



Veterans KC Quarterly

WINTER 2016

NASPA Represented at Student Veterans of America National Conference

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Univ of San Diego Veterans Center	2	Representatives of the NASPA Veterans Knowledge Community traveled to the Student Veterans of America national conference in January and offered a presentation entitled "Supporting Student Veteran Success: Partnering Student Affairs Professionals through NASPA's Veterans Knowledge Community." The presentation, moderated by David Vacchi, Chair of the VKC, focused on informing the standing room only room of participants of students, faculty, and staff about many of the strategies for success available to SVA chapters to help student veterans succeed as college students by partnering with the array of advocates typically working in student affairs on today's campus. David was joined by Lauren Runco, Roger Perkins, Ken McRae, and Janine Wert. Janine's part of the presentation was based on her years of work within the VA Healthcare System and at UMass-Lowell and focused on a new theoretical model of
Health & Wellness	2	
Military Culture for Non-Veterans	3	
Strategic Partnerships	4	
Save the Dates	4	
Request for Content	4	

a hierarchy of needs for veteran success. The key takeaway was that financial problems appear to be even more important than health concerns among student veterans and are the foundation of beginning the path to success. While many veterans do have some health issues, these are typically managed and supported by the VA, family, and local health care systems, but don't affect all veterans. Finances do affect all veterans and those without a stable financial situation tend to struggle in college due to that distraction, regardless of their success at managing other aspects of their life, including health care issues. After financial stability and medical/mental health, the next more important factors are social support in the way to academic success and career employment.

Conferences & Resources

2016 NASPA Symposium on on Military-Connected Students in Orlando, FL Feb 4-6 <http://bit.ly/208Dy6l>

2016 NASPA Annual Conference in Indianapolis, IN Mar 12-16 <http://conference2016.naspa.org/>

The Journal for Veterans Studies is now accepting submissions for inaugural issue: <http://bit.ly/1ZXm1ks>

Operation Code supports veterans who want to learn to code and write web applications. More info at: <http://www.geekwire.com/2016/call-duty-technology-veterans-rally-support-operation-code/>



The Success phase focuses on ensuring that students have the support they need to succeed.

University of San Diego Veterans Center

Access > Success > Project

The University of San Diego is located in the heart of the most densely populated part of the country when it comes to military-connected students. In recognition of this, USD has a robust Veterans Program to address the needs and promote the success of this unique and valuable population. USD has implemented a three phase approach that covers students from initial consideration of higher education to the transition into a career or profession after graduation.

The first phase is the Access phase. During this phase USD connects with students where they are by conducting outreach into community both physically and digitally. This includes connecting with local bases, a robust and active

social media presence, aligning with other quality universities in the region, and working with prevalent community organizations. Through this, USD seeks to establish dyadic connections with potential students in order to offer individual focused guidance about higher education options that are honest and genuine.

The Success phase focuses on ensuring that students have the support they need to succeed in the classroom at the highest level possible. A visible and centrally located Veterans Center allows for students to connect and communicate with peers. It also supports an active Student Veterans Organization. Additionally USD is implementing a staff and faculty awareness

plan, developed by their Veterans Coordinator, Derek Abbey, and SDSU's Todd Kennedy, titled Military Ally.

The Project phase aids students as they transition from graduation into their new profession. This is done through the creations of exposure events. These allow employers direct visibility to the population in the form of internship, interviews, preparation, or mentorship. All of these translate into employment opportunities.

For more information on the USD Veterans Program and opportunities available there you can contact them at (619) 260-7483 or www.sandiego.edu Also follow them on social media.

