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**CSUSB Veterans
Success Center**

68th U.S. Air Force Birthday on Oct. 9

The United States Department of the Air Force was created by the National Security Act of 1947. That act became effective Sept. 18, 1947, when the first secretary of the Air Force took office. On Sept. 21, 1947, the Army Air Forces became the United States Air Force - a separate and equal element of the U.S. Armed Forces. As we celebrate the establishment of the U.S. Air Force as a separate service, we are reminded of its proud heritage and promising future.



On Oct 9, 2015, from 1:30 - 3 p.m., please join the Veterans Success Center and the CSUSB Air Force ROTC, Det. 002 to celebrate the 68th Air Force Birthday. The festivities will take place in the Recital Hall of the Performing Arts Building (Room PA-102.) Air Force Veteran and ROTC Cadet Michael Kampbell will emcee the event, with welcoming remarks provided by Lt. Col. Charles Paterson, followed by a keynote address.

The event will then move to the John M. Pfau Library Lawn for the invocation and cake cutting ceremony. The event will conclude with remarks by ROTC Cadet Kampbell.

Welcome Our New Employees

Miguel Alvarado Student Assistant, Sophomore



Miguel (right) with his friend,
Cesar Zarate

Hi, I'm Miguel Alvarado, and I'm 18 years old. I'm currently a second-year student here at Cal State San Bernardino. My major is Business Administration, with a concentration in Accounting. My strong point in school is mathematics so if you ever need help in math, I'll be more than happy to assist

you. Some hobbies I enjoy include playing soccer, going to school events, and hanging out with friends. During my senior year in high school I did a public safety internship at Glen Helen where we learned a lot about San Bernardino's sheriffs training. Some of the things we learned were discipline, how to write memoranda, and law. Being able to work at the Veterans Success Center is so awesome; I'm extremely excited to be serving the student veterans here on campus, making sure they have the right classes and tools to be able to graduate. It feels good knowing that I can help make a difference in people's lives.

Reuben Perales USMC Veteran and CSUSB Alumnus



I am a CSUSB alumnus with a B.A. in Business Administration, with a concentration in Finance. As a student at CSUSB, I joined a few organizations like the Student Veteran Organization (SVO), Financial Management Association, and Latino Business Student Association, which have helped me build a larger network of people that I can use outside of CSUSB. Having a well-

rounded college experience paired with military experience with the USMC has helped me in both my personal and professional goals. After I graduated, I got a job with Edward Jones as a financial adviser. In that position, I helped people with their financial situations and offered them stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and other instruments to help them reach their financial goals. I am currently a casual worker at the VSC and I'm extremely honored to have graduated alongside fellow veterans and deeply honored to have continuing connections with Cal State San Bernardino.

First S.T.A.R.S. Seminar of the Year

Please join the Veterans Success Center at our first S.T.A.R.S. (social skills, time management, academic success, responsibility, and self-discovery) Seminar of the year on Sept. 29. The seminar, scheduled from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the group room of the Veterans Success Center, will be on "Building Connections" and facilitated by Dr. Rachel Keener. Please RSVP by calling (909) 537-5195 or by speaking in person with one of our employees at the front desk.

The seminars are open discussions on topics that we know are important to our student veterans and are moderated by experts but driven by attendees! The free sessions will be held each month at 11:45 a.m., and best of all, we will provide lunch for free.



VSC Ranked in Best of the Best Colleges and Universities



Cal State San Bernardino was named among the nation's Best of the Best colleges and universities for its outstanding work with military veteran students. nation's employers, initiatives, government agencies, and educational institutions. These nonbiased studies are valuable resources for jobseekers, business owners, students, consumers, senior management, business associations, employment agencies, and consumer groups.

U.S. Veterans Magazine polled hundreds of

Fortune 1000 companies for its Best of the Best evaluations. *U.S. Veterans Magazine* created a poll to

open up employment, business, and supplier opportunities within the federal government and corporate America for veterans, transitioning service members, disabled veterans, spouses, and veteran business owners.

U.S. Veterans Magazine Best of the Best list is an annual review and evaluation of the

The Best of the Best listings are among the latest where Cal State San Bernardino has been named among the nation's best. Recently, GI Jobs, Military Advanced Education, and *Military Times* listed CSUSB among the nation's best colleges.

