Retirement of Melissa McQuead

Melissa McQuead was born in Escondido, California. She is the daughter of a WWII veteran and the granddaughter of a WWI veteran. Mrs. McQuead has been at CSUSB for 29 years, all of them in the Office of the Registrar (formerly Admissions and Records, then Records, Registration and Evaluations, and now OTR). When she started as the certifying official, they had only seven veterans. Today, she serves over 400 veterans.

Melissa retired on November 11, 2017 at which time all of her duties were taken over by Jaime Espinoza. Mr. Espinoza, who has been with the Veterans Success Center since nearly its grand opening in 2012, has a breadth of knowledge and experience ready to step into Mrs. McQuead’s big shoes. Thank you, Melissa McQuead, for your years of service above self.

Melissa McQuead left us with this sound advice:
“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” — Maya Angelou

Truer words could not be spoken about Mrs. McQuead. We salute you!
The Veterans Success Center has said goodbye to several of its dedicated employees this year. In order to properly send them off, we want to show the extensive work they’ve done during their tenure here and thank them for their unceasing dedication.

_Andy ‘Youngwook’ Park_: A native of South Korea, Andy served as an accountant in the Korean Air Force. He was also responsible for other office work in the control and communications center. Andy served in the Korean Air Force for two years. Andy first visited the United States in 2008 while on a field trip for high school (talk about a study abroad). He then enrolled at CSUSB in the winter term of 2011, but only stayed a short time before returning to Korea to serve his country. Andy came back in the fall term of 2014 in order to complete his accounting degree. While participating in extracurricular activities, he was recommended to the VSC by Jordan Gallinger, previous SVO President. Since then he was a valuable member of the team who ensured that we were always on budget for our affairs. Andy’s favorite part of working at the VSC was celebrating the military traditions (specifically the birthdays) and publishing the success of his fellow vets and their dependents. And of course he loved the parachute visit by the Army Golden Knights!

_Kenneth Jacobs_: Kenny, as many affectionately call him, has been with the VSC since nearly its inception, joining the staff in June of 2012. Kenny has worked on practically every project that has contributed to the VSC’s ranking as number 18 in the nation and number one in California. He joined the Marines in 2009, survived their boot camp, and was classified as a (0621) Field Radio Operator, serving as a reservist for six years, spending his last two years as IRR.

He had family attending CSUSB which inspired and encouraged him to attend this campus. It was a smooth transition into college life. He earned a degree in biology and philosophy, and aspires to become a leader in education administration. He jokes with his coworker Jaime Espinoza, “I hope to achieve at least as much as you when I get older.” His favorite events from the VSC are the graduation stole ceremonies in fall and spring.
Compared to the traditionally taught method, the military has its own way for writing, from official correspondence templates to signature blocks, even to abbreviation methods. Something that can confuse members of the civilian world are abbreviations (acronyms too, but those are a different beast all together). But something that will add to the confusion is how each branch has a different method for abbreviating the same word. For example, take the word “Captain.” Simple enough. In the majority of the branches this will refer to a Company Grade Officer (CGO) while in the Navy and the Coast Guard this will refer to the commander of the ship (which has a few of its own sets of rules). But stay with me: “Captain” - if you were to abbreviate this term in the Air Force and the Marine Corps you will get the standard “Capt,” without a period at the end. In the Army the term would be abbreviated “CPT,” all uppercase letters and again no period. Finally, in the Navy and the Coast Guard this term would be abbreviated “CAPT.” If you’re confused, that is quite alright, it just means you’re learning something new.

Now you may ask yourself, “Why would the military do this? It seems unnecessarily complicated.” But in reality this is a method that allows for different branch members to identify one another and determine the validity of the correspondence. Now this isn’t a counter-espionage tactic; you won’t find an intelligence officer in the Army reviewing letters from a battalion in order to determine if one of them is an infiltrator by using the wrong abbreviations. Rather it is a process that stemmed from rich tradition in the military, and helps distinguish the branches from one another even in writing.

Use the following example: say an Air Force Captain is communicating with a Naval Captain and has little information to go off except to “Contact CAPT Buckweed.” They wouldn’t want to address them as a peer since a Naval Captain is the equivalent of an Air Force Colonel. That could be an embarrassing position easily avoided by paying attention.

Sources:

**Norton AFB “An Evening at the Museum”**

On August 23, Ken Hackman displayed a presentation of his work in the combat camera field at the Norton Air Force Base Museum, at San Bernardino International Airport. Mr. Hackman has had a lengthy career spanning several decades. He first joined the Air Force at the age of 17 as a photojournalist. If you were to ask him, he didn’t think that at first he would be recording history. But as his shot list grew to include parts of the Vietnam War and the Atomic Bomb recordings, he realized that his work was indeed documenting history in the making.

However, not all of his work was as grim as the serious events of war and research. Some of the events he recorded were down-right Olympic as he is one of the only people who has recorded The Olympics eight different times with his photography. He has visited a plethora of different areas in the Department of Defense and even did a documentary of the Air Force Defense Command.

