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Office of the President
September 18, 2026

Members, Board of Trustees:

ACCEPTANCE OF CHARITABLE GIFT COMMITMENT FROM RICHARD ROTHFUSS
TO BENEFIT THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees accept a \$10,000,000 charitable gift commitment from Richard Rothfuss to create and endow funds to support a department chair, professorship and students in the College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Psychology, which shall be renamed the Richard M. and Catherine J. Rothfuss Department of Psychology, in recognition of the donor's generosity.

Background: Richard Rothfuss graduated from the University with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 1972 and earned his Juris Doctor from the Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University in 1977. Mr. Rothfuss has served as a member of the University's College of Arts and Sciences' Advisory Board and Dean's Development Council and is a Henry Stites Barker Fellow. In 2008, he was inducted into Northern Kentucky University's Chase College of Law Hall of Fame.

Mr. Rothfuss was Founder, Partner, President and CEO of the Lerner, Sampson and Rothfuss law office, which is a boutique practice focused on the mortgage banking industry, with offices in Cincinnati, Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio and Lexington, Kentucky.

The Rothfuss family has close ties with the University, with three of the Rothfuss children attending. His son Richard Jr. graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 2000 and earned his Juris Doctor from the J. David Rosenberg College of Law in 2003. His son Carson graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 2002, and his daughter Ashley graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 2005.

Action taken: ☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐ Other