

Fort Schuyler Maritime Alumni Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 509
Oakdale, NY 11769

Mr. Patrick J. Wiater
University Controller
The State University of New York
State University Plaza
Albany, New York 12246

June 10, 2005

Dear Mr. Wiater,

We are deeply disappointed by your letter of May 27, 2005 advising us that SUNY is inflexible and unwilling to accommodate any further discussion to reach a mutually acceptable agreement with the Fort Schuyler Maritime Alumni Association ("FSMMA").

The FSMAA anticipated that some flexibility would be required on our part and we were prepared to make reasonable accommodations to reach an agreement. However, SUNY has refused to go the extra step in this process of good faith negotiation and it is now obvious that SUNY leadership does not want a working relationship with an independent alumni association not subject to the direction and control of SUNY. It is disappointing that SUNY does not seem to value the traditional support given to the college and cadets by the college's 103-year-old alumni association.

The documents concerning our incorporation which were made available in advance of our March meeting included, among other things, the FSMAA Certificate of Incorporation to which you referred. After that meeting, SUNY entered into what we thought were good-faith discussions leading toward a possible contractual relationship. Now, many months later, SUNY is pointing to some of the provisions of this very same document, long in your possession, as a basis for rejection of the FSMAA.

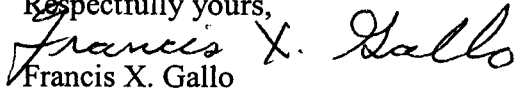
The goals and purposes of our Alumni Association have not changed in over one hundred years. The "professional interests" of Fort Schuyler were, for virtually all of its history, nothing more or less than the interests of the maritime and military communities that it served. The new language in our governing documents reflects the Alumni Association's commitment to the professional interests of the alumni, faculty and cadets, and is consistent with public law and the federal deed to Fort Schuyler.

The finality of your decision rings loud and clear and we do not believe it to be in the best interests of the college and the cadets. **"FSMAA is no longer associated with the College in any way" comes after 18 months of dialogue and negotiation with SUNY and 18 months after being unceremoniously told to leave the campus on one business day's notice.**

The mission of the Maritime College today, particularly as it relates to maritime security issues (afloat and ashore), at this important time in our history, has never been more relevant. The Maritime College cadets who pursue the difficult road of the regiment, USCG license and academic curriculum reflect great credit on our country, the State of New York and themselves. We at the Fort Schuyler Maritime Alumni Association recognize this and intend to support these great young Americans and the higher purpose and mission of the Maritime College as we have for the last 103 years.

Your decision is accepted in its finality and we intend to move on with our Association's agenda.

Respectfully yours,


Francis X. Gallo

Copy: Senator LaValle
Senator Johnson
Chancellor King
Vice Admiral Ryan
Vice Admiral Craine
E. Capaldi
K. Cline
J. O'Connor
M. Trunzo
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