



ANNUAL REPORT

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ABOUT

# OneUK

The University of Kentucky strives to work with partners across the state who share the mission of advancing the Commonwealth by improving the lives of Kentuckians. OneUK, a strategic collaboration between UK and leading community businesses, plays an integral role in helping the university fulfill this mission by fostering long-term, holistic partnerships that drive innovation, talent development and economic growth in Kentucky. As such, OneUK is an extension – and serves in support – of the Advancing Together Kentucky Network. The network seeks to work closely with partners throughout Kentucky to advance the state’s overall health – the treatment and prevention of disease, the development of the workforce and strengthening our educational system.

Specifically, OneUK seeks to deepen business engagement across all areas of the University of Kentucky, creating opportunities for talent development, innovation and strategic support. Kentucky’s economy continues to grow and UK and its partners are uniquely positioned to meet the state’s workforce needs in response to that growth.

By aligning UK’s educational, research and community resources with industry leaders, OneUK supports Kentucky’s economic growth while offering companies access to world-class talent, cutting-edge research and a thriving collaborative ecosystem. Together, UK and its partners are expanding opportunities to advance Kentucky and the health and welfare of its citizens.

# UK OBJECTIVES

- 1** Dedicate resources for coordinated, holistic engagement experiences
- 2** Invest in partnerships with mutual interests and high potential for growing together
- 3** Promote shared values with UK-PURPOSE, the strategic plan and land-grant mission
- 4** Celebrate and learn together

# PARTNER OBJECTIVES

- 1** Access to UK student and alumni talent and play a role in prioritizing workforce needs
- 2** Access to research outcomes that make a positive impact on partner businesses
- 3** Early notification / access to new industry-university shared spaces, labs and events
- 4** Recognition for high-performing partnerships and related gifts
- 5** Streamline communication and support for OneUK partners

# *The* **VISION**

To provide dedicated resources that foster comprehensive and mutually beneficial partnerships and deepen relationships with community collaborators, driving talent development and innovation that advance Kentucky.

# *The* **NETWORK**



# The APPROACH

## HOLISTIC AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS



OneUK aims to expand the university's business partnerships in both depth and breadth through a holistic approach to engagement. An ideal partner collaborates with the university across multiple areas, including:

**Talent:** workforce development initiatives

**Innovation:** research and development opportunities

**Support:** philanthropy and community development

OneUK encourages partnerships with a diverse range of colleges, from fine arts to engineering, fostering collaboration across disciplines.

OneUK partners have committed to developing a long-term relationship with UK, progressing through stages of engagement: from initial collaboration to alignment and, ultimately, a strategic partnership.

# The PROCESS



OneUK team meets with new partners to understand needs and assess areas of opportunities

01



OneUK team consults with its network of college liaisons to best match university resources with the partners

02



OneUK team and partners draft an engagement plan outlining a mutually beneficial pathway toward strategic partnership

03



OneUK team and new partners commit dedicated resources to support continuous communication and success as plan is executed

04



OneUK partner engagement plans are updated quarterly to measure progress/ mutual growth and provide an opportunity to assess new interests

05

# TIMELINE

**2023**

**JANUARY - MARCH**

OneUK program pitched to key UK stakeholders and endorsed

**APRIL - NOVEMBER**

OneUK program pitched to potential partners, first cohort is finalized

**DECEMBER**

OneUK launched at the State of the EDC

**2024**

**JANUARY - OCTOBER**

First cohort begins working on engagement plan, OneUK pitched to second cohort of partners

**NOVEMBER**

OneUK second Cohort announced at UK vs. Murray State football game

**2025**

Both cohorts to work on engagement plan implementation





# COHORT 1

OneUK announced its **innuagraual cohort** at the State of the EDC in **December 2023**.



**Appalachian Regional Healthcare (ARH)**, the health care system of Appalachia and ranked as one of the Top 10 Employers in Kentucky by Forbes Magazine, is a not-for-profit health system operating 14 hospitals as well as home health agencies, home medical equipment stores and retail pharmacies.

