VETERANS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

A Letter from Patrick, Military and Veteran Services Coordinator

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to another exciting year at SUNY Potsdam! As we move into our fourth week of the 2013-2014 academic year, I hope you’re all settling into life on campus and keeping up with your academics. We've made some additions in the office of Military & Veteran Student Services for the Fall 2013 semester. Ms. Mikaela Foster and Ms. Alysabeth Wing have joined my staff as new Veterans Affairs work study students. These two young ladies will be working in my office throughout the week and will be on hand to answer any and all questions that you may have. They're exact office hours are posted later in this newsletter so keep reading to find out when they'll be in! Some of the projects that they'll be assisting me on are:

- Establishing a Military & Veterans Student Association
- Creating a Veterans lounge
- Community Service Projects (toys for tots, renewal house, etc.)
- Resume Building Workshops
- Time Management & Study Skill Seminars
- Improving our Military & Veteran Student Service website

These are just a few of the activities that we’re looking into for the Fall 2013 semester and beyond. If you have any ideas of your own please let me know. My job is to make your time here at SUNY Potsdam as enjoyable and enriching as possible. Without your input I’m merely guessing at what you’d like to see here on campus. But with your feedback and ideas I’ll be better able to assist you! As mentioned above, establishing a Military & Veterans Student Association is one of our main goals this coming semester. If you’d be interested in participating or helping to establish this association please let me know. This will be a student led organization so the more people who participate the better. In closing, I encourage you to take a look at our Military & Veteran Student Service website (http://www.potsdam.edu/studentlife/services/military/index.cfm) as it’s been newly updated. I look forward to working with you this semester!

2nd Annual Veterans/Soldiers Benefit & Memorial Golf Tournament

The Wounded Warrior Project is hosting the 2nd Annual Veterans/Soldiers Benefit and Memorial Golf Tournament, Saturday, September 21, 2013, at the Potsdam Country Club. You can pre-register by email to abillings@slboces.org or call Andrea at 315-276-1999. You can also register the day of the tournament for $280. Registration is at 9:00am day and the tournament starts at 10:00am. Proceeds will go to the support wounded warriors and local soldiers. Teams consist of the captain and crew format (4 person team). Sponsoring a hole costs $100. You can sponsor a hole under a business name, in honor of, or in memory of a veteran. Lunch at the turn is included.
Vet Center Reps on Campus this semester

Representatives from the Watertown Vet Center will have a table set up in the student union from 10am–3pm. Feel to approach them with any questions or concerns you might have about Veteran Medical Services, Mental Health Services and Benefits for Veterans and family members. The dates are as follows:

1) Thurs. Sept. 19
2) Tues. Oct. 1
3) Wed. Oct. 16
4) Tues. Oct. 29
5) Wed. Nov. 20

Call David LoRusso at 315-782-5479 if you’d like to make an appointment for another day or if you need more information.

U.S. Armed Forces Retiree Appreciation Day

Attention U.S. Military Retirees: This event is just for you! Fort Drum is hosting the United States Armed Forces Retiree Appreciation Day for all military retirees, Wednesday, September 25, 2013 from 9:00am to 3:00pm in the Multi-Purpose Auditorium/ Post Theater Bldg. 10725 North Riva Ridge, Fort Drum, NY.

Here's a chance to get your ID Card updated, hear about DEERS updates, receive Legal Assistance and Health Care Information and much more! The Post Exchange is even giving out gift bags just for you!

This is a great opportunity to meet up with fellow service members and hear about the latest and greatest services available to you.

Registration is from 0745-0845.

For more information go to www.drum.army.mil, click on the RETIREE Tab and search “Retiree Appreciation Day”. Or call the Fort Drum & Atlantic Region RSO at 315-772-6339/6434.

Best access to Fort Drum fro this event is the North Gate from Interstate 781 or Highway 11.

The United States Military Retiree: “Still Proud, Still Serving, Still Saluting”

Syracuse Law’s Valor Day

Syracuse University College of Law invites all veterans, active duty or reserve service members and immediate family to attend their VALOR DAY event, Saturday September 28, 2013, 10am-3pm, in Grant Rotunda, 3rd floor, E.I. White Hall at the campus. Valor Day will consist of four main components:

Talk to a Lawyer: Do you have legal questions or issues? Attorneys with various legal backgrounds from the Onondaga County Bar Association’s Volunteer Lawyers Project will be available to answer questions and provide legal advice.

Meet with a Counselor: Professionals with varying expertise will be available to provide benefits, readjustment and vocational counseling, and resume review.

Financial Services: Credit counseling services and information on end of life documents are available for all participants.

Veterans’ Information Fair: Representatives from various veterans organizations will be available to provide information and discuss their services.

Parking is available for all attendees in the Irving Garage, 141 Stadium Place. Food and refreshments will be provided.

Appointments are encouraged for legal and counseling services but walk-ins are welcome.

For more information or to schedule an appointment email: VISION@law.syr.edu or call 315-464-0715
CALL TO ARTISTS: CNY VETERANS EXPO

The Central New York Veteran’s Art Blast is issuing a closed call to Veteran Artists Only. The 7th Annual CNY Veterans Expo is taking place at the SUNY IT Campus Center, 575 Residential Drive, Utica, NY 13502, October 9, 2013– October 11, 2013.

ENTRY IS FREE FOR ALL VETERANS; No more than three entries per veteran. No entries larger than 72” in any dimension.

