

PR 1

Office of the President
March 9, 2010

1. CAER Receives \$11.8 Million Grant for R&D Efforts at National Battery Center

The University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research has been awarded an \$11.8 million grant from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to expand laboratory facilities and intensify energy research efforts at the Kentucky-Argonne National Battery Manufacturing Research and Development Center. The grant provides funding for a new 36,000-square-foot building dedicated to research in the biomass and biofuels industries; advanced distributed power generation and storage; and technologies for electric vehicles. Accompanying the \$11.8 million, a \$3 million investment will be added from the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The facility will be constructed at the Spindletop Research site in Lexington. The funding was provided under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the federal economic stimulus program.

2. UK Distributes Royalties from Outrider's Collaboration with 3M

Outrider Technologies, which develops plastic-based semiconductors for the electronics industry, has paid UK \$847,000 in royalties since 2007 from a license agreement for compounds developed by UK chemistry professor John Anthony. Outrider, co-founded by CEO John Beran and Anthony, now chief science officer, has licenses with global technology giant 3M and other companies. Anthony, considered a pioneer in plastic materials, also collaborates with 3M on sponsored research. In his academic research, Anthony uses organic semiconductors in energy efficient lighting, flexible solar cells, and flat-panel displays, and is part of the carbon materials group at the Center for Applied Energy Research. Outrider is located in the UK Advanced Science and Technology Commercialization Center campus incubator. At UK, inventors of patented technology that is licensed share royalties with their UK department and college.

3. UK Researcher Contributes to Developing a Quick Test to Assess Alzheimer's Patients

A UK researcher has helped to develop a quick test that could be used by doctors in the clinic to evaluate the treatment response of patients with advanced Alzheimer's disease. Frederick A. Schmitt, professor of neurology, psychiatry, behavioral science, and psychology in the UK College of Medicine and UK Sanders-Brown Center on Aging, along with Judith Saxton of the University of Pittsburgh and other colleagues, published their findings in the journal *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders*. The researchers looked at memory and thinking scores from the Severe Impairment Battery (SIB), focusing on eight of the 51 SIB items. The eight items included were: recall the current month, name all 12 months of the year, repeat a sentence, write one's own name, name one's favorite foods (fluency), identify a spoon, demonstrate how to use a spoon, and repeat a sequence of numbers (digit span). The researchers

concluded that the SIB-8 is a quick, three-minute assessment for patients with severe Alzheimer's disease.

4. Nunn Center for Oral History Launches Iraq and Afghanistan War Veterans Project

The Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, under the direction of Doug Boyd, and alumnus Tyler Gayheart have announced the launch of an oral history project specifically documenting individual experiences during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. The Iraq and Afghanistan Project will consist of personal interviews with veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Initial interviews will be conducted with veterans currently attending UK. Several in-depth audio and video interviews will focus on each veteran's military experience as well as transitions back into civilian life, particularly into higher education.

5. UK Companies Attract 52 Percent of \$47.5 Million in Venture Funding

Entrepreneurial companies in the Lexington area attracted \$47.5 million in venture funding in 2009, including angel and venture capital investments, according to an annual survey by the Lexington Venture Club. Of the 88 companies participating in the survey, 39 are affiliated with UK either as a startup based on UK technology or as a research-and-development collaboration with UK researchers. These UK affiliated companies received 52 percent of the venture funding, were responsible for 37 percent of the full time jobs, and paid higher salaries than the other new Lexington area companies – \$78,500 compared to \$64,750. UK President Lee T. Todd Jr. announced the survey results at the annual venture club event. The survey is coordinated by Commerce Lexington and the UK Office for Commercial and Economic Development's Von Allmen Center for Entrepreneurship.

