The College of Medicine nears agreement to launch a regional site in Murray

The College of Medicine soon will complete a formal agreement with Murray State University to launch a regional site in far western Kentucky. It will be the second site of the UK Rural Physician Leadership Program (RPLP), which aims to recruit, train and retain future physicians in Kentucky's medically underserved rural areas. The first site is in Morehead.

"Kentucky needs more physicians," said Dr. Emery Wilson, interim dean of the College of Medicine and vice president for clinical academic affairs. "A report issued in 2007 by the Kentucky Institute of Medicine found that Kentucky lagged more than 20 percent behind the national average for number of physicians relative to population. Kentucky has 213 doctors per 100,000 residents, compared to the national average of 267. The state would need an additional 2,298 doctors just to be on par with the national average."

The shortage is more acutely felt in the state's rural areas, Wilson said. UK already has several collaborative programs in the Purchase area, including the Center for Excellence in Rural Health. The RPLP is part of a plan to increase the class size in the College of Medicine by nearly 30 percent during the next several years. Up to 10 students will be admitted to the Murray site.

Morehead State University was the first regional site of the UK Rural Physician Leadership Program. Murray State University will be the second regional site.

Did you know?

Our collective efforts to improve the patient experience are paying off. In a survey of new ambulatory patients, 39 percent cited word-of-mouth as the most influential reason they chose UK HealthCare.
For the first time, UK HealthCare was recognized by the American Hospital Association’s Most Wired Program. UK HealthCare was one of 25 organizations named Most Improved. UK HealthCare won the award because of the many improvements it has made to its technology systems, said Tim Tarnowski, chief information officer. It represents thousands of hours of work by many people in many areas. “This award recognizes the combined efforts of the clinical, operational, financial and technical teams,” Tarnowski said. “They’re truly working to improve the community and improve the lives of the people in the Commonwealth.”

The changes include: expanding electronic health records; adding automated systems to the emergency department for clinical documentation and to track patients; launching a pharmacy information system to track medication orders, administration and inventory; automating the patient access center to connect patients to services; adding a lab specimen collection system that tracks specimens from the bedside; and improving the overall IT infrastructure.

More improvements are coming as UK HealthCare opens new hospital floors and operating rooms and continues to integrate Good Samaritan Hospital. Over the next year, UK HealthCare will be expanding electronic medical records in the ambulatory clinics and piloting a health information exchange, which will allow Kentucky hospitals to share electronic medical records on patients. IT is also working on a project to begin gathering information from many devices that monitor patients – from IV pumps to smart beds. The goal is to automatically capture data for nurses and doctors so they don’t have to write it down.

“If we can get the information to the caregivers when they need it, it will take some of the administrative burden off them and increase the time they spend with our patients,” Tarnowski said.

Karpf previews future strategic direction

In a recent communication to all UK HealthCare employees, Dr. Michael Karpf, executive vice president for health affairs, reviewed the accomplishments of the past six years and previewed the strategic direction for the next five years.

The statement, which included Dr. Karpf’s plans to continue working in his current role for five more years, outlined the areas in which UK HealthCare must excel. They include:
- Excellence in quality, safety and service.
- Attract appropriate patients.
- Operational efficiency.
- Appropriate payment.
- Effective billing and collection.

During his next five years Dr. Karpf will help organize a logical and smooth transition. “Great institutions plan success to ensure appropriate continuity while infusing new energy, vitality and ideas,” he said.

“When I came to Lexington almost seven years ago, I was certain that the University of Kentucky could succeed and that the academic medical center would be at the forefront of UK’s success,” Dr. Karpf added. “Today I am even more confident than ever about the future direction for the university and the academic medical center.”
Scenes from 2010 UK HealthCare Employee & Student Appreciation Picnic on Sept. 8

Freeze-frame dunking

Dr. Paul DePriest, chief medical officer, was among the hospital administrators who spent time in the dunking booth. The activity, which charged $1 for three ball tosses, raised $300 for United Way’s Human Needs Fund. Other participants included Ann Smith, Colleen Swartz, Sandra Chambers, Janice Marks, Kathleen Kopser, Dave Gosky, Justin Campbell, Jonathan Curtright, Mark Armstrong, Darlene Spalding, Frank Beirne and Dr. Richard Lofgren.

