

Office of the President
April 21, 2009

1. College of Law Trial Team Places Second in National Championship Tournament; Kentucky Student Named Best Advocate in the Nation

On March 28, 2009, the University of Kentucky College of Law Trial Team, composed of third-year students Regan Merkel and Christopher Schaefer, took second place in the American College of Trial Lawyers National Trial Competition. The competition is the most prestigious law school trial competition in the nation with over 300 teams and 1,000 students competing on behalf of approximately 150 law schools. In addition to the team's success as the second best trial program in the nation, Schaefer was awarded the George A. Spiegelberg Award. The Spiegelberg award is personally selected by fellows of the American College of Trial Lawyers and given to the student that served as the best advocate in the nation. Schaefer, of Louisville, and Merkel, of Cincinnati, qualified for the National Championship Tournament by winning their regional tournament in Lansing, Michigan, February 22nd.

2. New Gamma Knife Is Installed at Markey Cancer Center

In late March, crews used a 10-story-high crane hoisting a 6-foot, 22-ton metal sphere through a skylight into the lower level of the Markey Cancer Center. That massive orb is part of a \$4.5 million upgrade to the medical center's Gamma Knife facility, which enables doctors to treat brain tumors and other neurological disorders without surgery. The Gamma Knife uses nearly 200 separate, precisely-focused beams of electromagnetic energy, called gamma rays, to target and kill diseased cells while sparing surrounding healthy tissue. The giant sphere positions and shields the sources for the gamma rays – 192 rods of cobalt-60, a lab-engineered radioactive isotope of a common mineral element. The new system, which will start being used to treat patients on May 4, will cut treatment times by about 70 percent. This reduces stress to the patient and the improved efficiency potentially could increase the number of patients that UK can treat.

3. UK Patterson School Makes William and Mary List of Top 25 Programs

The UK Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce has been ranked among the world's best 25 master's degree programs in international affairs. The rankings were the result of an extensive survey of international relations faculty in 10 countries conducted by the Institute for the Theory and Practice of International Relations at the College of William and Mary. Scholars were asked to list the best programs in the world for a student wishing to pursue a career in international relations and policy. Among U.S. programs, the Patterson School ranked 16th.

4. UK, UofL, Centre, Berea Presidents Hold Third 'Energizing Kentucky' Confab

The presidents of two Kentucky private colleges – John A. Roush of Centre and Larry Shinn of Berea – joined University of Louisville President James Ramsey and UK President Todd in hosting the third Energizing Kentucky Conference at the Lexington Hyatt Regency last week. The conference focused on the role of education in improving Kentucky's energy independence by developing new technology and energy sources and by changing Kentuckians habits regarding energy consumption. The conference featured Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jared Diamond as a keynote speaker. The first two Energizing Kentucky conferences, both held in Louisville, focused on business and industry and on government and policy.

5. Permit Issued to KGS for Carbon Storage Research Project

The federal Environmental Protection Agency office in Atlanta has issued a permit for the Kentucky Geological Survey and its private partners to inject carbon dioxide more than 8,300 feet underground in a test well to be drilled in Hancock County. The project is one of several funded by state money provided by House Bill 1 from the 2007 Special Legislative Session. Drilling should begin this spring. Over the winter, the site on a private farm was prepared for the drilling and a seismic reflection survey was conducted to give the researchers more data on the deep geologic environment of the area.

