

What's happening at UofL

Week of Sept. 25-30

We are beginning these media briefings, which we have titled "What's Happening at UofL," to discuss both breaking news and other activities at the university. We are streaming this first edition live on the internet; future editions may be by video, conference call or other venue, based on the response we receive from the media and from our faculty, staff, students and other members of the university community.

Update on activities at UofL related to the federal investigation

First, the federal investigation is ongoing. We brought this issue to the attention of authorities and continue to work with David Huber, U.S. Attorney for Western District of Kentucky.

Our internal and external reviews continue and include:

1. An internal audit of the finances of the College of Education and Human Development
 2. An external audit of the university's grants management and contracts practices
 3. A Faculty Senate review of our faculty grievance procedure.
 4. A review, requested by our Faculty, Staff and Student senates
 5. A review of the conflict of interest policy and proposal of a values statement.
 6. And finally, a review of circumstances surrounding a PhD awarded by the CEHD during Robert Felner's tenure as dean.
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1. Regarding the first review - our Office of Audit Services has completed the first phase of its audit of the college's financial records. The audit will continue into other areas of the college. David Barker, director of Audit Services, said he expects the review to continue for at least six more weeks. Audit Services is being diligent, and Dr. Ramsey has encouraged them to continue to be thorough in their review.
 2. The second review is the external audit of our contracts and grants management policies and procedures. This review is being conducted by Cotton and Allen, a local accounting firm. Cotton and Allen is an independent agency.
 3. Our Faculty Senate review of the faculty grievance procedures has begun. The committee already is reviewing internal documents and best practices for faculty grievance policies. The group will have its second meeting Friday, Sept. 26. The group expects to finish its work and report back to the president and provost by the end of November.
 4. The Faculty, Staff and Student senates recommended to the Board of Trustees that a committee be formed to look at policies and procedures related to managerial practices. The board supported that recommendation earlier this month. That committee is currently being formed and will have its first meeting in the next week or so.

5. In light of allegations in the Felner investigation, a fifth committee will review the university's policies and procedures regarding conflict of interest. The provost is asking the group to look at three things: a) Adequacy of policies regarding compliance b) How informed our faculty are regarding the policies and c) To what degree our compliance policies are being followed.
6. Finally, the committee Dr. Ramsey appointed to review an allegation regarding the improper awarding of a doctoral degree continues its work. This committee has asked that it be allowed to conduct its work in strict confidentiality. Dr. Ramsey has asked this committee to be quick, but thorough.

CAMPUS FOOD SERVICES BEING IMPROVED

UofL has signed a 10-year agreement with leading food service provider Sodexo to revamp dining services, heeding a call from students for better food and longer hours and to help improve campus life. As part of the makeover, Sodexo is investing \$11 million to improve food services and facilities. Sodexo sources local products whenever possible, including at UofL where 15 percent of the food served is Kentucky Proud™, produced by Kentucky farm families. For more details, see <http://php.louisville.edu/advancement/ocm/news/release.php?relid=1057>

WEEKEND BRINGS PARENTS, SIBLINGS TO CAMPUS

Hundreds of parents, brothers and sisters of UofL students will visit campus this weekend (Sept. 26-28 for the first Cardinal Family Weekend. The families will take part in several activities, including a Cardinal Block Party and naming of the first Cardinal Parent of the Year. If the event is popular, the university may start doing it every year. For more details, see <http://php.louisville.edu/advancement/ocm/news/release.php?relid=1065>

DENTISTS TO OFFER 'SMILES' FOR LOW-INCOME KIDS

Low-income children are being screened Friday for dental problems at UofL's School of Dentistry through a program called "Smiles Change Lives." Six children will go on to receive treatment at a cost of \$250 each. All of the UofL orthodontists are donating their time. For more details, see <http://www.smileschangelives.org/index.htm>

MORE STUDENTS INVOLVED IN INTRAMURALS

The numbers show that UofL students are becoming more involved in campus activities. In intramural sports over the past four seasons, the number of flag football teams has swelled from 51 to 87. There's also record participation in other intramural sports, including a record 28 ultimate Frisbee teams, 12 kickball teams. And it's not just sports. More than 75 student groups took part in a fair for registered student organizations (RSOs) organized at the start of school by the university's Student Activities Board.

RAMSEY NAMED TO BIOPHARMACEUTICAL BOARD

UofL President James Ramsey has joined the board of Advanced Cancer Therapeutics Board of Directors, a biopharmaceutical company that works to develop new drugs for preventing and treating cancer. Ramsey “brings a unique combination of economic and public policy experience which will be invaluable in guiding the company,” said Dale Boden, chairman of the board. Through a partnership with UofL’s James Graham Brown Cancer Center, ACT selects the most promising compounds in the center’s pipeline and brings them through Phase I clinical development, a critical phase in licensing. For more details, see www.advancedcancertherapeutics.com

UNIVERSITY IMPROVES GRADE ON GREEN REPORT CARD

For the second year in a row, the University of Louisville has improved its grade on a “green” report card issued by a non-profit organization that monitors sustainability at colleges and universities. UofL earned an overall grade of B- on the 2009 report card issued Wednesday by Sustainable Endowments Institute of Cambridge, Mass. The institute works to encourage sustainable practices at 200 higher learning institutions in the United States and Canada. The university’s grade, up from a C+ in 2008 and a C in 2007, was the highest of any public university in Kentucky rated on the report card. For more details, see www.greenreportcard.org

FULBRIGHT APPLICATIONS

With 7 Fulbright winners for both 2007 and 2008, we are expecting a large number of candidates again this year. We have learned that we have 22 Fulbright applications so far. Applications are due on Oct. 20.

ASK THE EXPERTS

Faculty experts at UofL can offer insight on the issues of the day and are usually willing to do news interviews. They include:

U.S. presidential debates and election

- Jason Gainous, political science, political behavior, 502-852-1660 or jason.gainous@louisville.edu
- Jasmine Farrier, political science, American presidency and the presidential election, 502-852-3310, j.farrier@louisville.edu
- Anne Caldwell, political science, gender in politics, 502-852-3307, anne.caldwell@louisville.edu
- Dewey Clayton, political science, race, law and politics, 502-852-8969, d.clayton@louisville.edu
- Ricky Jones, pan-African studies, "Obamamania," 502-852-0027, ricky.jones@louisville.edu

- Gary Gregg, McConnell Center, electoral college, 502-852-3306 or ggregg@louisville.edu

Financial market meltdown

- David Dubofsky, economics and finance, 502-852-3016 or d.dubofsky@louisville.edu
- Paul Coomes, economics, 502-852-4841 pacoom01@louisville.edu

COMING UP – EVENTS AT U OF L

Sept. 25 – First Look (admissions event) in Northern Kentucky

Sept. 26 – Cardinal Family Weekend

Sept. 27 – Cardinal Block Party

Sept. 29 – Faculty Jazz Ensemble

Sept. 30 – First Look (admissions event) Bowling Green

What's Happening @ UofL can be found online at www.louisville.edu/whathappening and is released every Tuesday afternoon to the campus community and media representatives. To submit an item for consideration, email cmoffice@gwise.louisville.edu. To see a full schedule of events visit <http://calendar.louisville.edu/main.php?view=month>.