

MINUTES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MILITARY AFFAIRS
Thursday, April 21, 2016
Fisher University Union Azalea Coast Room
3:00 p.m.

Members present:

Mr. Hal Kitchin, Chair
Mr. Dennis Burgard
Mr. Kenneth Cameron

Mr. Dan McCord

Representing the University:

Ms. Patricia Leonard, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Mark Lanier, Bill Kawczynski, Stephanie Ganser, Jennie McNeilly, Terry Curran, Brian Victor, Jim Koebel, Marilyn Sheerer, Lisa Keenan, Rigo Rincones-Gomez, Candice Johnston, Sharon Boyd, Panda Powell, Susanne Johnson

The Special Committee on Military Affairs of the UNCW Board of Trustees met on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in the Fisher University Union – Azalea Coast Room.

Chair Kitchin called the meeting to order and read the required ethics statement from the State Ethics Act. No conflicts were identified.

Chair Kitchin asked Ms. Susanne Johnson to call the Roll and it was determined that a quorum was present.

A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 14, 2016.

Chair Kitchin introduced Ms. Pat Leonard, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Ms. Leonard provided a brief update on the Military Resource Lounge. She then introduced Mr. Bill Kawczynski, Director of the Office of Military Affairs as of March 1, 2016.

Mr. Kawczynski gave an in-depth overview of what will be expected of him as the new Director of the Office of Military Affairs.

- The Director works to develop and coordinate a comprehensive program of support services for military-affiliated students and advocate for student veterans, active duty personnel and dependents.
- The Director also serves as the university's liaison with outside agencies and offices, whose work advocates for and impacts the lives of veterans, members of the military and their families.

DRAFT

- Areas of focus for the new Director include: Support Services; Academic Programs; Marketing; Recruitment; and Research/Training. All focus areas are centered around building and maintaining relationships with all entities.
- Short-term goals for the new Director include: Creating a new website for Military Affairs that is more interactive and user friendly for military-affiliated students; collaborating with faculty to enhance *current* and develop *new* programs/courses to meet the needs of our military community; establishing internship opportunities for our students in military communities; and increasing our marketing efforts to attract more military-affiliated students to UNCW.
- Over the past academic year, UNCW has implemented many improvements to the services we provide for our military-affiliated students and some of those include: Increase in enrollment of military affiliated students (25% of incoming transfer class for Fall 2016 and we are not done admitting yet); Added a Transfer Coordinator to our UNCW Camp Lejeune Base Education Office; Opened the Military Resource Lounge in August, 2015 resulting in 50 to 125+ students using the lounge each day and hiring 8 Veteran Benefits student workers for the Lounge; and piloting a UNC GA Program called UVIZE which is an online support service with over 200+ members.

Chair Kitchin thanked Ms. Leonard and Mr. Kawczynski for the presentations.

Chair Kitchin asked the members of the committee if they had any questions for Vice Chancellor Leonard or Mr. Kawczynski.

- Mr. Cameron stated he was glad Bill is here – great resource for our students.
- Mr. Burgard stated the committee has evolved from our first BOT meeting. With Mr. Kawczynski as Director, we are continuing to help and support our military students and we are getting bigger and better.

Chair Kitchin then asked if there was any old, unfinished, or new business to address.

- Hearing none, a motion was made to adjourn the session. At 3:45p.m., the meeting was adjourned.