



Office of the President

March 16, 2018

Daemen College
Faculty and Staff

Dear Colleagues,

I hope your spring break is affording you some much-needed rest and relaxation. I am writing with good news.

This week both the New York State Senate and Assembly adopted their state budget proposals. These are essentially counterproposals to the Governor's proposed budget. Both of the legislative budget proposals fully restore Bundy Aid funding, which, in the executive budget, has been eliminated.

Obviously, the executive and two legislative budgets will now have to be reconciled, but the fact that the Legislature as a whole supports continued funding of the Bundy Aid program is a very positive sign. As I mentioned in my last letter, eliminating Bundy Aid would cost Daemen approximately a quarter of a million dollars a year that we would have used for financial aid.

In addition, each of the two legislative proposals contains other provisions that would benefit private colleges, such as providing \$30 million in funding for the Higher Education Capital (HECap) Matching Grant program—a program that Daemen has benefitted from in the past.

Clearly, the extensive lobbying that we all have done to prevent Bundy Aid from being eliminated may have paid off. We should know what the final state budget is by April 1.