

# OVMA

2016/2017 ANNUAL REPORT



2017



2017



### LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Three years ago, Chancellor Kent Syverud reaffirmed a commitment to make Syracuse University the “best place for veterans.” From that commitment, and in an effort to better leverage Syracuse University resources to advance the lives of the University’s veteran and military-connected population, the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs (OVMA) was born. Over the past two years, the OVMA has pursued this goal through a robust portfolio of veteran and military-connected programs, initiatives, campus-wide collaborations, and community partnerships. These partnerships have delivered innovative and sustainable opportunities for veterans, military members, and their families at Syracuse University.

Today, our long-standing commitment to those who have served and continue to serve has been recognized on campus and nationwide. Syracuse University continues to foster a veteran-friendly culture across campus. This past academic year, over 1,000 military-connected students attended Syracuse University, a three-fold increase in size since 2015. Veteran and military academic rankings testify that Syracuse University is indeed the “best place for veterans.”

Throughout the pages of this report, we chronicle the tremendous work our veteran and military-connected teams have accomplished over the past year. We have organized this report based on our lines of effort: education, employment, programs, campus culture, and development. These lines of effort represent the strategic initiatives of the OVMA that effectively leverage Syracuse University’s strengths - leadership, resources, alumni, community partnerships, supporters, and faculty & staff.

This report, while highlighting our accomplishment, represents a foundation to build upon in our efforts to serve those who have worn, and will wear the cloth of our nation in service to all Americans. On behalf of the OVMA and those we serve, please accept our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for your support and commitment to make Syracuse University the “best place for veterans.”

**Ron Novack**  
Executive Director  
Office of Veteran and Military Affairs



# EDUCATION

RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT

“We can tell a story about a history of service that not many other institutions can tell.”

—Mike Haynie  
Vice Chancellor  
Strategic Initiatives and Innovation

## SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY'S MILITARY/VETERAN RELATED RANKINGS

### #1 RANKING-MILITARYTIMES

Syracuse University was once again recognized for its distinguished history of serving veterans and military families. Military Times' Best for Vets: Colleges 2017 report, released in November 2016, ranked Syracuse University as the #1 private school in the country and #3 overall for service members, military veterans and their families.

Additionally, the College of Engineering and Computer Science's cybersecurity program was ranked #1 and the Martin J. Whitman School of Management was also rated #5 "Best for Vets" Business School Ranking.

### #1 Ranking by USA Today/College Factual

The Entrepreneurship and Emerging Enterprises Program in the Martin J. Whitman School of Management was ranked #1 in the country for veterans by College Factual. College Factual is a USA Today-affiliated website that helps students identify the best colleges and universities for their unique needs.

### Best for Vets by American Society of Engineering Education

Syracuse University's College of Engineering and Computer Science has been recognized with the 2016 Engineering Excellence for Veterans Award from the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE). The award names the College a top military-friendly institution and a "Best for Vets" school.

**RANKED #1**



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY  
ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE

ASEE  
AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR ENGINEERING EDUCATION

**RANKED #1**

PRIVATE SCHOOL

BEST FOR VETS

**RANKED #5**

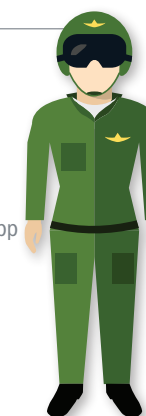
BEST FOR VETS





### INITIATIVES & PROGRAMS

- Yellow Ribbon—UNLIMITED
- Early Registration
- Veterans Welcome Orientation & Fair
- Full-time Veterans Recruiter and Career Service Provider
- VeteransU—First Student Veterans Mobile App
- Hometown Hero
- MBA@Syracuse—30% Participants are Veteran and Military Connected
- Veterans Resource Center
- VetSuccess on Campus
- Warrior Scholar Program
- Veterans Legal Clinic



## Syracuse University

### FINAL SPRING 2017 MILITARY CONNECTED ENROLLMENT

Academic Level	Veteran	Family Member	Other Military Connected	Total
Undergraduate	139	190	148	477
Graduate	332	60	143	535
Law	18	7	4	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>1041</b>

### PAST MILITARY CONNECTED ENROLLMENT

Academic Level	Fall 2015	Fall 2016
Undergraduate	416	474
Graduate	335	517
Law	13	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>1021</b>

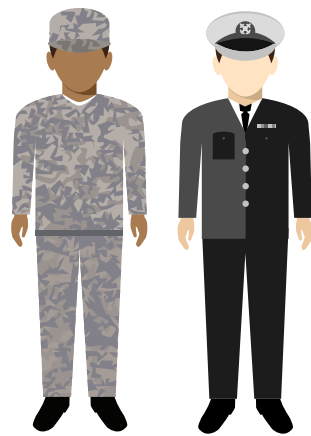
\*Spring census data provided by The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment.



“THE BEST PLACE FOR VETERANS”



489 STUDENT VETERANS ENROLLED-SPRING 2017



**GRADUATE**

Full-Time	<b>214</b>
Part-Time	<b>118</b>

College of Arts and Science	6
School of Education	9
College of Engineering and Computer Science	15
Falk College of Sports and Human Dynamics	13
School of Information Studies	24
Whitman School of Management	229
Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs	14
Newhouse School of Public Communications	17
College of Visual and Performing Arts	1
University College	4

**LAW**

Full-Time	<b>18</b>
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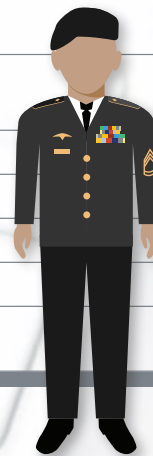
**UNDERGRADUATE**

Full-Time	<b>113</b>
Part-Time	<b>26</b>

School of Architecture	2
College of Arts and Science	52
School of Education	5
College of Engineering and Computer Science	11
Falk College of Sports and Human Dynamics	11
School of Information Studies	12
Whitman School of Management	14
Newhouse School of Public Communications	7
College of Visual and Performing Arts	14
University College	11

