

WILLIAM & MARY



MILITARY & VETERAN AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

Letter from the Special Assistant



KATHLEEN T. JABS

Dear W&M VET Friends,

We were so proud (and a little sad) to see our military and veteran students graduate last month. It's always bittersweet to say goodbye, but we are heartened knowing we will stay engaged and reconnect with the now graduates at alumni events. The power of Tribe connections is inspiring to be around, and we look forward to continuing to host and integrate military and veteran themed events on campus. Our goal is to empower and amplify our growing military connected community as we work to attract, advocate and accelerate our military and veteran programming.

Inside this issue we're excited to showcase photos from our Military and Veteran Hail and Farewell, our Advisory Group meeting with Chancellor Gates, the Army ROTC Commissioning and several other events. May was an exciting and memorable month. We began the month with commencement activities and concluded with Memorial Day commemorations. Our team was honored to attend the 35th Annual Upper Mattaponi Tribe Pow Wow and were recognized with a color guard and ceremonial dance. Native Americans serve in the military at the highest percentage rate of any ethnic group, so our engagement was particularly meaningful.

This spring, we had a lot of cause for celebration among our team:

VET Program Manager and military spouse Lindsay Blount received her Ed.D. – you can [read about her journey here](#).

Executive Director of the Center for Military Transition, JD Due, was selected for the [Hoover VET Fellowship, Stanford](#).

The Whole of Government Center of Excellence was awarded [\\$500K for national security internships](#).

Office of Student Veteran Engagement Director Charlie Foster was awarded a Values in Action Award, a significant university prize proffered at commencement.

VET Advisory Group Committee Chair retired Brigadier General Jim Golden HON '24, G '24 was recognized as an Honorary Graduate at William & Mary.

The entire VET team was recognized as W&M Inclusive Excellence Champions.

As we continue to amplify and expand our programs we're energized by the commitment of our VET Advisory Group. These volunteers are so generous with their time and talent. We look forward to working with them and all of you on this incredible mission to impact military and veteran students at all stages.

Thank you for your support,

Kathleen

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Events Recap

Hail & Farewell

A traditional military event, this May 14th Hail & Farewell recognized not only the service of our nation's military veterans, but the remarkable accomplishments of our graduating W&M military, veteran, and ROTC students! The event included a breakfast buffet with special recognition for our graduating students. [Click here for the full gallery of photos.](#)



Spotted at Commencement!

Class of 2024 Military & Veteran Students, Spouses, and Families



Events Recap (cont.)

W&M VET Team Recognized as Inclusive Excellence Champions

W&M's Office of Diversity & Inclusion recognizes and celebrates W&M community members who have been nominated to receive the Inclusive Excellence Champions Award for their leadership and innovation towards D&I initiatives.

On Thursday, April 18, 2024, the W&M VET team was among those recognized. President Rowe shared in the celebration along with the nominators and supervisors of this year's recipients. [Click here to read more about the award and recipients.](#)



Photos by Skip Rowland Photography

Commemorating Memorial Day

W&M military and veteran students, staff, alumni, and friends, along with W&M's Office of Strategic and Cultural Partnerships, attended the 35th Annual Upper Mattaponi Tribe Pow Wow to commemorate Memorial Day. Military personnel and veterans were invited into the center of the arena to be recognized with a color guard and a ceremonial dance.



Highlights

W&M VET Advisory Group Meeting

The W&M VET Advisory Group gathered May 16th for their annual spring meeting. Chaired by Chancellor Gates, the Group welcomed new members John Johnson '90, Amy Thurston '92, and Charlie Lyon, Maj. Gen (retired). The Advisory Group provides internal advice and support for W&M VET programs. Topics discussed included veteran student loan debt and funding, corporate sponsors, and best practices in recruiting military and student veterans.



Photos by Skip Rowland Photography

JD Due Selected as a Veteran Fellow at The Hoover Institution, Stanford University

W&M's JD Due, *Executive Director for the Center for Military Transition*, is one of only ten veterans selected for this competitive and prestigious fellowship.

The Hoover Institution (2024) notes "Veterans were selected based on demonstrated leadership qualities, success in their professional careers, the viability of their proposed capstone projects, and their shared values with the Hoover Institution, especially the commitment to advancing freedom."

In addition, the Hoover Institution (2024) describes the program as being "designed for military veterans who are motivated to effect meaningful change in their communities. During their time in the program, veteran fellows will have the opportunity to leverage the resources and expertise of Hoover and Stanford scholars, expand their networks, and advance efforts to find actionable solutions to policy challenges through their capstone projects."

