

Annual Report of the Maryland College Collaboration for Student Veterans Commission

2024

State Government Article, Section 9-954(5)

Maryland College Collaboration for Student Veterans Commission

December 13, 2024



December 14, 2024

2024 ANNUAL REPORT- HB1458 / CH.4143 MSAR #10921

MARYLAND COLLEGE COLLABORATION FOR
STUDENT VETERANS COMMISSION

AUTHOR: KRISTIN BYERLY, SECRETARY AND
COMMISSIONER, MARYLAND COLLEGE
COLLABORATION FOR STUDENT VETERANS
COMMISSION



Maryland College Collaboration for Student Veterans Commission

Dena Allen-Few
Chairperson

December 14, 2024

Josiah Guthland
Vice Chairperson

The Honorable Wes Moore, Governor of Maryland
The State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Kristin Byerly
Secretary

The Honorable Bill Ferguson, President
Senate of Maryland
The State House, H-107
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Irnande Alterma
Dario DiBattista
Amy Coldren
Rebecca Cossaboom
Toby Frevert
Clarissa Lang
Dr. Zakiya Lee
Dr. Derrick Little
Erica Hook
Shannon James
Audrey Kennedy
Clarissa Lang
Sarah Luft
Alex Lyons
Melissa Moore
Kathleen Schorr
Johanna Seymour
Alfred Taylor
Arthur Toole
Barbara Travers

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones, Speaker
Maryland House of Delegates
The State House, H-101
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Report of the Maryland College Collaboration for Student Veterans Commission (MCCSVC) required by State Government Article § 9-946 (5) MSAR #: 10921

Dear Governor Moore, President Ferguson and Speaker Jones,

Please find enclosed a copy of the 2024 Annual Report for the MCCSVC. The 2024 report includes all requirements stated in sections §9-946 (5) of the State Government Article.

Sincerely,

Dena Allen-Few
Chair, MCCSVC

cc: Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)

Denise Nooe – Designee
for MDVA Secretary

PURPOSE:

Senate Bill 606, passed by the 2016 Maryland General Assembly, establishes the Commission's purpose. It is to ensure the educational success of returning veterans, including their recruitment, successful transition into higher education and eventual graduation. The Commission accomplishes this by facilitating the sharing of best practices, and potential adjustment of policies and procedures, among the institutions of higher education and state agencies regarding academic programs and support services designed for returning veterans. Commissioners, representing institutions of higher education in the state, address the following issues: awareness of veteran reintegration challenges; communication and coordination of available veteran services at the institution, state and federal level – including financial aid and GI Bill support services, mental health services and the use of career and transition services, at the education institution, to facilitate post-educational employment.

PARTICIPANTS:

As of December 2, 2024, the Commission consists of the following appointed members and guests.

- Chair: Dena Allen-Few | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Vice-Chair: Josiah Guthland | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Secretary: Kristin Byerly | University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC)
- MDVA Secretary Designee: Denise Nooe | Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)

APPOINTED

- Alex Lyons | Notre Dame of Maryland University
- Amy Coldren | Frederick Community College
- Arthur Toole | Prince Georges Community College
- Audrey Kennedy | Loyola University
- Barbara Travers | Harford County Community College
- Brad Phillips, Ed.D. | MD Assoc. of Community Colleges
- Clarissa Lang | Frostburg State University
- Dario DiBattista | Towson University
- Dr. Derrick Little | Community Colleges of Baltimore County
- Dr. Zakiya Lee | University System of Maryland
- Erica Hook | Garrett College
- Irnande Altema | Maryland Independent Colleges & Universities Assoc.
- Johanna Seymour | University of Maryland Baltimore County
- Kat Schorr | Anne Arundel Community College
- Melissa Moore | Carroll Community College
- Rebecca Cossaboom | Towson University
- Sarah Luft | College of Southern Maryland

- Shannon James | Salisbury University
- Toby Frevert | Towson University

Attending/Not Appointed

- Alex Getachew | University of Maryland Baltimore County
- Alissa Hart | Mount St. Mary's University
- Andre Fletcher | U of MD College Park
- Audrey Kennedy | Loyola University
- Becca Collins | College of Southern Maryland
- Cindy Welzel | Chesapeake College
- Denitta Glading | University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- Dennis Walker | UMBC
- Drema Wentz | UMBC
- Elizabeth A. Atherton | McDaniel College
- Erica Hook | Garrett College
- Everette D. Jackson, Jr. | Maryland Higher Education Commission
- Gregory Murray | Mount St. Mary's University
- Issac Templeton | Prince Georges Community College
- Jason Franklin | Montgomery College
- Jean Melvin | Howard County Community College
- Jerry Isaac | Bowie State University
- Jessica Kilby | Chesapeake College
- Joanne Owens | Cecil College
- John Badman | Stevenson University
- Karis Rempel | Harford Community College
- Kendall Ellis | University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- Laura Keller | Notre Dame Maryland
- Machele L Washok | Cecil College
- Martha Huaman | Montgomery College
- Mo Smith | Howard Community College
- Pam Hawley | University of MD Baltimore County
- Rebecca Gerken | University of MD College Park
- Robin Tims | Webster University - National Capital Region
- Sarah Luft | College of Southern Maryland
- Shirleen Prioleau | Morgan State
- Stephanie Sueth | University of MD Baltimore
- Tiffanie Means | Coppin State University

- Tracie Foutrakis | Cecil College
- Wayne Holmes | Maryland Higher Education Commission
- Will Jones | University of Maryland College Park

Copied on Meetings

Trish Gordon McCown | Maryland Higher Education Commission

QUARTERLY MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS. In accordance with the legislation establishing its existence, the Commission meets four times per year. Meeting locations rotate between the various institutions represented on the Commission.

NEW ITEMS for 2024

Completion of First CREATION of Assessment Sub-Committee - Team met November 14, 2023 via Zoom – Notes from meeting available at the bottom of this report

- Goal of sub-committee - Assist institutions through assessment to help them develop their veteran center and achieve their goals
- In attendance: Josiah Guthland (UB), Dena Allen- few (UB), Denise Nooe (MDVA), Tobin Frevert (Towson), Dario DiBattista (Towson), Arthur Toole (PGCC), Kristin Byerly (UMGC), Clarissa Lang (FSU) Amy Coldren (FCC),

MINUTES AND SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS FROM COMMISSION MEETINGS.