**GRADUATE ONLINE DEGREES**

College/School	Veteran	Dependent	Currently Serving	Total Military Connected	Non-Military	Total	% Mil-Vet within the degreee
Engineering	9	1	7	17	57	74	23%
ISchool	15	1	13	29	147	176	16%
Whitman	221	17	61	299	752	1051	28%
Newhouse	13	5	6	24	216	240	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>1172</b>	<b>1541</b>	<b>24%</b>



**STUDENT VETERANS ORGANIZATION (SVO)**



The Student Veterans Organization (SVO) provides a great way to get involved on campus and builds a sense of camaraderie for student veterans as they transition to academic life. The SVO is where veterans immediately connect with people who have already experienced the challenges they may encounter while transitioning to higher education. Members are happy to share strategies for success and give advice on how to become part of the wider Syracuse University community. With regular events and outings, veterans soon feel at home, as they establish lifelong friendships.

The mission of SVO SU is to provide veterans, military-connected students, and military family members who attend Syracuse University or SUNY ESF with the resources, support, and advocacy necessary to succeed in higher education as well as post-graduation.

“What helped me the most when I first got here... would have to be the Student Veterans Organization.”

—John Miccio '17  
Former SVO SU President



## PAT TILLMAN FOUNDATION UNIVERSITY PARTNER



Syracuse University was selected as the 15th “Pat Tillman Foundation University Partner”. SU joins the ranks of 14 other University Partners including Columbia University and Georgetown University. Founded in 2008, the Pat Tillman Foundation invests in military veterans and their spouses through academic scholarships. Tillman Scholars are selected based on extraordinary academic and leadership potential, a true sense of vocation, and a deep commitment to creating positive change. As a University Partner, at least one Syracuse University student veteran each year will be guaranteed to receive a Pat Tillman Scholarship.



### Syracuse University’s Ryan Gross Named 2017 Inaugural Tillman Scholar



Ryan Gross grew up hearing stories about his grandfathers’ military experiences during World War II, leading tank units through the Battle of the Bulge and serving on a Navy destroyer in the Pacific. Inspired by their service, he accepted a commission in the U.S. Army as a military intelligence officer. After his deployment with an infantry battalion in Baghdad, Gross transitioned from the Army to the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), where he leads intelligence analysis.

Gross, a graduate student in Syracuse University’s master of public administration program (M.P.A.) in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, has been named a 2017 Tillman Scholar in a cohort representing 61 U.S. service members, veterans and military spouses across the nation. The newly named class, funded by the Pat Tillman Foundation, will receive more than \$1.1 million in scholarships to pursue higher education degrees.

“These scholars are tackling challenges across national security, healthcare, technology, civil rights and education. They believe their best years of service to our country are still ahead of them, and they are working together to strengthen communities at home and around the world,” Marie Tillman, co-founder and president of the Pat Tillman Foundation said in a statement released on June 8. “In Pat’s spirit of service, we are proud to unite and empower them as our country’s next leaders.”

Gross says he is honored to be selected as a Tillman Scholar and is eager to begin his studies in Syracuse University’s renowned M.P.A. program.

Through his experiences in Baghdad, Washington, D.C., U.S. Central Command, and three civilian deployments to Afghanistan, Gross witnessed how “one size fits all” policies developed at the national level do not always translate effectively to the tactical environment, requiring commanders on the ground to determine how to tailor policies to fit their battlespace. He plans to use his M.P.A. degree to build upon the leadership and decision-making skills he gained through his career and to hone his policy development expertise. His goal is to create flexible, effective policy that will meet military commanders’ and soldiers’ operational needs on the ground.

In 2014, Syracuse University Chancellor Kent Syverud identified four pillars to guide the future growth of the University, one of which was ensuring the University once again became the best institution for veterans and their families. J. Michael Haynie, vice chancellor for strategic initiatives and innovation and the executive director of the Institute for Veterans and Military Families, works closely with Chancellor Syverud on that important effort. He says he is proud of the University’s partnership with the Tillman Foundation and is pleased Gross selected Syracuse University for his academic pursuits.

“Syracuse University is honored to have Ryan as part of our academic community and to celebrate him as our first Tillman Scholar recipient,” says Haynie. “The purpose and mission of the Tillman Foundation aligns well with Syracuse University’s commitment to be the best place for veterans. The education Ryan will receive and the skills he will develop during his time at the Maxwell School will well equip him to inspire positive and impactful changes in military operations.”

The scholarship honors Pat Tillman. In 2002, Tillman, a starting safety for the National Football League’s Arizona Cardinals, put his football career on hold to serve his country. Family and friends established the Pat Tillman Foundation following Pat’s death in April 2004 while serving with the U.S. Army’s 75th Ranger Regiment in Afghanistan. The foundation invests in military veterans and their spouses through scholarship and programmatic support, and is dedicated to building a diverse community of leaders committed to service to others.

Founded in 2008, the Tillman Scholars program supports our nation’s active-duty service members, veterans and military spouses by investing in their higher education. The scholarship program covers direct study-related expenses, including tuition and fees, books and living expenses, for scholars who are pursuing undergraduate, graduate or post-graduate degrees as a full-time student at a public or private, U.S.-based accredited institution. The selection process for the Tillman Scholars program is highly competitive.

Each year, the foundation collaborates with 15 University Partners to identify and select qualified applicants on their campuses for the Tillman Scholar screening process. Syracuse University was named a University Partner in 2016, selected for its innovative veteran services, strong culture of support for military veterans and spouses and its rigorous academic programs.

