

Office of the President  
December 11, 2007

Members, Board of Trustees:

UNIVERSITY STAFF EMERITUS BE CONFERRED UPON  
HENRY CLAY OWEN

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees confer upon Henry Clay Owen the title of University Staff Emeritus in recognition of his many years of service, dedication, and loyalty to the University of Kentucky.

Background: Henry Clay Owen began his service to the University of Kentucky and the people of the Commonwealth on July 1, 1964. Mr. Owen joined the university as a staff accountant in sponsored projects. He was named controller in 1969, with the title of treasurer being added in 1982. Dr. Lee T. Todd, Jr. is the sixth university president to benefit from Mr. Owen's hard work and wise counsel.

Henry Clay Owen will retire from active service to the University of Kentucky on January 2, 2008. During these last 43 years, Mr. Owen's work has been consistently defined by "the wisdom to see right; the courage to choose it; and the strength to make it endure." With keen intellect, integrity, vision, and sheer force of will, Mr. Owen has been the chief steward of the resources of Kentucky's flagship university, constructing a financial foundation that remains strong and stable. While presidents and other executive officers have come and gone, Mr. Owen's thoughtful steadiness has been integral to the cause of building a flagship university worthy of Kentucky's people. His guidance has shaped the university through times of growth and challenge. During his tenure, university assets have grown from \$15 million to over \$3.1 billion. His time as treasurer has seen the endowment grow from approximately \$10 million to \$1 billion.

Henry Clay Owen has dedicated his time, his talents, and his faithful service to the University of Kentucky since 1964. The university will be forever grateful to him for what he has done and how far it has come during his time in its service. Let it be said of Mr. Owen, most of all, that he is a person of remarkable courage. The poet reminds us that courage is not "the marvelous act" or "the bounty of impulse." Courage is instead "The even loyalty. The amazed understanding. The beauty that is of many days. Steady and clear. It is the normal excellence of long accomplishment."

Henry Clay Owen's "normal excellence of long accomplishment" makes him truly deserving of the honor of University Staff Emeritus, as conferred by the Board of Trustees.

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Action taken:     Approved     Disapproved     Other \_\_\_\_\_