

**College Council Meeting
November 20, 2015**

Present: President Christian, Mr. Abt, Dr. Venables, Mr. Basch, Mr. DiCarlo (phone), Mr. Law (phone), Mr. Cozzolino (phone), Dr. Anderson (faculty representative), Interim Provost Deen, Vice Presidents Eaton and Wright. Guests: Ms. Julie Walsh, Assistant Vice President for Budget; Mr. Jason Gilliland, Coordinator of Veteran & Military Services; Mr. Timothy Toomey, junior, Political Science, and Army National Guardsman; Ms. Taylor Moorehouse, sophomore, Biology, and Dependent of a Veteran.

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m. The Council approved the minutes of the October 15, 2015, meeting.

Chairman's Report: Mr. Abt opened the meeting with reflections about College Council Member Mrs. Carolyn Kuhlmann, who sadly passed away earlier in the month. Mr. Abt said Mrs. Kuhlmann would be missed greatly. She was a woman who devoted her entire life to students, public education and the art of teaching. In honor of her achievements, Mr. Abt introduced and read aloud a resolution (see attached document) to pay special tribute to Mrs. Kuhlmann and the contributions she made to the College these last 16 years. Dr. Venables moved to accept the resolution, Mr. Abt seconded, and the Council adopted its passage.

Overview of the Office of Veteran & Military Services:

Jason Gilliland: See attached PowerPoint slides. Coordinator of Veteran & Military Services Jason Gilliland began the presentation with a description of his office's mission statement. "We are dedicated to serving those who served us with the same tireless effort, putting their needs in the forefront, and assisting our veterans, service members and their dependents in receiving their education benefits, facilitating their transition into our College and providing support for their ongoing academic success." When the Office of Veteran and Military Services opened in May 2014, 76 students were identified with the College as active-duty, veterans, or dependents of veterans. As of this fall, nearly 200 students are now affiliated with the Office and benefit from its many resources.

The coordinator described a number of programs and events (e.g., veterans meet-and-greet, annual Veteran's Day dinner, Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony, VA work study, veterans committee consortium, veterans theatre project, etc.) as noted in the PowerPoint that were critical to the increase in student enrollment. As a result of this cultural shift, Coordinator Gilliland noted that New Paltz was recently recognized with a military friendly designation for student veterans by two national publications – *U.S. News and World Report* and *Victory Media*. Looking ahead, it's the coordinator's goal to increase the Office's recruitment efforts, engage in an assessment self-study, and offer more professional development opportunities for faculty and staff to better understand the student veterans cohort.

Timothy Toomey: Mr. Toomey introduced himself as a 25-year-old junior majoring in Political Science from Newburgh. He joined the Army National Guard in 2008 right out of high school

and was deployed to Afghanistan in 2012. When he returned home, Mr. Toomey enrolled at Dutchess Community College, then SUNY Ulster, and finally decided to apply to New Paltz. Mr. Toomey said his experiences at the College have been great. He's developed meaningful mentorship connections with faculty and staff, joined student clubs, and works well with his peers in class. He credited much of his success to his affiliation with the Office of Veteran & Military Services and the services and resources provided to students. Mr. Toomey also shared his desire for a campus space for veterans to meet in private to communicate as one way to mitigate symptoms of PTSD. President Christian said he supports this goal and will keep it in mind even as the College continues to work through severe space constraints.

Taylor Moorehouse: Ms. Moorehouse is a sophomore from Schenectady County who upon her enrollment at New Paltz did not feel dependents of veterans were represented well. However, this changed when Coordinator of Veteran & Military Services Gilliland came to campus and the Office of Veteran & Military Services opened. Ms. Moorehouse said the coordinator saw potential in the campus for students affiliated with the Office and he fostered and maintained a sense of community among this cohort.

Ms. Moorehouse shared her family's military history and how she identifies as a dependent of a veteran. Her father enlisted in the Army at age 18, fought in Vietnam, and was a Purple Heart recipient. He sadly passed away in 2004 from a military-related illness from his service in Vietnam and Ms. Moorehouse's family spent years fighting for his earned benefits. As a New Paltz student, she now receives his education benefits through the GI Bill to help defray the cost of college.

Questions to Jason Gilliland: Mr. Abt asked when the government started providing education benefits to dependents. Coordinator of Veteran & Military Services Gilliland said this began in 2009 following a major re-vamping of the GI bill in 2008.

