



OFFICE OF VETERAN AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
2019-2020
ANNUAL REPORT



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.

Cover Photo: May 4, 1917, the first "Grand Review" of the Student Army Training Corps (SATC) in the Quad. Today, this ceremony is known as Chancellor's Review.



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



This year marks Syracuse University’s sesquicentennial anniversary. Founded in 1870, Syracuse University has spent much of its 150-year history celebrating and honoring veterans, military service members, and their families. Today, Syracuse University is home to many military-connected programs and initiatives including the longest consecutively running Army ROTC program in the country, Air Force ROTC, the Defense Comptrollership Program, the Military Visual Journalism Program, National Security Studies and the Wohl Family Veteran Legal Clinic.

This year also marks a year of unprecedented firsts. Due to the COVID-19 global health crisis, we have had to reimagine milestone events as well as the day-to-day support of our military-connected students. This is the first year in 104 years that the University has not held an ROTC Chancellor’s Review in-person. This is the first year since the founding of the OVMA we have not held a student veteran commencement on campus or an ROTC commissioning ceremony inside Hendricks Chapel. These, and many other significant changes could have been detrimental to our students’ success, but we, like many others, focused on celebrating our students’ success virtually. We celebrated our students’ success with award announcements, we watched virtually as Army and Air Force ROTC cadets commissioned as Second Lieutenants from their living rooms with family and friends, and we celebrated the success of over 200 military-connected graduates. Amid uncertainty, our military-connected students continue to rise to new levels of success.

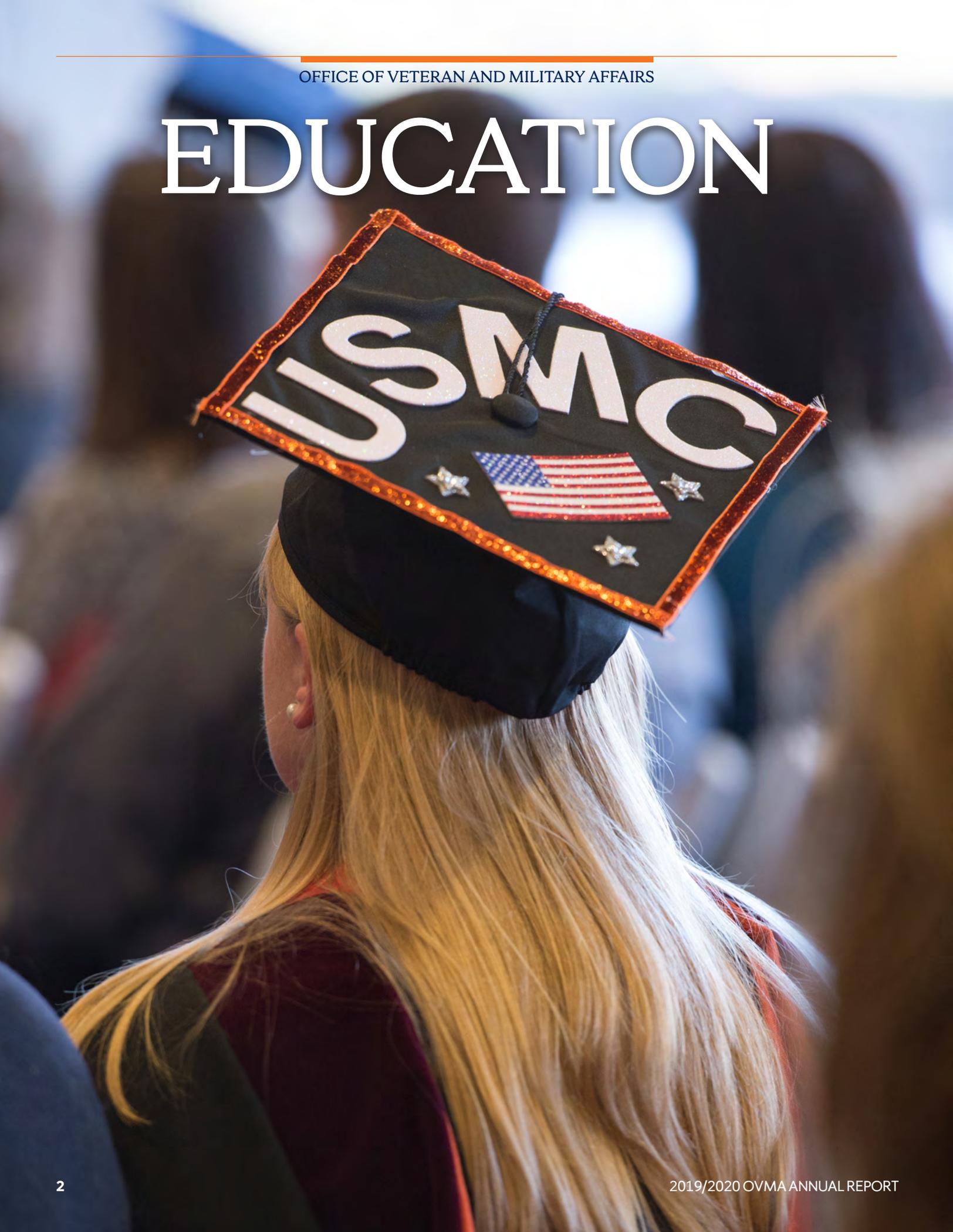
Five years ago, to make Syracuse University the “best place for veterans,[™]” the OVMA was founded. This report chronicles the OVMA team’s accomplishments over the last 12 months, based on its lines of effort: education, employment, programs, campus culture, and development. These designations represent the strategic initiatives that effectively leverage Syracuse University’s strengths - leadership, resources, alumni, community partnerships, supporters, faculty, and staff. Throughout this report, you will see references to our historical support for military-connected students. While this is a celebration of the University’s anniversary, more significantly, it is a reminder of our military-connected students’ achievements in both academic excellence and community service, which enriches our University and reflects what it means to serve our country and our communities while exemplifying what it means to “Be Orange.”

The military-connected students detailed in these pages reflect the very best of Syracuse University. As a veteran and Syracuse University alumnus myself, it is an honor to serve and be part of this amazing community by enabling their success in higher education and beyond. Congratulations Syracuse University on “150 Years of Impact” and Go Orange!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron Novack', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ron Novack G’20
COL, U.S. Army, Retired
Executive Director, OVMA
Veteran Legacy Fund Leadership Circle Member

EDUCATION



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY'S MILITARY/VETERAN RANKINGS

Military Times recognized Syracuse University as the No. 1 private institution on the 2020 Best for Vets List and No. 5 among all colleges and universities. This marks the third time in the last four years Syracuse University has achieved the top position on the survey.



RANKED #1 PRIVATE INSTITUTION

RANKED #5 AMONG ALL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES



“Our student veterans enrich our campus community in so many ways. In appreciation of their service to our country, it is our obligation to help ensure their educational success in their post-military lives.”

—Chancellor Kent Syverud

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



Syracuse University

FALL 2019 MILITARY CONNECTED ENROLLMENT

Academic Level	Veteran	Dependent	Currently Serving	Other Military Connected	Total
Undergraduate	140	268	110	145	663
Graduate	427	84	137	14	662
Law	25	15	9	1	50
Total	592	367	256	160	1,375

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

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



ACTIVE DUTY & MILITARY CONNECTED

- U.S. Army ROTC **127**
- U.S. Air Force ROTC **62**
- Defense Comptroller Program (DCP) **27**
- Military Photojournalism **19**
- Advanced Motion Media **13**
- National Security Studies (NSS) **63**
- War College Fellows **1**
- iSchool (SIGCEN) **15**



The Best Place for Veterans™

PAT TILLMAN FOUNDATION

Graduate student Laura Buys '19, G'21, a social work major in the Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics and College of Arts and Sciences alumna, has been named the 2020 Tillman Scholar for Syracuse University.

Laura enlisted in the United States Air Force in 2012 and became an Operations Intelligence Analyst. In 2014, she deployed to Qatar in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Inherent Resolve. She later joined the prestigious Cobra Ball in Alaska and Japan while supporting international treaty verification. During her military career, Laura delivered over 600 intelligence briefings to Air Force leadership, aircrew, and government officials around the world. She also supported 160 CENTCOM combat missions, leading to more than 11,000 signals intelligence reports and eight relief airdrops to displaced Yazidi civilians. As a result of her exemplary service, Laura was awarded a medal for Meritorious Service Achievement and recognized as Senior Airman Below the Zone.

After honorably separating in 2017, she fully immersed herself into a career in human services. Since then, Laura graduated summa cum laude with a degree in Women's and Gender Studies from Syracuse University's College of Arts and Sciences. She later became one of the University's Disability Services Liaison's for student veterans and is currently pursuing her Master of Social Work Degree at Syracuse University's Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics. Laura has also been a powerful force in her community, working and volunteering with a wide array of populations, including veterans, homeless families, young adults with developmental disabilities, at-risk youth, refugees and the elderly. Her goal is to continue making a positive impact by dismantling forms of social injustice and helping others overcome trauma. Laura's story is currently featured in the National Veterans' Museum and Memorial in Columbus, Ohio.

Laura joins an elite class of 60 U.S. service members, veterans and military spouses chosen this year from across the nation to receive more than \$1.2 million in scholarship funding to pursue higher education degrees from the Pat Tillman Foundation (PTF).



