
OFFICE OF VETERAN AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

2018/2019 ANNUAL REPORT



OFFICE OF VETERAN AND MILITARY AFFAIRS



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



This year marks the 75th anniversary of the original GI Bill, the landmark legislation that made it possible for service members, veterans and their families to access higher education - and the American Dream. The current version of the GI Bill is financially generous, broadly accessible, and can be applied at almost any public or private institution in America. Unlike many of America's most selective colleges and universities however, Syracuse University is committed to recruiting, admitting and enrolling veterans of recent wars in order to pursue and achieve Chancellor Syverud's goal to make Syracuse University the "Best Place for Veterans™."

Chancellor Syverud understands that an investment in today's student veteran is an investment in our nation's future. Today, more than 5% of the student body at Syracuse University - some 1,200+ students - are military-connected. This reflects an increase in military-connected enrollment of more than 500% in just five years since the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs (OVMA) was established.

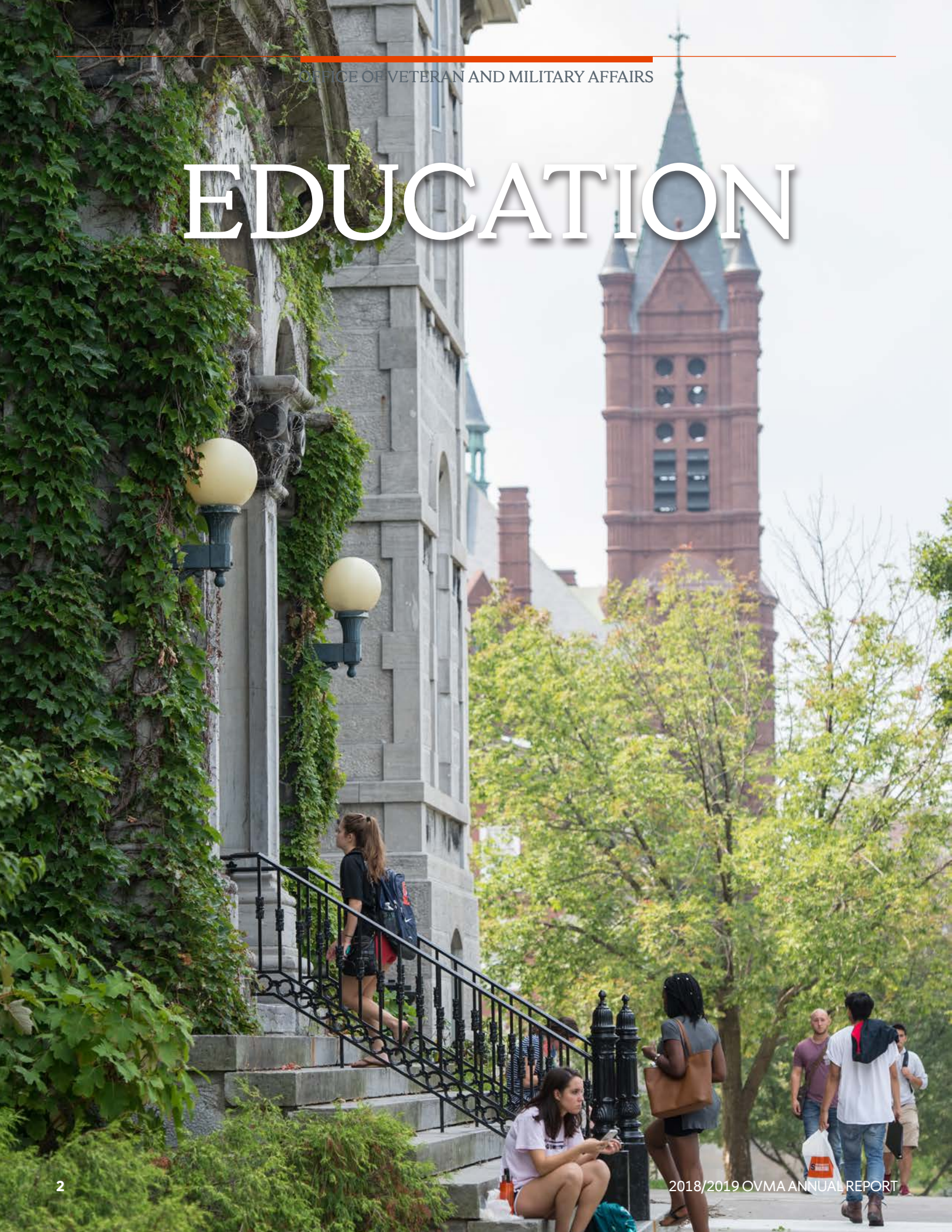
This report chronicles what the OVMA team has accomplished over the last 12 months, based on its lines of effort: education, employment, programs, campus culture, and development. These designations represent the strategic initiatives of the OVMA that effectively leverage Syracuse University's strengths - leadership, resources, alumni, community partnerships, supporters, faculty, and staff. More significantly, this report reflects the impact of our military-connected students as leaders and agents of change at Syracuse University. These students have achieved awards for both academic excellence and community service, they have been granted prestigious scholarships, owning titles such as Tillman, Gillman, Udall, and Remembrance Scholars. They have defined what it means to "Be Orange".

The military-connected students in these pages reflect the very best of Syracuse University. As a veteran myself, it is an honor to serve this community by enabling their success in higher education and beyond.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Novack", written over a horizontal line.

