

President William N. Ruud

Dr. William N. Ruud was inaugurated as the 15th president of Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania on February 19, 2007. For more than 30 years, President Ruud has been a leader at several colleges and universities throughout the nation, and he has used that wealth of experience as well as an enhanced role in the life of the region.

Bill Ruud earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Administration and Hospital Administration from the University of North Dakota, and both master's and doctoral degrees in Organizational Behavior, Management and Strategy, and Organizational Communication from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He was a professor/ administrator at Northwestern Louisiana State University; Central Michigan University, Stanislaus before joining Ship.

After earning his doctoral degree, President Ruud served his country as an active duty officer from 1978-1981 and a reserve officer from 1981-1988. His assignments included: Student, Officer Basic Course, Ft. Knox, KY (2LT); Director of Army Community Services, Directorate of Personnel and Community Activities, Ft. Polk, LA (2LT/1LT); Research and Development Coordinator/Research Psychologist, U.S. Army Research Institute, Washington, DC (1LT/CPT); and as a reserve officer in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff of Personnel, the Pentagon, Washington, DC (CPT). In addition to his military service, Dr. Ruud has been actively involved in both ROTC and Veterans programs at all of his institutions. He believes in the success of ROTC and values all service by our veterans.

During his tenure, Ship has seen a positive increase in enrollment; double-digit increase in applications, including an increase in applications from minority students; continued to have the highest graduation rate (seven years in a row) in PASSHE; completed a master facilities plan that will guide the University's future for decades; expanded graduate programs; and is finishing the process for an academic master plan to help the University enhance its programming. He was also instrumental in the University's award-winning marketing campaign that began in 2008 and focuses on words like LeaderSHIP, InternSHIP, ChampionSHIP, and ScholarSHIP.

In addition, a number of campus improvements projects have been completed or started. Among those include renovation and expansion of Dauphin Humanities Center, completion of the Student Recreation Center, renovation and expansion of Reisner Dining Hall, and renovation and expansion of Huber Arts Center. Work is progressing on the expansion of the Ceddia Union Building. There have also been major improvements to athletic facilities and the campus in general. The University has begun construction of all-new residence halls – including an Honors College – to enhance the living-learning opportunities on campus.