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Office of the President
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1. UK Dedicates Lewis Hall

The University of Kentucky formally dedicated Lewis Hall, a living learning community and residence hall housing the new UK Lewis Honors College. The facility, which opened Fall 2017, is named in honor of UK alumnus Thomas W. Lewis and his wife Jan who gave \$23 million to create one of the country's leading honors programs. This donation is the largest single gift in UK's history. Located at the corner of University and Hilltop Drives, Lewis Hall is a five-story, 346-bed, and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver certified student housing facility, constructed and managed by Education Realty Trust Inc.

2. UK Researchers, Clinicians Tackling Drug Addiction Make Their Case to Federal Leaders

Leaders from UK Research and UK HealthCare, along with some of the institution's most prolific researchers, recently took their stories of hope and challenge to Washington, D.C., to make the case with some of the country's top elected officials about the need to continue federal funding to address drug addiction and abuse. A group of UK representatives, including Executive Vice President for Health Affairs Mark Newman, College of Medicine Dean Bob DiPaola, Vice President for Research Lisa Cassis, and Vice President for University Relations Tom Harris, joined President Eli Capilouto in meetings with the officials. A second team of UK representatives, led by UK's Vice President for Administration and External Affairs Mark D. Birdwhistell, also traveled to Washington D.C., and included faculty from six different colleges who are engaged in substance abuse and addiction research. The University currently has \$22.5 million in research funding concerning these issues, as part of UK's \$330 million research enterprise. UK received \$11.2 million in research funding from the National Institute on Drug Abuse in 2016, alone.

3. Markey Unveils New Inpatient Floor in UK Chandler Hospital Pavilion A

The UK Markey Cancer Center unveiled its new inpatient floor on the 11th floor of the Albert B. Chandler Hospital Pavilion A in December. The new floor has a unit in each tower. Tower 100 houses the James and Gay Hardymon Patient Care Unit, a 31-bed unit for medical and surgical oncology patients. Tower 200 is home to the Darley Blood and Marrow Transplantation Unit, a 32-bed unit for bone marrow transplant, and patients with blood cancers. Between the two units, eight new cancer inpatient beds have been added. The new floor was designed with functionality in mind. Each patient room is equipped with a nurse work station outside the door, minimizing time spent away from the patient's bedside. Patients on the new floor will have access to both

oncology rehabilitation and integrative medicine services, including pet therapy, art therapy, music therapy, and narrative medicine.

4. UK Transplant Center Sets New State Record for Total Transplants in 2017

The UK Transplant Center performed 208 total transplants in 2017, setting a new record for most transplants performed by any Kentucky medical center in a single year. In total, UK HealthCare transplant teams performed 101 kidney transplants (including three kidney-pancreas transplants), 43 heart transplants, 41 liver transplants, and 23 lung transplants. This milestone cements UK HealthCare's place in the top 25th percentile of transplant centers nationally based on volume.

5. UK Moving Up Nationally in Research

The University is continuing its ascent among the top research institutions in the country. The proof is in the numbers. Between 2015 and 2016, UK moved up three rankings among research institutions, as measured by the National Science Foundation in the National Higher Education Research and Development Survey. UK is now 41st among all public institutions with research and development expenditures, totaling nearly \$350 million. Among all institutions, public and private, UK was 64th in 2016, up five spots in only one year. Although research funding at the federal level has been flat, UK has seen three consecutive years of growth; an annual growth rate of 5.3 percent in federal funding between 2014 and 2017.

6. UK Opens New Residential Dining Facility

Champions Kitchen, a residential dining venue, is the first space in the Student Center to open; as construction continues this spring on the rest of the facility. While the remainder of the building is still under construction, access to Champions Kitchen will be limited to one entrance located on the south side of the building facing White Hall Classroom Building and Patterson Office Tower. The 750-seat Champions Kitchen offers multiple dining concepts including a scratch bakery, a breakfast station, hand-tossed salad bar, and a "worry-free zone", where food is prepared in a gluten-, peanut-, tree nut-, and shellfish-free kitchen. It also uses locally sourced Kentucky Proud produce, meats, cheese, and dairy products from producers such as Weisenberger Mills and Marksbury Farm.

7. UK Hosts December Commencement Ceremonies

On December 15, UK recognized the accomplishments of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students who completed their degrees by the end of the fall 2017 semester. More than 1,000 students participated in two ceremonies for students, who earned their degrees in August and December 2017.

