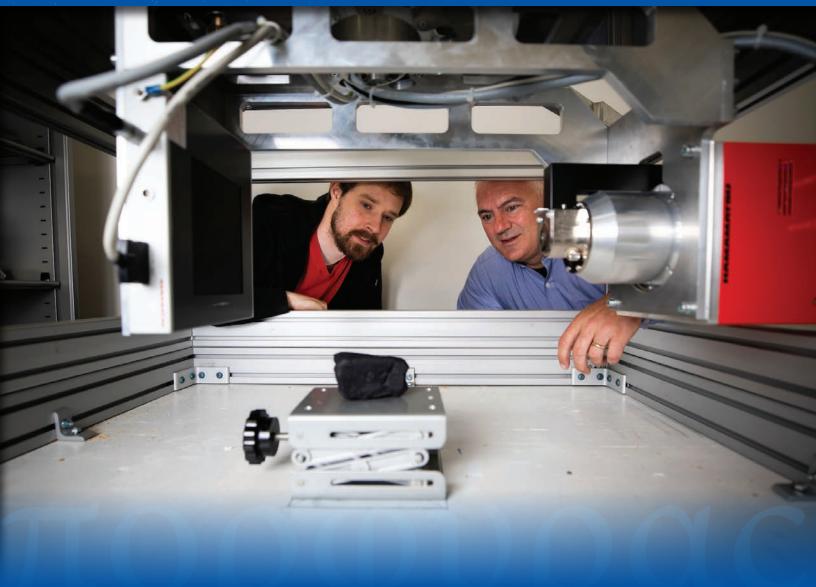
## PRESIDENT'S REPORT OCTOBER 2023

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY



## TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY HAS LED TO A BREAKTHROUGH IN THE VESUVIUS CHALLENGE.

In a remarkable breakthrough, with technology developed by researchers at the University of Kentucky, researchers have uncovered an entire word from one of the enigmatic Herculaneum scrolls, which have remained unreadable for more than 2,000 years since the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 79 CE. With the help of artificial intelligence, the team unveiled the word  $\pi o \rho \phi \dot{\nu} \rho \alpha c$  translating to "purple dye" or "clothes of purple."

The breakthrough is part of the Vesuvius Challenge, offering a prize fund of \$1 million to inspire scholars to join the effort in decoding these enigmatic texts. With the aim of reading the entire collection of more than 600 sealed scrolls, this discovery is a major step in further uncovering the information and wisdom preserved within these ancient manuscripts, making it a momentous advancement in the field of historical scholarship.



## INAUGURAL FIRST-GEN STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM EXPANDS ACCESS TO THE WORLD.

UK has provided an extraordinary opportunity for firstgeneration college students to expand their horizons through the "Explore First: Careers, Cultures, and Connections" program. Designed to empower and equip these students for international experiences, the program sent four cohorts of 15 students to London, England, and Dublin, Ireland this past summer. The initiative aimed to enhance their career readiness, equip them with vital life skills and inspire confidence in navigating unfamiliar territories. Many of these students returned to campus with a newfound sense of capability, having embraced the opportunity to study abroad and expand their horizons.

Explore First underscores the importance of pushing boundaries and embracing the unknown, as traveling the world can be life-changing for both the students and their families. The program empowered these students to dream big and embark on journeys they may not have previously imagined, providing them with a new sense of self-assuredness and a greater capacity to tackle the unfamiliar.



## UK BREAKS GROUND ON SITE OF NEW HEALTH EDUCATION BUILDING.

On Oct. 27, UK broke ground on the site of the future Health Education Building. This world-class medical education facility, covering an impressive 450,000 square feet, will promote interprofessional education among the colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Health Sciences and Public Health, led by the Center for Interprofessional and Community Health Education.

In Kentucky and across the country, physician shortages affect patient care and access. This \$380 million dollar project was initially approved by the Board of Trustees in 2021 and aims to be completed by 2026. The new space will help UK better prepare and train the next generation of health leaders to serve the unique demands of the Commonwealth and beyond.