# EMPLOYMENT

STUDENTS AND EMPLOYERS



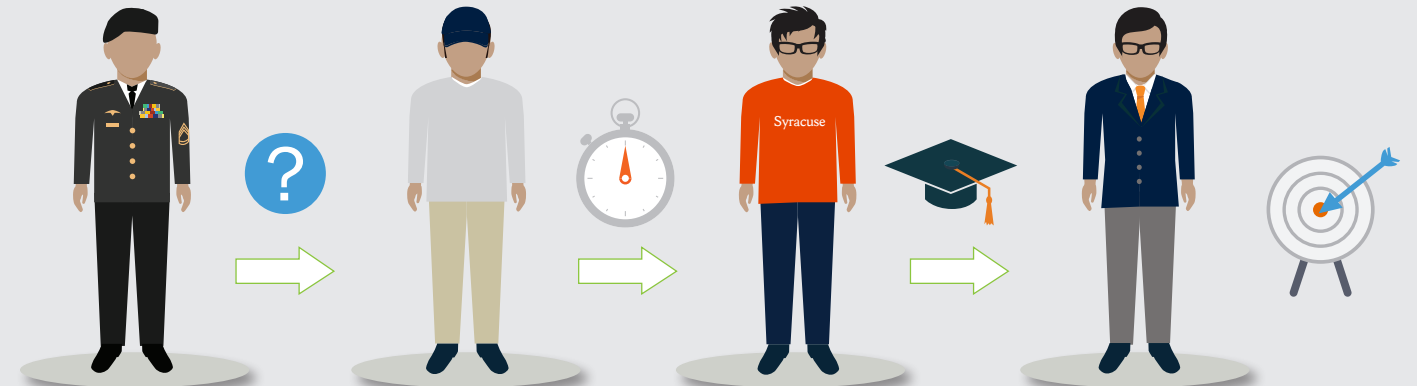
“The OVMA provided me with opportunities to utilize the professional skills learned during my undergraduate studies as well as the deep-rooted leadership and discipline I received in the Army. These opportunities have set me up for greater success as I graduate and begin my career”

—Anthony Pegues '17, Whitman School of Management

2016-2017

# YEARLY REVIEW

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY VETERAN CAREER SERVICES



## PLACEMENT

2015-2016 & 2016-2017



**100%**

**SUCCESS** placement of student veterans graduating from Syracuse University in two academic years, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017\*



## AVERAGE SALARY

2015-2016

**\$69,024**

AVERAGE (WEIGHTED) SALARY: STUDENT VETERANS\*

**\$61,875**

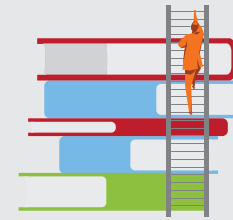
AVERAGE UNDERGRADUATE SALARY: STUDENT VETERANS\*

**\$73,375**

AVERAGE GRADUATE SALARY: STUDENT VETERANS\*

NOTE: The average undergraduate salary for ALL Syracuse University students is \$47,954 in comparison to undergraduate student veterans \$61,875.

\*Based on the Syracuse University Career Services Employment Survey



## STUDENT SUPPORT

**510**

Veterans and military-connected students received career counseling and assistance



## EVENTS

2016-2017



Boots to Briefcase: Veteran & Employer Networking Reception, Fall 2016:

**36 STUDENT VETERANS**  
**37 EMPLOYERS**

Veteran and Employer Meet-n-Greet, Spring 2017:

**33 STUDENT VETERANS**  
**17 EMPLOYERS**

Nonprofit & Government Workshop, Spring 2017:

**17 STUDENT VETERANS**  
**18 EMPLOYERS**

Syracuse University Student Veteran and Alumni Meet-n-Greet:

**22 STUDENT VETERANS**  
**10 EMPLOYERS**

Hiring Our Heroes Career Fair, Spring 2017:

**19 STUDENT VETERANS**  
**100+ EMPLOYERS**



## EMPLOYERS THAT HIRED SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY STUDENT VETERANS\* in 2016/17

Indian River High School  
Lockheed Martin  
Veterans Administration  
Nike Inc.  
Institute for Veterans and Military Families  
Princeton Review  
eHealth Technologies  
Logistics Readiness Center, Ft. Stewart  
Louisville Gas & Electric/  
Kentucky Utilities  
Advantage Resourcing

Liberty Resource  
Riehlman, Shafer & Shaw, LLC  
Department of Defense (Marine Corps)  
Syracuse University  
Hooksett Police Department  
Liberty Mutual Insurance  
Port Authority of New York and New Jersey  
Sonneman  
Pall Corporation  
The Bonadio Group

JPMorgan Chase & Co.  
Fayetteville-Manlius Schools  
KPMG  
General Electric  
Best Buy  
CBS  
Sherwin Williams  
Manlius Police Department  
Newport News Shipbuilding  
SMBC  
\*(jobs and internships)



## GET CONNECTED AND ENGAGED



Syracuse University  
Office of Veteran and Military Affairs  
Syracuse University  
Career Services

The Syracuse University Veteran Career Services Networking Group:

**46 MEMBERS**

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8591330>



NOTE: The LinkedIn group aims to connect current student veterans, veteran alumni and employers for the purposes of networking and informational interview that supports the career development and job placement of student veterans.

NETWORKING EVENTS PROVIDE STUDENT VETERANS JOB AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



“Networking events have been an invaluable experience. I met a Mayoral candidate at the ‘meet and greet’ at Faegan’s. I have been working on her campaign since then, as they appointed me as the campaign’s Veteran Representative. While attending the job fair, I had an on the spot interview with NYU hospital which could potentially lead to a job after graduation in May 2018.”

—Raymond R. Wentworth Jr., Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Executive Master of Public Administration Candidate, May 2018

“Meeting with notable alum at Lubin House showcased the value and importance employers place on veterans in the workplace. I learned the importance of effective networking and now have more confidence in my abilities. I was able to modify my resume and how I present myself to employers. I used this information the following day at the job fair to identify two potential job leads.”