Previous Tillman Scholars include Katy Quartaro '18, G'20; Katie Piston '22 and Ryan Gross G'18

“As a Syracuse University Tillman Scholar, I feel honored to be part of a community of multidisciplinary professionals who are committed to creating a better future through service and humble leadership. As a clinical social worker, this means advocating and working for innovative, inclusive, socially just, and culturally competent mental health policy and programs.”

**—Laura Buys '19 G'21, U.S.A.F. Veteran,
2020 Syracuse University Tillman Scholar**

HONOR STUDENTS

BETHANY MURPHY '20 NAMED AS MARSHALL SCHOLAR



Bethany Murphy, a senior environmental engineering major in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, was named a 2020 Marshall Scholar.

Founded in 1953, the

Marshall Scholarships finance young Americans of high ability to study for a graduate degree at an institution in the United Kingdom in any field of study. Murphy was one of 46 students selected from around the country and is Syracuse University's third Marshall Scholar. Over the next two years, she will pursue master's degrees at the University of Bristol and the University of Sheffield. In May 2020, Murphy received her commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve through Syracuse University Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC.) Her hope is to one day lead the Institute for Water Resources, the primary U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' organization on water policy.

SHEMIN HONORED

"For more than a decade, Elsie Shemin-Roth '51 worked tirelessly to ensure her late father, William Shemin '24, would be recognized for the selfless, life-saving act of heroism he carried out on a World War I battlefield and receive a Medal of Honor, the U. S. military's highest decoration for Valor. On June 2nd, in a ceremony at the White House, Shemin-Roth's efforts were finally rewarded when President Barak Obama bestowed posthumously the medal of Honor on U.S. Army Sergeant William Shemin" - Ryan Van Slyke, Syracuse University Magazine, 2015



Chancellor Syverud and Vice Chancellor Haynie unveil a plaque commemorating Sergeant William Shemin '24 at Syracuse University in 2015.

VETERAN COMMENCEMENT

In spring 2020, a total of 208 students with military ties representing all branches of the U.S. military earned their Syracuse University diplomas. The graduates include 99 veterans, 35 currently serving military members and 59 family members and dependents. Forty-six students earned dual degrees.

Graduates were recognized with recorded messages from previous military-connected graduates, Vice Chancellor and Institute for Veteran and Military Families Executive Director Dr. Mike Haynie and Syracuse alumna and U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Theresa Cross, '99.



"You are finishing your studies at an unprecedented time in American history, but since you are who you are, veterans of our great United States Armed Forces, you are resilient, flexible and adjustable."

— LTC, U.S. Army Retired, Theresa K. Cross '99

The University normally holds a student veteran commencement each May. This year's in-person event in the new National Veterans Resource Center (NVRC) was transitioned

to a virtual format because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Graduates are expected to be recognized on campus once in-person instruction is deemed safe.



ROTC COMMISSIONING



Twenty-three U.S. Army and six U.S. Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadets were recognized virtually in May 2020 as they became the next generation of military leaders.

While Syracuse University usually holds an annual commissioning ceremony, this year's event which was to be held in the new National Veterans Resource Center (NVRC), transitioned to a virtual format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Chancellor Kent Syverud and U.S. Army veteran and Medal of Honor recipient Gary Beikirch prepared recorded remarks for the cadets.

Army and Air Force ROTC held separate ceremonies this year. Air Force ROTC held smaller in-person recognitions broadcast virtually for those unable to attend. Army ROTC, whose commissionees were spread across the country, held a virtual zoom event to recognize each commissioning officer.





ERNIE DAVIS

Ernie Davis is best known as the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy in 1961. In addition to playing football while attending Syracuse University, Davis participated in the Army ROTC program. He graduated and commissioned into the U.S. Army Reserve in 1962. Davis' life was tragically cut short by leukemia in 1963.



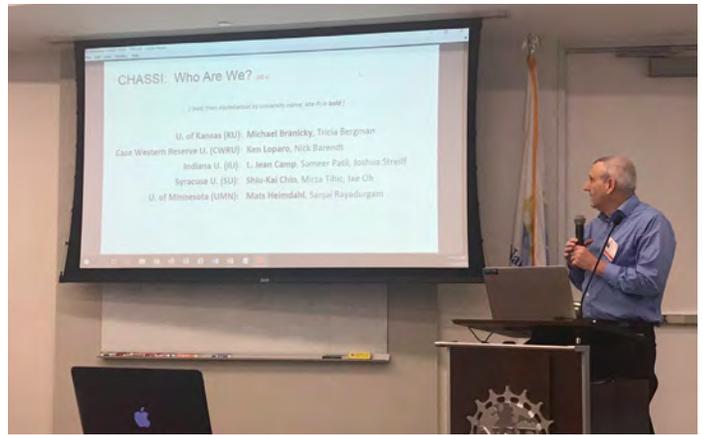
CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

Enduring Assurance Workshop

The Office of Veteran and Military Affairs assisted the College of Engineering and Computer Science in hosting the second Enduring Assurance Workshop. College of Engineering Professor Shiu-Kai Chin and Dr Kamal Jabbour, from the Air Force Research Lab, joined selected experts from the Department of Defense, academia and the cyberspace industry at the workshop on August 19, 2019, 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.

Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers Program Bootcamp

In a partnership between OVMA, the College of Engineering and the National Science Foundation, the Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers Program (IUCRC) bootcamp, held on November 18, 2019 focused on partnerships related to Mission Assurance and Cyber Security, ultimately exploring ways to add education and employment opportunities for student veterans.



2020 Student Veterans of America (SVA) National Conference



Nearly two dozen Syracuse University students, including 13 student veterans, five active-duty military service members, one National Guardsman, an ROTC cadet and a military family dependent, attended the annual Student Veterans of America (SVA) National Conference in Los Angeles. This important student experience finished with multiple meetings with well-known employers as part of OVMA's career service efforts for student veterans.

PROGRAMS



2019 SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY WARRIOR-SCHOLAR PROJECT

“Transitioning from military service to civilian life can be a daunting endeavor, and the transition to higher education post-service can be even more intimidating. The Warrior-Scholar Project plays a critical role in engaging and preparing these service members to transition successfully into higher education and succeed at universities around the U.S.”

—Ron Novack,
OVMA Executive Director



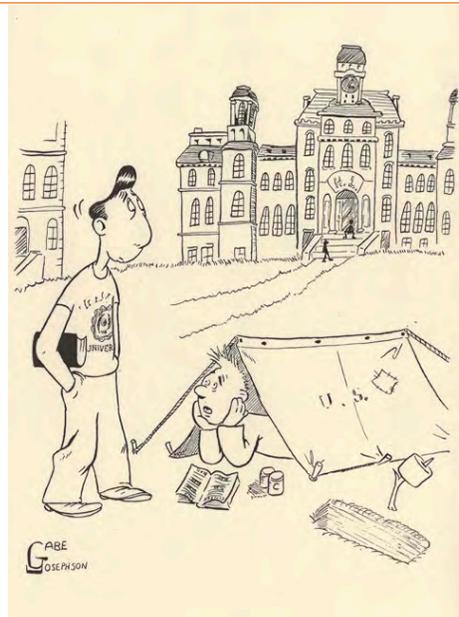
For the fifth year in a row, Syracuse University hosted the Warrior-Scholar Project (WSP), a no-cost academic boot camp for first-year student veterans. Participants attended the weeklong academic boot camp July 12-21, residing in campus housing and attending lectures in various classrooms and facilities, providing a comprehensive campus experience.

Hosted at just 18 institutions nationwide, the WSP empowers enlisted military veterans by providing a skill bridge for a successful transition from the battlefield to the classroom, maximizes their education opportunities by making them informed consumers of education, and increases the confidence needed to successfully complete a rigorous four-year undergraduate program at a top-tier school.

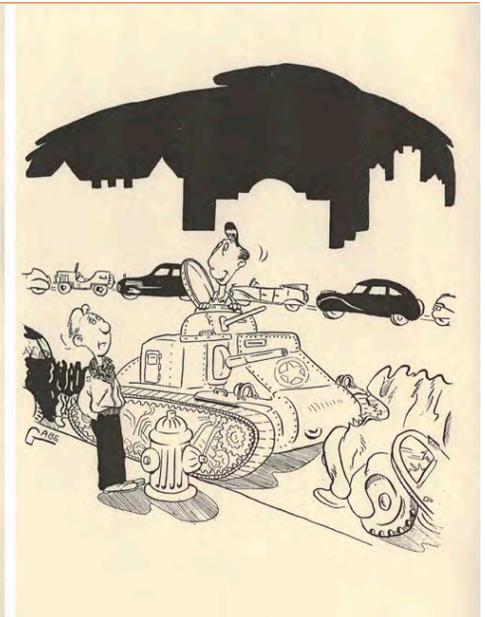


CIRCA

1947



“... and then I said to the director of housing, ‘you can’t do this to me,’”



“What parking problem?”

TRANSITIONING MILITARY VETERANS TO UNIVERSITY LIFE

OVMA partnered with Hendricks Chapel for the fourth 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 needed 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 Peer Advisor for Veteran Education (PAVE) peer advisor, who assists the new student veteran throughout the academic year.

