BYOD, or bring your own device.

20. Top High School Seniors Named Kentucky Collegians

Top high school seniors from across the Bluegrass state and around the country can now call themselves “Kentucky Collegians.” The UK Office of Undergraduate Admission and University Registrar honored 250 students from 14 different states for their academic success at the annual Kentucky Collegians event.

21. Students Draw Attention to the Hungry and Homeless

The Center for Community Outreach, Helping Hands, STAG, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity brought National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week to campus November 18-22. The week of activities was meant to draw awareness to the number of Kentuckians who suffer from hunger or homelessness.

22. Researchers Dig Deep to Find Treatments for Disease

In their ongoing quest to develop the latest and most effective drugs for disease treatment, researchers in the Center for Pharmaceutical Research and Innovation (CPRI) are looking in underground coal mines. It's all part of a new UK-based bioprospecting initiative, which involves a collaboration between CPRI, the Center for Applied Energy Research and the Kentucky Geological Survey. The idea is to collect samples from unusual environments with the goal of finding new, unique organisms that produce natural products that could potentially be used to develop new drugs with an initial focus on treatments for cancer, infectious disease and inflammation. CPRI Director Jon Thorson and his 11-member lab team are part of a large consortium of investigators at UK focused upon the discovery and development of natural product-based drug leads from unique sources including bacteria, fungi and plants.

23. Researchers at CAER Work on Ways to Lower CO2 Emissions

In November, researchers from the Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER) demonstrated a system that uses algae to absorb carbon dioxide emissions at Duke Energy's East Bend power station in Northern Kentucky. The pilot-scale system, built with \$1.8 million in funding from the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet and UK with in-kind contributions from Duke Energy, is the only one of its kind currently operating in a "real-world" setting at a coal-fired power plant. Meanwhile, the National Energy Technology Laboratory, part of the U.S. Department of Energy, has selected the Center for Applied Energy Research for another three-year, \$3 million project focused on reducing carbon dioxide emissions at power plants. A major cost associated with commercial carbon dioxide capture is the size of the "scrubber" needed to handle the volume of flue gas produced by a power plant. CAER has developed a catalyst to

speed up the absorption rate of the solvent used, so the scrubber can be much smaller. Overall, the CAER technology could reduce the cost of carbon dioxide capture by 56 percent.

#### 24. Center Develops Biobank to Aid Biomedical Research

In biomedical research, access to human tissues is of central importance in studying a disease or condition, and ultimately in developing drugs and looking for cures. For this reason, the Center for Clinical and Translational Science is rolling out an innovative project to develop an extensive Research Registry and Specimen Bank, called a biobank, for UK researchers. The biobank will utilize leftover blood and tissue from normal medical procedures. All UK patients, both inpatient and outpatient, will begin receiving biobank consent forms by January 2014. UK HealthCare sees about 35,000 patient discharges annually, which could translate into a robust biobank of both healthy and non-healthy biospecimens of all varieties.

#### 25. Study of 7,000-year-old Language Receives National Attention

What did our ancestors sound like in the 50th century B.C.? UK linguistics lecturer Andrew M. Byrd examines ancient Indo-European languages and the language from which they derive, Proto-Indo-European, or PIE. The language is typically thought to have been in use around 7,000 years ago, though some suspect it was spoken at an even earlier time. Byrd's work was recently featured on the website of Archaeology Magazine, published by the Archaeological Institute of America. The online piece includes recordings of Byrd reading two fables constructed in PIE. Since then, Byrd has been featured in several major news outlets, including the BBC, The Huffington Post, io9.com, Le Figaro, USA Today, and Smithsonian magazine.

#### 26. New Method May Control Tiger Mosquitoes

Entomologists in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment have developed a new control method for mosquitoes. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently granted a permit to begin field trials. The biological control method targets the Asian tiger mosquito; it is the first of its kind in the nation. Stephen Dobson, professor in the Department of Entomology, says this mosquito has been labeled as one of the most important invasive species in the world, and traditional ways of controlling mosquitoes don't work against this mosquito. A native of Southeast Asia, the Asian tiger mosquito now exists throughout the U.S., in every county in Kentucky with particularly heavy populations in southeastern Kentucky.