Ken Hackman continued his photography adventure after the Air Force by becoming a photojournalist in the private field. One of his ventures and a challenge was the production of the movie “Fighter Pilot,” which took place on and around Nellis Air Force Base. Through his many achievements, he earned his nickname “The Godfather,” which also stems from his work in founding the Air Force photojournalism program in 1971 and guiding it to the success that can be seen today.

For more information on this outstanding veteran’s work, visit the following links for further information.

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**The Sky is No Limit with Deletta Anderson!**

**What is your current title/department?** I am the director of accounting services here at CSUSB and have been in my current position for ten and a half years and was the budget officer for three years previously. Prior to CSUSB I was in higher education at the University of Wisconsin Madison campus and at the University of Wisconsin System for over 21 years.

**What branch of service did you serve, what was your job title, and what did you learn from it?** I served on active duty for four years during the Vietnam War and my final station was at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines. I was at Clark Air Force Base at the time the Vietnam War Prisoners of War were released. My duties in the Air Force as a passenger and household goods specialist were to transport personnel and their household goods when their orders directed them to other locations. I learned about self discipline, working as a team, and staying on course until the job was completed.

**Are you a resource that veterans can come to (either officially or unofficially)?** I suppose I am, however I am retiring at the end of the calendar year.

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Left to right: Deletta cutting the USAF birthday cake 2017. Deletta on vacation in the mountains.
Imagine if you will, a firearm that costs less than the standard explosive, fires extremely accurate, can reach its target in a matter of seconds and the projectile it fires only weighs about a dozen pounds or so. Sounds like science fiction, right? Well to the U.S. Navy it isn’t: it’s called the Electromagnetic Railgun, and you may have heard about it in the past. Since 2005, the Navy has “officially” had this project in the works. Currently the Navy has made advancements in the life of the weapon by being able to fire multiple times without the weapon facing issues of melting due to the extreme heat that is generated with ordinance.

While the U.S. Navy may be excited about this development, it also gives pride to all those who see this development as the future of weaponry and a move away from the more expensive explosive projectiles. The Electromagnetic Railgun could fire a small chunk of metal (Tungsten in this case) up to Mach 6 (4,563 mph) accurately out to distances as far as 100 nautical miles. This means that if the projectile were to hit its target, there would be a rather large hole in it and little else would be harmed due to its classification as a kinetic weapon.

Besides the issue of weapons cooling, the sheer amount of energy needed to charge the weapon for a single shot is substantial. With the energy charge needing 32 megajoules, each shot would require so much power that only the most advanced ships in the Navy could handle the energy capacity with reason.

For more information be sure to visit the following websites:
https://www.defensetech.org/2017/07/21/navys-railgun-will-get-faster-powerful-summer/?ESRC=airforce-a_170726.nl

This year on August 4, the U.S. Coast Guard turned 227. The Coast Guard was originally founded in 1790. With congressional authorization, Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton created a maritime service to enforce customs laws. This defining moment was the official founding of the U.S. Coast Guard. It would later get the name it goes by now from President Woodrow Wilson when he combined the Life-Saving Service and the Revenue Cutter Service in 1915.

As a branch, the Coast Guard is often depicted as a peripheral branch of the military. Occasionally, it’s caused confusion, trying to place them in the standard organizational chant of the military that most people understand. The Coast Guard is part of the Department of Homeland Security, and they are recognized as a military branch. The Coast Guard’s mission is to ensure our nation's maritime safety, security and stewardship. This takes form in a few different ways: The Coast Guard oversees any waterway that connects multiple states, such as the Mississippi River, and the Great Lakes. Their ocean protection extends out to 200 nautical miles from the coast (which can differ depending on the situation). In accordance with local government laws, the U.S. Coast Guard is used to assist other nations with trafficking and interdiction issues, but this is usually set up with previous agreements that the U.S. has with the country.

The Coast Guard maintains the motto of “Semper Paratus,” which translates (roughly) to “Forever On Guard,” which stands to their purpose of being ready in any emergency. The Coast Guard is one of the most instrumental forces actively used to reduce criminal activity in the United States.

During the events of Hurricane Katrina, the Coast Guard worked overtime in order to assist with the aftermath of the storm. If you notice a hurricane device on a ribbon, this means this member served during Hurricane Katrina (see below). The Coast Guard is currently working to assist the areas affected by the recent Hurricane Harvey. The next time you see a member of our Coast Guard, be sure to give them thanks for keeping our nation safe!
Guadalupe Cambero is a Navy Veteran and a recently married dependent (National Guard). She has been attending CSUSB since fall 2016. Guadalupe is a dual major in biochemistry and biology. Since discovering the Veterans Success Center, she has adopted the center as her second home. In her spare time she loves distance running and cycling. In addition to cycling, she owns a unicycle as well. Guadalupe loves animals and enjoys caring for her two blind kittens named Soxx and Rocket.

Diamond Rushing, Tutor

Diamond Rushing has been attending CSUSB since fall 2015. She is a health science major with a concentration in public health education. She is also an Army military dependent and enjoys studying in the new tutoring center located in the Veterans Success Center. In her spare time, Diamond enjoys surfing, writing poetry and creative crafts. Diamond has a love of animals and has one yorkie-poodle named Chocolate that she loves to spoil. She expects to graduate in...