The picnic for all UK HealthCare employees and students in the six medical colleges was Sept. 8 in the Chandler Hospital courtyard.

Great food and opportunities to celebrate the ways we provide excellent care to patients and families in Kentucky and beyond were featured.

A silent auction of gift baskets raised more than $3,100 for United Way’s Human Needs Fund. The fund assists UK HealthCare patients who have needs associated with unexpected health issues and have no other resources available to them.

Employees and students signed banners posted throughout the Chandler Hospital courtyard during the annual picnic.

Congratulations to our Clinical Nurse Excellence winners for July and August!

Courtney Howard, RN, Obstetrics
Chandler Hospital

Helen Foster, RN, 4 East
Kentucky Children’s Hospital

Christine DoCouto, ORA, Perioperative Services
Chandler Hospital
UKHC revitalizes pediatric transplant program

UK HealthCare has revitalized its pediatric kidney transplant program with the successful transplant surgery of Courtney Stroud, 16, of Carlisle. Her transplant was performed Aug. 31 at Kentucky Children’s Hospital.

“This is a milestone in UK HealthCare’s goal to become a nationally recognized center in providing advanced subspecialty pediatric care for citizens of Kentucky and beyond,” said Dr. Michael Karpf, executive vice president for health affairs. “It also is very important for the people of Kentucky and the surrounding region, who now can be offered this procedure without having to travel far from home.”

Stroud has Senior-Loken syndrome, a rare disorder affecting the kidneys and retinas. Since her diagnosis in 2007, she has suffered some vision loss and kidney failure, causing her to need dialysis and a kidney transplant.

“We were so glad we didn’t have to go out of state for the transplant,” said her mother, Sheryl. “We’ve been through so much, but being able to be close to home for her surgery and recovery has made it a little easier on all of us.”

Kidney transplant recipient Courtney Stroud (center) is shown with her mother, Sheryl Stroud, and Dr. Stefan Kiessling, Special Faculty, Pediatric Nephrology.

UK HealthCare has had continued success with its adult kidney transplant program since its first transplant in 1964. Overall, more than 2,100 transplant surgeries have been performed, including 78 during the last fiscal year, said Dr. Jay Zwischenberger, chair of surgery.

In July, Dr. Ali Ziada joined UK HealthCare as an assistant professor to build a pediatric urology service.

“The addition of Dr. Ziada to the Department of Surgery and the Kentucky Children’s Hospital has given us the ability to provide complete pediatric services and allow us to perform pediatric kidney transplants, a much-needed service in Kentucky,” Dr. Zwischenberger said. “It is also an important step as we look to our future in offering additional transplant services including pediatric heart and liver transplants.”

Medical Records clarifies request procedure

Information distributed recently incorrectly described the Health Information Library as a one-stop location for patients to receive their medical records. To minimize patient and family dissatisfaction, please remember:

- All medical records can only be mailed to the patient or faxed to their doctor.
- Medical records are not available to be picked up at the Health Information Library or in the Medical Records department.

If a patient asks about medical records, they may do one of the following:

1. If the patient’s doctor needs the records: A doctor’s office may call Medical Records at 859-323-5117 to request a patient’s medical record. Medical Records will fax requested records directly to the clinic the day before or on the date of the patient’s appointment (this is the quickest way for their doctor to receive the records).

2. By phone: Call Medical Records at 859-323-5117. A blank form and a UK Medical Records addressed and stamped envelope will be sent to the patient’s home as requested. The patient simply completes the form and mails or faxes it to Medical Records at 859-323-6853. Upon receipt, the patient’s medical records will be mailed within two to four weeks.

