**Advisors & Counselors Network**

**January 12th, 2021**

**8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

Collaborate link: see below

Members Present: ~80

Welcome:

1. Off-Campus Housing Support

*Alyssa Conrardy, Neighborhood Housing*

1. Supporting Students with Off-Campus Questions/Concerns
   1. Availability of Services
      1. Physical Office Space in the Union is closed, staff working from home
      2. Online hours are Monday-Thursday, 10am-2pm
      3. Phone, Email, Facebook chat
         1. 414-229-6999
         2. [housing@uwm.edu](mailto:housing@uwm.edu)
         3. Facebook.com/uwmneighborhoodhousing
   2. Common Concerns/Issues
      1. Leases Legally Binding Contracts –Difficult for students to get out of
      2. Predatory Landlords
      3. Signing leases too early
      4. Illegal for more than 3 unrelated people to live together (even if the rental has 4 or more bedrooms)
      5. Joint and Several Liability –All tenants and cosigners are liable for everything
      6. Auto-renewal clauses
      7. Nuisance Violations –3 or more calls for service designate rental as nuisance property
      8. Heat going out
      9. Cost of Rent/Security Deposits for new freshmen
   3. Timeline
      1. Current recommendation: Students should wait until the Fall 2021 schedule of classes is live to start their search so they have a better idea of the extent they need to be on campus in the fall
      2. Typical guidance: Sign a lease 2-3 months before desired move-in date
      3. Why? –Leases typically require 60-daysnoticetoterminate a lease so true availability is only known during this window
         1. A lot can change in just a few months (Relationships, finances, needs, etc.)
   4. Services
      1. Advice from a highly trained staff with renting experience
      2. Schedule video chat Teams Appointments
      3. Rental Process Guide Website and concurrent marketing for each step of the process
         1. E-Newsletter
         2. Social Media
         3. Snapshat take-overs
         4. Postcard Mailings to off-campus students
      4. Preferred Tenant Program
      5. Virtual Tour of Homes (Thursdays in <Arch and April)
      6. FAQs
      7. Listing Service
   5. Cost of Living
      1. Cost of Living Off-Campus: Average Rent per person/per month
         1. Studio: $826
         2. 1 Bedroom: $888
         3. 2 Bedroom: $619
         4. 3 Bedroom: $502
      2. Utilities: Heat/Gas/Electricity, Water, Internet, Laundry-Coin Operated/Machine Hook-Ups
      3. Security Deposit: Usually same amount as the cost of 1month of rent –Sometimes double.
   6. Listing Service
      1. Listing Service
         1. Listings
            1. Map
            2. Ratings
      2. Roommates
         1. Roommate profile
         2. Posting
         3. Viewing other posts and filters
      3. Subleases
      4. Parking
      5. Average Rent Prices
   7. We don’t:
      1. Assign rooms, apartments, or showings
      2. Own any properties
      3. Manage/employ landlords
      4. Co-Sign or handle any payment process
      5. Review leases
      6. Give legal advice –See University Legal Clinic for assistance
   8. We’re Hiring
      1. $10/hour
      2. Work Study preferred
      3. Resume-building work experience
      4. Recent employees have been from following majors:
         1. Marketing
         2. Nutritional Sciences
         3. Communication
         4. Occupational Therapy
         5. Women and Gender Studies
         6. Psychology
         7. International Studies
2. Military and Veteran Resource Center (MAVRC)

