

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS

Thursday, April 10, 2014

Minutes

The Special Committee on Military Affairs (SCMA) met Thursday, April 10, 2014 in Conference Room C of the Spangler Center in Chapel Hill at 11:45 AM.

Committee members present include Chairman Trask, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Lampe, and Ms. Maxwell. Other Board members present were Mr. Mitchell. Vice President Rhinehardt, Senior Associate Vice President Dixon, and Assistant Vice President Dickens attended as staff. Also present were Associate Vice President Mike Delafield, Defense Applications Engineer Kathie Sidner, Director of Military Education Ann Marie Beall, and Director of E-Learning, Maggie O'Hara.

Chancellor Gary Miller of UNC-Wilmington was also in attendance.

The February minutes were approved.

Vice President Rhinehardt provided the SCMA with an update on the North Carolina General Assembly and the progress made on the Board's policy proposal regarding in-state tuition for military-affiliated students. The North Carolina Senate is planning a Military Appreciation Day on May 20th, and the Senate plans to consider the in-state tuition bill on the floor that day.

Vice President Rhinehardt then discussed fall 2013 student veterans' data. Overall, enrollment of all students is declining at some campuses, but there is a strong belief that enrollment numbers at some campuses will rise if the new residency tuition policy comes into effect. Director of Military Education, Ann Marie Beall, then provided data on students using VA benefits, a number that is rising system-wide. She also shared that additional questions are being asked of incoming students on the admissions application to improve the tracking of military-affiliated students in the system. This is a component of the Military Student Success Policy approved in late 2013. These questions will help create a robust dataset that will improve retention rates, help understand common attributes, and contribute to nation-wide data.

Ms. Beall then spoke briefly about the progress made on the NC Military Educational Positioning System, a series of modules that will help prospective military-affiliated students transition to academia. Currently, modules are being planned that will help the prospective students plan for careers early in the process and therefore helping them plan for the future.

She then discussed work related to expanding degree programs targeted to service members, primarily in the forms of online programs and bringing programs to bases. Examples include the Leadership Studies Doctoral program offered by NC A&T State University. This hybrid program allows students at Camp Lejeune to receive a doctoral degree through a combination of online and classroom components.

Jim Holmes then gave an update regarding the current status of the Joining Forces initiative. Chairman Trask will share this update with the full board and ask for their support, as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM.

Raiford Trask III, Chair
Special Committee on Military Affairs