8. UK Researchers Helping Children With ADHD Thrive in the Classroom

Nearly 15 percent of Kentucky children are currently diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), the highest rate in the nation. Although medication may help to manage some ADHD symptoms in the classroom, such as inability to pay attention or sit still, mounting research

indicates that medicine alone doesn't necessarily lead to improved academic performance. UK researchers Elizabeth Lorch, Department of Psychology, and Janice Almasi, Department of Education Curriculum and Instruction, believe an answer may lie in a new after school program they have developed, using small group activities and novel learning strategies. Thanks to a five year, \$3.2 million grant from the Institute of Education Sciences, they are taking their program to 30 schools across Central Kentucky and testing how it can help elementary school students.

9. \$2.9 Million NIDA Grant Awarded to UK Researcher to Study Cocaine Use Disorder

William Stoops, professor in the UK College of Medicine, and director of regulatory knowledge and support for the UK Center for Clinical and Translational Science, has received a \$2.9 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to research the health effects of reducing the use of cocaine, but not abstaining from the substance entirely. Stoops hopes his research will contribute to the evolving knowledge of treatment for cocaine use disorder, a substance use disorder that currently has no well-established treatment methods.

10. UK Professors Receive \$2.1 Million Award to Advance Autonomous Underground Mining Systems

Three UK mining engineering professors, Steven Schafrik, Zach Agioutantis, and Joseph Sottile, have received a four-year, \$2.19 million grant from the Alpha Foundation for the Improvement of Mine Safety and Health; to integrate autonomous shuttle cars into existing underground coal mine infrastructure. Shuttle car operators are now subject to a number of risks, including dust and vibration exposure with limited visibility while operating the vehicle. Autonomous vehicle technology may provide the key to safer underground coal mines. In addition, these advancements can be extended to other types of underground mining.

11. UK CAER Receives DOE Grants Totaling More Than \$3 Million

The UK Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER) has received a \$1.6 million U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) grant that seeks to modularize and standardize gasification systems that could be used across Kentucky; turning existing coal resources into new energy feedstocks. The project was funded by DOE's National Energy Technology Laboratory and will develop and test a scaled-down version of an opposed, multi-burner gasifier to standardize the gasification process, in a manner that could significantly reduce the cost of the technology. The center also received a \$1.6 million grant to develop an innovative partnership in Hazard, Kentucky, that could serve as a model for future energy projects in rural Eastern Kentucky communities. The grant will allow CAER and its community partners to complete a front-end engineering design study for a 5-megawatt electric equivalent polygenerating unit; utilizing waste coal fines and biomass as feedstocks. CAER will be recycling two Eastern Kentucky products, sawdust and coal fines, to help create localized power generation in Perry County.

12. DOJ Grant Funds Data-driven Response to Prescription Drug Misuse

Following a successful application for funding under the Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the UK College of

Public Health and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, will receive funding over the next three years from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, to implement, “Data-driven Response to Prescription Drug Misuse in Kentucky.” The Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center (KIPRC), part of the College of Public Health, will implement this project to expand data-sharing and support decision-making of regulatory and law enforcement agencies and public health officials, in their efforts to reduce drug misuse and diversion.

13. UK's Successful Research Career Development Program Receives Renewed Funding

UK's Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) program has not only supported faculty and researchers in their work, but has also jump-started careers, aided in the publication of research, and helped forge partnerships and mentorships across disciplines. Created in 2000 and funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, a new five-year, \$2.5 million grant will continue UK's tradition of excellence in mentoring young scholars to become independent researchers in the field of women's health. Of the 24 active BIRCWH programs nationwide, UK is only one of two institutions to have received continuous funding since the program's inception; a testament to UK's success.

14. UK Athletics Tops 3.0 GPA for 11th Straight Semester

UK Athletics again topped its goal of a 3.0 department-wide grade-point average during the fall semester of 2017. Scholarship Wildcats earned a cumulative GPA of 3.118, marking the 11th straight semester above 3.0 and fifth straight above 3.1. The high marks come on the heels of a spring semester in which UK had a GPA of 3.178.

15. UK Student-Athletes Break, Tie Graduation Records

UK student-athletes broke one school record for graduation rate and tied another in the annual report issued by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). The NCAA Graduation Success Rate, a four-year composite statistic for the freshman classes of 2007-08 through 2010-11, was 85 percent. That broke last year's school record of 82 percent and continued UK's trend of having broken or tied the mark for earning diplomas every year since the NCAA began charting graduation in 2005. The federal graduation rate for student-athletes, also a four-year composite statistic for the freshman classes of 2007-08 through 2010-11, is 59 percent, tying the school record posted in four of the last five years.