**Fischer Homes** is a home builder in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Georgia and Missouri. Recognized by Builder Magazine as the nation's 30th largest builder, Fischer Homes is one of the largest and most reputable new home builders in the Midwestern and Southeastern states.



**Valvoline™ Global Operations** is a worldwide leader in automotive and industrial solutions, creating future-ready products and best-in-class services for partners around the globe. Established in 1866, they introduced the world's first branded motor oil, claiming their position as The Original Motor Oil.

A photograph of a person walking on a paved path in autumn. The path is covered with fallen yellow leaves. The person is wearing a dark jacket, light blue leggings, and white shoes, and is looking at a smartphone. The background features large trees with vibrant yellow foliage. A blue gradient overlay covers the left side of the image, where the text is placed.

# 2024 ENGAGEMENTS

The OneUK inaugural cohort began working on engagement plans in January 2024. Here are the ways the partners engaged with UK throughout the first year.



# TALENT

## UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY HOSTS CAREER BUILDER DAYS WITH ONEUK PARTNERS FISCHER HOMES AND VALVOLINE GLOBAL

Representatives from Fischer Homes and Valvoline Global visited the University of Kentucky on September 11 and September 17, respectively, as part of the university's Career Builder Days. This initiative aimed to connect students and faculty with industry leaders from the OneUK partnership, fostering valuable networking opportunities and career insights.

During the two-day event, representatives engaged with multiple colleges, including the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, College of Arts and Sciences, Gatton College of Business and Economics, College of Fine Arts and the Stanley and Karen Pigman College of Engineering. Both companies also met with student organizations including the DanceBlue leadership team, the ChemE Car team, the Automotive Industry club and the ChemCats.

Each day featured a faculty lunch where company representatives discussed their hiring practices, the most sought after skills in candidates and addressed questions regarding their stances on important environmental issues that resonate with both students and faculty. The discussions provided insight into the companies' commitments to sustainability and corporate responsibility.

A Valvoline Global Operations (VGO) team participated in a graduate-level panel discussion on supply chain management, showcasing the company's global strategies. Another group tailored their presentation to a chemistry class, delving into the specifics of their chemical polymer formulations. In a visual studies course, VGO representatives explained how they leverage visual design in both internal and external communications to engage Fine Arts students more effectively. Meanwhile, Fischer Homes offered insights into their philanthropic initiatives during a business ethics course.

When meeting with student organizations, company representatives provided practical advice on career development. Students inquired about leveraging social media in their job searches and what qualities to highlight during interviews.

"The Career Builder Days were an excellent opportunity to connect our campus community with our OneUK business partners," Audrey Baricovich, Business Engagement program coordinator, said. "Our OneUK partners were able to engage with our highly motivated and skilled students, learn about our outstanding student organizations and interact with our innovative faculty members. In turn, our students and faculty had the chance to connect with Kentucky-based companies seeking to provide career opportunities for UK students. The more we foster meaningful industry connections, the more opportunities we can create for our entire campus community."

The Career Builder Days provided a platform for students and faculty to explore potential career pathways while allowing companies to identify emerging talent within the University of Kentucky's student body.

## VALVOLINE GLOBAL HOSTS UK FACULTY AT HEADQUARTERS FOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) SEMINAR

Valvoline Global hosted an AI seminar on Oct. 10 at its headquarters, featuring University of Kentucky (UK) faculty showcasing AI's diverse applications. Facilitated by UK Innovate, the event included TED talk-style presentations on AI's role in research, technology, law, engineering and medicine.

The seminar aimed to strengthen Valvoline's ties with UK while highlighting the university's expertise in the fast-evolving AI field. Attendees heard directly from UK faculty on AI's transformative impact across industries and academia.

Four UK faculty members delivered 15-minute presentations on AI's integration into their fields:

**V.K. Cody Bumgardner**, associate professor and chief of Pathology Informatics, also serves as assistant dean for artificial intelligence and data science in UK's College of Medicine. He directs the Center for Applied Artificial Intelligence and has held leadership roles in technology, including director of Research Computing.

