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Veteran’s Stole Ceremony

As reported by William Lewis, VSC Student Assistant

The Veterans Success Center held its annual stole ceremony on June 9, 2017. It was a bright, breezy Friday evening with guests in attendance. According to VSC employee Kenneth Jacobs, “It was the single largest turnout of graduates that have attended the ceremony.” Honorable guests to this event included: President Tomás D. Morales, CSUSB faculty-member Dr. Robert Knop, Congressman Pete Aguilar (31st District), field representative Mario Herrera from the office of Assemblyman Marc Steinorth of the California State Legislature, and field representative Joshua Imeri-Garcia representing Congressman Paul Cook (8th District).

The event was held at 5 p.m. in the Obershaw Dining room. Guests packed the room and filled nearly every single chair. Jacobs emceed the event and provided light-hearted and professional narration to how the event was being run. Guest speaker Dr. Knop spoke on his reflections of the Vietnam war, addressed the importance of seeking higher education, and expressed great appreciation to those who served and made it a goal to improve themselves in the academic field. Dr. Knop was followed by a speech from alumnus and combat Army veteran Angel Padilla. Mr. Padilla spoke on the hard work that veterans do during their service and how their academics will benefit the United States workforce further.

Veterans were called up by branch, and their respective branch songs played in order to further reinforce their pride and demonstrate to their families where they come from. Thirty of all of the graduates received honor cords from the SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society. SALUTE is the first national honor society established for student veterans and military in 2-year and 4-year institutions of higher education. SALUTE was formed in 2009 by the Colorado State University Veterans Office, thanks to a grant by the American Council of Education and Wal-Mart Foundation. The Veterans Success Center would like to thank all of our supporters, the representatives of government mentioned above, President Morales, and Student Veterans Organization President Arturo Brooks!
Summer Safety Tips

While summer is a time to relax and full of events that people do in order to enjoy themselves, be sure to read further if you want useful information to maximize your enjoyment over the summer.

Heat: Remember that two of the easiest ways to prevent heat-related illnesses is to wear sunscreen and drink water. Remember if you’re already thirsty, then you are dehydrated. Some other ways are:
- Schedule outdoor activities carefully, for morning and evening hours.
- Stay cool with cool showers or baths.

Water Safety: In 2014, the Coast Guard counted 4,064 boating incidents that involved 610 deaths, 2,678 injuries and about $39 million of damage to property. So be sure to take to mind these helpful safety tips in order to make the most out of your summer fun:
- Just Wear It: Life jackets are the lifeblood of safe boating. And also mandatory by law.
- Don't drink: Alcohol affects judgment, vision, balance and coordination.
- Take a safety course: Seven out of ten boating incidents are caused by operator error.
- Get a free vessel safety check at approved National Safety Council locations.
- Don't dive in unfamiliar areas.
- Never drink alcohol when swimming: alcohol is involved in 50% of male teen drownings.
- Never swim alone. And of course, learn CPR and rescue techniques.

Bugs: From the creepy to the deadly, be mindful of what critters are around you in the summertime.
- To prevent mosquito bites, use Environmental Protection Agency-registered repellant with DEET and cover up.
- Do not leave doors or windows propped open.
- Turn on air conditioning; mosquitoes prefer warm, damp and dark spaces. And you’ll like the AC even more on a hot day.

All of this information and more is available from the National Safety Council and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Remember the VSC looks forward to seeing you next year and we can’t wait to ask you all about how your summer went! Stay safe and have a wonderful summer!

Meet the ROTC Staff

There comes a time in a number of college students lives when they consider “Is the military for me?” To help you answer those questions, ask one of the cadre members of our two great Reserve Officer Training Corps programs.

On the Air Force side we have:

Lt. Col. Keith Vanderhoeven: Commander of Det 002, and Air Force career member. He’s a member of the bodybuilder community and is looking forward to overseeing the newest potential officers in the Air Force.

Capt. William Heineken: The incoming OFC, is a graduate of the Air Force Academy, and according to many reports is a cool dude under his rough exterior.

Capt. Daniel Han: The outgoing OFC and all around smart guy. If you have questions from exercise to finance, he’s a useful resource.