1st QUARTER MEETING: Virtual

Host: Clarissa Lang Frostburg University

Meeting Date: February 15, 2024

Meeting Start Time: 10:03 am

in Attendance: 44

Appointed in Attendance: BOARD

- Denise Nooe | Maryland Dept of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)
- Dena Allen Few | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Josiah Guthland | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Kristin Byerly | University of MD Global Campus (UMGC)

Appointed in Attendance: COMMISSIONERS

- Arthur Toole | Prince Georges Community College (PGCC)
- Ashley Wilt | Garrett County Community College (GCCC)
- Barbara Travers | Harford County Community College (HCCC)
- Clarissa Lang | Frostburg State University (FSU)
- Dario DiBattista | Towson University (TU)
- Dr. Derrick Little | Community Colleges of Baltimore County (CCBC)
- Dr. Zakiya Lee | University System of Maryland (USM)
- Johanna Seymour | University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)

- Kat Schorr | Anne Arundel Community College (AACC)
- Melissa Moore | Carroll Community College (CCC)
- Shannon James | Salisbury University (SU)
- Stephanie Hollowell | University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES)
- Toby Frevert | Towson University (TU)

In Attendance: GUESTS:

- Alissa Hart | Mount St Mary's University (MSMU)
- Amy Coldren | Frederick Community College (FCC)
- Andre Clayton | Bowie State University (BSU)
- Andre Fletcher | University of Maryland College Park (UMCP)
- Audrey Kennedy | Loyola University (LU)
- Betsy Atherton | McDaniel College (MC)
- Cindy Welzel | Chesapeake College (CC)
- Dr Robert Mock | University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES)
- Drema Wentz | University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
- Jean Melvin | Howard Community College (HCC)
- Jeffrey L. Graham | Frostburg State University (FSU)
- Jessica Kilby | Chesapeake College
- Joanne Owens | Cecil College (CU)
- Karis Rempel | Harford Community College (HCC)
- Kendall A. Ellis | University of MD Eastern Shore (UMES)
- Kennedy Ridleynash | Unknown
- Michael Griggs | Howard Community College (HCC)
- Mo Smith | Howard Community College (HCC)
- Rebecca Gerkin | University of Maryland College Park (UMCP)
- Rebecca Cossaboom | Towson University (TU)
- Shirlene Prioleau | Morgan State University (MSU)
- Tiffanie Means | Coppin State University (CSU)
- Tracey Foutrakis | Cecil College (CC)
- Wayne Holmes, MD SAA | MHEC

In Attendance: SPECIAL GUESTS

- Cynthia G. Cavalieri (FEB)
- Ross Cohen | MDVA
- Secretary Anthony Woods | MDVA

Introduction

Welcome from Dena Allen-Few

Introduction of all attendees

Intro to Frostburg State University

- Clarissa Lang – Director of Veterans Services

- 120 veterans using benefits at Frostburg State University

Maryland Secretary of Veterans Affairs – Anthony Woods

- Middle of a MD General Assembly
- 42 different bills that are tracking for military connected community
- Conroy Scholarship – potential change for increased use
- 2024 is the year for military families
- 2 Bills that MDVA is working closely to monitor
 - Family Serve Act – private sector employers preference to military spouse
 - Authorizing the awarding of 10 pts for MD State Govt makes them equal to veterans
 - Time to Serve Act – Doubles the number of uniform services leave (15 days to 30 days)
- Initiative to change MDVA name to Dept of Veterans and Military Families
- Pending Legislation:
 1. Department of Veterans Affairs - Renaming and Deputy Secretary of Military Family Policy and Programs HB0431 (SB0411)
 2. Edward T. and Mary A. Conroy Memorial Scholarship Program - Veterans - Number of Eligible Recipients HB0529
 3. Families Serve Act of 2024 HB0604 (SB0478) -
 4. Time to Serve Act of 2024 HB0580 (SB0477)
 - Here is the full list of legislation we are currently tracking at MDVA:
 - https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MDVA/2024/02/08/file_attachments/2778066/MDVA%202024%20Legislative%20Tracker%20-%208-24.pdf
 - You may find more information on legislation at the Maryland General Assembly website:
 - https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MDVA/2024/02/08/file_attachments/2778066/MDVA%202024%20Legislative%20Tracker%20-%208-24.pdf

Maryland Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs – Ross Cohen – Deputy Secretary

- Prior military – ross.cohen@maryland.gov
- Maryland Joins Forces – Appointed as Senior Advisor then promoted to Deputy Secretary
 - Announced by Governor and launched on Veterans Day. 5 Pillars: employment, food insecurity, housing, health and wellness, and education.
 - Have signed MOU with American University as one of the first Joining Forces Partners
 - Working with UMD Smith Business School

Reminder on how to become a commissioner – Denise Nooe

- Will send links to legislation that is being tracked
- Easy to apply

- Need letter from President of the University and send to Sec Woods
- Denise.nooe@maryland.gov has a template that can be used
- Welcome Alex Lyons from Notre Dame of Maryland

Update from MDVA – Denise Nooe Denise.nooe@maryland.gov

- General updates from the MDVA – No additional general updates
- Campus Visits – If you have events or want a visit, please reach out. She can also do lunch and learn – looking for opportunities to speak with veterans across the state
- Will send out links to legislation

Update from MHEC – Wayne Holmes wayne.holmes@maryland.gov

- Transitioning to uniform applications
- IHLs training will be recorded and will be available on the webpage
- Priscilla Hicks is coming to UMGC
- New application and new regs passed by congress – pay attention to the documents that need to be submitted. They have changed somewhat, in some cases fewer than in the past
- 24-month approval is what Wayne is working on. If you publish a new catalog or with new changes submit but if no changes then good for 2 years
- Question from Tiffanie means – is the application going to be a portal? What is the process going to look like? Workshop portal is the area that is causing a bit of a lag for the changes. If you attended the last training, it will be much the same way.
- Wayne can walk you through the process and see how he handles it.
- Mo question – requesting a timeline for changes – should have an email by end of next week
- Amy Coldren – if just submitted the catalog in the fall – he is working through them and trying to get caught up

Cynthia Cavalieri Cynthia.Cavalieri@opm.gov - <https://www.feb.gov/>

- OPM Federal Campus Board – No cost and virtual
 - Each series has 5000 seats and is national exposure
 - Open to veterans, spouses and even school faculty/staff
- 4 Sessions across 4 days
 - Researching Govt Jobs
 - Resumes
 - Interviewing
 - Pathways programs

MCCSVC Assessment Committee Update – Vice Chair Josiah Guthland

- Assisting with site reviews. Visiting next Thursday at Frederick Comm College and meeting with their leadership team to get feedback on the Veteran/Military services on site.
- Next institution in the fall – email Josiah jguthland@ubalt.edu and request. Looking to do maybe 1 a year

- As a commission, we would like to start gathering data about the military/veteran students so we can figure out areas of opportunities. Potential for a survey to send to students across the state to get a better understanding of what our veteran students need or are succeeding in.

General Discussion:

SHOUT OUT! Dario DiBattista was interviewed in Higher Ed Military – great read!

Happy Birthday Kat Schorr!

Best Practices – VR&E - Continued issues with Authorizations:

- Amy at FCC – Issue with a student still not having authorizations.
- Directing everyone to EVA@va.gov and this is supposed to route directly to the counselor.
- Rebecca – uptick in concerns not being able to get in touch with counselors. Creating a survey to students and their experience with the VR&E program.
- Clarissa – students are having more trouble than Clarissa is having. Counselors are going “MIA”.
- Shirleene Prioleau – an invoice in Tungsten since October 2023. Student walked into the office in Baltimore to get results.

POCs that schools have had success with:

- Joshua.Pittinger@va.gov is also a new Assistant VRE officer for Baltimore
- Lakesha.FranklinBriddell@va.gov and Jed Maki are the supervisors for Baltimore
- Virginia Attakumah -443-743-9409
- Kenneth Ike, MS, CRC, VRC
 Department of Veterans Affairs
 Veteran Readiness and Employment
 31 Hopkins Plaza
 Baltimore, MD 21201
 Phone: (410) 230-4550 x2004
- Betsy Atherton has been successful with Chapter 31 inquiries
 Laurie T. Langelier, MA, CRC
 Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor
 275 Chestnut Street
 Manchester NH 03101
 603-716-2603 laurie.langelier@va.gov

Specific Issues that schools have experienced:

- Betsy Atherton – got a rejected invoice. Could there be a “counselor specific” issue. Whereas some would approve but others would not?
- Warriors to Workforce Program – was told one counselor for all students, but now dispersed.
- Tiffany has also seen an increase in denied in Tungsten due to not having a match in tuition and fees. Was it due to health insurance?
- Dena’s student was having a challenge as well so recommended submitting a congressional inquiry. Worked for one student but not the other.

