UK HealthCare employees honored for helping “Make the Difference”

UK HealthCare employees dominated the university’s Make the Difference Employee Suggestion Awards Program this year, with eight of the 12 honorees—including the all-time top honoree—representing the health care enterprise.

The Make the Difference program is designed to support the university’s strategic plan and produce continuous improvements by encouraging faculty and staff to contribute ideas that help reduce expenses, generate revenue, improve services and make safety improvements. A team of 95 employees across campus evaluates every idea submitted and selects the top improvements to be implemented.

During the program’s annual awards ceremony held Wednesday, October 11, UK President Lee Todd, Jr., recognized the following UK HealthCare employees for their chosen improvements:

Richard “Bruce” Byrom, IT technical support specialist, UK HealthCare IT Services, broke the program’s record for the most money saved for the university ($25,000) and the most earned by an employee ($2,500) for suggesting that the university purchase a maintenance agreement for the medical center’s time clocks.

Kevin Anderson, radiology attendant, Diagnostic Radiology, suggested enhancing patient changing rooms by adding storage for patient belongings.

Lisa Anstine, senior radiology technologist, Diagnostic Radiology, suggested installing a yield sign on Alumni Drive near the stadium parking lot to improve traffic safety in that area.

Two other UK HealthCare employees were also recognized for their contributions to the program: Kurt Krouse, RN, clinical nurse, Surgical Intensive Care Unit, received the Most Valuable Suggester award for submitting seven suggestions—the most from one individual—to the program during the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

Murray Clark, associate vice president for medical center operations, received the Most Valuable Evaluator award for personally evaluating 12 suggestions submitted to the program.

Todd said the Make the Difference program gives faculty and staff an avenue to express ideas and challenges employees to be involved in their working environments by seeking out improvements.

“In order to continue improving and ultimately reach our goal of being a Top 20 university, we must operate smarter and more efficiently. In order to do that, we need the help of every employee at this university,” said Todd.

Taryn Money, staff support associate, Diagnostic Radiology, suggested installing a yield sign on Alumni Drive near the stadium parking lot to improve traffic safety in that area.

Rose Street traffic to be permanently rerouted Nov. 20

After completing a comprehensive traffic study with the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, the university has announced the planned permanent rerouting of traffic on lower Rose Street will begin Monday, Nov. 20, 2006, as part of the $450 million construction of the new UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital.

Vehicles traveling south on Rose Street will reach South Limestone via Huguelet Drive, which has been extended to run between the current College of Pharmacy building and the UK School of Biological Sciences. Once it crosses South Limestone, Huguelet Drive becomes Virginia Avenue.

Access to hospital and clinic

The hospital may still be reached from Rose Street by turning onto Hospital Drive in front of the Markey Cancer Center. Kentucky Clinic may be accessed from South Limestone and from Rose Street via Huguelet Drive. Once Rose Street at South Limestone is closed, Rose Street traffic beyond Huguelet Drive will be restricted to vehicles traveling to the medical center. Through traffic to South Limestone will not be possible after November 20.

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PhD, in 2003. PhD, in 1997 and associate professor, has Ellen Hahn, DNS, are Donald T. Frazier, College of Medicine recipients from the Physiological Society.

Richardson named Teacher of the Year October 25-27. conference in Louisville, by the Kentucky Nurses Sciences Research and must be completed. "One area public health has excelled in is exposing students to a breadth of career health. Department in Illinois tracking maternal and child health student, worked in the Cook County Health a Web-based program for BioSense, a CDC initiative on both a state and national level in the public health arena even before they graduate. Second year master of public health student Sara Hen completed two consecutive internships: this past summer at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta participating in an AIDS study. Jose Benitez, also a second year master of public health student, spent his summer developing a Web-based program for Bacteremia, a CDC initiative to enhance early detection of possible botulism threats. Tomie Harris, third year doctorate of public health student, worked in the Cook County Health Department in Illinois tracking maternal and child health.

"One area public health has excelled in is exposing students to a breadth of career opportunities through internships while they are still in training," said Dean Stephen Wyatt. "The CDC and Cook County opportunities are examples of exciting learning opportunities to which students have access."

For public events, visit ukhealthcare.uky.edu/events.htm.
Recognitions

Paul Bachner, MD
Bachner, chairman of the College of Medicine department of pathology and laboratory medicine, has received the President’s Award from the College of American Pathologists (CAP) in recognition of his contributions to pathology education and CAP’s Laboratory Accreditation Program.

Thomas Gal, MD
Gal has joined the otolaryngology program specializing in head and neck oncology and microvascular reconstruction.

Debra Moser, DNSC
Moser, professor and Linda C. Gill Chair in the College of Nursing, has received the 2006 Katherine Lembright Award from the American Heart Association Council on Cardiovascular Nursing for her contributions and achievements in the field of cardiovascular nursing research.

Bob Owen, MD
Owen has joined the Kentucky Neuroscience Institute specializing in pediatric neurosurgery.

Athanasios Stoyioglou, MD
Stoyioglou, an interventional cardiologist, has joined the Gill Heart Institute Danville as the first UK physician recruited to live and work in a community outside Lexington as part of UK HealthCare’s outreach efforts.

Mike Sterling
Sterling has joined UK HealthCare Marketing as director of customer service. He will work with the Customer Service Steering Committee to improve the patient experience across the hospital, outpatient clinics and strategic outreach sites.

Vital Signs is published by the communications and advertising department of UK HealthCare Marketing. To submit a news item, e-mail Geoffrey Blair at wgblai2@email.uky.edu or call (859) 257-5361.

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Garage construction progresses

With the Wethington Building and the Gill Heart Institute as a backdrop, concrete and steel support columns rise on the site of UK HealthCare’s new parking structure being built on South Limestone. The garage is scheduled to open in Fall 2007 to provide more than 1,500 parking spaces for patients and visitors of UK Chandler Hospital.

Rose Street rerouting

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Bus and shuttle stops
LexTran’s stop at the medical center will be moved to the corner of Huguelet Drive and Rose Street to accommodate staging of construction materials around the current stop’s location. The stop for Commonwealth Stadium parking shuttles will be moved to the area under the bridge connecting the hospital and Kentucky Clinic.

Benefits
The new route will maintain appropriate traffic flow on UK’s campus and surrounding areas while providing ambulances and patients in personal vehicles safe, easy access to the new UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital to be constructed on South Limestone. Other anticipated benefits include simplified East-West traffic flow through this part of campus and improved safety for pedestrians along lower Rose Street due to reduced automobile traffic.

“Throughout the process of determining the best methods to construct UK HealthCare’s needed facilities, we have carefully considered the needs of patients and the community,” said Dr. Michael Karpf, executive vice president for health affairs.

“It is our goal to be as sensitive as possible to the needs our patients who travel to Lexington from across the state to receive care. We strive to make their visit as comfortable as possible, from the moment they drive onto our campus until they are discharged to go home.”