3. Online: Print out the form from the website ukhealthcare.uky.edu/patient/medicalrecords.htm and mail it to Medical Records or fax it to 859-323-6853. Upon receipt, the patient’s medical records will be mailed within two to four weeks.

4. If the patient is at Chandler Hospital or the main Kentucky Clinic, the patient may complete and submit a medical records authorization form at the Health Information Library, Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Room C 104 in the hospital, near the ATM on the first floor). Medical records will be mailed to the patient within two to four weeks. Medical records cannot be picked up at the Health Information Library or in the Medical Records department.

It takes two to four weeks to process a request from Medical Records. A copy of the medical records will be mailed to the address the patient provided. If you have any questions, please call Medical Records at 859-323-5117.
Kentucky Children’s Hospital has awarded the Golden Stitches Award to the emergency transport team known as Kentucky Kids Crew, a specialty team that provides hospital-to-hospital critical care transportation for neonatal and pediatric patients.

Dr. Erich Maul, assistant professor of pediatrics in the College of Medicine, nominated the team.

“The outstanding work these people do cannot be overlooked,” Dr. Maul said. “Whether by air or ground, these nurses take their ‘can-do’ attitudes and bring the sickest patients to receive care at Kentucky Children’s Hospital. They are the first Kentucky Children’s Hospital health care providers to meet families, often in some of the most stressful times of that family’s life. Even under the duress of a critically ill child, every situation is handled with professionalism, grace and empathy.”

The team includes Deb Rice, Tina McCoy, Kimberly Samuelson, Gayle Powell, Kelly Turner, Yoshiko Ishmael, Shelly Marino, Amy Brassfield, Caty Curlis, Alissa Bastin, Jennifer Moore, Carrie McCreary, Kate Fletcher, Lynne Kain, Terry Nalle and Erin Willis.

“This is, without a doubt, the most cohesive, compassionate, professional group of nurses that I’ve ever had the pleasure to work with,” said Shelly Marino, manager of the Neonatal/Pediatric Emergency Transport Team. “They epitomize the concept of team and have the innate ability to recognize and respond to an emergency situation with speed and skill, while at the same time providing a calm, reassuring atmosphere for their young patients and their families. They are colleagues and friends and I’m so proud to be associated with the dedicated professionals who make up the Kentucky Kids Crew.”

Dr. Tim Bricker, professor and chair of Pediatrics and physician-in-chief of Kentucky Children’s Hospital, presented the award.

Initiated by Dr. Bricker, the award is presented quarterly to a Kentucky Children’s Hospital staff member whose work is making a difference in the lives of children. Nominations are submitted by the medical staff of the hospital.

Laptop hard drive encryption is coming in October

All laptop hard drives soon will be encrypted so that if a laptop is lost or stolen individuals won’t be able to retrieve data from the hard drive. This protects patients’ privacy and it protects UK HealthCare from negative publicity and regulatory fines.

Employees receiving a new laptop in September may already have the encryption software installed.

During October, Information Technology Services (ITS) will push the software out to existing laptops. Screens notifying users of the update will be similar to those that appear when ITS pushes Windows updates. This software rollout will continue through December.

By Nov. 1, ITS intends to reach 90-plus percent of system-managed laptops running Windows.

By Nov. 17, ITS plans to reach 99-plus percent by performing installations on Windows laptops that could not receive the “push.”

By Dec. 17, ITS intends to reach 90-plus percent of identified Macintosh laptops.

By Dec. 23, ITS plans to identify any remaining installations and resume normal operations.

Once the encryption software update is installed, users will be prompted to restart their laptops. The first login screen will appear just as it did before, but the encryption software will copy your username and password to its own databases. Users then will see the new login screen whenever they start their laptops.

Users won’t have to enter an additional password every day. Users will simply logon via the new screen. The only exception will be when users change their passwords somewhere other than their laptop, such as via Outlook Web Access or link blue. In those cases, users may have to enter their previous password once. Then the software will learn their new password once they logon to Windows.

