Welcome back to ODU! We hope you had a relaxing and fun summer thus far. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with information on the many services ODU provides to our military affiliated population as you prepare to return in the fall.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding GI Bill benefits, transitional assistance, or simply desire a friendly face to help guide you through the administrative complexities of Veterans Affairs or the university, please know you are always welcome at the MCC. We have a trained staff of student veterans ready to assist you in any way.

Again, welcome back and good luck this semester!

Military Connection Center
Old Dominion University’s Military Connection Center is committed to assisting veterans, including active duty service members, reservists, guardsmen, and their families to successfully navigate the transition to academic life.

Our goal is to provide comprehensive support for students at ODU from the point of admission through graduation and ultimately on to a productive career.

MCC Upcoming Events

August 24
“Military to Monarch” Transition to ODU Program

September 15
MCC/SVA Welcome Back Social

November 10
ODU Veterans Day Celebration

The MCC assists students with:

- Adjust to the ODU community
- Navigate the required administrative processes
- Find peer sponsors and faculty mentors
- Connect with campus resources
- Secure academic tutoring and advice
- Locate opportunities for student employment
- Participate in educational and social programs
- Link to the Student Veterans Association
- Identify community resources
Need Academic Support? Find Help in the Learning Commons!

The Learning Commons, located on the first floor of the Perry Library, hosts a variety of free academic support services that are military student friendly. Specifically, you can find assistance with tutoring, mentoring, and writing assistance in three convenient spaces in the Learning Commons.

Learning Commons 1313 (757-683-7093)
- **Peer Educator Program Tutoring:** PEP tutors provide individualized course support for over 70 classes at ODU. Tutors can meet with students via appointment or during drop-in hours on a first-come, first-serve basis. To view a list of supported courses and to view tutors’ availabilities, visit odu.edu/peereducator.
- **Monarch Mentoring & Leadership Network Mentors:** MMLN mentors are available to meet 1:1 with students to work through personal and academic challenges, improve study and social skills, and aid in goal-setting. Visit odu.edu/peereducator and click on the ‘MMLN Mentoring’ tab to view mentor profiles and fill out the ‘Request a Mentor’ form.
- **eP Assistants:** eP assistants are undergraduate students who are specially trained and available to assist with ePortfolio assignments. To learn more about the program or set-up a 1:1 session with an eP assistant, please contact 757-683-7093 or eportfolio@odu.edu.

Learning Commons 1312 (757-683-6776)
- **Math & Science Resource Center (Math Help):** MSRC tutors provide drop-in group tutoring support for students taking MATH 101-200, 302, 307, & 335 and PSYC 317, as well as students needing help with the Praxis Core Math. There is no need to schedule an appointment – just drop-in during the MSRC’s hours. More info can be found at odu.edu/sci/msrc.

Learning Commons 1307 (757-683-4013)
- **Writing Center:** WC tutors provide individual tutorials to undergraduates and graduates working on writing projects for any course. WC tutors are not editors or proofreaders, but they coach and encourage students to achieve independence in the composition and revision of their own work. Visit odu.edu/al/centers/writing-center for more info and to schedule an appointment.

Upcoming SVA Events

**First General Meeting**
Our first meeting of the fall semester will be held on Thursday, September 8 at 12:30 p.m. in the Williamsburg Room on the second floor of the Webb Center.

**First Evening Meeting**
The first evening meeting of the fall is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14 at 7 p.m. in the Isle of Wight Room on the second floor of the Webb Center.

**MCC/SVA Welcome Back Social**
Plan to join the MCC and SVA for a welcome back social on Thursday, September 15 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. at La Herradura on Monarch Way!

**Female Veterans Event**
All female veterans are invited to attend our first event of the fall semester on Tuesday, September 27 at 12:30 p.m. in the Williamsburg Room on the second floor of the Webb Center.
Welcome to ODU! ODU Career Development Services (CDS) is here to help you with on-campus or off-campus employment opportunities. CDS has Student Veterans Employment Consultants that can help with the following:

- Resume review and assistance in converting military experience into civilian wording and skills sets that will help you land a job interview.
- Job/career search using CDS web enabled job board, ODU CareerLink (you have free access)
- Guidance on applying for federal jobs.
- VA Work Study program where you can work in an on-campus part-time job (average 20 hours a week) while you are attending ODU that works with or helps other military veterans. The Veterans Administration (VA) pays $7.25 an hour (non-taxed).
- Student veterans’ employer/job networking events.

Want more info? Contact one of our Student Veterans Employment Consultants at (757-683-4388 or by email at vetsemploy@odu.edu. You can also drop by the CDS main office at 2202 Webb Center (2nd floor above Starbucks). We look forward to assisting you in your employment needs!

**Office of Educational Accessibility**

Attention all veterans with physical, psychological, and/or learning disabilities. The Office of Educational Accessibility and Old Dominion University advocate for all students with disabilities in the pursuit of their educational objectives. ODU’s OEA enhances their overall university experiences by providing services and accommodations. The Office of Educational Accessibility helps to ensure equal access to all campus facilities and activities. It fosters acceptance by designing opportunities that highlight respect, awareness and understanding of individuals with disabilities. It empowers students to become self-advocates as they fulfill their collegiate goals so they can find success at ODU and in future endeavors.

Academic accommodations can include extended testing time, quiet testing facilities, taking a test at the time that best suits you medically, and many other options based on your individual needs. Please contact the Office of Educational Accessibility for more info at 757-683-4655.

**VA Work Study Position Available**

The Office of Educational Accessibility is looking for a VA work study student to work in their office this academic year. All applicants must be registered with Educational Accessibility in order to be eligible for the position. Please submit your resume and VA work study application to the Student Veterans Employment Consultant at Career Development Services and indicate that you would like to be considered for this position.
Vets Success Program

The Vets Success on Campus Program is a partnership between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Old Dominion University to assist military-connected students in making a smooth transition to college life and successfully completing their educational programs.

The Vets Success on Campus counselor will assist veterans, active duty service members and eligible family members with:

- Information on VA educational benefits
- Applying for and understanding VA benefits
- Career counseling and vocational exploration
- Information and referrals for VA and community-based facilities

For more information, please contact April Miller at 757-683-7114

Reduced Fee for On Campus Childcare for Military Affiliated Students

ODU's Children's Learning and Resource Center offers reduced childcare rates for the children of low income military and veterans. The Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program is open to military and veteran families who are Pell Grant eligible with children under 5 years old and in need of child care services. Students accepted in the CCAMPIS ODU program will be offered spaces in the ODU Children's Learning and Research Center (ODU CLRC) and be provided with stipends to assist with the cost of care. Stipends range from 50% to 70% of the full-time student tuition rates in the CLRC and cover the annual registration fees.

For further information, contact the MCC or Nicole Austin, CCAMPIS Administrator at 757-683-4987 or naustin@odu.edu.

Applying for Benefits

Forms and instructions to apply for GI Bill benefits can be found in the link below for first-time users or students who have used GI Bill benefits at another institution, and students who wish to continue using their GI Bill benefits.

www.odu.edu/miladm/educational-aid

- You must apply for the GI Bill benefit through the Veterans Online Application (VONAPP) on the GI Bill website.
- Then submit a Veterans Clearance Form to the ODU Registrar’s Office.
- You must submit a new Veterans Clearance Form to the Registrar’s Office if you change your major, change your status, have a break in enrollment or a change to benefits.

Military Educational Benefits Team

VA Certifying Officials
116 Rollins Hall
Norfolk, VA 23529
757-683-4425 (office)
757-683-5357 (fax)
vaservices@odu.edu
Student Veterans Association

(757) 683-6488
Odusva.orgsync.com

Fall Schedule

Thursday, September 8 – General Meeting
Wednesday, September 14 – Evening Meeting
Thursday, September 15 – Welcome Back Social
Thursday, September 22 – General Meeting
Tuesday, September 27 – Female Veterans Event

Tuesday, October 4 – General Meeting
Wednesday, October 12 – Evening Meeting
Thursday, October 20 – General Meeting
Tuesday, October 25 – Female Veterans Event

Tuesday, November 1 – General Meeting
Wednesday, November 9 – Evening Meeting
Thursday, November 17 – General Meeting
Tuesday, November 29 – Female Veterans Event

Thursday, December 8 – General Meeting

Check facebook and orgsync for updates as we plan to add additional events throughout the semester!

Our female veterans group creating terrariums.

SVA Members supporting ODU's Annual Relay for Life Event

2015 Veteran's Day Luncheon

SVA members team up with the SPAWAR First Class Petty Officer Association to clean up an area of the Norfolk Botanical Gardens.