**Jesse Hoagg**, chair of UK's Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, researches human learning, cooperative aerospace control, microrobotics and uncertain systems. He holds a doctorate in aerospace engineering from the University of Michigan and previously worked at McKinsey & Co.

**Michael D. Murray**, Spears Gilbert Associate Professor of Law at UK's J. David Rosenberg College of Law, leads the Artificial Intelligence and the Law Project. A Columbia Law School graduate, he has authored 28 books and numerous articles on legal topics.

**Hunter N. B. Moseley**, professor in UK's Department of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry, leads a lab focused on computational biology and systems biochemistry. With 89 publications and 30 open-source codebases, his research spans metabolomics, multi-omics integration and biological data analysis.

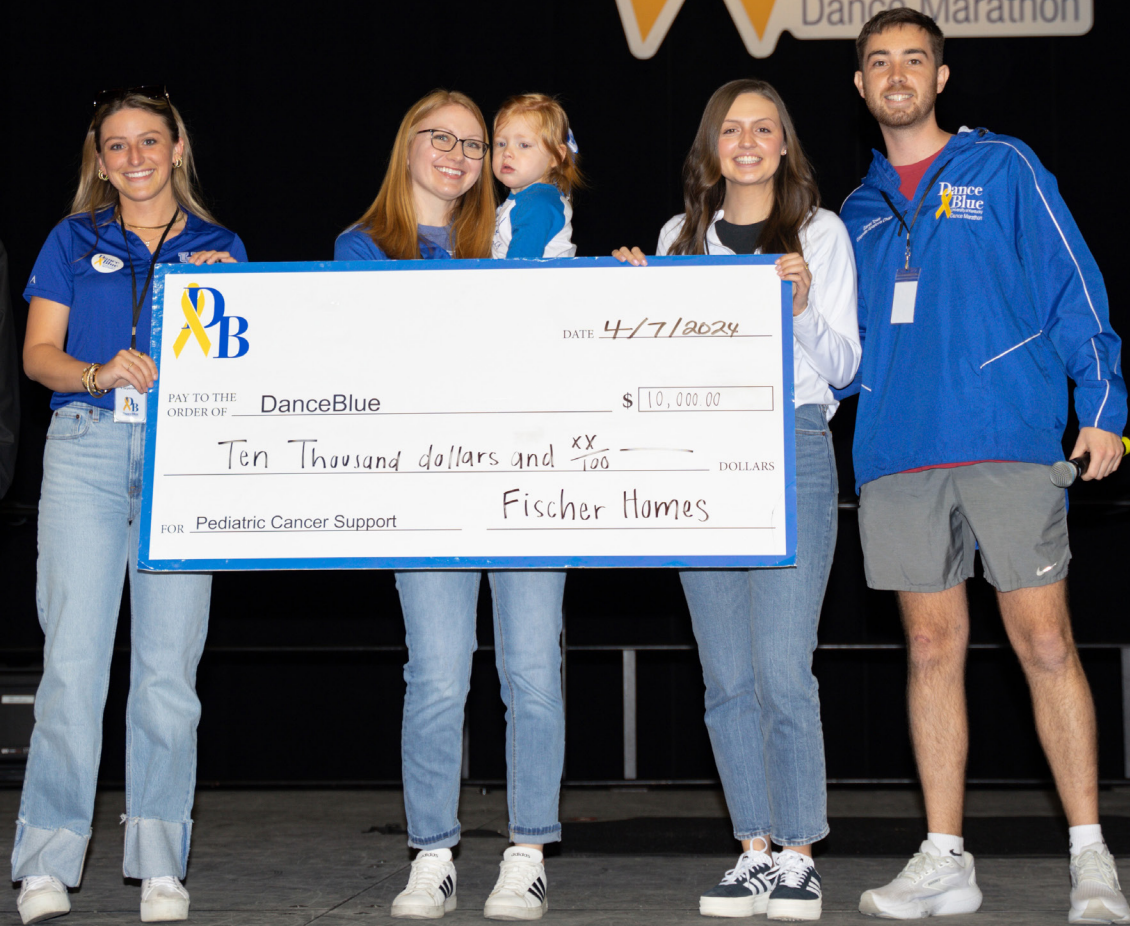
The seminar concluded with a networking session, fostering discussions and collaboration opportunities.

