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Message from the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

Philipp J. Kraemer
University of Kentucky, pjkrae00@email.uky.edu

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As the University of Kentucky continues on its path toward becoming one of the very best public research universities, we are proud of the progress we have made in strengthening excellence in undergraduate education. Our most important strategies in pursuing that goal involve the integration of undergraduate education with faculty research and creativity. For the institution, this strategy reflects a way to exploit the strength of a research university; for students, it provides a special learning opportunity that distinguishes our curriculum.

By fostering the active involvement of undergraduates in the exciting and diverse scholarship conducted by eminent UK faculty across all fields of inquiry — from the sciences and the arts, to the applied disciplines and the service professions — the University can advance scholarship and undergraduate education simultaneously. The opportunity to work side-by-side with world-renowned scholars affords UK undergraduates the kind of education that is available only at a research university; an educational experience that stimulates the intellect, excites the imagination, and motivates strong academic engagement.

This edition of Kaleidoscope, as was true of prior editions, affords our students the opportunity to highlight their personal academic achievements, and it exposes the talent of our students and the dedication of our faculty to undergraduate excellence. This edition of Kaleidoscope in particular also celebrates a productive partnership between the Office of Undergraduate Education and the Office of the Executive Vice President for Research; a partnership that is dedicated to helping to advance excellence at the University of Kentucky.

Philipp J. Kraemer, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education