16. UK Graduate Student Shares Opioid Recovery Journey to Help Others

Alex Elswick, who is in long-term recovery from an opioid use disorder and who is earning his doctorate at UK, is the founder of a nonprofit organization and a leader in the fight against the opioid epidemic. His opioid use disorder began with a prescription, and eventually he checked into a long-term adult rehabilitation center. His recovery inspired him, his mother, and other allies to found Voices of Hope, a nonprofit organization helping to connect those with opioid use disorder, and their families, to recovery capital. Contributing to the body of knowledge surrounding long term recovery is one of the reasons Elswick chose to pursue his Ph.D. in family sciences from the

UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, and it is why he now conducts research to examine barriers to long-term recovery.

17. UK Dentistry Students Provide Relief in Nicaraguan Mission Clinic

Last semester, a group of students from the UK College of Dentistry completed a service abroad excursion to Managua, Nicaragua, where they provided treatment for the local underserved population. The trip was made possible thanks to a partnership with dentistry alumnus Dr. Craig Adams and the Restoration Community Church of Raleigh, North Carolina. Throughout the course of one week, the clinic treated more than 300 patients; many of them young children.

18. UK HealthCare Uses Education Incentives to Address Critical Shortage of Nurses

To address both the shortage and the complex health issues with which nurses in Kentucky must contend, UK HealthCare and the College of Nursing have instituted education incentives designed to attract new nurses and provide current UK nurses with opportunities for professional development. These incentives include tuition assistance, loan-repayment programs, and continuing education programs. One such program is Nursing Professional Advancement, which rewards nurses with pay differentials added to their base pay for participating in development opportunities. The nurse residency program for new graduate nurses, is a one-year educational and support program that provides regular contact with experts and mentors to help with the transition from student to professional.

19. UK Law Students Spread Spirit of Giving With Thanksgiving Meals

Students in the UK College of Law Legal Clinic are known for providing pro bono services to low income community members. A lesser known fact is that each year, the students also provide Thanksgiving dinners to clients and families. In November, students delivered meals to eight families in Lexington, made possible by donations from Lucky's Market.

20. Humanitarian Architecture Drives Students From Kentucky to Haiti

A call to help build a Haitian orphanage in UK Architecture Professor Bruce Swetnam's spring 2017 studio, has evolved into a project driven by a passion for humanitarian architecture. In April, six students went on the inaugural trip to Chez Moi orphanage in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. They experienced firsthand the needs of the girls who lived there, as well as their culture, to fully understand how best to renovate the building. Students from Swetnam's studio last year, as well as those in the fall 2017 studio, have created the Big Blue Crowdfunding project "Humanitarian Architecture: Empowering Haitian Orphans", as a means to raise funds for travel to Haiti, and additional building materials.

21. Markey Earns Outstanding Achievement Award from Commission on Cancer

The UK Markey Cancer Center is one of 16 accredited cancer programs nationwide to receive the 2017 Outstanding Achievement Award from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. Established in 2004, the award was created to "recognize cancer programs that strive for

excellence in demonstrating compliance with the Commission on Cancer standards and are committed to high-quality cancer care," according to the organization.

22. UK HealthCare Receives Coveted Safe Sleep Gold Level Certification

Cribs for Kids National Infant Safe Sleep Initiative, recently named UK HealthCare a Gold Level Champion in recognition for its commitment to promote safe sleep practices and reduce infant sleep-related deaths. UK HealthCare is the only hospital in Kentucky with this designation.

To achieve certification, nurses and staff in Maternal/Child Services and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, receive extensive training in infant sleep-related deaths, as well as implement wearable blankets for infants, conduct internal audits of progress and success, and engage in community outreach about safe sleeping practices. UK HealthCare partners with the Halo Organization to provide sleep sacks for infants.

23. First Bridge Clinic to Help Patients Receive Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder

Through the new First Bridge Clinic, located at the UK Center on Drug and Alcohol Research, Sharon Walsh, Michelle Lofwall, and Laura Fanucchi are creating a new setting where patients can receive evidence-based care for opioid use disorder. Patients may receive FDA-approved medications for opioid use disorder, counseling services, and monitoring, aimed to promote remission and recovery. In partnership with the emergency departments at UK HealthCare, and with financial support from the state through the 21st Century Cures Act, Walsh, Lofwall, and Fanucchi are creating a clinical setting where providers in the emergency department can refer patients to receive transitional care for opioid use disorder.