6. Officials, Supporters 'Top-out' Marksbury Digital Village Building

On February 15, UK officials and supporters celebrated the placing of the final steel I-beam in the structural skeleton of the \$18.6 million Davis Marksbury Building, the latest building in UK's "digital village." Entrepreneur and UK College of Engineering alumnus Davis Marksbury was on hand with UK President Lee T. Todd, Jr., College of Engineering Dean Thomas W. Lester, and other dignitaries for the topping-out ceremony on the building, which is being constructed on Rose Street next to the James F. Hardyman Building, which also is part of the digital village. Marksbury was the lead donor for the three-story, 45,014-gross-square-foot building that will house the UK Center for Visualization and Virtual Environments, the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and the Department of Computer Science. All are part of the UK College of Engineering. The building also will be UK's first to receive Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification developed by the U.S. Green Building Council.

7. Six Are Named 'Great Teachers' by UK Alumni Association

Six UK professors have been recognized by the UK Alumni Association for their excellence in the classroom. The recipients of the 2010 Great Teacher Awards are Tracy A.

Campbell, History; Andrea L. Dennis, Law; Dr. David R. Gore, Dentistry; Giuseppe Labianca, Management; Graham D. Rowles, Gerontology; and J. Darlene Welsh, Nursing. Started in 1961, the Great Teacher Award is the oldest continuous award that recognizes teaching at UK. Nominations are made by students, with selection of award recipients by the UK Alumni Association Great Teacher Award Committee, in cooperation with the student organization Omicron Delta Kappa. Great Teacher Award recipients each receive a citation, an engraved plaque, and a cash award.

8. Lucille Little Library Offers Exhibit of Haitian Children's Art

The Lucille C. Little Fine Arts Library and Learning Center presented a special exhibit, "Art of the Children of Haiti," during the first three weeks of February. The timely exhibit, which came shortly after Haiti's devastating earthquake in January, contains pictures of the Good Shepherd Orphanage in Carrefour, Haiti; pictures of the children; and vibrant artwork from the kids. The exhibit was mounted by art education junior Lauren Buswell, who spent last spring break and her summer vacation working with the children of the Good Shepherd Orphanage. Buswell's original visit to the Haitian orphanage was part of a trip organized by the Wesley Foundation and civil engineering student and head resident of the Wesley Foundation, Chrispin Gabriel, a former resident of the orphanage until he came to UK in 2004.

9. Allylix Secures \$6 Million in National Venture Funding

Allylix, which licensed its original technology from the UK College of Agriculture, has raised \$6 million in the first closing of its Series C financing to fund commercialization of its first three products for the flavor and fragrance industry. The biotechnology firm's metabolic engineering platform enables low cost production of high value terpene products through yeast fermentation. In 2008, Allylix licensed its technology for use in specific biofuels products. The first product to be released in commercial quantities will be nootkatone, a long lasting citrus flavor and fragrance used in the food, beverage, and personal care industries. UK is part of the original investors in Allylix through Kentucky Technology Inc. in the Bluegrass Angel Venture Fund I. Individual Bluegrass Angels are also original 2004 investors and joined national investors in 2007 for a \$3.35 million B round of funding. Allylix has business offices in San Diego, California and research and development laboratories at UK's Coldstream Research Campus.

10. DanceBlue Marks Fifth Year as Fund-raising Event for Pediatric Cancer Patients

DanceBlue, a student-organized fundraising event that benefits pediatric oncology patients at the Kentucky Children's Hospital, celebrated a milestone last weekend: 2010 marks DanceBlue's fifth anniversary. DanceBlue 2010, a dance marathon, was held March 5 and 6 at Memorial Coliseum. At least 120 teams registered to participate, doubling the number of teams in the 2009 event.

11. Geological Survey Completes Study of Oil, Gas Potential on State Lands

Kentucky Geological Survey staff completed and presented to the Kentucky General Assembly the results of a study of the potential revenue Kentucky could realize from oil and natural gas resources on state-owned and university-owned land. Brandon Nuttall of the KGS Energy and Minerals Section led the study, with assistance from Tom Sparks and Sarah Briland. Their analysis of information provided by state agencies and universities showed that between \$6 million and \$15.4 million in additional revenue each year could potentially be derived from development of these resources.

