



# Husky Veterans



## Ignite Competition!

This year the Veteran Student Organization will be participating in Ignite, a crowd funding competition sponsored by the UConn Foundation. The goal of this competition is to encourage charitable giving among current students and recent alumni ('03-'13). Twenty organizations will be competing in this year's competition for the chance to win the \$10,000 grand prize donated by alumnus David Barton '61. The competition will kick-off on February 9th and all donations are welcome! All raised funds will go towards future veteran events and programming on campus.

To donate, please visit the link on the home page of our website: [veterans.uconn.edu/donate](http://veterans.uconn.edu/donate) or contact Ashley Marshall for more info.



## Surveys

Our office is conducting two surveys: one for current students and one for faculty and staff. We hope to improve upon the University's current services for the veteran and military population, as well as develop new programs. We need your help! Please complete the appropriate survey below:

**Student Veterans:** Please take a moment to fill out the Student Veteran Needs Assessment

[https://uconn.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_bKiJoLaPrgPJTCd](https://uconn.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_bKiJoLaPrgPJTCd)

**Faculty/Staff Veterans:** Please take a moment to fill out the Faculty/Staff Veterans Survey

[https://uconn.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_cu405Rj2QPvp19H](https://uconn.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_cu405Rj2QPvp19H)

All collected information will be used by the Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs to better support veterans here at UConn. Thank you in advance for taking the time to help us fulfill our mission!

## Women Scholarship Award

Are you a role model or advocate for women's issues at school or in the community? Apply for the 100 Years of Women Scholarship Award! Undergraduates and graduate students are eligible and applicants must be enrolled for the entire Fall 2014/Spring 2015 academic year. The award ranges from \$250-\$1000.

To access the application or find out more information, go to:

<http://womenscenter.uconn.edu/about/100years.php>

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### Upcoming Events:

- *Vet Center Staff on Campus: Feb 12th*
- *Women Veterans Conversation: Feb 27th*
- *Military Saves Week: Feb 24th—March 1st*
- *UConn FAFSA Deadline: March 1st*
- *Vet Center Staff on Campus: March 5th*

# February Veterans Evening Social

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Our office will be hosting a social and pizza get together on February 20th from 5:00 PM—7:00 PM in the Student Union Game Room. Pizza, cookies and refreshments will be provided free of charge to veterans and their families in addition to two hours of free game room play! The Student Union game room has pool tables, a bowling alley, car racing, and action arcade games that will be free for veterans and their families to play! Video game systems such as the XBOX, PS3, and Wii are also available.

The Student Union game room is located on the main floor of the Student Union just up the stairs from Wendy's. Please stop by for a couple hours of free food and fun games!

When: February 20th, 5:00 — 7:00 PM

Where: Student Union Game Room and Room 106

Who: Veterans and their families



## Military Saves Week: Feb 24th—March 1st

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Military Saves week is a time to review your finances, decide what you want to save for, and set up a system that will allow you to save automatically. That's why the Military Saves Week these is:

**'Set a Goal. Make a Plan. Save Automatically.'**

Did you know that only half of Americans report having good savings habits? Even if you are already saving, it's good to take a look at your goals and decide if you can save more or start a new savings goal. Join thousands of others who are [pledging](#) to pay down debt, save money, and take financial action during Military Saves Week!



## Veteran of the Month

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There are over 700 student veterans attending the University of Connecticut and many are highly involved in supporting the community from veteran outreach in downtown Hartford to setting up study sessions for biology students on campus. Our office is committed to recognizing these students and have implemented a 'Veteran of the Month' to honor those students that go that extra step in support of their fellow veterans, students, or community members.

We are pleased to recognize Aaron Jones as February's 'Veteran of the Month.' Aaron served in the Army as an Infantryman for 11 years with the Connecticut

National Guard in support of operations Bosnia and Iraq. Aaron is a current student in the Masters of Social Work program and has a passion to assist other less fortunate veterans in the community. Currently, Aaron works with homeless veterans in Hartford, through the South Park Inn, to match them up with appropriate VA services and coordinate local outreach and activities that improve their quality of life.

Aaron's selfless service in support of his fellow veterans is an inspiration to us all!

If you would like to nominate a student for 'Veteran of the Month,' please contact [Nikki Cole](#).