Ron Novack
COL, USA, Ret.
Executive Director, OVMA
Veteran Legacy Fund Leadership Circle Member

EDUCATION



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY'S MILITARY/VETERAN RANKINGS

Syracuse University was once again recognized for its distinguished history of serving veterans and military families. *Military Times*' Best for Vets: Colleges 2019 report, released in November 2018, ranked Syracuse University as the #1 private school in the country and #4 overall for service members, military veterans and their families.

Additionally, for the second consecutive year, the College of Engineering and Computer Science's cybersecurity program was ranked #1 by Military Times.



#1 RANKING MILITARYTIMES



RANKED #1
CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM



RANKED #1
PRIVATE SCHOOL



RANKED #4
OVERALL FOR SERVICE MEMBERS,
VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES

INITIATIVES & PROGRAMS

- Yellow Ribbon—UNLIMITED
- Early Registration
- Veterans Welcome Orientation & Fair
- Full-time Veterans Recruiter and Career Service Provider
- Office of Veteran Success
- Hometown Hero
- MBA@Syracuse—30% Participants are Veteran and Military Connected
- Pat Tillman Scholarship
- VetSuccess on Campus
- Warrior Scholar Program
- Veterans Legal Clinic
- Transitioning Student Veterans to Campus Life



ACTIVE DUTY & MILITARY CONNECTED

U.S. Army ROTC	119
U.S. Air Force ROTC	54
Defense Comptroller Program (DCP)	24
Military Photojournalism	19
Advanced Motion Media	13
National Security Studies (NSS)	61
War College Fellows	1
iSchool (SIGCEN)	14

Syracuse University

SPRING 2019 MILITARY CONNECTED ENROLLMENT

Academic Level	Veteran	Dependent	Currently Serving	Other Military Connected	Total
Undergraduate	127	259	47	113	546
Graduate	404	106	135	12	657
Law	25	13	9	0	47
Total	556	378	191	125	1,250

PAST MILITARY CONNECTED ENROLLMENT

Academic Level	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018
Undergraduate	416	474	477	561
Graduate	335	517	535	606
Law	13	30	29	39
Total	764	1021	1041	1206

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



"THE BEST PLACE FOR VETERANS"

PAT TILLMAN FOUNDATION



Graduate student Katy Quartaro '18, G'20, an executive master of public administration candidate in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, was named the 2019 Tillman Scholar for Syracuse University. She joins an elite class of 60 U.S. service members, veterans and military spouses chosen this year from across the nation that will receive more than \$1.2 million in scholarship funding to pursue higher education degrees from the Pat Tillman Foundation (PTF).

"I am honored and humbled to be selected as a Tillman Scholar, and I am thrilled for the opportunity to represent Syracuse University and the Pat Tillman Foundation in the coming year and beyond," said Quartaro. "To be a Tillman Scholar means I get to be a part of an outstanding network of some of the best and brightest future leaders in the country. I am blown away by the caliber of the men and women I will be able to connect with, and look forward to learning from them as I work toward my goal of supporting and improving American national security. I hope I can make my Orange family proud and honor Pat's legacy of selfless service and leadership to make an impact during my remaining time at Syracuse University and after graduation."



Syracuse University was invited to become a Pat Tillman Foundation University Partner in 2017.

The Tillman Scholar Program unites and empowers remarkable military veterans and spouses as the next generation of public and private sector leaders committed to service beyond self.

Syracuse University shares these ideals and is proud to support Tillman Scholars on our campus.



Syracuse University 2018 Tillman Scholar Robin Evans led a corral at the 15th Annual Pat's Run with the Pat Tillman Foundation on April 27th in Mesa, AZ.



HONOR STUDENTS

GILMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Student veterans Tristan Carson and Zack Watson were recipients of the U.S. Department of State's Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship. Highly competitive, the Gilman Scholarship's mission is to broaden and diversify the student population that studies and interns abroad.



Tristan Carson, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and English education major in the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Education. Carson is a member of the SVO and the recipient of the 2018 SVO People's Choice Award for his positive attitude and participation in the student organization. Carson studied abroad in Spain during the summer 2019 term.



Zack Watson, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, is studying political science in the College of Arts and Sciences and the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. Watson participated in the University's performance of "Separated" at Syracuse Stage, is a member of the Student Veterans Organization (SVO), and played on the University's club rugby team. As a Gilman Scholar, Watson studied in London during the Spring 2019 semester.

UDALL SCHOLARSHIP



Army ROTC Cadet Bethany Murphy, a first-generation environmental engineering major from Massachusetts, was selected to Receive Prestigious Udall Scholarship. Last year, Murphy received a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship. Murphy will intern at the Colorado Basin River Forecast Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, this summer through NOAA, forecasting water supply given data on snowpack and other climatic conditions. Murphy plans to combine her environmental engineering training with her understanding of military operations and organizational structures to approach the issue of reducing the military's environmental footprint. She plans to commission into the U.S. Army as an engineering officer.

REMEMBRANCE SCHOLARS



Army ROTC Cadets Marshall Lipsey and Bethany Murphy were named two of the thirty-five students who will be the 2019-20 Remembrance Scholars. The scholarships were founded as a tribute to—and means of remembering—the 35 students who were killed in the Dec. 21, 1988, bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Marshall Lipsey of West Orange, New Jersey, is a political science major in the College of Arts and Sciences and the Maxwell School, a psychology major in the College of Arts and Sciences, and a member of the Army ROTC.

Bethany Murphy of Seekonk, Massachusetts, is an environmental engineering major in the College of Engineering and Computer Science and a member of the Army ROTC.

STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA (SVA) LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



Syracuse University student veterans Nicklaus Brincka and Jonathan Quinlan were accepted to the Student Veterans of America (SVA) Leadership Institute in D.C. in September, 2018. The Summit brought together student veterans leaders to exchange best practices from their SVA Chapters and to explore campus-level leadership concepts that can easily be applied at home. The Summit is hosted with one or more SVA corporate partners, which gives student veterans the opportunity to network and learn from business leaders while they attend. Vice Chancellor Dr. Mike Haynie was one of the leaders SVA invited to the summit.

VETERANS' COMMENCEMENT

Syracuse University recognized graduating student veterans with a ceremony and reception in the David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics Grant Auditorium on Friday, May 10, at 10 a.m.. During the ceremony, Vice Chancellor Mike Haynie presented graduates with a red, white, and blue honor cord to wear proudly with their regalia. The graduates represent 46 different majors from all of the University's schools and colleges with the masters of business administration and boasting the largest enrollments. The ceremony included an address from keynote speaker, U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel Pia Rogers '98, MPA '98/J.D. '01.



“You’re a veteran - mixing that orange with the red, white and blue DNA ... that’s some powerful stuff.”

—LTC Pia Rogers 'G '98, L '01

ROTC COMMISSIONING

On Friday, 10th, twenty three U.S. Army and eight U.S. Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadets officially became the next generation of military leaders at Syracuse University's annual commissioning ceremony held at Hendricks Chapel. Brig. Gen. Todd Lazaroski, deputy commanding general of the 412th Theater Engineer Command delivered the keynote address.

Cadets graduated from six area colleges and universities: Syracuse University, Le Moyne College, Utica College, Hamilton College, the SUNY College at Oswego and the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.



“This year’s commissioning cadets continue a long and honorable tradition of service and dedication to our nation’s defense”

—Ron Novack, Col., U.S. Army Ret., Executive Director, OVMA



CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS



New York State ACME Conference



Enduring Assurance Workshop

Enduring Assurance Workshop: Mission Assurance in Cyberspace, the IoT, and the Cloud

The Office of Veteran and Military Affairs assisted the College of Engineering and Computer Science in hosting the first Enduring Assurance Workshop. Professor Shiu-Kai Chin, Professor Susan Older, David G. Edelstein Professor for Broadening Participation, and Department Chair of EECS Jae Oh joined more than 20 selected experts from the Department of Defense, academia and the cyberspace industry at the workshop on August 22-24, 2018, at Syracuse University’s Minnowbrook Conference Center on Blue Mountain Lake in the Adirondacks. The Enduring Assurance Workshop was an invitation-only opportunity to help set the research and development agenda for the U.S. Air Force (USAF) in support of cybersecurity.



2018 New York State Advisory Council on Military Education Annual Conference

On Sept. 26-28, Syracuse University’s Office of Veteran and Military Affairs hosted over 20 colleges and universities for the annual convening of the New York State Advisory Council on Military Education (NYS ACME). The yearly meeting brought together institutions, including Binghamton University, Fordham University, Rochester Institute of Technology, St. Bonaventure, various SUNY schools and others, together to share best practices, current trends, and new policies as they relate to military education. The three-day conference included presentations from Syracuse University leaders, including Vice Chancellor Mike Haynie, Ron Novack, Rosalinda Maury, Linda Euto, Ph.D., Jennifer Pluta, and Ben Dotger, Ph.D..



2019 Student Veterans of America (SVA) National Conference

In January 2019, a group of Syracuse University students, composed of 17 student veterans, two ROTC cadets, one military spouse and two students from the University Student Association, attended the Student Veterans of America (SVA) National Conference in Orlando, FL. The twenty-two students, attendance was made possible by generous supporters who donate to the Veteran Legacy Fund (VLF). Vice Chancellor Haynie presented the conference keynote speech while Ron Novack, Jennifer Pluta, Misty Stutsman and Rosalinda Maury presented on several panels examining the student veteran landscape and challenges. Vice Chancellor Haynie’s keynote discussed how institutions of higher education and veterans mutually benefit when veterans enroll post-service.





2019 NASPA Symposium on Military-Connected Students (SMCS)

Leaders from Syracuse University’s Office of Veteran and Military Affairs (OVMA) and Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) traveled in February 2019 to Las Vegas to share expertise around serving military-connected students during the annual National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Symposium on Military-Connected Students.

2019 Council of College and Military Education (CCME) Professional Development Symposium

The OVMA leadership and IVMF research team took part on a panel on “collaboration within and beyond your campus: the importance of relationship building for the veteran education community” at the 2019 CCME symposium in Austin, TX. Syracuse University’s team shared its best practices together with the representatives from Middle Tennessee State University, and Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

2019 Workshop on Risk Management for Human and Cyber Security

Syracuse University hosted an interdisciplinary workshop on risk management for human and cyber security. The cross-University collaboration including the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs, was led by U.S. Air Force strategist Col. William E. Young, creator of the Air Force’s cybersecurity doctrine. The doctrine, System-Theoretic Process Analysis for Security and Its Derivative Functional Mission Analysis, serves as the foundation for the Air Force’s mission analysis methodology. Under Young’s instruction, workshop participants learned how to systematically and rigorously develop system-level constraints based on Air Force missions and unacceptable losses.



PROGRAMS



2018 SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY WARRIOR-SCHOLAR PROJECT



Syracuse University hosted the Warrior-Scholar Project (WSP) for the fourth time during an intensive one-week academic boot camp from July 13- 20, 2018. The Warrior-Scholar Project coordinates immersive academic preparation courses for enlisted military veterans of any skill level at America's top universities. This year, the WSP at Syracuse University hosted 15 veterans.