“We will gladly return your entry after the show. Please include a pre-paid return shipping label with your submission.”

**Submission Deadline Via Mail:** 8/25/13-9/30/13
**In-Person Drop Offs:** 12pm-6pm, 9/27/13-9/30/13

Please attach the entry form below and mail your work to:

CNY Veteran’s Art Blast
C/O: Ashlar Center for Narrative Arts
38 Milford St.
Hamilton, NY 13346

**THEME:** Share with the audience the timeless truths of war through your eyes as veteran artist. Telling your story in a visual language allows you, the artist, to express feelings and present difficult war time events or conditions. These can be literal or abstract, painting or sculpture—Whatever format suits your subject or satisfies your need for uncensored expression, anonymity, safety or distance. This show gives the viewer the opportunity to open to the rarely encountered emotional realities of war that only the veteran artist can offer:

**ACCEPTING:** All 2-D and 3-D visual media, however animations must be provided on a digital picture frame (most have the capacity for video playback) with power cord included.
Veterans Crisis Line:
Confidential help for Veterans and their families.
Call: 1-800-273-8255
Press 1
Or go to: VeteransCrisisLine.net

Winterim 2014 Courses will be available by the end of September 2013.

Registration for Spring 2014:
Nov. 12-15, 2013
- Grads, Srs., Jrs., Sophs:
Nov. 19-20, 2013
- Freshmen

Off-Campus Events/News:
- 9/13: Bingo: Marine Corps League, 166 Maple St., Massena, doors open at 5pm, game starts 7pm
- 9/20: VFW Post 1231 Annual Memorial Service for all POW/MIA: Sept. 20, 7pm at the post rooms, 34 Gouverneur St.
- American Legion Post 74 Now Open!: Open Daily 2-9pm; Bingo is back Sept. 15 – 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month; located 228 State Rd 345, Potsdam – 265-5941

Regional Veteran’s Clinic Info.

Do you know about the two clinics in the Potsdam area?

Veteran’s Clinic in Canton: 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month in the Department for Social Services building.

Veteran’s Clinic in Potsdam: Every Tuesday at 9:30 am to 3pm in the basement of the Potsdam Public Library, room #2.
- They accept walk-ins or call for an appointment. They are available to see any Army Veteran or Combat Veterans. Other services being offered are health services, counseling and bereavement.
- Counseling for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is also available.
- Veterans receive lifetime benefits.
- They participate in the following programs: Homeless Veteran’s program, Emergency Loans program, and a Voucher for Rent program.

Contact:
David LoRusso MS, LMHC
Watertown Vet Center, 210 Court Street Suite 20, Watertown, NY 13601
Readjustment Counselor (315)782-5479 / David.Lorusso@va.gov

SALUTE Veteran Honor Society Requirements

The SALUTE Veteran Honor Society is meant to provide Veterans of the US Armed Forces with support, bridges from undergraduate education to graduate school or veteran-friendly professional life, and as means of academic recognition.

To qualify for SALUTE, students must meet the following requirements:

- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 for Undergraduates (3.5 for Graduate Students)
- Minimum 12 credits earned at SUNY Potsdam
- Must have served, or are currently serving in the US Military, National Guard or Reserves
- Submission of DD-214 (reflecting honorable discharge), Discharge from Active Duty or a copy of Military Orders Completed Application to SALUTE
- $20 application fee

If you are interested in applying to SALUTE, please contact: Patrick Massaro (contact info on the last page of this newsletter)
Late/Emergency Withdrawals & Late S/U options

Given extenuating circumstances, requests for late withdrawals, late S/U options and emergency withdrawals can be submitted to the following:

Crane Students: David D. Heuser, Associate Dean, Bishop Hall C220
Non-Crane Students: Tammy Durant, Student Success Center, Academic Services, Sisson Hall 128
Graduate Students: Contact the Graduate Studies Office, Satterlee Hall 115

Points of Contact on Campus

Financial Aid:
Susan Godreau
Scholarship Coordinator
E-mail: finaid@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315) 267-2162
Office: Raymond Hall, 3rd Floor

Accommodative Services:
Sharon House
E-mail: housese@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315) 267-3267
TTY: (315) 267-2071
Office: 111 Sisson Hall

Counseling Center:
Jeffrey Lazovik
E-mail: counseling@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315)-267-2330
Office: 131 Van Housen Hall

Registrar’s Office
Ellie Hayes
VA Certifying Official
E-mail: hayeset@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315) 267-3102
Office: Raymond Hall, 3rd Floor

Academic Support Office
Tim Morse
E-mail: aso@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315) 267-3447
Office: 110 Sisson Hall

Student Accounts:
Alicia Flynn
E-mail: student-accounts@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315) 267-2137
Office: Raymond Hall: 4th Floor

Registrar’s Office
Ellie Hayes
VA Certifying Official
E-mail: hayeset@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315) 267-3102
Office: Raymond Hall, 3rd Floor

Student and Family Transitions
Louise Tyo
E-mail: tyola@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315) 267-2735
Office: 128 Sisson Hall

Academic Support Office
Tim Morse
E-mail: aso@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315) 267-3447
Office: 110 Sisson Hall

Watertown/Ft. Drum Programs:
Tom Fuhr
Extended Education
E-mail: fuhrtw@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315) 267-3089
Office: 208 Raymond Hall

Career Planning:
Karen Ham
E-mail: hamkl@potsdam.edu
Phone: (315) 267-2339
Office: 206 Sisson Hall

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