

WILLIAM & MARY



MILITARY & VETERAN AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER



Letter from the Special Assistant

KATHLEEN T. JABS

Dear W&M VET Friends,

I want to start off with a tremendous THANK YOU to our leading One Tribe One Day (OTOD) Challenge sponsors, Fred Caprio '85 and Jim Golden G '24, from our Veteran-to-Executive Transition (VET) Advisory Group. They sponsored a challenge for W&M VET on OTOD which led to us doubling our donations and exponentially increasing our donor numbers. We're very grateful for the generosity, support, and awareness we continue to see in the alumni and veteran communities. These funds allow us to support our military and veteran students – and grow our programming. Some of the highlights of our programs and progress are included in this issue.

The W&M VET team continues to expand our reach – we briefed the Virginia General Assembly Military Veteran Caucus held (GAMVC) on February 21 in Richmond and also were on the agenda for the Virginia Military Affairs Committee (VMAC) March 14 at Marine Corps Base Quantico.

PenFed Credit Union hosted W&M Day at their headquarters Feb. 27 where 12 W&M undergraduate and graduate veteran students met with PenFed senior veteran leaders then joined the executives that evening in their Capitol One Arena box for a Wizards game and more networking tips. The PenFed HR team provided the undergraduate veterans personal coaching sessions, and we're excited to see the outcomes from this growing partnership.

We bade farewell to Army ROTC Professor of Military Science LTC Jason Finch on March 2 at a W&M Military Appreciation Mens' Basketball game where LTC Finch was highlighted and awarded his own jersey number coinciding with the years he had served. It was awesome to see pictures of his career and family displayed on the new Kaplan Arena jumbotron.

Through our ongoing partnering with local military commands and W&M Athletics, we were able to send two Athletics staff leaders out to sea on the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) aircraft carrier to broaden awareness and strengthen ties between the university and the Navy.

To grow ties, we've hosted senior leaders from around the Commonwealth, including the new Virginia Department of Veteran Services Commissioner Chuck Zingler; Shawn Avery, the Head of the Hampton Roads Workforce Council; senior leaders with Air Combat Command from Joint Base Langley-Eustis and the Adjutant General of the Virginia National Guard, Major General James Ring. General Ring was on campus to speak at the National Security Conference hosted by the Whole of Government Center of Excellence. More than 250 in person attendees joined a robust on-line crowd for thought-provoking discussions on cyber and data security.

We're excited about our growing partnerships and look forward to providing opportunities for our veteran students at all stages. This issue offers reflections from Ao75 and opportunities with wellness, internships and upcoming events. We hope to see you! Please keep W&M Military and Veteran Affairs in mind and reach out at any time. We want to hear from you.

Thank you for your support,
Go Tribe!


Kathleen

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Events Recap

Distinguished Visitor Embark on Aircraft Carrier USS George Washington

Two W&M Athletic Department staff members, Karai A. Lockley and Ryan Adams, had the unique opportunity to walk on the Navy's USS George Washington (CVN 73) on the morning of February 12th, spend the night, then come back via a Navy C2 Aircraft on the afternoon of the 13th. The W&M athletics staff joined other local educational leaders to experience this once in a lifetime chance to live the life of a sailor and highlight the importance of our military relationships.



PenFed Hosts W&M Military & Veteran Students | Tysons Corner

PenFed Credit Union hosted W&M Day at their headquarters Feb. 27. We left here in van with 12 undergraduate and graduate veteran students for an industry day with PenFed senior veteran leaders and joined the executives that evening in their Capitol One Arena box for a Wizards game and more networking tips. All of the undergraduate veterans were provided a personal coaching opportunity. We're excited to see the outcomes from our growing partnership.



Events Recap (cont.)

4th Annual National Security Conference

On March 22, 2024, we welcomed over 250 students, faculty, staff, and experts on AI, National Security, and Cyber Defense for the 4th Annual National Security Conference. In partnership with more than a dozen campus units, four panels discussed important matters of national security, along with a special address from Major General James W. Ring from the Virginia National Guard and a keynote address by Eric Goldstein with CISA. Students from WMGIC, PIPS, MBA program, and DisinfoLab were able to present and network with seasoned professionals.