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.



TRANSITIONING MILITARY VETERANS TO UNIVERSITY LIFE



OVMA partnered with Hendricks Chapel for the third year to host the Transitioning Military Veterans to University Life program. This program is designed to provide newly admitted undergraduate student veterans with the resources and peer advisors necessary to make a smooth transition into a college setting. This 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. Fall 2018 had a cohort of 15 students, who did exceptionally well, both in class and on campus.

WOHL FAMILY VETERANS LEGAL CLINIC

The Wohl Family Veterans Legal Clinic provides representation to veterans and their families who are seeking benefits from the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) or upgrading a military discharge through the various military branches. The clinic leverages law students, who engage in fact investigation, drafting persuasive letters and briefs to the various governmental agencies to advocate for clients. In addition to client representation, the clinic engages in community outreach at the local VA hospital and at the Veterans Outreach Center in Utica.

1315 REQUESTS

FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE INCLUDING:

912,499

VETERAN POPULATION
IN NEW YORK STATE



97 NEW CASES

144 CLOSED CASES 141 PENDING CASES

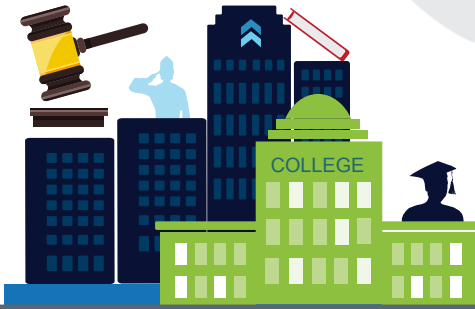


EDUCATION

87



STUDENT ATTORNEYS TRAINED
TO BE THE NEXT GENERATION
OF VETERAN ADVOCATES



“The SVLC has
changed my whole life
in a very good way.
I couldn’t be happier.”

- Former Client

PAY AWARDS & BENEFITS



\$1,381,253

IN BACK PAY AWARDS

ANNUAL BENEFITS INCREASED

\$15,233

ON AVERAGE



ESTIMATED **\$25,044,167**

IN FUTURE BENEFITS BASED
ON LIFE EXPECTANCY

VETERAN CLIENTS SAVED

\$2,460,500

IN ATTORNEY’S FEES



19,684

HOURS OF STUDENT
PRO BONO WORK

13

VETERANS
ELIGIBLE FOR
VA HEALTHCARE



NEW YORK STATE

31

COUNTIES HAD SERVICES
REQUESTED BY VETERANS



CASES ACCEPTED:

503

ONONDAGA COUNTY



215

ONEIDA COUNTY



45

JEFFERSON COUNTY





MILITARY VISUAL JOURNALISM

The Newhouse School is home to two Department of Defense-sponsored programs that teach active-duty service members photojournalism and broadcast journalism. The government students enrolled in the Military Photojournalism (MPJ) and Military Motion Media (MMM) programs are serving in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force as mass communication specialists, photographers and videographers. The MPJ program had 19 students, and the MMM program had 13 students. These service members come to Newhouse for 10 months to learn how to become better storytellers, taking 30 credits of coursework in communications, photojournalism, photography, broadcast and digital journalism, design, sound and documentary production.

DEFENSE COMPTROLLERSHIP PROGRAM

Since 1952, Syracuse University's Whitman School of Management has been home to the Defense Comptrollership Program (DCP). This program represents a unique cooperative endeavor between Syracuse University and the Department of Defense. In collaboration with the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, participants complete the program with a Master of Business as well as a Master of Public Administration.



CAMPUS



NATIONAL VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER

On March 13, 2019, the last piece of steel was installed as part of the construction of the National Veterans Resource Center (NVRC), a first-of-its-kind facility that will house the OVMA, IVMF, Air Force and Army ROTC, and other veteran and military connected offices and initiatives. The work is on schedule and the NVRC will open in spring 2020. The progress of the NVRC construction can be viewed at nvrc.syr.edu.

FORT DRUM PARTNERSHIP



Youth Football Day

On August 19th, 2018, Syracuse University Football hosted children and families from the Fort Drum community for a Youth “Cuse Camp”. During the youth day, football players ran the children through drills and activities. Players, including Marine Corps veteran and walk-on wide receiver Ben Brickman, spoke to children about the importance of being in school and signed autographs following the day’s activities.



Chancellor Visit to Ft Drum

On November 29th 2018, Chancellor Syverud visited the 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum to observe soldiers of the 1st Brigade Combat Team conduct field training exercises and learn more about how the division trains at Fort Drum, New York. This trip was the second visit for the Chancellor Syverud and Dr Chen has visited to Fort Drum. The focus of this visit was to see soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division train in a field environment in preparation for their upcoming deployment.

MAJOR GENERAL PEGGY COMBS RETIREMENT

On November 8th, 2018, U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Peggy Combs '85, the highest-ranking female military officer to graduate from Syracuse University, celebrated her retirement after 33 years of service. Her retirement ceremony was held in Hendricks Chapel- the same place she took her initial oath of service in 1985.

“To begin and end my Army career at Syracuse is significant and meaningful to me,” said Combs. “The University helped to shape me into the person I am today, and I am tremendously proud of my alma mater as they support and empower my fellow veterans, service members and their families.”