If you forget your password, call the support center at 323-8586 to reset your password.
Gray shares presentation with national groups

Mary Gray, MS, MT (ASCP), BMT program administrator, will give her “OMG, It’s FACT!: 7 Steps to Accreditation That Won’t Leave You Saying SOS!” presentation at the National Marrow Donor Program conference in October.

Gray’s presentation also was placed on the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) website as a webinar in mid-August.

The presentation focuses on managing the accreditation process. Because there are currently no workshops or accreditation manuals that address the FACT accreditation process, Gray created a seven-step process that details some of the many aspects involved in preparing for initial accreditation or accreditation renewal.

“Our business is about people, whether they are patients or partnering providers. Honesty, trust, commitment and communication with our patients and our partners is essential.”
—Dr. Michael Karpf, executive vice president for health affairs

Scenes from the Sanders-Brown dinner

Jim Host, founding chairman of the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, was the featured speaker at the Sanders-Brown Center on Aging Foundation 24th annual dinner on Sept. 7 at the Marriott Griffin Gate Resort.

About 500 people attended the event, which traditionally features speakers who are examples of successful aging. In addition, five senior stars and two centenarians from Kentucky were recognized.

The Center on Aging has been conducting research on Alzheimer’s disease, stroke and other aging-related concerns for more than 30 years.
UK HealthCare at WEG

UK HealthCare—along with the Saddle Up SAFELY initiative, College of Agriculture and University of Kentucky—was showcased at the UK Pavilion on the grounds of the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, Sept. 25 – Oct. 10, at the Kentucky Horse Park. Dozens of volunteers greeted visitors and encouraged them to learn more about how UK HealthCare serves citizens of Kentucky and beyond. UK HealthCare was the official medical provider for the World Equestrian Games.

UK@Work survey seeks feedback from all staff, faculty

In October, the UK Work-Life Office will conduct an important survey of all UK staff and faculty. Survey questions will cover such topics as benefits, compensation, work environment and family responsibilities—a major factor that affects our ability to manage our professional and personal responsibilities.

Survey feedback will play a major role in future work-life initiatives and the university's ongoing effort to attract, retain and support talented staff and faculty. Results from the original UK@Work survey in 2005 led to major work-life enhancements such as the Family Education Program (tuition benefit) and career development resources, among others.

Employees who complete the survey will have the option to enter a drawing for one of several great prizes, including an Apple iPad, a vacation day (10 available) and UK basketball tickets, among others.

Your opinion matters! Please complete the UK@Work survey online when you receive an e-mail invitation on Oct. 5.

To learn more, visit UK Work-Life online at: www.uky.edu/HR/WorkLife.

From the blogs...

“Solidarity does not require that everyone agree on all things. In fact, diversity is a signal of strength as well. Instead, solidarity occurs when the team acts and speaks in unison, despite the unique opinions, beliefs and biases of its individual members.” – Mark Armstrong, associate hospital administrator, UK HealthCare

To read more, visit the clinical ops blog at ukhealthcare. uky.edu/forums/blogs/clinical-ops

“UK HealthCare’s Kentucky Clinic opened its doors to more than patients a couple of weeks ago as a movie crew from the independent film “Hitting the Cycle” moved in after the clinic closed, shooting scenes for the film’s fictional Sayreville Hospital. Tentatively set for release in 2011, the movie was written and is being directed by Lexington native Richey Nash, son of University of Kentucky basketball legend Cotton Nash.” – Mark D. Birdwhistell, chief external affairs officer

To read more, visit the Birdwhistell Blog at ukhealthcare. uky.edu/forums/blogs/ukhc_external_affairs

“Understanding the impact of legislative policies is relevant to all Americans. Research at the University of Kentucky, led by Dr. Anita Fernander, is expected to generate new understandings about how smoke-free laws impact people’s use of publicly available smoking QuitLines.” – Dr. John Hayslip, hematologist and medical oncologist, Markey Cancer Center

