Veterans Living Memorial Garden

On Saturday, March 23 2013, the Veterans Success Center held its official groundbreaking ceremony for the Veterans Living Memorial Garden. The ceremony took place out on the Coyote Bookstore Lawn. CSUSB officials Dr. Morales and VP Gardner alongside City of San Bernardino Officials, Mayor Patrick J. Morris, First Ward Council Member Virginia Marquez and Fifth Ward Council Member Chas Kelley and County Veterans Affairs Director Bill Moseley provided remarks during the ceremony. Army ROTC Cadet Daniel McDonald emceed the event, Bryant Taylor, SVO member, Mary Petite, Founder of the Incredible Edible Garden, and SFC Tony Perez, San Bernardino Recruiting Center, also spoke.

Fifteen fruitless Olive trees and Crepe Myrtle flowering trees which will bloom in shades of red, white, and blue were planted. Each group of trees which are representative of each branch of the military will pay tribute to the past, present and future of the military: veterans who have served their country with honor; those currently serving in the armed forces and those who will serve in the military and become future community leaders.

After the planting, a reception was held at the Veterans Success Center. The Memorial Garden will be a tribute not just to those who have served our country, but more importantly, to celebrate the future impact that our service members will make as leaders in their communities.

Many thanks to the Incredible Edible Community Garden for providing the trees for the living memorial, Tony Simpson and Ruben Nunez for going above and beyond the call of duty to make the Living Memorial a reality, and Betty Del Castillo, Michael Owens, Valentino Tapia, Lindsey Skidmore and SFC Tony Perez for all of their assistance making the event a huge success.
Women’s History Month Exhibit “Women in the Military”

Nationally, March is devoted to honoring Women’s History, but the State of California designates the third week of the month to recognize the role of women in the military. The Veterans Success Center has created a beautiful display that captures the lives of women in the military throughout history. As far back as 1775, women have served in the military in a great number of ways. Nurses, factory workers, switchboard operators, and as soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines are just a few of the many roles that women have held.

Most recently, on January 23, 2013, Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta lifted the military’s ban on women in combat, which will open up hundreds of thousands of additional front-line jobs to women. The landmark decision overturns a 1994 Pentagon rule that restricts women from many positions in the infantry and artillery, even though in reality women have found themselves in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan, where more than 20,000 have served. As of last year, more than 800 women had been wounded in the two wars and more than 130 had died.

The Veterans Success Center exhibit includes a timeline ranging from 1861 to present day, photos of women in all military roles, veteran artifacts and memorabilia, and much more. The exhibit is open to anyone who visits the center.

Highlights of the Early History of Military Women

**American Revolution (1775-1783):** Women serve on the battlefield as nurses, water bearers, cooks, laundresses and saboteurs.

**War of 1812:** Mary Marshall and Mary Allen nurse aboard Commodore Stephen Decatur's ship United States.

**Mexican War (1846-1848):** Elizabeth Newcom enlists in Company D of the Missouri Volunteer Infantry as Bill Newcom. She marches 600 miles from Missouri to winter camp at Pueblo, Colorado, before she is discovered to be a woman and discharged.

**Civil War (1861-1865):** Women provide casualty care and nursing to Union and Confederate troops at field hospitals and on the Union Hospital Ship Red Rover. Women soldiers on both sides disguise themselves as men in order to serve. In 1866, Dr. Mary Walker receives the Medal of Honor. She is the only woman to receive the nation's highest military honor.

**Spanish-American War (1898):** Thousands of U.S. soldiers sick with typhoid, malaria and yellow fever, overwhelm the capabilities of the Army Medical Department. Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee suggests to the Army Surgeon General that the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) be appointed to select professionally qualified nurses to serve under contract to the U.S. Army. Before the war ends, 1,500 civilian contract nurses are assigned to Army hospitals in the U.S., Hawaii, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines, as well as to the Hospital Ship Relief. Twenty nurses die. The Army appoints Dr. McGee, Acting Assistant Surgeon General, making her the first woman ever to hold the position. The Army is impressed by the performance of its contract nurses and asks Dr. McGee to write legislation creating a permanent corps of nurses. (Reprinted from http://www.womensmemorial.org/Education/timeline.html)
Colonels (Ret.) Peterson and Roberts Visit the VSC

On Monday, March 25, 2013, the Veterans Success Center hosted a visit by Col. (R) Bucky Peterson, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, who is retiring and Col. (R) Casey Roberts his replacement. Both are retired USMC colonels.