“To begin and end my Army career at Syracuse is significant and meaningful to me”

VETERAN'S DAY CEREMONY

On Friday, November 9th, 2018, students, staff, and faculty of Syracuse University and members of the surrounding community gathered at Hendricks Chapel to honor U.S. military veterans and their families. Derek Brainard, a US Navy veteran, MBA student, and adjunct professor at University College, emceed the ceremony and helped to honor all branches of the military during the program. Maj Gen (Ret.) Peggy Combs, a 1985 graduate of the Syracuse University ROTC program, was the keynote speaker and Chancellor Syverud was presented with a US flag flown during a combat mission over Afghanistan. This annual ceremony aligns with Syracuse University's mission to be the "best place for veterans" and includes educational information regarding the history of Veteran's Day in the United States, as well as the University's connection to the military and commitment to serving veterans.



VETERANS DAY PROFILES

SAMUEL CLEMENCE



Samuel Clemence is a Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering at Syracuse University and a US Navy veteran. He joined the US Navy during the Vietnam War and became a Civil Engineer following Officer Candidate School. Part of Mobile Construction Battalion 3, Clemence served in Guam; Danang, Vietnam; Phong Tong, Thailand; Chu Lai, Vietnam; and Rota, Spain, and separated honorably in 1968. After earning a PhD using GI Bill benefits, Clemence began teaching civil engineering at Syracuse University in 1977. He did not disclose his service in Vietnam, but made sure to look out for student veterans and ROTC students in his classes. While an interim Dean at Hendricks Chapel, he implemented a transition program to help student veterans' transition to campus. Clemence also recently served as interim Ombuds at Syracuse University. Clemence is happy to see the change in atmosphere inspired by Dr. Mike Haynie and Chancellor Syverud's commitment to making Syracuse University the best place for veterans.

PHILLIP GEORGE



Part of the Oneida tribe, Phillip George served in the U.S. Army. George chose to attend Syracuse University after recognizing its commitment to the Haudenosaunee people, but realized the University's dedication to veterans helped provide him with a sense of belonging and community, even as an older, indigenous student veteran. Phillip studies international relations and religion in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs and the College of Arts and Sciences, and will graduate in 2020.

MIN KANG KIM



Born and raised in Korea, Min Kang Kim decided to join the U.S. Army through the Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest program, and she served as logistics specialist in Korea and Fort Drum, NY before separating in order to pursue higher education. Kim applied for the Green to Gold program, which allows her to pursue a degree and obtain a commission through ROTC and preserve her GI Bill educational benefits for further study following graduation. Kim says the discipline she learned in the Army has helped her be more successful during her time as an economics major at Syracuse University than she was during her pre-Army experience at Binghamton University. Her decision to attend Syracuse University was influenced by the Institution's rankings for veteran support and says Syracuse University has a very "veteran-positive" atmosphere, and that her professors are all supportive and understanding of her experience.

BETH KUBALA



Beth Kubala serves as the Senior Director for Strategy and Performance for the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Beth served as a Military Intelligence Officer, and later an Army lawyer in the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps. As a member of the JAG Corps, Beth had the opportunity to serve in multiple legal roles, including prosecution, defense, and even as a military judge. She retired from the Army after 22 years of service, and now continues her service with the IVMF.

VONN READ



Now Associate Coach for the Women's Basketball team, Vonn served in the U.S. Army as a Unit Supply Specialist with the GI Bill as a motivating factor. Read served for four years then went to school at Clark Atlanta. Read credits his service with helping him "grow up in a hurry," and the structure and discipline inherent to the Army helped set a foundation for his future success. Read appreciates the camaraderie in the military and his service led to him meeting many people who would have a significant impact on his life. Read thinks it is great to see Syracuse University's collaboration with Ft. Drum, where he served during his time in the Army, and is proud to work at a place that honors and values servicemembers.

AMANDA RYLEE



When Amanda Rylee joined the Army as a Computer Analysis Repairer in 2013, women were not allowed to serve in combat occupations, but the Alabama native is now a second Lieutenant in the Army's Field Artillery branch. She graduated with an associate's degree and earned an early commission through Marion Military Institute, one of four military junior colleges in the nation. Amanda then chose to finish her education at Syracuse University because of its commitment to veterans and military-connected students, and the caliber of the programs available at the Whitman School of Management. Amanda studied Entrepreneurship and Emerging Enterprises, and graduated in May 2019. While a student, she was active in student veteran programs, and was awarded for her superior performance as a Peer Advisor in the P.A.V.E. program.



STARS AND STRIPES TAILGATE

On September 22nd, 2018, Syracuse University and the Office of Veterans and Military Affairs hosted the annual Stars and Stripes Tailgate inside Manley Fieldhouse prior to the Syracuse University vs University of Connecticut football game. During the tailgate, service members and their families from the Fort Drum community, student veterans, and Syracuse University veteran community members participated in activities including a raffle where participants won items donated from around the Syracuse community. The tailgate was attended by over 600 participants, almost half of which traveled from Ft. Drum. This year's tailgate was made possible in part through the generous support of Loretto Health and Rehabilitation, who served as the first ever community sponsor for the event.



MILITARY APPRECIATION GAME

Over 3,000 military service members, veterans and their families from the Syracuse area and Fort Drum were honored at the military appreciation SU football game vs UCONN on September 22, 2018. Prior to kickoff, 15 high school seniors from Central New York took the oath of enlistment to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. Holly Gerber-George, an Army ROTC Cadet, sang the National Anthem while members of the 174th Attack Wing held the large US flag on the field. Colonel Michael Smith, Commander of the 174th Attack Wing, and Chief Master Sergeant Michael Will, the Senior Enlisted Advisor for the wing, conducted the coin toss as honorary captains. Senior Airman Nicholas Matthews of Liverpool was honored as the Hometown Hero for the game.