To read more about this year's cohort and the program, follow the link below or [click here](https://www.hoover.org/press/hoover-institution-welcomes-2024-25-class-veteran-fellows).
<https://www.hoover.org/press/hoover-institution-welcomes-2024-25-class-veteran-fellows>



W&M Whole of Government Center of Excellence

W&M's Success Preparing Students for Careers Draws National Praise

W&M's Whole Government Center of Excellence received Congressional funding to expand its national security internship program. Funding of \$500,000 dollars will support students in national security internships and careers, championed by the Whole of Government Center. "I'm thrilled to have secured \$500,000 for the William & Mary National Security Internship Program, and I'm excited to watch as this partnership helps train the next generation of brilliant and qualified civil servants," said Senator Mark R. Warner (D-Va.). "Particularly from my perspective as chair of the Intelligence Committee, I look forward to the work this program will do to create a talent pipeline that connects Virginia's incredibly smart college students to our abundant opportunities across the military and intelligence fields." To read more about the program and funding, [click here.](#)



Photo: WGC

W&M serves as Institutional Partner for the 2024 NATO Youth Summit & Sends Four Delegates

On May 13, 2024, staff and student delegates traveled to Miami, Florida and Stockholm, Sweden to represent William & Mary as an Institutional Partner for the 2024 NATO Youth Summit. Lydia Urban, public relations and event manager for the Whole of Government Center of Excellence (WGC), and Elizabeth Marcus '26, events co-director of William & Mary Global Innovation Challenge (WMGIC), participated in Stockholm, Sweden. Gabe Cancio-Bello '20, director of marketing and communications at W&M Washington Center, and Eileen Ackley '26, Global Research Institute (GRI) Global Scholar, represented W&M in Miami. Delegates received praise from international staff from NATO Headquarters stating, "You [W&M] are like diplomats. William & Mary is everywhere!" This partnership builds on the cohosting of the 2023 NATO Youth Summit in Washington, D.C. and Brussels, Belgium. To read more about the partnership, [click here.](#)



Photo: WGC

ROTC & Association of 1775

ROTC Commissioning Class of 2024

On May 16, fourteen William & Mary Army ROTC cadets were commissioned as Second Lieutenants. Remarks from Chancellor Robert M. Gates '65, L.H.D. '98, President Katherine Rowe and CSM Joann Naumann '95 were congratulatory and inspiring.



Photo: @rgbrotc

Celebrate the 250th Anniversary of W&M's College Company

In 2025, celebrate the 250th Anniversary of W&M's College Company, the namesake of our Association of 1775 military, veteran and government service alumni and friends network on a Seine River cruise featuring distinguished lecturer, Ao75's president, Charles Bowery '92, Executive Director, U.S. Army Center of Military History. Delve into the dramatic history of the D-Day invasion at Normandy's beaches and the Caen Memorial Museum while expert guides add context to your visit. Delight in the historic maritime cities of Honfleur and Rouen, and discover the beauty of coastal Étretat. Walk through bountiful gardens at Claude Monet's home, gaze at majestic Versailles and explore timeless abbeys. Spend sunny days relaxing aboard your exclusively chartered first-class ship and enjoy a generous meal plan. No supplement for single travelers! Book now!



Military & Veteran Opportunities

Apply Now! Flourishing Through Life Transitions: July 8-12, 2024

William & Mary's Veteran-to-Executive (W&M VET) certificate program – Flourishing Through Life Transitions – emphasizes a holistic approach centered on wellness and self-discovery. Our certificate trains veterans and members of the intelligence community to transition to high-level civilian management positions, while flourishing in their careers and personal lives. [Click the video below](#) to learn more about the program.



For more information on applying, please contact flourishing@wm.edu

FISA Course: AI and the Constitution

Enroll in our non-credit course, "AI and the Constitution: Preserving Limited Government in Digital Environments," today! Gain a deep understanding of the Fourth Amendment's relevance and assess existing rules governing government data usage. Collaborate across agencies to establish meaningful restraints on digital technologies. Led by experts like Marine Corps veteran, Former Department of Justice for Office of Intelligence and Law Professor Mike Dick, Department of Defense's Associate Deputy General Counsel Jono Fischbach, and an expert in AI and emerging technologies, Professor of the Practice of Law Iria Giuffrida. Students will explore case studies and emerging trends. Perfect for government employees, military members, contractors, and data users. Begins September 8, 2024. For more details and to enroll, [click here](#).



Military & Veteran Student Wellness

Campus Recreation is now open for the Summer Session with Family Recreation time each weekend! Full-time students can activate their free FitWell Membership to join classes at The Rec & Wellness Center through August 1. Student Veterans without full-time status who are interested in a FitWell Membership can email us at wellness@wm.edu.

See our hours or register for our programs online at wm.edu/rec

FITWELL CLASS SCHEDULE SUMMER 2024

MAY 28 - AUGUST 1

No FitWell Classes on June 19th and July 4th

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

BEE MCLEOD RECREATION CENTER- MCLEOD STUDIO (UPSTAIRS)

12:00-12:45 PM
BODYPUMP 45
Terry

5:30-6:30 PM
BODYPUMP
Terry

5:30-6:30 PM
BODYPUMP
Doug

5:30-6:30 PM
BODYPUMP
Grace

5:30-6:30 PM
STEP
Kim

6:45-7:15 PM
GRIT CARDIO
Doug

BEE MCLEOD RECREATION CENTER- TYLER STUDIO (DOWNSTAIRS)