# Student Veterans Needed!

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The UConn Center for Public Health is currently conducting a study to investigate the unique issues faced by student veterans on college campuses in the areas of academics, social behavior, and perspectives toward university/veteran administrative services. You must be a currently enrolled (full time or part time) student at UConn and a veteran of any major branch of the Armed Forces.

The study involves a 15 minute online survey and respondents will be entered into a random drawing to win one of four \$50.00 Amazon gift cards. The survey will be available from February 3rd to March 15th and can be accessed now at:

[https://uconn.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_9ZRS4uyr7i1ahxz](https://uconn.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_9ZRS4uyr7i1ahxz)

For questions please email the Co-Investigator, Ryan Duggan at: [rduggan@student.uchc.edu](mailto:rduggan@student.uchc.edu) or call him at 860-605-5699

# Student Life Awards

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The Student Activities Involvement and Leadership Office holds the annual Student Life Awards every spring to recognize student contribution to and leadership of the University community and beyond. All students, staff, and faculty are invited to nominate current students or registered student organizations for one or more of the 2014 Student Life Awards at UConn!

In addition, one of the awards is specifically for an individual student veteran who has made significant contributions to the University community through leadership and service during their tenure as a student. This award, the Willis N. Hawley Service and Leadership Award, is only awarded to a current undergraduate or graduate student that is a veteran of the United States Armed Forces.

The Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs supports the Hawley Service and Leadership Award with a monetary award of \$500.

### Additional Award Criteria:

- Recipient will have student veteran or reserve status as verified through the Office of Student Financial Aid Services. .
- Recipient may be graduate or undergraduate
- Recipient may attend any of the six UConn campuses.
- Recipient will have demonstrated a commitment to raising awareness and actively advocating for veteran's issues at UConn.
- Recipient will have demonstrated a significant contribution to the University community through involvement in initiative(s) that have had University-wide impact and is representative of the highest level of student leadership and involvement.
- Nominees must not have been on any form of academic probation, or any University policy, during the past academic year.

To read more on the Student Life Awards, or to nominate a student, visit: <http://www.studentactivities.uconn.edu/vdslanomination/>

# Changes to the CT Veterans Tuition Waiver

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Our office is thrilled to announce that the University of Connecticut has extended the Veterans Tuition Waiver to include the Winter Intersession and all Summer Sessions! This extension of the waiver is for the full 100% cost of tuition; the same as the Spring and Fall semesters. The inclusion of the winter and summer sessions into the tuition waiver provide a significant increase in the available time eligible veterans can attend courses at UConn.

UConn supports its veterans! No other Connecticut university offers the tuition waiver at the 100% rate for the Winter or Summer sessions!

If you have questions on the waiver or your eligibility please stop by our benefits office in Arjona 340.



# Organization

## OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND MILITARY PROGRAMS

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*Serving those who have served*

*The Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs is responsible for all benefits, events, support, and outreach for veterans at the University of Connecticut. Additionally, our office works closely with the two resident ROTC Departments on campus to support their mission of training and preparing top ranked students for leadership in the United States Army or Air Force. The University of Connecticut has a long history of support for its veterans and military members and our office seeks to build upon this.*

*If you or a member of the community are interested in assisting with any of our efforts, or have new ideas of your own, we encourage you to come forward and see how together we can make UConn the premier destination for veterans and service members in the United States.*

Find us online:  
[veterans.uconn.edu](http://veterans.uconn.edu)

Donate at:  
[Veterans.uconn.edu/donate](http://Veterans.uconn.edu/donate)



ROTC students line up in this mid-1920s photo of the interior of Hawley Armory. Built in 1914, the Armory was used for many campus and community activities.

University Archives

## Our Staff

Our staff is comprised of civilian and former service personal all focused on the mission of supporting our veteran and military population here at UConn. We encourage you to check out the web-site, [veterans.uconn.edu](http://veterans.uconn.edu), to learn more about all of our programs, services, and activities. Below is some of the basic contact information for our staff to provide you easy means of asking questions or clarifying points.

Director	<a href="#"><u>Kris Perry</u></a>
Executive Assistant	<a href="#"><u>Nikki Cole</u></a>
Asst. Director for Benefits	<a href="#"><u>Dan Kowalchik</u></a>
Veteran Services Specialist	<a href="#"><u>Kevin Evringham</u></a>
Senior Policy Advisor	<a href="#"><u>Ashley Marshall</u></a>
HESA Practicum Student	<a href="#"><u>Caroline Green</u></a>
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