



# DAEMEN

COLLEGE

**A World of Opportunity**

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.

Meanwhile, we are still monitoring progress on the federal budget. As I mentioned in my last letter, the U.S. President's recently proposed budget provides for deep cuts to federal student aid. It eliminates the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, an assistance grant provided to college students with the greatest need. It also cuts the Federal Work Study program by nearly a half of a billion dollars and restricts who can receive that aid. The proposed budget also seeks to cut over two hundred billion dollars from student loan programs. Please remember to write your representatives and let them know your thoughts on these proposed cuts.

As always, I will keep you informed as important developments occur.

Cordially,

Gary A. Olson  
President