Mr. Abt asked if the newer GI bill's educational benefits cover full tuition at colleges and universities. The coordinator replied that it's dependent on each veteran's length of service. Veterans can qualify for 40-100% of educational benefits depending on whether they were active duty or National Guard, and how long they served. There is a 90-day minimum to qualify.

President Christian asked how the 100% payout compares to institutions like New Paltz. The coordinator replied that the 100% educational benefit covers full tuition and fees at the College.

Mr. Basch wanted to know the average age of student veterans. The coordinator said students average at about 24 years old.

Vice President Wright asked where Active duty students are stationed. The coordinator replied that many come from Stewart Air National Guard Base, Camp Smith, and local reserve and guard centers.

Mr. Abt asked how many veterans or their offspring would the College like to have in five years. The coordinator said he would like to achieve an enrollment of 500 students. Dr. Venables asked

if the College was increasing its recruitment efforts to reach this goal, and the coordinator said yes.

The president asked if it was possible for students to enroll at the College and not know about their eligibility for education benefits. The coordinator replied that it was possible, which is why he works to share this critical information with prospective and current students.

President's Report: President Christian began with news of the launching of the "Stand with SUNY" advocacy campaign. The goals of the campaign are to secure increased state investment for SUNY, building base funding for SUNY campuses and teaching hospitals; to grow the "Investment and Performance Fund" so that SUNY can bring evidence-based, effective programs to scale; and extend NYSUNY 2020 to continue funding challenge grants and keep tuition-setting authority with the SUNY Board while ensuring tuition flexibility by sector. To help bring attention to these issues, the president wrote an Op-Ed published in the *Poughkeepsie Journal* that has received positive feedback. Earlier in the day, the president welcomed New York State Speaker Carl Heastie and Assemblymember Kevin Cahill to campus for a tour where these issues were also discussed.

Each SUNY campus was required to submit a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) that spells out specific criteria for improving performance relative to SUNY-wide goals, and that identifies particular measures and metrics for measuring campus performance. President Christian shared that New Paltz's plan was submitted last month and we still await approval from the Board of Trustees on the current draft. An approved PIP is a condition of eligibility for SUNY Excels Performance-Based Funding that proposes to expand our EOP and related initiatives.

President Christian updated the Council about the Black Studies Department. He recently met with a group of students and other campus leaders and discussed the College's full commitment and support to the department at a time of significant departmental transition. The Presiding Officer of the Faculty, Dr. Janice Anderson, joined the meeting and affirmed that the curriculum must remain the primary responsibility of the faculty. The president also addressed some of the broader racial incidents at universities across the U.S. and what is being done at New Paltz to better educate students, faculty and staff about diversity and inclusion initiatives.

Vice President Eaton and Bruce Sillner, Dean of International Programs, represented New Paltz in a delegation of 12 American universities selected by the Institute of International Education to work on rebuilding academic ties with Cuba. The president noted that the discussions are underway about academic exchange possibilities, including short-term study abroad and faculty exchanges.

New Paltz was recently ranked #88 out of more than 900 institutions on an index of social and economic mobility of its graduates. The College is one of seven SUNY campuses in the top 100. This index is a measure of the upward socioeconomic mobility afforded by earning a college degree, considering the economic status of students attending an institution, graduation rates, and postgraduate earnings.

The Office of Campus Sustainability has completed its Energy Master Plan, a road map to meet the requirements of NYS Executive Order 88 to reduce campus energy use by 20%, and the SUNY “enhanced” goal of a 30% reduction by 2020. President Christian said the plan identifies 18 energy conservation measures with four already well underway. These measures include the installation of LED lights, adjusting how classes are scheduled in buildings, retro-commissioning existing heating, cooling, and ventilation systems, insulating pipes, and adding additional photovoltaics.

The president updated the Council on the status of the provost search, which is well underway. Applications have already been received and candidates must apply by December 2 for full consideration. The Search Committee will identify semi-finalists for neutral site interviews in January.

Finally, President Christian stated that the 2015 Annual Security Report & Fire Safety Report (for calendar year 2014) is now available online. This report is published by the University Police Department in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Statistics Act. The president said the report includes a summary of the impressive depth and breadth of structures, policies, activities, and processes in place to enhance safety and security for members of our campus community and for visitors.

Budget Update: See attached PowerPoint slides. Assistant Vice President Walsh said that the College is on track to achieve its tuition target for the fall semester. In addition to reaching targeted revenue, the College’s expenditures are in line with forecasts as well. The assistant vice president said the College is about one-third through the year and one-third through budgeted expenditures, including personal service, temporary service, utilities, supplies, and scholarships.

