

**Santa Fe**

Proposed Agenda Item

**Community College**

Governing Board Meeting

Complete this form and submit it to the Office of the President by **noon, thirteen days** before the Wednesday evening meeting of the Governing Board. If this form does not provide enough space, you may use an expanded version *as long as you follow the format specified below*. Please note: Subject line **must always** match both Agenda and Agenda Items.

Date of Board Meeting: 10/28/2020 Date of This Proposal: 10/14/2020

Check one:  Information Item  Action Item

**SUBJECT: SFCC Veterans Legacy Project Contract Application**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Management recommends that the SFCC governing board approves moving forward with this contract/grant opportunity.

**BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) has agreed to serve as the State's higher education institution for the National Cemetery Administration's NM VLP. A partnership has also been established with the Santa Fe and Ft. Bayard National Cemeteries, where enshrined veterans' histories will be researched by students for the purpose of memorializing those legacies and enabling K-12 teachers to create instructional materials based on that history. This will be a statewide program with national visibility.

More than ten community and veteran organizations are partnering with the NM VLP, including the New Mexico Military Museum Foundation. In addition, The New Mexico National Guard will partner with the Program to facilitate outreach across the State. The New Mexico State Legislature endorsed the NM VLP initiative with a Certification in February 2020. And recently, we were informed that a Santa Fe City Council Resolution supporting the NM VLP is forthcoming as well.

**Estimated Cost and Budgetary Support (how will this be paid for?): \$300,000, US**

**Department of Veterans Affairs**

**RESOURCE PERSON(S) [name(s) and title(s)]: [Authorized person(s)/Originator] Steve Martinez, Assistant Professor of History, SFCC**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**New Mexico Veterans Legacy Program (NM VLP) October 2020**

Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) has agreed to serve as the State's higher education institution for the National Cemetery Administration's NM VLP. A partnership has also been established with the Santa Fe and Ft. Bayard National Cemeteries, where enshrined veterans' histories will be researched by students for the purpose of memorializing those legacies and enabling K-12 teachers to create instructional materials based on that history. This will be a statewide program with national visibility.

The proposed NM VLP currently includes the following key personnel and organizational structure:

- Steve Martinez, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History, will serve as the Program's Principal Investigator/Contractor and Point of Contact. He will also lead the Program's Innovation Leadership Team (ILT), which is the overarching group designed to support him in the administration of the NM VLP.
- Alison Johnson, M.A., Assistant Professor and Co-Program Head of Film and Media Arts, will lead the Program's Technology Strategies Team (TST) to ensure the effective use of appropriate technologies. She will also serve on the ILT.
- Peter Taussig, M.I.G., Associate Professor and Chair of Media Arts, Film and Photography, will oversee the design/graphic design elements of the Program's outreach and product production. He will also serve on the TST.
- Ken Dettelbach, J.D., Vietnam Veteran and community leader with his own successful, non-profit organization serving veterans. He will recruit numerous community and veteran organizations as NM VLP partners. He will then personally manage the relationships and activities of those Partner Organizations for the Program. Mr. Dettelbach also will serve on the ILT.
- SSG Charles V. Martinez, military historian with 20+ years of experience conducting such research along with genealogy, will lead the Program's Veteran Research Strategies Team (VRST). That group will ensure that VLP faculty and students' veteran research efforts are as efficient and effective as possible. He will also serve on the ILT.
- Kermit Hill, M.A., retired K-12 history teacher and practicing military historian specializing in the history of art in the military, will guide VLP faculty and students in their research on art in the military and also develop instructional material on that topic. He will serve on the VRST.
- K-12 teachers Patrick Harris, M.A., and Sarah Weisberg, M.S. will develop instructional materials.
- Michael Droge, Ph.D., former Professor, Graduate Dean, Research Administrator, Provost and University President (retired), will share his experience with the Program as a member of the ILT.

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The NM VLP Team is well positioned to respond to the upcoming federal funding solicitation, scheduled for release in October 2020. **The NM VLP will honor New Mexico Veterans, help educate our students and serve other citizens across our State. It will also help educate the rest of the nation about New Mexico's long, distinguished military service to our great country. Everyone's support is much appreciated.**