2018-19 HOMETOWN HEROES

- September 08, 2018
U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) and Tillman Scholar Robin Evans
- September 12, 2018
U.S. Army Specialist Myles Shoemaker
- September 16, 2018
U.S. Navy Mass Communications Specialist 1st Class Kathryn Holm
- September 21, 2018
U.S. Navy Yeoman First Class Jillian Johansen
- September 22, 2018
Senior Airman Nicholas Matthews
- October 08, 2018
U.S. Army Veteran Alejandro Garcia
- October 19, 2018
Air Force ROTC Cadet Dan Pesci
- October 20, 2018
U.S. Navy Spouse and Tillman Scholar Katie Piston
- October 27, 2018
U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Benjamin Jeffries
- November 09, 2018
U.S. Army Major General (Ret) Peggy Combs
- November 10, 2018
Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Michael Zingaro
- November 19, 2018
U.S. Army Veteran and Army ROTC Cadet Maria Delgado
- December 29, 2018
U.S. Army Spouse Vanessa Marquette
- February 24, 2019
U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Beth Kubala



MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT OF THE MONTH FEATURES



GEORGE CANINO

Born and raised in Spain, George Canino pursued an associate's degree in international business from Schiller International University in Madrid before he made a serious change and reported to the United States to serve in the US Army. Canino was stationed at Fort Drum, where he learned about the Green to Gold commissioning program. Syracuse University was a natural choice for George, and the OVMA helped make sure he was ready for classes despite getting approval to head to the University mere days before the beginning of the semester. Canino is now pursuing a political science degree from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs and hopes to pursue a law degree and work for a law enforcement or intelligence agency following his graduation in 2020.



MARIA HELD

Maria is a native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and obtained US citizenship in 2010. She enlisted in the US Army Reserves in 2008, and has served as a medic in many capacities, successfully completing numerous training opportunities stateside and internationally and deploying to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for nine months. Maria completed a health science degree from George Washington University and enrolled in the Master of Public Health program at the David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics, while pursuing a commission in the Syracuse University Army ROTC program. She commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and graduated in Spring 2019. She will report to her duty station following engineer training.



MOISE LAUB

Moise, raised in Oklahoma after being adopted from Haiti, joined the US Navy in 2006 after the birth of his daughter. He served in San Diego, Oklahoma, and at the Military Entrance Processing Station at Hancock Field in Syracuse. Moise was granted three years' career intermission to pursue his education and is now pursuing an international relations degree from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. The father of four has been involved in student veteran and inclusion groups and hopes to either pursue a law degree or further his Navy career after graduating. His goal is to be a human rights attorney or an involved global citizen, working to make the world a better place.



STEPHANIE MALM

A Minnesota native and member of the Minnesota National Guard since 2005, Stephanie Malm says the challenges of deploying to Iraq and Kuwait as a satellite communications specialist really helped her find herself. A graduate of Capella University and current online MBA student at the Whitman School of Management, Stephanie has connected with campus-based students and become an involved member of the Syracuse University veteran community. Stephanie says she knows she can connect with and count on student veterans to help her with any challenges she may face. She attended the 2019 Student Veterans of America National Convention and found the opportunity very rewarding. "At Natcon, I used my voice not just as a mom, a wife, a student or a coach, but as a female veteran and it was empowering to do so," she said.



CHLOE MILLIKEN

Chloe Milliken joined the Army in 2013 as an explosive ordnance disposal technician, wanting the opportunity to serve in combat, but limited by the options available to women at the time. Chloe was stationed at Fort Drum, NY, and supported the Secret Service and law enforcement while stateside. In 2015, she deployed to Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. During a mission in February 2016, Chloe's vehicle was hit by an Improvised Explosive Device and she was evacuated to a Kandahar hospital. Returning to action a week later, Milliken was awarded a Combat Action Badge, Army Commendation Medal and Purple Heart for her service. Chloe, who graduated in May 2019 with a political science degree from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, took full advantage of opportunities for veterans on campus and benefitted from the personal connections and resources available for veterans at Syracuse University. She has secured a job with the Department of Justice, and hopes to pursue her dream of becoming a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.



DANIELLE SHEPPARD

Motivated by the September 11th terrorist attacks and inspired by the story of Pat Tillman, Danielle Sheppard joined the US Army as a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapons specialist. She deployed to Iraq twice and served as a recruiter in New Jersey. Now living in Los Angeles and pursuing an online MBA, Danielle has used her connections to build a network. She attended the 2019 Student Veterans of America National Convention, and plans to take advantage of the Institute for Veterans and Military Families' (IVMF) Entrepreneurship Boot Camp for Veterans to get her business- Above Average- off the ground. Above Average will be a clothing line focusing on jeans for tall women. She also hopes to work on a program designed to connect veterans to programs like the IVMF.

STUDENT VETERANS ORGANIZATION



OPERATION ORANGE DROP



On December 7, 2018, members of the Student Veterans Organization at Syracuse University conducted their annual “Operation Orange Drop”, an effort to send care packages to deployed members of the military.

SVO AWARDS BANQUET



Photos by Benson Imaging

On Saturday, March 30th, the SVO hosted its annual Awards Banquet at ClearPath for Veterans in Chittenango, NY. U.S. Marine Corps veteran Charlie Poag, a current public relations and political science major, served as the banquet’s emcee. U.S. Army veteran Mark Erwin G’12, who is now employed as a Health Systems Specialist for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, delivered the evening’s keynote speech.