#### 27. Timing of Meals Could Have Significant Impact on Health

When you eat could have as much impact on your health as what you eat. That's the conclusion reached by researchers in an ongoing series of papers and studies funded as part of a major grant from the National Institutes of Health. Vincent Cassone, College of Arts and Sciences professor and chair of the Department of Biology, has published more than 100 papers in leading academic journals on the internal timekeeping functions of the body. Cassone began working on body clocks and digestion as part of a collaboration with a gastroenterologist studying the role of body clocks in the digestive system. He is currently working with the support of a \$1 million grant

from the National Institute on Aging, a division of the National Institutes of Health, to study how the gastrointestinal clock is affected by aging.

28. Common Reading Experience Takes a Tour of the World

This fall's Common Reading Experience (CRE) book was *Where Am I Wearing?* and the CRE team welcomed to campus its author, Kelsey Timmerman on October 15. The author lecture, sponsored by the Office of New Student and Parent Programs, is one of many events that connect the CRE to student life on campus. The book is a global tour to the countries, factories and people who make today's clothes.

29. Residents Encouraged to Return to On-campus Housing

"Won't You Stay?" was the theme of an effort this fall to attract current residents of UK residence halls back to campus housing for 2014-15. Students living in the Kirwan-Blanding Complex now and other on-campus residents who choose to live there next year were offered several incentives to re-apply this fall for Complex housing. October 21-24 was Re-apply for Housing Week. Several locations were set up around campus offering information and the opportunity to apply. Some of the incentives were: getting priority to apply for parking in proximity to the complex; requesting group assignments so that groups of friends can live close to each other; and being entered into a drawing for special prizes.

30. Anderson Cooper Wows UK Audience

The inaugural SpeakBlue Distinguished Speaker, Anderson Cooper, spoke to a huge crowd September 30 in Memorial Coliseum. "From the Front Lines: An Evening with Anderson Cooper" was sponsored by the Student Activities Board Multicultural Affairs Committee. Cooper, host of CNN's Emmy Award-winning "Anderson Cooper 360°" and reporter for CBS's "60 Minutes," has become one of the most respected journalists of this generation.

31. New High-tech Security System Implementation in Process

Installation of the new \$4.8 million high-tech security management system is underway. Emergency phone towers have been installed throughout campus. The towers include emergency phones that can be used to immediately access the UK Police Department; loudspeakers to be used in emergency situations for outdoor warnings; and video cameras for surveillance of criminal activity. The UK Police Department is also in the midst of issuing or reissuing new identification cards to all students and employees. Work is also in progress on central building access control for several University buildings. This new campus security system puts UK at the forefront of safety enhancement in higher education.

32. UK Receives \$1 Million Rebate for Saving Energy

After two years of concerted efforts to conserve energy, Kentucky Utilities Company presented the University with a commercial rebate check of more than \$1 million. Retrofitting new, energy-efficient replacement parts to the infrastructure of many of the aging buildings on campus

made the difference. UK received the rebates through the Commercial Rebate Program offered by KU and Louisville Gas and Electric Company, which gives qualified commercial customers cash incentives to replace aging, less efficient equipment.

33. Survey Reveals Economic Impact of Kentucky's Equine Industry

The 2012 Kentucky Equine Survey revealed that Kentucky's equine industry had a total economic impact of almost \$3 billion and generated 40,665 jobs last year, with a tax contribution approaching \$134 million. The 2012 Equine Study was the first such wide-ranging study of Kentucky's equine industry since 1977 and the first-ever detailed economic impact study about the industry. The UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment's Ag Equine Programs and Kentucky Horse Council, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service, released the economic impact figures from a comprehensive statewide survey of all breeds of horses, ponies, donkeys and mules.