This visit provided an introduction and orientation for his successor Col. Casey Roberts. Their tour included:

- Meeting with President Morales
- Meeting with campus veteran team/staff/ROTC Commanders
- Meeting with student veterans
- Tour of Veterans Success Center and Leadership Course

At the conclusion of the visit, a reception was held at the VSC to thank Col. Peterson for his service to our nation and the CSU system.

Stoles for Graduating Veterans

Getting ready for graduation? The Veteran’s Success Center now has beautiful stoles for veterans, ROTC cadets, active duty service members, reserves and California National Guard Members who will be graduating this Spring 2013. The stoles are free of charge and will include a patch of your military branch and American flag patch. If interested, please contact Paula Akwaboah ASAP at the VSC on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m. (909) 537-5195 or via email: PaulaAkwaboah@gmail.com. Receive a free stole and show your military pride!

The VSC Welcomes Jaime Espinoza

Jaime Espinoza is an undergrad student at Cal State University, San Bernardino. He is a transfer student from Ventura County having attended a community college in the City of Oxnard, California. He came to CSUSB in the fall of 2009 and is expected to graduate spring 2013 with a Bachelors of Science in International Business and Marketing with a minor in Finance. He started his career with the Office of Admissions and Student Recruitment with Campus Tours progressing to an intern position where his job duties were to recruit high school and community college students like himself. Jaime will be putting his finance background to good use maintaining the budget and financial records for the VSC.

Life Beyond War

On Tuesday, March 5, 2013, The CALVet Inland Empire Veterans Education and Mental Health Collaboratives came together at UC Riverside to discuss the topic of “Life Beyond War.” The discussion focused on the issues that combat veterans face when returning from war and how educators and mental health professionals can work together to help them move forward in the journey. Ideas, knowledge and resources to improve the access to and quality of educational and mental health services for veterans, military personnel, and their families were just a few of the many topics discussed.

This meeting was the first time that CSUSB student and U.S. Army Combat veteran Angel Padilla told his moving story about his journey to move beyond the battlefield. CSUSB is a founding member of the Collaborative and workshops are provided quarterly.
CSUSB Student Veteran Published

Congratulations to CSUSB USMC veteran SGT Raymond Miller for his outstanding article titled “The Role of Ideology in Negotiation and Conflict Resolution during the Tuareg Rebellions,” which was published in the Small Wars Journal.

Moreover, the Cultural Knowledge Consortium Speaker Series sponsored by the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Intelligence Support Activity requested that SGT Miller provide a presentation online (open to the general public) regarding his research. The presentation took place on March 7th at 9am Eastern time to accommodate folks in the AFRICOM area. You can check it out on YouTube or copy the link http://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/the-role-of-ideology-in-negotiation-and-conflict-resolution-during-the-tuareg-rebellions.

SGT Miller is a CSUSB Graduate Student enrolled in the National Security Studies Program. He is a CSU-ACE IC Scholar, a member of Sigma Iota Rho Gamma Omega International Relations Honor Society and a Cleared Consultant for the U.S. Government. He speaks Arabic.

Marines’ Memorial Association Scholarship Program

The Marine Memorial Hotel based out of San Francisco offers the Marines’ Memorial Association Scholarship which will award 25 scholarships for the academic year beginning in August 2013. Two of the scholarships, the Sergeants Henry and Jeanne Rose Scholarship, are for $10,000 each. Eleven scholarships are for $5,000 each. The remainder of the awards are $2,500 each. Completed applications for the 2013-2014 school year are due 30 April 2013. For more information copy the link to the website: http://205.139.107.86/ScholarshipsHome.

Designated Smoking Area Removed

The current designated smoking area located on the north side basement entrance to University Hall (UH), has been removed. Smokers needing to smoke may use the south side basement entrance to UH. CSUSB believes in maintaining a healthy and clean institution for all students, faculty and staff. Just a reminder, university policy states that CSUSB prohibits smoking except in designated smoking areas. Let’s help keep our campus clean and safe!