12. Kentucky Children's Hospital Holds Event to Reduce Teen Suicides

Kentucky Children's Hospital's adolescent medicine program, Stop Youth Suicide, and Lexington high school students held the first annual "Spread the Love-a-thon" Sunday, February 14 at the Temple Adath Israel in Lexington. Leslie Robin, an adolescent medicine volunteer, helped develop the event in which people made pledges to sponsor an activity. Teens got into groups of 10 and sent out "Life Lines" to other teenagers. Each Life Line consisted of two genuine compliments and a brief message about youth suicide. Participants used their own cell phones and/or laptops to compete for the greatest number of Life Lines made in two hours. The teenagers got sponsors who pledged to give a certain amount per Life Line, and prizes were awarded for various accomplishments. Each day, on average, 12 adolescents commit suicide in the United States and every two hours and five minutes, a person under the age of 25 commits suicide.

13. Pharmacy Unit Creates Institute for Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy

The UK College of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmacy Practice and Science has created the Institute for Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy, which will focus on improving health-related medication outcomes of individuals and populations in Kentucky and beyond. Researchers at the institute will translate science into policy and outcomes through research, consultation, training, and community outreach targeting safe, efficient, and effective use of medications. The institute employs more than 40 professional staff, researchers, and students engaged in pharmaceutical outcomes and policy projects either grant-funded or contracted with Kentucky Medicaid, UK HealthCare, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health & Family Services, the Urban Institute, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, UK Human Resources, and the UK Center for Clinical and Translational Science. The institute's projects include the development of decision support technology, data warehousing, business analysis tools, policy analysis, and program evaluations.

14. Smoke-free Laws May Reduce Smoking Rates Among College Students

Comprehensive smoke-free laws in communities surrounding college campuses may reduce smoking rates among college students who live, work, and recreate there, particularly after the laws are well-established, according to a UK study published Jan. 29 in the *Journal of Community Health*. The study also examined the effect of smoke-free laws on alcohol use among college students and found no association between enacting smoke-free laws and alcohol

use among college students. The study examined whether strength and duration of municipal smoke-free laws are associated with cigarette and alcohol use among college students. Full-time undergraduates from two Southeastern universities participated in surveys assessing tobacco and alcohol use and other risk behaviors before and after the enactment of comprehensive municipal smoke-free laws. One university was located in a city with an established (3.5 years) comprehensive smoke-free law that included bars. The other was in a city with a less established (eight months) law.

15. Sustainable Manufacturing Institute Wins \$1.5 Million Research Grant

UK's sustainable manufacturing program has been awarded a three-year, \$1.5 million grant from the National Institute of Standards and Technology to develop a common standard to measure and evaluate the sustainability of manufacturing processes and products. The three-year grant to the College of Engineering's Institute for Sustainable Manufacturing will support the creation of a framework designed to help communicate a range of issues necessary to sustaining manufacturing enterprises. I. S. Jawahir, director of the Institute for Sustainable Manufacturing, noted that development of the measurement and evaluation standard will assist companies in reducing manufacturing costs, production time, material use, waste, and energy consumption.

16. Three Faculty Are Named Fulbright Scholars, Will Teach Overseas

Three UK faculty members have been named Fulbright Scholars for the 2009-2010 academic year: Claudia M. Hopenhayn, associate professor in the UK College of Public Health Department of Epidemiology; Randall Roorda, associate professor in the UK College of Arts and Sciences Department of English and former director of the UK Writing Program; William Joseph Silvia, professor in the UK College of Agriculture Department of Animal and Food Sciences. The Fulbright Scholar Program is the flagship international exchange program of the United States and provides grants which allow distinguished academics to spend extended periods of time studying and teaching at foreign universities. The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. More than 50,000 academics and professionals have earned Fulbright grants since the program's 1947 inception.