- Random Google brought up a great option for getting responses and it's a **White House Veterans Hotline 855-948-2311**. The longest turnaround time is 36 hours. Have student call this hotline and it assigns a case number
- Around 40% of UBalt are VR&E – 25% of that 40% still do not have POs.
- Dario from Towson asked – Is it within purview of the commission to have a joint statement stating you need to fix VR&E – Denise yes, we can, and other MD Commissioners have submitted their concerns as well. However:
 - Can lobby as an individual person and/or if approved by your university on their behalf but cannot identify yourself as a commissioner

New Business

- Conroy Scholarship changes and impact
- MCCSVC Green Zone training – 56 people completed and will be offering it again. Any other Green Zone platforms willing to be shared? UMGC has a platform as well.

University Updates

- Univ of Baltimore has asked Sec Woods to speak on 2/29 – Talking about how he got where he is. 10am - The Veteran Speaker Series registration: <https://cglink.me/2g3/r2133053>
- UMGC – MilVet Net
 - April 23, 2024 – open to all military connected students and all veterans across the state of MD umgc.edu/milvetnet
- Towson – Rebecca: Towson revamped space so please come by!
 - Military Family Collaborations- rcossaboom@towson.edu
 - Updating Tiger Veteran group – any type of collaboration
 - Working to create a family member group
 - Would love to partner with other schools
- Morgan State University, Shirleene Prioleau - Community and Veterans Hiring Fair Tues March 5th
- Stephanie Hallowell – Eastern Shore – she is the POC for the ROTC. 2 Alumni from 1970s so working on getting AF ROTC back – also trying to get Navy ROTC
 - Introducing new student worker – SVA President
 - Working on a permanent lounge space
 - March 1st is orientation of
 - Looking to create a veteran specific orientation for veterans
- Harford is re-evaluating our job descriptions. If anyone is willing to share their job descriptions for any positions in your Veteran Services, it would be greatly appreciated. Please email to: btravers@harford.edu. Veteran student enrollment has doubled but staffing has not.

University Events

- February 29, 2024 - University of Baltimore (POC Dena Allen-Few)
 - Secretary Woods The Veteran Speaker Series at UBalt feat. Registration: <https://cglink.me/2g3/r2133053>

- March 5, 2024 - Morgan State University (POC Shirlene Prioleau)
 - Community and Veterans Hiring Fair
- April 23, 2024 – UMGC (POC Kristin Byerly)
 - MilVet Net Military and Veteran Networking Event – open to all military connected students and all veterans across the state of MD umgc.edu/milvetnet

University Job Openings

- Morgan State University, Shirleene Prioleau:
 - <https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/lCqaZkbKgSmp> –
 - PT Veterans Recruiter
<https://morgan.peopleadmin.com/postings/6477>
 - FT Veterans Resource Coordinator
<https://morgan.peopleadmin.com/postings/6476>
 - FT Veterans Engagement Coordinator/SCO
<https://morgan.peopleadmin.com/postings/6476>
- Johanna Seymour – hiring a part time SCO – Thank you Josiah for the Green Zone training!

Next meetings:

- 2nd Qtr. – PGCC
- 3rd Qtr. – UMGC
- 4th Qtr. - Salisbury

Meeting ended 11:47

TEAM SESSION CHATS:

Don't forget to send me your fliers and lin... by Denise Nooe, MDVA (Guest)Denise Nooe, MDVA (Guest)11:30 AM

Don't forget to send me your fliers and links for events. I put them in the MDVA newsletter. We have 214,000 on the distribution list: denise.nooe@maryland.gov

The Veteran Speaker Series at UBalt feat. S... by Dena Allen-FewDena Allen-Few (External)11:31 AM

The Veteran Speaker Series at UBalt feat. Sec Woods registration: <https://cglink.me/2g3/r2133053>

Veteran Speaker Series - Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthony Woods - Bob Parsons Veterans Center

Join the Bob Parsons Veterans center as we welcome the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Anthony Woods to campus. Secretary Woods is the first African American appointed to the Secr...

cglink.me Begin Reference, Don't forget to send me yo... by Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)

Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)11:31 AM

Denise Nooe, MDVA (Guest)

2/15/2024, 11:30 AM

Don't forget to send me your fliers and links for events. I put them in the MDVA newsletter. We have 214,000 on the distribution list: denise.nooe@maryland.gov ✓

We do a Memorial Day Baseball game each yea... by Josiah Guthland Josiah Guthland (External)11:34 AM

We do a Memorial Day Baseball game each year at Camden Yards. We always have a great turnout and family is always invited to that.

♥ 3 Heart reactions.3 Military Family Collaborations- Link rcoss... by Rebecca Cossaboom (Guest)Rebecca Cossaboom (Guest)11:34 AM

Military Family Collaborations- rcossaboom@towson.edu

awesome by Arthur Toole IIIArthur Toole III (External)11:35 AM

awesome

Community & Veterans Hiring Fair at Morgan ... by Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)11:36 AM

Community & Veterans Hiring Fair at Morgan State University.

♥ 2 Heart reactions.2 Link <https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/fo...> by Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)11:37 AM

<https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/lCqaZkbKgSmp> - Registration link

Our institution is re-evaluating our job de... by Barbara TraversBarbara Travers11:37 AM

Our institution is re-evaluating our job descriptions. If anyone is willing to share their job descriptions for any positions in your Veteran Services, it would be greatly appreciated. Please email to: btravers@harford.edu

♥ 1 Heart reaction.1 👍 1 Like reaction.1 Dena Allen-Few (Unverified) it won't l... by Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)11:38 AM

Dena Allen-Few (Unverified) it won't let me upload the flyer but you have it. Can you send it out to everyone? Thanks

👍 1 Like reaction.1 I have to go - have a great day everyone! by Schorr, KathleenSchorr, Kathleen11:39 AM

I have to go - have a great day everyone!

Begin Reference, Our institution is re-eval... by Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)11:39 AM

Barbara Travers2/15/2024, 11:37 AM

Our institution is re-evaluating our job descriptions. If anyone is willing to share their job descriptions for any positions in your Veteran Services, it would be greatly appreciated. Please


email to: btravers@harford.edu I actually have 3 openings right now as well. I can share the link to those.

Thank you everyone who keeps adding to me t... by Johanna Seymour- UMBC (Guest)Johanna Seymour- UMBC (Guest)11:39 AM

Thank you everyone who keeps adding to me to the group chat. I cannot figure out how to accept, if needed.

We are hiring a part-time SCO. Link https:... by Johanna Seymour- UMBC (Guest)Johanna Seymour- UMBC (Guest)11:40 AM

We are hiring a part-time SCO. <https://listings.umbc.edu/cw/en-us/job/494432/academic-program-specialist>


 1 Like reaction.1 Begin Reference, Our institution is re-eval... by Hart, Alissa M.Hart, Alissa M. (External)11:41 AM

Barbara Travers2/15/2024, 11:37 AM

Our institution is re-evaluating our job descriptions. If anyone is willing to share their job descriptions for any positions in your Veteran Services, it would be greatly appreciated. Please email to: btravers@harford.edu If okay, would you be willing to share the JD you receive? We currently do not have any full time veteran service staff and I am advocating that this needs to change.