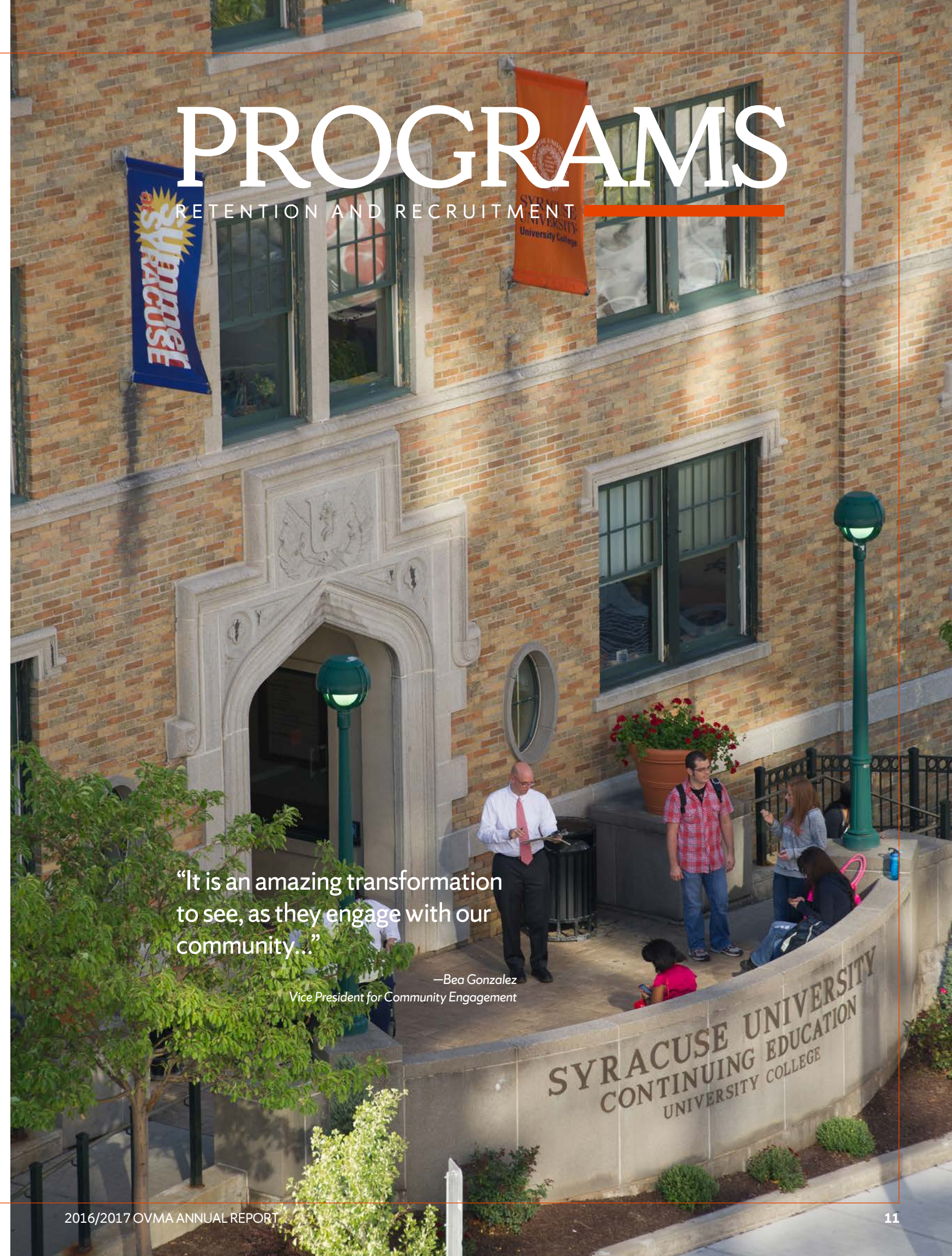
—Adam LeGrand, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Communication & Rhetorical Studies, May 2018

“The Lubin House trip was a tremendous opportunity for student veterans to witness the extent of Syracuse University’s network and outreach. Our group met some great potential employers and had the chance to bond as a team.”

—Thomas Roehm, University College, Creative Leadership, May 2018

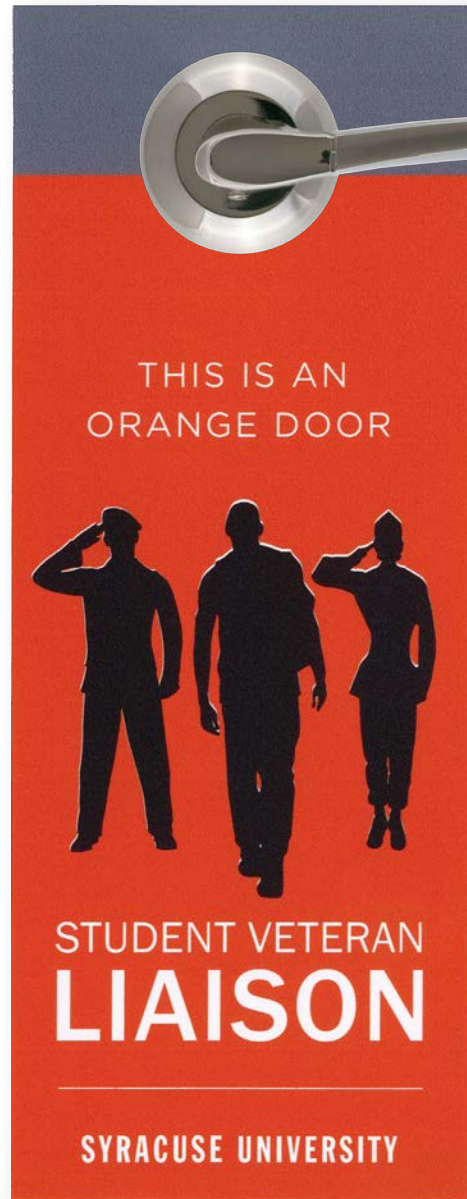
# PROGRAMS

RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT



“It is an amazing transformation to see, as they engage with our community...”

