



Dear Friends,

In a few weeks, we'll mark the end of the spring semester here at the University of Louisville. Despite the challenges we've faced, particularly with the ongoing pandemic, I'm pleased to say that we've not just survived—we've thrived. And I want to salute all of our students, faculty and staff for helping us get to a very good place.

This spring, my first semester at the helm, has seen our efforts once again challenged by COVID-19. I'm so proud of how this campus community has reacted and rallied to deal with this pandemic. UofL has been a leader in both researching treatments for the virus and treating those who have had the virus. Our students, faculty and staff have taken the pandemic seriously by following safety procedures and protocols. More than 92% have received at least one dose of the vaccine.

We returned to in-person instruction in full force. Our campuses are once again active and vibrant. Our sports venues are packed with fans cheering on our beloved Cardinals, and our students continue to motivate and inspire with their achievements in the classroom, in the research lab and in our community.

In the first months of 2022, we named Kenny Payne as our new men's head basketball coach and extended the contract of our outstanding women's head basketball coach, Jeff Walz. We've announced the \$144 million expansion of UofL Hospital, pushed forward with our university strategic plan and successfully launched a new brand campaign. We've also announced several major research grants and kicked off a partnership with Humana and the Humana Foundation aimed at addressing health equity and examining the social determinants of health.

UofL continues to demonstrate that we are a community of care with student success as our highest priority. We are a research engine, a source of tremendous community service and the home of world-class health care. Our reach and influence are growing each day, both here in our local community and beyond.

I couldn't be happier to lead this exceptional institution at this point in its long and rich history. Our momentum is extremely positive right now, and I believe there are even greater successes coming for us in the very near future. I hope you'll join me and my team as we work to make the University of Louisville the place we all want it to be. After all, we can't do it without you. I hope to see you soon. Go Cards!

Lori Stewart Gonzalez

Lori Stewart Gonzalez
Interim President, University of Louisville

UofL Health announces \$144 million expansion at UofL Hospital

A new seven-story tower will anchor a \$144 million expansion and upgrade to UofL Health – UofL Hospital in downtown Louisville. The project will increase the hospital's operating capacity and facilitate a phased modernization to include all private beds throughout the remainder of the hospital. When complete, UofL Hospital will offer more than 360 beds, each in a private room, 20 operating rooms, plus a new 24-bed observation unit. Alongside the increased clinical space, the expansion will include an enhanced visitor experience with a new lobby, and waiting area, along with updates to the gift shop and coffee shop.

The hospital expansion also will lead to an expansion of the UofL Health team, with approximately 325 new jobs being created. Positions will include nurses, plus clinical and non-clinical support. New hires and their dependents are immediately eligible for free undergraduate tuition to UofL, funded by UofL Health.

The investments at UofL Hospital are part of an overall commitment to increase access to care in the region, particularly in federally medically underserved areas (MUAs). Over the past two years, UofL Health has opened five Urgent Care Plus locations, added two new locations for the Brown Cancer Center and recruited more than 143 new physicians. Two of the urgent care centers, a cancer center location and more than 100 physicians are specifically located to serve people living in MUAs.

"UofL Health has been an outstanding Team Kentucky partner in the fight against COVID-19, and this expansion is great news for Louisville and the commonwealth," said Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear.

Construction is expected to begin this spring, with the tower opening to its first patients in early 2024.



New vice president for diversity, equity and inclusion named

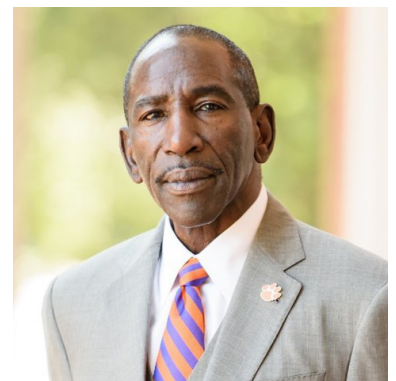
A nationally recognized leader with both university and private practice experience will soon take the reins of UofL's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts.

Lee Gill, chief diversity officer and special assistant to the president for inclusive excellence at Clemson University, will join UofL as vice president for diversity, equity and inclusion May 15.

With more than 25 years of experience in the diversity field, Gill currently is a member of the president's leadership team at Clemson, where he is credited with building a sustainable infrastructure to incorporate diversity, equity and inclusion efforts into the campus culture and with creating programs that support and address the challenges facing women, Black and Hispanic students and the LGBTQ community. He created the Clemson University Men of Color National Summit, which brings together more than 2,000 students, educators, business professionals, government officials and community leaders from around the country to explore issues and share best practices to increase high school and college graduation rates.

Gill serves on a number of boards of directors, including the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education. In 2014, he received the National Diversity Visionary Award from INSIGHT into Diversity magazine for his significant contributions to diversity in higher education.

"I am excited at the opportunity of working with Interim President Gonzalez and the leadership team to help advance the DEI mission of this great university," Gill said. "So many best practices and national models are in place here at UofL along with an engaged faculty, staff and student body. I look forward to working with them and others to continue building a dynamic, inclusive campus community."



