

**University Faculty Senate
Student Life Committee
169th Plenary
Farmingdale State College
January 24, 2015**

**Resolution in support of the General Assembly of the Student Assembly
of the State University of New York's 8 Keys to Veteran's Success resolution 1415-36**

Whereas, there is an increasing number of veterans and their dependents and family members attending Colleges and Universities¹; and

Whereas, veterans and their dependents/family members have been identified as a student group that may face unique challenges upon arrival to campus; and

Whereas, the number of beneficiaries of federal veterans educational support programs exceeded 35,000 in New York state in fiscal year 2013²; and

Whereas, on 10 August 2013, U.S. President Obama, during a speech at the Disabled American Veterans Conference³, presented the "8 Keys to Veterans' Success", a voluntary initiative supported by the U.S. Departments of Education, Veterans Affairs, and Defense⁴ (Appendix); and

Whereas, on 20 October 2014, the General Assembly of the Student Assembly of the State University of New York passed the 8 Keys to Veteran's Success resolution 1415-36 to encourage more SUNY campuses to participate by signing this voluntary initiative⁵; and

Whereas, it has been demonstrated on campuses that have adopted the 8 Keys to Veteran's Success, that student veteran's assimilation into the College community has been enhanced; and

Whereas, as of 6 January 2015, one thousand three hundred and seventy five (1,375) Colleges and Universities Nationwide have committed to the 8 Keys to Veteran's Success, of those only sixteen (16) are State University of New York institutions; therefore

Be It Resolved that the State University of New York University Faculty Senate supports the General Assembly of the Student Assembly of the State University Resolution #1415-36; and

Be it Further Resolved that the State University of New York University Faculty Senate (SUNY UFS) asks that campus governance leaders encourage their campuses to review, adopt, and actively participate in, the voluntary initiative, "8 Keys of Veterans' Success"; and

Finally Be it Resolved that the SUNY UFS encourages the SUNY Chancellor to ask each campus President to review, and report, to the campus community and the SUNY Chancellor on the veteran specific services provided by their campuses to ensure that our veteran students succeed to the best of their abilities.

¹ http://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/quickfacts/Education_Beneficiaries.pdf

² <http://www.benefits.va.gov/REPORTS/abr/ABR-Education-FY13-09262014.pdf>

³ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/08/10/remarks-first-lady-and-president-disabled-american-veterans-convention>

⁴ <http://www.ed.gov/veterans-and-military-families/8-keys-success-sites>

⁵ <http://www.sunysa.org/wp-content/uploads/SUNYSA-Resolution-1415-36-Military-Success.pdf>

Appendix:

The 8 Keys to Veterans' Success

1. Create a culture of trust and connectedness across the campus community to promote well-being and success for veterans.
2. Ensure consistent and sustained support from campus leadership.
3. Implement an early alert system to ensure all veterans receive academic, career, and financial advice before challenges become overwhelming.
4. Coordinate and centralize campus efforts for all veterans, together with the creation of a designated space for them (even if limited in size).
5. Collaborate with local communities and organizations, including government agencies, to align and coordinate various services for veterans.
6. Utilize a uniform set of data tools to collect and track information on veterans, including demographics, retention, and degree completion.
7. Provide comprehensive professional development for faculty and staff on issues and challenges unique to veterans.
8. Develop systems that ensure sustainability of effective practices for veterans.

169-01-1

Resolution in support of the General Assembly of the Student Assembly
of the State University of New York's 8 Keys to Veteran's Success resolution 1415-36
Passed without dissent