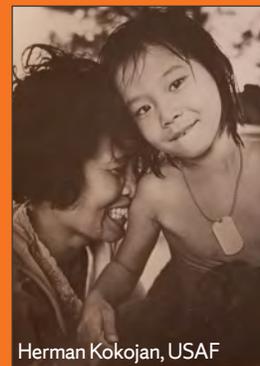


MILITARY VISUAL JOURNALISM

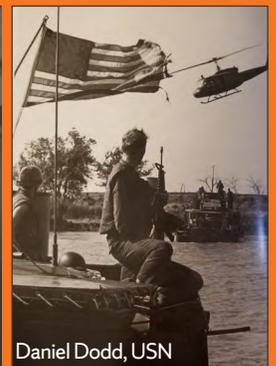
The Newhouse School is home to two Department of Defense-sponsored programs for active-duty service members studying photojournalism and broadcast journalism. The students enrolled in the Military Photojournalism (MPJ) and Military Motion Media (MMM) programs are serving in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, 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.



Vice Chancellor Haynie greets the incoming military visual journalism participants during a fall 2019 social.



Herman Kokojan, USAF



Daniel Dodd, USN

Images from Twenty-Five Years of Photojournalism at Syracuse University; Newhouse Publication edited by Kip Burke

1963
MILITARY
PHOTOJOURNALISM
ESTABLISHED



BETTY AND MICHAEL D. WOHL VETERANS LEGAL CLINIC

KEEPING OUR PROMISE, HONORING THEIR SERVICE

Founded in 2015, the Betty and Michael D. Wohl Veterans Legal Clinic at the College of Law is now in its fifth year of providing quality legal advice to veterans in Syracuse and across New York State. The Veterans Legal Clinic (VLC) provides legal representation to veterans and their families who are seeking benefits from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) or upgrading a military discharge through the various military branches. The VLC is staffed by student attorneys in their 2L or 3L year at the College of Law, many who are veterans themselves or who have a connection to the military and a passion for serving veterans.

The VLC serves two critical functions on the Syracuse University campus. The VLC provides legal advice to veterans and their families and also provides a training opportunity to empower law school students as veteran advocates. Student attorneys at the VLC learn about veteran's law, military law, and federal administrative law. Student attorneys manage actual veteran clients and their cases, engage in fact investigation, draft persuasive letters and briefs to the various governmental agencies, and even have the opportunity to orally advocate for clients.

This past year, student attorneys traveled to Buffalo, NY and Washington, D.C. to represent their clients. Student attorneys also drafted briefs for appearances before the Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims and the Court of Federal Claims. In early March, the VLC traveled to Fort Drum to learn about the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, the military justice system and observe a military Court-Martial.



VISION—VETERAN ISSUES, SUPPORT INITIATIVE AND OUTREACH NETWORK



VISION is a student-run College of Law organization that provides Syracuse University College of Law students an opportunity to help those in our society who deserve our service the most. The College of Law held its biannual Veterans' Advocacy, Law and Outreach (VALOR) Day event in November 2019 at the annual Central New York Veterans Parade and Expo at the New York State Fairgrounds. Local attorneys and law student volunteers provided free legal advice and counseling to local veterans, active duty service members and their immediate families. Conceived by College of Law students, VALOR Day is one of the many ways Syracuse law students give back to the community and those who serve our country. Since its inception in 2012, VALOR Day has assisted more than 300 veterans and their families by providing access directly to services they need the most. VISION also co-hosted the College of Law's second annual Veterans Day Celebration. The ceremony honored those who have served and serve in and out of uniform and included a very special guest: local veteran Tech Sergeant Stan Stanley, a World War II veteran. During the ceremony, VISION also provided a donation to Clear Path for Veterans, a local all-inclusive, community-based center that connects servicemembers and their families to the resources they need.



PAVE



As a Peer Advisors for Veteran Education (PAVE) partner campus for the fourth year, Syracuse's PAVE team, led by team leader, Katherine Quartaro '18, G '20, 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. This year the PAVE team consisted of 21 Peer Advisors serving 86 undergraduate student veterans.

PAVE
Peer Advisors for Veteran Education
at Syracuse University

VETERAN CAREER SERVICES

Syracuse University Veteran Career Services (VCS) is a dedicated resource that addressed the career development and employment needs of the University's student veterans. This year, VCS continued to support the career pathways of student veterans through events, programs and services both on campus and online. For the fourth consecutive year, Veteran Career Services achieved 100% job placement for graduating student veterans. Highlights from this year includes:

Student Veteran Career Immersion Trips

The goal of the Career Immersion Trip is to nurture student veterans' interest and understanding of the careers, culture, and inner workings of select metropolitans. Student veterans who attended the NYC & LA Career Immersion Trips attended networking receptions with employers/alumni, participated in employer tours and heard from employers who seek to hire and support veterans.

Employer Networking Receptions

In conjunction with Career Week, the Employer Networking Reception is a career development event for student veterans to network with employers. Student veterans were able to connect with industry leaders to help leverage their career goals and build their professional network.

Professional Development Fridays

Professional Development Fridays' provided a discussion forum for student veterans to hear from subject matter experts regarding an array of topics in support of their personal and professional development.

Career Prep Luncheons

Student veterans got career-ready with this series of engaging and interactive career prep workshops; during each workshop, student veterans learned the skills necessary to meet their career goals.

Etiquette Dinner

During the Etiquette Dinner, student veterans were taught how to navigate around the dinner

table, from fork to glass, all while making a great first impression.

Virtual Workshops

In response to the pandemic, Veteran Career Services created a series of virtual career preparation workshops to support student veterans' career goals while learning in a virtual environment.



Syracuse University Archives,
Special Collections Research Center

150 YEARS OF IMPACT
S



Student veterans visit Ernst & Young during a career immersion trip to NYC in fall 2019



Student veterans visit CBS News during a career immersion trip to NYC in fall 2019



Student veterans visit Universal Studios during a career immersion trip to LA in Spring 2020

DEFENSE COMPTROLLERSHIP PROGRAM

Since 1952, Syracuse University's Whitman School of Management has been home to the Defense Comptrollership Program (DCP), formerly known as the Army Comptrollership Program (ACP). 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. Since its inception, the DCP program has graduated 2,011 students including 27 participants in the 2020 class cohort.

1952



SU Opens Course In Comptrollership For Army Officers

Syracuse University yesterday opened a special comptrollership school for 25 Army officers who will remain on campus for the next 14 months undergoing intensive training in managerial and fiscal operations.

Representing 12 different branches of the Army, the group includes three colonels, 11 lieutenant-colonels, six majors, three captains and two first lieutenants. The comptrollership school is the first of its kind to be offered by a university to Army personnel.

Selected from among several universities, Syracuse was awarded a contract to conduct the 14-month school, and at the same time, to gather and prepare instructional materials on military comptrollership. The program is under the joint direction of the university's College of Business Administration and the Maxwell Graduate School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

PROF. WINGATE IN CHARGE

In charge of the program is Dr. Francis A. Wingate, professor of marketing, administrative director. He is assisted by Dr. Eric W. Lawson, professor of finance and insurance.



U.S ARMY SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Syracuse University School of Education and the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy began a partnership in August 2019 to offer USASMA Fellows a master's degree in Instructional Design, Development, and Evaluation. The first cohort of 10 USASMA fellows began a fully online Syracuse University Master's program in Fall 2019.



CAMPUS



NATIONAL VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER



Opened in 2020, the National Veterans Resource Center (NVRC) at the Daniel and Gayle D’Aniello Building represents an unprecedented commitment by Syracuse University to cultivate and lead innovative academic, government and community collaborations positioned to empower those who have served in defense of the nation. This state-of-the-art facility, spearheaded by a transformational gift from Dan ’68 and Gayle D’Aniello, serves as the center of veteran life on the campus of Syracuse University, in the local community, and across Central New York. Specifically, the NVRC functions as a bridge to forging public-private partnerships, a collaborative space to nurture academic research and actionable programming, and a forum to facilitate collaborative thought leadership - all for the purpose of advancing the social, economic, and wellness concerns of the nation’s veterans and their families. While the building is occupied, the NVRC grand opening, originally planned for April 2020 was postponed due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) to best protect members of our campus community and our guests.



FORT DRUM PARTNERSHIP

Brigadier General Michelle Schmidt, Deputy Commanding General of the Fort Drum 10th Mountain Division, visited the Syracuse women's basketball team for a pep talk prior to their game on November 12th as well as participate in a challenge coin exchange between Ft Drum service members and women's basketball team members.

In an ongoing commitment to supporting our military community as well as our partnership with Ft Drum, many members of the Ft Drum community, including leadership, soldiers and their families attended and played important roles in the Military Appreciation Game events on September 21st. Service members participated in the performance of the national anthem, served as honorary captains for the coin toss, received the honor of Hometown Hero, and performed in the Ft Drum 10th Mountain Division band alongside the Syracuse University Marching Band.

Syracuse University men's basketball also hosted soldiers from Ft Drum's 1BCT for a practice and team dinner at the Carmelo K. Anthony Center on December 5th.



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY



Syracuse University's 150th anniversary was an opportunity to honor our history, reflect on our values and set a clear path forward. Among the most important historical aspects of Syracuse University is the commitment to veterans dating back at least as far as World War I, when Syracuse University established a Students Army Training Corps (SATC). During WWII, Syracuse University hosted a number of defense training programs, including the Civilian Pilot Training program, the Cadet Nurse Corps, War Service College and Army Specialized Training Program. Chancellor Tolly was instrumental in drafting the original G.I. Bill which is still imperative today in supporting veterans with benefits including achieving higher education.