34. UK Dedicated to Help Veterans Succeed, Efforts Recognized

The University of Kentucky has been named a 2014 Military Friendly School by Victory Media, the publisher of G.I. Jobs magazine. This is the fifth consecutive year that UK has earned this recognition. The Military Times also released their rankings of Best for Vets schools November 11, and UK is ranked 17th in the country in the category of four-year institutions. Meanwhile, UK was among the 62 new institutions joining the Department of Veterans Affairs' VetSuccess on Campus program. The innovative approach helps veterans in the often difficult transition from military service to academic life by placing experienced VA counselors directly on college campuses, strengthening the VA's partnership with institutions of higher learning and creating myriad opportunities to help veterans succeed.

35. Campus Grows Familiar with Resources at Safety Awareness Month Event

In recognition of September's National Preparedness Month, Campus Fire Safety Month, and Campus Safety Awareness Month, the UK Police Department's Division of Crisis Management & Preparedness hosted an event along with other university departments to engage students, staff and faculty on various issues related to overall safety and awareness, disaster preparedness and crime prevention.

36. Scholarship Information Sessions Help Prepare Students for Future Success

In September, the Office of External Scholarships presented information sessions on national and international scholarships that fund language studies, education abroad, public service and graduate research. Attending these information sessions early in the academic career helps students be more prepared when the time actually comes to apply. The sessions were open to all classes.



37. Satellite Clinic for ALS Established at Ashland Hospital

UK HealthCare teamed with Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital in Ashland to create a satellite multidisciplinary clinic for patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). The new satellite clinic's development was supported through a research grant from the ALS Association.

38. Medical Laboratory Sciences Celebrates 80<sup>th</sup> Year

The Medical Laboratory Sciences (MLS) program at the UK College of Health Sciences celebrated its 80th anniversary this year. The MLS program was one of the first such programs of its kind in the U.S. and one of the first medical programs established at UK.

39. Internet Connection Upgraded to Answer Today's Students' Needs

Time Warner Cable replaced the wireless Internet infrastructure for the 46-year-old Kirwan-Blanding Complex area, home to more than 2,500 undergraduate UK students each semester. Before the upgrade, wireless access was slow and not consistently available throughout the complex. The new technology supports download speeds of 40 megabits per second, 20 times faster than the previous technology. The wireless upgrade provides 100 percent coverage.

40. Civil Rights Martyr Honored by Poet Laureate on NPR Radio

A special one-hour radio production by WUKY honored the 50th anniversary of the assassination of civil rights icon Medgar Evers in 1963, just hours after President John F. Kennedy's nationally broadcast speech in support of civil rights. Kentucky Poet Laureate Frank X Walker recited his poetry from "Turn Me Loose: The Unghosting of Medgar Evers" accompanied by music and historical accounts from that time period. The show was hosted by DeBraun Thomas and produced by Thomas, WUKY General Manager Tom Godell and John Lumagui, director of operations for WUKY. Funding was provided by the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Fine Arts.

41. UK Launches New Social Media Sites

UK launched two new social media accounts on Tumblr and Twitter for prospective and current students, faculty, staff, alumni and fans interested in news and events at the institution, as well as previews of coming announcements and news stories. In addition, the #AskACat Twitter chat was created to allow questions from the campus community and the public.

42. Young Library Unveils Active Learning Centers

Nearly \$350,000 was invested at the William T. Young Library to transform areas of the second floor into more active learning centers designed to facilitate collaborative learning and group study. The newly renovated reference area on the north wing and the learning space on the south wing now feature group study rooms with technology allowing students to share images from their laptops, furniture that is more conducive for study and a large area designed for library instruction.

43. UK Panhellenic Association Wins National Recognition

UK recently received one of 14 College Panhellenic Excellence Awards from the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC), one of the nation's largest advocacy organizations for women. College Panhellenics are scored on seven criteria, including those of value to college campuses such as academics, programming, and community relations. The University's largest student organization, the UK Panhellenic Association supports all sorority chapters on campus.

44. Students Reach for the Stars and Achieve Them

UK graduate and undergraduate students worked in conjunction with their peers at Morehead State University, under the auspices of the Kentucky Space consortium, to design, build, and test the satellite named KySat-2. Their satellite, along with others in the CubeSat programs operating in the United States, were transported to NASA's Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia, where they were launched in an unmanned rocket in November. CubeSat was created to bring small, affordable satellite technology within reach of educational and research institutions.