—Bea Gonzalez  
Vice President for Community Engagement



## ORANGE DOOR PROGRAM

In an effort to fulfill the Chancellor's initiative to make Syracuse University "the best place for veterans" the OVMA initiated the "Orange Door" program. The Orange Door Program seeks to identify "liaisons" for student veterans from each college. Student Veteran Liaisons are members of the Syracuse University community that are dedicated to the success of veterans and their families. Faculty/staff members who volunteer as liaisons will be identified by an "Orange Door" door hanger. To date, there are over 60 student veteran liaisons on campus. This program will ensure that all SU student veterans have the opportunity to navigate the university successfully to achieve their educational objectives.

## CYBER-SPECTRUM RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT (CSPEC-DVE) PROGRAM

CSpec-DVE is an ROTC research support program administered by the College of Engineering and Computer Science and the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs at Syracuse University, in partnership with the Clarkson Aero Space Corporation. The program enables ROTC cadets to understand and formulate Concept of Operations and understand the role and importance of security for mission assurance. ROTC cadets gain research and analysis skills and learn tools that will lead to the development of software security models, algorithms, and techniques for computer systems operating in degraded and compromised operating environments.



## 2017 SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY WARRIOR-SCHOLAR PROJECT

Syracuse University hosted the Warrior-Scholar Project (WSP) for the third time during an intensive one-week academic boot camp from June 18- 24, 2017. The Warrior-Scholar Project coordinates immersive academic preparation courses for enlisted military veterans of any skill level at America's top universities. The program is designed to help military veterans develop and rediscover the skills and confidence necessary to successfully complete four-year undergraduate degrees. The boot camp was run by a team of student veterans, and taught by university professors and graduate students. An intensive syllabus composed of both classic and modern scholarly works guided participants as they learned how to frame their ideas in an academic context, think critically, and formulate scholarly arguments.



## PEER ADVISORS FOR VETERAN EDUCATION (P.A.V.E.)

The Peer Advisors for Veteran Education (P.A.V.E.) program kicked off at Syracuse University in the Fall of 2016. A national project, P.A.V.E., matches student veteran peer advisors with incoming student veterans to help as they transition to campus life.

"When I first started I had to go out and search for answers. Just hanging out with student veterans on campus, they had it all. It's kind of an informational resource," says Alex Brigandi, an information management and technology student in the School of Information Studies (iSchool).

P.A.V.E. participants hope the connection between the established and incoming student veterans will help improve the student's sense of connectedness to the University, create a source of support and a way to help identify any concerns that can be directed to the appropriate resource.

## TRANSITIONING MILITARY VETERANS TO UNIVERSITY LIFE

The inaugural Transitioning Military Veterans to University Life program was launched in August 2016. The program is designed to provide newly admitted student veterans with the resources and peer advisors necessary to make a smooth transition into a college setting. The program commences with a two-day pre-orientation during the start of the fall semester. Sunday evening, student veterans and their families attend a dinner, a campus tour, and are introduced to campus resources. The next day they are introduced to advising, housing, childcare, veteran resources, and academic and social/engagement opportunities on campus. At the completion of the orientation process, each student is connected with a PAVE peer advisor, who assists the new student veteran throughout the academic year. The inaugural cohort of student did exceptionally well academically. Syracuse University's overall GPA average is 3.27, and the average GPA of the student veterans participating in the Transitioning Military Veterans to University Life program was 3.57.



"When I first started I had to go out and search for those answers. Just hanging out with student veterans on campus, they had it all. It's kind of an informational resource."

—Alex Brigandi '17  
Former PAVE Team Leader







Syracuse University  
Chancellor's Review

Celebrating 100 Years

Army and Air Force Reserve Officers' Training Corps

A

Army and Air Force ROTC celebrated the 100th Chancellor's Review at Syracuse University in March 2017. The celebration consisted of a series of events including a dinner for alumni and invited guests, a private breakfast for Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) students, Alumni, SU faculty and leadership, as well as a public review of the troops in the Carrier Dome.

"The Pass in Review is one of my favorite annual events as it bridges our deeply-rooted history of veteran support with our current students who aspire to serve. Syracuse University is proud of its heritage and I look forward to connecting with alumni, students, community partners and the many family and friends in attendance as we celebrate the commitment of these ROTC members." said Chancellor Kent Syverud. "Syracuse and ROTC share a commitment to excellence and the desire to serve. The Review is a wonderful reminder of the impact our history has on our future. I'm also very proud to recognize the cadets who have achieved distinction and will be awarded for their outstanding scholastic, leadership and civic achievements."

Highlights of the events included dinner keynote speaker, Syracuse University alumna, Major General Peggy C. Combs '85, United States Army and a performance by the Fort Drum 198th Army Band as well as other musical performances by ROTC cadets. For the public portion of the celebration at the Dome on Friday, attendees enjoyed viewing the current ROTC members in formation as they were reviewed by Chancellor Syverud, cadets dressed in historical military uniforms and the many military vehicles on display on the Dome field.