Technical Sgt. Rochelle Aquino: They always say trust your NCOs and they will take you far. No exception here, TSgt. Aquino is considered one of the best by her colleagues and the cadets who need her helps for paperwork.

On the Army side we have:

Capt. Tad Kitaguchi: When you think person you’ll be interacting with the most think Capt. K. He teaches, organizes the battalion, and oversees the day to day operations.

Maj. Doyle: One of the behind the scenes operators, is regarded as an important member of the cadre insuring that all of Coyote Batallion runs smoothly.

Master Sgt. Jose Rosales: NCO In-Charge and has enough experience to whip new recruits into shape, and serve as a well of information.

Mr. Zarate: Another behind the scenes worker, he is a key member of the cadre. He can often be seen overseeing the cadets during their PT sessions encouraging them to push themselves.
We want to take this opportunity to thank and recognize all of the clubs that came out and supported the VSC by participating in our Yellow Ribbon Campaign! The winners of the Ribbon Competition are: Student Health Center; the Nursing Club; and the Office of Community Engagement on the San Bernardino campus, and the Student Health Center at the Palm Desert Campus.

In honor of those who are serving on deployment and those who gave their life in service, the Veterans Success Center put on two events this past May. One was the Yellow Ribbon campaign which took place along with the Armed Forces Day celebration on May 17. All members of the community were encouraged to come out and decorate a tree with 100 yellow ribbons and other decorations to show their appreciation for service members serving overseas. In honor of Armed Forces Day, yellow ribbons were displayed on trees throughout the CSUSB & PDC campuses to bring awareness to our community of the tens of thousands of California soldiers, marines, sailors, and airmen who are currently deployed. Although they have left us and have been sent to places far away, we will think of them and wait for them until they return home.

To participate next year be sure to contact the VSC’s events coordinator, Deborah Buck, at (909) 537-7195, and ask how you can participate in our wonderful community event.

Interview by William Lewis

Austin Sibole has been recognized by the Daughters of the American Revolution for his outstanding service in ROTC and patriotism. In our interview with him we gained some insight as to why. The DAR, founded in 1890 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children. Members are direct descendants of a person who participated in the American war for independence from Great Britain. Any are welcome regardless of race, religion, or background.

“When I received this award I was extremely surprised because in ROTC that’s generally how it goes. I was highly honored to receive this recognition, even though several of my coevals were just as worthy to receive it.” Here was Austin referring to how the selection process occurs for Det 002.

“At Detachment 002, I was a flight commander overseeing a flight of cadets (at our small detachment) and helped cultivate them into strong candidates for their summer training program at Maxwell AFB in Alabama.” As a third-year college student attending CSUSB, he is pursuing an international business degree. He hopes to become a member of the intelligence community when he commissions from the ROTC program next year.

When asking about how he was presented the award, Austin stated “The luncheon where they announced the award was really pleasant and formal. It was at the Redlands Country Club. The food was outstanding because they treated their guests very well, the dessert was so fancy I don’t even know the name of it. Other attendees of the events were members of the Junior ROTC program; I was the only college-grade ROTC attendee, as well as several of their commanders.” He went on to say, “One of the Det commanders [from the JROTC representatives] actually asked me if I would run for office, and I replied maybe a local level office but not necessarily any higher. She said it was because I spoke so well. To be honest, they told me I had to give a speech about ten seconds before I gave it, ‘Ha, ha!’ Thank goodness for all of those speech classes I’ve had. I received one medal and the corresponding ribbon.”

A little about Austin, he typically only likes one condiment on his food, ketchup (or BBQ sauce, on occasion). His hobbies include, playing any sport so long as the team is willing to be competitive and have lots of fun. He loves to hike and would recommend that everyone who has the chance to hike Big Bear because it has several beautiful views and nicely drops in temperature as you hike along. He currently resides in Barstow the High Desert with his mother, father, and three other siblings. Austin was recruited out of Barstow Community College by the Goldbar recruiter based in Detachment 002 and has loved most every moment of ROTC since. Oh, and ladies, he is single.
CSUSB’s Palm Desert Campus is full of numerous opportunities and amenities. As a smaller campus dedicated to our student population out in the desert, it has several amenities in order to help our veteran population there.