"The AI TED-style talks at Valvoline Global Operations were an excellent opportunity to showcase the university's expertise in the field of AI from an innovation perspective. The event allowed the university to demonstrate its research and thought leadership in AI to a receptive industry audience. This exposure can lead to valuable collaboration opportunities to leverage the university's AI capabilities in addressing real-world challenges and opportunities faced by Valvoline Global Operations," UK Innovation Connect Manager Kim Sayre said.

The seminar provided a glimpse into the future of AI, demonstrating its broad reach and potential to transform industries, improve health care and solve complex global challenges.

# INNOVATION





# SUPPORT

## ONEUK PARTNER FISCHER HOMES TAKES FIRST STEP TOWARD HOLISTIC ENGAGEMENT BY SUPPORTING DANCEBLUE MARATHON

Fischer Homes, an inaugural cohort member of OneUK, completed the first action item on its OneUK engagement plan – the homebuilder, headquartered in Northern Kentucky, sponsored an hour at UK’s DanceBlue Marathon.

Through OneUK, Fischer Homes has identified three primary goals for the partnership:

**Talent:** Fischer Homes aims to attract bright minds for problem-solving. The company seeks to increase its annual hiring of UK students for internships, co-ops and full-time positions, guided by the philosophy of “hire talent and train the skill.”

**Innovation:** Fischer Homes seeks opportunities to partner with UK faculty and students to leverage UK’s research enterprise to develop product solutions that place Fischer Homes at the forefront of national home builders.

**Support:** Fischer Homes is interested in exploring philanthropic ideas that align with the company’s corporate missions and values.

The \$10,000 donation to the marathon marks the first completed initiative outlined in the engagement plan between Fischer Homes and the University of Kentucky. This contribution not only reflects Fischer Homes’ philanthropic values but also provides the company with the opportunity to engage directly with participating students.

“Fischer Homes will both lend crucial financial support to an area it has long supported, pediatric cancer, as well as support the leadership development and engagement of these engaged students – who in turn also get to learn more about Fischer Homes and career opportunities within that company,” UK Assistant Vice President for Economic Development & Real Estate Melody Flowers said. “This exemplifies the main objective of OneUK – to broaden and deepen win-win relationships with companies.”

Fischer Homes, a homebuilder operating in Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Georgia, Missouri and Florida, is ranked as the nation’s 30th largest builder by Builder Magazine. It stands as one of the largest and most reputable new home builders in the Midwestern and Southeastern United States.

“Fischer Homes has been honored to participate with OneUK because it provides students with a holistic experience of the business world they will encounter as they graduate and embark on career paths,” said Jason Finch, market president for Fischer Homes Northern Kentucky division. “Not only do students learn valuable lessons about problem-solving, talent attraction and the need for companies and organizations to continually innovate, but also about giving back, which is such an important part of the mission at Fischer Homes.”

UK’s DanceBlue Marathon occurred Saturday, April 6 through Sunday, April 7 at Rupp Arena. The event successfully raised \$2,129,952 for the patients and families of the Kentucky Children’s Hospital Hematology/Oncology Clinic.

# COHORT 2

The second cohort of OneUK was announced at the **UK vs. Murray State football game** on Nov. 16, 2024. Bullard, Catalent and Fidelity Investments will begin **engagement plan implementation in 2025.**



**Bullard** is a fifth-generation family-owned business delivering innovation that inspires safety across the globe, headquartered in Kentucky. Bullard has a rich history of solving customer problems in innovative ways, enabling these customers to have long, healthy and productive lives.

