Veterans and Military Affairs

A Note from Patrick, Military and Veteran Services Coordinator:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome back to another exciting semester at SUNY Potsdam. I hope that everyone enjoyed their breaks. The semester has gone by so quickly that it’s time for another one! Please take a look through this issue of our newsletter for updated information that may pertain to you. There is also information about activities taking place in our area in the coming weeks. If you are personally not a veteran, please feel free to pass any of this information on to veterans you may know. If you haven’t already done so...

Please fill out your Certification Request Form as soon as possible and turn it into me or my work-study students, or place it in my mailbox in Sisson 128.

From the office of Veterans and Military Affairs, we hope you have a relaxing “Spring” Break. (It seems the weather didn’t get the memo.) If you need anything from us when you return, feel free to call or stop by the office any day of the week.

Veterans Grad School Virtual Fair

Are you interested in attending Grad School or do you know someone who is? On March 18 there will be a Grad School Virtual Fair for Veterans. Follow these easy steps to find it online:

1) Go to www.careereco.com
2) Click on Virtual Fairs, then Upcoming Fairs
3) Click on the Grad School Fairs tab and type in “veterans”
4) Click on the Veterans Grad School Virtual Fair: Learn More or Register

Featuring 60+ Yellow Ribbon Grad Programs

Programs You May Be Eligible For

NY State Veterans Tuition Award

Chapter 35 - Survivors and Dependents Assistance
(http://www.gibill.va.gov/benefits/other_programs/dea.html)  (cont. p.4)
Military-Research Internship Opportunity

If you enjoy military history and you enjoy doing research, this may be the internship for you!

SUNY Potsdam’s Bicentennial is upcoming! Celebrations will start in Fall 2015. The Bicentennial Organizing Committee would like to commemorate the role veterans have played in our college’s history. Jenica Rogers, the Director of Libraries and Archives at Crumb Library, will be taking on interns to do historical research during the Spring 2015 semester.

If you have an affinity for military history and what role veterans have played on this campus, you may really enjoy this internship. Don’t miss this opportunity-- contact Jenica Rogers if you’re interested!

Jenica Rogers
Director of Libraries and College Archives
Director of Bicentennial Celebrations
Chair, SUNY Council of Library Directors
rogersjp@potsdam.edu
315.267.3328

A letter from the New Student Assembly,
Director of Military Affairs

To My Fellow Student Veterans,
Welcome to all new Student Veterans and welcome back to those returning to the State University of New York (SUNY). I have recently joined as a new member of the Student Assembly as the Director of Military Affairs. It is my goal and intention to safeguard all concerns of our Student Veterans. I will work closely with our Student Veterans, Certifying Officials, Veterans Service Coordinators, and the Student Assembly to create an environment that will ensure your needs as a Student Veteran are met.

As Veterans, Active Duty, Guard and Reserve members we know that making the transition from our former/current position which is a structured environment to the college environment can be quite overwhelming. This new atmosphere while balancing work, family, your new role as a civilian, or potentially dealing with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) can make this transition an especially difficult and daunting task. These alterations in lifestyle could also extend to family members of service men and woman who are attending our institutions. Thus, making the veteran student a unique demographic with specific needs.

To fulfill my objective I will work to accommodate your needs. I invite you to bring any concerns you may have to my attention. I would appreciate any communication from the Student Veterans that will help us accomplish our mission. I look forward to my work with you and the Student Assembly throughout the school year.

Very Respectfully,
Kenneth Cisson
Director of Military Affairs
Student Assembly of the State University of New York
PETS FOR VETS: Adopt a pet for free!

The Potsdam Humane Society’s PETS FOR VETS program offers waived adoption fees for ANY military veteran, with an approved adoption application while funding permits. Contact the Potsdam Humane Society to learn more about the program!

Bubba-Chubba was adopted!

Potsdam Humane Society’s longest resident, Bubba-Chubba, has finally found a home! He originally arrived at the shelter on March 11, 2013 and he met his new family December 23, 2014.

This happy pup was officially adopted on January 19, 2015. Congratulations!

“information and photo found at northcountrynow.com”

A special thank you goes out to all Bubba-Chubba supporters for never giving up on him. It’s encouraging, humbling, and inspiring to witness what the Potsdam Humane Society and the surrounding community has done for this dog. “No one gets left behind.”

2nd Annual 5k Run for Veterans

Join the Veterans Outreach Center for the Second Annual 5k Walk/Run for Veterans. The fun run will begin and end at the Thompson Park Pavilion. Race day registration is from 8:30am-9:45am in the Pavilion. Preregister by emailing kdrake@ucdevelopment.org.

When: May 2nd, 10am
Where: Thompson Park, Watertown, NY

$25 for ages 10 and up
$20 for Veterans and Active Duty Military
cash or check only

Spring 2015
Important Dates

Spring Recess: Feb. 28-Mar. 8
Last Day to Withdraw/ Elect SU: April 3
April Recess: April 4-7
Last Day of Classes: May 8
Academic Preparation: May 9 & 10
Final Examinations: May 11-15
Master’s Commencement: May 16
Bachelor’s Commencement: May 17
Local Benefit for Wounded Warriors

WOUNDED WARRIOR
PROJECT BENEFIT

SAT., MARCH 7TH AT NOON
BETWEEN THE BUNS - UPSTAIRS
$5 ENTRY FEE

LIVE MUSIC BY LOCAL TALENTS:
MARYANN CASALE & ANDY VANDUYNE
NICK RYCORFT & BRUCE DEWEY

SILENT AUCTIONS ALL DAY!
REFRESHMENTS!

