

Fall is a favorite time of year for me. Although our September heat wave delayed transition to temperatures we typically experience in fall, our academic routines confirm that we indeed are well into the 2019-2020 Fall Semester.

We concluded last year with the commencement of 149 medical students and 61 graduate students in the Class of 2019. We are especially gratified with the match rate of this class of new professionals as they enter residency. UofL had 147 participants in the match with a 95.2 percent initial match rate and a final rate of 96.6 percent, exceeding the national match rate of 95 percent! On July 28, we welcomed 162 new students in the class of 2023!

It is always a pleasure to see former students return and reconnect with UofL. During our Alumni Event in late September,

we were delighted to see members of the Golden Alumni Class of 1969.

Preparation for our next LCME accreditation review is under way. Our LCME Continuous Quality Improvement Committee (CQIC), led by Vice Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education Ann Shaw, M.D., already has reviewed and drafted content for 99 percent of the 12 LCME Standards and 93 Elements in preparation for our April 2021 LCME site visit.

Our clinical enterprise is undergoing dynamic changes thanks to a tremendous effort by President Bendapudi and our team within UofL and UofL Health to finalize an agreement to acquire the Louisville-based KentuckyOne Health assets, including Jewish Hospital and the Frazier Rehab Institute.

We also have entered into a definitive agreement for Norton Healthcare to take responsibility for managing pediatric clinical care. As we work through the transition associated with both transactions, we continue our school's mission to improve the health of the diverse populations we serve through excellence and leadership in education, patient care, research and community engagement.



— *Dean Toni Ganzel, M.D., M.B.A.*

## EDUCATION

On national board exams, UofL students who first took Step 1 so far in 2019 had a 98 percent pass rate. First-time Step 2 takers in academic 2018-19 had a 99 percent pass rate. Both rates are one percentage point higher than the national rate. On the AAMC Y2Q in 2018, UofL students indicated they strongly agree or agree that UofL is doing a good job of fostering and nurturing their development as future physicians (100 percent) and overall satisfaction with the quality of medical education (98.8 percent).

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## RESEARCH

In a first-of-its-kind study of the effects of plants on human health, the Green Heart Project is beginning planting of approximately 8,000 trees and shrubs in South Louisville neighborhoods. Researchers with UofL's Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute will compare data about the health of people living in the neighborhoods collected before the plantings with data collected two years after the vegetation is planted.

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## PATIENT CARE

Louisville resident Thomas E. Dunbar has pledged \$1 million to UofL to create a specialized center to provide chimeric antigen receptor positive T (CAR T) cell therapies to patients at the UofL Brown Cancer Center and other centers in Kentucky and the Midwest. This will provide cancer patients throughout the region with access to some of the most advanced immunotherapy treatments available. The new program will be named the Dunbar CAR T-Cell Program.

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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

For nearly two decades, the Kentucky Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (KBRIN), administered at UofL, has been helping scientists at institutions throughout the state get their foot in the door of biomedical research. A five-year, \$18.2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health awarded earlier this year will continue and enhance the work of KBRIN, the state's Institutional Development Award (IDeA).

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## Faculty, Staff and students in the National Spotlight

**Dean Toni Ganzel** is serving as chair-elect for the Liaison Committee on Medical Education for the 2020-21 academic year.

**April Butler**, fourth-year medical student, won the national Gold Foundation Hope Babette Tang Humanism in Healthcare Essay Contest for her essay, "The Healing Yellow Raincoat."

**Priya Chandan, M.D.**, of the Division of PM&R, received the 2019 AAPM&R Distinguished Public Service Award.

**Kelly McMasters, M.D., Ph.D.**, has been named a director of the American Board of Surgery, 2018 president of the Society of Surgical Chairs, editor-in-chief of Annals of Surgical Oncology and 2019 president of the Southern Surgical Association.