As we mark this historic milestone, we look back at our fearless firsts that changed the Syracuse community, our region and the world.



U.S. Army 23rd Infantry Regiment, 1917, Syracuse, NY



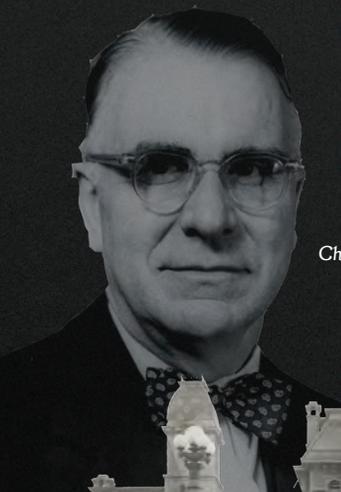
The Best Place for Veterans™

Founded in 1870, Syracuse University has spent much of its 150 year history celebrating and honoring military service members, veterans, and their families.

Syracuse University’s commitment to veterans and military students dates back as far as World War I, when the Students Army Training Corps (SATC) was established in the summer of 1918. Due to the Armistice, the SATC was demobilized in December 1918, but it is estimated that over a thousand men received training at Syracuse University during the months that SATC existed.

Following WWII, Chancellor William P. Tolley recognized the role higher education could play in advancing our nation’s returning veterans. In 1944, Tolley announced Syracuse Universities “uniform admissions program,” which ensured all military veterans admission to Syracuse upon return from war. Between 1946 and 1947, Syracuse University admitted 9,464 veterans, almost tripling the enrollment overnight.

Today, Syracuse University is home to many military-connected programs and initiatives including the longest consecutively running Army ROTC program in the country, Air Force ROTC, the Defense Comptrollership Program, the Military Visual Journalism Program, National Security Studies, and the Wohl Family Veteran Legal Clinic.



Chancellor Tolley



2011

2014

2015

2020



Syracuse University and JPMorgan Chase & Co. launched the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF), the only institute of its kind focused on the social, economic, education and policy issues affecting veterans and their families post-service. Since its inception in 2011, the IVMF has impacted over 125,000 veterans, transitioning service members and their families through free programs supporting all aspects of their post-service lives- from navigating community services and support to professional certifications for in-demand careers, employment and entrepreneurial training.



In 2014, Chancellor Kent Syverud became the 14th Chancellor of Syracuse University. In his inaugural address, he remarked

“I believe Syracuse University must once again become the best place for veterans. We have the capacity, we have the opportunity, to be the best in the world at providing opportunity and empowerment to the veterans of our armed forces and their families.”



In support of the Chancellor’s renewed commitment, the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs (OVMA) was established on January 19, 2015. OVMA serves as Syracuse University’s single point of entry for all veteran and military related programs and initiatives. It collaborates and coordinates with all stakeholders to best serve veterans, military connected students, and military family members at Syracuse University.



In 2016, Syracuse University furthered its commitment to veterans with the construction announcement of the National Veterans Resource Center (NVRC). The NVRC represents an unprecedented commitment by Syracuse University to cultivate and lead innovative academic, government, and community collaborations positioned to empower those who have served in defense of the nation. This state-of-the-art facility, spearheaded by a transformational gift from Dan '68 and Gayle D'Aniello, serves as the center of veteran life on the campus of Syracuse University, in the local community, and across Central New York. The NVRC also functions as a bridge to forging public-private partnerships, a collaborative space to nurture academic research and actionable programming, and a forum to facilitate collaborative thought leadership - all for the purpose of advancing the social, economic, and wellness concerns of the nation’s veterans and their families.



Defense Comptrollership Program



Military Visual Journalism

 National Veterans Resource Center
Syracuse University
at the Daniel & Gayle D'Aniello Building

VETERANS DAY PROFILES

In celebration of Veterans Week 2019, the University recognized stories of student veterans and faculty/staff veterans as well as those who have especially strong connections to the military. These stories are just some of the many from the veteran and military-connected community on campus whom the University is dedicated to supporting. From welcoming veterans to campus as far back as World War I to housing the longest consecutively running ROTC program in the country, the University is committed to being the “best place for veterans™.”

DAN CORDIAL '18, M.P.A. '20



After serving five years as a welder and completing multiple deployments to Iraq, Dan Cordial decided to leave the Army. He used his trade from the military to find work and he came face-to-face with a reality that many civilians in the manual labor workforce experience when he was laid off shortly after the birth of his son.

Cordial eventually decided to use his Post-9/11 G.I. Bill to go back to college, starting off at the local community college for a year and a half and working towards a degree engineering before transferring to the University of South Carolina at Columbia for two semesters.

Cordial experienced what many veterans do as they use their G.I. Bill. While colleges and universities have certain language targeted to attract veterans to their campus, veterans often don't necessarily feel that their unique needs are being met.

He was accepted to Syracuse University and decided to change his degree to better suit his interests and desire to be in public service. At the University, Dan experienced an entirely different way of life for student veterans. With support from veteran-focused groups like the Peer Advisors for Veteran Education, the Student Veterans Organization, the Office of Veteran Success and the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs, Cordial found the support he was lacking before.

Cordial graduated with a degree in political science in 2018 and an Executive Master's in Public Administration in 2020. During his time at the University, he also found a unique chance to use his veteran status to impact the local community through an internship in the office of Assemblywoman Pamela Hunter (D-Syracuse).

ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR FACULTY AFFAIRS AND PROFESSOR OF LAW LAVONDA REED



For Syracuse University Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Professor of Law LaVonda Reed, service runs deep. The lawyer and academic was born in Quantico, Virginia, after her father, the late U.S. Marine Corps Col. Henry Leon Reed, returned from his first deployment to Vietnam.

My father was the oldest of eight children—five boys and three girls,” says Reed. “All five boys served in the military, and all three girls married military service members. My paternal grandfather and a paternal great-grandfather and also two maternal great uncles were military veterans as well. One of those uncles, who celebrated his 102nd birthday in November 2019, was a World War II veteran and retired from the U.S. Navy.”

Reed's father, Henry did two Vietnam combat tours and one in Desert Storm. Throughout his more than 30 years of service, the family lived in in North Carolina, Virginia, Texas, Maryland, Kansas, Japan, Hawaii, Pennsylvania and California before eventually settling in Fort Washington, Maryland, where Col. Reed retired in 1996, having earned many commendations and medals, including the Bronze Star with Combat “V.” While in Texas, he oversaw the first U.S. Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps program at a historically Black institution, Prairie View A&M University. The unit recently celebrated its 50th anniversary, and LaVonda's mother, Brenda Reed was honored.

Throughout her husband's long career, Brenda Reed maintained and excelled as a woman in STEM. At Hampton, she majored in math and minored in biology. She became a math teacher and taught in local and Department of Defense schools as the family moved around.

“My parents both grew up in the Jim Crow,

segregated south,” says Reed. “I watched them excel despite that indignity and grew up knowing the value of hard work, family and dignity. They inspired me and continue to do so. And I would like to think I inherited their solid values and work ethic.”

LaVonda graduated high school in Hawaii while her father served as the commanding officer of the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines. Col. Reed later served as the commanding officer of the Security Forces Battalion Pacific. She chose the University of Virginia for her undergraduate studies before attending law school at the University of Southern California. She started her law career at an international law firm, then entered academia at the University of Louisville. She has been on the Syracuse University faculty since 2006.

Reed's faculty appointment remains at the law school; in 2015, she began her administration position in the Provost's Office and soon thereafter began serving as a member of the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs advisory board.

AMANDA SULLIVAN '21



For U.S. Army veteran Amanda Sullivan, military service was a way to get out of a rut and achieve her goals in life.

“I grew up in the Chicago suburb of Aurora, Illinois, and was homeschooled,” says Sullivan, a junior accounting major in the Whitman School. “My mother was a refugee from the Vietnam War, and my dad worked at Fermilab as an engineering physicist. So, education was pretty important to me growing up.”

Amanda enlisted in October 2014. After basic training, she became a supply specialist stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky, with the 541st Sapper Company. Throughout her four years in the Army, she would see rotations to the Fort Irwin National Training Center in California, the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana, and her second duty assignment to Fort Lee, Virginia, where

she was assigned to Mortuary Affairs.

Sullivan was discharged from the Army in March 2018 and instantly looked toward the next step—obtaining her degree using her Post-9/11 G.I. Bill.

Sullivan chose to study accounting at Syracuse University with the goal of becoming a certified public accountant, where she feels her analytical talents will be best put to use.

“This has been a rewarding experience so far. I’ve enjoyed my involvement with the veteran community here at Syracuse,” she says. “It means a lot to me that the University puts so much time and energy into ensuring that the student veterans walk away successful and ready to head back out into the world.”

PROFESSOR KEN MARFILIOUS '11



U.S. Air Force veteran Ken Marfilious '11, visiting teaching professor in the Falk College's School of Social Work, has always been clear in his mission to serve military and veteran populations.

He graduated from Syracuse University with his undergraduate degree in psychology and went on to earn a Master of Social Work and a doctorate in clinical social work at the University of Pennsylvania. While at Penn, he learned of the United States Air Force Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP), where he could serve military service members and their families while in uniform.

Upon graduation, he attended commissioned officer training and started his active duty service.

