

# THE STATE UNIVERSITY *of* NEW YORK



*Office of the  
Vice Chancellor for  
Finance and Business*

*State University Plaza  
Albany, New York  
12246*

December 24, 2003

Mr. Theodore Mason  
President  
State University of New York Maritime College  
Alumni Association  
6 Pennyfield Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10465

Dear Mr. Mason:

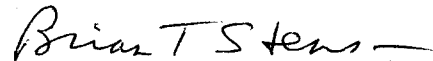
I am writing to reiterate the State University's position with respect to the upcoming decision by the State University of New York Maritime College Alumni Association (the "Alumni Association") of whether or not to conform to the State University's Guidelines for Campus-related Alumni Associations (the "Guidelines"). As we understand it, the Alumni Association was first informed of these guidelines in May 2003 by Admiral Ryan. Subsequent to that time, the Alumni Association had requested a waiver of the Guidelines but that waiver was denied. On November 12, the Alumni Association requested and received an extension until December 15 to answer the proposals made by Admiral Ryan at the Association's October 28 Board Meeting. The Association subsequently announced in a letter dated November 20 that it would need to ask its membership to vote on the matter and the results of this vote would not be available until the Association's January 29, 2004 General Membership Meeting. The Association provided to the Alumni Association membership two propositions, one to vote for a reaffirmation of the existing independent structure of the Alumni Association and a second proposition agreeing to conform to the requirements of the Guidelines including the requirement to incorporate, change public charity status under §509(a)(1) to that of a supporting organization under §509(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and to enter into a contract with Maritime College that would outline the Alumni Association's role in supporting the mission, alumni relations, and fundraising efforts of the College and its related Foundation. It is our understanding that the results of this vote will be announced to the Alumni Association's membership meeting on January 29, 2004.

With that as background, the State University and Maritime College anxiously await the results of this vote. We hope that the membership will agree to the second proposition and conform to the Guidelines. A negative

vote would be most unfortunate for the College and Alumni Association. If, however, that does turn out to be the case and the Alumni Association chooses to sever its ties to the College, we will insist that your organization cease using the name of Maritime College when conducting its activities. Therefore, we request that by 12:00 noon on January 30, 2004, the results of the membership vote are conveyed to me via facsimile at (518) 443-5245 with a copy to Admiral Ryan. If we do not hear from you by this deadline, we will presume that the Alumni Association has decided to sever its relationship with the State University and Maritime College, and we will take appropriate actions.

We appreciate your effort to date to bring this matter before the Alumni Association for a vote. Should you have any questions with respect to this matter, please feel free to contact Admiral Ryan or me. I can be reached at (518) 443-5175.

Sincerely,



Brian T. Stenson  
Vice Chancellor for  
Finance and Business

Copy: Chancellor King  
Admiral Ryan  
Dr. Cline  
K. Healy  
D. Andrew Edwards  
J. O'Connor  
D. Richter  
M. Luck  
P. Ploughman  
P. Wiater