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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
Murray State University
June 7, 1989

The Board of Regents of Murray State University met in special session on June 7, 1989, in the Board Room, Wells Hall, on the campus of Murray State University. The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m., C.D.T., by Chairman Robert C. Carter.

Upon call of the roll, the following members answered present: Mr. C. Dean Akridge; Mr. J. Eddie Allen; Mr. Robert C. Carter; Dr. James Hammack, Jr.; Mr. Kerry B. Harvey; Dr. Billy G. Hurt; Mr. Randy Hutchinson; Mr. Willie Kendrick; Mr. Tommy Sanders; and Mrs. Virginia Strohecker.

Present for the meeting were Dr. Kala M. Stroup, President; Mrs. Sandra M. Rogers, Secretary of the Board; Dr. James Booth, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. David W. Perrin, Vice President for University Relations and Development; Dr. Augustine Pounds, Vice President for Student Development; Dr. Ward B. Zimmerman, Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services; Mr. James Overby, University Attorney; Dr. Anita Lawson, Assistant to the President; Dr. Farouk Umar, Faculty Senate President; Ms. Marie Jones, Staff Congress President; Dr. Jan Weaver, Dean of the College of Education; Dr. Vi Miller, Dean of Continuing Education and Academic Outreach; Mr. William E. Beasley, President, Paducah Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Fred Paxton, Chairman, Paducah Economic Development; Ms. Shelby Martin, Executive Director, Paducah Chamber of Commerce; members of the news media and visitors.

Murray State/PCC Cooperative Agreement and the Model Center in Paducah

At the request of Chairman Carter, President Stroup presented a summary report of the history of the Cooperative Program with Paducah Community College.

President Stroup reported that in 1977 when the state did a new role and scope and mission of the institutions, one of the first things they did was outline the mission and the mission area of each of the institutions. At that point, there was a statement in Murray State's mission statement which was approved by the Council and went all through the regular processes that we were to serve West Kentucky. Later on in 1986 we initiated a program in agreement with the University of Kentucky to be able to work with the U.K. Community Colleges in the recruitment of students. Kentucky has one of the lowest articulation rates between community colleges and state universities and a program was approved at the Council level where the University of Kentucky would allow the universities to work closely with the community colleges. Murray State University has several community colleges in the region and we were very interested in working closely with them. As a result of that, one of the first requests that we received from the community colleges was to consider a "two plus two" program. President Stroup and President Don Clemens started the discussions on the needs for higher education in Paducah.

On February 7, 1987, the Board of Regents reviewed a memo of understanding between MSU and PCC to work together and look at offering a "two plus two" program. The Regents were involved in several meetings with the Paducah community and appointed a Task Force, with Bill Beasley as chair, to study the issue. That Task Force studied the issue for a year and developed a number of recommendations.

Basically, what you have before you is a continuation of last year's planning grant, a proposal to request funding for the second year for 1989-90. You also have a telecommunication network proposal. In addition, we are at a stage in our development now where we have done the investigation. We have been on the PCC campus for at least two years; we have been there (our presence) in terms of advising for a year; and we have a great deal of data and background. At this point, we are ready to discuss further development of the center and the degree program. President Stroup asked Mr. Beasley to address some issues in relationship to the Model Center.

Mr. Beasley reviewed the history. In November of 1986, President Stroup and Dr. Clemens started discussions to addressing a "two plus two" program. A beginning for planning was how Murray State could effectively come to Paducah
and deliver junior- and senior-level courses to those in Paducah who, because of their jobs and working hours, could not actually come to the campus of Murray State to attend these classes. From there, further discussion took place as to how to implement a program of this type. A committee was formed by the Board of Regents, and I was asked to chair that committee. We called it the "Committee to Study the Model Center in Paducah." Representatives were included from Paducah Community College; Paducah Junior College Board of Trustees; University of Kentucky; MSU Board of Regents; Dr. Charles Wethington, Chancellor of the U.K. Community College System, as was Dr. Gary Cox, Executive Director, Council on Higher Education. The first thing the Committee wanted to do was to assess the need for a "two plus two" program in Paducah.