Photos by Kate Hoving

Saturday Mornings with Wear Blue: Run to Remember

W&M Military & Veteran Affairs hosted the third Wear Blue: Run to Remember of the year on April 6th at W&M. Beginning at the Mason School of Business, military and veteran students, staff, and families joined Wear Blue to honor the service and sacrifice of the American military. Please join us and Wear Blue: Run to Remember every first Saturday of each month! Family and pups are welcomed!



Events Recap (cont.)

One Tribe One Day

W&M celebrated One Tribe One Day on March 26th and we are so grateful to everyone who gave to the Military & Veteran Affairs fund! Military & Veteran Affairs celebrated with plank and push up challenges at three separate events: in front of the Mason School of Business, with a table at the OTOD carnival and at Burn Bootcamp, Williamsburg. Over 200 students, staff and community members participated, with the top plank and push ups awarded MilVet swag bags and a one week pass to Burn Bootcamp, Williamsburg. Sponsored by our W&M VET Advisory Group and thanks to our OTOD donors, we were able to unlock the Veteran Challenge and earned an additional \$5,000 to our fund by surpassing our donor challenge by over 120 donors on OTOD.

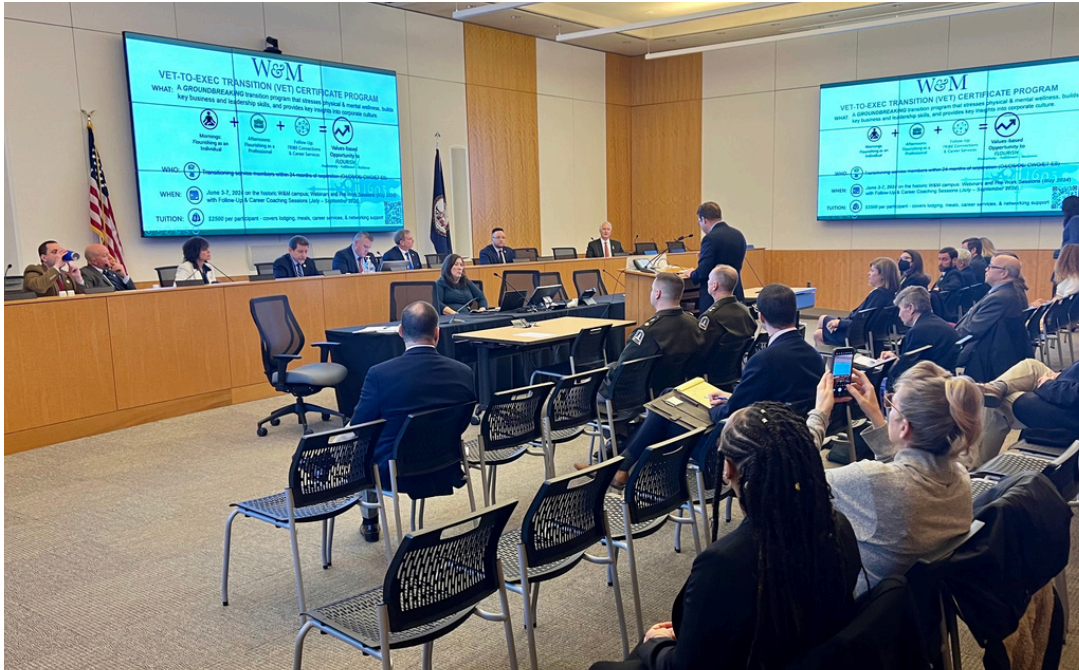
Special thank you to our W&M VET Advisory Group for the generous challenge gift and to Burn Bootcamp, Williamsburg for hosting a plank challenge to raise money and awareness for W&M VET. Most of all, thank you to our W&M students who helped out at the challenges and who donated back to their fellow students. We increased our student giving by 1200% this year, and we are grateful for the amazing student support!