**Susan Sawning, M.S.S.W.**, was named president-elect for the national Society of Directors of Research in Medical Education

**M. Ann Shaw, M.D., M.A.**, received the Thomas B. Calhoun Teaching Award from the graduating class of 2019.

**John Wise Sr., Ph.D.**, of the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, received the EMGS Education Award from the Environmental Mutagenesis and Genomics Society.

Additional honors and recognitions  
[SEE MORE.](#)

## Class of 2023

|                                  |      |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Students:                        | 162  |
| Kentucky residents:              | 120  |
| Female                           | 46%  |
| Male                             | 54%  |
| Underrepresented                 | 12%  |
| Nontraditional (age range 27-35) | 10%  |
| Average age                      | 22   |
| Average cumulative GPA           | 3.68 |
| MCAT Average total score         | 508  |



## SMART Program

The next SMART Program is October 29, 2019, on the topic of Upstander Training. Register [HERE](#).

SMART is exploring issues related to campus safety and welcomes input from staff on ideas and specific areas of concern. Visit the [SMART](#) page for more information or email [SOMsolve@louisville.edu](mailto:SOMsolve@louisville.edu).

## Faculty Excellence Awards

The UofL School of Medicine has developed "Celebration of Faculty Excellence" to honor faculty members who have distinguished themselves among their peers and in their professions. The inaugural event will be Feb. 18, 2020. [NOMINATIONS](#) will be accepted from faculty colleagues and department chairs for exceptional contributions in the areas of teaching, research, service and diversity. Nominations due Nov. 1.

## Leadership and Innovation in Academic Medicine

The 2019-2020 class of Leadership and Innovation in Academic Medicine (LIAM) will be the largest and most diverse group yet with 26 faculty members. This is the first year that we are including faculty from other HSC schools as well as Belknap Campus. We will welcome 15 faculty from the School of Medicine, 3 from the School of Nursing and 3 from the School of Dentistry. In addition, this year we have 5 faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences as part of a pilot program to introduce leadership training to Belknap Campus. We are eager to see how this diverse mix of faculty interacts with each other and the foundational leadership skills we introduce to them. [SEE MORE](#).

## Patient-centered care

For more than 200 years, we have been providing patient care to our community, but this past year has seen tremendous evolution and positive growth for the UofL School of Medicine's clinical enterprise.

In January 2019, Tom Miller was named CEO of UofL Health. Tom has more than 30 years of experience in both not-for-profit and investor-owned hospitals and a successful track record in developing multi-hospital networks. UofL Health is under development as the parent company for the entire clinical enterprise and will be the foundation for ongoing collaboration between the hospitals and physicians group.

After many months of negotiations, UofL President Neeli Bendapudi and a team of leaders within UofL and UofL Health have successfully finalized an agreement to acquire the Louisville based KentuckyOne Health assets, including Jewish Hospital, Frazier Rehab Institute, the physician groups affiliated with KentuckyOne Health, and others. [SEE MORE](#)

## Glasgow faculty member shares knowledge in India

Steven A. House, M.D., recently traveled to India with a team of physicians from the United States to share knowledge on palliative care with local physicians and caregivers. House was a panelist and lecturer with both U.S. and Indian physicians in an effort to provide education on how best to deliver compassionate and patient-centered care to those in need.



## Laser vision correction taught to UofL ophthalmology residents

The UofL Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences is one of only a few ophthalmology residency programs to certify residents in laser vision correction. Under the guidance of Richard Eiferman, M.D., and Frank Burns, M.D., residents at UofL are being instructed in laser vision correction as part of their residency training through a partnership with Johnson & Johnson Vision.

To assist these residents in their training, the program is offering more affordable eye surgery to UofL faculty, staff, students and alumni. Resident procedures, staffed by Eiferman, Burns and Mark Cassol, MD, range from \$495 to \$795 per eye for custom LASIK. [LEARN MORE](#).

## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

*Newsletter contributions are compiled from submissions made by units. To submit information for the next issue of the dean's newsletter, go to the [online submission form](#).*