17. Nursing Study Indicates High Number of Northern Kentucky Homes Have Radon

A recent UK study of several Northern Kentucky homes revealed more than one third of them were at or above federal limits for radon, an odorless, colorless radioactive soil gas that is a known health hazard. Five residents whose homes had the highest levels of radon were given free radon mitigation systems. The "Test and Win Research Study" was sponsored by the Northern Kentucky office of the Clean Indoor Air Partnership at the UK College of Nursing. A total of 193 Boone, Kenton, and Campbell County residents enrolled in the study. Eligible residents received a short-term radon test kit to place in their homes and return to be analyzed. Seventy-one percent of the test kits were returned showing radon levels ranging from 0.5 to 49.3 picoCuries per liter (pCi/L). The Environmental Protection Agency recommends mitigation procedures for homes at or above 4 pCi/L, the equivalent of the radiation from 200 unprotected chest x-rays a year. Thirty-seven percent of the homes tested at or above the EPA action level.

18. University Press of Kentucky Author Wins South Carolina Historical Society Award

University Press of Kentucky author Janet G. Hudson was recently selected as the recipient of the 2009 George C. Rogers, Jr. Award for her book *Entangled by White Supremacy: Reform in World War I-era South Carolina*. The George C. Rogers, Jr. Award is presented annually by the South Carolina Historical Society (SCHS) to the author of the best book concerning South Carolina history published during the previous calendar year. In her book, Hudson explores a period in which racial issues were often overlooked, examining the effects of white supremacy on racial, educational, and economic reform in a state with a significant African-American population. The SCHS was established in 1855 with the purpose of collecting historical documents and artifacts to preserve the state's history in an accessible environment. The society is a private nonprofit organization.

19. 'Career Speed-Dating' Offers Medical Students a Chance to Reflect on Specialties

A lot can happen in 10 minutes. For UK College of Medicine students, 10 minutes may have impacted their entire future as they "career speed-dated" with alumni February 6 at the UK Hilary J. Boone Center. Career speed-dating is a new concept that is making its way around college campuses, prompting the UK College of Medicine Alumni Association to host "Career Chats with Alumni." The program gives students a greater understanding of specialties in the medical field and the lifestyles associated with each. Students were given 10 minutes at each table, specified by the specialty of the alumni. After the 10-minute mark, students had six opportunities to stay and chat or leave and talk to other alumni with different specialties.

20. Student Awards and Achievements

Maria Almario, a doctoral student in Educational, School, and Counseling Psychology, will receive the Sexual Assault Awareness Award from the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs for her work in promoting social justice.

Stephanie Straub, English and Philosophy, presented the 16th annual Edward T. Breathitt Undergraduate Lectureship in the Humanities January 21 in the William T. Young Library Auditorium. Straub's lecture, which focused on the topic of personal identity examined in Ingmar Bergman's "Persona" and Jean-Paul Sartre's "Being and Nothingness," was titled "The Self and Other: Meaning, Identity, and Communication in Ingmar Bergman's 'Persona.'" In recognition of her selection to deliver the Breathitt Lectureship, Straub also received a commemorative award and a \$500 honorarium.

21. Faculty and Staff Awards and Achievements

Jayakrishna Ambati, Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, has been selected the 2010 winner of the Roger Johnson M.D. Memorial Award in Macular Degeneration Research. The award recognizes outstanding contribution to the understanding of the pathogenesis and treatment of age-related macular degeneration by a clinician or basic science researcher working anywhere in the world.

Susan Carvalho, Hispanic Studies and International Programs, has been elected honorary president of Sigma Delta Pi, the national collegiate Hispanic studies honor society. Carvalho is being recognized for her outstanding advocacy of Sigma Delta Pi and ongoing accomplishments in academic leadership.

Nancy Cox, Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station; Gregg Rentfrow and Melissa Newman, Animal and Food Sciences; Timothy Woods and Wuyang Hu, Agricultural Economics, received a \$359,000 one-year grant from the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board for "Food Product Research and Development for Kentucky's Small Food Processors."

