15th Annual Texas A&M University System Military-Affiliated Student Symposium

Monday, October 23

8:00-8:30  Registration, Check-In, and Breakfast
8:30-9:00  Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:00-10:00 Keynote Address – Kandi Tillman
10:00-10:15 Break
10:15-11:15 General Session - Wounded Warrior Project
11:15 – 12:15 General Session – Texas Veterans Commission
12:15-1:30 Lunch
1:30-2:30 Concurrent Sessions
  • Navigating New Terrain: Military-Affiliated Students Pathway to Aggieland – Megan Wilkinson
  • Access, Adapt, Achieve: Contemporary Resources for Student Veterans – Wendy Lang
  • Veterans, Firearms, and Suicide: What You Need to Know – Dr. Ted Bonar
  • How Leading Employers are Collaborating to Open Strong Pathways and Drive Engagement with Military-Affiliated Students – Kandi Tillman and Employers
2:45-3:45 Concurrent Sessions
  • Advancing the Future of Veteran and Military Services: Fostering Dialogue, Best Practices, and Post-Graduation Success – Dr. Linda Euto and Dr. Corri Zoli
  • Breaking Down Barriers: How Our Education Partners Can Help Veterans Succeed – Jason Wise
  • Mental Health and Engagement: A Holistic Collaborative Approach – Dr. Sarah Skelton
  • Benefit Processing and Certification Best Practices – Jeremy Tanner
3:45-4:00 Break
4:00-5:00 Concurrent Sessions
  • CARES: A Student Success Framework for Military-Connected Students – Dr. Wayne Taylor
  • Recruiting Staff and Faculty for the Future of Veteran and Military Services – Dr. Monika Sziron
  • The Lights are Blinking Red: Moral Injury and Well Being of Student Veterans – Dr. Katherine Selber and Lt. Col. Will Selber (USAF)
  • Advocating for Veterans in Higher Education: The VEPA Initiative and Ideological Clarity – Edrick Ellis
5:00-7:00 Networking Reception at TAMUSA
Tuesday, October 24

8:00-8:30  Registration, Check-In, and Breakfast

8:30-9:30  Day 2 Keynote

9:30-10:30  Concurrent Sessions
   - State Approving Agency – Texas Veterans Commission
   - Semper Studying: The Importance of Asynchronous and Engaging Resources – Kaelin Peterson
   - Build a Better World: Veterans in the TAMU School of Architecture – Dr. Patrick Suermann
   - Combating Mental Health Challenges in Military-Affiliated Students & College Communities – Rachel Brauner and Dr. Lakshmi Mahadevan

10:30-10:45  Break

10:45-11:45  Concurrent Sessions
   - Hazlewood Benefits – Texas Veterans Commission
   - Peer Mentor Programs for Military-Connected Students – Dr. James Kumm

11:45-1:00  Lunch

1:00-2:00  Concurrent Sessions
   - VET+MAP – Jason Walker
   - The VITAL Program – Dr. Fred Washington

2:15-3:15  Concurrent Sessions
   - Forging Connections: How to Expand and Leverage Your Professional Network for Success in Supporting Military-Affiliated Students – Monteigne Long
   - VALOR² – A New Approach to Dynamically Aligning Student Veteran Needs & Resources Through Peer-Led Assessment – SGM Don Freeman (USA, Ret.) and David Haney

3:30-4:00  Closing Remarks
Monday, October 23 – Student Veteran Track

8:00-8:30   Registration, Check-In, and Breakfast

8:30-9:00   Welcome and Opening

9:00-10:00  Keynote Address – Kandi Tillman

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-11:15 General Session - Wounded Warrior Project

11:15 – 12:15 General Session – Texas Veterans Commission

12:15-1:30  Student Veteran Networking Lunch

1:30-2:30   Concurrent Sessions

• Operation EQ: Building Social-Emotional Intelligence to Supercharge Your Game – R.J. Jenkins
• Return to (Civil) Service – Thomas Braden

2:45-3:45   Concurrent Sessions

• Impostor Leadership: Reframing a Dangerous Concept – R.J. Jenkins
• The VITAL Program – Dr. Fred Washington
• Local Government: The Best Career I Never Heard Of – Dean Huard

3:45-4:00   Break

4:00-5:00   Concurrent Sessions

• TBD – R.J. Jenkins
• VALOR² – A New Approach to Dynamically Aligning Student Veteran Needs & Resources Through Peer-Led Assessment – SGM Don Freeman (USA, Ret.) and David Haney

5:00-7:00   Networking Reception at TAMUSA