A year prior to transitioning out of the Air Force, Marfilious applied to Penn again, this time for his doctoral degree. He was accepted and completed a remote program where he worked 10-hour days on the installation before completing his online courses and dissertation at night.

He transitioned out of the Air Force in 2016. Two months later, he was in Syracuse working for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at the Syracuse VA Medical Center in the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program. He served as the Housing and Urban Development and Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program coordinator.

He also developed and subsequently instructed

a first-time social work course, Introduction to Military Culture and Mental Health Practice, in the School of Social Work. In 2018, he was asked by the chair of the School of Social Work to become a visiting teaching professor, teach full time, and further develop the school's military content.

“I honestly believe there is no place more committed to veterans. Everyone here wants to make sure veterans and their family members get what they need” Marfilious says.

In addition to his curriculum, Marfilious has taken an active role in organizing the military-connected events on campus including the military culture competency training and “Theater of War” performance.

“In everything that we do at Syracuse, I am reminded of the core values of the Air Force—service before self, integrity first and excellence in all we do,” he says. “It’s an honor to be here.”

ADRIAN WEEKLY '20



Adrian Weekly grew up in Atlanta. His childhood was full of traveling and martial arts, and he was involved with the Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps in high school. When he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps at the age of 17, he was following in the footsteps of his parents, both U.S. Navy veterans.

Ten days after graduating from high school, he found himself at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, South Carolina, to attend boot camp. It was there that he was exposed to the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program (MCMAP)

Weekly still had the desire to travel and see the world, and while being a combat photographer in the U.S. Marine Corps can offer very unique experiences, he decided to volunteer for the Marine Security Guard program to really immerse himself in other cultures throughout the world.

“I went on to become an M.S.G. guard and was assigned to the embassies in Botswana, Germany and Iraq,” Weekly says. His assignment to the Marine Security Guard is a highly coveted position within the Marine Corps—the only branch of service entrusted to guard the U.S. embassies and consulates throughout the world.

Weekly came to Syracuse University to build on his past experience in the communications field and ultimately landed in the College of Visual and Performing Arts. He wants to capitalize on his military experience and education to pursue a career in public relations and marketing.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS PLANNING, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION JOE ALFIERI



Joe Alfieri, Central New York native and director of campus planning, design, and construction at Syracuse University, chose to attend the U.S. Naval Academy after high school. Alfieri graduated in 2003 as a designated surface

warfare officer. He did his first tour aboard the USS Milius, working as the main propulsion officer on the destroyer. A year later, he deployed to the Horn of Africa for six months on a counter-piracy assignment.

When he returned, Alfieri transferred to a new unit on the newest aircraft carrier at the time, the USS Ronald Reagan, and deployed for another six months to the Persian Gulf, where he and his unit directed maritime security operations.

Alfieri returned to San Diego after his second deployment and transferred into facilities at Naval Base Coronado. He spent five years in uniform before transitioning out in 2008.

Following service, Alfieri found a job as a project manager for University Facilities, at Syracuse University. Alfieri has been with facilities services ever since. He spent eight years in project management before being promoted to his current role as director of campus planning, design, and construction in 2016. This past year, he has been busy with the new Barnes Center at The Arch and the recently completed National Veterans Resource Center at the Daniel and Gayle D'Aniello Building (NVRC).

VETERAN'S DAY CEREMONY

On Monday, November 11th, the Syracuse University community and members of the Greater Syracuse area gathered to honor the service of U.S. military veterans of all wars during the University's annual Veterans Day ceremony in Hendricks Chapel.

Retired U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Carlton Kent delivered the ceremony's keynote address. Kent served 36 years in the military before retiring as the 16th sergeant major of the Marine Corps.

"This University does not give veterans a handout. Veterans do not want a handout. They want a hand up. Here, you give them a hand up to be the best. We have troops deployed around the world, 365 days a year, and that is why Veterans Day should be celebrated every day. This University makes sure veterans are celebrated 365 days a year."



—U.S.M.C. Sgt. Maj. Retired, Carlton Kent



MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT OF THE MONTH FEATURES

Marine Corps Veterans and Gilman Scholars Tristan Carson '20 and Zach Watson '20



The allure for travel to faraway lands is a compelling prospect for many who look to serve in the United States military—most branches even advertise travel and adventure as one of the perks of joining. Zach Watson '20 and Tristan Carson '20 both enlisted in the Marine Corps soon after graduating from high school, and both would eventually be awarded an

opportunity to study abroad using the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship while attending Syracuse University as student veterans.

Watson pursued a degree in political science through the College of Arts and Sciences and the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. Carson studied English with a minor in education from the College of Arts and Sciences. It was during their individual courses of study that the itch to travel returned, compelling them both to apply for the Gilman Scholarship.

The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship is a grant program funded through the U.S. Department of State. It enables students of limited financial means to study or intern abroad, thereby gaining skills critical to national security and economic prosperity.

Watson earned a fully funded semester through the Gilman program and studied in London in spring 2019.

Carson had studied abroad once before coming to Syracuse University, spending time in London. With the Gilman Scholarship he spent the summer in Madrid.

Upon returning to Syracuse, Carson became more engaged in the Student Veterans Organization, and served as the public affairs officer for the group. He is looking forward to continuing his education at Syracuse University through graduate studies.

Watson plans to pursue a government career with the Central Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense or put his degree to use within a think tank or other organization.

Marine Corps Veteran Turned Air Force ROTC Cadet Caleb Holmes '20



Syracuse University student veteran Caleb Holmes is a senior studying electrical engineering while raising a family and participating in the University's Air Force ROTC program. Without a clear idea of what he wanted to do after high school Holmes, like many, opted to join the military in order to receive steady pay, benefits and the unique opportunities that come with uniformed service.

While on a tour in Japan, Holmes and his wife were doing research on where he should attend college, having already made the decision to get out to use his Post 9/11 G.I. Bill.

Unlike a lot of his fellow student veterans, however, Holmes came to Syracuse University to get a degree so he could go back into the military as a commissioned officer. With the intent of staying in the engineering field, Holmes knew he wanted to go through a U.S. Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program and hopefully become a radio frequency engineer or power engineer.

Holmes served five years. While on a tour in Japan, Holmes and his wife were doing research on where he should attend college, having already made the decision to get out to use his Post 9/11 G.I. Bill.

On top of adjusting to life as a college student and ROTC cadet, Holmes and his wife welcomed a son in 2019. Being a parent to a newborn and attending college comes with its own unique challenges, but Syracuse University offers extraordinary support through the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs as well as through the Office of Veterans Success.

Upon graduation from Syracuse University, Holmes will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force where he will serve for at least the next five years. While he's not certain yet what his job will be, his odds of staying in engineering are high.

Army Veteran and Army ROTC Cadet Hanna McNabb '21



recruiter.

"When I was talking to the recruiter, I found they had paralegals in the Army," says McNabb. "I had decided I wanted to one day become a lawyer,

While attending Boise State University after high school, Hanna McNabb was trying to get into the Boise State Reserve Officer Training Corps program but became frustrated with the application process of and ultimately went to the local U.S. Army

a prosecutor to be specific, and I thought being a paralegal might be a good first step on that path."

After a year at Boise State, McNabb shipped off to basic training in May 2017 and would ultimately wind up stationed at Ft. Drum, New York, where her husband was stationed on active duty. With the aspiration to one day become a lawyer, McNabb knew she couldn't let too much time pass before she got serious about her education.

"I applied for the Army's Green to Gold Active Duty Option," says McNabb.

The program allows active duty soldiers to complete their baccalaureate degree or two-year

graduate degree as well as earn a commission as an Army officer, owing three years of obligated service time after graduation. After a yearlong application period, McNabb was selected and chose to use her opportunity at Syracuse University.

McNabb is hoping to secure a spot in military intelligence where she'll serve for a year before applying for the U.S. Army's funded legal education program that would pay for her to go to law school for three years and then return to service as a judge advocate.

As a Green to Gold student, McNabb is serving on active duty and as a cadet in the Army ROTC program at Syracuse University.

Navy Veteran Oliver Posewitz '20



Before attending Syracuse University, Posewitz served six years in the U.S. Navy, a decision influenced by his time on the St. Lawrence River as a kid. In the Navy, Posewitz served as an air traffic controller, a high-stress and demanding job with high attrition rate, at the Naval Air Technical Training Center in Pensacola, Florida. Despite enjoying his military career, he knew it wasn't what he wanted to do forever. When it was time to transition out, Posewitz decided Syracuse was the

obvious choice for his academic goals.

When Posewitz first stepped foot on campus, he was following in the footsteps of his grandmother, also a Navy veteran from the World War II era as a member of the U.S. Naval Reserve Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service, or WAVES. Upon the conclusion of WWII, she was a part of the "GI Bulge" that rapidly grew Syracuse University's enrollment numbers and propelled it from a regional liberal arts college into a nationally renowned private university.

Carrying his grandmother's legacy isn't all Posewitz brings with him to his classes; his father also served as inspiration for him to pursue higher education.

obvious choice for his academic goals.

"A few months into the Navy, I went home on leave and my father passed away," Posewitz says. "I felt a college degree would be sort of a resolution. He never really pushed college on me even though he had gone to college when he was young. He was just always excited and supportive of me regardless. So that played a huge role in it, just reaching that sort of conclusion after he passed."

Posewitz's time at the University has also been enriched by internship opportunities. Using his knowledge from his coursework in applied data science, he landed an internship last summer with First Data, now Fiserv, and will intern with General Electric after the spring semester.

