

*The Covid-19 pandemic has had a tremendous impact on our campus and community. The people of UK Facilities Management remain the “boots on the ground” for UK, providing the essential services needed to keep our campus safe, secure, and positioned to respond to the evolving crisis. The strength each of you demonstrate daily is inspiring and represents such courage and compassion. We are in this together and we will get through it together. **Thank you for everything you do.** – Mary Vosevich, Vice President for Facilities Management*

## OUR PEOPLE. ————— OUR STORIES.



### Thank you to this Community.

President Capilouto addressed the UK Board of Trustees meeting last week with a message of deep gratitude. Read the full message on [uknow.uky.edu](http://uknow.uky.edu).

*“There is an age-old adage that says, “Don’t miss the opportunity to tell someone how important he or she is until it is too late.” I begin this morning with one that comes from my heart, is inadequately expressed through words and yet is what I can best offer right now: **Thank you.***

*I want to thank you, our board—for your words of support at moments you didn’t even know that I needed them, but I did; for your steadfast support of this special place; and for your ceaseless commitment to the work we do together.*

*But I want to reserve this time this morning for a special thank you, one I try to say often, yet it is not often enough, and it does not cover or convey the depths of how I truly feel. I want to thank—deeply and profoundly—our community. It is a community of students, scholars and staff who have faced more adversity and anxiety, change and challenge, in the span of a few months than most of us face over years or lifetimes.*

*Almost without fail, our people – our faculty and staff have met each moment and exceeded expectations. They have done so with the sense of grace and grit that defines this place and which has marked us so distinctively for more than 155 years as the university of, for and with Kentucky.*

### ***Yet, I know, too, and it must be said, that our people are tired.***

*They are stretched and stressed, anxious and worried. In a period of months, they have been asked to do more and to be more in ways that extend far beyond what anyone would describe as fair. They balance work and life, childcare and community responsibilities, and they know that we are now in the middle of disruption that does not have a clear end in sight. They are concerned about their health and that of their loved ones near and far, some of whom live in their homes, and others whom—because of a virus that attacks indiscriminately—they cannot readily reach out and touch. They fret about their students and the work they do in research labs, hospital clinics, on farms and in community centers across the Commonwealth and around the world*

*The future we confront will compel us to both renew and reinvent who we are and what we do. And that is the topic we will explore more together during today’s meeting. Uncertainty and a sense of anxiety, though, are not the same as pessimism and doubt.*

*I am convinced we will marshal what often seems to me to be an endless capacity—a capacity to meet a historic mission as real and relevant as at any time in our history...a capacity to think about, to imagine and to dream about what community we want to be as we are called to meet today’s challenges and those we can’t yet imagine.*

***But, for a moment, I want to pause and simply say... thank you.***