*James M. Cocroft “Groovy” & Yolanda Medina*

1. About Us
   1. UWM has the largest military-related student population in the UW System
   2. The Military and Veterans Resource Center opened as a student lounge in November of 2012 and expanded in 2015 to include a computer/study area and staff offices
   3. MAVRC is located in the Student Union, Room WG99
   4. MAVRC is staffed by a Director, Assistant Director and VA Work Study student staff
2. Staff
   1. Yolanda Medina – Director (US Marine Corps)
   2. James “Groovy” Cocroft – Assistant Director (US Navy Retired)
   3. **Office Email:** [**mavrc@uwm.edu**](mailto:mavrc@uwm.edu) **Phone: (414) 229-7211**
   4. MEBO Website  
       <https://uwm.edu/onestop/finances/veterans-services/>
3. Military and Veterans Resource Center
   1. Mission
      1. Serve as the first stop of support for all military-related students
      2. Educate the UWM campus and Milwaukee community about military service, support and awareness programs
      3. Offer a safe space on campus for military-related students
      4. Establish community partnerships that provide opportunities for student veterans to build bridges into the Milwaukee community for future employment, as well as civic and cultural engagement
4. MAVRC Resources
   1. “MAVRC Hours”
      1. Mondays, Wednesday, and Thursdays
      2. 0900 – 1500
      3. By appointment.
   2. Provide resource referrals
   3. Offer Signature Events: Veterans Week, Graduation Ceremonies, Project 22, Military & Veterans Ball
   4. Create programming and partner with campus groups for: orientations, employment services, scholarship application assistance, corporate partners networking sessions and more
5. Campus Resources in Partnership with MARC
   1. Student Veterans of America UWM Chapter (SVA)
   2. Military Education Benefits Office (MEBO)
   3. Career Planning and Resource Center (CPaRC)
   4. VetSuccess on Campus (VSoC)
   5. Veterans Upward Bound (VUB)
   6. Accessibility Resource Center (ARC)
   7. Panther Academic Support Services (PASS)
   8. Norris Health Center (You@UWM)
   9. UWM Libraries
   10. Honors College and academic departments
6. Community Resources in Partnership with MARC
   1. Milwaukee VA Regional Benefits Office
   2. Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center
   3. Milwaukee Vet Center
   4. American Legion
   5. Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
   6. And more!
7. Executive Order 13607: Principles of Excellence for Educational Institutions Serving Service Members, Veterans, Spouses and Other Family Members
8. Military Education Benefits Office (MEBO)
   1. Mellencamp Hall #168
   2. Online access only until further notice
   3. Phone: (414) 229-6627  
      Email: [vets@uwm.edu](mailto:vets@uwm.edu)
   4. James Schmidt  
      Services Coordinator (Army)
   5. The MEBO is dedicated to providing accurate information and timely processing of their state and federal military educational benefits.
   6. MEBO will work with you to answer any specific questions regarding Federal and State benefits, the National Guard Tuition Grant, VetEd Tuition Reimbursement, Students called to Active Duty, and Withdrawal policies.
   7. Open year-round to assist you with certification of your military education benefits.
9. The Different Types of GI Bill’s
   1. Post 9/11 GI Bill (Ch.33)
   2. Montgomery GI Bill (Ch.1606)
   3. Montgomery GI Bill (Ch.30)
   4. Vocational Rehabilitation (Ch.31)
   5. Dependents Educational Assistance (Ch.35)
   6. Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA)
   7. WI GI Bill
   8. National Guard Tuition Reimbursement Grant
   9. VetEd Tuition Reimbursement Grant
10. Most Popular Options
    1. Veterans:
       1. Post 9/11 GI Bill (Ch.33)
       2. Vocational Rehabilitation (Ch.31)
       3. WI GI Bill
       4. VetEd Tuition Reimbursement Grant
    2. Reserves/Guard
       1. Montgomery GI Bill (Ch.1606)
       2. Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA)
       3. WI GI Bill
       4. National Guard Tuition Grant
    3. Dependents/Spouses:
    4. Post 9/11 GI Bill – TOE (Ch.33)
    5. Dependents Educational Assistance (Ch.35)
    6. WI GI Bill
11. Get More $$$
    1. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
       1. <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
    2. FAFSA FAQ’s
       1. <https://militarybenefits.info/fafsa-veteran-education-benefits/>
12. VETSUCCESS on CAMPUS
    1. What is VSOC?
       1. The VSOC program provides a VA Veteran Readiness & Employment Counselor (VREC) to each VSOC school. These VRECs are called VetSuccess on Campus (VSOC) Counselors. A VA Vet Center Outreach Coordinator is also provided, and co-located on many campuses, to provide peer-to-peer counseling and referral services. UWM is the only university in the state with this program.
    2. What types of services are available?
       1. Guidance and support with your VA education benefits – Chapter 31
       2. Exploring options when you face academic difficulties
       3. Career exploration and assistance
       4. Coordinating with school faculty/staff to provide Veteran Readiness & Employment specific services referrals for readjustment counseling for eligible Veterans and their families
       5. Federal Resume, Job Seeking, & Interview Preparation assistance
       6. Information and referral for other VA benefits (i.e. Disability Compensation, Life Insurance, Home Loan Guaranty, and Vocational Rehabilitation)
    3. VetSuccess on Campus Coordinator:
       1. Patrick Grube, MS, Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (USN), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
    4. Office: UW Milwaukee Student Union Room 319
    5. Email: Patrick.Grube@va.gov
    6. Phone: (414) 902-1089
13. Things to Know
    1. Joint Service Transcript
       1. Transfer Credits for Military Service.
       2. Satisfactory Academic Progress
    2. VR&E Degree audit/academic worksheet
       1. Start/Stop Date of the Program
       2. Cost of the Program
       3. Academic Plan/ Approval
    3. Best to advise Veterans or dependents using VA education benefits to seek assistance from the SCO, MAVRC, VA education dept, VSOC, or VR&E Case manager prior to dropping classes. Due to possible financial hardship.
    4. VA payment for classes that are in-person or online.
14. Student Veterans of America UW-Milwaukee
    1. Mission
    2. Our social organization strives to support the transition and educational success of members, volunteer within the community and reach out to those in need, advocate for student veteran concerns and build awareness of veteran specific issues and provide a network of individuals that share a common past, a desire for success, and a willingness to support each other to reach our goals.
    3. Officers
       1. President: Corey Washington
       2. Vice President: Vacant
       3. Secretary: Brett Geilenfeldt
       4. Treasurer: Margret Hinze
15. RHC Group Conversations for Spring 2021

