

## **Executive Summary & Recommendations to the Murray State University Board of Regents**

The Murray State University Board of Regents Special Taskforce on Farms and Facilities met four times specifically for the purpose of reviewing farm and facility plans, as well as conducting a needs assessment for the School of Agriculture and its comprehensive facilities.

The Taskforce formally reviewed each of the facilities under operation and management by the School of Agriculture and have identified the following needs & recommendations.

### Priority Recommendations:

- Completion of the A. Carman Animal Health Technology Rear Laboratory area's for student use and program re-accreditation purposes.
- A recommendation of the sale or trade of two parcels of property attached to the West Farm to be used as capitalizing assets for the acquisition of a new farm laboratory for the School of Agriculture. (Currently Ranked #10<sup>th</sup> on the University Legislative Priority Listing)
- A new or renovated Equine Housing Facility on the West Farm to parallel the amount of funds made available from the State Equine Trust Fund specifically to the School of Agriculture.
- A recommendation to endorse the Breathitt Veterinary Center Advisory Board recommendation that the BVC continue as a top priority in MSU's State of Kentucky Legislative Capital Project Request, at or above its current status. (Currently Ranked # 4<sup>th</sup> on the University Legislative Priority Listing) Additionally, that the A. Carmen Facility and the Farm Laboratory remain at or above their current status as priorities Legislatively until completed.
- That the university, following the endorsement of the "Agriculture Leadership Council of Students" adopt the Student Farm and Facility Fee of \$3.00 per FTE generated credit hour in agriculture.

### Secondary Recommendations:

- That the university complete, when special grant funds are available to the School of Agriculture, the following targeted projects:

Open Sided Stall Barn –West Farm  
Livestock Instructional Facility –West Farm  
Arboretum –Pullen Farm

\*The SOA is currently pursuing external funds for one or more of these projects.

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The following recommendations were made and are slated below for formal presentation from the Taskforce for Farms & Facilities to the Murray State University Board of Regents for adoption and implementation as listed:

### **Recommended Motion from the Taskforce on Farms and Facilities to the BOR:**

A motion that Murray State University Board of Regents, upon the Recommendation of the Task Force on Farms and Facilities, directs the President of the University or his designee to implement the following:

- Implementation of an 'AGR Student Farm & Facility Fee of \$3.00 per FTE generated credit hour to assist in the funding of an additional farm laboratory to begin July 1, 2009.
- Complete the unfinished portion of the A. Carman Animal Health Technology Rear Laboratory utilizing CERR funds *or* University General Funds of \$256,000 and SOA Improvement Funding of \$100,000.
- That the University proceed forward with building a new or remodeled 'Equine Housing Facility' on the West Farm to parallel the amount of funds made available from the State Equine Trust Fund specifically to the School of Agriculture for expressed purposes.
- Allow the Taskforce to work with Mr. Tom Denton for the sale or trade of the two parcels of property attached & adjacent to the West Farm totaling (13.89 acres & 15.46 acres respectively) to be used as capitalizing assets for the acquisition of additional farmland laboratory acreage for the School of Agriculture. That Mr. Denton begin the process of working with the State Finance Cabinet and appropriate authorities for said process.
- That the University pursue the purchase of an additional farm laboratory via an internal loan capitalizing on the sale/trade of current property and other revenues. To create a Taskforce committee to identify said property, work with the State of Kentucky Finance Cabinet and master planners, and that this committee report back to the full Board of Regents by Fall 2009 with a proposal identifying specific property (s) and a repayment plan.
- That the A. Carmen Pavilion and the Acquisition of a Farm Laboratory continue as a priority in MSU's State of Kentucky Legislative Capital Project Request, at or above their current ranking until completion.
- That the Breathitt Veterinary Center continue as a top priority in MSU's State of Kentucky Legislative Capital Project Request, at or above their current ranking and as recommended by the BVC Advisory Board.

### **Respectfully Submitted:**

Ms. Peg Hays, Chair of Farms & Facilities Taskforce & Building & Grounds Chair

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Signature

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Date