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| **Troops to College (T2C) Committee** |
| Minutes | November 19, 2015 | 3:30 pm | 401 rudder |
| Type of meeting | Monthly  |
| Facilitators | Jerry Smith & Bridgette Ingram |
| Note taker | Debbie Pack |
| Attendees | Alicia Guevera, Bridgette Ingram, Debbie Pack, Dianne Kraft, Don Freeman, Gerry Hince, James Fish, Jeff Salem, Jerry Smith, Karen Allen, Kristin Harper, LeeAnn Pickett, Lynne Muller-McIntyre, Martha Dannenbaum, Mike Dulke, Sarah Jaks, Sarah LeMire, Suzanne Rosser, Todd Wilson |
| Agenda topics |
|  | **Introductions/General Announcements & Upcoming Veteran Events** | Jerry Smith |
| Discussion | Jerry and Don presented awards to the Veteran Students of the Month and Faculty/Staff of the Month. Students of the Month were Forest Clark for October 2015 and Gap Barbin for November 2015. Faculty/Staff were Guillermo Garcia Urena for September 2015 and Andy Armstrong for October 2015.Calendar and upcoming events:Wednesday, December 16th, 3:30 – 5:00, Graduation Cord Reception, Stark GalleryThursday, December 17th, 3:30 – 5:00, Troops to College Meeting, 401 RudderThursday, December 17th,9:00 – 5:00, PAVE Training 111 KoldusWednesday, January 13th, 5:30 – 8:30, Vet Camp, Gates BallroomTuesday, February 9th, 8:00 – 5:00 TVC Summitt, MSCWednesday, February 10th, Career FairWednesday, March 16, Priority deadline to submit the 2016-2017 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)May – Pat Tillman Foundation Application Closes |
| **GUEST PRESENTERS** |
| Discussion | Dr. Danny Pugh, Vice President for Student Affairs spoke to the Committee regarding possible funding aids for research, aid, etc. He also spoke on possibilities with the Center of Excellence facilities, scholarships, helping our veterans and veteran initiatives.Dr. Leslie Easterwood also spoke on some programs she is highly involved in:1. Running for Roy – Honors all of the 36 Aggies who have been lost since 9/11
2. Fore Our Heroes Golf Tournament
3. Family of Mark Humphries has founded a ring endowment in Mark’s memory. The family will pay fr the first ring.
4. Ring It Forward - A program to fund 36 ring in honor of each aggie lost since 9/11. His rings have been funded to date.
5. Aggies Support USO – Raised $1,000 to send 10 boxes to soldiers for Christmas.
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| **OLD OR ON-GOING BUSINESS** |
| Discussion | Bridgette: Tillman Scholarship Application date opens February 1st. Last year A&M sent 8 candidates forward. This year the Foundation is only allowing 3 students to be submitted but we are guaranteed 1 Tillman Scholar.Texas Coordinating Council for Veteran Services Higher Education Work Group – Work group for TVC to talk about Hazlewood,. Testimony will be 11/20 and a link will be available for listening to the testimony at 8:45 am.Jerry: Talked about the Best for Vets poll. A&M went from #7 last year to #23 this year. The numbers aren’t making sense. Staff support totals and Career Center totals are not dependable. |
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|  | **VSO ProcessING Update**  | Bridgette |
| Discussion | VSO has a new employee, Ashley Drake to help with the load. Customer service survey has been launched. |
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|  | **military admissions** | Karen cambronero |
| Discussion | Karen C. was not able to attend the meeting. Total student contacts for October was 242. |
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|  | **Student Veteran Leader updates** | jerry smith |
| Discussion | Graduate Student Update – Jeff Salem: Still working on getting more Graduate Veteran students involved. Other student leaders not able to attend due to classes. |
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|  | **Vet success on campus** | lynne muller-mcIntyre |
| Discussion | Dr. Snyder is trying to set the Up Armor training for spring. Hopefully he will be able to find participants at Vet Camp. |
|  | **miscellaneous** | jerry smith |
| Discussion | Strategic Plan – Still a work in progress.Awards Committee - **Still need Student Vet of the Month nominations. Please send to Jerry.** Still need a faculty/staff nomination.Round the Table:Mike Dulke: There are now 26 members in Delta Co.Alicia Guevera: Disability Services needs volunteers for proctors during finals. Karen Allen: Six new admits this week alone.Martha Dannenbaum: Speaking at the Student Veteran Association meeting in December. Texas A&M has been approved again for presenting at the yearly conference. Jerry Smith, Robert Rubio (SVA), Justin Gor (SVA) will be going. |
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|  | **community update** | gerry hince |
| Discussion | Veterans Week went great. There was lots of collaboration with Coalition members. Remind student veteran groups and local veteran groups the American Legion building is aviable for usage. There’s a possibility of a Veteran’s Dinner next year at Leslie Easterwood’s equine center. |
| **new business** |  | jerry smith |
| Discussion | 1. Military Seals – No longer allowed to be used in any kind of publication/exposure. In order to use the seals you must have permission from all five (5) services.
2. Women’s History Month (March) – Sarah Lemire is working with Jerry to present programs for women veterans during Women’s History Month such as panel discussions, women veteran experiences, profiles of women veterans, platforms to show off the women, and possible women vet employment event.
3. Warrior Scholars – Don Freeman is woking with this program to bring to the A&M campus. It’s a one week boot camp with focus on skills needed for academic and civilian lives. It is an STEM pilot program. Will most likely start in Summer 2017. Don will be setting up a meeting the second week of September, 2016. If you know any Science or Math professors who could help, contact Don.
4. Parking – Disabled vets now have to prove they have disabled tags or that they are handicapped. Looking further into this issue.
5. Future Project – Decide the definition of what we mean when we say “student veteran.”
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|  | **Meeting summary** | jerry smith |
| Discussion |  |
| Action items | Person responsible | Deadline |