Navy Officer and Graduate Student Chris Giglio G'20



in the Navy.

After an initial tour in public affairs, Giglio was offered the opportunity to attend one of several Navy-sponsored graduate programs in public

relations. After being assigned to a different program, he jumped at the opportunity to attend Syracuse. Giglio credits the quality and reputation of the public relations program at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, as well as the prospect of simultaneously pursuing a certificate of advanced studies in public administration from the Maxwell School, in guiding his decision.

Giglio is the third consecutive Navy public affairs officer to attend Syracuse for the Newhouse and Maxwell courses of study. While he chose Syracuse for the academic reputation of its graduate education, Giglio notes he was pleasantly surprised at the level

of support for military-connected students Syracuse provides.

As his time at Syracuse winds down he is preparing to graduate and move on to his next tour on the staff of Commander, Naval Forces Europe and Africa/U.S. 6th Fleet in Naples, Italy. He attributes his time at Syracuse for laying out a roadmap for the rest of his Naval career.

"I'm not a public relations practitioner who happens to be in the Navy," says Giglio. "I am a Naval officer first, and I do what I do because I truly believe in the Navy, its sailors and its missions. My time at Syracuse has been invaluable in adding to my toolbox and being able to better communicate on behalf of the Navy."

Army Student Veteran and Army ROTC Cadet Kelvin Nyamakor '21



It's not every day a student arrives on campus with their whole life tucked away into a single military duffle bag, but for Kelvin Nyamakor, a student veteran at Syracuse University, that was exactly how he arrived.

"I came here during the spring semester last year," Nyamakor says. "There was a snowstorm coming, and some of the offices were closed, so I couldn't get everything I needed to get into the dorm. One of the other student veterans

took me in that night and the next day brought me back to campus. While I was getting settled, another student veteran took me out shopping. I didn't have anything—no pillows, no covers, nothing. I only had my stuff in my duffle bag."

Nyamakor's journey to Syracuse University started in his hometown of Accra, Ghana. Nyamakor came to the United States during his junior year of high school. It was during this time that Kelvin was first exposed to the military through a performance by the U.S. Marine Corps' Silent Drill Team.

While enrolled in Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA), Nyamakor applied to Syracuse

University and was accepted but burdened by tuition. That's when he randomly ran into the same military recruiter he remembered from high school.

Nyamakor was in the position of realizing several of his dreams all at once. He could join the military, receive education benefits, get his U.S. citizenship, and become a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army. As a naturalized citizen, he has now joined Syracuse University's storied Army ROTC program.

Nyamakor is expecting to graduate in 2021. He plans to use his degree in information technology and management as a Signal Corps officer in the U.S. Army.

Navy Student Veteran Peggy Trujillo G '20



With her graduation in May 2020, Peggy Trujillo has both a 20-year journalism career and her Syracuse University diploma.

As the child of a U.S. Air Force master sergeant, Trujillo spent her childhood moving from place to place for her

father's service career.

Trujillo intended to go to college, but when various financial aid issues got in her way, she visited a military recruiter.

Knowing she was comfortable with military life and interested in journalism, Trujillo enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1996 and after bootcamp attended its Defense Information School in Fort Meade, Maryland. There, she studied public affairs, photography and journalism as part of her military training.

From school, she went overseas to Bahrain.

Trujillo quickly realized she had found her niche at the intersection of journalism and military service. She continued in Bahrain for two years, then went to Japan working aboard the USS Fort McHenry doing photography, video and writing.

She then served in Sicily at the U.S. broadcast station before being called back to the United States to serve at the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) headquarters in D.C., where she spent four years working on the Navy Security Forces magazine.

In 2008, Trujillo was assigned as the leading petty officer aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt in Norfolk, Virginia. The ship deployed to South Africa and made history as the first carrier to visit the country in more than six decades.

All the while, Trujillo maintained a home and family in Maryland. In 2011, she returned home. In 2014, she began teaching journalism classes at the Naval Media Center at Fort Meade—the same school where she began her military career. After

three years of instruction there, Trujillo retired, 20 years to the day from when she had enlisted.

"After retirement, I knew I was going to go back to school. Of all the positions I held during my time in uniform, teaching was my favorite. I knew I wanted to be a college professor. And to do that, I needed my master's."

Trujillo applied and was accepted to the Newhouse School's online master's in communications program. In January 2020, she was one of more than 20 students to attend Student Veterans of America's National Conference in Los Angeles. "NatCon blew my mind. The Office of Veteran and Military Affairs sent more students than any other school and paid for everything. I would have never gotten that opportunity at another institution."

This semester, Trujillo completed her degree in communications with a focus in public relations, having finished her entire course load online.

Navy Veteran and USMC Officer Ariel Blanco JD '20



Ariel Blanco's interest in the military was piqued while he was in high school in Miami, impressed by both the demeanor of the recruiters that visited the school and the opportunity military life could provide.

Blanco enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserve in 2008, at age 17, with the support of his parents, both Cuban immigrants. He completed training in Chicago and then went to "A" School and military police training in San Antonio, Texas, before deciding to work on his undergraduate degree at the University of Mississippi.

Following graduation, Blanco served on several

short-term active duty assignments, including one in South Korea, as well as a yearlong deployment to the Middle East in 2016. While deployed, he began thinking seriously about law school.

Close to 10 years after he first joined, Ariel returned to U.S. soil and worked to transition back to a part-military, part-civilian life while preparing to take the LSAT.

When searching for law schools supporting veterans and service members, Blanco noticed Syracuse University.

"When I was looking at schools, Syracuse University's commitment to veterans and service members stood out to me," Blanco says. "Syracuse University went so far as to have a Syracuse Law graduate and Navy judge advocate contact me

during the application process, just to make sure I had everything I needed. This demonstrated Syracuse was truly committed to supporting the military. I was sold!"

He enrolled in the College of Law never having set foot in Upstate New York.

In 2018, after his first year of law school, Blanco switched branches and attended Marine Corps Officer Candidate School, where he commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps.

He graduated in May with his juris doctorate and will serve on active duty as a Marine Corps judge advocate. His experience in the same crisp uniform he first admired as a high schooler will mesh with his newly minted legal degree from Syracuse University.

Military Spouse Dominique Visser G'20



U.S. Army spouse Dominique Visser was born and raised in Sydney, Australia. She was working as an international trade advisor/market development specialist for the Australian federal government when she was told of her now-husband, Andy, by mutual friends. By spring 2005, when she visited her friends in Fort Drum, New York, Andy had returned from Iraq and turned up for dinner.

The two married in New York in July 2006. One

month to the day after their wedding, Andy deployed again to Iraq, leaving his new wife in a new country amidst a new lifestyle.

Andy returned home in July 2007 and the Vissers spent the next 13 years moving to California, Paris, then Hawaii, West Point, Virginia, Burkina Faso and now Belgium, all while welcoming and raising three children.

Dominique decided to pursue her online MBA and chose Syracuse University.

“So many people I studied with took the time to understand the challenges of military life. When I had especially spotty internet service during the hot

season in Africa, or during our move from Burkina Faso to Belgium, other military-connected students in the classes knew what I was experiencing. Being able to talk to others who get it and have jumped through those hoops, coupled with the support from the University—it set me and others like me up for success.”

Visser is excited to explore new opportunities with her MBA. Ideally, she would like to find a remote or transferable job to help with career continuity or even go back to her passion, international trade advisory/export advisory.

Air Force ROTC Cadet Rachel Pray '20



Originally from central Massachusetts, Cadet Pray was inspired to join the U.S. Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) after a friend chose the same path.

Though ROTC wasn't part of her initial decision-making process, the community feel

of campus and the approachable distance from home sold her on selecting Syracuse University.

During her time as a cadet, Pray was a color guard captain for two years and on the drill team. She was also involved with the Arnold Air Society, a

professional honorary service organization focused on community service. Last summer, she served as a cadet training assistant at Maxwell Air Force Base facilitating and instructing the training exercise for younger cadets.

Pray graduated in May with degrees in biology and neuroscience on the pre-medicine track. On campus she was involved on campus in Leading Women of Tomorrow and worked as an ER scribe doing undergraduate research.

Post-graduation, unlike most cadets who select rated or nonrated positions in the military, Pray will attend medical school with the intent of serving as an Air Force physician.

“Rated positions are for flying; nonrated are things like cyber and intel,” she says. “For me, I received pre-health approval with the support of Lt. Col. Kimbrough (professor of aerospace studies at Syracuse University). Essentially, the Air Force is allowing me to attend school under the Air Force Health Professions Scholarship program. So, I will do my four years of medical school at Nova Southeastern University in Clearwater, Florida, then do rotations on active duty bases before completing an active duty residency.”

Pray's ultimate goal is simple—be a great Air Force physician. She is considering emergency medicine or surgery as her specialty.

WILMETH SADAT-SINGH '39



In 1935, Wilmeth Sadat-Singh was awarded a scholarship to attend Syracuse as member of the basketball team. While at Syracuse, his athleticism on the court left the Orange with a 40-13 record during his career on the team. Wilmeth dominated on the court and was even extended an offer to join the football team.

Syracuse University was one of the first schools to allow African American players on their football team, demonstrating the progressive nature of the institution. During one game against the University of Maryland, however, Wilmeth's identity as African American was revealed and he was barred from playing. The Orange lost 13-0, but he returned the following year and led the Orange to beat Maryland 53-0.