45. Program Helps Academic Advisors Better Serve International Students

International Student and Scholars Services, in the UK International Center, offered three workshops this fall to help UK's academic advisors understand the process of working with international undergraduate students.

46. Women's Leadership Retreat Allows Students to Learn Their Strengths

The Leadership Exchange in the Office of Student Involvement, a group that offers a variety of leadership programs to students, teamed up with the Violence Intervention and Prevention Center to create EMPOWER: Women's Leadership Retreat. The retreat gave students the opportunity to discover strengths, refine leadership skills, complete a high ropes course challenge, network with other leaders and be empowered as a woman.

47. Campus Leaders Learn Anti-bullying Techniques

Students, faculty and staff participated in "Project Speak Out," an anti-bullying training sponsored by the Student Association of School Psychologists and Lexington Fairness. Project Speak Out training equips role models with tools to handle bias against LGBT students in school settings.

48. Body's Response to Trauma Leads to Discovery of Natural Pain Control

A team of researchers, led by those at the University of Kentucky, has uncovered groundbreaking new information about how the body responds to traumatic injury with the development of a surprisingly long-lasting opioid mechanism of natural chronic pain control.

49. Eye Screenings for Diabetics to be offered in Rural Kentucky

Kentucky TeleCare, in conjunction with the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences UK College of Medicine, are partnering to bring technologically advanced diabetic eye screening to diabetics in rural Kentucky with the goal of preventing blindness. Thanks to a Health Resources and Services Administration grant from the Office for the Advancement of Telehealth, getting an annual eye exam will be easier than ever for rural Kentuckians with diabetes.

50. UK Opera Theatre Brought "Les Mis" Production to Lexington for First Time

UK Opera Theatre's production of Alan Boublil and Claude Schönberg's mega-musical "Les Misérables" in October at the Lexington Opera House was the first full-Broadway length production of "Les Mis" in Lexington. It played to sold out audiences and critical acclaim. UK was among a small group of universities in the country granted rights to present the blockbuster musical.

51. UK Men's Chorus Chosen to Perform at National Conference

The University of Kentucky's nationally renowned Men's Chorus performed for the National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO) national conference in Charleston, S.C., October 31. UK's Men's Chorus is one of only two collegiate male choruses chosen throughout the U.S. to perform at this year's conference.

52. "Living Landscapes" Festival Held in September

The people, lands and livelihood of Inner Mongolia and Kentucky come together in celebration in "Living Landscapes," a weeklong festival in September of international arts and culture. Presented by the College of Fine Arts and the UK Confucius Institute in partnership with the Art College of Inner Mongolia University (IMU) and the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region International Culture Association, "Living Landscapes," brought more than 30 students, faculty, and administrators from IMU to UK's campus to participate in master classes, workshops and lectures exploring both Eastern and Western cultural themes, from throat singing to classical singing, from bowl dances to musical theatre dance. Additionally, events include several art exhibitions and music and dance concerts, all free and open to the public.

53. Faculty and Staff Awards and Achievements

Robert Baumann (Pediatrics) was recognized for his dedication to the health of children by being named the recipient of the Kentucky Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Don Cantley Community Service Award.

John Thelin (Higher Education and Public Policy) and Richard Trollinger, vice president of Centre College and doctoral student in the UK College of Education, received the John Grenzbach Award for Outstanding Research in Philanthropy for Educational Advancement.

Jennifer Havens (Behavioral Science) sat on a panel in Washington, D.C., addressing the current U.S. congressional ban on federal funding of syringe services programs, advocating that releasing the ban will positively affect the rising abuse issue.

Anna Hays-Taul (academic advisor) won the prestigious 2013 National Association for College Admission Counseling Rising Star Award, which recognizes new leaders who exemplify excellence and show dedication in serving the needs of students during their transition into college life.

Five distinguished alumni and faculty were honored by the postsecondary education community at the 2013 Annual Governor's Conference on Postsecondary Education Trusteeship for achieving national stature in their chosen careers and our outstanding faculty for leading the way to greater excellence in teaching, service and innovation. UK alumni Tom Hammond, (1967) longtime NBC sportscaster, received the Oak Award, and Jeffrey P. Okeson, professor and chair, (Oral Health) received the Acorn Award. The awards are sponsored by the Council on Postsecondary Education and Kentucky's colleges and universities.