During the event, the SVO presented two awards. Will Harrington ’21 received the Organization’s “Best for Vets” award, which is presented to the individual who has done the most to help student veterans succeed both on and off campus. Syeisha Byrd, Director of the Office of Engagement Programs at Hendricks Chapel was honored with the Community Support Award, which recognizes the individual who has done the most to support veterans, active duty military members and civilians on campus, throughout the Syracuse community and across the globe.

The Office of Veteran and Military Affairs (OVMA) also presented two awards. The SGT Danny Facto Student Veterans Work-Study Award was presented to Marine Corps veteran Katy Quartaro ’18, G’20. The honor is presented to a student veteran who reflects the value and character of Danny Facto, a decorated combat veteran, Purple Heart recipient and the first Syracuse University VA Work Study recipient who passed away in 2009. To conclude the evening, the OVMA presented the Student Veteran of the Year award to Chloe Milliken ’19. The Student Veteran of the Year award is the highest honor bestowed by the OVMA.

MLK Dinner

10 student veterans were given the opportunity to attend the University’s annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration on January 27th, 2019. The celebration honored “Unsung Heroes” of the Syracuse community who are champions for those in need. The event also featured Daily Show Host and author, Trevor Noah, whose book “Born a Crime” was assigned as part of the Syracuse Reads program for first year and transfer students.



BE ORANGE

As a part of the Syracuse University “Be Orange” campaign, student veterans Rob Rivera and Katherine Quartaro were featured in an effort to tell the story of what it means to “be orange” as a Syracuse University student veteran.

For more than a decade, Rob Rivera journeyed on a path of public service that he embraced with enthusiasm. As a member of the U.S. Army National Guard, he worked as a geospatial military intelligence analyst at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, observing drone and satellite reconnaissance and passing information up the chain of command. He also served his local community in New Jersey as an emergency medical technician (EMT). In 2010, all that changed when Rivera suffered a spinal cord injury at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. In 2016, Rivera’s path led him to Syracuse University where he recently graduated with a dual masters in International Relations and Public Relations. He has embraced the veterans’ community, acting as the public affairs officer for the Student Veterans Organization from 2018-2019. Speaking of Syracuse University’s commitment to veterans Rivera said, “I think the emphasis that particularly the Chancellor and others on down have made toward the veteran community is noted. And it’s not talk. It’s real and it’s in action.”

Katy Quartaro ’18 joined the Marine Corps in 2008 with the goal of making the world a better place. Today she remains on her path with the help of Syracuse University’s student veteran resources. “Becoming involved in campus resources that are here to help veterans-the Student Veterans Organization, the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs and Veteran Career Services-helped so much.” said Quartaro. Quartaro graduated in December with a B.S. in forensic science and a B.S. in psychology and is now enrolled in the executive master of public administration program in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. “Ultimately, I want to work for the government in counterterrorism or intelligence, so a good foundation in public leadership is important,” she asserts. She serves as an executive intern for the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs (OVMA) and as a team leader for Peer Advisors for Veteran Education (PAVE).



PAVE

As a Peer Advisors for Veteran Education (PAVE) partner campus for the third year, Syracuse's PAVE team, led by team leader, Katherine Quartaro '18, G '19, paired all incoming undergraduate student veterans with one of fourteen peer advisors in an effort to help them navigate college life, address challenges they may face, refer them to appropriate resources on and off campus, and provide ongoing support. On April 27, 2018, OVMA and PAVE hosted an end-of-year dinner to celebrate the first year success of new student veterans. The "Celebration of First-Year Success," sponsored by Hendricks Chapel, was held at the Nancy Cantor Warehouse. The evening's program included welcoming remarks by Katherine Quartaro, dinner, awards and speeches from first-year student veterans as well as veteran-dedicated Syracuse staff.

"The event really recognizes the community of support at Syracuse," says Quartaro. "Transitioning to higher education after a military career is no easy feat. Our first-year students triumphed, and that is something to celebrate."



ARMY AND AIR FORCE ROTC

ARMY TEN MILER

On October 7th, 2018, six Army ROTC Cadets completed the Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY COLOR GUARD AT 2K CLASSIC AT MADISON SQUARE GARDENS

On November 15th, 2018, the Syracuse University Army ROTC Color Guard presented the colors at the men's basketball game against University of Connecticut in the 2K Classic Tournament at Madison Square Gardens. The tournament benefits the Wounded Warrior Project. A recent University College graduate Earl Fontenot was honored during the game.



9/11 MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL TRIP

On November 16th, 2018, Air Force and Army cadets visited the National September 11th Memorial and Museum in New York City to pay tribute to the fallen.



JUNIOR ROTC FITNESS CHALLENGE

The University's Army and Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program hosted nearly 100 area high school Junior ROTC members at the Carrier Dome on March 7 for the second annual Junior ROTC Fitness Challenge. Organized exclusively by Syracuse University cadets, the event supports physical fitness and exposes JROTC members to future educational and ROTC opportunities.





VETERANS AFFINITY GROUP

Over the past year, the diverse Veteran Affinity Group continued to work toward its mission to engage the veteran community; unite the faculty and staff veteran groups; influence veteran-friendly policy, regulations and procedures; and inform the university community. The Veteran Affinity Group participated in numerous service projects and community events. The group continued to focus on improving the veterans' section of Oakwood cemetery, and are working to obtain gravestones for unmarked plots. The Affinity group hosted multiple successful social events to connect veterans and military-connected students, staff, and family members, including an event at the Genesee Grande Hotel on March 21st, during which approximately 50 veterans and Chancellor Syverud met and networked. The Veterans Affinity Group also participated in two honor flight welcome events, and members hosted monthly luncheons where they spoke on a variety of topics, from artificial intelligence and policy, to Hispanic military members' impacts.

