

Veterans Advisory Committee Minutes

February 11, 2021

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

MEMBERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ivonne Alvarez, SSS II Admissions Angie Avila, Senior Secretary Andrew MacNeill, Dean of Learning Resources and Academic Support Claudia Estrada, SSS I Transfer, Career, Evaluations Gail Fedalizo, SST, Veterans & Records Chastiny Gladden, SVO Vice-President 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kelsey Graham, Assistant Professor Marriah Henriques, SVO President Ramiro Hernandez, Veterans Counselor Co-Chair Vicki Hernandez, SSS I, Veterans & Records/Veterans Success Center Leroy Johnson, Counseling Department Chair Ailene Crakes, Dean of Student Development, Co-Chair
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MEMBERS PRESENT	Ivonne Alvarez, Ailene Crakes, Claudia Estrada-Howell, Kelsey Graham, Marriah Henriques, Ramiro Hernandez, Vicki Hernandez, Leroy Johnson
MEMBERS ABSENT	Angie Avila, Andrew MacNeill, Gail Fedalizo, Chastiny Gladden
GUESTS PRESENT	Natalia Trinh

AGENDA ITEM I: Call the Meeting to Order

COMMENTS/ DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m.
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AGENDA ITEM II: Approval of Meeting Minutes

COMMENTS/ DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting minutes from 12/10/2020 updated and approved – R. Hernandez/Graham
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AGENDA ITEM III: Updates

COMMENTS/ DISCUSSION	<p>A. VA Work-Study opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 26 applicants Interviewing starting week of Feb 16th <p>B. VA Reg impacting Students Receiving CH 33</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PL116-315 Section 1010—Recipients of CH33 will need to verify their attendances to the VA. Failure to do so after the second month, the student will not receive housing benefit. <p>C. Vet Services Hot Spot Reminder</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hot spots are available on Tuesdays 11-12 and Thursdays 2-3 <p>D. Veterans Recognition Ceremony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The event will be virtual this year The date will be determined Marriah asked about the possibility of having challenge coins. Vicki will work with Marriah on possible ideas. Dates have been set aside for the virtual event The team is currently finalizing plans for the event Vicki will be reporting back on the details
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AGENDA ITEM IV: Other Items

COMMENTS/ DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marriah asked about the status of identifying a commencement speaker and veterans recognition ceremony Claudia shared that the commencement speaker announcement will go out in a few weeks. Claudia recommended that students be encouraged to apply to graduate by the March 15th deadline. Claudia shared that students who participate in the virtual commencement will receive a free cap and tassel. The website will be open to students who would like to order regalia and other items. Ramiro emphasized the importance of encouraging students to meet the deadline for applying for graduation.
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AGENDA ITEM V: Roundtable

COMMENTS/ DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claudia shared the link to the transfer website promoting the transfer workshops - http://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/transfer-center/transfer-tuesday.shtml The Transfer Center is available to provide support, and students are encouraged to seek out career services. Ramiro will be working with a former Mesa alumnus Jordan Agricola. He is working on a podcast project for Wesleyan and would like to highlight the veteran student experience. Marriah mentioned that the SVO officers have met and discussed event planning, which entails one club event per month. The first event will be a Bob Ross paint night. Marriah will be sharing the flyer with Vicki to disseminate. Next week is NatCon with the SVA. Leroy announced that the first counseling equity newsletter
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	<p>would come out in two weeks. Students are encouraged to take advantage of counseling services by scheduling an appointment with a counselor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kelsey will reach out to the faculty and coaches about work-study.• Ramiro acknowledged Kelsey on the Personal Training Program Certificate.• Natalia shared about items discussed at the APIA meetings and encouraged collaboration. <p>Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.</p>
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Next Meeting: April 8, 2021

*Meeting Formula: 2nd Thursdays, unless otherwise **noted**.*