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FOR RELEASE

**Two New Endowments Fund Study of Intimate-partner Violence
Affecting Women and Their Children**

LEXINGTON, Ky. (Sept. 12, 2006) – Two actions today by the University of Kentucky's Board of Trustees underscored the increasingly national leadership role being played by the university's Center for Research on Violence Against Women.

During its regular meeting today, the board accepted \$772,989 in two gifts – from a Kentucky foundation and from several women leaders in Kentucky – to create two endowed chairs in the UK Center for Research on Violence Against Women.

The funds, which will be submitted for matching by Kentucky's Endowment Match Program to reach a grand total of more than \$1.5 million, will support the center in its continuing efforts to end victimization of women and their children in Kentucky and nationwide.

“Advancing the national research agenda in the violence against women area is no small task, but our strong motivation to use science to address a social problem of this magnitude is a measure of the university’s true value to the Commonwealth and the world. Importantly, the center’s success can be credited to the strong partnerships it enjoys with colleges across campus, and as evidenced in the gifts announced today, to generous women and men from all walks of life who share the mission we undertake,” said Carol Jordan, director of the Center for Research on Violence Against Women.

The first endowed chair will be created by 11 Kentucky women, all leaders within their communities, whose gifts and pledges totaling \$272,989 form the beginning of the Women's Circle Endowment for the Center for Research on Violence Against Women. The endowment will primarily fund the Women's Circle Endowed Chair of Studies on

Violence Against Women. Future professorships, graduate fellowships, and related research activities will also be supported by the Women's Circle Endowment.

The other endowed chair will be created by a \$500,000 pledge from the Cralle Foundation and Mrs. Joan Day. The gift will support the Cralle-Day Children at Risk Endowed Chair within the UK Center for Research on Violence Against Women.

The Cralle Foundation, based in Louisville, is known for addressing child abuse issues, including sexual abuse. Joan Day, president of the foundation, is particularly interested in supporting the inclusion of children in the comprehensive efforts of the Center for Research on Violence Against Women to confront violence. Funding from the Cralle-Day Endowment will allow empirical focus on children living in homes where there is intimate-partner violence against women.

"Comprehensively addressing violence against women necessarily requires focus on the children whose exposure to violence in the home can be devastating and formative. We are so grateful that a Kentucky foundation with such an impressive reputation for supporting reforms for children understands our comprehensive view and is making that vision a reality," said Jordan.

The Women's Circle Endowment includes political leaders, activists, businesswomen and philanthropists brought together by a common interest in promoting the welfare of women and ending intimate-partner violence, rape and related crimes. The founding members of the Women's Circle Endowment are: Sue C. Badgett, Hanson, Ky.; Mira S. Ball, Lexington, Ky.; Mickie DeMoss, Lexington, Ky.; Ann McBrayer, Lexington, Kentucky; Judi C. Patton, Pikeville, Ky.; Missy Scanlon, Lexington, Ky.; Alice S. Sparks, Crescent Springs, Ky.; Kathy Stein, Lexington, Ky.; Carol E. Jordan, Lexington, Ky.; Patsy B. Todd, Lexington, Ky.; and Lucy B. VanMeter, Lexington, Ky.

The endowed chairs created by the Board of Trustees today are two of five chairs the center plans to create as it sets a course toward national prominence. National searches are underway for the Women's Circle Endowed Chair, the academic home for which is the College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Psychology; and the Verizon Wireless Endowed Chair, the academic home for which is the College of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

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