

CITIZEN UNIVERSITY

THE INAUGURATION OF JAMES R. RAMSEY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TOM FOUGEROUSSE

THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE'S 17TH PRESIDENT, JAMES R. RAMSEY, OFFICIALLY WAS INAUGURATED ON A SUNNY SEPT. 9 AFTERNOON DURING AN ELEGANT CEREMONY ON THE OVAL IN FRONT OF GRAWEMEYER HALL.

THE PROCEEDINGS WERE HIGHLIGHTED BY RAMSEY'S 25-MINUTE INAUGURAL ADDRESS, "THE CITIZEN UNIVERSITY," IN WHICH HE STRESSED U OF L'S POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND THE REST OF KENTUCKY. HE EMPHASIZED THE VALUE OF PARTNERSHIP AND OPENNESS AND OUTLINED CHALLENGES THE UNIVERSITY IS FACING AND WILL CONTINUE TO CONFRONT IN COMING YEARS.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH RAMSEY'S INAUGURATION, THE UNIVERSITY HOSTED SEVERAL RECEPTIONS WITH STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF AS WELL AS AN INAUGURAL CONVOCATION ON THE "FUTURE OF PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION."

THE FOLLOWING ARE PHOTOS FROM THE INAUGURATION EVENTS ALONG WITH PASSAGES FROM RAMSEY'S SPEECH. TO READ THE FULL TEXT OF HIS ADDRESS, VISIT THE PRESIDENT'S WEB PAGE AT <http://www.louisville.edu/president> AND CLICK ON THE CITIZEN UNIVERSITY.



"Indeed, the University of Louisville has a rich history and tradition dating back to 1798, when it was stated by the members of the city's founding families that Louisville should be 'a place of some consequence' by having a center of advanced learning. Who could have imagined in 1798 the 'place of consequence' dreamed of then is what we enjoy today?"



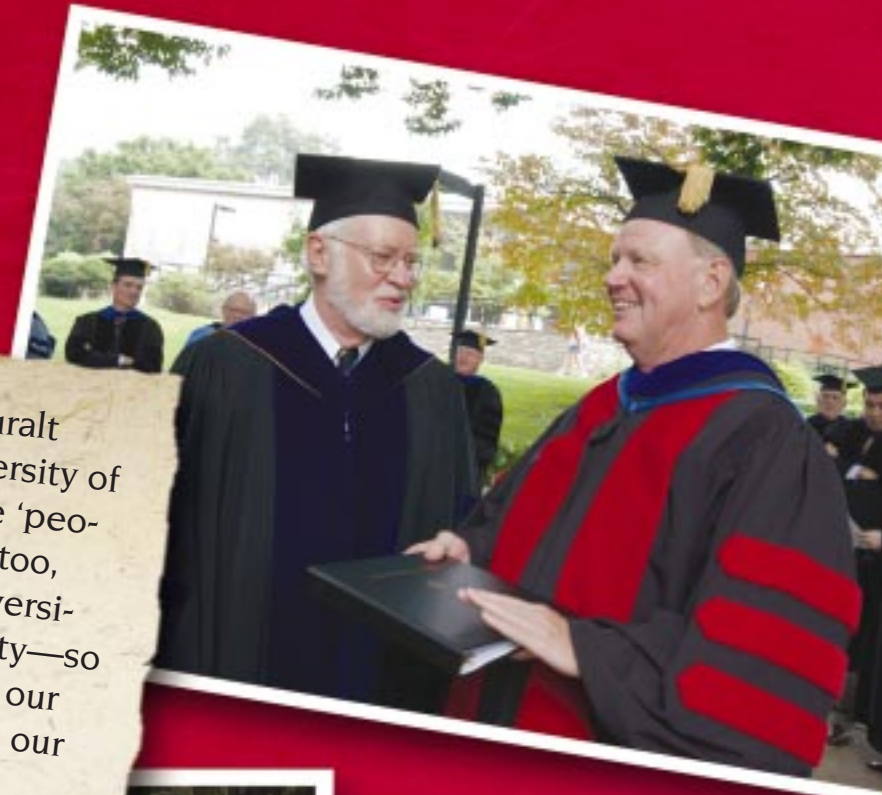


From top down: James and Jane Ramsey visit with faculty, staff and students at a pre-inauguration reception; Ramsey meets with students during a picnic at the Red Barn; board of trustees member Sandy Metts Snowden (right) and board of trustees chair Jessica Loving present the president with a Jim Ramsey bobble-head doll during an inaugural luncheon.

Right, clockwise: In a rare moment of solitude before his inauguration, Ramsey prepares for his speech; he chats with former U of L President Donald Swain before the ceremony; in the shadow of The Thinker, Ramsey gives his inaugural address, "The Citizen University"; he leads the procession that included Gov. Paul Patton (center), trustee Junior Bridgeman, Acting Provost Shirley Willihnganz and other dignitaries into the inaugural ceremony; the Oval in front of Grawemeyer Hall was the setting for the inauguration ceremony on Sept. 9.



"We must address head-on those in Congress who suggest that higher education is in 'crisis.' We must address head-on those in the executive branch of the federal government who say that in the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act the administration must be 'hard' on colleges and universities. We must address head-on comments from business leaders in our own community who say we are not accountable, that our governance system is flawed, that we are not a funding priority ... To address those who doubt us, we must embrace and recommit ourselves—head-on—to the mandate, Kentucky General Assembly: 'to become a preeminent, nationally recognized metropolitan research university' that is part of a 'seamless, integrated system of postsecondary education' in our state."



"The late Charles Kuralt referred to the University of North Carolina as the 'people's university.' We, too, are the 'people's university'—a citizen university—so improving the lives of our citizens is our job; it is our responsibility."



"This great university has helped shape and define the history of this community and the commonwealth."



"May it be said in the future that despite the challenges we faced in 2003, we did not back off; we did not retreat. Rather we hitched up our belts and did our jobs—to make a better Kentucky. ... It is an important job; it is important to me, for I was born in this community, educated in our public schools in Kentucky, and I believe in Kentucky and its people and all that they can be."