To read more, visit Dr. Hayslip’s blog at ukhealthcare.uky. edu/forums/blogs/cancer-research
Patient care managers rounding with a purpose

Since January, patient care managers have been “Rounding With a Purpose,” meaning they take time every day for bedside rounding with patients and staff. “Managers support the staff at the bedside providing care, and we are also there for our patients,” said Sherry Shmidt, RN, a patient care manager at Good Samaritan Hospital. “We are the ones who can really manage our time. We don’t have meds that have to be given or treatments and discharges to complete. Our nursing staff round hourly to ensure the patients’ needs are being met. As managers, we are there for the patient in a different role, and it is an important role. We help the nursing staff communicate that we care about the patient’s concerns and worries.”

Nursing managers like Shmidt are also rounding on staff. When they round on staff, they ask specific questions. They ask if they have the tools they need and who should be recognized for a job well done. Rounding with a purpose helps provide better care: Shmidt’s patient perception scores are among the highest at UK HealthCare. And, since all nursing managers began rounding with a purpose, patient satisfaction scores for UK HealthCare have increased and more patients say they would recommend our hospital to a friend or family member. “The foundation of a health care culture of service is ‘rounding,’” said Colleen Swartz, UK HealthCare chief nurse executive. “The act of gathering specific information and making a connection with one’s direct reports is an essential behavior in any service-focused culture of caring. Rounding on staff is the first step toward fulfilling what Dr. Richard Lofgren (chief clinical officer) calls the UK HealthCare employee pact: Respect, tools to do your work, and recognition for a job well done.”

Markey launches neuroendocrine clinic

Markey Cancer Center has opened a multidisciplinary clinic dedicated to the treatment of neuroendocrine tumors. The clinic is the first of its kind in the region and will treat rare tumors that present unique diagnostic and therapeutic challenges.

The clinic uses a team-based approach, stressing individualized care, patient education and research. It is expected to result in better care for patients.

Neuroendocrine tumors are abnormal growths of tissue whose cells secrete hormones into the bloodstream, and, as a result, interfere with the nervous system. Because they are often slow-growing and without symptoms, these tumors can go undetected for years.

The indolent, or slow-growing, form of neuroendocrine tumors is called carcinoid, meaning “cancer-like.” Although slow-growing, all carcinoids are now thought to have the potential to become malignant and spread to other parts of the body.

The neuroendocrine tumor team at the Markey Cancer Center believes these tumors must be addressed for each individual, stressing patient education, patient care and innovative research. The Markey team is led by Markey Cancer Center Director Dr. Mark Evers. Medical oncologist Dr. Philip DeSimone and radiation oncologist Dr. Mahesh Kudrimoti form the core of the treatment team.

Markey Patient Advisory Group improves patient care

The Markey Patient Advisory Group works with the center’s director to improve processes and procedures to make things easier for Markey’s patients and their families. The group was developed in December 2009, and is comprised of former patients, family members and caregivers.

Meeting monthly, the group is led by Cancer Education Liaison Terry Keys. So far, the advisors have helped with the new Markey patient handbook, redesign of the Markey website and wayfinding.

For more information on the Markey Patient Advisory Group, please contact Keys at terry.keys@uky.edu or 257-2951.
Gooding launches Music Therapy Program

In September, music therapist Lori Gooding began helping patients at Kentucky Children’s Hospital through music. The program brings instruments, singing, songwriting and other activities into the hospital and is just the beginning of UK HealthCare’s Music Therapy Program, part of UK HealthCare’s Arts in HealthCare initiative.

“We’re going to use music interventions to meet individualized physical and mental health care needs of Kentuckians,” Gooding said. Gooding is the new director of music therapy for UK HealthCare and a professor at the UK School of Music. She has a doctorate from Florida State and is a board-certified music therapist and a neonatal intensive care unit-certified music therapist. In addition to the program at the hospital, she will be starting the state’s first graduate program in music therapy.