6. New Heart Attack Drug Shows Promise

In study results released in mid-March, a unique new drug shows promise of significantly reducing the risk of heart attack and death with no statistical increase in major and minor bleeding events. The drug is an oral thrombin-receptor antagonist, or TRA, that works in a unique way to prevent clotting by breaking down the communication between cells and proteins involved in forming clots. Early data from the study caught the attention of the medical and pharmaceutical communities when one of the study investigators and authors, Dr. David Moliterno of the UK College of Medicine and co-director of the UK Linda and Jack Gill Heart Institute, presented the preliminary findings at an American College of Cardiology meeting last year. The full results of the trial are published in the new issue of *The Lancet*, a prominent international medical journal. Moliterno and Dr. Khaled Ziada, also of UK, were among the study's authors. Preventing life-threatening clots is a major concern for doctors whose patients are undergoing angioplasty to restore adequate blood flow to the heart muscle. However, adequately preventing clots with current medications alone can result in inconvenient complications such as bruising and nosebleeds or even pose a risk of major bleeding in some patients, requiring frequent monitoring of blood levels. TRA, manufactured by Schering-Plough Corporation, was given in addition to established anti-clotting drugs to 1,030 patients undergoing cardiac catheterization and related intervention at 77 sites in six countries. UK enrolled 32 patients between August 2005 and September 2006. Patient follow-up was completed in January 2007.

7. Small Business Development Center Helps Kentucky Businesses' Sales

The Kentucky Small Business Development Center (KSBDC), a division of UK's Office of Commercialization and Economic Development, contributed significantly to Kentucky's economy during its recently completed fiscal year, October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008. The KSBDC's impact on Kentucky's economy includes:

- KSBDC clients added \$53.5 million in sales to the economy.
- KSBDC clients received 230 loans totaling more than \$24.9 million.
- KSBDC clients created or retained 1,065 jobs.
- KSBDC clients returned \$9.20 to the economy per every dollar invested in long-term counseling.

KSBDC's economic impact figures are derived from the clients and each of its centers served during the 2007–2008 program year. Nineteen KSBDC service centers and satellite offices located throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky provided 2,129 potential or established business owners with one-on-one management consultations. More than 3,575 participants attended training workshops sponsored by the KSBDC. KSBDC responded to more than 30,000 requests for information during 2007–2008.

8. Manufacturing Center Offers Training to Help Inventors Express Their Ideas

The UK Center for Manufacturing presented a free training session designed to help inventors express their ideas to potential investors, buyers, distributors, and manufacturers earlier this month. The training, designed to help inventors gain entry onto Planet Eureka!'s Innovation Marketplace Web site, aims at helping inventors bridge the communication gap that can sometimes hinder a product's progress to the marketplace. The session walked inventors through the thought process of translating ideas, inventions, or technology into a clear business proposition that details everything a potential buyer wants and needs to know before investing. The session also provided passwords permitting users to register inventions on the Planet Eureka! Innovation Marketplace at no cost. Registration usually costs \$2,000.

9. UK Art Museum Features Major Exhibit of Egyptian Antiquities

The UK Art Museum opened the first major exhibition of Egyptian antiquities in the Bluegrass on March 22. "Excavating Egypt: Great Discoveries from the Petrie Museum, University College London" features more than 200 of the most significant artifacts from the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology in London, England. The exhibit will run through June 14. Locally the exhibition was made possible with assistance from The Friends of the Art Museum, the presenting sponsor. Other support was provided by Corning Incorporated Foundation, Smith Barney, Lexington Convention and Visitors Bureau, Meridian Chiles, Insight Communications, WUKY, and Messer Construction.

10. Winter 2009 *Odyssey*, UK's Research Magazine, Is Now Available

Inexpensive tiny power sources, an artificial lung system and the benefits of good nutrition in fighting toxic compounds are the focus of the Winter 2009 issue of *Odyssey*, UK's research magazine. The cover story, "It Pays to Be a Cheapskate," tells how UK engineer Steve Lipka is building the next generation of capacitors—tiny battery-like devices—that can store energy from the sun and wind. This issue also features UK surgeon Jay Zwischenberger's artificial lung system designed to buy time for patients waiting for transplants; a joint project between scholars in Lexington and Tajikistan to save an endangered and unwritten language called Shughni; and pharmaceutical sciences researcher Kim Nixon, who has found that alcoholics who stop drinking can reverse the damage to their brains. The magazine also revisits the work of Ellen Hahn in the College of Nursing, the driving force behind Lexington's smoke-free initiative. The award-winning magazine, published twice a year through the Office of the Vice President for Research, is also available online at www.research.uky.edu/odyssey/.