The Paducah Leadership Class began a study survey; MSU began a survey of students on campus at PCC; it was found that there were a number of individuals in Paducah who wanted to continue their higher education who had full-time jobs and/or small children, but there was not a means for them to do so. They had either finished their two-year program at PCC or some other school; perhaps they had gone to school for two or three years at Murray and moved to the Paducah, Ballard County, Ledbetter, Metropolis or Brookport, IL areas. Higher education enhancement in Paducah was needed because it was physically and geographically impossible for these people to continue their higher education. Mr. Beasley further stated that as President of the Paducah Chamber of Commerce, we feel that our number one priority is education in all areas. Specifically, today we are talking about higher education. Economic development efforts for our community and those counties surrounding us depend heavily on what is available to our citizens in terms of seeking a degree whether it be in business or in accounting, education, or whatever. Through our studies, we found that Paducah is the only community of its size in the United States that does not have a four-year school within a 25-mile radius. Another fact that was brought out in the study was the areas that were most successful in attracting industry were those who had the availability of higher education beyond the two years of a community college. Mr. Beasley stated that he is convinced that MSU, through its role and mission, is the institution that should serve the Paducah community. All of us who are interested in higher education know the financial situation in this state and when you consider higher education funding, we realize that it is impossible for our community or any other community in this state to seek out enhancement of higher education or a four-year college in Paducah on our own. Therefore, to enhance higher education in Paducah we are asking Murray State University to offer junior- and senior-level courses in Paducah. We think it is practical for our community and we think it is practical for this university.

Many of you are aware of a meeting that took place in February, 1988, in which there were nine schools that came to Paducah and met with the Leadership Paducah Higher Education Committee. Each of these schools indicated an interest in offering junior- and senior-level courses, but we chose to stay with Murray State University to deliver the programs. We asked the Board to specifically address the implementation of the program today and/or at your budget meeting later this month. For the "two plus two" program to be funded properly at the next biennium, we realize there are reports to be submitted to the Council on Higher Education and to the Legislature.

The feeling in the Paducah community is that Murray State is the institution to deliver; however, quite frankly, we feel that there has been much "foot dragging," not from the administration, but by the lack of commitment to the program by the Board of Regents. The reason I can make that statement is that the recommendation that the committee made to the Board last November had two words removed from that recommendation and those two words were "phased implementation." A recommendation for planning and development is as far as it has gone other than some courses being offered on the PCC campus by MSU. Since November of 1986, no implementation plans are on record in terms of where we are going to go in 1991; where we are going to go in 1992; what's going to be there in 1994. In other words, we have a program that will be there next fall, but we don't know if it will be there next spring because we don't have a commitment and we feel that if you go back and read the role and mission of this university as this Board has adopted and as the CHE of Kentucky has adopted, that we are within that scope of what we are requesting.

In response to Mr. Carter's request for explanation of the steps and action the Board of Regents need to take to accomplish what the citizens of
Paducah desire, President Stroup stated that there are two things the Board needs to do. One is to make a commitment to develop the Model Center. The second thing is the authorization that we can proceed with implementation in those degree areas that the Board authorized. There is a section in the 1990-92 biennial budget request to the Council where you can ask for additional funding for off-campus delivery of education of the Centers. There is a difference in course delivery, degree delivery, and center delivery. What we want is a Center that delivers degrees and that is what we are seeking authorization to do.

In response to Chairman Carter’s question as to whether we can get fully funded, President Stroup stated that she did not know.

Chairman Carter asked Mr. Beasley and Mr. Paxton if Murray State University committed to the Paducah Center and the funding is not provided by the Legislature, what the next step would be.

Mr. Paxton, Chairman of the Economic Development Council in Paducah, responded that as we look at attracting industry, one of the highest priorities of prospective industries is the opportunity for continuing education for the people they employ. We are in a "high tech" world; "high tech" means rapidly changing and people have to stay up to date. We are seeking course offerings that will do that. The place we want to look is MSU; you are our University; you are the regional university for Western Kentucky. If Paducah and Murray and perhaps the other communities around here will work together to build a solid reason for these additional courses, we can all talk to our Legislators and the more Legislators we have represented, the better chance we have of getting the funding from Frankfort. He stated that he would guarantee that Paducah will work hard to encourage area Legislators to provide the support that MSU needs.

In response to Mr. Hutchinson’s request for clarification of course delivery and center delivery, Dr. Stroup responded that a center would provide a presence, a staff, a person, a secretary, and a place. Presently, our staff is located in office space donated by Paducah Community College; it is a contact point. It is an administrative unit reporting to Murray State and answering questions about Murray State.

