Services for Veteran & Military-Connected Students

Harper College, Board of Trustees Meeting January 17, 2018

> Presented by Dr. Travaris Harris, Terese Craig & Ferdinand Alfajora

Agenda

- Veteran & Military-Connected Data
- Veteran & Military-Connected Center Updates
- Student Veterans Association Club Updates
- Fall 2017 Accomplishments
- Spring 2018 Plans
- Marketing Efforts

Veteran/Military Connected Data

FY 2015 to 2016, 69.5% increase in credentials earned

	2015			是不是	2016		
	Military			Military	1995	·图·	Grand
Credential	Connected	Veterans	Total	Connected	Veterans	Total	Total
Certificate	3	32	35	5	48	53	88
Degree	2	27	29	2	37	39	68
Grand Total	5	59	64	7	85	92	156

FY 2017

- 520 veterans, reservists, and military-connected students enrolled in CE and credit courses
- 305 students used VA benefits (eg. GI bill, post-911, and Illinois Veterans grant)

Veteran/Military-Connected Center

Harper College identified space in building A which was renovated and opened in spring 2017. This was made possible through the support and partnership of an anonymous donor, the Student Veterans of America -Vet Center Initiative and The Home Depot Foundation.

Over *500 visits to the center July - Dec 2017

- Users include both veteran and non-veteran users (eg. militaryconnected and friends/supporters of veterans)
- Summer usage: primarily recreational games, tv, hangout space
- Fall usage: 50% computer use/studying & 50% recreational

*some duplication of students that may have visited more than once in the semester

Student Veterans Association (SVA)

- The Job Placement Resource Center (JPRC) offered veteran-focused resume writing and interview workshops
- Participated in community service projects including Habitat for Humanity and Feed My Starving Children
- Issued over 400 free flags across campus on Veterans

 Day and participated in Harper's recognition breakfast
- Three student reps and advisor joined 3,000 attendees at the Student Veterans of America National Conference Jan 4-6, 2018.

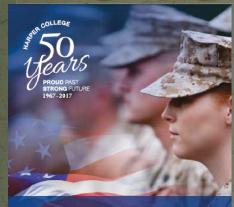
Fall 2017

- September: Received preliminary notification of Harper's Military Friendly designation (confirmed December)
- October: Hired Veteran Center Coordinator Ferdinand Alfajora, retired Marine with 26 years of active and reserve duty
- November: Roll out of new web landing page and additional marketing efforts targeting prospective students including radio, television and email www.harpercollege.edu/veteran
- December: Collaborative efforts from admissions, financial aid, advising and student affairs resulted in the first Veteran Info Session with efforts to be repeated spring 2018

Spring 2018

- Monthly information sessions for prospective students with enrollment staff, financial aid staff, advising, and veteran coordinator present to assist and answer questions
 - Saturday, January 6, 9-11 AM, Building A, Room A243
 - Tuesday, February 20, 5-7 PM, Building Y, Room Y203c
 - Tuesday, March 20, 5-7 PM, Building Y, Room Y203c
 - Tuesday, April 17, 5-7 PM, Building Y, Room Y203c
- Veterans Back to Work Career Fair January 24th
- Veterans Center ribbon cutting February 8th 3 PM
- Ongoing planning for college programming and community activities focused on engagement, career readiness, academic success and more!

Ongoing Marketing Efforts



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.

Now, let Harper serve you.

Harper College supports your success. Services are available for military-connected students (active duty, reservists, veterans and eligible dependents). Many offices also have designated Veteran Services Representatives and Harper has an active Harper Student Veterans Association and a new Veterans Center.

To learn more call 847.925.6679 or visit harpercollege.edu and search "Veterans."

Top-Ten Program Areas Veterans Enroll in at Harper College

- 1. Health Careers
- 2. Accounting
- 3. Business Administration and Management
- 4. Computer Information Systems
- 5. Law Enforcement and Justice Administration
- 6 FMT
- 7. Engineering
- 8. Maintenance Technology
- 9. Paralegal
- 10. Welding

- Print ad for a special Daily Herald section early fall
- WGN highlights Harper College's expanded services for veterans
- Harper College veteran/military-connected radio spots in an effort to reach prospective students
- New web landing page <u>www.harpercollege.edu/veteran</u>
- Monthly info sessions, including collaborative outreach with enrollment services at veteran friendly events

Questions?

Thank you

for the opportunity to speak with you about the exciting programming and services available for veteran and military connected students