

FCR 3

Office of the President
September 18, 2026

Members, Board of Trustees:

ACCEPTANCE OF CHARITABLE GIFT FROM MICHAEL L. MARBERRY TO BENEFIT THE STANLEY AND KAREN PIGMAN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees accept a \$1,000,000 charitable gift from Michael L. Marberry to support an endowed fund named the “Michael L. Marberry Director of the University of Kentucky College of Engineering Paducah Campus” in the Stanley and Karen Pigman College of Engineering. The fund will supplement the salary of the Director position and may also be used for related costs, such as programmatic priorities, support for faculty, staff and students, faculty recruitment, equipment and facilities renovation.

Background: Michael L. Marberry of Sarasota, Florida, earned his Bachelor of Science in 1981 and his Master of Science in 1983 from the University, both in Chemical Engineering. After 25 years as a senior executive with J.M. Huber Corporation which included 13 years as corporate president and chief executive officer (CEO), he retired in July 2022. Huber, a sixth-generation diversified family-owned corporation, operates in specialty chemicals, agricultural materials, engineered minerals, food ingredients and structural wood products. Under Marberry’s leadership, the company achieved the strongest growth and financial performance in its 140-year history, earning recognition as one of the most successful family enterprises in the world and as a global leader in environmental sustainability.

Prior to becoming CEO, Marberry served in several senior roles at Huber, including vice president of corporate strategy and mergers/acquisitions, chief financial officer, and president of Huber’s global chemical and specialty materials business. Before joining Huber, he served as director of corporate strategy for PolyOne Corporation, leading acquisitions to drive international expansion; as a business strategy consultant with McKinsey & Company, advising corporate leadership teams worldwide; and as a product development engineer with Procter & Gamble, where he was awarded a U.S. patent for a key product formulation within the Health & Personal Care division.

Marberry has extensive corporate governance experience, including a decade as board chair of CP Kelco, service as a director for multiple public companies, and leadership roles on compensation, management development and environmental sustainability committees. He currently serves as a director of American Water Works and chairs its Safety, Environment, Technology and Operations Committee.

Action taken: ☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐ Other _____