



Reveille

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Veterans Success Center

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 200 attend VSC Open House
- Meet our Spring 2018 graduates
- Adventures in studying abroad
- Veteran Spotlights

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National Guard helps extinguish nearby fires



Photo Courtesy of AP News

Firefighters wait for a water line to extinguish fires ravaging a house.

This summer, the State of California has been battling multiple fires, with one being the sixth largest destructive fire in California history. Known as the Carr Fire, this fire in Shasta County and Trinity County has burned over 229,000 acres, with eight fatalities.

This major fire began July 23 at 1:15 p.m. due to a mechanical failure in a vehicle which sparked a small fire that quickly spread.

Over 1,000 residential structures and 22 commercial structures were destroyed, which made it difficult for residents in the area to evacuate.

Natural disasters such as this tragic event require the government to activate the National Guard and Reserves to serve in rescue and evacuation missions, and to coordinate general public safety and escort services.

The immediate support from the military gives county residents security during these extreme times. The California Army National Guard and Air National Guard have brought

comfort to local residents, and have aided local and federal fire, forest, police, and search and rescue services. The California Air National Guard's most precious air power assets, the CH-47 Chinooks and HH-60 Black Hawks, have been a huge support in monitoring and evacuation missions. The California Army National Guard has supported local and federal services with infantry, engineering, and military police units. Two military police units -- the 270th and 870th -- had soldiers rotating at traffic control point areas, allowing the county police and sheriffs to monitor prohibited areas.

The 578th Engineering Brigade activated troops to deliver bulldozers and heavy equipment for fire and forestry officials. Over 500 California Guardsmen from the 143rd Infantry Regiment have trained to assist in areas already burned by the fire in order to prevent fire flare-ups. Additionally, C-130 Hercules aircrafts have delivered hundreds of payloads of flame retardant over the fires. MQ-9 Reaper drones have also been used

Continued on Pg. 3...



Continued from pg... 1

to take aerial photographs for distribution to firefighting officials.

Fires are a grim reminder of our vulnerability. They also serve to highlight our reliance on the coordination and expertise of our men and women who serve in the fire, forest, police, and military services. As we reflect on the destruction left in the

wake of these disasters, we should consider the toll if there were no such services available. More importantly, we should remember to thank our citizen soldiers who assist and lead in evacuation, search, and rescue missions. In many cases, these soldiers fight alongside emergency services. These are the part-timers who stop being

students, professionals, and homemakers, in order to answer the call of duty. To all those who accept this call now and every day, we salute you!

In the midst of California fire season, the California National Guard and Air National Guard will continue to provide assistance to counties throughout the state.



Jaime Espinoza, school certifying official and veterans success adviser, provides guests with a tour of the VSC during an open house event held July 19, 2018.



Members of the Inland Sound Chorus, an a cappella group, provided live music and entertainment during the VSC open house, singing Beach Boys songs and other hits.

Open House draws in crowd

At the Veterans Success Center, a variety of services are provided to veterans and dependent students. However, many incoming freshmen and transfer students are unaware of the services that are offered.

The VSC hosts an Open House every year for students to be aware of the important services that are provided. Open House was held on July 19 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on a hot, sunny day. The event took place in front of the VSC where 200 students, parents, staff, and faculty attended. Julio Bernardo, lead graphic designer at the VSC, set up the event with help from the Student Veterans Organization and a few Air Force ROTC cadets.

The event began with live music by DJ Swift, who had the people up on their feet. Each person was required to sign in and was given a walkthrough tour of the VSC, a facility that can be utilized by veterans, dependents, active duty military, and ROTC cadets. During the tours, guests learned about educational benefits and other services provided by the center, such as computer stations, free printing, events, and a lounge where students can



Guests help themselves to a BBQ in front of the VSC during an open house event in July.

All photos courtesy of CSUSB

study, relax, eat, and make friends.

The VSC offered a BBQ with burgers, hot dogs, potato salad, baked beans, refreshments, and cake to celebrate the importance of veterans and the start of a new school year. The Inland Sound Chorus, an all-male a cappella group, sang to end off the event. Everyone had an eventful time while gathering important information about the Veterans Success Center. Overall, the event was successful and gave those the opportunity to receive information about the VSC and enjoy live music, and of course, free food! The VSC would like to thank those who attended this summer's event.



Congratulations Spring Class of 2018!

All photos courtesy of CSUSB

Spring 2018

Veterans Graduation Celebration

California State University San Bernardino is dedicated to recognizing the commitment of those who have served in the military. Providing recognition brings forth motivation, encouragement to pursue goals, and a purpose to inspire others. The completion of basic training, testing, and time spent in the military are not easy tasks. With special events such as the Veterans Graduation Celebration, recognition and appreciation are looked upon each graduate who took the time, hard work, and dedication to complete their degree.

On Friday, June 8, the Veterans Success Center held its bi-annual graduation ceremony in celebration of 70 veteran graduates. The ceremony began at 5 p.m. in the Obershaw

Dining Room with speaker James McGuire, an Army veteran, who is currently pursuing his bachelor's in information systems and technology. Anthem singer Natascha Bolden, who will be graduating with her master's in national security studies this summer, beautifully sang the National Anthem. After, Lieutenant Colonel Mary Hall provided Alumni Remarks and was gifted a graduation stole. Graduates received certificates of recognition from the offices of Honorable Congressman Pete Aguilar, Honorable Congressman Paul Cook, and Honorable Assembly member Eloise Gómez Reyes. Lastly, CSUSB President Dr. Tomás Morales gave a speech expressing his respect and gratitude for each graduate.

Veterans were called up indi-

vidually by their branch and name. North San Bernardino Rotary Club contributed by providing the stoles, which were silver with a gold trim and gold lettering and included a patch of their branch. The SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society presented honor cords to 49 graduates.

"I felt proud of my achievements and the event was well organized," said Richard Hoehn, navy veteran, who graduated with his master's in health services administration. Hoehn, who was a surgical technician in the military, strives to help those by seeking employment in healthcare.

CSUSB and the Veterans Success Center give students like Hoehn the opportunity to be recognized for their hard work and commitment from being in the military to completing their degree.



Richard Hoehn, navy veteran (center), receives his stole and certificate from Jared Bosman, Kimberly Mesen, and Chaplain Capt. Quinn Hawley during the Veterans Graduation Celebration that was held in June.



Lieutenant Colonel Mary Hall delivers an inspiring speech to new veteran graduates at the Veterans Graduation Celebration on June 8, 2018.

Why You Should

STUDY ABROAD



Vanessa Santana, copywriter of this Revielle, strikes a pose in front of the Shaftesbury Memorial Fountain located in Picadilly Circus in the heart of London, England.

As a junior at Cal State University San Bernardino, I have always taken an interest in going overseas and furthering my education. The study abroad office offers programs to study a full academic year and/ or summer programs. I was initially interested in studying abroad for a year, but once I realized how close I was to graduating, I decided on a summer program. As a student who has never left the country, I took an interest in the London, United Kingdom program. The steps to completing the paperwork were straightforward, and the cost was minimal. Financial aid was able to provide assistance, as well as the school, which provided \$500 towards the program. Once the program was paid,

the study abroad office arranged for students and professors to meet and discuss the program and understand safety standards.

Traveling outside of the country on my own was definitely unsettling, yet exciting at first. I traveled a day earlier than my cohort. Once I landed in the United Kingdom, an unforgettable experience occurred where I was lost outside the airport with no cellular service. With my instincts and gut, I was able to resolve the situation, which helped break the fear of traveling alone as a woman.

Once I was settled in with the other students, the excursions began. We visited three castles, pre-historic buildings, and used European transportation such as walking, buses, and trains. On each excursion, the professor provided us with time check-ins, train tickets, funds dispersed, and a London Pass that allowed us to visit locations at a discounted price. The professor made it easy for students to enjoy each excursion at their own pace and provided a departure train timetable. This gave each student the time to experience each excursion as if they were on their own. We were also able to travel to other countries on the weekends, such as France and the Netherlands. Once the program was over, I continued to travel to Belgium where I was able to attend one of the largest electronic dance music festivals in the world.

Being able to visit five countries -- the UK, France, Netherlands, Belgium, and Iceland -- has made a tremendous difference in my views. To see the different cultures, foods, architecture, festivals, and events was definitely a culture shock. Having the opportunity to further my education while traveling was definitely the cherry on top. It has encouraged me to continue traveling and open new windows. I encourage those to take advantage of this amazing, once in a lifetime opportunity. It's an experience that gives one the ability to prosper and discover one's self.

CSUSB Study Abroad Programs

[csusb.edu/global-management/
study-abroad](https://csusb.edu/global-management/study-abroad)

(909) 537-4362



VETERAN HUNTER

Are **YOU** a veteran at CSUSB? We want to feature you in our next Reveille! Please visit our center or send an email to vsc@csusb.edu. We'd love to hear your story!



Lawrence McCrary, 61, a regular at the Veterans Success Center.

Lawrence McCrary, 61, a veteran army paratrooper, graduated June of 2018 with a master's in business administration to become a professional manager. McCrary received his bachelor's degree at CSUSB in mass communication and a minor in public relations. With hard work and dedication, McCrary was able to complete this major hurdle in his life, which will open new doors for his future. McCrary is currently seeking employment in the education field, specifically as a Student Success Manager. He found the Veterans Success Center (VSC) services, such as counseling, tutors, computer workstations, free printing and seminars, to be beneficial. McCrary enjoys outdoor activities such as camping, swimming, cycling, and visiting the beach and river.

Adam Diaz, 29, a navy veteran, petty officer second class, is excited to begin his junior year at CSUSB. His major is graphic design and he is currently working with the Veterans Success Center (VSC) to enhance his skills. In his spare time, Diaz likes to work on his 1963 Baja Bug and enjoys outdoor activities such as camping and hiking. He is an animal lover, especially to his two cats, Audrey and Howl. Once he graduates with his bachelor's, his next step is to work in the entertainment industry. Diaz finds the VSC's services most beneficial, and he takes advantage of the academic advising, computer working stations and free printing.



Adam Diaz, 29, a graphic designer at the Veterans Success Center.