11. 'Teachers Who Made a Difference' Program Is Set for Saturday, April 25

The 11th annual Teachers Who Made a Difference Program will be held Saturday, April 25. Former UK Basketball great Dan Issel and his wife, Cheri (a College of Education alumna), are this year's spokespersons. This program, which has honored more than 1,100 educators, will honor more than 100 again this year. It gives individuals an opportunity to thank the teachers, principals, college professors, or other educators who have inspired and motivated them to succeed.

12. UK Marks Earth Day with a Full Month of Events

For the fifth consecutive year, the Division of Student Affairs' Office of Residence Life Recycling and the UK student organization Greenthumb present a full month of exciting and informative activities, workshops, community service, presentations, films, music, and more in celebration of Earth Days in the Bluegrass. The events are co-sponsored by UK's Environmental Studies Program, Late Night Film Series, and WRFL. The events were designed to empower individuals by demonstrating the positive impacts that our daily decisions about food, energy, transportation, etc. can have on economies and ecosystems worldwide. For the complete schedule, visit www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Recycling/earthDays.html.

13. *Choice* Magazine Honors Two University Press of Kentucky Books

Choice magazine named two books published by the University Press of Kentucky to its "Outstanding Academic Titles" list in the January 2009 issue. *For Jobs and Freedom: Race and Labor in America since 1865* By Robert H. Zieger and *Why We Fought: America's Wars in Film and History*, edited by Peter C. Rollins and John E. O'Connor, made this year's list of titles recommended to *Choice's* readership. A spot in *Choice's* list is a coveted honor that is highly recognized throughout the academic library

community. More than 35,000 academic librarians, faculty, and decision makers use *Choice* magazine and Choice Reviews Online to guide their collection development and scholarly research. Each year, *Choice* selects from some 7,000 titles, 10 percent of which normally make the cut. *For Jobs and Freedom* analyzes the economic struggle of African Americans in their search for opportunities as they defended their civil rights and rights of citizenship. *Why We Fought* defends film as a primary tool for improving our understanding of the causes and consequences of war.

14. Architecture's Karen Lewis Wins National New Faculty Teaching Award

Karen Lewis, assistant professor of architecture at the UK College of Design, has received the New Faculty Teaching Award presented by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) and the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS). The award recognizes demonstrated excellence in teaching performance during the formative years of an architectural teaching career. The ACSA and AIAS annually honor up to three faculty members nationally who have demonstrated excellence in teaching performance during this early stage of their teaching career. The names of the awardees will be published in the 2008-09 Architectural Education Awards book, which will be distributed in spring 2009. Lewis is the first faculty member at the UK College of Design to receive this prestigious honor.

15. Gurney Norman Is Named Kentucky's Poet Laureate

Gurney Norman, director of the UK Creative Writing Program, has been appointed Kentucky Poet Laureate for a two-year honorary term. Norman will be formally inducted on Kentucky Writers' Day at 11 a.m. Friday, April 24, 2009, in the Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort. Norman succeeds 2007-2009 Kentucky Poet Laureate Jane Gentry Vance, a professor in the UK Department of English and the Honors Program.

16. UK College of Social Work Celebrates Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Despite cancellation of Lexington's annual Reconciliation Breakfast, the celebration of individuals and groups promoting peaceful means for conflict resolution went on in conjunction with activities highlighting reconciliation already scheduled by UK College of Social Work. The combined festivities included talks by Terry Anderson, former Middle East correspondent who spent nearly seven years as a hostage in Lebanon; Isabel Taylor, Lexington multicultural affairs coordinator; Bree Pearson, a human trafficking outreach advocate; and the presentation of Lexington's Drum Major for Peace awards. These festivities were held March 6 at the William T. Young Library Auditorium. Drum Major for Peace awards went to Debbie Goonan, outreach coordinator of Cathedral of Christ the King; Chester Grundy, interim director of UK's Martin Luther King Jr. Cultural Center; and the Hope Center. The presentation of the Lexington Humanitarian Award went to Kathy Gannoe, who recently retired as executive director of the Nursing Home Ombudsman Program of the Bluegrass. Partners for this year's reconciliation programming were the Humanitarium, Lexington Commission on Race

Relations, Lexington Habitat for Humanity, Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, LFUCG Human Rights Commission, and UK College of Social Work.

