

Chair, Board of Trustees
June 13, 2025

Members, Board of Trustees:

APPOINTMENT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
MINING ENGINEERING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the appointments of Jon Brown, Jared Curry, Paul Horn, Russ Lamont and Karen Rose to the University of Kentucky Mining Engineering Foundation Board of Directors for a two-year term ending June 30, 2027.

Background: The Nominating Committee of the University of Kentucky Mining Engineering Foundation, which includes the dean of the college of engineering, recommended these appointments to the Provost. These recommended appointments require approval by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws for the University of Kentucky Mining Engineering Foundation approved by the Board of Trustees at its meeting on December 14, 1982. This nomination is supported by the President and Provost.

Biographical sketches of the appointees are attached.

Action taken: ☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved ☐ Other _____

University of Kentucky Mining Engineering Foundation, Inc.
Board of Directors Biographical Information

Jon T. Brown

Jon is a Mining Engineering graduate from the University of Kentucky. A native of Harlan, Kentucky Jon has held management, business development and engineering roles at Alliance Resource Partners, Jennmar, Quaker Houghton and Iron Senergy. While with Quaker Houghton, Jon relocated to Sydney, Australia where he received his MBA from Macquarie Graduate School of Management, founded "Friends of Coal-Australia" and subsequently became a Certified Lubrication Specialist. In October of 2020, he took over global management responsibilities for the Mining and Energy division for Quaker Houghton. In March 2022, Jon joined Iron Senergy in his current role as Vice President of Business Development and Capital.

Throughout his career Jon has developed a reputation for technical expertise in the fields of fluid power, lubrication, dust mitigation, ground stabilization and methane mitigation. He has offered technical support throughout the global mining industry and holds multiple patents for products created during his time with Quaker Houghton. In his roles he has authored technical articles, webinars, and spoken at industry symposiums around the topics of mine safety, innovation, and continuous improvement. In his current role Jon has an emphasis on advanced energy, coal products and carbon markets through Iron Senergy's mining platform.

Jon currently lives in Louisville, KY with his wife Michelle, and three sons, Parker, Taylor and Connor. He has a passion for serving the community, and in 2017 started a non-profit, Food Connect, to connect surplus food with local hunger relief agencies. Jon is a passionate advocate for the coal industry and advancing its interests for the next generation. Additionally, Jon is the Chairman for Careers in Coal, a member of Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME), Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineers (STLE) and America's Power.

Jared L. Curry

A native of Harlan, Kentucky, Curry received his Bachelor of Science in Mining Engineering from the University of Kentucky in 2008. He was employed by Patriot Coal Company in West Virginia, at Hobet Mining and Kanawha Eagle for seven years. During this time, he worked in various positions as Surface Mine Planner, Surface Production Manager, Underground Project Manager, Engineering Manager and Mine Superintendent.

In 2015, he moved to Vulcan Materials Company at Lemont Underground as Plant Manager in Romeoville, Illinois. In 2017, he became District Operations Manager for Vulcan Material's Central Kentucky Operations and in 2025 began added the responsibility for Operational Excellence for Kentucky and Tennessee operations.

Curry currently serves on the Kentucky Crushed Stone Association Board of Directors with active involvement in the Underground Committee, Technical Committee, Health/Safety/Environment Committee and the Education-Workforce Development Committee. He graduated from the Kentucky Crushed Stone Association (KCSA) Emerging Leaders in 2018 and currently resides in Lexington with his wife Amanda, daughter Avery (12) and son Austin (9).

Paul Horn

Paul Horn received his Bachelor of Science in Mining Engineering from the University of Kentucky. Since September 2022, he has been employed at Ramaco Resources, currently serving as Executive Vice President for Mining Operations. Prior to joining Ramaco he worked for nearly 22 years at the privately held Booth Energy Group, serving in various roles, including President, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Mining Engineer. Prior to Booth Energy Group, he began his career with MAPCO/Alliance Coal in its Eastern Operations, where he worked for over six years.

He is past Chairman of the Kentucky Coal Association and served on the Kentucky Bond Pool and Kentucky Reclamation Guarantee Fund. He served as the 7th District Commission Member for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife for over seven years and received his Bachelor of Science in Mining Engineering from the University of Kentucky.

Russ Lamont

Russ Lamont was born and raised in Nelson County, Kentucky, and received his Bachelor of Science in Mining Engineering from the University of Kentucky (2007) and his MBA from the University of Charleston (2010), and Doctorate in Mining Engineering from the University of Kentucky (2024). Lamont is a licensed professional engineer, a certified blaster, and a certified surface and underground mine foreman.

Lamont spent almost 10 years working in the coal industry of West Virginia for Patriot Coal, holding positions such as Chief Engineer and Mine Superintendent. He gained exposure to a broad range of mining operations across both underground and surface mines, spanning various technical and operational roles. He later joined Vulcan Materials and spent almost two years managing their Kentucky underground operations in the Lexington area while attending graduate school at the University of Kentucky.

Lamont joined Dyno Nobel in June of 2019 as a member of the Dyno Consult technical services team. He moved into the role as General Manager of the team and spent multiple years working to develop top-tier technical solutions for mining operations across the Americas before moving into the Sales and Commercial space. He currently serves as the Vice President of Sales and Commercial Operations and is responsible for Dyno Nobel's customer facing activities across North America.

Karen Rose

Karen Rose, a Mining Engineering graduate, has more than 30 years of experience as a consultant in business environments in Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee. Her experience includes construction oversight, mine reclamation management and design, health and safety programs, stream analysis and restoration plans, hydrology, environmental site analysis, and environmental permitting and compliance systems. Karen has hosted in-house seminars to various companies to inform them about environmental permit compliance training.

Karen has been instructing the UK Mining Engineering Department Course Mine Safety and Health Management and Processes since January 2022. In that course, her students learn how to analyze and apply mine safety regulations and performance data to develop engineering and training solutions.

Karen volunteers locally presenting STEM resources and projects to middle and high school aged students. In 2020, she received the Blue Grass Council, Scouting America Silver Beaver Award in recognition for her distinguished service within the council. For several years, Karen has mentored one of the UK Mining Engineering teams during their capstone project and regularly guest lectures on environmental issues to the senior design class. Additionally, she has served on the Minerals Education Coalition, including being chair during the 2018-19 service year. Karen also serves as the Industry Advisor for the UK Mining Engineering Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME) Student Chapter, where she mentors and assists with community outreach projects.