WHAT'S BREWIN'

In collaboration with the IVMF, OVMA was included in multiple "What's Brewin'" episodes. "What's Brewin'" are short interview features that are shared on OVMA and IVMF social media outlets monthly. OVMA features included discussions with Warrior Scholar Project Fellows Wesley Hughes and Darryl Forster, Tillman Scholars Katie Piston and LTC (Ret) Robin Evans, and Maj Gen (Ret) Peggy Combs, Syracuse University's highest ranking female alum. Office of Veteran Success's Kari MicKinkle and University College's Christopher Schulz, as well as Scott Taylor and Jessica Calhoun from Admissions also contributed, adding valuable information to the discussions on what makes Syracuse University the "best place for vets."

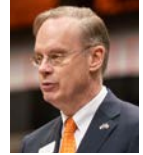




CHANCELLOR'S REVIEW

"I'm proud to say that veteran and military connected enrollment has passed the 5% of our total enrollment here at Syracuse University."

—Chancellor Syverud, Syracuse University



Chancellor Kent Syverud and leaders from Syracuse University and its Office of Veteran and Military Affairs were joined by special guests, alumni, community members and educational partners to host the 102nd Annual Chancellor's Review. The celebration included an awards ceremony and public review of the ROTC cadets in the Carrier Dome on Friday, March 8. "Syracuse University's ROTC cadets are smart, hardworking and civic-minded," says Chancellor Syverud. "I'm proud to say that veteran and military connected enrollment has passed the 5% of our total enrollment here at Syracuse University." Syracuse University is committed to building on its long legacy of supporting the nation's veterans and military families. For example, the University has the oldest continuously running Army ROTC program in the nation and is consistently placed among the best universities for veteran rankings. Celebration attendees viewed the current ROTC members as they performed drill and ceremonies in formation as they are reviewed by Chancellor Syverud. Cadets were also presented with awards celebrating their many achievements throughout the year.





DEVELOPMENT



BOSTON STAFF RIDE



Senior cadets in the Syracuse University Army and Air Force ROTC programs participated in a staff ride to Boston this year. The cadets were afforded the opportunity to study historic sites and military events as well as develop their understanding of military decision making. The staff ride included tours of Hanscom Air Force Base, Bunker Hill, the USS Constitution, the Minute Man Museum, Paul Revere’s capture site at Lexington, the Old North Bridge and Concord.

FLYIN’ IRISH BASKETBALL



Syracuse University Air Force ROTC cadets attended the Flyin’ Irish basketball tournament at Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana. The team operated as the Det 535 “flying Orange.” The cadets’ attendance of this event was made possible by the Dottle Family ROTC Support Fund.

OPEN HOUSE



Syracuse University has a long and storied history of supporting our nation’s veterans and military-connected students. During Orange Central weekend, Syracuse University alumni visited the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs (OVMA) to learn about our history, including the longest continuously running Army ROTC program in the nation, former Chancellor William Tolley’s call to open the doors of the University to more than 10,000 World War II veterans, stories of fellow alumni who served our great nation, and so much more.

VETERAN LEGACY FUND “1944 CIRCLE”

G.O.L.D. - Graduates of the Last Decade

In 2015, the Veteran Legacy Fund (VLF) was established as a means of garnering support from alums, friends and community members who stand with us in our aspirations of making Syracuse University “the best place for veterans™” and military-connected students. In 2017, the Veterans Legacy Fund “Leadership Circle” was created to recognize and give thanks to those individuals who have made multi-year leadership annual gifts in support of our work.

The Office of Veteran and Military Affairs believes each supporter of the VLF deserves special recognition. That said, we also understand the challenges our recent graduates face as they transition to the workforce, start new careers and begin or continue raising families. OVMA will now recognize “graduates of the last decade” (G.O.L.D.), who desire to take their commitment a step further.

Syracuse University graduates from within the last decade are formally invited to become part of the Veteran Legacy Fund 1944 Circle. Members make a five-year pledge of \$100 or more annually to provide unrestricted support to our initiatives. For more information, please contact the OVMA Development team at 315-443-0141.



1944 Circle

OVMA ADVISORY BOARD



A dedicated group of allies in the University’s efforts to create and sustain programs, initiatives and opportunities for military-connected students, the Office of

Veteran and Military Affairs Advisory Board convened twice on campus this year. Members of the board were thrilled to see just how much progress has been made in the construction of the National Veterans Resource Center (NVRC) between November 2018 and May 2019.

2018-2019 Board members include:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
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Supporting Our Veterans

The Veteran Legacy Fund provides support to the Syracuse University military-connected community. We would like to thank the donors of the Veteran Legacy Fund listed below for their gifts and continued generosity:

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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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Leadership Circle

Powerful group of supporters

* Deceased

A close-up, vertical view of the American flag, showing the blue field with white stars and the red and white stripes. The flag is slightly wrinkled and appears to be draped or hanging. The background is a blurred, out-of-focus version of the same flag, creating a sense of depth.

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

“CONNECTING THE PAST TO
INFORM THE FUTURE...”

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The Office of Veteran and Military Families is the recipient of many gifts each year that honor or memorialize our friends, patrons and loved ones. We are grateful to the following who made such gifts between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018.





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.



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