She further stated that course delivery is taking courses to Paducah as needed. A "two plus two" program is a center plus the concept that there is a commitment to deliver a degree over time. We are not talking about a "two plus two" program where you take the entire university and overlay it. We are referring to the place-bound student who takes courses two and three at a time and stretches degrees over a three- and four-year period, a commitment to deliver sufficient junior- and senior-level courses in specified areas so that a person can complete their degree in Paducah. It will still be a Murray State degree and Murray State credit hours, but a person who is working at Meis’ or Martin Marietta can complete their degree.

Mr. Hutchinson stated that he could see some obvious advantages to the Paducah community with the Center concept as opposed to the course delivery concept. He further inquired as to the advantages to Murray State University for center delivery as opposed to course delivery.

President Stroup responded that the Center delivery concept gives us a more organized way of approaching degree completion. It provides a better way to serve an area; it also gives us an identity and a location. On the other hand, to be very honest with you, sometimes the commitment might not have enough students and that’s where we ask for additional funding to supplement where we do not have a volume of students in a particular course or course area. We are actually funded for every student that we teach so the additional supplemental funding is 1) for the administrative unit and 2) to supplement or augment junior/senior courses when we don’t have sufficient volume. In other words, when we have ten people in a class as opposed to twenty.

In response to Mrs. Strohecker question regarding the use of Paducah Community College’s buildings, President Stroup pointed out that we are currently using PCC’s facilities. When we outgrow the facilities, we have to find alternative sites in the city, but the City of Paducah and the school systems have all been very cooperative.
Mr. Beasley stated that in regard to Mr. Hutchinson's questions, Paducah community is the only community in the state of Kentucky that taxes itself on behalf of higher education which is a good indication of how Paducah views higher education. Mr. Paxton and Mr. Beasley expressed their belief that the Paducah community will respond with financial aid if a commitment is made to deliver.

Mr. Beasley further stated that the Model Center would be an enhancement to MSU in two ways. Students are going to have to come on campus to take some of the classes to complete a degree. If a class is needed with only a potential of two students in Paducah, that class will not be taught in Paducah. We are primarily talking about those who are part-time students; they are either going to go to school in Paducah or they are not going to school at all. We are trying to fill that void. The question is not whether Paducah will have higher education programs on the "two plus two" level or the Model Center level, but who will deliver.

Chairman Carter stated that after the course development is started, the next step is looking for a consolidated facility in Paducah that becomes the MSU Model Center as opposed to classrooms. He further emphasized the need to address the issue today so the proposal can be included in the budget.

In response to Mr. Harvey's question regarding proposals to be considered, President Stroup stated that the specific one is the Paducah Model Center in relationship to the "two plus two" program and the further development of the telecommunication network. You have the answers to what we have been authorized to do by the Board. The first proposal is for the continuation of the planning grant, that is what we were authorized by the Board to do. The second proposal discusses an Interactive Telelearning Network. In both of these proposals, we need to know whether to proceed. At this point, the staff cannot go any further and what we need today is to know where we are with the Paducah Center. We cannot request any additional funding on this Telelearning Network until we know if that is what we can do.

Mr. Harvey stated the he did not see anything in the document with which he had any trouble. He further stated that in November the Board of Regents requested the administration to present a detailed proposal on delivery of the program and that he anticipated having it by the next meeting.

President Stroup stated that clarity was needed on what the Board wanted because what was being presented was the response from the ten-point proposal which outlines the cost to maintain the Model Center for another year. You have the proposal for the Model Center for 89-90 and you also have a proposal for a telelearning network. We are going to try for some outside funding, but that's an implementation proposal. The degree implementations are course-by-course implementations which we can outline for you. We believe what you have requested has been provided.

Mr. Hutchinson stated that he wanted to proceed, but he was uncertain as to what was required of the Board.

President Stroup clarified that the Board of Regents has never officially authorized the Paducah Model Center. She further stated that the Board had never authorized the implementation of a "two plus two" program. The Board did authorize us to write a proposal, request funding, and to negotiate, but we have never been authorized to establish a Model Center in Paducah and to begin the implementation of the "two plus two" degree programs.

