

Veterans Advisory Committee Minutes

December 9, 2021

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

MEMBERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jordan Agricola, Project Assistant, VSC • Ivonne Alvarez, SSS II Admissions • Angie Avila, Administrative Assistant • Andrew MacNeill, Dean of Learning Resources and Academic Support • Gail Fedalizo, SST, Veterans & Records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelsey Graham, Assistant Professor • Ramiro Hernandez, Veterans Counselor Co-Chair • Vicki Hernandez, SSS I, Veterans & Records/Veterans Success Center • Natalia Trinh, Student • Ailene Crakes, Dean of Student Development, Co-Chair
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MEMBERS PRESENT	Vicki Hernandez, Ailene Crakes, Natalia Trinh, Jordan Agricola, Gail Fedalizo, Andy MacNeill, Ramiro Hernandez, Ivonne Alvarez
MEMBERS ABSENT	Angie Avila, Kelsey Graham
GUESTS PRESENT	

AGENDA ITEM I: Call the meeting to Order

COMMENTS/ DISCUSSION	Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m.
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AGENDA ITEM II: Approval of Meeting Minutes

COMMENTS/ DISCUSSION	Meeting minutes from September 9 updated and approved
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AGENDA ITEM III: Updates

COMMENTS/ DISCUSSION	<p>a. AS Updates – Natalia</p> <p>AS is working for with MTS on a partnership to provide affordable transportation to students. The goal is to close equity gaps and to decrease carbon footprint. AS is also working to support hiring a full time APIA faculty and program at Mesa.</p>
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	<p>b. Veterans of Mesa Scholarship – Ramiro The Veterans of Mesa Scholarship is proud to announce that we will be offering four \$500 scholarships to Mesa Student Veterans. Every year, we try to offer at least 2 scholarships. This year, thanks to the many donations we received, we added an additional two scholarships. Please encourage student veterans to apply. The application opened Dec. 6th and runs through Feb. 17, 2022. Here is the link: https://sdmesa.academicworks.com/</p> <p>c. Vet Week Debrief – Vicki</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Veterans Week Events were a success with an average of 12 students attending the workshops. We had roughly 60 students, staff, faculty and administrators attend the Soft Opening of the Veterans Success Center. We recognized the oldest and youngest Marine on the Marine Corps birthday this year via social media as well as had a cake at the Soft Opening recognizing the Marine Corps birthday. 2) Monica Woodruff Wellness Counselor will continue to provide wellness counseling for Veteran Services. Monica will be available to provide services in the VSC during the spring term. Currently she is in the VSC on Wednesdays from 9-12. 3) The Military Friendly Survey has been submitted and we should hear back early next year.
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AGENDA ITEM IV: Other Items

COMMENTS/ DISCUSSION	<p>a. Upcoming Events for Spring 2022 – Vicki</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Welcome back to campus. The VSC will be hosting a welcome back “Chow” event for all military affiliated students. During this event students will have the opportunity to learn more about Monica Woodruff and the services she will be able to provide as well as the services the VSC provides. 2) Workshops regarding services. We are planning a number of workshops and events for the spring term. Our plan is to offer a “Chow” event once a month that will encompass an opportunity for students to learn about a different service on campus each month. We will be reaching out to departments to schedule a time to be at our event. We will also be planning workshops throughout the term aimed to provide support to students.
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	<p>b. Vet Success Center Update – Ailene</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Crakes provided an update on the next steps for the Veterans Success Center. She shared that she has completed and submitted a couple of surveys concerning the status of the grant, questions about Mesa's status on fulfilling the minimum requirements of the grant, and increasing partnerships with Student Success & Equity, specifically Basic Needs and working with tutoring to provide services. 2) Dean MacNeill shared that tutoring services are available face-to-face on 11 - 3 M-Th in spring with NetTutor and STAR California providing 24/7 live and asynchronous tutoring. 3) Additionally, Mesa has completed and submitted a couple of surveys pertaining to the grant and Mesa's status on fulfilling the standards, in addition to students receiving withdrawals.
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AGENDA ITEM V: Roundtable

COMMENTS/ DISCUSSION	Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.
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Next Meeting: February 10, 2022

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