PT Veterans Recruiter - Link https://morga... by Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)11:41 AM

PT Veterans Recruiter - <https://morgan.peopleadmin.com/postings/6477>

 1 Like reaction.1 FT Veterans Resource Coordinator Link http... by Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)11:42 AM

FT Veterans Resource Coordinator <https://morgan.peopleadmin.com/postings/6476>

FT Veterans Engagement Coordinator/SCO - Li... by Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)11:42 AM

FT Veterans Engagement Coordinator/SCO -<https://morgan.peopleadmin.com/postings/6476>

Link https://www.higheredmilitary.com/news/... by Dena Allen-FewDena Allen-Few (External)11:43 AM

<https://www.higheredmilitary.com/news/articleDisplay.cfm?ID=3811>

Link Bowie State University Employment Op... by Andre ClaytonAndre Clayton (External)11:44 AM

[Bowie State University Employment Opportunities | Military Resource Center Coordinator \(peopleadmin.com\)](#)

The Green Zone Training was very good. Ind... by Clarissa A Lang11:44 AMClarissa A Lang

The Green Zone Training was very good. Individuals at my organization or attended said the Josiah was very entertaining. But they all enjoyed it. So, thank you!

Congratulations, Dario! by Denise Nooe, MDVA (Guest)Denise Nooe, MDVA (Guest)11:44 AM


Congratulations, Dario!

Way to go! by Barbara TraversBarbara Travers11:44 AM

Way to go!

Congratulations Dario! by Clarissa A Lang11:44 AMClarissa A Lang

Congratulations Dario!


 2 Like reactions.2 Open postion at Bowie State Link Bowie Sta... by Andre ClaytonAndre Clayton (External)11:44 AM

Open postion at Bowie State [Bowie State University Employment Opportunities | Military Resource Center Coordinator \(peopleadmin.com\)](#)

Begin Reference, The Green Zone Training wa... by Josiah GuthlandJosiah Guthland (External)11:44 AM

Clarissa A Lang2/15/2024, 11:44 AM

The Green Zone Training was very good. Individuals at my organization or attended said the Josiah was very entertaining. But they all enjoyed it. 😊 So, thank you! Thank you Clarissa

 1 Like reaction.1 Congratulations Dario! by Karis RempelKaris Rempel (External)11:45 AM

Congratulations Dario!

Andre Clayton (External)11:47 AM

If anyone has information on green zone training, pelase send me anything you have to aclayton@bowiestate.edu Thanks

Thank you by Karis RempelKaris Rempel (External)11:47 AM

Thank you

Awesome as always by Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)Shirleene Prioleau - Morgan State University (Guest)11:47 AM

Awesome as always

2nd QUARTER MEETING: In-Person

Host: UMGC

Meeting Date: April 18, 2024

Meeting Start Time: 10:00 am

in Attendance: 26

Appointed in Attendance: BOARD

- Denise Nooe | Maryland Dept of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)
- Dena Allen Few | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Josiah Guthland | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Kristin Byerly | University of MD Global Campus (UMGC)

Appointed in Attendance: COMMISSIONERS

- Amy Coldren | Frederick Community College (FCC)
- Arthur Toole | Prince Georges Community College (PGCC)
- Barbara Travers | Harford County Community College (HCCC)
- Clarissa Lang | Frostburg State University (FSU)
- Dario DiBattista | Towson University (TU)
- Dr. Derrick Little | Community Colleges of Baltimore County (CCBC)
- Irnande Altema | Maryland Independent Colleges & Universities Assoc (MICUA)
- Toby Fervert | Towson University (TU)

In Attendance: GUESTS:

- Audrey Kennedy - Loyola University (LU)
- Drema Wentz | University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
- Betsy Atherton | McDaniel College (MC)
- Karis Rempel | Harford Community College (HCC)
- Shirlene Prioleau | Morgan State University (MSU)
- Tiffanie Means | Coppin State University (CSU)
- Tracey Foutrakis | Cecil College (CC)

Others in Attendance:

- Keith Hauk, UMGC Assoc VP
- Nicole DeRamus, UMGC Asst VP
- Dep Secretary Ross Cohen
- Secretary Anthony Woods
- Sherry Shipley - MFRI at Purdue University Focus Forward Fellowship
- Danielle Johnson – UMGC VSOC Counselor
- Nicole Julien-Thomas – UMGC VSOC Counselor

WELCOME: Keith Hauk welcome and thank you. When the commission was established in 2017, Keith was first secretary – great to see how its grown and thank you Sec Woods for being in attendance and taking the time. Discussed Art Tour and that it is the largest collection of MD Art in the state.

Nicole DeRamus her goal is taking care of veterans across the state. MilVet Net event information.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

MFRI at Purdue University Focus Forward Fellowship – Sherry Shipley - An introduction to the Military Families Research Institute at Purdue’s mentoring, and community building fellowship designed specifically for Women Veterans

UPDATE: MDVA – Secretary Woods: Thank you for hosting UMGC

- MD Veteran Trust Fund has been paused. One person that was running the program and has taken another role, has been paused and step back to rebuild within the next 90 days.
 - From 2-person to a 4-person team.
 - Investing in technology to run efficiently
 - Currently individual grants for individuals and want to start with organizational grants
 - Growing with partnerships
 - Hope to have it up and running by the middle of summer
- Cemetery program – each host a Memorial Day event, quarterly unaccompanied burial April 26th
- Services and Benefits Program – for every Veteran Specialist Veteran 75 day out to take an appt in
- Wants to add Veterans Specialists. 3100 claims submitted this fiscal year 38 million
- Establishing a part time CBOC opportunity.
- Communications Outreach & Advocacy program
 - Denise writes the newsletter
 - Women Veteran Inclusion Program
 - Revamping the website
- Charlotte Hall progressing and transitioning to new provider and certification
 - Home in Sykesville coming along
 - Perry Pt (?) – 8 acres of waterfront where a third veteran retirement home can be built
- Tracking 78 bills that touched veterans 24 passed
 - Family Serve Act – preferential hiring for a military spouse. Now treats mil spouse same as veteran status
 - Time to Serve Act – Military leave is doubled from 15 days to 30 days
 - Bill that establishes a commission to address military and veteran families – prohibit discrimination for military spouses

- Global War on Terrorism Commission – Discussing the re-dedication of a MD state park instead of creating a memorial.
- The session just finished and time to think about another one.
 - MCCSVC – any items that need to be brought forward to the next session from our group? Conversation with Towson regarding technical issues such as Conroy – In State tuition for all veterans
 - Need to be conscious of budget situation
 - May need to submit legislation to standardize the definition of a veteran
 - MNG can't have veteran plates if not on Title 10 orders – working with guard
 - Must submit departmental legislation in September

Deputy Ross Cohen

- As of July 1st – Dept of veterans and families – Mentioned Maryland Joins Forces

Denise Nooe – Trying to get on site more for visits

- Becoming a commissioner – Amy Coldren from FCC is new commissioner
- Financial disclosure form time – Young Smith from Ethics committee – If you have not filed one, reach out to Denise
- Official change of name to Department of Veterans & Military Families
- Please include Denise Nooe MDVA to campus for veteran events

MFRI at Purdue – Shirley Shipley – Focus Forward Fellowship – need slides

- National mentoring program for women student veterans
- Research shows less overall engagement with professors

MCCSVC Assessment Sub-Committee – Josiah Guthland gave an update, including campus visit and follow on meetings

UMGC VSOC Counselors: Danielle Johnson & Nicole Julien-Thomas

Pre-submitted questions:

The goal is to get you in place to get a job. Its important to note the difference between entitled and eligible. Are they in a job that aggravates their disability? Their counselor helps service member to navigate this.

