Mr. Stout, Chair of the Task Force on Developing Murray State University’s Extended Campus at Paducah, convened the meeting at 5 p.m. and the roll was called with the following present: Alan Stout, Randy Dunn, Brian Van Horn, John Yates, Phil Bryan, Daniel Wann, Teresa Wheeler, John Williams, Sandra Wilson and Pam Matlock. Absent: Eric King, Laxmaiah Manchikanti and Rex Smith.

Minutes of the Task Force Meeting on December 13, 2007, approved with revisions

Chair Stout stated that the minutes from the February 18, 2008, Task Force meeting were e-mailed and included in each packet and that the December 13, 2007, minutes were distributed at the last meeting and both require approval. Chair Stout asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Williams indicated that in the December 13, 2007, minutes the word “would” should read “are” [and remove “be”] in the fifth line down on the last page and offered this as a correction to the minutes. Ms. Wilson moved, seconded by Dr. Van Horn, that the December 13, 2007, minutes be approved as amended. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Minutes of the Task Force Meeting on February 18, 2008, postponed

There was next determined to be a difference between the electronic version previously sent and the paper version of the February 18, 2008, minutes included in the meeting packets. It was decided to defer approval of the February 18 minutes until the next Task Force meeting. It was noted that the paper copy was the correct and updated version of the minutes to be considered for approval at the next meeting.

Review of Requested Information

Dr. Yates overviewed maps and related demographic information (including Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) county profile sheets) regarding the primary feeder counties for the Crisp Center. Mr. Williams asked what this data says about how Murray State University has marketed its programs. Dr. Dunn noted that he believes the data indicate much work needs to be done around marketing programs geared toward students and that the Task Force was helping to first decide what MSU needs to be offering and where in Paducah and McCracken County which would allow the University to accurately market what is needed. Ms. Wilson commented on the general in-state college going rate and it was noted that the feeder counties were generally at or above the overall rate for Kentucky (unsure about this comparison nationally).

Review and Analysis of Models for Service Delivery

Dr. Dunn then led the Task Force members in a “chart paper” listing and discussion of the pros and cons of the five delivery options established at the February 18, 2008, meeting for programs and services in Paducah and McCracken County. Those lists have been recorded and are attached to these minutes as the document, Paducah Delivery Models – Pros and Cons. (See Attachment #1)

NOTE: Due to a tape device malfunction at this point in the meeting, the discussion which ensued around the pros and cons of each option is limited to those items from extemporaneous note taking that occurred at the time. There was generally a short discussion around each pro or con item as it was listed and is not recorded in these minutes except as follows:

Option 1 Discussion

Dr. Yates noted that the warehouse space at the Crisp Center really did not have utility for renovation or the creation of new instructional space. Dr. Van Horn commented that the HVAC work alone that would be necessary to use the warehouse space would be a major undertaking. Chair Stout questioned the amount of equity the University had in the Crisp Center and shared thinking was that the Center had been valued at approximately $2.25 million but a significant number of years of lease payments were left in order to complete the purchase of the building according to Dr.
Yates. MSU staff indicated they would secure the questioned financial data on the Crisp Center and share that information with the Task Force.

Option 2 Discussion

Mr. Williams asked if University staff were able to document the assumption that any new facility MSU might construct would indeed be on the I-24 corridor. Chair Stout and Dr. Dunn both indicated that while nothing could be said for certain at this point, such a location would most likely be the optimal one should the University go out and acquire a parcel of property.

Option 3 Discussion

Mr. Williams commented that if a regional postsecondary center was to be the chosen model, there would be the issue that the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) would need to have this project highly listed in its capital construction priorities and that a Memorandum of Understanding would need to be executed with the West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC). Mr. Williams went on to note that this could possibly create an educational problem for MSU if not successfully worked through with the community and technical college involvement. Discussion further ensued regarding the utilization of Paducah Junior College property for this option and in relation to Option 2 as well.

Option 4 Discussion

There were no additional deliberations noted under Option 4 beyond the listing of the pros and cons as outlined in the attachment to these minutes.

Option 5 Discussion

Mr. Williams queried as to whether this option was included as part of the WKCTC Master Plan. Others believed that there may be location(s) on their plan for a college or university facility, but there seemed to be no consensus that it was a site specifically suitable for a multi-institution facility or “communiversity”-type operation. Dr. Dunn, in response to a question from Mr. Williams, noted that it was his view that a multi-campus facility would be difficult for Paducah to implement due to the lack of a sufficient population base, the duplication of degree programs, and the fact that the community would need to construct the facility. Numerous others then noted the need for additional information or “case studies” of these facilities. Dr. Wann asked whether information regarding grade point averages (GPAs) and curriculum at these multi-campus operations could be provided.

Consider Additional Data needed for Task Force Progress

In terms of next steps, it was decided by consensus that the next meeting of the Paducah Task Force would provide a good opportunity to include the WKCTC/Paducah Junior College Liaison Group for a joint discussion of the work completed to this point. After some discussion about the good availability of Monday nights in general, the next Task Force meeting was set for 4 p.m. on Monday, March 31, 2008, and Dr. Dunn was directed to contact Dr. Barbara Veazey to determine whether WKCTC might be willing to host the Task Force meeting. [NOTE: Due to scheduling conflicts, this meeting was moved from the original date of Wednesday, March 26, 2008.]

Adjournment

The Paducah Task Force for Developing Murray State University’s Extended Campus at Paducah meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Final Version
Approved at the March 31, 2008, Task Force Meeting

Chair

Secretary