17. UK World Music Concert Highlights Sounds of Cuba, Scotland, China, Others

The UK School of Music presented a UK World Music Concert, celebrating and showcasing music of Cuba, Scotland, Korea, China, Japan, Turkmenistan, and Venezuela performed by Lexington and UK musicians. The free public event was March 25 at the Singletary Center for the Arts. The UK World Music Concert is a tradition started by Han Kuo-Huang, a former UK professor of ethnomusicology. The concerts feature the musical talents of the UK Chinese Music Ensemble, which remains under his direction. This year's show also served as a debut for the UK Korean Music Ensemble under the direction of Donna Kwon, assistant professor of ethnomusicology. Other performers at the concert were Kentucky United Pipes and Drums; Professor Noemi Lugo; Tylla Ovezova; Tomoko Yonenaga; and student percussionists Kyle Forsthoff, Brad Meyer, Ben Stiers, and Brian Nozny.

18. Kentucky Literacy Research Symposium Focuses on Response to Intervention

The UK Collaborative Center for Literacy Development, the Carol Lee Robertson Endowment, and the Kentucky Reading Association co-sponsored the Fifth Kentucky Literacy Research Symposium March 13-14, 2009 in Lexington. This unique symposium addressed the specialized topic of "Response to Intervention." The event brought together the foremost thinkers and researchers in the field of literacy research to Kentucky to address issues of national, state, and local importance. This event has served as a springboard for future initiatives in which Kentucky is showcased and viewed nationally as a literacy "think tank" where scholars, researchers, and practitioners come together to critically examine and discuss issues in literacy research and practice.

19. CAER Launches New Journal Focused on Coal Ash Research

UK's Center for Applied Energy Research and the American Coal Ash Association have created a new publication titled *Coal Combustion and Gasification Products*. The purpose of this peer-reviewed journal is to communicate the latest findings from coal ash research and highlight emerging new technologies.

20. UK Theatre Department Teams with BCTC to Stage *Grapes of Wrath*

UK Department of Theatre teamed up with Bluegrass Community and Technical College (BCTC) for the first time to stage a full production. The programs came together to perform John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, a play that is timely for the current state of the U.S. economy. The UK/BCTC production of the award-winning adaptation by Frank Galati, originally produced by the Steppenwolf Theatre Company, ran February 19 through March 1, at the Guignol Theater. The production, which included actors from both schools, was directed by Tim X. Davis of BCTC.

21. Mammoth Cave Mapping Was Topic of the 2009 Haney Lecture

Cave explorer and author Roger Brucker gave the 2009 Donald C. Haney Distinguished Lecture on March 3 at the Kentucky Geological Survey. Brucker, who has co-authored four books on cave topics, discussed the history of the mapping of Mammoth Cave, which began early in the 19th century. The Haney Lecture Series is named in honor of former KGS Director and State Geologist Donald C. Haney.

22. Student Awards and Achievements

Kevin Fox and Amberly Tullis, Education, led an “Arts for Smarts” day at Cardinal Valley Elementary School in Lexington. “Arts for Smarts” was designed to provide third, fourth, and fifth grade students with activities that teach math, science, language arts, and social studies through visual art, music, and dance. The program was funded by a \$1,000 grant from the National Education Association. Fox and Tullis, who head the Kentucky Education Association Student Program at UK, decided on this type of program because of the students’ belief that the loss of arts and music programs in elementary schools leaves a huge void in the humanities.