1. We reached out to the members and asked if they had specific questions. This is what was returned:
 - a. What steps do students new to VR&E need to take to gain authorization for training?
 - i. Which steps require school involvement?
 - b. How should students communicate with their counselor?
 - i. What is the expected response time?
 - c. How should school folks handle situations in which a counselor is seemingly unresponsive?
 - i. Is there a particular person who can assist?
 - ii. The only way schools are getting response is through the White House hotline

- d. We have been struggling recently with students applying for advanced payment and not receiving either the checks, or the letters timely for submission. Understanding that VA must process the student as well, there is still a gap in the receipt of funds. Has something with this process changed? No advances for Chapter 31/33.
- Question from Shirleene Prioleau – transfers from out of state getting “stuck”
 - A transfer should be requested and then accepted before processed. If not accepted, it gets stuck. Reach out to counselor and supervisor at the previous station at the same time.
- Patrick – can VSOC train SCOs on the process
- Denise – Bowie – are there more plans regarding
- Howard – Window of time that advisors should be letting students know they should wait?
 - It is individually based on the student and the counselor. Encourage them to not give up and keep reaching out. Different students may need different requirements. Dena stated – plan on 6 months at least from beginning.
- Can multiple schools share populations to get the number required to receive a VSOC?
 - Not at this time, there is a waiting list so get your name on the list.
- VR&E requirements
 - Masters is required with minimal pay (56k)
 - New position – bachelor’s to help with administration 1-125/federally mandated counselor to student ration
- Dena will be doing a white paper on VR&E and is looking for data/information/stories – positive and negative.
- Conversations on how these students need help and noted that not all schools have the bandwidth to sit directly with students.
- Question from Amy C - Can use 33 while waiting for 31
 - Can even get time back on 33 or paid if funded personally. And it is 33 through the end of the term if payment has been processed. Chapter 31 will start next semester
- What steps do students new to VR&E need to take to gain authorization for training? Which steps require school involvement? EVA Process discussed: (Nicole Julien-Thomas)
 - This is not Tungsten and is for the students.
 - Once enrolled, its where they receive communications
 - If no response – use email
 - If challenges getting response – reach out to Danielle & Nciole
 - Danielle has a list of the Baltimore Counselors
- Students applying for advanced payment? Not for Chapter 31
- Denise – Training at Bowie State
 - It is the VA OTED office that planned that

UPDATE: MHEC – Not available

UPDATE: Institutions

- PGCC Shark Tank – 3rd annual May 15th – Major Gen Birkhead is the guest speaker. Need to register so Arthur will send out the link
- Mt St Mary's President is retiring – MICUAH retiring in June
- Dario – Towson Passed his proposal defense studying Gen Z veterans and may need assistance
- Rebecca – AD Towson, launching military family events, more to come!
- MilVet Net

NEW BUSINESS:

FOLLOW UP:

Next Meetings Hosted By:

- 3rd quarter - Prince Georges Community College – Wednesday July 17, 2024 (Changed to July 31)
- 4th quarter – Salisbury University – Tuesday October 22, 2024

Meeting Ended:

3rd QUARTER MEETING: In-Person

Host: PGCC – Arthur Toole
Meeting Date: July 31, 2024
Meeting Start Time: 10:05 am
in Attendance: 35

Appointed in Attendance: BOARD

- Denise Nooe | Maryland Dept of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)
- Dena Allen Few | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Josiah Guthland | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Kristin Byerly | University of MD Global Campus (UMGC)

Appointed in Attendance: COMMISSIONERS

- Arthur Toole | Prince Georges Community College (PGCC)
- Audrey Kennedy - Loyola University (LU)
- Barbara Travers | Harford County Community College (HCCC)
- Dario DiBattista | Towson University (TU)
- Dr. Derrick Little | Community Colleges of Baltimore County (CCBC)
- Dr. Zakiya Lee | University System of Maryland (USM)
- Shannon Hardester | Salisbury University (SU)
- Toby Fervert | Towson University (TU)
- Rebecca Cossaboom | Towson University (TU)

In Attendance: GUESTS:

- Amy Coldren | Frederick Community College (FCC)
- Cindy Welzel | Chesapeake College (CC)
- Drema Wentz | University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
- Betsy Atherton | McDaniel College (MC)
- Everette D. Jackson, Jr. | Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC)
- Joanne Owens | Cecil College (CU)
- Shirlene Prioleau | Morgan State University (MSU)
- Tiffanie Means | Coppin State University (CSU)
- Tracey Foutrakis | Cecil College (CC)
- Robin Timms | Webster University
- Rebecca Collins | College of Southern Maryland (CSM)
- Sarah Luft | College of Southern Maryland (CSM)
- Janaya Taylor | Prince Georges Community College (PGCC)
- Kim Delk | Prince Georges Community College (PGCC)
- Robin Tims | Webster University (WU)
- Andy Clark | University System of Maryland (USM)
- Martha Huaman

- John Badman | Stevenson University (SU)
- Michelle Washart | Cecil Comm College (CCC)
- Mo Smith | Howard Community College (HCC)
- Veronica Novotny
- Will Jones | University of Maryland College Park (UMCP)

WELCOME: Arthur Toole

OPENING REMARKS: Dena Allen - Few

UPDATE from MDVMF – Denise Nooe

July 1st Passage approved and changed

- Explanation of name change DVMF – Dept of Veteran and Military Families
- Service program
 - 5076 claims most since 2016 and % approval rating
 - Over 44 million in compensation and pension
 - 2 benefits office at Elkdown DMV
 - Part time at community-based outpatient in Baltimore Cty.
 - Communication team – training to 425 community partners for suicide training and letting the state know about the new name
 - New Commission established on Veterans & Military Families
 - Trust Fund – 501 C3 for grants to veterans in need. Money comes from casinos, lottery and donation. The administrator left so have been hiring and re-designing. Will have online access. Mid Sept will be back and will have 725,000 in funding.
 - Charlotte Hall Veterans Home improvements – CMS rating is back to 3 stars. Awarded 2024 Healthcare Assoc award.
 - Received gold star for flu vaccinations
 - Joint accreditation coming in starting tomorrow (at State request)
 - October 25th unaccompanied remains ceremony. Buried in a state cemetery.
 - Reminder that Denise hosts lunch and learns, talks about benefits, please reach out as she would love to come out!
- MDVA (From Dena Allen-Few) As Chair of MCCSVC appointed to new commission on Veterans & Military Families
 - Subcommittee – looking for ideas to get people to come live and retire in MD and this committee is focused on education. Any ideas on how MD can improve in these areas? Dena will share a Word document and ideas will be shared with sub-committee. This new commission is breaking into sub-committees to focus on education, employment, housing, and families. The document is due Dec 1st so there is a tight timeline to get it out. More information at the next MCCSVC meeting