Mr. Abt asked if the \$3.5 million budgeted for scholarships is for half or the whole year. Assistant Vice President Walsh replied that the funds are for the whole year. Mr. Abt asked if the tuition scholarships come from the SUNY New Paltz Foundation. The assistant vice president replied that the funds come directly from the College’s state budget.

Wrap-Up: Mr. Abt informed the Council that 2016 meetings will be in March and April with dates to be announced soon. The meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Winters", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Winters
Community & Government Relations Associate

D R A F T

A Resolution of Appreciation for Carolyn Kuhlmann

Whereas, Carolyn Kuhlmann provided extraordinary service to the State of New York, the State University of New York, and particularly, the State University of New York at New Paltz; and

Whereas, she was appointed to the College Council by then-Governor of the State of New York George E. Pataki in 1999 and reappointed again in 2006 and was a steadfast supporter of the College; and

Whereas she offered guidance about college matters to three New Paltz Presidents: Roger W. Bowen, Steven G. Poskanzer, and Donald P. Christian; and

Whereas, Carolyn played a key role in serving on the most recent college presidential search committee in 2010-11 and helped select the College's current President, Donald P. Christian; and

Whereas, Carolyn, in her role as a College Council member, made regular and valuable contributions to the College's leadership team and inspired many with her love of the College, where she earned her Master's Degree in Education and a Certificate in Reading; and

Whereas, she was an active and well-regarded member of the Ellenville community and her love of education was reflected in her many years of teaching and her leadership on the Board of Education in Ellenville; and

Whereas she and her husband Robert Kuhlmann consistently supported the SUNY New Paltz Foundation; and

Whereas, Carolyn Kuhlmann died on the eighth of November, two thousand fifteen and will be deeply missed by the SUNY New Paltz community; therefore be it

Resolved, that this College Council pay special tribute to Carolyn Kuhlmann and the contributions she made to the college during these last 16 years; and be it further

Resolved, that these preambles and resolutions be entered upon the minutes of the Council and a copy thereof be presented to Carolyn's daughter, Pamela Kuhlmann.

Adopted by the College Council of the State University of New York at New Paltz on the 20th day of November, two thousand fifteen.

Kenneth J. Abt
Chair, College Council

Overview of SUNY New Paltz's Office of Veteran & Military Services (OVMS)

Presenters:

1. Jason F. Gilliland - Coordinator of Veteran & Military Services
2. Timothy Toomey– NP Student & Combat Veteran
3. Taylor Morehouse – Dependent of a Veteran

OVMS

Mission Statement: We are dedicated to serving those who served us with the same tireless effort, putting their needs in the forefront, and assisting our veterans, service members and their dependents in receiving their education benefits, facilitating their transition into our college and providing support for their ongoing academic success.

The SUNY New Paltz Office of Veteran and Military Services is committed to providing support services focused on the holistic development of our students' intellectual, personal, and social needs. We work to achieve these goals through the development and implementation of programs, outreach efforts, policy advocacy and community partnerships designed to provide student support services focused on the special needs and requirements of veterans, service members and their dependents.

Goals: The SUNY New Paltz Office of Veteran and Military Services' goal is to strive to become one of the nation's top military friendly schools by offering our student military veteran population a wide range of support services, educating faculty and staff of their needs, and developing community support through many facets:

- Assessment
- Retention
- Increase Enrollment
- Outreach
- Marketing
- Student Services
- Policy & Procedures
- Alumni Programs

OVMS

Contacting the OVMS

- Located in the Student Union building, Room 100 South (inside the commuter lounge)
- Office Phone Numbers:
 - 845-257-3120 | 3124 | 3074
- Office Email: np-vms@newpaltz.edu
- Website: www.newpaltz.edu/veterans
- Office Hours:

— Monday	8:30 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.
— Tuesday	8:30 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.
— Wednesday	8:30 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.
— Thursday	8:30 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.
— Friday	8:30 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.
— Saturday	10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.



