

Volume 1, Issue 4

12/3/2013



OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND MILITARY PROGRAMS

Husky Veterans



All Veterans Welcome Luncheon and Social Hour

Our office will be hosting a Holiday—End of Semester Luncheon and Social Hour in Arjona this Friday! We highly encourage you to stop in this Friday, December 6th, between 11am—2pm for some free food and to take a break from studying for finals or office work!

Who: All Staff/Student/Faculty Veterans

What: Holiday-End of Semester Luncheon and Social Hour

When: December 6th 11am-2pm

Where: Arjona 340

Cost: **Free!** You can bring an item if you so desire but we will have plenty of food!

For more information or questions contact [Nikki Cole](#), 6-3802.



We Need Your Help!

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.col.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_bKiJoLaPrgPJTCd

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

https://uconn.col.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!

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Upcoming Events:

- *Luncheon and Social Hour: Dec 6th*
- *Nathan Hale Club 5k Race: Dec 7th*
- *Winter Break Starts: Dec 16th*
- *Spring Semester Starts: Jan 21st*

Care Package Drive Wrap-Up

This November the Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs held its first ever competitive Military Care Package Drive. Student groups, administrative offices, and educational departments from across campus were encouraged to form teams and collect items for a period of two weeks. The drive was an overwhelming success, with 29 teams collecting nearly 5,000 items!

Special recognition goes out to our winning team, Pharmacy Cares, for their contribution of over 700 items! All donated items will go to support our active duty service men and women overseas and veterans at our local homeless shelters.

We would like to thank all of those who participated for their generosity, and we look forward to topping these numbers next year!



Veteran Students Organization

The Veteran Students Organization is actively looking for members and students to become more involved! The current membership is planning upcoming events such as a military awareness day at UConn, a veterans paintball outing, and a Veteran/Military themed Late Night at the Student Union! Your help and suggestions are needed to plan events for the Spring semester and beyond!

Email Catherine.Jones@UConn.edu to learn more.

Additionally, if you are interested in starting a Women's Veterans Group, or taking part in such, please contact Nikki Cole!



Veteran of the Month

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 Chris Wildenhain as December's 'Veteran of the Month.' Chris is a retired Navy Mess

Specialist and brings this experience to the veterans on campus whipping up great food to share in our public spaces. An undergraduate HDFS student, Chris is very involved with VFW #594 (Norwich) and works as a VA work-study student in our offices. Last summer, Chris worked as Congressman Joe Courtney's Veterans Field Representative answering veterans questions throughout Connecticut.

Thank you Chris!

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



Inaugural Nathan Hale Club Memorial 5K Road Race

Join us to honor two UConn graduates of the Nathan Hale Battalion who gave the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country. Proceeds from the road race will go towards the UConn Nathan Hale Club.

Date: December 7th (rain date of Dec. 8th)
Time: 9 AM Check-in/Registration
10 AM Race Start
Location: Fairfield Way outside the Student Union
Cost: \$5 for veterans and current service members with ID
\$10 for all others
Register at: TinyURL.com/UConnArmyRun
Contact info: Robert Kitch
Robert.Kitch@UConn.edu
860-459-6356



Benefits Processing

VETERANS AFFAIRS EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS



Registration for Spring classes has been open for several weeks and our office continues to receive Form D's from students utilizing VA Chapter benefits. It is important to note that delays in submitting your Form D to our office can result in stipend delays at the start of the Spring semester.

As a reminder:

No advisor signature is required

Forms can be faxed/emailed in

Accuracy counts

Submit your Form D to our office in Arjona 340, through email at veterans@uconn.edu, or fax 860-486-5283.

We are Hiring!

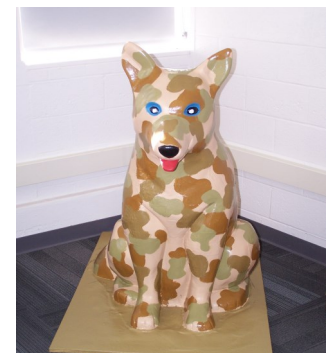
The VA Work Study program is open to veterans and their dependents utilizing VA chapter benefits (i.e.: Post 9/11, Vocational Rehab, MGIB, etc) at the University who have a desire to work on veterans related topics. Our office is currently hiring these positions for the Spring 2014 semester.

We are specifically searching for eligible students that will work in our benefits

office or who have MS Access database development knowledge.

If you are interested in applying or would like to learn more, please come talk to [Dan Kowalchik](#) or [Kevin Evringham](#) in Arjona.

We encourage all to apply!



Organization

OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND MILITARY PROGRAMS

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Serving those who have served

Find us online:
veterans.uconn.edu

Donate at:
Veterans.uconn.edu/donate

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.



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 personnel all focused on the mission of supporting our veteran and military population here at UConn. We encourage you to check out the website, 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	<u>Kris Perry</u>
Executive Assistant	<u>Nikki Cole</u>
Asst. Director for Benefits	<u>Dan Kowalchik</u>
Veteran Services Specialist	<u>Kevin Evringham</u>
Senior Policy Advisor	<u>Ashley Marshall</u>
Main Email	<u>veterans@uconn.edu</u>
Main Phone	860-486-2442