Syracuse University  
Chancellor's Review

Celebrating 100 Years

Army and Air Force  
Reserve Officers' Training Corps

DINNER



CEREMONY

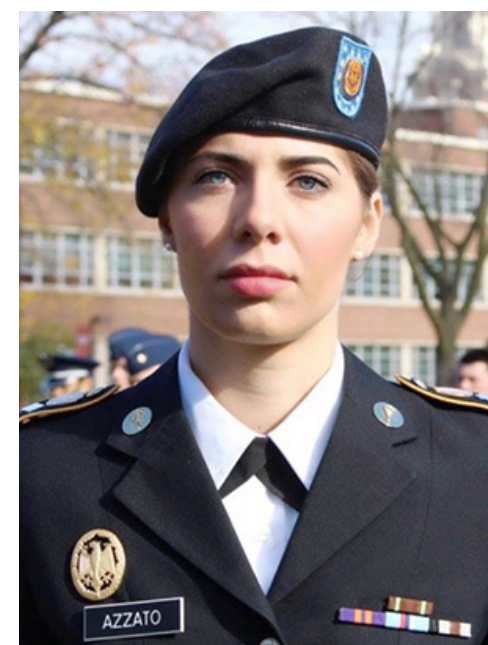


## COMMISSIONING (ARMY AND AIR FORCE)



In May 2017 Army ROTC commissioned 20 Second Lieutenants, while Air Force ROTC commissioned 10 Second Lieutenants. The commissioning ceremony included remarks from Brigadier General Raymond F. Shields Jr., Assistant Adjutant General, Army and Commanding General, New York Army National Guard.

2LT Kyra Azzato, Army ROTC commissioning class of 2017 became the first woman from Syracuse University to be given an assignment to attend the Army Infantry Basic Officer Leadership Course (IBOLC). Following successful completion and graduation from IBOLC, 2LT Azzato is set to attend the Army's Ranger School.

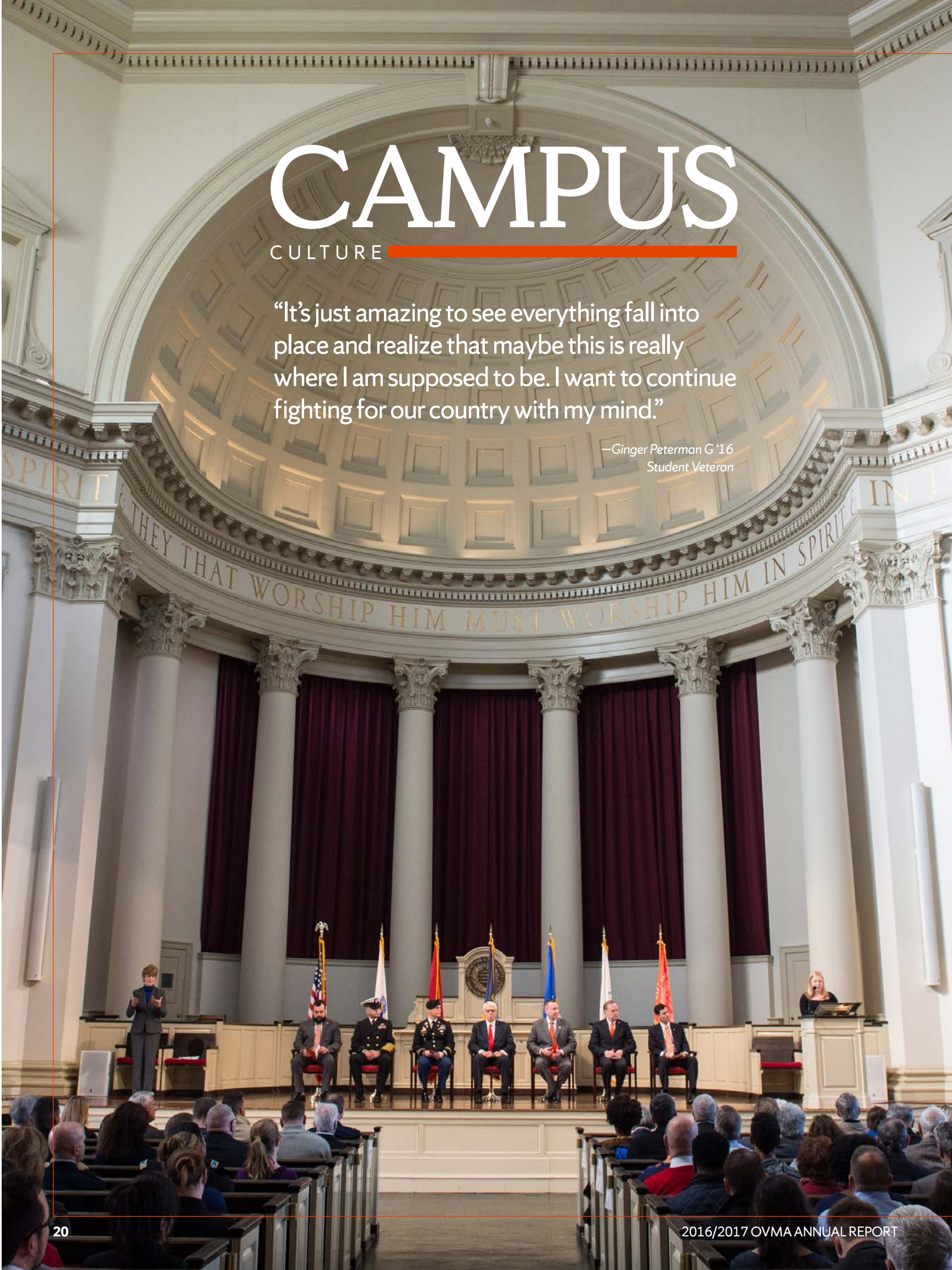


# CAMPUS

CULTURE

“It’s just amazing to see everything fall into place and realize that maybe this is really where I am supposed to be. I want to continue fighting for our country with my mind.”

—Ginger Peterman G '16  
Student Veteran



## VETERANS DAY

Celebrations began early on Veterans Day with the annual Veterans Day Fun Run and Walk hosted by the Army and Air Force ROTC programs. The annual Veterans Day Ceremony took place inside Hendricks chapel with guest speaker Richard Jones '92 G'95 L'95, Executive Vice President, General Tax Council, and Chief Veteran Officer, CBS Corporation.

## SEPARATED

“Separated” is a collaborative effort between members of the Syracuse Stage artistic staff and student veteran participants. Associate Artistic director Kyle Bass interviewed student veterans regarding their experiences in and out of military service. From the interview transcripts, he devised and composed a performance script that weaves each student’s individual story into a single narrative. The students performed the finished script as a staged reading directed by Syracuse Stage’s new artistic director Robert Hupp.