**Catalent** is the global leader in enabling pharma, biotech and consumer health partners to optimize product development, launch and full life-cycle supply for patients around the world. Catalent's flagship U.S. manufacturing location is in Winchester, Kentucky.



**Fidelity Investment's** mission is to strengthen the financial well-being of individuals across the nation and help them feel confident in their most important financial goals. employers, wealth management firms and institutions. With more than 76,000 associates working to meet the needs of their customers, Fidelity's global presence spans 11 countries.



*Representatives from all six OneUK companies, Michael Costello (Fischer Homes), Robert Bosley (Fischer Homes), Ashley Richter (Fidelity Investments), Chris Rosenbaum (Catalent), Danille Harmon (ARH), Carlos Lopez (Bullard), George Zhang (VGO) and OneUK core team members Ray Clere and Melody Flowers on the field during the UK vs. Murray State football game in November 2024.*

# 2025

## 2025

### JANUARY - MARCH

Cohort 2 collaborators, OneUK core team and College Liaisons work together to create engagement plans

### JAN 25 - DEC 25

Cohort 1 engagement plan implementation

### APR 25 - DEC 25

Cohort 2 engagement plan implementation

### APR 25 - OCT 25

Meet with and present OneUK to Cohort 3 prospects

### NOV 25

Announce and celebrate OneUK Cohort 3





OneUK

# CORE TEAM

OneUK is carried out by a small, cross-functional team representing various industry-facing UK units.

## AUDREY BARICOVICH

ASTeCC AND THE OFFICE OF BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

## LANDON BORDERS

UK INNOVATION CONNECT

## ASHLEY CASTORENA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REAL ESTATE

## RAY CLERE

STUCKERT CAREER CENTER

## MELODY FLOWERS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REAL ESTATE

## KIM KLUEMPER

OFFICE OF BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

## JESSICA KOENIGSKNECHT-TALBOO

CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY

## TORI SUMMEY

STUCKERT CAREER CENTER

COLLEGE

# LIAISONS

The College Liaisons serve as a vital bridge between their college and OneUK. They collaborate with the OneUK core team to develop engagement plans that address partner needs, fostering mutually beneficial partnerships.

## LESLEY OLIVER

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE  
OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD  
AND ENVIRONMENT

## KIM HENKEN

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE  
OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD  
AND ENVIRONMENT

## DANNY MURPHY JR.

J. DAVID ROSENBERG  
COLLEGE OF LAW

## RUDY BUCHHEIT

PIGMAN COLLEGE  
OF ENGINEERING

## CHRISTIA BROWN

COLLEGE OF ARTS  
AND SCIENCES

## MEGAN SIZEMORE

COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION  
AND INFORMATION

## BROOKE NOWICKI

COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION  
AND INFORMATION

## RONALD ZIMMER

MARTIN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC  
POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

## NATHAN RUDDER

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

## SUSAN CANTRELL

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

## PAULA SANDFORD

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

## RAE GOODWIN

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

## BRAD PATRICK

GATTON COLLEGE  
OF BUSINESS AND  
ECONOMICS

## TAMIKA TOMPOULIDIS

LEWIS HONORS COLLEGE

## BRIAN NOEHREN

COLLEGE OF  
HEALTH SCIENCES

## DOUGLAS LONG

COLLEGE OF  
HEALTH SCIENCES

## CRAIG MARTIN

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

## JESSICA RUKAVINA

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

## KATHLEEN MONTGOMERY

PATTERSON SCHOOL  
OF DIPLOMACY AND  
INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE

## MEAGAN LEDERMAN

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK

## LINDSEY FAY

COLLEGE OF DESIGN

## ROBERT TOPP

COLLEGE OF NURSING

## ANGELA DEARINGER

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

## FORD STANLEY

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



## **Is your business ready to engage deeper with UK?**

To express interest in becoming a OneUK partner or discover the many other ways businesses can engage with UK, contact Kimberly Kluemper at [\*\*kim.kluemper@uky.edu\*\*](mailto:kim.kluemper@uky.edu)

