

Classrooms/Facility Improvements Begin on Campus

UK President Lee T. Todd Jr. unveiled a 74-project initiative to renovate, repair and upgrade classrooms and other facilities as part of a significant effort to improve the learning and student environment on the UK campus. The \$4.2 million facilities improvement plan represents one-time, nonrecurring dollars that have been reallocated internally, largely through cost-savings and efficiencies.

In addition to cost-savings, Todd said the one-time, nonrecurring dollars were available for the upgrades because of UK's brighter overall fiscal picture. This resulted from the increase in general fund dollars recently approved by state legislators. Some of the projects include renovation of the large lecture hall in the Chem/Phys Building, one of UK's most used classroom and lab facilities; creation of "Smart Classrooms" across campus in facilities such as the White Hall Classroom Building, Kastle Hall, Erikson Hall, the College of Dentistry, the College of Pharmacy and Dickey Hall, among others; refurbishing carpet, classrooms and student lounges in several buildings; upgrades to equipment and replacement of furniture in several classroom buildings; and new furniture in the Student Center and refurbishment of the Cat's Den.



Photo: Amanda White Nelson

Three Win Sullivan Award

In addition to the awarding of nearly 6,100 degrees during UK's 139th Commencement in May, three individuals received the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Medallion for community service.

The three are:

- Non-student Mahjabeen Rafiuddin of Lexington, the associate executive director for the Kentucky Conference for Community and Justice, who has been active in the Lexington Mayor's Youth Council's Partners for Youth and other initiatives designed to build character in youngsters in elementary, middle and high school.
- Graduating female senior Monica Leigh Hobson of Hi Hat, a participant in UK's Robinson Scholars program, who was a mentor to other program participants, as a College of Arts and Sciences student ambassador, and as an intern in the Floyd County Family Court.
- Graduating male senior Daniel Stephen Turner of Kevil, president of UK's Phi Delta Theta fraternity and a student in the UK Honors Program, who was cited for his leadership in the Honors Program, his social activism regarding educational and economic inequality and his summer work with disabled children in an impoverished town outside Lima, Peru.

UK Names College of Nursing Dean

Jane Marie Kirschling has been named dean of the UK College of Nursing, pending UK Board of Trustees approval. Kirschling currently is dean of the University of Southern Maine College of Nursing and Health Professions. She previously served as associate dean at the University of Rochester School of Nursing and Oregon Health Sciences University School of Nursing. A psychiatric nurse, she has published numerous academic research papers on the experience of terminal illness among patients and caregivers and the grief process, among other topics. Kirschling will begin at UK in August.



Photo submitted

Robinson Scholars Program Has Impact

The Robinson Scholars Program continues to receive accolades for its work with first generation college-bound and college students from Eastern Kentucky. The program was recognized as one of seven National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Gold Excellence Award winners. The Robinson Scholars Program earned its Gold Award in a category for Enrollment Management, Orientation, Parents, First-Year, Other-Year Services, and Programs. The program also won a \$50,000 grant from the IFSA Foundation to fund \$5,000 scholarships for 10 students to study abroad. Administrators hope these students will return to their home counties and encourage others to study abroad, a necessary underpinning for leaders in the 21st century global society in which Kentuckians must compete.