The service experience of the eight students—Nick Brincka, Halston Canty, Zack Couch, Ginger Peterman, Brandon Smith, Jake VanMarter, Zack Watson and Kierston Whaley—represent Army, Navy, and Marine Corps service, including tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. The title “Separated” references the obstacles each has endured in first separating from home and family to join the military, and then separating from the military to resume civilian life.

“Each of the eight student veterans in ‘Separated’ has a compelling and necessary story to tell,” Bass said. “Taken as a whole, their narratives of courage, fear, doubt, perseverance, purpose, uncertainty, loyalty, vulnerability, struggle and survival create a moving portrait of human truth. It’s thrilling and an honor to be entrusted with the stories of their experiences.”



## STARS AND STRIPES TAILGATE

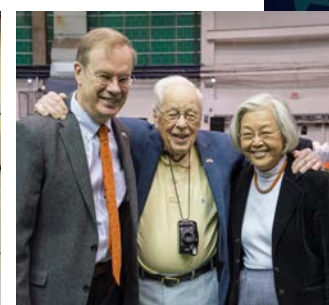
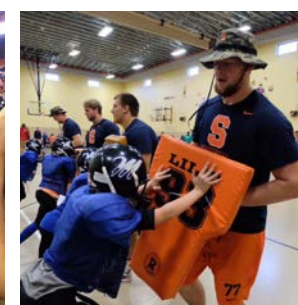
On November 12, 2016 Syracuse University and the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs hosted active duty service members and their families from the Fort Drum community, as well as local Guard and Reservists and their families, for a tailgate celebration inside Manley Fieldhouse prior to the NC State vs SU men’s football game. During the tailgate, service members, veterans, and family members participated in activities including a raffle where participants won items donated from around the Syracuse community.

## SU FOOTBALL

### Military Appreciation Days/ Home Town Hero

The following service members and veterans were honored at select athletic games during the 2016/17 season:

- September 2, 2016 U. S. Navy Petty Officer First Class Brian Brooks
- September 9, 2016 U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sergeant Christopher S. Duffy
- September 17, 2016 Student Veteran, U.S. Marine Corp Staff Sergeant Jordan Robinson
- October 15, 2016 Army Veteran and Gold Star Wife, Jenna Bazdaric
- November 12, 2016 Don Waful, '37 G'39, WWII POW
- November 19, 2016 Army ROTC Cadet and Student Veteran Christopher Dendtler
- February 25, 2017 U.S. Army Reserve Master Sergeant Jennifer Pluta





“This is a school made for veterans because veterans succeed here.”

—Kevin Lee '17  
Whitman School of Management



### EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE

In November 2016, Syracuse University reaffirmed its support for National Guard and Reserve Employees. Kent Syverud, Chancellor and President of Syracuse University, signed a Statement of Support for the Guard and Reserve in a ceremony at the Institute for Veterans and Military Families. He was joined by ESGR Chief of Employer Engagement, Tom Bullock.

“Our employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve know they have our full support to professionally grow and succeed in their jobs both in the military and here at the University. We are exceptionally proud of their military service and commitment to Syracuse University.” said Syracuse University Vice Chancellor Mike Haynie.

### DON WAFUL CANE PRESENTATION CEREMONY

Don Waful '37, G'39, WWII POW, and one of Syracuse University's oldest living veteran alum, was recognized during a ceremony in which he was presented with a traditional Native American walking stick hand made by Jack Johnson of Johnson Lacrosse. After the ceremony, Army and Air Force ROTC cadets helped Don celebrate his 101st birthday.



### MBA@SYRACUSE RECEPTION

OVMA hosted the second annual MBA@Syracuse social during the residency portion of the program. This social gave over 30 online students from around the country an opportunity to meet with each other as well as resources across campus, a rare opportunity for online students.

### VETERAN COMMENCEMENT

Syracuse University recognized graduating student veterans with a ceremony and reception. Prior to the ceremony, student veterans who participated in the Student Veterans Organization (SVO) were presented with SVO stoles to wear during the various commencement celebrations. During the ceremony, Chancellor Syverud presented graduates with red, white, and blue honor cords to wear proudly with their regalia. The ceremony included keynote speaker, Brian Iglesias G'14, a Syracuse University veteran alumnus and IVMF board member.



“Our employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve know they have our full support to professionally grow and succeed in their jobs both in the military and here at the University. We are exceptionally proud of their military service and commitment to Syracuse University.”

—Vice Chancellor Mike Haynie.

## NATIONAL VETERANS RESOURCE COMPLEX



“I realized that if a veteran didn’t go to college as soon as he came back, he’d never have another chance. It was now or never. Now was not the time to shut the doors. Our doors opened wide in 1946.”

—Chancellor William Pearson Tolley  
Syracuse University



Daniel (Dan) MacDonald, Marine Corps Veteran and owner of MacDonald Engineering was the first veteran to be hired to work on the National Veterans Resource Complex (NVRC).



“Now, all military and veteran support services are going to be housed in one central building... any time student veterans walk past this building, they will know that if they have any barrier to overcome...that building will be the staple of the solution; everyone in that building is there to support their needs.”

—Charles Preuss, Student Veteran



Syracuse University carries on its tradition of lending itself to America through the establishment of the National Veterans Resource Complex (NVRC). The NVRC will serve as the center of gravity for education and opportunity, and will be a reminder of the university’s dedication to enhancing the quality of post-service life for our nation’s veterans and their families. The NVRC is not just a building with programs; it is the creation of a holistic environment worthy of and in recognition of our veterans’ service. A multi-use facility, the NVRC will serve as the center of veteran life on the campus of Syracuse University, and in the region. The NVRC will be opening in spring 2020. For more information, and to follow the buildings progress, visit [nvrc.syr.edu](http://nvrc.syr.edu).