Health & Wellness Corner

Military veterans take Sarah Palin to task for blaming son's domestic violence arrest on PTSD: <http://bit.ly/1S3slx7>

Building Strategic Partners

The Veterans Knowledge Community recognizes the importance of building strategic alliances with other associations whose goals align with supporting veterans and service members in higher education. Here is a list of other organizations that will be featured in this reoccurring column:

- NAVPA—National Association of Veteran Programs Administrators
- NACADA—National Academic Advising Association
- AHEAD—Association of Higher Education and Disability
- CCME—Council on College and Military Educators
- NACE—National Association of College Employers
- CAEL—Council on Adult Experiential Learning
- NCDA—National Career Development Association

FEATURED ASSOCIATION:

NACADA, Advising Veterans, Military Students, and Families.

“Active duty service members, National Guard and Reservists, veterans, and their family members are taking college courses in unprecedented numbers. AS they enter into our colleges, they bring with them vast experiences, high levels of motivation, and unique perspectives. They may at times however, become overwhelmed or need additional support in order to be successful.

Advisors have the opportunity to serve as advocates, mediators, and support for our military and veteran students. You can help with military leaves due to deployments or other missions and reintegration to your school. You may be able to assist with transfer credit

for prior military experience and education. Your students may have questions about their veteran benefits and other funding programs. There are a myriad of ways that you can be supportive to the students you work with and our hope is that this group will serve as away to share information, best practices, and support one another in our combined efforts.”

See more at: <http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Community/Commission-Interest-Groups/Advising-Specific-Populations-II/Advising-Vets-Military-Students-Family-IG.aspx#sthash.seneuakq.dpuf>

Advising Veterans, Military Students and Families is one of 8 thematic Clusters and Interest Groups

Military Culture Corner: Did you know?

Gedunk or geedunk is a snack, candy or ice cream on a ship. Such items are sold in a gedunk bar. The term is typically used by both the Navy and Marines.

NASPA VKC

David Vacchi, Chair
Lauren Runco Williams, Chair-Elect
Erica Anne Brown Soto, Vice Chair

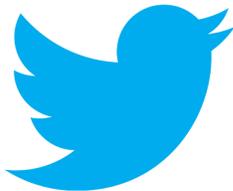
Newsletter Contributors

Chelsea O'Brien
John Mikelson
Rebecca McMenamin

Contact us at NASPAvkc@gmail.com

Follow us on Twitter!

We are 57 Followers and growing!



Upcoming Events -

Mark your Calendars!

2016

Feb 15-18, - Council of College & Military Educators: CCME:
San Antonio TX 15-18 Feb 16

Feb 4-6 - NASPA VKC : Orlando FL

Mar 12-16- NASPA (Student Affairs): Indianapolis IN

July TBD - AVECO: (Regional SCOs) St Louis MO

July 11-16- Association of Higher Education & Disabilities:
AHEAD: Indianapolis IN

Oct 5-8 - National Academic Advising Association: Atlanta GA

Call for Articles

Please submit content on the following topics:

- Resource corner/column (links, conferences, veteran-affiliated services, etc)
- Highlighted Hot Topics in the world of Veteran (research)
- Health & wellness topics (awareness, prevention and treatment topics including alternative treatments)
- Contribution Corner (new publications or articles)
- Newsworthy happenings at various institutions that benefit student veterans
- Programs & Best Practices (brief description submitted by our VKC members of what's worked on their campus)
- Veteran Culture – “Did you know?” – to acquaint non-veterans with military culture
- Efforts of other partner organizations

Newsletter

Spring
Summer
Fall
Winter

Content Due Date:

March 15th
June 15th
September 15th
Dec 15th

Seeking Women Veterans to Blog with WISA

The Veterans Knowledge Community is partnering with the Women in Student Affairs KC to generate some knowledge about the experiences of women student veterans. This is a very difficult population to solicit to share their stories, so I'd ask your help in spreading the word to help us find some interested women to tell us their story.

All you need to do to help is to share the link to the Google form below with prospective women student veterans and WISA will do the rest. We're looking for an array of women veterans to share their stories in about 500 to 800 words, which would really only be a piece of their stories!

<http://ow.ly/QZGHi>

Once we have a blog schedule we will share it through the WISA, VKC, and broader NASPA communications channels.