What is your relationship to the military?
I am not a veteran myself but I do have family in the military. My grandfather served in the Navy, my father served in the Air Force, and my sister is currently serving in the Air Force.

What are your plans for the summer?
I will be going hiking in Yosemite and traveling to the East Coast.

How was your year at school?
It has been very productive. Classes have been fairly easy, so now I am spending more time volunteering. And I’ve accomplished to not fall under the pressures of college such as stress, anxiety, and procrastination.

What is the most memorable event/time you had this past school year?
Casino Night was a fun event where I met with friends and gamble the night away.

The Veterans Success Center wants to invite as many students as possible to our upcoming events! Be sure to look on the right in order to plan on attending our events. We have something for every month and for just about every person. All events are located at the San Bernardino Campus unless otherwise specified. If you want to know more about these great events be sure to drop by the VSC for more information. For disability accommodation be sure to call: (909) 537-5195 at least 72 hours in advance for reasonable accommodation.

Air Force Birthday - Sept. 22, Friday
STARS 1 - Sept. 28, Thursday

Navy Birthday - Oct. 12, Thursday

STARS 2 - Oct. 24, Tuesday
Halloween Haunt - Oct. 26, Thursday

Marine Corps Ball - Nov. 3, Friday
Veterans Day celebration -
Nov. 7, Tuesday, at CSUSB, and Nov. 9, Thursday, at PDC

STARS 3/Thanksgiving -
Nov. 22, Celebration Wednesday

Stole Winter Ceremony - Dec. 1, Friday
CSUSB is a national leader in cyber security education. Due to the excellent curriculum and faculty expertise in cyber security, CSUSB has been designated as a Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security since 2008. As a reflection of this excellence, CSUSB was just designated as a Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense/Information Assurance until 2021.

An ever expanding career field that provides plenty of room for growth (especially with all the news regarding hacking). Be sure to contact CSUSB’s cyber security department and their computer science department for more information!

Email: cyber@csusb.edu Phone: (909) 537-7535
Want a challenge? See the following link for a potential career opportunity: http://www.recruitahacker.net/

Feel like the country is facing more and more threats related to cyber security? Unsure of what you can do to help the future of America? Consider a career and education in the cyber field here at CSUSB!

I was originally from El Monte, Calif. I graduated from Arroyo HS. Immediately afterwards I joined the U.S. Army and served for six years as an ammunition specialist (89B). Upon separating from the military, I followed my husband as he continued his service in active duty. We’ve been stationed in Hawaii, Fort Eustis, Va., Germany, and we are currently headed for Fort Bliss, Texas.

I’ve always kept myself busy, and had a profession at every station my family has been at. I was discouraged when I was unable to find work in Germany; that was when I was motivated to up my credentials and I decided to pursue an MBA. As a candidate, I thought it would be clever to make my resume more attractive and stand out from my peers in the HR world. After a thorough research on which school offers a great online MBA program stateside, I came across CSUSB. A bonus was CSUSB is in my home state.

Moving all over the world, working, and trying to earn degrees, I also have had five kids along the way. Ages 9, 8, 7, 3, and 1 years old. My children are my biggest motivators. Without them and my husband’s support, I would not be where I am today.

Richard Borges, Navy Veteran
Major: Communication / Media Studies
Graduate!

What are your summer adventures? Going somewhere, working someplace, attempting something new?

I have an internship that I’m looking forward to. It involves managing the social media for a television show, “Inland Un-Solved,” a cold-case file production from KVCR. KVCR is a division of the San Bernardino Community College District. Their mission statement is to be the cultural, educational, informational and communication center of the Inland Empire.

What is one concern you have for over the summer?

That I will be too busy to get away for some much-needed time off. Studying hard and balancing a healthy lifestyle is essential before returning to CSUSB for my graduate studies.

What is one hope you have over the summer?

That the veterans whose plans are to serve this country get the opportunity to do so in the capacity of their choosing. I think it is rather important that everyone gets the opportunity to do the things they want to do over this summer break instead of doing just the things they have to do.