# DEVELOPMENT

COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS



## DOTTLE SCHOLARSHIP

In November 2016, the OVMA, along with Army and Air Force ROTC announced the inaugural class of ROTC Dottle Scholars. Cadets were awarded scholarships through the Dottle Family ROTC Cadet Scholarship Fund. The scholarship was made possible through a generous gift from Paul Dottle and the Dottle Family Foundation. The Dottle Family ROTC Cadet Scholarship will be awarded each year to deserving future leaders in the Syracuse University Army and Air Force programs in recognition of their hard work, dedication, and commitment to service. “My family is honored to be a part of everything that is happening at Syracuse University in support of veteran and military-connected students on campus. As a veteran and proud father of a U.S. Air Force officer, I can’t imagine a better cause to support,” said Paul Dottle.

The Scholarship Fund is part of a larger leadership gift from the Dottle family, which provides much needed support and funding to the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs as well as further operational support to both the Army and Air Force ROTC programs.

## GETTYSBURG STAFF RIDE



ROTC Senior Cadets participated in a staff ride to Gettysburg, made possible through the generosity of the Dottle family.

“If you’re going to ask somebody to stand in front of you and take a bullet, potentially, you ought to also help them get back on their feet, because it makes America a little stronger.”

—Bob Dotson G’69  
NBC Today Show 1975-2015  
Journalist & Author



## SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS “CONNECTING THE PAST TO INFORM THE FUTURE...”

The “Veteran Legacy Fund” was designed to allow the supporters of our work the means to contribute in a philanthropic way and enables the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs to continue to link our past to our future. We would like to thank the donors of the Veteran Legacy Fund listed below for their gifts and continued support:

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Members of the Veteran Legacy Fund Leadership Circle are a powerful group of supporters who shape the future of veteran and military-connected students and employees at Syracuse University. Members make a five-year pledge of \$1,000 or more annually to the Veteran Legacy Fund.

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If you would like to help us continue our tradition of service to veterans and military-connected students by making a gift to the Syracuse University Veteran Legacy Fund, please contact the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs at 315.443.0141 or vlf@syr.edu or visit veterans.syr.edu/give to give online.

For more information about the Veteran Legacy Fund Leadership Circle, please contact Daniel Bateman, Director of Development at 315.443.3927 dtbatema@syr.edu.



**ABOUT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY**

Syracuse University is a private research university of extraordinary academics, distinctive offerings and an undeniable spirit. With a gorgeous campus in the heart of New York State, a global footprint and a history that dates to 1870, we embrace diverse backgrounds and viewpoints.

Our student population includes nearly 15,000 undergraduates and 5,000 graduate students, representing all 50 U.S. states and 123 countries. Our proud commitment to veterans and their families is unrivaled in higher education. Home to 11 schools and colleges, Syracuse University blends the foundational power of the liberal arts with the intense focus of professional programs. We offer undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees in Architecture, Arts and Sciences, Education, Engineering and Computer Science, Sport and Human Dynamics, Information Studies, Law, Management, Citizenship and Public Affairs, Public Communications, and Visual and Performing Arts.

A medium-sized city situated in the geographic center of the state, Syracuse, N.Y., is approximately a four-hour drive from New York City, Boston, Philadelphia, Toronto and Montreal. With a metropolitan population of 700,000, Syracuse is a center for cultural, recreational and artistic events, including the Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse Stage, Symphoria, Destiny Mall, multiple sporting events, and festivals including Jazz Fest and Winterfest. The outdoor enthusiast will enjoy having the Adirondack Mountains, the Finger Lakes, Lake Ontario, and the Thousands Islands Region within easy driving distance of the Syracuse campus.

**OFFICE OF VETERAN AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

The Office of Veteran and Military Affairs (OVMA) serves as Syracuse University’s “single point of entry” for all veteran and military related programs and initiatives. It collaborates and coordinates with the university community and stakeholders to best serve veterans, military-connected students, and military family members who are students or employees at Syracuse University.

By offering a diverse range of programming, support, and resources specifically focused on our student veterans and their families, OVMA seeks to make the Syracuse University campus more veteran friendly and relevant for every student veteran.

**COMMITMENT TO SUPPORTING AND HIRING VETERANS**

Syracuse University has a long history of engaging veterans and the military-connected community through its educational programs, community outreach, and employment programs. After World War II, Syracuse University welcomed more than 10,000 returning veterans to our campus, and those veterans literally transformed Syracuse University into the national research institution it is today. The University’s contemporary commitment to veterans builds on this historical legacy, and extends to both class-leading initiatives focused on making an SU degree accessible and affordable to the post-9/11 generation of veterans, and also programs designed to position Syracuse University as the employer of choice for military veterans, members of the Guard and Reserve, and military family members.

**COMMITMENT TO A DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE CAMPUS COMMUNITY**

Syracuse University maintains an inclusive learning environment in which students, faculty, administrators, staff, curriculum, social activities, governance, and all other aspects of campus life reflect a diverse, multi-cultural, and international worldview. The University community recognizes and values the many similarities and differences among individuals and groups. At Syracuse, we are committed to preparing students to understand, live among, appreciate, and work in an inherently diverse country and world made up of people with different ethnic and racial backgrounds, military backgrounds, religious beliefs, socio-economic status, cultural traditions, abilities, sexual orientations and gender identities. To do so, we commit ourselves to promoting a community that celebrates and models the principles of diversity and inclusivity.

**EEOC**

Syracuse University is an equal-opportunity, affirmative-action institution. The University prohibits discrimination and harassment based on race, color, creed, religion, sex, gender, national origin, citizenship, ethnicity, marital status, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, veteran status, or any other status protected by applicable law to the extent prohibited by law. This nondiscrimination policy covers admissions, employment, and access to and treatment in University programs, services, and activities.

