



Dr. Charles T. Wethington, was elected the tenth President of the University of Kentucky in September 1990. A native Kentuckian, Dr. Wethington also has served the University as chancellor of the UK Community College System and University Relations, vice president of the Community College System, chief administrator of the Maysville Community College, and has taught educational psychology on the Lexington campus.

Dr. Wethington earned his master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Kentucky.

OPENING SESSION

Thursday, September 5, 1991

Charles T. Wethington, President
University of Kentucky

WELCOME AND REMARKS

I want to extend a warm welcome to each of you. The University of Kentucky is very proud to have the Kentucky Transportation Center headquartered here and also is pleased that your 28th Annual Forum is being held on campus again.

The Center is an example of the University working with outside agencies and groups—both state and federal—and other private organizations. Together we are contributing to valuable transportation education and research projects and, of course, your support is vital and very much appreciated.

I want to congratulate the Center for being included in the team selected to conduct the I-66 National Corridor Project. This cutting-edge study will determine the feasibility of the development of a national corridor (involving all modes of transportation) that will stretch from the East Coast to the West Coast, potentially passing through Kentucky. Although the details of the agreement remain to be finalized, this project has the potential to have a far-reaching impact on this nation's transportation system well into the twenty-first century. If the Center didn't have the recognition and support it has had, I don't believe that we would have been selected to participate in this study.

The past couple of years have been very exciting ones for the Center. We have initiated the Advanced Institute for Transportation System

Science. The Center is one of only 15 in the nation to receive a federal grant to initiate a post-baccalaureate transportation systems management program whereby students examine non-traditional approaches to moving people and goods. This project benefits the economy and enhances effective global competition.

This month, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and the College of Engineering awarded scholarships worth \$200,000 to civil engineering students at the University of Kentucky. Obviously, that scholarship program is very important to the University. It has been in place for many years and I can assure you that, in my opinion, the scholarship program is one of the reasons that you'll see a considerable increase in engineering enrollment on this campus, particularly in civil engineering. This unique scholarship program is a tremendous resource for deserving students in the College of Engineering.

The Center also is working with the Transportation Cabinet in participating in a federally funded Intelligent Vehicle Highway System (IVHS) project involving new ways of tracking commercial motor carriers on interstate roadways. The project is underway on stretches of I-75 in Kentucky and five other states and Canada.

More than 2,000 persons have attended technology exchange workshops offered by the Center for the benefit of government business and industry. Also, the Center remains one of only 10 University Transportation Centers in the United States.

The University of Kentucky is very proud to be home for the Center and we are fully supportive of the work being done here. I congratulate Cal Grayson and his staff and the College of Engineering dean, Tom Lester, and his faculty and staff for the close relationship that is providing the combination of teaching, research, and public service for the benefit of our students and the citizens of Kentucky and in consort with our goals as a land-grant university. It again makes very good sense to me, that in an institution such as this, we have that close working relationship between the Kentucky Transportation Center, the College of Engineering, and other colleges in the University that will help put together a team in teaching, research, and service to make this Center even better than it would be if it were located somewhere other than in this university setting.

Please accept my wishes for a productive Forum. We're pleased to have you here and we'll try to make your stay a very enjoyable one. Thank you for being here!