Dr. Hurt stated that he would not characterize his attitude toward the Model Center in Paducah as "foot-dragging," but the need to learn what the needs were in Paducah and how MSU should answer those needs. In addition, Dr. Hurt pointed out that he had discussed with Gary Cox MSU's mission and the Council on Higher Education's views of our mission as it relates to the higher educational needs in Paducah. He stated that he had no doubt that 1) this is our mission and 2) that the CHE fully expects that this need be met and hopefully that MSU will incorporate this into our educational mission. He expressed his desire that the Board will make a positive expression toward the establishment of a Model Center. He further requested that the Board be apprised of the Center's progress.
Dr. Hurt moved that the MSU Board of Regents authorize the establishment of the Model Center in Paducah, Kentucky, and authorize the implementation of those course offerings as needed and desirable. Mr. Hutchinson seconded.

In response to Regent Sanders’ request for clarification of the term "a needed course" in Paducah, President Stroup stated that when we have enough people that need a course, we offer it. We are referring to a regular sequencing of courses that will eventually lead to a Murray State degree. We have always offered courses off campus.

Mr. Harvey asked Dr. Booth what degrees he thought were appropriate to offer through the Model Center and what degrees are feasible to offer.

Vice President Jim Booth responded that the Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Teacher Certification degrees, primarily the secondary level; our general degree in business, we are within three courses now of being able to offer that program; our Bachelor of Independent Studies would be the principle areas in which need is demonstrated. With the telecommunications, we will be able to deliver in an efficient and effective way.

President Stroup reminded the Board members that these are the degrees that came out of the Board’s Committee.

At this point, Mr. Hutchinson asked for clarification of the motion.

Mr. Harvey expressed support of the concept and his concern in knowing exactly what the cost is going to be, knowing what the personnel problems are going to be, and knowing the details. I do not think we can write a blank check any more than we can say that we think we need to have a good history department and give the History Department a blank check. That is the thrust of the questions, and I think with the clarifications that we have received, we are ready to move forward.

Mr. Hutchinson inquired as to the need to have any language stating that this is subject to appropriate state funding.

Mr. Allen called the Board’s attention to the Board’s action of November 12, 1988, where a comprehensive study leading to the formulation of a proposal for delivery of undergraduate courses in Paducah, Kentucky, was authorized. He stated that this is not the proposal right here.

President Stroup clarified that it was the proposal. I think we need to know specifically what you want. This is the proposal in response to the ten goals that you set when we went to the Governor on the implementation of the Model Center. At one point, you wanted to see what we could do in telecommunications, this is a proposal on how we can deliver courses through telecommunications. The rest is a simple decision about sequencing of courses which depends upon the need and our ability to deliver. Therefore, the sequencing of the courses we cannot outline for you because we may outline too short a term. For example, we may plan over four years and we may find our clientele needs it over seven; therefore we cannot demonstrate specific course sequencing. The funding is administrative funding which is in this first proposal and telecommunication funding. For everything else, we cannot ask for additional funding because presently we already get student credit hour funding so that will be double charging the state. The only thing we would ask for is supplemental funding if we discover we do not have a sufficient number of students in these programs.

Mr. Harvey stipulated that if the scope of the program is either expanded or contracted from the degrees that Dr. Booth outlined, it will be brought back to the Board for review.

Mr. Harvey pointed out that the degree areas stated are somewhat broader than Dr. Booth had indicated. Liberal arts degrees cover a great deal of territory and this is where we may need further clarification later on.

Vice President Booth responded that the reason for the language, liberal arts and sciences, is that 1) we wanted to include the Bachelor of Independent Studies which has a field of studies that may encompass any of the areas in arts and sciences and 2) if we go in with a secondary teacher certification, there has to be a subject area or discipline in which they become certified in and those areas are typically arts and sciences. I would not envision taking
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a major in history to Paducah, but providing enough courses for certification in that area may be a possibility. We have to be very selective in those teacher certification major areas. In some of them, we will not have the demand and cannot deliver them, but to not give us the ability to provide for demand areas in the arts and sciences for teacher certification would be a real difficult situation.

Mr. Harvey expressed his agreement with Vice President Booth and asked that if the plan is broadened or contracted, it be brought back to the Board for review.

Mr. Carter stated that he thought it was the consensus of some of the Board members to be updated periodically as to the progress as well as future plans.

Mr. Overby called the Board's attention to the following statement in the Memo of Understanding between Murray State University and Paducah Community College: "Murray State University agrees to offer junior- and senior-level courses at Paducah Community College to meet the demonstrated needs of place-bound adult students and other educational under-served citizens of the area, within MSU's ability to offer such courses. MSU will be the sole judge of its ability to offer such courses." He added that if the terms of the contractual parent agreement were implied or included as a package, it might provide some assistance.