"Serving Those Who Served"

OVMs Programs and Events

Programs

- VA Work-Study Program
- Evening and Weekend Hours
- Veterans Committee of the Hudson Valley Consortium for Higher Education
- Laptop Sign-Out Program
- Veteran, Military and Dependents Orientation Program (VMDOP)
- The Veterans Project: Leaving Theatre
- Athletics, Wellness & Recreation's Leadership Summit
- Veteran, Military, and Dependents Mentoring Program (VMDM)

Events

- OVMs opened on May 5, 2014
- Meet and Greet with Students, Faculty and Staff
- Veterans Day Dining-In
- Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony
- Heinz Ahlmeyer Jr. Game & Wounded Warrior Project Fundraiser

OVMS EVENTS

Purpose and Impact

- Establishing a footprint
 - Community
 - Internet/Virtual
 - Word of Mouth
- Provides awareness of our students
- Justifies, supports, reinforces ones decision on why these chose NP

OVMS PROGRAMMING EFFORTS

OVMS Programs

Veterans Committee of the Hudson Valley Consortium for Higher Education:

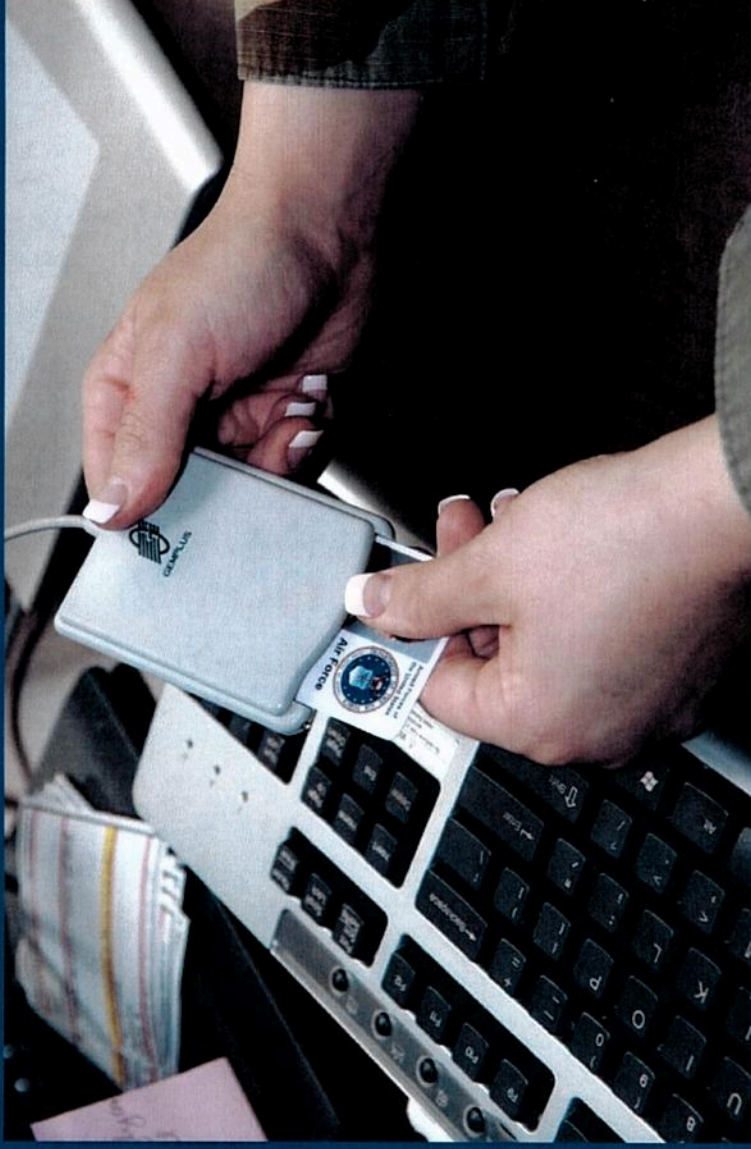
- NP Strategic Plan, Essential Initiatives # 8: *Strengthen Regional and Community Engagement*
 - Bring together colleges throughout the region
 - Discuss best practices
 - Share and catalog resources for our veterans, military and dependent students
 - Becomes a retention tool



"Serving Those Who Served"

OVMS Programs (Cont...)

- **Laptop Sign-Out Program**
- Three laptops that are CAC Reader equipped
- Allows our Service members the opportunity to access their military domains while on campus
- Provides veterans and dependents a resource if needed
- Streamlines admission process by affording Service members the tool to access DoD related documents for school (i.e., NOBE Forms, Kicker Contracts, Orders, etc.)

