News from the MU Veterans Center
October/November 2015

Director’s Notes

I am extremely honored and privileged to serve student veterans, active duty service members, Reservists, members of the National Guard, and family members who call Mizzou home. I am impressed with the quality of all students I meet and assure you that the Veterans Center team will continue to serve your needs.

What a great time to join the Veterans Center team. The campus will be celebrating Veterans Week November 7 – 13 . . . a time when will all publicly honor the contributions and sacrifices made by the brave men and women who serve or have served in uniform and their families. This newsletter includes a schedule of activities and I encourage all Mizzou family members to attend as your schedules permit. And I encourage you to thank a veteran.

For Mizzou!

Robert Ross
Director
MU Veterans Center

Keith’s Corner

Enrollment has begun for the spring 2016 semester. Remember to fill out your MU Veterans Center enrollment form as soon as you enroll in your classes (not before) so your veterans benefits begin promptly in January with the start of the semester. If you forget to turn in your form with us and leave the area you can find the form on our website at veterans.missouri.edu in the forms section. Fill it out and e-mail it to us at veterans@missouri.edu or fax it to us at 573-884-4387. If you fax it, please send an email or call us at 573-884-4388 to confirm receipt.

Keith Herdzina
Student Service Advisor
MU Veterans Center

Brugger and McLafferty earn US Bank scholarships

Congratulations to student veterans Levi Brugger and Sean McLafferty who were among many students honored with scholarships in a September awards program in Stotler Lounge. Levi is serving as the secretary of the Mizzou Student Veterans Association. He is a senior majoring in communications in Arts and Sciences.

Sean is the president of the Mizzou Student Veterans Association. He is a graduate student pursuing a Master of Public Administration degree from the Truman School of Public Affairs.

The application process for next year’s US Bank scholarship awards will be provided when available.
Veterans Week activities feature Medal of Honor Recipient, student panel

Medal of Honor recipient Ryan Pitts will headline a weeklong Veterans Week celebration at Mizzou from November 7 – 13.

The week will kick-off with the Mizzou Joint ROTC Veterans Day Vigil on Saturday, November 7. The vigil concludes on November 8 following the annual Veterans Day Parade.

On Monday, November 9 from noon 1 p.m. student veterans will form a panel to discuss “Sharing Experiences When Transitioning to Higher Education After Military Service.” Those attending the panel will be treated to a free lunch that features military MRE’s.

On Wednesday, November 11, Memorial Union will be the site for a noon Wreath Laying Ceremony. All are welcome to attend this service which will include reading of names of former student who made the ultimate sacrifice in the nation’s wars.

Pitts is the featured speaker in a presentation on Thursday, November 12 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Jesse Auditorium. The event is free. Pitts earned the Medal of Honor for extraordinary heroism while serving with the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Afghanistan on July 13, 2008.

A complete schedule of Veterans Week activities can be found in our activities page.

Around the “Coffee Pot”

The coffee pot is always charged during regular hours at the MU Veterans Center. Please stop by for casual conversation or to ask questions of the students or staff.

The MU Veterans Center is your one-stop resource for certifications and connecting to the campus community. Please let us know if you have changes that will impact your benefits. It is important to advise us of adds, drops, terminations, deployments, program changes, and other activities that might change your benefits.

Patriot Foundation funds scholarship to benefit veterans

The Heart of Missouri Patriot Foundation is committing funds for a scholarship starting with the fall 2016 school year. The foundation will make its initial contribution during the November 6 Tiger basketball game vs. Missouri Western. MSVA president Sean McLafferty and Robert Ross, MU Veterans Center director, will accept the award on behalf of Mizzou.