KARAOKE CONTEST

BEGINS AT 3PM, $5 ENTRY FEE AT DOOR
3 WINNERS AWARDED:

1ST PLACE $100
2ND PLACE $50
3RD PLACE $25

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MICHELE 261-1022

Programs Cont.

Regents Awards for Children of Deceased & Disabled Veterans
(http://www.veterans.ny.gov/content/regents-awards-children-deceased-disabled-veterans)

Purple Heart Association (http://www.purpleheart.org/Scholarships/Default.aspx)
Wounded Warrior Sled Hockey Tournament

This year's Wounded Warrior Sled Hockey Tournament will be held at SUNY Canton on March 6th-8th. If you're interested in volunteering to help during this event please contact Jennifer Brailsford at Hospice. Her phone number is 265-3105.

The game schedule is as follows:

**Friday, March 6**

**Game:1**, 11:00 am-12:15 pm
Syracuse vs. Fort Drum

**Game:2**, 12:30 pm-1:45 pm
Buffalo vs. Durham

**Game:3**, 2:00 pm-3:15 pm
Ottawa vs. Kingston

**Game:4**, 3:30 pm-4:45 pm
Durham vs. Fort Drum

**Game:5**, 5:00 pm-6:15 pm
Buffalo vs. Kingston

**Dinner Break** 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

**Saturday March 7**

**Game:8**, 7:00 am-8:15 am
Syracuse vs. Buffalo

**Game:9**, 8:30 am-9:45 am
Fort Drum vs. Kingston

**Game:10**, 10:00 am-11:15 am
Durham vs. Syracuse

**Lunch Break** 12:30-2:00 pm

**Game:11**, 11:30 am-12:45 am
Kingston vs. Durham

**Game:12**, 2:00 pm-3:15 pm
Ottawa vs. Fort Drum

**Game:13**, 3:30 pm-4:45 pm
Kingston vs. Durham

**Dinner Break** 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

**Sunday March 8**

**Breakfast** 6:00 am-9:00 am

**Consolation Game**: 9:00 am-10:15 am

**Championship Game**: 10:30 am-11:45 am

**Breakfast** 6:00 am-9:00 am

**Game:15**, 8:30 pm-9:45 pm
Ottawa vs. Syracuse
Boots to Business

Put your military experience to work.

BNY Mellon is committed to creating a diverse workplace and fostering a culture of inclusion with the belief that it creates a stronger, smarter, and more successful company. Our multifaceted approach to supporting returning military includes:

- Campus workshops
- Corporate and community partners
- Employee engagement

To learn more about BNY Mellon’s Returning Military Initiative, visit www.bnymellon.com/military

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VETERANS GET FREE PARKING!

And other benefits too!

As a veteran, you are entitled to a variety of benefits that will help facilitate your pursuit of higher education at SUNY Potsdam... but you need to take action!

Parking Fee Waivers: Student must be a Veteran who has received an honorable discharge from their respective branch of military service. In order to receive a parking fee waiver, present a copy of your DD-214 to the University Police Office showing your honorable discharge.

Recreational Facilities Fee Waiver: Submit a copy of your DD-214 to Patrick Massaro, Military & Veterans Student Services Coordinator, Sisson 128.

Possible credit for military training and experience: In order to have your military transcripts evaluated, please utilize the Joint Service Transcript website and have your military transcript sent to SUNY Potsdam Admissions office.

Graduate Student Application Fee Waiver: Available to all military/veteran students and their dependents. Please select “pay later” when completing the online graduate application. You must then contact the office of graduate admissions, (315) 267-2165, to inform them of your military/veteran or dependent status. They will then waive the $50 application fee.

For more information about your GI Bill Benefits, please see the Department of Veterans Affairs website: http://www.gibill.gov/

Student Success Center

Academic Advising Services

- Academic advising for undeclared students not assigned elsewhere
- Advising for non-matriculated and transfer students
- Unofficial academic audits- especially for juniors and seniors
- Guidance on and explanation of General Education and graduation requirements
- Exploration of academic majors, minors, and programs

See the Student Success Center page on the SUNY Potsdam Website for more information:
http://www.potsdam.edu/support/ssc/index.cfm
VETCenter Information

Do you know about the VetCenter options near Potsdam?

VetCenter Mobile Unit in Ogdensburg:
• 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Lowes Parking Lot at 2001 Ford St. Ext. from 9:30 am–3pm

VetCenter 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 Reserve
• 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, Assistant Director/Scholarship Coordinator  
E-mail: finaid@potsdam.edu, Phone: (315) 267- 2162  
Office: Raymond Hall, 3rd Floor

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

**Counseling Center:** Gena Nelson, Director  
E-mail: counseling@potsdam.edu, Phone: (315)-267- 2330  
Office: 131 Van Housen Hall

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

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

**Student Accounts:** Alicia Flynn, Senior Staff Assistant  
E-mail: studentaccounts@potsdam.edu, Phone: (315) 267- 2137  
Office: Raymond Hall: 4th Floor

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

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

**Watertown/Ft. Drum Programs:**  
Tom Fuhr, Director of Watertown Extension Center  
Extended Education E-mail: fuhtw@potsdam.edu Phone: (315) 267- 3089  
Office: 208 Raymond Hall