

Understanding the Military to Civilian Transition

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November 15th, 2016



UWM Military and Veterans Resource Center (MAVRC) Background Information

- ▶ UWM Military and Veteran Students: Over 1400 military and veteran students, about 1/5 female, over 200 graduate students, more than half are over 30 years-old
- ▶ MAVRC opened in November 2012 through collaborative effort from campus leadership, the Veterans Advisory Council on campus, and the Student Veterans of America- UWM Chapter.
- ▶ The primary mission of the UWM Military and Veterans Resource Center (MAVRC) is to support the academic success military and veteran students throughout their education programs and to assist with successful transitions into their planned careers.



The Military to Civilian Life Transition

▶ Characteristics of Military Life

- ▶ Specific goals and responsibilities and a consistent schedule
- ▶ Clearly defined chain of command
- ▶ Built in social and professional network
- ▶ Emphasis on personal strength and self-reliance
- ▶ Need for strong environment awareness and quick action for safety and performance



▶ Characteristics of Civilian Life

- ▶ Freedom to choose school, work, relationships, leisure time...
- ▶ Varying hierarchies - even lack of hierarchies
- ▶ Loss of military family- Who do I connect with now?
- ▶ Encouragement to seek out and utilize help or support
- ▶ Expectation to remain calm or unconcerned about surroundings



MAVRC Main Goals based on Student Needs

- ▶ Serve as a *first-stop shop* for information referrals on and off campus
- ▶ Provide *campus education* on military culture and experience
- ▶ Offer a *dedicated space* for military and veteran students to relax, study, and meet one another
- ▶ Provide *comprehensive career development support* through the MAVRC Corporate Partners program, VetSuccess, and CPARC



UWM MAVRC Programs

- ▶ **TASO Program:** Transfer and Adult Student Orientation sessions in MAVRC for new military and veteran students (For Spring 2017: January 15th, 2017)
- ▶ **Campus education:** Kognito Veterans on Campus for Faculty and Staff Training, “Understanding the Military to Civilian Transition” presentations (including as Panther Professional Development), Kognito Veterans on Campus Peer Program
- ▶ **UWM MAVRC Corporate Partners Program:** MAVRC works with area companies and organizations to provide career skills and opportunities to student veterans through internships, career mentors, job shadowing, networking events, and career workshops.
- ▶ **Veterans Week 2016:** Milwaukee Veterans Ball (Nov. 4th), “Serving Those Who Served” Brunch (Nov. 7th), “Tracings” interactive performance (Nov. 8th), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Resource Days (Nov. 9th & 10th), MAVRC Open House (Nov. 11th)
- ▶ **Spring programming:** Armed Forces Challenge, Military and Veterans Graduation Ceremony
- ▶ **Additional programs and services:** Resource support, Scholarship application support, Student Veterans of America- UWM Chapter Partnership, career services, referrals...



Kognito Veterans on Campus for Faculty and Staff

30 minute online interactive training programs include:

- ▶ Information about military experience and culture
- ▶ Strategies for connecting student veterans experiencing adjustment challenges with support services
- ▶ Support resources available to student veterans

- ▶ **Access program 24/7 at:** Go to: kognito.com/uws, create a new account, follow the on-screen instructions, and choose your course and click "LAUNCH"
- ▶ For custom presentations ranging from 10 minute introductions to 90 minute guided walk-throughs, contact Sarah Terry at UWM MAVRC



Questions and Comments

- ▶ UWM Military and Veterans Resource Center (MAVRC)

- ▶ Student Union WG99 (Ground floor/street level)
- ▶ Website: <http://uwm.edu/mavrc/>
- ▶ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/uwmmavrc>
- ▶ Twitter: [@UWM_MAVRC](https://twitter.com/UWM_MAVRC)
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