After graduating from Syracuse, Wilmeth joined the police force in Washington, D.C. Once the United States entered World War II, Wilmeth chose to serve his country by joining the Tuskegee Airmen, the U.S.'s only African-American Unit in the Army Air Force. He earned his wings as a pilot shortly thereafter. Sadly, during a training mission in 1943, the engine on Wilmeth's plane failed and his plane went down in Lake Huron.

To honor his legacy, Syracuse University retired Sadat-Singh's basketball number. Today, his jersey hangs in the rafters of the Carrier Dome.



STARS AND STRIPES TAILGATE AND MILITARY APPRECIATION GAME

On September 21st, close to 1,000 military service members, veterans and their families from the Syracuse area and Fort Drum were welcomed to campus and honored during the sixth annual Military Appreciation Day which included the family-friendly Stars and Stripes tailgate as well as recognition during Syracuse Orange football game against Western Michigan.

Syracuse University Athletics and the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs partnered to coordinate military-related activities before and during the game, including:



- A pre-game on-field enlistment ceremony where CNY high school seniors took their initial oath of enlistment to support and defend the Constitution of the United States;
- The national anthem sung by SSG Benjamin Garnett of the 10th Mountain Division while soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team held the United States flag over the field;
- Coin toss by honorary game captains Major General Brian Mennes, Commanding General, 10th Mountain Division and Command Sergeant Major Samuel Roark, Senior Enlisted Advisor;
- The honoring of United States Army Captain Timothy Monczynski as the game's hometown hero and
- Joint performances by the Fort Drum 10th Mountain Division band and the Syracuse University Marching Band.

Service members from Fort Drum and local veterans at the tailgate attended the game free of charge following the annual 'Cuse for Troops ticket promotion which allows the public to thank veterans and active duty service members for their service by sponsoring their attendance to the game.

2019-2020 HOMETOWN HEROES

September 6, 2019- U.S. Army veteran and Army ROTC Cadet Nicklaus Brinka

September 14, 2019- U.S. Army Ret. Col, Dr. Larry Myers G'49, D'56

September 20, 2019- U.S. Army Veteran Spouse Kim Keller

September 21, 2019- U.S. Army Captain Tim Monczynski

September 28, 2019- WWII U.S. Navy Veterans Elton Fairbank G'54

October 18, 2019- U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sergeant Greg Baird

November 2, 2019- U.S. Army Veterans and U.S. Army Cadet George Canino

November 6, 2019- U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Kent Redmond

November 10, 2019- U.S. Army Veteran Amanda Sullivan '21

November 12, 2019- U.S. Army LTC Jennifer Gotie

November 30, 2019- U.S. Army Vietnam Veteran Jack Walker

November 30, 2019- U.S. Army 2LT Weston Bennett '20

February 15, 2020- U.S. Navy Veteran Jackie Snow

February 23, 2020- U.S. Army Retired MSG Jennifer-Rebecca ("J-R") Williams





GO ORANGE!!!



ARMY AND AIR FORCE ROTC CHANCELLOR'S REVIEW

On April 10, cadets from the University's U.S. Army and Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) were honored with various distinctions from the University and community organizations as part of the yearly Chancellor's Review Awards. Normally celebrated as a public event on-campus, this year's in-person review was canceled due to the CoVID-19 health crisis.

The honors, now in their 103rd year, celebrated the ROTC cadets and their commitment to service in a nod to the University's long history of military commitment and support. Syracuse boasts the longest consecutively running ROTC program in the country—a legacy in keeping with the University tradition of support for the veterans and military families as the “best place for veterans.”

“Our Army and Air Force ROTC programs and cadets exhibit drive, ambition and hard work and make this University proud,” says Ron Novack, executive director of the OVMA. “Our ROTC programs remain a critical element of our campus, community and defense of our nation. It is a privilege to have them as students and work alongside them as they prepare to lead the next generation of our country's armed forces.”

Awards presented include the General Edward C. Meyer Leadership Award, an honor bestowed on the most outstanding Army ROTC cadet who demonstrates extraordinary officer potential and leadership qualities. This year, the award was presented to Cadet Marshall Lipsey '20 who received an additional two honors. Air Force Cadet Rachel Pray '20 and Army Cadet Matthew Weber G'20 also received top honors, being awarded the Harvey S. Smith Memorial Award, which recognizes outstanding leadership, discipline, character, citizenship and achievement in academics. The Smith award was one of two awards Pray earned.

Syracuse University's Office of Veteran and Military Affairs presented its Commitment to Service Award to Air Force Cadet Caleb Holmes '20 and Army Cadet Kathleen Edwards '20. Presented to cadets who are either veterans or military dependents, the honor recognizes high achievement in academics, commitment to service and a proven understanding of citizenship through patriotism and community service.

BE ORANGE: BETHANY MURPHY SURGES FORWARD WITH PURPOSE



As a part of the Syracuse University “Be Orange” campaign, Army ROTC cadet Bethany Murphey was featured in an effort to tell the story of what it means to “be orange” as a military-connected student.

Murphy graduated this year with a B.S. in environmental engineering from the College of Engineering and Computer Science and a minor in geography from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. She is an Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadet and an accomplished scholar recognized by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Udall Foundation and the Astronaut Scholar Foundation. This fall, she began graduate work in the U.K. as a Marshall Scholar.

With an interest in water remediation piqued by a high school field trip to a wastewater treatment plant, Murphy came to Syracuse in part for the chance to study Onondaga Lake. “Syracuse had the engineering curriculum, the research opportunities, and a social science perspective,” Murphy says.

After meeting a cadet in a first-semester class, she was intrigued enough to inquire about the program. Once she learned more and considered the environmental implications of the Army's work in water resources management, her interest became a pursuit. By sophomore year, Murphy was doing 4 a.m. runs around Onondaga Lake with ROTC. “It's not something I planned to do, but ROTC became the best decision of my academic career,” she says.

Murphy plans to complete master's degrees in water and environmental management, and water engineering at the University of Bristol in southwest England and then a Ph.D., before working with the Army Corps of Engineers to implement sustainable water resources management.



CIRCA

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STUDENT VETERANS ORGANIZATION

FRIENDSGIVING

In celebration of the end of the semester and the Thanksgiving holiday, the Student Veteran Organization and Peer Advisors for Veteran Education Team held a “Friendsgiving” for military connected students and family members in November 2019.



OPERATION ORANGE DROP

The Student Veteran Organization at Syracuse University participated in its annual “Operation Orange Drop” on December 6, 2019. SVO members collected goods and donations to send 50 care packages to currently deployed service members.



DINNER AT THE CHANCELLORS HOUSE

In February 2020, Chancellor Syverud and Dr. Ruth Chen hosted student veterans at their home for a student veteran dinner. This annual event is a way for the Chancellor to show support for the student veteran community as well as provide an opportunity for student veterans to speak about their experiences at the University.



SVO AWARDS

Syracuse University’s Student Veterans Organization (SVO) and the OVMA presented five awards to student veterans in honor of their significant and notable achievements during the 2019/20 school year. The awards are normally announced at SVO’s Annual Ball and Awards Banquet, but the 2020 event was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the winners were instead announced in a Zoom “virtual lunch.” Winners of this year’s awards were as follows:



Will Harrington '21 was the recipient of the SVO’s Community Support Award, which is presented to a member of the Syracuse University community who has done extensive work in support of veterans, active duty military members and military-connected members of the community. Harrington also received the SGT Danny Facto Student Veterans Work-Study Award.



Katy Quartaro '18 G'20, a Marine Corps veteran and a public administration graduate candidate in the Maxwell School, received the SVO’s Best for Vets Award. The honor recognizes one individual who has done the most to help student veterans succeed both on and off campus. A Tillman Scholar, Quartaro was selected for her tireless contribution to the Peer Advisors for Veteran Education (P.A.V.E.) organization.



This year, the SVO Executive Board created a new honor, the SVO Service award, to acknowledge the contributions of an active organization member. The inaugural award was presented to **Kevaunte White '22**, a Marine Corps veteran and student in the College of Arts and Sciences.



Amanda Sullivan '21 was the recipient of the final award, Student Veteran of the Year, the highest honor bestowed by the OVMA. Sullivan is a P.A.V.E. peer advisor, a Veteran Career Services student liaison, and a Veteran Career Services VA work-study.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY VETERANS AFFINITY GROUP

Established in 2014 in partnership with OVMA, the Syracuse University Veterans Affinity Group is an inclusive group open to all members of campus community who have served or those with a passion for supporting them. The group has grown to over 200 members since its founding and includes employees from all areas of the University and branches of service.

While the pandemic impacted some of the group's planned spring activities, they were still able to continue the group's efforts in a virtual environment. This past year's highlights include:

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Members hosted monthly professional development luncheons to hear from topics from across the University and within the veteran space. This year's lunches include tours of the NVRC and the Barnes Center at the Arch, as well as an overview of the Campus Master Framework. The group also held a networking reception to bring together fellow Syracuse University employee veterans and supporters to connect and build community.

SERVICE PROJECTS

The Veterans Affinity Group directly contributed to making a difference in the lives of Syracuse University students who may not have the resources to purchase food and toiletries, through a Food Drive in partnership with Hendrick Chapel. The group came together once again to clean-up and give honor to the Veterans section of the cemetery. Members paid honor to the veterans at Oakwood Cemetery as part of the national Wreaths Across America initiative. Finally, the group "welcomed home" veterans returning from the Honor Flight Syracuse Mission 14 to Washington, D.C. after visiting the national memorials dedicated to their service and sacrifice.

CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT

Two members of the SU Veterans Affinity Group and their immediate family were recognized as the University's Hometown Hero during Syracuse University sporting events. OVMA and Syracuse University Athletics invited members of the Affinity Group to cheer on the Syracuse University Football team in the fan tunnel as the team took the field on game day. The Affinity group also actively participated in this year's Veterans Day Ceremony, members spoke at the event, participated in the wreath-laying ceremony and played music.



DEVELOPMENT



DANIEL AND GAYLE D'ANIELLO BUILDING



In Spring 2018, Syracuse University announced a \$20 million gift from U.S. Navy veteran and Life Trustee Daniel D'Aniello '68 and his wife, Gayle. This gift, one of the single largest gifts in University history, supported construction of the Daniel and Gayle D'Aniello Building at the National Veterans Resource Center (NVRC), a first-of-its-kind facility dedicated to academic research, programming and thought leadership in support of the nation's service members, veterans and their families. The NVRC now serves as the forever home to the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs (OVMA), the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF), Army and Air Force ROTC, and a host of other veteran and military-connected offices and initiatives. This profoundly transformative gift will allow Syracuse University to fulfill its promise of being the "best place for veterans™".



**KWANG G. TAN PH.D. '73
DONATES \$5 MILLION IN
SUPPORT OF NATIONAL
VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER**

When Kwang G. Tan Ph.D. '73 learned about the National Veterans Resource Center at the Daniel and Gayle D'Aniello Building (NVRC), he knew he wanted to support this new innovative center of research and hub of veteran life on campus. Tan provided a \$5M gift to support the K.G. Tan Auditorium, a principal campus space for various speakers and presentations aimed at addressing the social, economic and wellness concerns of the nation's veterans.





National Veterans Resource Center Donor Roll

The National Veterans Resource Center (NVRC) at Syracuse University serves as a class-leading national exemplar of academic, government, and community collaboration positioned to empower those who have served in defense of our nation. The following donors have provided capital support for this historic endeavor.

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Providing Access for Military-Connected Students

Scholarship support is the gift of opportunity and knowledge. Endowed and current-use scholarships enable Syracuse University to deliver the best education experience possible for military-connected students.

Louis A. and Patricia H. Mautino Veteran Endowed Scholarship

Mr. Louis A. Mautino & Mrs. Patricia H. Mautino

Gerald B. Faigle Jr. and Roberta M. Faigle Student Veteran Endowed Scholarship

Mr. Gerald B. Faigle Jr. & Mrs. Roberta M. Faigle

Dottle Family ROTC Cadet Endowed Scholarship

Mr. Paul M. Dottle & Family

Spall Endowed Scholarship Fund for Veterans

Mr. Theodore F. Spall & Mrs. Suzanne A. Spall

Wilder J. Leavitt and Mary P. Morningstar Scholarship for Military-Connected Students

Mr. Wilder J. Leavitt & Mrs. Mary P. Morningstar

Lucy and Joseph Napoli Veterans Scholarship Endowed Fund

Mr. Ernest L. Herrman & Dr. Kathleen Herrman



“We are strong believers in what the University is doing for veterans—in Chancellor Syverud’s vision and in Vice Chancellor Haynie’s leadership on the local and national levels.”

—Patricia Mautino



A Forever Orange Campaign Gift from Patricia H. ’64, G’66 and Louis A. ’61, G’62 Mautino Will Support Scholarships for Undergraduate Students Veterans

With a gift to the recently announced Forever Orange campaign, Syracuse University Trustee Patricia H. ’64, G’66 and Louis A. ’61, G’62 Mautino will help student veterans pursue their educational goals and reach their fullest potential. The Mautinos have pledged \$750,000 to the campaign, including \$250,000 to establish the Louis A. and Patricia H. Mautino Veteran Scholarship; the scholarship will provide financial assistance to undergraduate student veterans enrolled at Syracuse University. The remaining \$500,000 will support four scholarships the Mautinos have previously established.



The Gerald B. Faigle Jr. and Roberta M. Faigle Student Veteran Endowed Scholarship for graduate student veterans was established in Fall 2019 to empower military veterans as the next generation of public and private sector leaders committed to service beyond self.

The \$100,000 endowed scholarship is open to graduate student veterans across Syracuse University’s schools and colleges, both on campus and online, and will be awarded annually.

Daniel Cordial ’18, eMPA ’20, U.S. Army veteran, and Arturo Sandoval, MBA ’23, United States Marine Corps veteran, were named the first recipients of the Gerald B. ’58, ’59 and Roberta M. Faigle ’60 scholarship.

“I plan to not only empower myself,” says Sandoval. “But show other veterans that we are capable of returning to school and to the work force as stronger individuals than when we first joined the military.”

“As a veteran I believe that advanced education for veterans is a real key in developing our future leaders. We are happy to help achieve this.” —Gerry and Bobbie Faigle



The Dottle Family ROTC Cadet Endowed Scholarship is awarded each year in recognition of the hard work, dedication, and commitment to service from future leaders in the Syracuse University Army and Air Force ROTC programs.

This year’s award recipients are as follows:

- Army Cadet Hannah M. McNabb ’21
- Army Cadet Daniel Coates ’21
- Army Cadet Alexander M. Morales ’21
- Army Cadet George L. Canino ’20
- Air Force Cadet MacKenzie P. Jorgensen ’22
- Air Force Cadet Gerrit M. VanVranken ’22
- Air Force Cadet Myat Khant ’23
- Air Force Cadet Zachary W. Herzog ’23

“My family is honored to be part of everything that is happening at Syracuse University in support of veteran and military-connected students on campus.”

— Paul Dottle
Office of Veteran and Military Affairs Advisory Board Chair



Leadership Circle

Powerful group of supporters

The Veteran Legacy Fund provides unrestricted support to the Syracuse University military-connected community. We would like to thank the donors who made a gift to the Veteran Legacy Fund between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. We are grateful to those listed below for their gifts and continued generosity.

Veteran Legacy Fund Leadership Circle

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.

Current Leadership Circle Members

To all our current members, thank you for your generous support and leadership.

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*Deceased

Veteran Legacy Fund 1944 Circle

We believe each supporter of the VLF deserves special recognition. Understanding the challenges our recent graduates face as they transition to the workforce, start new careers and begin or continue raising families, OVMA created the “1944 Circle” as a way to recognize “graduates of the last decade” (G.O.L.D.), who desire to take their commitment a step further.

Veteran Legacy Fund 1944 Circle members make gift of \$250 or more annually to provide unrestricted support to our initiatives.

Current 1944 Circle Members

To all our current members, thank you for your generous support and leadership.

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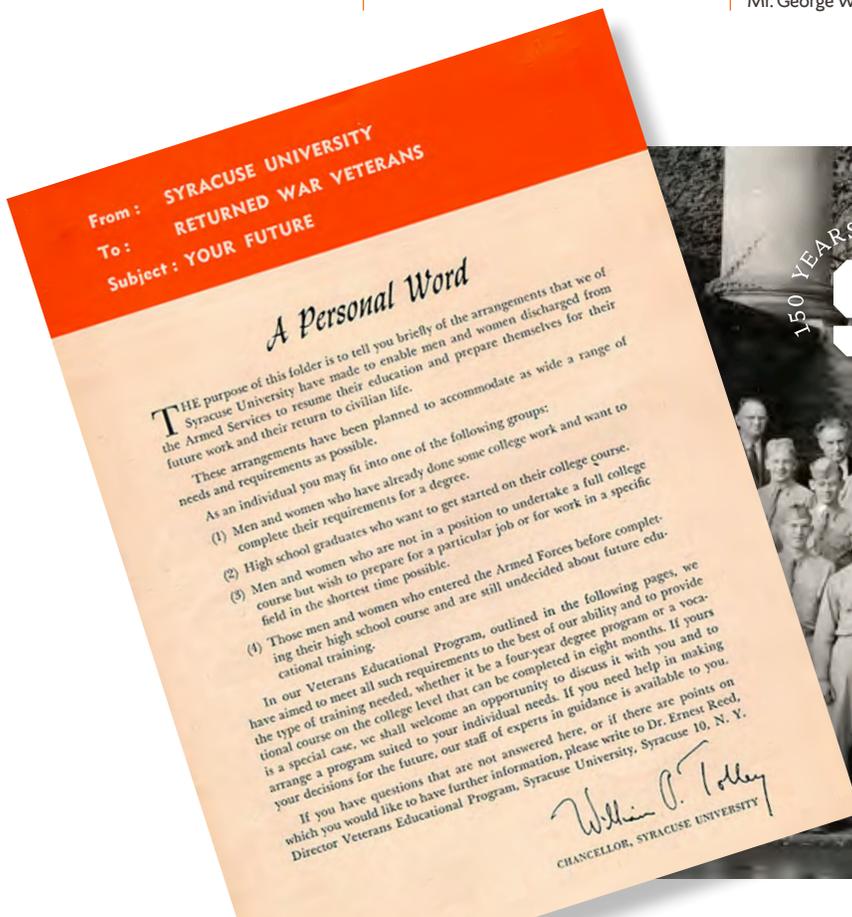
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