UPDATE from MHEC

- Uniform Application Process - [MHEC Slides](#)
 - History
 - Minutes
 - Core-Values (Engage Inform Support)
 - 6 Core-Functions
 - Approval of Programs
 - Site Visits
 - Tech Assist
 - Outreach
 - Liaison
 - Cooperative Agreement Compliance
 - Fiscal Year 2025 Goals – Seen an increase in Chapter 35, including at high schools as this is allowed. In HS it allows for an extra 5 months (Dual Enrollment students). Dual enrollment is paid by the county? This program is sunsetting in 2026. It was created for spouses who did not have a high school diploma. There is not a min age requirement either. If homeschooled – would need to be VA approved. The high school would need to be the one to certify the course.
 - Operate on the Federal Fiscal Year
 - Slide listing roles of the team
 - Will share job opening on MD SAA staff
 - Website – MD one stop portal
 - They have a webinar that walks through the catalog submission process
 - Part of National Assoc of State Approving Agencies (NASAA)
 - SAA updates
 - 35% exemption rule (link on slide) – If veteran population is less than 35 – apply for this exemption. Apply every 2 years
 - Question from Webster – There is a provision if you have less than 10 students so process being used is sufficient
 - Emphasizing School Certifying Official Matrix (link on slide)
 - Encouraging AVECO and NAVPA SCO Conferences
 - Catalog/Bulletin Compliance for IHLS
 - As of October 1st, the requirement is changing from 24 months to a 36-month review. If it expires after October 1, add a year.
 - Annual Review does not require the 36-month review – only changes and in policies and programs
 - Modified Review – opportunity to make updates for an existing catalog year submission

- Question from Towson: Updates trickle in so what is the best way to update. Recommendation, always student driven. If veteran in program, modify, otherwise wait.
 - Slide gives 36-month review requirements
 - Slide gives short version of Annual Review Requirements
- (From B Travers) If you are an IHL with NCD, do we have to submit the NCD on the separate form? We have new programs on both sides. Answer is No
- (From Betsy Atherton) – in reference to the high schools. If in doubt send the parent to MHEC
- (From Tiffanie Means) – Submit forms through portal for partial and Everette will help
- (From Cindy W) Effective Date June 22, Date of Letter is 23 so one only needs to do the annual review without supplemental documents. The date of the letter is the determining date. Any questions ask Everette!
- Classes changes within the program do not require the same modifications, its more with the changing of the title
- (From Tracie F) Can you elaborate on what kind of changes to programs that we need to report? For example, if we received an approval letter from MHEC for any changes, do we include those on our modified review or wait until the 36-month approval?
- (From Betsy Atherton, McDaniel) – Conroy scholarships limited to 15 per institution? Also, some issues with the wording of requirements. FA channels are saying there is a limit, but the requirement is really only veterans are limited but not dependents. Need clarification that this limit set of all scholarships is inaccurate. Charnese King is the best POC to reach out to for clarification.
 - There is general language, if student is receiving other scholarships, can the scholarship be reduced? How should they be calculating over awards.
- (From: Tiffanie) – Veterans Choice Act amendment beginning August 22. IS Chapter 35 enough to determine instate. Live in the state or show that you are trying to establish residency. Once they prove they are living in the state once there is not the need to re-verify.
 - Some schools have retro out of state but huge process to approve and need substantial reasoning
 - (From: Josiah) Legislation 529 plans are a tax-advantaged way to save for college, and can be used to supplement federal education aid for veterans
- (From: Janay PGCC) School in VA is attending in person residence for internship in MD
 - Ask for an approved extension campus and then should be certified or possibly certified as clock hours. If you are not approved for practicum academics, this can be adjusted.

- Assessment is complete, the committee will review and have it turned in by the next meeting.

MCCSVC Election Notice

- Elections need to take place annually so we will hold elections at the meeting in Salisbury.
 - If interested in running for a board position, please reach out to Denise Nooe.
- Regardless of how many are on this commission, there is only 1 vote per institution
 - How to handle the designation of the voting member. Should it be a designated commissioner and then a back-up?
- Working on an updated set of by-laws.
- Based on by-laws - Only need an updated letter if it's a new person from your school.

NEW BUSINESS:

- (From: Tracie in Chat) hi all. I forgot to raise my hand. I just wanted to ask if any other institutions use First Day complete? If so, do you treat them as a mandatory fee? We just started using this program (through Barnes and Noble) and wanted feedback to see what others were doing. Please reach out to me at tfoutrakis@cecil.edu
- Need 1 person as Commissioner on Veterans & Military Families – needs a current member of the reserves so please contact Denise
- From: Clarissa - Ask the Question Campaign training? MD Dept of Health and MD
- Its adjusting how you use your questions at intake. Starts with asking “Have you Ever Served instead of are you a veteran. Offer at a separate date?
- Offer Green Zone training at a separate date – October 30th. Time is TBD, presentation is approx. 75 minutes. Open to anyone at your institution. It is targeted to any staff, faculty etc. Link will be sent via email
- New Commission – Dana Burl – Maryland Commission on Veterans and Military Families (DVMF new family commission)
- Any veteran interested in being on the Wheel of Fortune? Arthur Toole will send out the information. Need to know by Friday.
- PGCC – October 2nd in conjunction with local job center.
- Towson – October 13th – Old School Challenge. Vets vs Greek Life – Day long series of Events. Food Trucks, Music,
- November 9th – Veterans Resource Fair and rolling straight in to a tailgate leading in to Hometown Heros, Resource Fair, Claims Clinic etc.
- UMGC – FUNd RUN – October 28 – November 3
- Mo Smith - HCC - **2024 Howard County Fair** - August 3 @ 8:00 am - August 10 @ 10:00 pm

FOLLOW UP:

Next Meeting Hosted By: Salisbury University October 22nd

Meeting Ended: 12:00 pm

4th QUARTER MEETING: In-Person

Host: Shannon James Salisbury University

Meeting Date: October 22, 2024

Meeting Start Time: 10:07 am

Appointed in Attendance: BOARD

- Denise Nooe | Maryland Dept of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)
- Dena Allen Few | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Josiah Guthland | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Kristin Byerly | University of MD Global Campus (UMGC)

Appointed in Attendance: COMMISSIONERS

- Audrey Kennedy - Loyola University (LU)
- Barbara Travers | Harford County Community College (HCCC)
- Clarissa Lang | Frostburg State University (FSU)
- Dario DiBattista | Towson University (TU)
- Dr. Derrick Little | Community Colleges of Baltimore County (CCBC)
- Dr. Zakiya Lee | University System of Maryland (USM)
- Irnande Altema | Maryland Independent Colleges & Universities Assoc (MICUA)
- Johanna Seymour | University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
- Kat Schorr | Anne Arundel Community College (AACC)
- Rebecca Cossaboom | Towson University (TU)
- Shannon James | Salisbury University (SU)
- Toby Frevert | Towson University (TU)

In Attendance: GUESTS:

- Alissa Hart | Mount St Mary's University (MSMU)
- Andre Fletcher | University of Maryland College Park (UMCP)
- Drema Wentz | University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
- Betsy Atherton | McDaniel College (MC)
- Oyada Rigsby | Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC)
- Martha Huaman | Montgomery College (MC)
- Jean Melvin | Howard Community College (HCC)
- Karis Rempel | Harford Community College (HCC)
- Linday Livingston | Maryland Dept of Veterans & Military Families (MDVMF)
- Mauricio Reyes | Maryland Dept of Veterans & Military Families (MDVMF)
- Rebecca Collins | College of Southern MD (CSM)
- Sarah Luft | College of Southern MD (CSM)
- Rebecca Gerkin | University of Maryland College Park (UMCP)
- Shirlene Prioleau | Morgan State University (MSU)
- Tiffanie Means | Coppin State University (CSU)