President Stroup pointed out to the Board that the Memo of Agreement was ratified by this group and stated that that could be incorporated into the amendment because the BOR agreed to that memorandum of understanding.

Dr. Hurt amended the motion to add the words "and the implementation of courses leading to degrees in Nursing, Education, Business, and Liberal Arts and Sciences and this motion be interpreted in light of the Memorandum of Agreement." Mr. Harvey seconded and the motion carried.

Upon call for a vote on the following motion as amended:

That the Murray State University Board of Regents authorize the establishment of the Model Center in Paducah and the implementation of courses leading to degrees in Nursing, Education, Business, and Liberal Arts and Sciences and this motion be interpreted in light of the Memorandum of Agreement between Murray State University and Paducah Community College.

the following voted: Mr. Akridge, yes; Mr. Allen, yes; Dr. Hammack, yes; Mr. Harvey, yes; Dr. Hurt, yes; Mr. Hutchinson, yes; Mr. Kendrick, yes; Mr. Sanders, yes; Mrs. Strohecker, yes; and Mr. Carter, yes. Motion passed.

Chairman Carter thanked the guests from Paducah for coming.

Presidential Screening Committee

Chairman Carter called the Board's attention to the next item on the agenda, the Presidential Search Committee. He pointed out that he had given the Board his recommendation which was based on a booklet from the Council on Higher Education. He stated that he had presented a blueprint and it could be changed in any way desired. Chairman Carter recommended that three Regents be appointed including Kerry Harvey who will be Chairman of the Presidential Search Committee since he is the incoming Chairman of the Board of Regents. He opened the floor for further suggestions from the Board.

In response to Mr. Harvey's question as to whether the discussion should be handled in Executive Session, Mr. Overby answered that according to the Supreme Court of Kentucky meeting on Lexington Herald Leader vs. U.K. in 1957, you go into executive session when dealing with individual membership.

Executive Session

Mr. Harvey moved that the Board go into executive session for the purpose of discussing individual membership of the Presidential Search Committee. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion passed.

The Executive Session began at 11:35 a.m. and ended at 1:50 p.m.
Public Session

The Board reconvened in public session at 1:55 p.m.

Chairman Carter reminded the Board of the Board of Trustees Meeting of the National Museum of the Boy Scouts of America on June 15-16 on the MSU campus.

President Stroup reviewed with the Board the upcoming events.

President Stroup stressed the importance of the Board's attendance at the BSA meeting on June 15 and 16 as the BSA has not had active relationships with any Board members since Bill Beasley.

In addition, President Stroup invited the Board members to attend the opening ceremony of the Governor's Scholars program on June 18 with a function for them following the ceremony at Oakhurst.

President Stroup extended an invitation to the Board of Regents members to attend the Summer Orientation sessions. In addition, she reminded the Board of the Board meeting on June 26 and 27 to prepare the 1990/92 biennial budget request.

Regent Sanders encouraged the Regents to attend the Summer Orientation Session.

Chairman Carter apologized for the lengthy session, but stressed the need for caution in the establishment of this committee. He further explained the desire to have the highest credibility possible and to make sure that everyone Regent had an opportunity to express his/her opinion.

Chairman Carter announced the following members of the Regents Committee: Regents Willie Kendrick, Tommy Sanders, and Jim Hammack, with Kerry Harvey as Chairman. The Regents Committee will contact the various groups to be represented on the screening committee in the presidential search. The Committee will be charged with the responsibility of bringing a given number of candidates to the Board of Regents either for interviews or for further screening prior to a final selection. The constituencies to be represented are the Alumni Association, Faculty, Staff, Student Body, and the Foundation Board of Trustees. Chairman Carter directed the Regents Committee to bring three recommendations from the alumni, six from the faculty, three from the staff, three from the student body and three from the Foundation Board of Trustees to the Board at the next meeting for final selection of the Committee membership. The Committee will consist of ten members with Mr. Harvey being a non-voting member. He stressed the fact that with a nine-person vote, you don't have to worry about a tie.

Mr. Harvey reminded the Board members of the reorganization required after July and asked the members for their interests in regards to Committee appointments.

There being no further business, Mrs. Strohecker moved that the meeting adjourn. Mr. Akridge seconded and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2 p.m.