

A Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

A few weeks ago I had the honor of speaking to a group of community business leaders at the Rotary Club of Louisville luncheon. It was a great opportunity for me to provide an update on all of the tremendous achievements that we've made together in recent years at the University of Louisville.

I spent some time talking about the growth we've seen in the number of bachelor's degrees awarded, our strong fundraising record and the construction we have underway at three business and research parks – construction that is made possible with private sector dollars rather than state dollars. I reinforced that these accomplishments were made during a time when we had experienced multiple cuts in state funding.

We have recognized for some time the significant challenges our new governor would face in preparing a biennial budget. The structural imbalance the state faces over the next two years does require the most austere of times, and we applaud Gov. Bevin for addressing these very pressing needs. However, we are disappointed we will take continued cuts in the next biennium as well as a current year cut (over the next 30 months). We face challenges in continuing to move forward to meet our statutory mandate, given 16 budget cuts over 17 years.

The University of Louisville has worked hard to put measures in place over the years that have allowed us to succeed even with fewer resources. Our seven strategies for moving forward in a tough fiscal environment have indeed buffered against, but cannot relieve, the entire pain that these ongoing cuts impose.

We appreciate the governor's willingness to help us manage these cuts over the next 30 months. We look forward to working with the governor on a performance funding model that recognizes the amazing academic trajectory the University of Louisville has been on for over a decade. My pledge to you is this latest cut will not derail our progress. We will find a way to move forward, together.

James R. Ramsey President, University of Louisville



President James R. Ramsey speaks to the Louisville Rotary in January.

UofL institute awarded \$2.55 million to create Kentucky Rural & Underserved Interprofessional Education Program

UofL's Institute for Sustainable Health & Optimal Aging received a \$2.55 million grant to bring geriatric health care, including culturally sensitive care for Hispanic patients, to rural and medically underserved Kentuckians.

The grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services will create the Kentucky Rural & Underserved Geriatric Interprofessional Education Program (KRUGIEP), a three-year initiative headed by Dr. Anna Faul, executive director of the Institute. The project also will include UofL faculty and partnering organizations from six rural Kentucky counties: Hart, Metcalfe, Barren, Bullitt, Henry and Shelby.

"This project integrates community health teams and mental health specialists with geriatric primary care delivery, making it unique among other programs for older adults and their well-being," Faul said.



Anna Faul, executive director of the Institute for Sustainable Health & Optimal Aging, announces a \$2.55 million grant for rural healthcare.

UofL nursing program, business college ranked among nation's best

Two of UofL's schools, the College of Business and the School of Nursing program, recently received national rankings.



Eduniversal, which monitors the best masters programs in 30 fields of study worldwide, recently ranked UofL's full-time MBA No. 37 in the nation, its highest ever placement. With more than 500 business schools operating across North America, a Top 40 ranking puts the full-time program in elite company that includes ACC counterparts from Duke and Virginia.

UofL's online RN-to-BSN program is No. 9 nationally according to AffordableCollegesOnline.org's 2015-2016 Best Online RN to BSN Programs. The program, accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), enables a nurse with an associate's degree or a nursing diploma to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) online.



New public health faculty to direct Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness Center for Health Equity

Brandy N. Kelly Pryor, PhD, is the new director of the Center for Health Equity at the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness. She also will serve as an assistant professor at the University of Louisville School of Public Health and Information Sciences in the Department of Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences.

"The Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness has been a national leader on issues of health equity. I'm looking forward to building

on the work that has already begun here," she said. "With the unique partnership between the Department of Public Health and Wellness and the UofL School of Public Health and Information Sciences, I am confident that we can make great strides toward achieving health equity in Louisville and beyond."

In addition to teaching Pryor will mentor students, serve on dissertation committees, and provide hands-on learning opportunities for students.



Brandy Kelly Pryor, director of the Center for Health Equity and UofL assistant professor.

McConnell Center hosts series on key citizens, statesmen

The McConnell Center at UofL is hosting a free, public lecture series entitled "Citizens and Statesmen" as part of its 25th anniversary celebration.

"It is necessary that we explore our rights and responsibilities as citizens and reflect on what we want from our political leaders, especially in the current political climate of distrust of politics and our political institutions," said Gary Gregg, McConnell Center director.

Lectures will be held throughout the spring semester with topics including the statesmanship of Abraham Lincoln and Franklin D. Roosevelt, as well as the Kentucky Resolutions. A complete schedule can be found at McConnellCenter.org.



William B. Allen, former chair of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and former dean of Michigan State University's James Madison College, presented "The Wisdom of Statesmen," the first in a free, public lecture series presented by the McConnell Center at UofL.

Martin Luther King Day of Service



UofL faculty, staff and students honored the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by participating in the annual MLK Day of Service on Jan. 18. More than 250 UofL volunteers worked at more than a dozen nonprofits across Louisville, including Supplies Overseas, a organization that provides surplus medical supplies and equipment to impoverished communities around the world.



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