



## **NC STRIVE 2015!**

***Sharing best practices to better serve our nation's veterans, service members,  
and their family members in seeking higher education***

North Carolina National Guard Auditorium  
1636 Gold Star Drive, Raleigh, N.C. 27607  
June 16, 2015

Mission statement: To enhance student success by providing them with the necessary information, opportunities, and resources to achieve their career goals.

- 7:30 Registration
- 8:00 *Welcome to JFHQ* – MAJ Frank Poovey, Director, Education and Employment Center, North Carolina National Guard (auditorium)
- 8:05 *Welcome* – Flo Stein, Deputy Director, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (auditorium)
- 8:10 *Welcome* – Chad Kessler, MD, MHPE, Deputy Chief of Staff, Durham VA Medical Center, US Department of Veterans Affairs (auditorium)
- 8:15 *Setting the Stage* – Ilario Pantano, Director, NC4VETS, N.C. North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs (auditorium)
- 8:30 *Beyond the Green Zone: How to Best Serve Student Veterans* – Michael Dakduk, Vice President of Military and Veterans Affairs, Association of Private Sector Colleges and Universities (auditorium)  
*Introduction by Will Collins, Assistant Secretary of North Carolina Commerce for Workforce and Executive Director, NCWorks.*
- 9:15 *Why Behavioral Health Services and Supports Matter* – Harold Kudler, MD, Chief Consultant for Mental Health, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (auditorium)  
*Introduction by Cheryl Rawls, Director, Veterans Benefits Administration, Winston-Salem Regional Office, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs*
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 *Keynote: The VA's Role in Providing Benefits for Students in Higher Education* – Curtis L. Coy, Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Opportunity, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (auditorium)  
*Introduction by Joseph Wescott, II, EdD, President, National Association of State Approving Agencies and Executive Director, North Carolina State Approving Agency*

***He who did well in war, earns the right to be doing well in peace.—Robert Browning***

- 11:00 *Panel of Best Practices* (all those with AM on their name tags) (auditorium)  
Moderator: Ann Marie Beall, Director of Military Education, Federal Relations and Military Affairs Division, University of North Carolina General Administration  
Panelists:
- Michael Clawson, Coordinator, Military and Veteran Services, UNC Pembroke
  - Randy Smith, Director of Veteran Services, Methodist University
  - Alex Swanston, Interim Assistant Director, Veteran Student Services, UNC Charlotte
  - Matthew Thewes, M.Ed., Director of Veterans Services, All-American Veterans Center, Fayetteville Technical Community College

OR small group to which you were assigned, each with two co-facilitators and a recorder

- *Creating a Military Friendly Campus* (Blue AM) – Co-facilitators: W. Kenneth Bulls, II, PhD, Director, Office of Military Services & Summer Sessions, Winston-Salem State University; Meg Dutnell, EdD, Director of Campus Life, Office of Student Affairs, University of Mount Olive; Recorder: David Roddenberry, MA, Duke University Evidence Based Practice Implementation Center (Duke EPIC) (Command conference room 3010)
- *Meeting Academic Needs* (Coral AM) – Co-facilitators: Ashley Tittlemore, MA, Director of TRiO Programs, Central Carolina Community College; and Dawn Whetstone, Veterans Affairs Coordinator, North Carolina Central University; Recorder: Nicholas Tise, MPH, Operations Co-Director, Strategic Partners and Programs, Duke EPIC (Classroom 3 on third floor)
- *Meeting Behavioral Health Needs* (Green AM): Co-facilitators: Ronald McDaniel, Sr., MSW, LCSW, U.S. Army Retired, Veteran Outreach Specialist, Fayetteville Vet Center, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; and Stephanie W. Nissen, LPC, NCC, State Behavioral Health Programs Director, N.C National Guard; Recorder: Stephen Zablonki, Mid-Atlantic Region MIRECCC (Classroom 1 on first floor)

12:00 *Lunch:* vendor exhibits (Atrium)

- 1:00 *Panel of Student Representatives* (auditorium)  
Brian Papajcik, Assistant Dean of Students, Office of the Dean of Students, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Moderator  
Panelists:
- Jackie Bradford, Methodist University
  - Nicolas Dawson, Fayetteville Tech Community College
  - Daniel Hackley, North Carolina State University
  - Lara Taylor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- 2:00 *Panel of Best Practices* (all those with PM on their name tags) (auditorium)  
Moderator: Ann Marie Beall, Director of Military Education, Federal Relations and Military Affairs Division, University of North Carolina General Administration  
Panelists:
- Joy Cox, Director, Veterans Affairs, Campbell University

- Jeff Netznik, Associate Director for Military Outreach, Office of Continuing Studies, East Carolina University
- Amanda Parkstone, Transfer Coordinator and Military Admissions Advisor, UNC Wilmington
- Nicholas Riggins, Director, Center for Military Families & Veterans, Central Piedmont Community College

OR small group to which you were assigned, each with two co-facilitators and a recorder

- *Creating a Military Friendly Campus* (Yellow PM) – Co-facilitators: Briana Ford, Director, Military Student Services, Western Carolina University; Gregory E. Perkins, EdD, MSW, ACSW, LAPSW Assistant Chair and Assistant Professor Faculty Scholar, Center for Defense and Homeland Security, Fayetteville State University Department of Social Work; Recorder: David Roddenberry, MA, Duke EPIC (Command conference room 3010)
- *Meeting Academic Needs* (Orange PM) – Co-facilitators: Michael Deron McLamb, Veterans Affairs Coordinator, Wake Tech Community College; Ashley Adamovage, UNC Military Academic Advisor, Federal Relations and Military Affairs Division, UNC General Administration; Recorder: Nicholas Tise, Duke EPIC (Classroom 3 on third floor)
- *Meeting Behavioral Health Needs* (Black PM) – Co-facilitators: Daniele Brooks, MAEd, MSW, LMSW, Readjustment Counseling Social Worker, Greenville Vet Center, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; and Susan Watkins, MSW, LCSW, OEF/OIF/OND Transition Care Management Program Manager, VISN 6 Lead Program Manager, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; Recorder: Stephen Zablonski, Mid-Atlantic Region MIRECCC, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (Classroom 1 on first floor)

3:00 Break

3:15 *Next Steps*—Eric Crawford, PhD, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Mid-Atlantic Region Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center (auditorium)

4:00 *Wrap-up*—Wei Li Fang, PhD, with evaluation survey administered (auditorium)

Crisis Contacts for the Day:

- Debra A. Volkmer, MSW, LCSW, C-ASWCM, Program Manager, Transition and Care Management Team, Salisbury VAMC, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (704-202-8567)
- Ryan Higgins, LCSW, SPCM Durham VAMC, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (919-384-5993)

To download the PowerPoints and to view the videos, please visit <http://ncveteransworkinggroup.org/nc-strive/>.

These materials should be uploaded by the end of the month.

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