Set in the foothills of the beautiful San Bernardino Mountains, CSUSB is a preeminent center of intellectual and cultural activity in inland Southern California. Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2015, CSUSB serves more than 20,000 students, including approximately 400 veterans each year, and graduates about 4,000 students annually.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO
PALM DESERT CAMPUS
Veterans Success Center

Open House

We invite you to stop by our center, learn about our services, and enjoy refreshments!

Date: Tuesday, September 29th
Time: 12 p.m.
Location: Palm Desert Health Sciences, Room 105

RSVP

Treje304@coyote.csusb.edu
909-537-8129



The CSUSB Vet Hunter



Agustin Ramirez is a U.S. Navy veteran and an 11-year coyote veteran working for the Office of the Registrar. Agustin is the staff adviser to the Student Veteran Organization, an adviser for the University Honors Program, and the former chair of the Student Health Advisory Committee, all at CSUSB. He is also part of the Written by Veterans writers group on campus, and helped represent CSUSB at the Los Angeles Book Fair in 2015, the first time CSUSB had a presence at the event. You might recognize him, as he frequently attends and participates in Veterans Success Center events throughout the year. Look for the gentlemen with his signature bowtie.

Agustin served four years in the Navy as an Aviation Electronic Technician, Petty Officer Third Class (AT3). His squadron, VF-14 “Top Hatters,” was an F-14 Tomcat fighter squadron stationed out of NAS Oceana, Virginia. He served onboard the *USS John F Kennedy* while deployed to the Mediterranean and Middle East. Upon separation from active duty with an honorable discharge, he began attending San Bernardino Valley College on the GI Bill, and transferred to CSUSB. He graduated with honors with a Bachelor of Arts in Biological Psychology, and a minor in Biology.

While a student here at Cal State San Bernardino, Agustin started his tenure in the Office of the Registrar as a student assistant in 2004. He worked his way up to staff member in 2007, eventually landing his current position as a Transfer & Graduation Counselor in 2012. He is currently working on his master’s degree in General Experimental Psychology.

He understands how difficult the transition can be, as the values instilled during military service are not always practiced in civilian life. “I want veterans to understand that although it might be difficult, it is not impossible. It’s okay to ask for help; I’ve been there,” Agustin states. “My official title might be Transfer and Graduation Counselor, but I am ALWAYS available to talk to and assist fellow student veterans with whatever they need. Whether you just need to talk or need direction, I am always here.”

Agustin lives in San Bernardino with his wife, Felicia, and their two daughters, Lily and Abby.

CSUSB Staff Veterans and VSC Staff Member Receive Top Honors at Convocation

The President's Outstanding Employee Award

Robert Whitehead, U.S. Air Force Veteran



The Divisional Distinguished Service Award

**Vernon Dorsey, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran (Left)
Jaime Espinoza, Veterans Success Advisor (Right)**



Congratulations to Robert Whitehead for receiving the President’s Outstanding Employee Award. Pooled from the President's Outstanding Employee Award and the President's Special Achievement Award, nominees Jaime Espinoza and Vernon Dorsey were presented with the Divisional Distinguished Service Award. Jaime was selected for the Division of Student Affairs and Vernon for the Division of Administration and Finance. Employees are selected to receive this award based on their performance in the previous fiscal year. During the nomination period of May through June, eligible employees may be nominated for their overall job performance.

SVO Recruiting Interested Students



STUDENT VETERANS ORGANIZATION
AT
CSUSB

The Student Veterans Organization (SVO) is a student organization run by veterans for veterans. The club is actively recruiting students who are interested in joining a club that is dedicated to service. As the SVO president, I want to hear from everyone because I believe, collectively, we can make our campus and the greater San Bernardino community a better place for our service members. In our efforts to accomplish our goals, we hold meetings once a month to organize and plan community service events and opportunities for the advancement of veterans. Please do not hesitate to contact me at jordangallinger@gmail.com if you are interested in joining or for more information.