24. UK Neurosurgery Group Performs Chinese Hospital's First Deep Brain Stimulation Surgery

Neurosurgeon Dr. Craig van Horne, co-director of the Brain Restoration Center, performed the groundbreaking deep brain stimulation surgery for China at the renowned First Affiliated Hospital of Zhengzhou University. The surgery, which appeared on the Henan news, was intended to expand the scope of neurosurgical practice in the area. The surgery's outcome was successful; the patient was able to walk and move more fluidly and was released from the hospital a few days later. This surgery set a precedent for many deep brain stimulation surgeries to follow at the Chinese facility.

25. UK Researchers First to Produce High Grade Rare Earths From Coal

UK College of Engineering researcher Rick Honaker and his team have produced nearly pure, rare earth concentrates from Kentucky coal, using an environmentally conscious and cost-effective process; a groundbreaking accomplishment in the energy industry. From national defense to health care, rare earth elements (REEs), are essential components of technologies like iPhones, computers, missiles, and other applications. Interest in REEs is at an all-time high in the U.S. right now, with the Department of Energy (DOE) investing millions in research. Honaker's research is being funded with \$8 million in grant money from the DOE.

26. UK Study Shows Cell Signaling Interaction May Prevent Key Step in Lung Cancer Progression

New findings from UK faculty, published in *Scientific Reports*, reveal a novel cell signaling interaction that may prevent a key step in lung cancer progression. Kentucky continues to lead the nation in incidence and death rates from lung cancer, and the UK College of Pharmacy is committed to reducing these numbers. Lung cancers are often diagnosed in later stages, with very few treatment options available. Often patients develop a resistance to a targeted therapy, resulting in a need for a variety of therapies that can be administered in stages or coupled together. A collaboration between the UK College of Pharmacy and the Department of Statistics in the UK College of Arts and Sciences, is working to address this problem. The project is the work of Madeline Krentz Gober, a recent graduate of the UK College of Pharmacy's Graduate Program, in the lab of pharmacy faculty member, Penni Black. Staff scientist James Collard and UK College of Arts and Sciences faculty member, Katherine Thompson, also contributed to the findings.

27. Clinical Trial for Stroke Innovates Patient Care and Research at UK

The combination of a new clinical trial and a tissue bank is innovating stroke care and research at UK. Led by a multidisciplinary team of clinicians and scientists, the studies aim to develop new treatments using existing therapies that protect brain tissue after a stroke and to learn more about the physiology of the event. The MAVARIC (Magnesium and Verapamil After Recanalization in Ischemia of the Cerebrum) clinical trial leverages existing standards of care and approved drugs to improve how the brain heals following a stroke. The related BACTRAC study is developing a tissue bank of thrombi (stroke-causing clots) and distal and peripheral blood to examine the immediate molecular changes that occur at the stroke site. Both the MAVARIC trial and the BACTRAC study are the first of their kind.

28. UK Study Shows Lower Lung Cancer Rates in Communities With Strong Smoke-free Laws

A recent study by UK BREATHE (Bridging Research Efforts and Advocacy Toward Healthy Environments) researchers shows that fewer new cases of lung cancer were found in communities with strong smoke-free workplace laws. The study, "Lung Cancer Incidence and the Strength of Municipal Smoke-free Ordinances," was published in *Cancer*, an American Cancer Society journal dedicated to providing clinicians with information on diagnosis, treatment, and prevention. Ellen Hahn, director of BREATHE and professor in the UK College of Nursing, and her team studied whether new cases of lung cancer in Kentucky were lower, higher, or stable in communities with smoke-free laws.

29. UK Study Finds Biomarker Targets to Make Drugs More Effective in Fighting Cancer

A new study published in *Nature Communications* and led by UK Markey Cancer Center researcher Qing-Bai, identifies biomarker targets that may make existing drugs more effective in fighting certain cancers. The mTOR protein is a central regulator of cell growth and division. Abnormal activation of mTOR protein results in limitless cell division in many human cancers.

Though mTOR-targeted drugs exist, their effectiveness has so far been limited, possibly due to the loss of the mTOR downstream effector 4E-BP1, a key repressor of protein production.