Highlights

General Assembly Military and Veterans Caucus (GAMVC)

On February 21, the W&M VET team briefed the Virginia General Assembly Military Veteran Caucus (GAMVC) on our mission, programs, and initiatives. We look forward to hosting leaders on campus later this year.



Susan Constant Committee National Society of the Colonial Dames of America Supports W&M VET

For the second year in a row, Missy Carr, on behalf of the Susan Constant Committee National Society of Colonial Dames of America, presented W&M VET and military and veteran students with a generous donation to further the mission of W&M VET. We are so grateful for the continued support and look forward to providing updates on how we are moving forward our initiatives with the gifts and support we've received.



Highlights (cont.)

Patriot's Dream Veteran Scholarship Award



The Patriot's Dream Veteran Scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate student who demonstrates and espouses the values of William & Mary. Selection is made based upon commitment to student excellence and the overall commitment to the William & Mary community. The Scholarship is valued at \$1500. This year, the recipient is Connor Haitz. After his distinguished service as a U.S. Army Ranger, Connor separated with a dream to attend William & Mary and study Kinesiology. A father of two, he balances a full courseload at one of the most highly selective institutions in the country with all the responsibilities of raising a family. After graduation he plans to continue his education and service by attending medical school.

Lindsay Blount Ed.D. '24 Successfully Defends Dissertation

On March 18th, W&M VET's Project & Business Manager and military spouse, Lindsay Blount, defended her dissertation "INTEGRATING WELLNESS WITH PROFESSIONAL SKILLS IN THE LIMINAL SPACES OF THE MILITARY-TO-CIVILIAN TRANSITION EXPERIENCE: A PROGRAM EVALUATION." The newly minted Dr. Blount celebrated along with the W&M VET team and expressed her gratitude for the military and veteran staff, faculty, and students for the support and inspiration to undertake such important research. Lindsay will graduate this May with an Ed.D. from William & Mary and plans to continue her research on the military to civilian transition experience.



Association of 1775 & ROTC

Ao75 and the ROTC Commissioning Class of 2024

On April 4, the Association of 1775 celebrated the ROTC Commissioning Class of 2024 with a panel discussion of current and recent W&M alumni military officers and a reception. Moderated by Thornton Ray '13, senior consultant at Guidehouse, the panel consisted of: Charles R. Bowery, Jr. '92, a retired Army colonel, executive director of the US Army Center of Military History, and president of the Association of 1775, the William & Mary affinity group for military and civil service alumni; Colonel (Retired) Steve Cheng '91, vice president for growth and strategy at Quick Services LLC; Stephen J. Huebner '76, P '09, a retired LTC and member of the William & Mary Board of Visitors', COL(ret) Dr. Maureen Michele Petersen '94, former Director of Medical Education of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center; Terry Elliott, MBA '23, a veteran of the Coast Guard and current Presidential Management Fellow; and COL Brit Erslev '97, former historian and archivist to the 20th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. After the panel, Charles Bowery presented the graduating seniors in attendance with their Army insignia.



Lieutenant Colonel Jason C. Finch Retires

We bade farewell to Army ROTC Professor of Military Science LTC Jason Finch on March 2 at a W&M Military Appreciation Mens' Basketball game where LTC Finch was highlighted and awarded his own jersey number coinciding with the years he had served. It was awesome to see pictures of his career and family displayed on the new Kaplan Arena jumbotron.