Music therapy is a research-based field that uses music to address patients’ needs. Research shows that music works best when patients hear music they prefer, when the music is performed live and when patients are actively involved. Music can be used to help distract and relax patients during an MRI, to lessen the amount of sedation they need during procedures and to ease pain.

“Music can be used to help distract and relax patients during an MRI, to lessen the amount of sedation they need during procedures and to ease pain.”

Music therapists are trained in both music and therapeutic techniques, but patients do not need a musical background to participate.

“The key to music therapy is finding the type of music that works for each patient,” Gooding said. “For some, that may be New Age music. For others, it’s punk rock. My job as a music therapist is to use the patient’s preferred music to promote physical and mental well-being.”

Saha Cardiovascular Research Center inaugurated

Thanks to a generous gift from the family of Dr. Sibu Saha to support cardiovascular research, the UK Cardiovascular Research Center is now the Dr. Sibu and Becky Saha Cardiovascular Research Center (CVRC).

Dr. Saha is a professor of surgery in the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery. The Saha CVRC is closely associated with the Gill Heart Institute and is a major center for the research of cardiovascular disease. Researchers focus on the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases affecting the heart and blood vessels including atherosclerosis, aneurysm, stroke, heart attack, obesity and hypertension.

The center fulfills a need for advanced cardiovascular research in Kentucky, which has high levels of heart disease. “Dr. Saha represents what our physicians are about – helping their patients in every way possible,” said Dr. Michael Karpf, executive vice president for health affairs.

The gift from the Saha family will primarily support infrastructure needed to attract top cardiovascular researchers who will compete with other scientists across the nation and around the world for major grants and funding awards.

In the most recent fiscal year, the Saha CVRC attracted $8.157 million in NIH funding, $271,000 in American Heart Association awards, $159,975 in American Diabetes Association awards, $600,000 in Veterans Administration funding and an additional $50,000 from other sources.

Led by Director Dr. Alan Daugherty and Associate Director Dr. Dennis Bruemmer, the Saha CVRC is home to 20 core faculty, 75 associated faculty, five American Heart Association fellows, 40 research staff, four administrative staff and 20 students.

Dr. Saha, a native of India, has studied and practiced at many universities and hospitals, but he and his wife chose to make their gift to UK, where he has worked for many years.

“I come from a simple angle – to give whatever I can to the place that has nurtured me,” Dr. Saha said. “I have been at many universities, but this is my home.”

Briefs

Steltenkamp joins HIMMS board

UK HealthCare’s chief medical information officer, Dr. Carol Steltenkamp, has been asked to join the board of the Health Information Management Systems Society, a national health information technology organization.

Dr. Steltenkamp is a leader in health information technology in Kentucky. She chairs the Kentucky Regional Extension Center, which is working with Kentucky’s primary care providers to implement electronic medical records.
Miss America (Caressa Cameron), Miss Kentucky (Mallory Ervin) and the 2010 Miss Kentucky pageant contestants visited Kentucky Children’s Hospital in July. The women worked on crafts with the patients, and Miss Kentucky and Miss America sang for them.

The Class of 2014 was inaugurated into the College of Medicine with the annual White Coat Ceremony on Aug. 6. In honor of the College’s 50th anniversary, alumni from every graduating class presented white coats to the newest medical students.

College of Nursing Professor Ellen Hahn has been inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International Nurse Researcher hall of fame. Hahn was one of 22 nurse researchers inducted into the newly created hall of fame in July. The honor recognizes nurse researchers who have achieved long-term, national or international recognition for their work and whose research has impacted the profession and the people it serves.

Hahn conducts research on tobacco policy and directs the Kentucky Center for Smoke-Free Policy.

Did you know?