30. [UK, Fort Campbell Form Partnership](#)

The University is joining forces with Fort Campbell to launch a long-term, mutually beneficial partnership that will enhance research initiatives and opportunities. The U.S. Army installation signed a memorandum of understanding with the University in January, marking an intentional effort to improve outcomes for both entities. The land-grant mission of UK extends to Fort Campbell, which is uniquely positioned to benefit from the proximity to a research one university.

31. [Owensboro Health Joins Markey Affiliate Network](#)

Owensboro Health has joined the Markey Cancer Center Affiliate Network, further expanding its relationship with UK. Markey Cancer Center is the only National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center in Kentucky. By joining the UK Markey Cancer Center Affiliate Network, Owensboro Health will now be able to further enhance care available to patients in Western Kentucky and Southern Indiana, while allowing patients to stay closer to home and their support systems for most treatments.

32. [KCTCS, UK Sign Reverse Transfer Agreement](#)

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) and UK have signed a reverse transfer agreement to help more students earn associate degrees beginning in the 2018 spring semester. Former KCTCS students who transfer to UK before earning an associate degree can have UK credits applied toward the KCTCS degree, if the credits for each institution align.

33. [Kyle Macy, Nunn Center Team Up to Share UK Basketball Legends' Stories Online](#)

As part of the UK Men's Basketball Oral History Project, fans can now hear the memories of legendary UK basketball players from the source themselves and get insight on what the athletes were thinking in those big games or after those amazing buzzer beater shots. Kyle Macy, 1978 NCAA champion and All-American, teamed up with UK Libraries' Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History to collect more than 20 long-form interviews with Wildcat stars. The Nunn Center has made each interview available online.

34. [FCC, NCI Working with Markey to Improve Rural Cancer Care via Broadband Access](#)

The Federal Communications Commission's Connect2Health Task Force has announced that the FCC and the National Cancer Institute have joined forces, signing a memorandum of understanding that will focus on how increasing broadband access and adoption in rural areas can improve the lives of rural cancer patients. As an inaugural project under the memorandum of understanding, the agencies have convened a public-private collaboration that includes the UK Markey Cancer Center to help bridge the broadband health connectivity gap in Appalachia, taking another concrete step toward closing the digital divide.

35. Virtual Tour Allows Experience of UK's Campus Transformation From Anywhere

As new students are in the process of deciding where to go to college, UK has created a new online virtual tour. The immersive 3-D tour is an excellent way to "view" the campus before visiting in person. Offered for the first time in 2017 and accessible from UK's website home page, the virtual tour provides outdoor and indoor tours of many of university buildings, especially residence halls and buildings housing classes. On the virtual tour, a student can experience all UK has to offer through 360-degree video, still photos, and their very own student tour guide, providing plenty of useful information.

36. Military 'Mission' at Kroger Field Builds Community During Lexington's Week of Valor

The UK Sports Medicine Research Institute and Team Red, White & Blue, a national organization dedicated to enriching the lives of America's veterans by connecting them to their community through physical and social activity, joined forces to host OPERATION WILDCAT. Part "Amazing Race," part CrossFit Games, the mission objective was to build community by grouping veterans and non-veterans into teams that worked together to complete a simulated military mission. As part of Lexington's Week of Valor, about 120 men and women of all ages, athletic abilities, and military statuses met at UK's Kroger Field in November, where they first engaged in team-building exercises and then coordinated efforts to extract a hypothetical downed pilot from enemy territory.

37. Feast on Equality Raises More Than \$75,000 for UK LGBTQ* Resources

The UK Office of LGBTQ* Resources hosted its Feast on Equality dinner December 1. The sole purpose of Feast On Equality, a 501c3 nonprofit organization, is to raise funds for at-risk LGBTQ* youth by hosting signature fundraising events to engage the community and create awareness surrounding the issues that LGBTQ* youth face. This year's event was sponsored by UK HealthCare, the UK College of Medicine, the UK College of Pharmacy, and the UK College of Nursing. Through the event, the Office of LGBTQ* Resources raised more than \$75,000. The funds raised will be used to fund student scholarships, support a peer advocate and ambassador program, augment inclusive health care initiatives, and enhance other outreach and community building initiatives.

38. Driving Sustainability With UK Faculty, Staff, and Students

Six teams of UK students, faculty, and staff from across campus are working on sustainability projects this semester after being selected to receive Sustainability Challenge Grants totaling \$200,000. The projects span the spectrum of sustainability and colleges. The Sustainability Challenge Grant Program is designed to engage all members of the UK community in the creation and implementation of ideas that will promote sustainability by simultaneously advancing economic vitality, ecological integrity, and social equity.