6:00-7:00 PM
CYCLING + ARMS
Laci

12:00-12:50 PM
CYCLING
Laci

MCLEOD TYLER WELLNESS CENTER- STUDIO A

5:30-6:20 PM
VINYASA YOGA
Corina

12:15-1:05 PM
VINYASA YOGA
Cindy

12:15-1:05 PM
VINYASA YOGA
Patti

5:30-6:20 PM
YOGA
Alison

5:30-6:20 PM
VINYASA YOGA
Evan

5:30-6:20 PM
**YOGA FOR STRESS
MANAGEMENT**
Patti



An active FitWell membership is required to take FitWell classes on campus. **Full-time students are eligible for a FREE membership**, scan the QR code to get started. Email questions to jjrueh@wm.edu



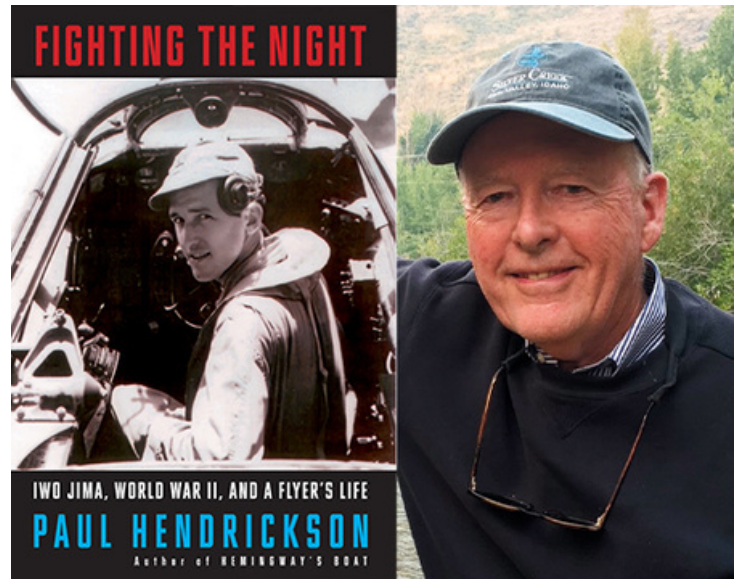
Looking Ahead

June 13th: Fighting the Night Book Talk at W&M Washington Center

Join us from 5:30-7:30 pm for a book talk with award-winning author Paul Hendrickson. Paul and Dean of University Libraries Carrie Cooper Ed.D '24 will lead us on a deep dive into his book, *Fighting the Night*, which details his father's experiences as a night fighter pilot during World War II. *Fighting the Night* is an intense and powerful story of violence and love, forgiveness and loss, and a tribute to those who got plunged into service, in the best years of their lives, and the sacrifices they and their loved ones made, then and thereafter.

Paul Hendrickson is a three-time finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and a winner in 2003 for his book *Sons of Mississippi. The Living and the Dead: Robert McNamara and Five Lives of a Lost War* was a 1996 finalist for the National Book Award. *Hemingway's Boat* was a New York Times best seller and also a best seller in the UK. Since 1998, he has been on the faculty of the Creative Writing Program at the University of Pennsylvania, and for two decades before that, he was a staff writer at The Washington Post.

[Click to Register & Learn More](#)



July 6 : Wear Blue: Run to Remember

On July 6th at the Mason School of Business, join W&M military & veteran students, staff, and community on this Wear Blue: Run to Remember run/walk



Calling all Veterans, Service Members, and their Families!

You are invited to tell your story.

[StoryCorps Military Voices Initiative](#) records, uplifts and archives our veteran, service members, and military family stories. **We invite you to take part.**

HOW DOES IT WORK?

In a StoryCorps recording, you share a meaningful, one-on-one conversation with someone important from your life. Conversations last 40 minutes, and a StoryCorps Facilitator is with you every step of the way. With your permission, conversations are archived at the **Library of Congress**.

WHO DO I RECORD WITH?

Consider inviting someone **you'd want to honor** by sharing this experience with them - a family member, a friend, a mentor, someone who has supported your journey, etc.

WHAT DO I TALK ABOUT?

StoryCorps conversations are spontaneous, authentic, and unscripted. We'll provide you a list of "great questions" to inspire your conversation, like:

- How did you come to serve in the military?
- What are your strongest memories from your time in the military?
- What is your proudest moment?

Ultimately, however what you talk about during your recording is **entirely up to you**.

HEAR WHAT A CONVERSATION SOUNDS LIKE:

[Listen to a featured StoryCorps interview](#) to inspire your conversation!

IN-PERSON RECORDING DATES & LOCATIONS

Norfolk:

June 3 – June 6
5200 Hampton Boulevard
Norfolk, VA 23508

storycor.ps/MVINorfolk

Williamsburg

July 10 - July 13
1408 Richmond Road
Williamsburg, VA 23185

storycor.ps/MVIWilliamsburg

g.



ABOUT MILITARY VOICES INITIATIVE STORYCORPS

The Military Voices Initiative provides a platform for veterans, service members, and military families to share their stories. In doing so we honor their voices, amplify their experiences, and let them know that we—as a nation—are listening. [Learn more.](#)