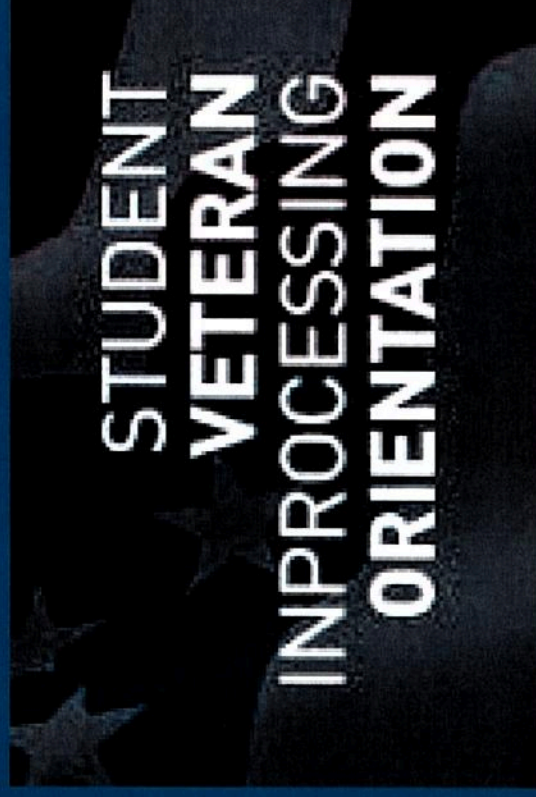


"Serving Those Who Served"

OVMS Programs (Cont...)

Veterans', Military and Dependents' Orientation Program (VMDOP)

- Provides a chance to meet with OVMS
- Complete any outstanding GI Bill, Military Tuition Assistance, and/or New York State Military, Veteran, or Dependent Scholarships
- Meet fellow students
- Provided with overview of services provided
- Also serves as a "Get to Know You" session between OVMS staff and incoming student
- Allows OVMS to properly/verify student's military affiliation for Institutional Research (IR) state and federal reports



OVMS Programs (Cont...)

The Veterans Project: Leaving Theatre

- Faculty/Staff Professional Development
- 20 Minute Performance followed by a 40 Minute session engaging audience in finding solutions
- Goal – cultivate an essential dialogue about underlying issues in the veteran community, stimulate positive change, and bridge the communication gap between veterans and civilians



"Serving Those Who Served"

OVMS Programs (Cont...)

- **Athletics, Wellness & Recreation's Leadership Summit**
 - Collaborative effort between Division of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs
- **Athletics, Wellness & Recreation's Dept. asked OVMS to put a team building/boot camp program together for their team captains**
 - Reinforced Teambuilding
 - Discipline
 - Problem solving



"Serving Those Who Served"

OVMS Programs (Cont...)

Veterans', Military, and Dependents' Mentoring Program (VMDM)

- Designed to help student Veterans, service members, and dependents connect from diverse backgrounds connect to their community, add to the depth of their social and professional networks, and strengthen their ability to pursue educational and professional goals
 - Peer-to-Peer
 - Protégé-to-Faculty/Staff
 - Protégé-to-Professional



"Serving Those Who Served"

OVMS IMPACT

Enrollment of A, V, & D

Spring 2014

- 76 students
 - However, unable to categorize who they were bases on A, V, or D

Current Fall 2015 Semester Enrollment

- 197 Students
 - A - 21
 - V - 27
 - D - 139
 - U – 10

Reasons for increase

- Better Tracking mechanisms
- Increased outreach efforts
- Campus initiative to become “Military Friendly”

“Serving Those Who Served”