WELCOME: Dena Allen-Few

OPENING REMARKS: Shannon welcomed everyone to Salisbury University

UPDATE: MDVMF (Denise Nooe)

1. Election of Officers – Existing officers agreed to stay on - no new applications submitted.
Current board for the 2025 calendar year:
 - a. Dena Allen Few - Chair
 - b. Josiah Guthland – Vice Chair
 - c. Kristin Byerly - Secretary
2. Service Animal program for dogs and Equine program for veterans. Moving from communications over to the trust fund as it is a grant program
 - a. 541 Veterans have been served
 - b. 2881 Equine assisted session
 - c. 5 service dogs
3. Veterans Trust fund
 - a. 84,580 given and hope to reopen and take applications around Veterans Day.
 - b. Hired a new Exec director and created an electronic system for applications
4. Unaccompanied burial services – none this quarter
 - a. Next day scheduled is January 31st

Denise – how easy it is to become a commissioner – President of the university needs to send letter to Secretary Woods

- Allows for voting
- Always happy to come to campus visits, lunch and learns etc.

2 guests from the department today

1. Mauricio Reyes Constituent Services Dept – Mauricio.reyes@maryland.gov
 - a. Started almost a year ago with an initial set up of department
 - b. Developed a constituent tracker to better understand what and why the veterans are contacting the dept to address the needs being brought forward.
2. Lindsay Livingston - Lindsay.Livingston@maryland.gov
 - a. New to the department as of this month
 - b. Seasoned military spouse, native Marylander and really happy to be back in the state.
 - c. Pursuing her Master's at UMGC in Strategic Communications. Been an easy/smooth transition and really fits with her lifestyle.

Introductions of those in the room

- Dena – Coordinator at UB
- Josiah – Director at UB
- Kristin – Director VIO at UMGC
- Shannon James – SU

- Barb Travers – Harford and Aberdeen
- Rebecca – Towson

UPDATE: MHEC (Oyada Rigsby)

- Not a lot of updates
- Message about catalog submissions - Before completing please check with SCO if you are submitting annually or for a 36-month review.
 - There is still some confusion about full and partial reviews.
 - 39 days for updates and if issues ask for an expedited review.
- Risk based surveys and supervisory visits – only one institution on the risk-based list in the state of MD.
 - Emphasis will be on the non-college degree institutions.
 - IHL supervisory visits will not be the focus. The focus is going to be on Non college degrees, dual certifications, training requirements
- Question about 85/15 (Barb Travers HCC) Change being implemented January 2025, any institutional aid is going to be reported, how does that impact the 85/15 rule – is there any guidance.
 - January of 25 in VA chronology is a bit far away – additional guidance may still be coming.
 - Shannon James brought forward that St George is asking for an entire list.
 - Any compliance surveys recently? Had heard that they are asking for the entire enrollment of the institution to include names.
 - Betsy Atherton has one coming up and was surprised that they are having another one that quickly
- Cheat Sheet discussed – please send to be included in the minutes

MCCSVC Assessment Committee

- Final draft of the Frederick CC inaugural assessment was submitted. Dr. Amy Coldren will meet with Josiah one on one to go through it together
- Looking for next volunteer for the next assessment. It is a service of the MCCSVC to review the veterans services institution. We review the processes used to support the veterans, certification process, enrollment process, programming, resources. Outline areas of success or areas of opportunity.
 - The reports are not shared with the larger group so it is made confidential. The process took about a year to complete.
 - Would like to identify someone this fall, gather data, create a zoom meeting, schedule an on-site visit for the spring and meet with those that support veterans or manage those that support victims.
 - If anyone is interested please contact Josiah Guthland – jguthland@ubalt.edu

UPDATE: Institutions

- TOWSON: Dario Di Batista – approved for his doctoral thesis (Frostburg) Focus is on Student Veteran Centers. Generation Z, who they are and what they are looking for. He is need of participants and it is a paid study. Specific emails will go to all of the members and guests of the board. Ideal # to follow will be 6-8 but can complete with 4. 1-2 days following through the semester.
- UMGC – Nov 6th signing event for MOU between DOL VETS program (Re-scheduled) and UMGC, FUNd RUN, Veterans Day and Pillars
- JOSIAH – Operation Green Light (National Assoc of Counties) UMBC was able to light up an entire floor
 - HCC – Green solar light to light up the outside
 - Send pictures for the annual report of lighting up green!
 - DVMF will be participating on social media platforms, resources for caregivers in MD and Nationally. If your organization has anything
- TOWSON - collaboration with the Baltimore Cty Veterans Commission
 - Saturday November 9th - Veterans Day resource fair and celebration
 - Resource Fair and Claims clinic (10-2)
 - In conjunction with the tailgate for Towson.
- MDVMF (Lindsay Livingston) – Spoke about Caregivers Month opportunities
- Legislative Proposals question from Irnande - Denise will reach out individually
- MCCSVC is offering free Green Zone training on October 30th at 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm. Link to the signup will be in the chat - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3JJGRF7>
 - Individual GZ training for Morgan State University – Josiah is available to do individual training if there are 10 or more that are in need. Send him
- Harford County resource fair November 9th at BellAir Armory – joint with the Harford County Commission
- Barb Travers HCC - Certifying Question
 - If student drops a class – are you required to track the drop? Can we get the link?
 - Certify for credits 1st and then certify the classes after the last day to drop the class.
- Sent links to videos that discuss the 1010 reporting that Sharon Coverdell provided in the August office hours.
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3MI_nfrRdS4 Sharon’s video
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3MI_nfrRdS4&list=PLrrh23QvVVYjXMaF-uqXdwkpqxxr9txmZ&index=2 full august office hours recording
 - The main concern for HCC with reporting the drops—when a full refund is issued to the student. We charge tuition and fees per credit, not a FT/PT rate, so our tuition and fees change based on the courses the student takes.
 - The new guidance indicates that even though the student gets a full refund, our certification with T/F need to reflect the **initial** certification—even if it is

a drop. We then go in and amend the cert to reflect the reduction of credits and the reduction of T/F.

- Per the guidance, the student is entitled to the payment for the # of days enrolled (even though it's a drop) as their 'pursuit'. This is going to create refunds for students.
- Sharon shows the incorrect certification/reduction a 29:09 in the video - At about 32 she says that is incorrect and then shows that we should submit the original tuition and fees, even though it's a drop, and then do an amendment. This creates a refund to the student that the institution must process. For us, it is a huge mess as students add/drop like crazy—especially when they register way in advance of the start of term.
- It gets worse if its an add later than 7 days—then we create a unique non-standard term
- Rebecca created drafts for each of the students to process after the drop date. Submit original enrollment and then at the end of the drop period submit what is used instead of tracking every drop
- Betsy Atherton gave her feedback

TOPICS to Review in 2025:

- Creation of Sub Committee (See notes at end of year end recap)
 - Assessments of Higher Education locations to allow for constructive feedback regarding services
- Create a centralized location for minutes, documents and other digital items
- Chapter 35 Changes
- Green Zone Training
- Pending VA legislations
- 2025 Meeting Hosted By (Tentative):
 - Q1 – Towson
 - Q2 - Harford CC
 - Q3 – Loyola
 - Q4 - UMBC

Meeting Ended: 11:20 a.m.

