



Concord University Student Veteran's Newsletter

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"The patriot's blood is the seed of Freedom's tree."

Thomas Campbell

Message from the President.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Concord University's newest veteran students and welcome back all of our returning vets. I am Dr. Kendra Boggess, the President of Concord University. I want to share my appreciation for your service and sacrifice and congratulate you on your decision to pursue an education here at Concord University.

The transition to university life can be challenging, particularly for students who have recently left the more structured experience of military service. We want you to know that Concord University offers a range of

programs and resources to support you in your transition and help ensure that you thrive here, both academically and socially. A guide to these services is available on our University web site.

We hope the information will be useful to you and help you in getting acquainted with the Concord University community. Best wishes for your success.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kendra Boggess

President of Concord University



Concord University Veterans Association teams up with Student Veterans of America!



Concord University is proud to be a part of the Student Veterans of America and is looking forward to all the opportunities that they will be providing us with. Concord University will be joining a national coalition of over 1,400 student veteran organizations in all 50 states! This will allow our schools veteran networking skills to grow tremendously and not only allow us to better our organization but our school as well. We also look forward to joining them in efforts to collect supplies to send to soldiers currently deployed.

Student Veterans of America (SVA), is a non-profit organization

focused on addressing the needs and concerns of American military veterans in higher education. SVA is best known for being an umbrella organization for student veterans groups that advocates for improvements in veterans educational benefits. Its efforts, combined with other veterans service organizations, led to passage of the Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008. Senator Jim Webb (D-VA), a lead sponsor of the legislation has cited SVA's efforts as one of the primary reason the G.I. Bill was signed into law on June 30, 2008.

Uncovering History

As college students living a very stressful life, we hardly ever take a chance to stop and think of the history surrounding our campus. We wake up, get dressed for class, and wait for the moment when we can return to our dorms. Are we as really busy as we make it seem though? By no means am I saying that we aren't working hard at school, but are we taking opportunities to educate ourselves on the history behind our campus? The answer is easy and probably requires little to no thinking. No! Have you ever watched the movie Groundhog Day? The main character played by Bill Murray relives the same scene every single day!! Imagine how boring it would be doing the same thing over and over. Isn't that kind of what we do though?

We might not do it on purpose but it does happen. Students say there's nothing to do on campus and for a while I agreed, until recently when I was able to have an actual full tour of our library. I have been a student at Concord University for almost 2 years now and have went to almost the exact same spot in the library to study. Never knowing all the things that were behind those huge double doors. It was amazing to have so much history at my fingertips and

made me appreciate our school even more than I already did.

I feel that the reason we don't get out and take advantage of the things our campus has to offer, is because we are so mesmerized by our phones or video games or even napping after classes. If you ever find yourself bored on campus it's probably because you are holding yourself back from finding fun things to do. Get up and get out. Go to the library and learn about the history throughout this campus. Walk around the University and take in the views we have to offer. I promise you will notice things that you have yet to see.

The library also has plenty of memorabilia relating to the military. For instance, I never knew that we had a cabinet holding some amazing artifacts from past military members and wars. I had also never been in the Presidents room either which is where the cabinet is. I encourage you all to go visit and see everything that the library has to offer. Recently our library was recognized as one of the 50 nicest libraries in the United States. Which means only one from each state was selected. Another good reason to stop by and look around in your free time.



(The cabinet located in the Presidents room of the library)

A Message from your School Certifying Official

Hello All, I am not sure if you are as excited about the coming semester as I am but I know it's going to be a great one. I have had the privilege to recently meet quite a few new faces and look forward to seeing more as we progress through the semester. I love the beginning of the semester when I get the opportunity to see some of you that I only see a couple of times throughout the semester and also the students I see often. If for some reason I have not met you please come see me, I am located in Marsh Hall, Room 229.

I do have a few reminders for you.

Students receiving chapter 30, 1606, and 1607 make sure that you are verifying your attendance at the end of each month. The VA will not issue a payment until attendance verification has been completed. This can be done over the phone at 877-823-2378, or online at <https://www.gibill.va.gov/wave/>. If you need any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please remember that verification forms need to be filled out every semester. The majority of you have already filled out the

certification for the fall semester but in case you have not please get that in to me as soon as possible so that I can help you get your benefits. Remember that I can only certify courses that work towards your major so please make sure you are working with your advisors.

If you need to drop a class or change your schedules in any way PLEASE LET ME KNOW. It is imperative that I know. I am more than happy to assist you with the changes as I do have to report these changes to the VA.

If you find that you are struggling with your course work, know that we have many resources and that there is help available. Please stop by my office any time and I can help you find what you need to help you best succeed. Thank you for everything you do and allowing me the opportunity to serve you. If there is anything that I can help you with or if you ever have any suggestions on how I can better be of service to you please do not hesitate to contact me.

Teresa Frey

Veterans Benefits Certifying Official

A Message from your Veterans Advocate

Hello all, I am very excited to be starting a new semester and am looking forward to meeting all of our new veterans as well as the returning ones. We have big things planned for the fall semester and for the upcoming year in general. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and tell you a little bit about me. My name is Steven Kennedy, I am 24 years old, A United States Army Veteran, and a sophomore at Concord University. I served 4 years active duty with a majority spent in the 82nd Airborne Division. I am very passionate about veterans and want to serve those

who served. I hope that we can do great things in the upcoming year to serve you all. If you ever need anything feel free to come visit me at my office which is located in the Rahall building across from the Academic Success Center. You can also contact me by email at kennedys24@mycu.concord.edu or by phone at (304)384-6300.

Steven Kennedy
Concord University Veterans
Advocate



Resources:

Veterans Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255

Wounded Warrior Project: 1-877-832-6997

National Veterans Foundation: 1-888-777-4443

Your Congressional Representatives: www.contactingthecongress.org

West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance: 304-425-5194 for Princeton office