



Dear Friends,

The new year brings new energy to the University of Louisville. That perhaps is most evidenced by the university welcoming Dr. Kim Schatzel as our 19th president. Our board of trustees approved Dr. Schatzel's appointment on Nov. 30, 2022, and our university community is excited about her first day as president Feb. 1.

Dr. Schatzel is a proven leader, an advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion, a believer in environmental sustainability, and has a keen eye for the ever-changing demands of higher education. She is ready for UofL, and UofL is ready for her.

Before the new year gets underway, it is important to reflect on the many successes UofL realized in 2022. Our enrollment and graduation rates continue to rise. We received the largest financial donations in the university's history – donations that will fuel our capacity to conduct groundbreaking research, enhance our student experience and nurture employee success. Most action items in our 2019-2022 strategic plan were realized with several more items close to completion. Our financial position remains strong with the approval of the largest operating budget in the university's history. These and so many other points of pride set the University of Louisville up for short-term and long-term success. I am excited, as are our faculty, staff and students.

This report provides only a sample of our many institutional highlights over the past few months, and I encourage everyone to go to www.uoflnews.com for more details.

Finally, I would like to offer my thanks to the many people who made my time as UofL's interim president both an honor and a joy – those in our university community and beyond. It has been a busy and fulfilling year for me personally and professionally, and I very much look forward to service as provost under the leadership of Dr. Schatzel. Happy New Year and best wishes to all in 2023.

Lori Stewart Gonzalez

Lori Stewart Gonzalez
Interim President,
University of Louisville



Towson University's Kim Schatzel to lead UofL as next president



Kim Schatzel, a nationally recognized leader with extensive experience in both higher education and the private sector, was chosen as the 19th president of the University of Louisville.

The UofL Board of Trustees voted unanimously to appoint Schatzel during a special meeting on Nov. 30. Schatzel has served since

2016 as president of Towson University (TU), one of 12 universities that are part of the University System of Maryland.

Schatzel, will officially assume the UofL presidency on Feb. 1, 2023. She succeeds Lori Stewart Gonzalez, who has served as interim president since December 2021 and will return to her previous leadership role as executive vice president and university provost for UofL.

Her leadership contributions have been recognized by Maryland's business publication *The Daily Record*, which named her one of the Most Admired CEOs in 2017 and 2022 and recognized her with its 2018 Icon Awards. She has been named to the Most Influential Marylanders list in both

2017 and 2021. Furthermore, she was recognized by Maryland's Associated Black Charities as their "Champion for More in the Middle" for her leadership in advancing diversity and inclusion at TU.

"Leadership is a team sport, especially when it comes to such a complex and innovative organization like the University of Louisville," Schatzel said during her introductory university press conference. Schatzel promises to work closely with faculty, staff, students, alumni, donors, elected officials, businesses and community partners "to expand UofL's already tremendous impact and address the great challenges of today."

UofL once again recognized for DEI

INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine has again recognized UofL for its outstanding efforts toward diversity and inclusion, making this the ninth consecutive year the university has received the national publication's Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award, and the fourth year the UofL Health Sciences Center

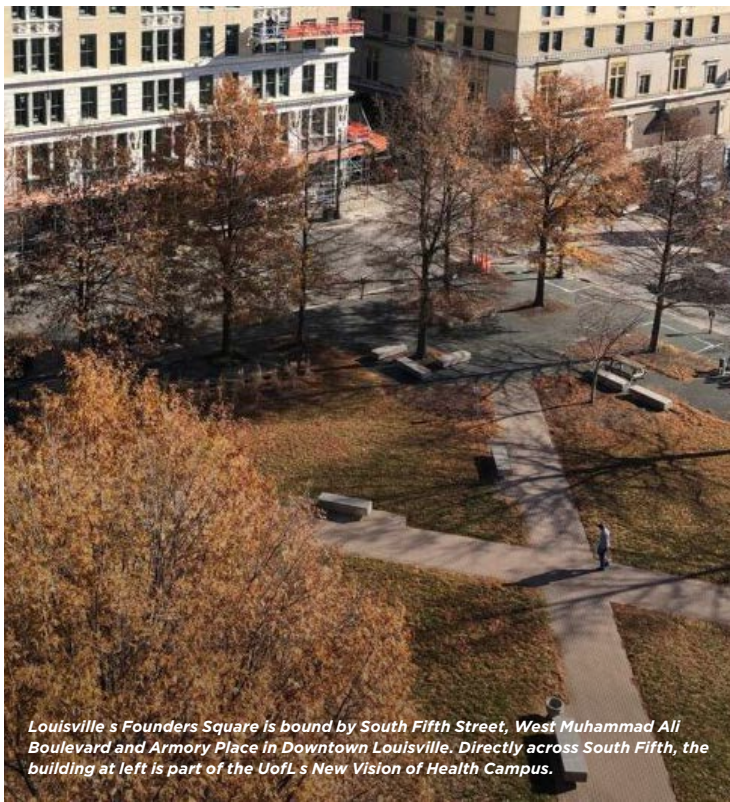
(HSC) has earned the Health Professions HEED Award. This also marks the third year the Cardinals have been selected as Diversity Champions, a distinction given to institutions scoring in the top tier of all HEED Award winners – only 15 were named this year.