- Jordan Gallinger, President, Student Veterans Organization

Freshmen and Transfer SOAR Orientation



During the summer months, the VSC held orientation sessions for 97 transfer student veterans who will attend CSUSB this fall. They were informed about VSC services and the staff across campus dedicated to assisting veterans. VSC staff also tabled at the freshmen SOAR sessions to inform incoming students about the VSC. “It was surprising to see so many military dependents who were unaware of the California College Fee Waiver program,” remarked Jaime Espinoza, Veterans Success Advisor. “I informed them of the program and provided the necessary information for them to apply. Attending these events is gratifying because you are able to meet the new generation of CSUSB students and see where they are headed.”

“Transferring Military Skills” Conference Held in Late August

The Inland Empire Veterans Education Collaborative



Transferring Military Leadership Skills to the Civilian World

“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way”
- John C. Maxwell

The Inland Empire Veterans Education Collaborative is a network of public and private organizations that share ideas, knowledge and resources to improve the access to and quality of education services for veterans, military personnel and their families, and to increase public awareness of the unique needs of this special segment of our population.

Date:	August 27, 2015
Time:	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Location:	California State University, San Bernardino 5500 University Parkway San Bernardino, CA 92407 John M. Piau Library, Room 5005
RSVP:	Contact Linda Umberg, CalVET, at (909) 387-5986 or e-mail Linda.Umberg@calvet.net

CALVET
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
SAN BERNARDINO**

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
Veterans Affairs



On Aug. 27, the Veterans Success Center hosted the Inland Empire Veterans Education Collaborative on transferring military leadership skills to the civilian world. Speakers included Vincent McCoy of the Business Development Center, Dr. Mike Stull, Director of the I.E. Center for Entrepreneurship, and Professor Andreas Kossak, adjunct professor at CSUSB and creator of the Military Writers Program here at CSUSB. Over 50 individuals attended the conference.

The satisfaction survey analysis revealed that 81 percent of the participants stated they were satisfied with the program, 93 percent agreed that audience participation was good and 97 percent responded that the event was well run.

How Have You Been Spending Your Summer?

Mike Kampbell

USAF Veteran & AFROTC Cadet



Mike (right) with his best friend Cory Seegrist (left) on a golf trip

Wow!!! My summer has been phenomenal! From surfing at the beach, deep sea fishing off the coast of San Diego, extensive Air Force training, and golfing at some of the most beautiful courses California has to offer and

to a Vegas trip - it has been a blast!!! I loved every minute of it! Especially when you can do it with loved ones, it simply cannot get any better! Although I may have been marginally sad about leaving my summer behind, I am thrilled to launch into this upcoming school year as a Coyote! It gives me great pleasure knowing I attend one of the most unique and diverse schools in the California region. I am so stoked for the future! Go Yotes!!!

Eduardo Verdugo

California Army National Guard



This summer I took advantage of military benefits and discounts visiting Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm

among many other Southern California attractions. Over the summer, I watched every major movie on its release date starting with Jurassic World. As a member of the California National Guard I also attended military training. I chose not to attend school in the summer to allow myself to enjoy my family and friends.

Betty Del Castillo

California Army National Guard



Entering a new stage in your life is always nerve-racking and scary, especially when you're not sure what route to take. Every decision we make in life has either a positive or a negative impact. I can't say that taking a break from CSUSB was a positive decision, but I can say that it made me realize how badly I needed school in the first place. Now I am resubmitting

my application and it has never been easier. With the help of the VSC on campus, it was so easy to transition from not having any schooling for two years, into being a full time student. The staff from the VSC made it extremely easy because they were there every step of the way. In a matter of two weeks I was admitted and my classes picked for the quarter. My first point of contact will forever be the VSC.

Arturo Brooks

U.S. Army Veteran



Lets see ... what I did this summer? Well, this summer has been different from the past three summers. I started taking remedial classes for math and English and spent two months trying to make up for math I had forgotten two years ago. I lost a lot of

weight (over 15lbs.) so I'm pretty proud of myself. I met a lot of great new people even though I'm older than 90% of them. So honestly this was a good summer -- new friends and remembering stuff I should already know -- but I'm sure all of us are not going to remember that while we're in the military. :D I'm happy to finally start college; it's a different monster from being deployed. Texas is better!!!