Sylvia Daunert, Chemistry, had research on glowing bacteria featured in the February 2010 issue of *Popular Science Magazine*. The bacteria light in fiber-optic cable detects bacteria coming in contact with a toxin, a novel development that could lead to cleaner and safer water in our state's water supply.

Elizabeth Easter, Merchandising, Apparel, and Textiles, received the Patricia Brantley Todd Award of Excellence in Human Environmental Sciences.

Melissa Goodman, Hickman County family and consumer sciences Extension agent, received the Patricia Brantley Todd Award of Excellence in Human Environmental Sciences.

Tom Guskey, Education, received the Contribution to the Field Award from the National Staff Development Council (NSDC). The NSDC was cited as having improved the effectiveness of professional development leaders across the world by bridging the gap between education research and practice.

Jason Hans, Family Studies, received the 2009 New Teacher Award for Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Clyde W. Holsapple, Management Information Systems, will be inducted as a Fellow of the Decision Sciences Institute (DSI) at the organization's 2010 Annual Meeting in San Diego later this year. Holsapple becomes only the 109th DSI Fellow in the organization's more than 40-year history, joining notable scholars from such prestigious business schools as Wharton, Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Duke, North Carolina, Texas, Michigan, Arizona, Minnesota, Wisconsin, UCLA, and the London Business School.

Philip Landfield, Molecular and Biomedical Pharmacology, has received an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Fellows Award. Fewer than 20 individuals in the Commonwealth of Kentucky have received this award. The AAAS is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing science around the world. The election as a fellow of AAAS recognizes meritorious efforts to advance science or its applications.

Jingshan Li, Electrical and Computer Engineering, has received a five-year \$400,000 National Science Foundation Early Career Development (CAREER) grant for his proposal to study robust manufacturing systems that can withstand variations in machines, human factors, and products.

Suzanne Prevost, Nursing, has been named president-elect of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing. Prevost will serve as president-elect during 2010 and 2011, then become president for 2012 and 2013.

Helen Pushkarskaya, Agricultural Economics, was been selected to receive the 2010 Outstanding Teaching of a Course Award from the Southern Agriculture Economic Association.

Lisa Ruble, Education, received a two-year, \$998,940 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to examine three types of

professional development models of training and compare their effects on child and teacher outcomes in the education of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Michael Speaks, Design, was selected as one of seven judges for the Taipei Pop Music Center International Competition. The design competition was looking for a custom design for a large pop music performing center in Taipei with outdoor performing plaza. Total construction budget for the design is \$106 million. Reiser + Umemoto RUR Architecture PC from the United States was announced as winner of the competition January 29.

Tammy Stephenson, Nutrition and Food Science, received the Patricia Brantley Todd Award of Excellence in Human Environmental Sciences.

Gerald Supinski, Internal Medicine, received a two-year, \$480,000 per year National Institutes of Health Challenge Grant to study respiratory weakness as a factor in the morbidity of intensive-care patients. He will soon be testing new treatments that could improve long-term patient outcomes while reducing costs of care.

Kathy Swan and Gerry Swan, Education, along with William and Mary colleague Mark Hofer, received the National Technology Leadership Initiative Award in Social Studies from the College and University Faculty Assembly. The award is given to one paper each year, and this is the fourth time in the last six years that she has been involved in a paper winning the award.

Robbie Turner, UK Police sergeant, and his black Labrador retriever, Becka, were among the best K-9 teams in the country chosen by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to work in explosives detection at Super Bowl XLIV in Miami, Fla.

Thomas Widiger, Psychology, has been named the winner of the 2009 Distinguished Scientist Award by the Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology (SSCP). The SSCP Distinguished Scientist Award recognizes individuals who made important career contributions to the science of clinical psychology.

Timothy Woods and Ani Katchova, Agricultural Economics, received a \$62,654 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Cooperative Agreement for a project titled "Local Sourcing as a Differentiation and Recruitment Strategy for Food Consumer Cooperatives."