UOFL RESEARCHER EXPLORES WHAT HAPPENS IN OUR BRAINS WHEN WE DIE

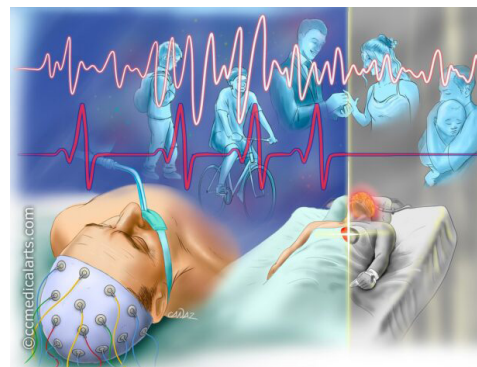
University of Louisville neurosurgeon Ajmal Zemmar and colleagues have recorded the activity of a dying human brain for the first time and discovered rhythmic brain wave patterns around the time of death that are similar to those occurring during dreaming, memory recall and meditation. Their study, published in *Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience*, brings new insight into a possible organizational role of the brain during death and suggests an explanation for vivid life recall in near-death experiences.

Imagine reliving your entire life in the space of seconds. Like a flash of lightning, you are outside of your body, watching memorable moments you lived through. This process, known as “life recall,” can be similar to what it’s like to have a near-death experience. What happens inside

your brain during these experiences and after death are questions that have puzzled neuroscientists for centuries. However, Zemmar’s findings suggest that your brain may remain active and coordinated during and even after the transition to death and be programmed to orchestrate the whole ordeal.

Brain oscillations (more commonly known as “brain waves”) are patterns of rhythmic brain activity normally present in living human brains. The different types of oscillations are involved in high-cognitive functions such as concentrating, dreaming, meditation, memory retrieval, information processing and conscious perception, just like those associated with memory flashbacks.

“Through generating oscillations involved in memory retrieval, the brain may be playing a last



recall of important life events just before we die, similar to the ones reported in near-death experiences,” Zemmar said. “These findings challenge our understanding of when exactly life ends and generate important subsequent questions, such as those related to the timing of organ donation.”

Former Cardinal Kenny Payne named UofL Men’s Basketball coach

Kenny Payne, a veteran college and NBA coach and former University of Louisville basketball player, has been named the new head men’s basketball coach at the University of Louisville. Payne’s six-year contract with the Cardinals extends through the 2027-28 season.

Payne has 17 years of coaching experience, most recently serving as an assistant coach with the NBA’s New York Knicks after 15 years as a college assistant or associate head coach with both the University of Oregon and the University of Kentucky.

The Knicks posted a 41-31 record in 2020-21, finishing fourth in the NBA’s Eastern Conference and are currently 29-40 this season. While at Oregon and Kentucky, Payne was part of four Final Four teams, 10 NCAA Tournaments and won six conference titles. Payne was honored in the A STEP UP Assistant Coaches Hall of Fame Class of 2020 for his track record of success and contributions to the game, as well as his high character, integrity and



respect among colleagues. He has been nationally recognized for his player development, helping dozens of players achieve their dreams of playing in the NBA.

As a student-athlete at UofL, Payne scored 1,083 points in his career (1985-89), connecting on 40.1% of his career three-point attempts (85-of-212, fourth-highest in UofL history). He was a member of Louisville’s 1986 NCAA Championship

team as a freshman, and throughout his collegiate career, Louisville participated in three NCAA Sweet Sixteens, won three Metro Conference championships and three Metro tournament titles.

“Our fans and community deserve a championship basketball program fueled by exceptional and high-character student-athletes, and it is my responsibility to deliver on that vision. I cannot wait to get started,” said Payne.

\$25M INNOVATION HUB TO BOOST HEALTH EQUITY

The University of Louisville, Louisville-based Humana Inc. and The Humana Foundation announced a new cooperative agreement and additional financial investment in the university’s Health Equity Innovation Hub to advance health equity and improve health outcomes for marginalized populations in Louisville and communities around the world.

The Hub is funded by a potential total investment of \$25 million, including \$10 million from UofL, \$1.5 million from Humana and up to \$13.5 million from The Humana Foundation. The investment by The Humana Foundation represents one of the largest single donations in UofL’s history and is contingent upon progress against the collaboration’s objectives and achievement of established milestones.

Developing solutions for health inequities in Louisville and globally is the main focus of the Hub’s work. This includes the up-skilling and re-skilling of community members who have been underserved to provide a talent pipeline for Louisville’s significant concentration of major health care companies, thereby creating a pathway for family-sustaining jobs. The Hub will also conduct dedicated outcomes-based research on population and social health issues

to derive a wide range of insights on how to mitigate health inequities and the adverse impacts of health-related social needs. In addition, the Hub will support diverse creators, innovators and entrepreneurs whose ideas can positively impact populations around the world that have historically been marginalized and underserved.

The Hub also will create and collaborate with advisory boards, including national thought leaders, community organizations and local community residents who are passionate about improving social and health equity in their neighborhoods, as well as local business leaders and mentors from a diverse cross-section of the health equity ecosystem.

