



# THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ISSUE 105 | SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2019

Dear Friends,

We're well into the fall semester at the University of Louisville, and it's been so encouraging to see our students return to campus so full of energy, enthusiasm and a willingness to learn and serve our community. They truly are the reason that we do what we do each day, and I know that our faculty and staff feel renewed upon their arrival at the start of each term.

We have another outstanding freshman class. It is both large and diverse. The numbers really tell the story—about 17 percent African American and 6 percent Hispanic/Latino. I'm proud to say that 17 percent of the class are first-generation college students. We have representation from 38 states, and we have students from close to 100 countries and all 50 states in the entire student body.

The summer was a busy one at the university, and that activity has spilled over into the fall. One of the most exciting developments is taking shape within our health care enterprise. After much deliberation, UofL struck a deal to acquire the Louisville assets of KentuckyOne Health, including the struggling Jewish Hospital. This acquisition fueled considerable debate both at the university and in the community. In the end, we decided that we could not risk these facilities closing, costing the community hundreds of jobs and eliminating access to health care for some of our most vulnerable neighbors.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the governor and leaders in the House and Senate for promising a \$50 million loan that alleviates some of the risk to the university. Half of the loan will be forgivable if UofL meets certain performance metrics. Quite simply, we could not fully implement our plan for stabilizing these assets without the state loan. We also are extremely grateful to the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence and the Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's Healthcare Foundation for their financial support of this transaction, which will close Nov. 1.

Through the hard work of hundreds of faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends, the university was able to complete its 2019-2022 strategic plan, which was officially launched in September. I'm very pleased with the document, which will serve as the university's guidepost over the next three years. The plan stays true to our mantra of becoming an even greater place to learn, work and invest. It also never loses sight of our call to celebrate diversity, foster equity and strive for inclusion.

I can guarantee that this plan will not be placed on a shelf and forgotten. We will live this document, and there are specific metrics in place that will ensure that we are meeting the lofty expectations set for us by our students, parents, stakeholders and the greater community. We want to be held accountable. That's the only way we can grow and succeed.

We're expecting a big year at the University of Louisville. We have tremendous momentum. Each day, our students make us proud. We're conducting groundbreaking research, and we're active in the community, serving the less fortunate and helping to make our city a better place. People are taking notice and getting on board. We know the community needs the university, but we also need your ongoing support to get where we want to go. I thank you for all you do for UofL and look forward to seeing you on campus. Go Cards!

**Neeli Bendapudi**  
President, University of Louisville



The plan guides UofL's continued growth as a great place to learn, work and invest.

## UofL LAUNCHES STRATEGIC PLAN TO GUIDE IT THROUGH 2022

President Neeli Bendapudi officially unveiled UofL's 2019-2022 strategic plan this September, with launch events on the Belknap and Health Sciences Center campuses.

The document, which is the university's roadmap to becoming an even greater place to learn, work and invest, was developed after months of meetings, discussions and suggestions from more than 2,400 faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends.

More than 100 volunteers served on three committees that met from early 2019 through the summer to develop the goals, strategies, tactics and metrics that will guide the university over the next three years.

Woven throughout the plan are the university's goals to celebrate diversity, foster equity and strive for inclusion.

In order to become a greater place to learn, the plan calls for a focus on experiential learning, student mental health, increased access to financial aid

and financial aid resources and other steps. Specific metrics for measuring this objective include improving enrollment, retention, graduation and numbers of underrepresented and first-generation students.

Becoming a greater place to work, according to the plan, will mean focusing on personal growth and professional development opportunities. It also will be important to create a culture based on the Cardinal Principles: Community, Accountability, Respect, Diversity, Integrity, Nobility, Agility and Leadership.

In the plan, building a better place to invest will require a greater concentration on philanthropic efforts, bringing on more development officers, increasing business and industry partnerships and highlighting a handful of key areas that make UofL unique.

Read more about the strategic plan at [louisville.edu/strategic-plan](http://louisville.edu/strategic-plan).

## We're tops in Kentucky on Sierra Club's 'Cool Schools' list

The University of Louisville has notched another high-profile achievement for sustainability among higher education institutions in Kentucky.

The Sierra Club this week released its annual "Cool Schools" rankings of North American

colleges and universities, recognizing gains related to teaching, studying and acting for a more livable world.

At No. 84 on the list, UofL is the highest-ranked Kentucky institution.

## UofL TO ACQUIRE KENTUCKYONE LOUISVILLE ASSETS

In an initiative to prevent the closure of struggling Jewish Hospital and other vital medical facilities, UofL is on track to assume KentuckyOne Health's Louisville-area assets.

UofL will pay \$10 million to acquire the assets from KentuckyOne's parent company, CommonSpirit Health. As part of the agreement, CommonSpirit will forgive \$19.7 million in outstanding promissory notes from University Medical Center Inc. UofL will receive more than \$76 million of working capital in the form of accounts receivable and cash to meet future operating expenses.

"These medical facilities and the thousands of professionals who work there have for decades provided high quality medical care to patients throughout our community and beyond," UofL President Neeli Bendapudi said. "We are proud to protect that legacy and ensure it continues as we acquire and enhance these facilities."