Military & Veteran Student Opportunities

W&M Whole of Government Center of Excellence

2024 NATO Youth Summit

We are pleased to announce the 2024 NATO Youth Summit will take place on May 13 in Miami and Stockholm. William & Mary will be represented in both locations as an Institutional Partner. Interested in attending? Applications are open to win a funded opportunity to travel to Stockholm or Miami. Alternatively, you can participate virtually. [Apply to attend by April 21st](#)

AI & the Constitution: Preserving Limited Government in Digital Environments Course

Join our new course this September and gain the expertise to navigate legal, ethical, and practical challenges while upholding civil liberties! Jono Fischbach, Associate Deputy General Counsel at the Department of Defense, and Professor Mike Dick, visiting Professor of Practice with the Lewis B. Puller Jr. Veterans Benefits Clinic, will teach the course. This begins September 2024 with two in-person sessions in D.C. & four virtual sessions. [Enroll here.](#)

2024 WMGIC x NATO Counter Disinformation Challenge

Save the date - November 1st, 2024! The William & Mary Global Innovation Challenge (WMGIC) is pleased to announce the return of the virtual "Countering Disinformation Challenge," co-hosted by NATO. Hundreds of students across the NATO Alliance and partner nations will unite for a case challenge to address and propose policy solutions to disinformation. Interested in being a judge or mentor? [Learn more](#)

US Army Mad Scientist Writing Contest: Operational Environment Wicked Problems

How have innovations in asymmetric warfare impacted modern large-scale and other combat operations, and what further evolutions could take place, within the next 10 years and towards mid-century? Answer this question from the U.S. Army's [Mad Scientist Laboratory](#) with a 1500 essay or story for a chance to become an official Mad Scientist and published at the Mad Scientist Laboratory. View the PDF [here](#). Submissions are due by May 16, 2024, at madscitradoc@gmail.com. Anyone can participate. [Learn more here](#) or contact eintern@wm.edu with questions.

Military & Veteran Opportunities

Lewis B. Puller, Jr. Veterans Benefits Clinic at W&M Law School



Photo by David F. Morrill

The Lewis B. Puller, Jr. Veterans Benefits Clinic at William & Mary Law School, with support from Starbucks, has assisted more than 500 veterans seeking help with their VA disability claims through its “Military Mondays” initiative.

For more information, please visit the [Lewis B. Puller, Jr. Veterans Benefits Clinic website](#).

The Puller Veterans Benefits Clinic at William & Mary Law School recently assisted its 500th veteran through its “Military Mondays” program. Established in June 2015, the program was piloted in coordination with Starbucks’ Armed Forces Network and launched in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia – home to more than half-a-dozen active military bases, upwards of 100,000 active-duty and reserve personnel and thousands of veterans. “Military Mondays” is intended to help address the challenges veterans face in the disability claims process and provides a place for veterans, service members, and their families to find community, conversation, and information. The program is free to participants.

In many ways, Military Mondays operates like a stream-lined assessment and screening organization: when a veteran submits an application to the Puller Clinic for services, Clinic staff review the application to determine which questions can be answered in an hour at Starbucks, and which might require deeper analysis. Sometimes, the law students and staff are able to assist the veteran during their appointment at Starbucks; at other times, they provide guidance so the veteran can complete the process on his/her own. If an hour isn’t long enough to cover the veteran’s issues or more research is needed, the veteran may be referred to the larger Clinic, where more research and information-gathering can take place. Depending on the nature of the claims, the complexity of the case, and the type of evidence that may be required, the Clinic may take on the veteran as a formal client.

In January 2016, the Clinic and Starbucks Armed Forces Network were honored with the American Bar Association’s (ABA) 2016 Brown Select Award for this innovative program. The criteria for the award included innovation in the provision of legal services to those with unmet legal needs of the middle class and those of moderate incomes, and the potential for replication of the program.

The Puller Clinic handles hundreds of veterans benefits cases each year. Under the supervision of clinic attorneys, dozens of law students get intensive hands-on training each year in complex claims requiring extensive legal and factual research. Law students often accrue more than 100 hours a semester doing disability claims casework for veterans.

Military & Veteran Student Wellness


Family Recreation

Saturday & Sunday | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bee McLeod Recreation Center Students with active memberships to The Rec can bring family to use the pool, courts, and climbing wall every weekend from 9 am - 4 pm. Facility hours may change, [check our hours online](#).