The College of Medicine Class of 2014 has the highest average MCAT scores on record at UK. Of the 113 members, 88 come from Kentucky. Of those, 45 are from Appalachia or other rural counties. Twelve were born in a foreign country, and almost half of them are women.

—from External Affairs @ UK HealthCare, a blog hosted by Mark Birdwhistell, chief of external affairs

Start!

Eating Healthy Day is Nov. 3

Mark your calendars for the American Heart Association’s second annual Start! Eating Healthy Day on Wednesday, Nov. 3.
Desai wins Legacy of Love award

Kentucky Children’s Hospital neonatologist Nirmala “Nima” Desai was awarded the Legacy of Love by the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Bluegrass.

The award honors the work Dr. Desai has done in the neonatal ICU and through research to save and promote the health of Kentucky’s most vulnerable babies.

Dr. Desai, a professor of pediatrics, has worked at UK since 1972.

“She was the first person at UK with special training in neonatology.”

Over the years, Dr. Desai has worked with many children, improving their health and saving their lives. Her work has been recognized nationally and at UK. Most of all, it is recognized by the families she has helped.

“It’s extremely gratifying to see the babies and families come back to visit the NICU,” Dr. Desai said. “And it’s especially rewarding to receive their graduation announcements from high school and college.”

DePriest named associate dean for clinical affairs

Dr. Paul DePriest, a professor of obstetrics and gynecology and chief medical officer, was named associate dean for clinical affairs.

In this position, Dr. DePriest will work on matters related to clinical services offered by College of Medicine faculty.

“I am looking forward to the opportunities this role provides in further supporting a health care system that drives higher quality, safer and more efficient care for Kentuckians,” Dr. DePriest said.

In this new position, DePriest will relay vital information regarding clinical initiatives and possible demands that clinical initiatives might place on faculty and departments to Dr. Emery Wilson, College of Medicine interim dean and vice president for clinical academic affairs, and the college’s leadership team.

“This role is imperative to the continual growth of UK HealthCare as a premier academic medical center,” Dr. Wilson said.

Dr. DePriest earned his medical degree and completed residency training in obstetrics and gynecology and fellowship training in gynecologic oncology at UK. He also earned a Master of Science degree in health care management from the Harvard School of Public Health.

Reynolds named clinical director of Barnstable Brown Kentucky Diabetes & Obesity Center

Dr. L. Raymond Reynolds has been named clinical director of the Barnstable Brown Kentucky Diabetes & Obesity Center.

In this new role, Dr. Reynolds will direct the development of a state-of-the-art multidisciplinary diabetes and obesity center.

In addition to using the latest therapies and devices, a dynamic diabetes care system will coordinate the efforts of multiple providers. The Barnstable Brown Center team will provide both consultative and co-management services for primary care practices in the region.

Dr. Reynolds is also a professor of internal medicine and director of endocrinology and molecular medicine Fellowship Program. He has been involved in the clinical management of diabetes for almost three decades.

Nurse practitioner Kathy Wheeler wins national recognition

Kathy Wheeler, a licensed nurse practitioner and assistant clinical professor in the College of Nursing, has been named a Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP).

The program recognizes nurse practitioners who have made outstanding contributions to health care through clinical practice, research, education or policy.

Wheeler was one of two Kentuckians inducted into FAANP during the AANP national conference in Phoenix, Ariz., in June. Julie Marfell, from the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing in Hyden, Ky., was also inducted.

Wheeler, a UK graduate ('81), has worked as a nurse practitioner for 29 years. Nurse practitioners are licensed independent practitioners who practice in ambulatory, acute and long-term care as primary and/or specialty care providers.
Swartz graduates from nurse executive program

Colleen Swartz, UK HealthCare chief nurse executive, recently graduated from the Johnson & Johnson - Wharton Fellows Program in Management for Nurse Executives.

The three-week management education program was held at The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Swartz was one of 38 senior nurse executives selected to participate. The three-week, competitive program works to enhance business and management skills and enable nurse executives to be effective leaders.