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Office of the President
December 3, 2024

Members, Board of Trustees:

ACCEPTANCE OF CHARITABLE GRANT COMMITMENT FROM
JAMES F. HARDYMON AND THE HARDYMON FAMILY FOUNDATION
TO BENEFIT UK INVESTS

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees accept a charitable grant commitment totaling $1,000,000 from James F. Hardymon and the Hardymon Family Foundation to support the UK Invests Program.

Background: James Franklin Hardymon, born in Maysville, Kentucky, on Veterans Day 1934, earned bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from the University of Kentucky in 1956 and 1958, respectively. He began his career with the Browning Manufacturing Company in Maysville in 1961, following two tours of duty in the U.S. Army. He then served in various executive positions at Emerson Electric before becoming CEO of Textron Inc., a $10 billion global, multi-industry company with market-leading operations in aircraft, automotive, industrial and finance. He retired in 1999.

Mr. Hardymon met his late wife of 58 years, Gay Garred Hardymon, at the University, where she earned a bachelor of arts in English in 1961. Together, they have two children, Jennifer Hardymon Sovich and James "Frank" Hardymon. One of their grandchildren, Caroline Sovich Branham, followed the family roots back to Kentucky to earn a Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences degree in 2015 from the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

Mr. Hardyman served the University of Kentucky as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1992-1999, and then again from 2003-2009. In his tenure as a Trustee, his roles included Community Advisory member of the Investment Committee, Chair of the Executive Committee and Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Action taken: ☑ Approved ❑ Disapproved ❑ Other _____