TimelyCare

Virtual care available 24/7, log in with your W&M UserID Scheduled Counseling, Health Coaching, Wellbeing Journeys, and On-Demand Support. Download the app or visit timelycare.com/wm

Student Veterans have free access to Therapeutic Modalities. Reserve your appointment online at wellness.wm.edu, when you receive your payment instructions, enter code VET24 during your checkout.


WILLIAM & MARY
HEALTH & WELLNESS

**STUDENT
VETERANS
GET FREE ACCESS TO
THERAPEUTIC
MODALITIES***

★ THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE! ★

*Reserve your appointment online and enter the coupon code **VET24** during the payment process. This offer is exclusively for Full or Part-time Student Veterans of W&M.
Valid through June 30, 2024



WHY THERAPEUTIC MODALITIES?
These integrative approaches support improved mental health, pain management, and promote general wellness.
Questions on how to get started? Email us at wellness@wm.edu

Looking Ahead

April 26th: Discussion on Personal Finance

On Friday, April 26, 2024, Jamie Gayton – the Executive Vice President for Member Operations & Global Fixed Assets at Pentagon Federal Credit Union – will join us for a discussion on financial literacy in Miller Hall 1077 at 12:30pm. Prior to assuming his role at PenFed, Jamie served for over 30-years in the US Army, retiring as a Colonel. While in the Army, he wrote the *Guide to Personal Financial Planning for the Armed Forces, 7th Edition*. In his current role, Jamie is responsible for the strategic planning, direction, and oversight of operations at the nation’s second largest federal credit union.

Bring your lunch and join us for a lively and interactive discussion about approaches to personal finance, transitioning careers, and the world of banking and credit unions. All students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend.

RSVP here by Wednesday, April 23, 2024 to reserve your seat.

May 4th: Wear Blue: Run to Remember Upcoming Events

SATURDAY MORNINGS WITH WEAR BLUE

Join us for a no-cost run or walk hosted by *wear blue*. Each gathering begins with a Circle of Remembrance, honoring the service and sacrifice of the American military, and is followed by a self-paced run or walk through the community. It is a place of connection, support, and healthy living for athletes of all abilities.

First Saturday of the month at 8 AM
William & Mary Business School | 101 Ukrop Way



RUN. HONOR. BELONG.

wear blue:
run to remember®

Join W&M military & veteran students, staff, and community on this Wear Blue: Run to Remember run/walk

Looking Ahead (cont.)

Hail & Farewell

A traditional military event, this Hail & Farewell recognizes not only the service of our nation's military veterans, but the remarkable accomplishments of our graduating W&M military and veteran students! Space is limited- Please register no later than May 1st, with preference for graduating military and veteran students and up to 2 guests. The event will include a breakfast buffet with special recognition for our graduating students and those who have upcoming military promotions. [Register here](#) or at the QR code.



The poster features a dark green background with a pattern of lighter green stars. At the top, there are six military service emblems: Army (star in a square), Marine Corps (eagle, globe, anchor), Air Force (eagle with wings), Navy (anchor), Air National Guard (wings), and Coast Guard (lifesaver). The main title 'Hail & Farewell' is in large, bold, gold letters. Below it, the subtitle 'A Pre-Commencement celebration for W&M Military & Veteran Students' is in a smaller, gold, italicized font. The date and time '14 MAY • 9:00 AM -11:00 AM' and the location 'BRINKLEY COMMONS MASON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS' are in white, bold, sans-serif font. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner. At the bottom, there is a note 'Breakfast will be served; spouses and children welcome!' in gold, italicized font. The logos for 'W&M MILITARY & VETERAN AFFAIRS' and 'W&M ASSOCIATION OF 1775' are at the very bottom.

Hail & Farewell

*A Pre-Commencement celebration for
W&M Military & Veteran Students*

**14 MAY • 9:00 AM -11:00 AM
BRINKLEY COMMONS
MASON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

RSVP by May 1st at QR Code

Breakfast will be served; spouses and children welcome!

W&M MILITARY & VETERAN AFFAIRS **W&M ASSOCIATION OF 1775**