*Gabriela Dorantes & Rebecca Arcos-Piedra*

1. See Attachment or link (<http://www.uwm.edu/rhc>) for “Group Conversations” dates and times that can be sent to students
   1. These are interactive conversation on different topics
   2. Coach has been changed to Multicultural Student Success Coordinator on Navigate.
   3. Encourage students with Gaby or Rebecca listed as an advisor/Multicultural Student Success Coordinator to attend these
   4. There is no sign up required, students can just click the link to join
   5. Group Conversation’s sessions
      1. Start Strong-End Strong: Time Management, Study Skills, & More
         1. Tuesday, Feb. 9th 10:30 – 11:30 am
         2. Bit.ly/rhcFinishStrong2020
      2. Grow the Inner YOU: Getting Involved at UWM & in Milwaukee
         1. Thursday, Feb 25th 12:00 – 1:00 pm
         2. Bit.ly/rhcGettingInvolved
      3. Don’t Get Caught Slippin’: Preparing for Summer and Beyond
         1. Thursday, March 11th 2:00 – 3:00 pm
         2. Bit.ly/rhcSlippin2021
      4. Your Mind is Your Strongest Muscle: Mental Health & Latinx College Students
         1. Friday, April 9th 10:00 – 11:00 am
         2. Bit.ly/rhcMentalHealth
      5. Make Your Money Work: Budgeting & Financial Literacy
         1. Tuesday, April 20th 3:00 – 4:00 pm
         2. Bit.ly/rhcFinancialLiteracy
      6. Dare to Self-Care: Preparing for End of Semester
         1. Thursday, May 6th 9:00 am – 10:00 am
         2. Bit.ly/rhcSelfCareDare
      7. Aprovecha tu tiempo: Have a productive and restful summer
         1. Tuesday, May 18th, 10:00 – 11:00 am
         2. Bit.ly/rhcAprovechaTiempo
2. ACN Elections

*ACN Co-chairs*

1. Looking for new co-chair to replace Aaron
2. Looking to replace Natalie in the Public Relations Coordinator role
3. Watch your email for app and voting
4. Campus Announcements
   1. International Education: Study abroad is still functioning. Spring virtual study abroad fair is listed on the website, [www.uwm.edu/cie/studyabroad](http://www.uwm.edu/cie/studyabroad), summer programs are still being planned along with fall trips – tbd based on vaccines, students are being encouraged to apply now, virtual opportunities as well, there are travel exceptions as well
   2. Student Involvement: materials to be sent out, Feb 2 -9 is winter involvement fair is online, student leadership programs happening this semester – graduating students, leadership springboard for 2nd year and new transfer, <https://uwm.edu/studentinvolvement/ambassadors/> one-on-one meetings about involvement, <https://uwm.edu/studentinvolvement/leadership/>
   3. CPARC, Diversity Career Fair Feb 24 is virtual – students can sign up on handshake, information to be sent out, there have been changes to the website, <https://uwm.edu/careerplan/>
   4. Orientation – Spring has started, panther family Friday <https://uwm.edu/studentorientation/family-information-2021/> , Students get to know UWM (virtual), <https://uwm.edu/studentorientation/get-to-know-uwm-2021/>
   5. UG research – 13th annual UG research symposium email is coming
   6. Pathway Advising – year one down (woo!) currently working on probation and freshman enrollment, February there will be reach out about major change, refer major changes back to pathway so that there can be tracking
5. Professional Development: Professional Collaboration

*Kari Whittenberger-Keith, PhD, Research Development Services, Office of Research*

1. Please view ACN recording on the website if you are interested in this Professional Development.

Connect to the meeting using Collaborate:

[https://us.bbcollab.com/guest/ee3c7a27b53a4a4eb19b6bef631338e2](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fus.bbcollab.com%2Fguest%2Fee3c7a27b53a4a4eb19b6bef631338e2&data=04%7C01%7Cknack%40uwm.edu%7Cc516d7762c824d2b1bcd08d89b934355%7C0bca7ac3fcb64efd89eb6de97603cf21%7C0%7C0%7C637430404089247913%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=WA4ANZXMUHxrrCW%2B2UUiSwmz9NRcXs1hrsU2o52YGgE%3D&reserved=0)

Anonymous Dial in: +1-571-392-7650 PIN: 258 349 6394

Due to the number of attendees, please use the chat feature if you have any questions.

**Next ACN Meeting:  February 9, 2021 8:30-10:00 am, Collaborate Ultra**

**Co-Chairs:**

**Aaron Dierks, Honors College,**[**dierks@uwm.edu**](mailto:dierks@uwm.edu)

**Katie Nack, College of Nursing,**[**knack@uwm.edu**](mailto: knack@uwm.edu)

**Secretary/Treasurer: Kelsi Faust, Zilber Public Health,**[**meyer378@uwm.edu**](mailto:meyer378@uw,.edu)

**Public Relations Coordinator: Natalie Vang, Coordinator of Orientation Programs,** [**nlvang@uwm.edu**](mailto:nlvang@uwm.edu)