

Committee on Military Affairs  
Board of Trustees University of North Carolina Wilmington  
October 26, 2017 8:30 a.m.  
Azalea Coast Room, Fisher University Union

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Chair Kitchin called the meeting to order at 8:36a by welcoming all members and guests. He then read ethics the statement from the State Government Ethics Act.

The July minutes were approved with no edits.

Mr. Kawczynski began by introducing Ms. Siobhan Norris, Military Liaison and Program Manager, and Mr. Corey Click, Student Veterans Organization President.

Mr. Kawczynski discussed the UNC General Administration 34 Best Practices, and how UNCW meets and exceeds all marks. Currently UNCW falls below the threshold to earn yellow ribbon benefits for their students due to our current annual tuition falling below the threshold. Some additional best practices that should be added are along the lines of the work that Siobhan and Rebecca Christiansen are currently doing regarding support for Military Spouses. Mr. Lanier mentioned that in meeting these best practices, it is not necessarily a matter of yes or no, but more so the degree to which we are meeting them.

Currently we do not have Chapter 35 GI Bill benefits in place, but plan to present the question at the summit meeting next month to offer this benefit to the military affiliated. This change would be initiated at General Administration and the Board of Governors. It would require legislative changes at the state level. Currently there is a rule in place that allows instate tuition to military personnel separated in the last three years who were stationed on a North Carolina military base. It does not, however, allow for dependents and spouses to benefit from this policy. We need to not only be able to quantify this but also be able to prove that it is attainable. The question of, "Has GA researched this issue to show that it needs to be addressed?" needs to be posed to President Spellings.

Courses being offered by Watson College of Education for our students as well as military students in regards to leadership and ethics as it is a major asset that all can carry into their professional life. At the present time, these courses have not been approved by the faculty and the Chancellor.

Mr. Kawczynski presented the trustees with the book "See Me for Who I Am" (for review at their leisure) and a packet including all events taking place on campus for Veterans week. There was further discussion on the affiliation with the US Chamber's Hiring Our Hero's Foundation event in Seattle WA. Siobhan and Rebecca attended and were able to provide insight to companies and spouses regarding best practices.

Bill attended the Association of United States Army (AUSA) National Convention which was attended by all branches and many universities, nationwide. We are working to become a corporate

partner of the AUSA which will provide many opportunities, including scholarship opportunities, to our students.

Siobhan will have the opportunity to share her experience of transition from the military with approximately 100 military personnel who are within 100 days of their transition from the military to civilian life. Her perspective is a unique one, being former US Army personnel as well as a military spouse.

Further discussion on the Hiring Our Hero's partnership lead into Siobhan and Rebecca's upcoming trip "" in early November. In Gear Career is an arm of the Hiring Our Hero's initiative, and UNCW houses the first University based chapter of approximately 40 chapters world-wide. UNCW is leading the way, on a national level.

There was symposium for military spouses held in Jacksonville on Tuesday, October 3rd which was attended by Ivanka Trump, Kellyanne Conway and Jennifer Korn. Information presented at the event was taken back to Washington and referenced in White House meetings.

Ashley Adamovage's question and presentation was shared with the committee. Not only is Ms. Trump taking the concerns back to DC, but the same question was posed at the AUSA and will be taken back to DC from representatives there, as well. Trustee McNeill recommended reaching out to industry as well. Chair Kitchin asked about the experience of OMA representatives. SN: guidance in how to find a reputable school; a network to plug-in to; pursuing a degree helped her in the transition process. CC: spoke to the programs on base have improved over the years; if there had been a seminar type class available regarding resources available and where to go for which challenges, etc. It was recommended to look into a not-for-credit option available now to students as an option for the time being while we are awaiting the establishment of a seminar class. Events in the lounge available to military affiliated students were able to attend over the course of the semester.

In regards to recruitment and marketing, we have increased our military affiliated students, we are at 95% of our goal. Students are recognizing that senior administration, board of trustees, etc., don't think of them as just a number, that there are resources in place to support them. There are approximately 400 of these students who are currently attending through our Onslow campus. As we expand our online programs we will see an increase of students on the Onslow campus. There will be 2 new major scholarships in place by the next BOT meeting in January. The MA trust has been set up properly now to accept donations, and there is a new "button" on the OMA page that takes those interested in donating directly to the page.

There is an uptake in faculty from all colleges wanting to partner with OMA in regards to research. TRX/UNCW proposal is still in progress. The concussion study in collaboration with Ft. Bragg is progressing. We are working to partner with Miracle Field to provide special training to our students. Currently, one of the VA work-study students is leading the way in helping UNCW become a Center for Academic Excellence in the field of Cybersecurity. This will allow for many scholarship opportunities for our students which in turn will become career opportunities. Upcoming events were presented to the Trustees. All information was included in packets provided to the Trustees.

Student Veterans Organization composite and planned activities

Mr. Kawczynski then introduced Corey Click, SVO President. Mr. Click spoke to the upcoming First Annual Charity Games, on November 4, 2017. The games will provide teams of 10 the opportunity to experience what service members from all branches of the military in boot camp. The stations will include "Saving Private Sammy", "Seahawks Claws", and "The Teal Burner". There will be a meeting two days prior to the event where all captains and co-captains will learn what each station will require. The idea is that the captains and co-captains will then go back to their teams and assign team members to each station as they see fit. There are stipulations around the team member requirements as well as how they are assigned to each station. There will also be a "social event" to take place at Mission BBQ afterwards that will provide a discount for those who participated in the games. 100% of the proceeds will be presented to charities in our immediate community. 50% will go to the charity selected by the SVO and the other 50% will be presented by the charity selected by the 50/50 raffle winner.

While attending the AUSA conference, Mr. Kawczynski had the opportunity to hear the Secretary of Defense speak. He then read from the speech, "The Last Six Seconds" by General John Kelly, President Trump's Chief of Staff.

After ascertaining that there was no old or new business, Chair Kitchin adjourned the meeting at 9:59a