To help secure the purchase, Gov. Matt Bevin and Economic Development Cabinet Secretary Vivek Sarin have pledged support for a \$50 million, 20-year loan, half of which will be forgiven if the university meets certain criteria in areas of employment or service to currently underserved areas of the community and commonwealth. Kentucky Senate President Robert Stivers and Speaker of the House David Osborne also supported the loan.

"UofL's acquisition of the KentuckyOne facilities will maintain more than 5,000 jobs in the

health care sector and ensure that our health care delivery system in Metro Louisville is preserved," Bevin said.

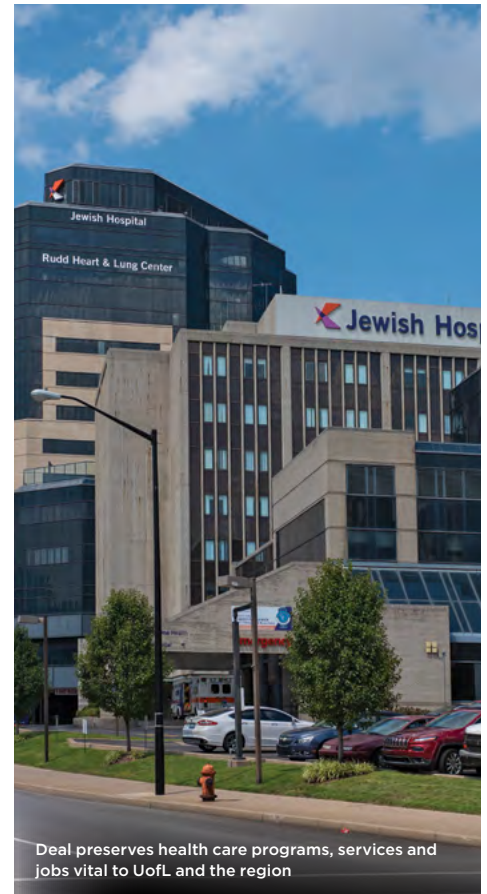
Bill Request 290 has been filed in the Kentucky General Assembly and will be taken up in the session beginning in January 2020.

The Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence and the Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's Healthcare Foundation, also are contributing \$10 million and \$40 million, respectively.

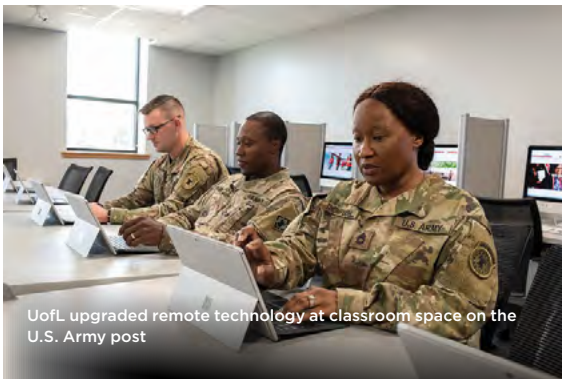
Approved by the UofL Board of Trustees at its August meeting, the sale is expected to close Nov. 1. UofL will assume management of the facilities upon closing, pending regulatory approvals and the consent of the Catholic Church.

### The purchase includes:

- Jewish Hospital
  - > Outpatient Center
  - > Shelbyville
- Jewish Medical Centers
  - > East
  - > Northeast
  - > South
  - > Southwest
- Rudd Heart and Lung Center
- Frazier Rehab Institute
- Sts. Mary & Elizabeth Hospital
- Our Lady of Peace hospital
- Physician groups affiliated with KentuckyOne



Deal preserves health care programs, services and jobs vital to UofL and the region



UofL upgraded remote technology at classroom space on the U.S. Army post

## Fort Knox classrooms get significant upgrade

UofL students serving our country at Fort Knox are our country's pride, and UofL has upgraded remote classroom space on the U.S. Army post to match the top-notch facilities available on the Belknap and Health Sciences Center campuses.

"We cannot say we value the students at Fort Knox and not give them the best," said UofL President Neeli Bendapudi as she officially opened the new space with a ribbon-cutting Sept. 19.

The latest technology installed there includes: eight wired MAC computers, sixteen Surface Pro laptops, a large screen display wired to hardware to support classroom presentations from students and faculty and a solstice hub to support up to 200-plus simultaneous log-ins by students/faculty for collaboration and presentations in the classroom.

The Fort Knox Center has awarded more than 600 degrees to soldiers, their family members and civilians since its founding in 1970.

## EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY PROGRAM RANKED NO. 1

UofL's Exercise Physiology master's program has been named the top sports science master's degree in the nation.

The program won first place in a ranking of "50 Best Master's in Sports Science Degree Programs (Campus)" on Sports-Management-Degrees.com.

"Over the last few years, HSS has made a concerted effort to hire world-class faculty, invest in state-of-the-art equipment and build relationships across campus to enhance the student experience and develop future leaders in human performance," said Meg Hancock, associate professor of sport administration.

Students who complete the program often go on to careers as exercise professionals in the specific fields of strength and conditioning, fitness and corporate wellness, and clinical rehabilitation.