The Red State Ramblers, UK’s official old-time string band, celebrated the release of the band's second CD, *Commonwealth*, with a performance March 6 at Al’s Bar in downtown Lexington. The group has been playing together for several years, having performed throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky, as well as in other venues in New England, the Midwest, and the South. The Red State Ramblers have garnered a number of awards, both as individual musicians and as a band. The band consists of Will Bacon on the banjo; Jeff Keith on the guitar and mandolin; Kevin Kehrberg on bass; and Nikos Pappas on fiddle. Pappas, Keith and Kehrberg, are doctoral candidates at UK's School of Music and Department of History. Bacon is an alumnus.

23. Faculty and Staff Awards and Achievements

Kerri Lynn Ashurst, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension, received a \$42,501 grant from Kansas State University for Operation Military Kids: Camp Initiative/Joint Family Support Assistance Program Supplement.

Margaret Bausch, Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling, was one of six professors named a 2009 Great Teacher by the UK Alumni Association.

Elizabeth Easter, Merchandising, Apparel & Textiles, received a \$38,608 grant from the National Association of Institutional Linen Management.

Sonja Feist-Price, Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling, gave the keynote lecture at the 23rd Annual Dr. Julia M. Martin SUBR College of Sciences Symposium Banquet at her alma mater, Southern University. Her lecture was titled “Effects of a Skills-Based HIV Preventive Intervention for Inner City African American Adolescent Females in Housing Developments.”

William L. Harris, Purchasing, has been elected second vice president of the National Association of Educational Procurement (NAEP). This election puts Harris in line to be president of the organization in two years. NAEP’s mission is to facilitate the

development, exchange, and practice of effective and ethical procurement principles and techniques in higher education.

John R. Hartman, Plant Pathology, received the 2009 Outstanding Plant Pathologist Award from the American Phytopathological Society, Southern Division. The award is recognition of Hartman's career achievements in helping educate students, growers, agribusiness personnel, and homeowners about the nature and management of many important plant diseases affecting Kentucky's crops and landscapes.

Kevin R. Henke, Center for Applied Energy Research, edited, authored, or co-authored most of the book titled *Arsenic—Environmental Chemistry, Health Threats and Waste Treatment*. This book was published by Wiley Publishing, the largest publisher for professional and scholarly societies.

Wuyang Hu, Agricultural Economics, was awarded a \$20,000 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Services. The grant is for the analysis of current market demand for ahi poke and consumer trend analysis.

C. Lynn Hiler, Chellgren Center for Undergraduate Excellence and the Discovery Seminar Program, was the staff recipient of the 2009 Sarah Bennett Holmes Award.

Larry Jones, Will Snell, and Steve Isaacs, Agricultural Economics, received an Innovations in Agriculture Award from the Kentucky Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy for their Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program.

Kim Miller, Kinesiology and Health Promotion, co-authored the text *Developing Effective Physical Activity Programs* which was published in March 2009 by Human Kinetics.

Sally Mineer, Lewis County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences, received the Kentucky Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Leader Award.

Dan Potter, Entomology, was named a Fellow of the Entomological Society of America. This honor recognizes his outstanding contributions to entomology.

Bill Silvia, Animal and Food Sciences, is a recipient of the 2009 UK Alumni Association's Great Teacher Award.

Betsy Ann Tracy, Warren County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences, received the Kentucky Association of Family and Consumer Sciences New Achiever Award

Ann Vail, Human Environmental Sciences, is principal investigator on a grant of \$1,964,566 (U.S. Department of Agriculture monies) through the Kentucky Health Services Cabinet for the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program, a program carried out by UK Cooperative Extension agents and paraprofessionals to teach food stamp recipients and/or eligible clients and schools about proper nutrition.

Scarlett Wesley, Merchandising, Apparel & Textiles, received a \$35,890 grant from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture to study the marketing potential of fresh food products to Hispanic consumers.

Doris Wilkinson, Sociology, was recently honored as one of the state's most outstanding women by the Kentucky Commission on Women. Her portrait will join the paintings of other women who have been recognized for their lifetime achievements in the Kentucky Women Remembered exhibit at the state Capitol.

Lynda Brown Wright, Educational and Counseling Psychology, was the faculty recipient of the 2009 Sarah Bennett Holmes Award.