Mizzou Student Veterans Recognized for Academic Accomplishments

Six Mizzou student veterans were inducted into the SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society in a ceremony held at the Memorial Student Union on April 13. SALUTE is a nationally recognized collegiate honor society, founded in 2008.

The goal of SALUTE is to recognize, reward and honor the academic accomplishments of current or former members (of any branch) of the United States Armed Forces, Armed Forces Reserve and National Guard, and veterans of these branches who have received an honorable discharge. One unique element of this honor society includes the 4 tier system within the 3.0 to 4.0 GPA range which is designed to encourage student veterans to strive to improve their GPAs and advance to higher tier levels in the honor society during their academic careers.

This year’s inductees were honored during a ceremony at Memorial Student Union on the University of Missouri Campus. The induction ceremony was sponsored by University of Missouri Department of Student Life, the Mizzou Student Veterans Association, the Missouri Students Association and the University of Missouri Veterans Center.

Those honored include the following, along with degrees they are pursuing.

**Tanner Cobb, United States Marine Corps**, is pursuing a Bachelor of Art in Architectural Studies. He has received the National Defense Service Medal and Expert Rifle Qualification Badge. Tanner is a current member of the United States Marine Corps Reserve.

**Zachary Crothers, United States Army veteran**, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education here at the University. He has received the National Defense Service Medal and the Army Service Ribbon.

**Tanner Davenport, United States Marine Corps veteran**, is working towards a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Tanner has received several awards including the Combat Action Ribbon, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal.

**Emily Dwyer, United States Army**, is seeking a Master of Arts in Public Affairs. Emily has received the Army Achievement Medal and the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal. She is a current member of the United States Army National Guard.

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Haydn Elsey, United States Army, is working towards a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences. She is a current member of the United States Army National Guard.

Crystal Wiggins, United States Air Force veteran, is currently working towards a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management while attending the University of Missouri. During Crystal's time in the United States Air Force she received several awards including the Pacific Air Forces Airmen Maintenance Professional of the Year 2012, Air Force Commendation Medal, and Air Force Achievement Medal.

SALUTE 2017 Inductees gather for a group photo inside Memorial Student Union on the University of Missouri Campus following a ceremony that honored their academic achievements. (L-R): Crystal Wiggins, Tanner Davenport, Haydn Elsey, Zachary Crothers, Tanner Cobb, and Emily Dwyer.

(MIZZOU)