39. Faculty and Staff Achievements

Donna Arnett (College of Public Health) has been awarded the American Heart Association's Population Research Prize for 2017.

Mitch Barnhart (UK Athletics) has been named chair of the Southeastern Conference Athletics Directors.

Y.T. Cheng (College of Engineering) has been named a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors.

Ned Crankshaw (College of Agriculture, Food and Environment) was named to the American Society of Landscape Architects' Council of Fellows.

Frank Etensohn (College of Arts and Sciences) received the Grover E. Murray Memorial Distinguished Educator Award for 2018 from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

Janie Health (College of Nursing) was recognized as a distinguished alumna by her alma mater, the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing.

Arthur Hunt (College of Agriculture, Food and Environment) was named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Glen Mays (College of Public Health) is the recipient of the 2017 Health Administration Section Excellence in Health Administration Award from the American Public Health Association.

Jay Miller (College of Social Work) was appointed to oversee the Association of Social Work Board on Social Work Education Licensing and Regulation National Taskforce.

Subba Reddy Palli (College of Agriculture, Food and Environment) was named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Chris Poore (College of Communication and Information) was honored by Western Kentucky University's College Heights Herald with its 2017 award for outstanding contributions to journalism.

William E. Thro (UK Office of Legal Counsel) is the winner of the 2017 M.A. McGhehey Award, presented by the Education Law Association.

Martina Vasil (College of Fine Arts) has been named a recipient of the Modern Band Higher Education Fellowship by the nonprofit Little Kids Rock.

Paolo Visonà (College of Fine Arts and Lewis Honors College) recently served as a Fulbright Specialist at Croatia's University of Rijeka and University of Zadar.

Carolyn Williams (College of Nursing) received the American Academy of Nursing's designation of Living Legend, the organization's highest honor.

Brandi Frisby, Jessalyn Vallade, and Bobi Ivanov (College of Communication and Information) were recognized by the journal *Communication Education* for being in the top 1 percent of prolific scholars in communication studies and scholarly research productivity.

Mike McKay and Liz Swanson's (College of Design) sculpture will find permanent residence at the Louisville International Airport in summer 2018.

Markey Cancer Center was awarded \$253,000 from the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Center Cessation Initiative to help enhance the delivery of tobacco cessation treatments.

40. Student Achievements

Justin Croushore (Musical Arts, of Hebron, Kentucky) was invited to play with the Beograd Filharmonia/Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra.

Kirby Davis (Saxophone Performance of Greenville, Kentucky) was named to the SEC Student Music Ensemble for the 2017 Southeastern Conference Football Championship.

Gracie Furnish (Agricultural Education, of Cynthiana, Kentucky) was elected Future Farmers of America Eastern Region vice president.

Courtney Love (Communication, of Youngstown, Ohio) was named the winner of the 2017 Wuerffel Trophy, an award that honors college football's top community servant.

Olivia-Xin Zhang won a bronze medal in the 2017 Vancouver International Music Competition, placed second in the 2017 Concert Artist International Virtuoso Competition, and has been asked to perform at a concert at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall.

UK Debate Team members Dan Bannister (Political Science, of St. Paul, Minnesota) and Anthony Trufanov (Political Science and Modern and Classical Languages, of Northbrook, Illinois) were ranked No. 3 in the nation in December by the American Debate Association.

Six UK students won Kentucky Academy of Science Awards, including: Eashwar Somasundaram (Chemistry and Lewis Honors College, of South Williamson, Kentucky); Harrison Inocencio (Computer Science and Lewis Honors College, of Lexington); Jordan Garcia (Mechanical Engineering, of Mayfield, Kentucky); Maddie Stanback (Biology and Lewis Honors College, of Lexington); Rosemary Calabro (Chemistry, of Bloomington, Indiana); and Tyler Stofell (Mechanical Engineering, of Wisconsin).

UK Speech and Debate Team won the John G. Fee Invitational speech and debate tournament held by Berea College, the Chief Justice Invitational tournament held by Marshall University, and the WYRD Invitational at Transylvania University.

41. Alumni Achievements

Danielle Galyer (Psychology and Political Science, 2017) was selected as a 2018 NCAA Today's Top 10 Award winner.

Christopher H. Manning (Landscape Architecture) was named to the American Society of Landscape Architects' Council of Fellows.

Angel Laketa Moore-Tanksley (Theatre, 2002, and Arts Administration, 2015) starred in "black-ish," ABC's award-winning TV show.