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usky 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: <u>veterans.uconn.edu/donate</u> or contact Ashley Marshall for more info.



Military Saves Week! 2/24 - 3/1

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 theme is:

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

Did you know that only half of Americans report having good saving 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 <u>pledging</u> to pay down debt, save money, and take financial action during Military Saves Week!



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Upcoming Events:

- VA visit on how to maximize your benefits: Feb 26th
- Women Veterans Conversation: Feb 27th
- Military Saves Week: Feb 24th—March 1st
- Student Life Awards Nomination Deadline: Feb 28th
- UConn FAFSA Deadline: March 1st
- Vet Center Staff on Campus: March 5th

UConn Veterans Survey

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

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

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!

Heroes 4 Hire Career Fair

The 10th Annual Heroes 4 Hire Career Fair is coming this March 25th at Rentschler! Please make time to attend this veterans only career fair to see what companies are hiring in the Connecticut and New England region. Sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Labor and Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs, this years Heroes 4 Hire Veterans Job Fair is sure to attract not only the best and brightest veterans in Connecticut but also some of the top-tier companies looking to hire an experienced and dependable work force. Visit the <u>CT Job Fairs website</u> for updated information!

Heroes 4 Hire Veterans Job Fair

Tuesday, March 25th

11:00-3:00 PM

Rentschler Field Ballroom

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 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 <u>Nikki</u> <u>Cole</u>.



Student Life Awards

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/

Women's 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

Veteran Public Health Survey

Reintegration of Student Veterans on Undergraduate College Campuses

Recruiting volunteers for a research study

This study will 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. Must be a currently enrolled student (full or part time) at UConn and a veteran of any major branch of the armed forces. Your participation will involve a 15 minute online survey.

Complete now at: https://uconn.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_9ZRS4uyr7i1ahxz

Online survey respondents will be entered into a random drawing to win one of four \$50.00 Amazon gift cards.

Participation in the survey will allow students to provide insights to improve or implement new services offered to student veterans on campus. The study aims to aid in the integration of student veterans within the campus community, the understanding and receiving of their benefits, and the understanding of the unique social and psychosocial issues faced by student veterans.

Study is being conducted by Dr. Stephen Schensul of the UConn Center for Public Health. For questions, please email the Co-investigator, Ryan Duggan at rduggan@student.uchc.edu or call him at: 860-605-5699.

Naval OCS Opportunity

The Navy's Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate Program provides a monthly stipend for full time students in qualifying Bachelor of Science programs. Students are able to enroll after the fall semester of their sophomore year and receive an initial grant of \$10,000 and can eran more than \$5000 per month for up to 30 months. Job opportunities include positions as: a Nuclear Power School Instructor, naval Reactors Engineer in Washington D.C., a Submarine Warfare Officer, or a Surface Warfare Officer.

After graduation from college, participants join the Nuclear Navy as an Officer, earn a competitive salary, regular promotions, medical and dental coverage, low cost travel opportunities, excellent retirement and educational benefits. Additional benefits include: 30 days paid vacation a year, use of military recreational facilities around the world, the opportunity to serve the world in a variety of facilitates, and be a part of supportive team of highly trained professionals.

Requirements for selection:

- You must have taken 1 year of Calculus and 1 year of Calculus based Physics with a C or better
- You must be a U.S. Citizen
- For Nuclear Power School teaching positions or Washington D.C. engineering positions, technical coursework must be a B or better and the student must be in one of the following majors: Engineering, Chemistry, Math, or Physics.
- You must be able to meet the Navy's physical fitness standards
- You must be enrolled in an accredited education program resulting in a BS within 30 months of becoming a candidate.

If interested please contact <u>LT Brandon Clonch</u>. We visit UConn on a regular basis so if you have an interest in Navy Nuclear Propulsion, Reactors or Civil Engineering (or another Naval Program) let me know. We can meet on or off campus to answer any questions you may have.

LT Brandon Clonch

Navy Officer Programs Recruiter

860-810-0472

Brandon.Clonch@Navy.mil

Hockey at the XL supports the Wounded Warrior Project

UConn MSW student Robert Dexter will be in-between the pipes for the Annual 'Guns and Hoses' event taking place at the Hartford Civic Center / XL Center on March 29th at 1pm. This is part of the Hartford Wolfpack's Hometown Heroes Night! Members of the Connecticut Guns Law Enforcement Hockey Team and Hartford Firefighters will be raising funds for the Wound-ed Warrior Project.

\$20.00 gets you into all 5 games and proceeds from ticket sales go toward the Wounded Warrior Project.

Dexter will be playing goaltender for the Connecticut Guns law Enforcement Hockey Team and you can follow on Twitter @ctgunshockey or on Faceboook @ CT Guns HC

Join us for a good time and a great cause!









OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND MILITARY PROGRAMS

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Serving those who have served



Our Staff

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 Untied 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 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 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

Executive Assistant Asst. Director for Benefits Veteran Services Specialist Senior Policy Advisor HESA Practicum Student Main Email Main Phone Kris Perry Nikki Cole Dan Kowalchik Kevin Evringham Ashley Marshall Caroline Green veterans@uconn.edu 860-486-2442