Accomplishments

U.S. News & World Report

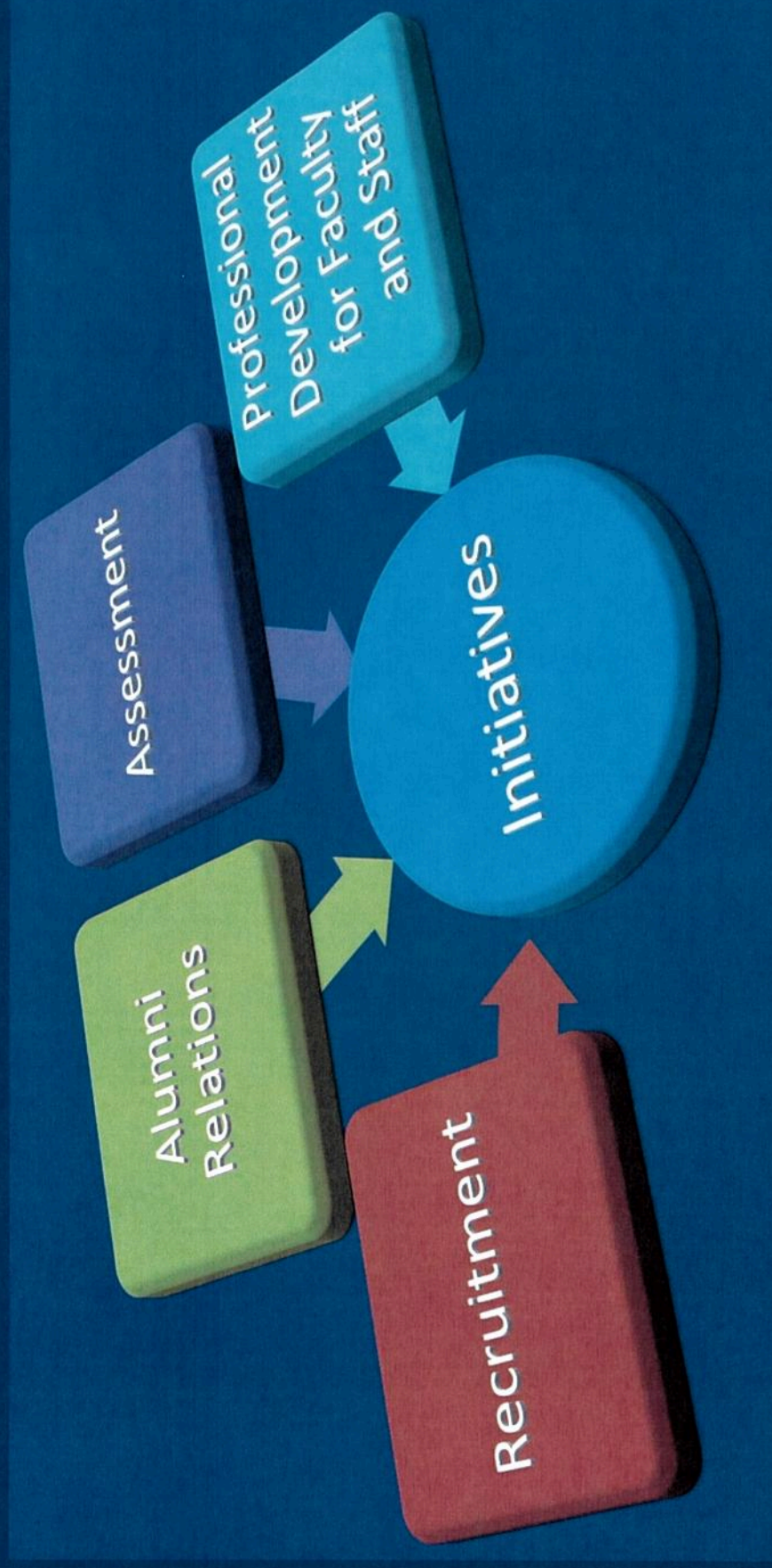
- 2016 “Best Colleges for Veterans” among North Regional Universities
 - Criteria:
 - Institution is certified for the GI BILL
 - Institution participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program or is a public school that charges in-state tuition to all out-of-state veterans

Victory Media

- 2016 Military Friendly School



Current & Future Initiatives



SUNY New Paltz Student Veterans' Perspective

1. Timothy Toomey– NP Student & Combat Veteran
2. Taylor Morehouse – Dependent of a Veteran

Discussion Points for each student:

- Background (when/where you served or are serving)
- What you are studying
- Why you chose New Paltz
- What has your student experience here been like

Questions?

College Council

November 20, 2015



FY 15-16 Status of Core Instructional Budget **November 1, 2015**

REVENUE

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>over/under</u>
Fall Tuition & Fees	\$ 26,305,800	\$ 20,009,384	\$ (6,296,416)
Spring Tuition & Fees	\$ 27,212,600		
Total Funds Generated by Campus Activities	\$ 53,518,400	\$ 20,009,384	\$ (6,296,416)
State Support	\$ 16,125,200	\$ 449,960	
Total Revenue	\$ 69,643,600	\$ 20,459,344	\$ (49,184,256)

EXPENDITURES

	<u>Initial Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Over/under</u>
Personal Service	\$ 54,739,617	\$ 15,941,165	\$ 38,798,452
Temporary Service	\$ 3,991,306	\$ 1,011,031	\$ 2,980,275
Utilities	\$ 2,684,100	\$ 410,297	\$ 2,273,803
Supplies, Travel, Contracts & Equipment	\$ 4,753,173	\$ 1,697,088	\$ 3,056,085
Tuition Scholarship	\$ 3,475,404	\$ 8,160	\$ 3,467,244
Total Expenditures	\$ 69,643,600	\$ 19,067,741	\$ 50,575,859