Kathy Swan (Education) has served as lead writer and project director of the *College, Career and Civic Life Framework for Social Studies*, which was published recently by the National Council for the Social Studies.

David Fardo (Public Health) received a career development grant from the National Institute on Aging in the area of age-related neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's disease.

The Kentucky Library Association announced that Laura Whayne (Kentucky Transportation Center Library) is the association's president-elect.

A team of researchers, led by several at UK, has uncovered groundbreaking new information about how the body responds to traumatic injury with the development of a surprisingly long-lasting opioid mechanism of natural chronic pain control. Published in *Science*, the research article was written by lead author Bradley Taylor, Gregory Corder, Suzanne Doolen and Renee Donahue (Physiology); and Brandon Jutras (Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics).

Carl Lee (Mathematics) has won a Mathematical Association of America 2014 Deborah and Franklin Pepper Haimo Award.

Forty-nine faculty and administrators from Southeastern Conference universities, including four from UK, have been selected as 2013-14 SEC Academic Leadership Development Program fellows. The SEC Academic Leadership Development Program is a professional development program that seeks to identify, prepare and advance academic leaders for roles within SEC institutions and beyond. The UK representatives who were chosen are Nancy C. Jones (Theatre), Douglass S. Kalika (Chemical and Materials Engineering), Sue Roberts (Geography), and Deirdre A. Scaggs (Special Collections, UK Libraries).

Jane Kleinert (Communication Sciences and Disorders) won the 2013 Louis M. DiCarlo Award for Recent Clinical Achievement from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation.

David M. Mannino (Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health) has been honored as the recipient of the Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Treatment Achievement Award from the COPD Foundation.

Hatim Omar (Pediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynecology) and chief of adolescent medicine and the Young Parent Program, was honored by the Ohio Valley Chapter of the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine with the annual Regional Chapter Award in recognition of

his ongoing dedication to the health and well-being of teenagers, both in Kentucky and around the world.

Jayakrishna Ambati (Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences) received the Junius-Kuhnt Award from the University of Bonn in Hamburg, Germany, for his group's outstanding work and commitment to age-related macular degeneration research.

#### 54. Student Awards and Achievements

Doctoral student David Wheeler (Communication and Information) wrote an article on automated voice systems that was recently published on CNN's website.

Graduate student Katrina Hutchison (Educational Policy Studies and Evaluation) has received a fellowship from the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help. She will serve as a teacher trainer for the International Educators for Africa in Ethiopia.

Doctoral student Maria Apostolova (Business and Economics) was one of 13 people chosen nationally as a Horowitz Foundation grant recipient, along with winning the Eli Ginzberg Award. The unifying theme of her research is to explore the policy determinants and macroeconomic effects of fertility.

Graduate student and part-time nursing instructor Demetrius Abshire recently was awarded a coveted Love of Learning scholarship award from The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

#### 55. Alumni Awards and Achievements

The Bluegrass Opera returned to the Lexington Opera House to present the world premiere of a piece written by UK School of Music alumnus Lorne Dechtenberg, a musical titled "Lady Windermere's Fan."

The School of Human Environmental Sciences Hall of Fame inducted new members recently. The school, in the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, honors alumni who have made a positive difference in their profession, their communities and to the school. Patricia Brantley Todd, Martha Allen Nall and the late Elizabeth Cromwell Kremer recently became the newest members of the Hall of Fame.

Ron Sowell, executive vice president and CFO of Commonwealth Health Corporation in South Central Kentucky, is this year's recipient of the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration's Distinguished Alumnus Award. At the same time O. Leonard "Len" and Lillian "Lil" Henken Press of Lexington were honored as the 2013 inductees into the Kentucky Public Service Hall of Fame created by the Martin School last year. Len Press is retired founding director of Kentucky Educational Television and Lil Press has organized and directed several major state initiatives, including being the founding director of the Governor's Scholars Program and helping develop Kentucky's first Regional Mental Health Board.