"UofL is so pleased by these accomplishments, knowing there is more

work to be done – but let's celebrate successful steps as we continue to break down barriers where they exist," said Lee A. Gill, UofL vice president for diversity, equity and inclusion. "The hard work of so many people across our campuses are leading DEI initiatives, and we thank them for their efforts over the years."



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Louisville's Founders Square is bound by South Fifth Street, West Muhammad Ali Boulevard and Armory Place in Downtown Louisville. Directly across South Fifth, the building at left is part of the UofL's New Vision of Health Campus.

Trager family pledges \$1 million to UofL to fund urban micro-forest at Founders Square

The University of Louisville's Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute received a pledge of \$1 million from the Trager family to establish the Trager Micro-Forest Project, a scientific inquiry into the impact of intense urban greening on human health, economic vitality and the natural environment.

The Envirome Institute secured a 30-year lease with Louisville Metro Government to use Founders Square in downtown Louisville as an outdoor laboratory to research innovative ideas in urban greening. Patrick Piuma, director of the Envirome Institute's Urban Design Studio, will oversee a project to intensely plant Founders Square with native plant and tree species while creating an accessible, inviting and functional public space for anyone to enjoy.

The project will provide an opportunity for UofL researchers in multiple disciplines to work with members of the community and other organizations to track and measure changes in human health and well-being. The Trager Micro-Forest Project is not simply a beautification project, it is a scientific project, which will be the first of its kind in our region of the country.

"The Trager Micro-Forest Project and the Envirome Institute's New Vision of Health campus are catalysts for positive momentum during this pivotal time for downtown Louisville," said Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer. "These initiatives complement our commitment to a sustainable future, a commitment that requires vision and action. We expect these initiatives will spur additional economic development in the area while adding well-planned and maintained green spaces that make our downtown area more attractive for those who live, work and visit there. Thank you to the Trager family for their support of the Envirome Institute's innovative and forward-thinking project."

UofL Superfund Research Center receives \$10.8M to expand studies into effects of environmental toxins

The University of Louisville has been awarded \$10.8 million in renewed funding for the UofL Superfund Research Center, part of the Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute, by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. The funds will enable researchers to expand studies to monitor environmental toxins and understand their effects on human health.

The five-year funding renewal represents a 62% increase over the previous funding cycle for the UofL center, one of just 23 multi-project centers across the U.S. conducting research into the health effects of chemicals and compounds found at hazardous waste disposal sites known as Superfund sites.

UofL was named one of five new superfund research centers in 2017. Since that time, UofL researchers in the center conducted research into the health effects of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), gases emitted by combustion and from liquid and solid chemicals, found at the Lee's Lane Superfund Site in southwest Louisville.

Superfund Research Centers conduct multidisciplinary research in the detection and investigation of the health effects of specific chemicals and compounds and train young investigators in this area of research. The research at the UofL center is focused on understanding how exposure to VOCs contributes to heart disease, inflammation and liver disease, collectively called cardiometabolic disease.

Over the next five years, center researchers will apply the tools and

data from the initial phase to expand the studies. They will broaden the human study to include 1,200 participants across Jefferson County, begin monitoring wastewater for VOCs and launch research to develop VOC mitigation methods.



Pawel Lorkiewicz, assistant professor of chemistry and a researcher in the UofL Superfund Research Center, established methods for detecting and quantifying urinary metabolites of VOCs.

UofL law school celebrates 25 years of honoring Justice Louis D. Brandeis

Long before it was renamed for him, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis had already established an enduring bond with the University of Louisville Law School, the fifth oldest U.S. law school in continuous operation. As a native Louisvillian, Brandeis had donated his personal library to the school, chosen its classical portico as his final resting place and enriched the law library's future holdings with original copies of every document filed each term at the United States Supreme Court.

On Feb. 24, 1997, the UofL Board of Trustees officially changed the name of the school to the Louis D. Brandeis School of Law.

Over the past 25 years, the school has endeavored to embrace its Brandeis name and legacy. Beyond his generous donations, Justice Brandeis gifted the philosophy of public service, which has been an integral part of what makes the Brandeis law community so dynamic and engaged, and such a special place to develop the next generation of legal minds.

Students continue the Brandeis tradition of public service through thousands of volunteer hours annually. The Louis D. Brandeis School of Law was among the first five U.S. law schools to require that its graduates complete at least 30 hours of public service.