ZOOM CHATS:

vaeducationbenefits.mhec@maryland.gov

Dario - Towson University 10:17 AM

Welcome, Mauricio!

Mauricio.Reyes to Everyone 10:17 AM

Thank you! I look forward to working with you all. Mauricio Reyes- Mauricio.reyes@maryland.gov

Zakiya Lee - USM to Everyone 10:18 AM

Welcome! Denise is AMAZING!!

Dario - Towson University to Everyone 10:20 AM

Welcome, also, Lindsay!

Lindsay Livingston to Everyone 10:21 AM

Nice to meet you all! Lindsay.Livingston@maryland.gov

smjames to Everyone 10:28 AM

Can't hear Irnande.

You to Everyone 10:28 AM

Congratulations Kat!

Kat Schorr 10:30 AM

Thank you! Let's catch up soon!

krempel to Everyone 10:30 AM

Karis Rempel, Harford Community College SCO and Veterans Services

O. Rigsby (MHEC) to Everyone 10:33 AM

vaeducationbenefits.mhec@maryland.gov

Derrick Little to Everyone 10:37 AM

My 85/15 waiver request was granted this morning.

You to Everyone 10:41 AM

Kristin.byerly@umgc.edu

O. Rigsby (MHEC) to Everyone 10:41 AM

Thank you, Kristin!

Shirleene Prioleau 10:41 AM

I sent it to her sir

O. Rigsby (MHEC) 10:42 AM

Well, thank you!

smjames to Everyone 10:43 AM

jguthland@ubalt.edu

Clarissa Lang to Everyone 10:47 AM

Yay - Dario! You got this. We are here to help you at and support you! Its a long process and you got this!

Clarissa Lang to You (direct message) 10:48 AM

Hey there. Just to let you know, I received my degree from UMGC at the end of June. I am finally done my doctorate!

krempel to Everyone 10:48 AM

Congratulations!

Kat Schorr to Everyone 10:48 **krempel** AM

Congrats on the approval, Dario!

to Everyone 10:52 AM

Yay Jessica! She was my neighbor at APG. Wonderful!

Denise.Nooe to Everyone 10:53 AM

The next DVMF newsletter goes out on Friday, November 1st, so if you have any events, including Veterans Day events you want advertised in the newsletter, please send them to me, denise.nooe@maryland.gov

Kat Schorr to Everyone 10:55 AM

AACC is participating in Operation Green Light

Dario - Towson University to Everyone 10:56 AM

Thanks for the reminder about Operation Green Light. I'm hoping TU will participate.

Kat Schorr to Everyone 10:56 AM

<https://www.naco.org/program/operation-green-light-veterans>

Denise.Nooe to Everyone 10:56 AM

<https://www.naco.org/program/operation-green-light-veterans>

Kat Schorr to Everyone 10:58 AM

I have to go now, thank you!

Dario - Towson University to Everyone 10:58 AM

Yes, Claims Clinic will be there

krempel to Everyone 10:58 AM

Can someone share any information on which programs are receiving funding for service animals.

Looking to connect veterans. Thank you

Clarissa Lang 10:59 AM

Send me an email at calang@frostburg.edu and I can send you some contacts.

Shirleene Prioleau 11:00 AM

Here is my email. Can you send me those as well. Shirleene.Prioleau@morgan.edu

Toby Frevert -- Towson University to Everyone 10:59 AM

tfrevert@towson.edu

You to Everyone 11:00 AM

Dario UMGC will be there again - do you want me to see if the VSOC counselors are available as well?

Dario - Towson University to Everyone 11:00 AM

That'd be awesome, Kristin! Thank you

Josiah Guthland (he/him) to Everyone 11:04 AM

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3JJGRF7>

Machele to Everyone 11:07 AM

That is my understanding too. We saw that as well.

We received an email from Buffalo as well stating we had to report tuition even though student dropped and weren't being charged.

Clarissa Lang to Everyone 11:09 AM

I have to run to another meeting. It was nice talking with everyone and welcome to all who are new. Have a great Tuesday!

Johanna Wharton - UMBC to Everyone 11:09 AM

Does someone have the link for this YouTube video?

Rebecca Gerken, UMCP to Everyone 11:10 AM

can you remind us who is talking about the Certification/debt question?

thank you! Thanks Barb!

Denise.Nooe to Everyone 10:59 AM

@krempel <https://veterans.maryland.gov/maryland-veterans-service-animal-program-and-fund/>

krempel 11:00 AM

Denise, thank you.

krempel 11:19 AM

Slides

Audrey Kennedy (Loyola University Maryland) to Everyone 11:20 AM

Loyola can host

dwentz to Everyone 11:20 AM

Always happy to host

krempel 11:21 AM

Thank you.

APPENDIX A: BOARD Meeting Notes

BOARD Meeting Prior to General Meeting:
July 31, 2024
9:00 am

BOARD Members in Attendance

- Denise Nooe | Maryland Dept of Veterans Affairs (MDVA)
- Dena Allen Few | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Josiah Guthland | University of Baltimore (UB)
- Kristin Byerly | University of MD Global Campus (UMGC)

BY-LAW Terms

- Members per Institution
- # of Votes per Institution
- Member terms
- Annual elections

Denise will be compiling information to send to the board for review. Discussion will be brought up in new business.

Voting will take place at the October meeting.

APPENDIX B: MCCSVC Assessment Meeting Minutes

MCCSVC Assessment Committee Minutes

Nov 14th, 2023

- ❖ Welcome and Introduction
- ❖ Institution – Frederick Community College
 - Goals
- ❖ Assessment Committee Goals
 - Assist institutions through assessment to help them develop their veteran center and achieve their goals
 - Complete review of institutional strategic plan and how the veteran center serves as a part of that plan
 - Assist veteran center in creating/refining/reviewing strategic plans/goals
 - Conduct on-site visit of veteran center to better understand their campus culture and climate toward the success of the veteran/military students
 - Provide suggestions/plan of action for veteran center and institutional leadership to maximize veteran/military student success
- ❖ Assessment Process
 -
- ❖ Assessment Timeline
 - Institution selection
 - Preliminary meeting
 - Define goals/responsibilities of committee members
 - Research/Site visit
 - Present findings
 - Discussion/Defining of suggestions
 - Write up
 - Review
 - Present Findings/Suggestions
- ❖ Next Meeting

- Date/Time: Spring 2024
- ❖ FCC Info
 - Staff of 2
 - VA Work Study
 - Report to Student Affairs
 - Leadership turnover
 - **Strongly positioned to defend why what we do is important**
 - **Articulate what they do/why they are important**
 - How to best utilize staffing we currently have
 - Work harder not smarter
 - **Does not have goals**
 - Did a review - CAS Assessment tools
 - 12 standards
 - Mission
 - Programs and services
 - Student learning development and success
 - Human resources
 - Assessment
 - Financial Resources
 - Collaboration and communication
 - Has a mission statement
 - Operational plan
 - Short term goals
 - Long term goals
- ❖ Institutional Strategic Plan
- ❖ Student Affairs Strategic Plan
- ❖ FCC Veteran & Military Center mission/goals
- ❖ Job Descriptions for Director and SCO
- ❖ Veteran/military population/make up

- ❖ Peoplesoft Coding
- ❖ Shannon James works in Registrar's office