

# FCR 9

Office of the President  
March 16, 2015

Members, Board of Trustees:

## APPROVAL TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO ACQUIRE THE QUICKSAND PLANT MATERIALS CENTER IN QUICKSAND, KENTUCKY

Recommendation: that the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration, or his designee, be authorized to submit an application to the United States General Services Administration to acquire approximately four acres of improved property referred to as the Quicksand Plant Materials Center in Quicksand, Kentucky owned by the United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service.

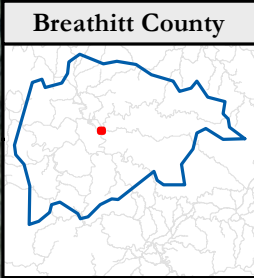
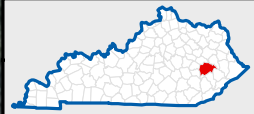
Background: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) owns approximately four acres of improved property in Quicksand, Kentucky which is referred to as the Quicksand Plant Materials Center (PMC). The Quicksand PMC was originally part of the 1925 land gift from the E.O. Robinson Trust to the University of Kentucky to establish an experiment station for the purpose of conducting agriculture and forestry research to improve the lives of those living in the Appalachian region of Kentucky. In February, 1966, the University transferred approximately four acres of this property to the USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to establish the PMC, whereby staff at the PMC and the University faculty could collaborate more effectively. This collaborative relationship continued until 1994 when the USDA moved their PMC operation to West Virginia.

In July 1999, the University entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the USDA whereby the University was granted beneficial use of three outlying support buildings at the PMC. The USDA - NRCS retained occupancy of the PMC office building while their operations in Quicksand were phased out. In August 2010, the University was granted access to all buildings including the office building. The United States General Services Administration declared the property surplus educational property and notified the University that it is available for disposal whereby the University may submit an application for the property. Should the University's application be approved, ownership of the property will be transferred back to the University.

Since 1925, the University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture, Food and the Environment has served the Appalachian regions by conducting applied field research and conducting educational programs in the areas of horticulture, forestry, livestock forage production and family consumer sciences. Continued access to the facilities on this USDA property, located in the heart of UK's operations at its Robinson Center for Appalachian Resource Sustainability, is vital to current and future research and educational efforts at the Robinson Center.

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Action taken:     Approved     Disapproved     Other \_\_\_\_\_



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