Resolution in Support of Co-Located Military and Veteran’s Center

WHEREAS, historically, veterans have driven major expansions of UWM through WWII GI bill recipients and Vietnam Veteran GI bill recipients.

WHEREAS, over 1,500 military and veteran students attend UWM.

WHEREAS, the current range of resources provided to military and veteran students includes: Military and Veterans Resource Center, Military Education Benefits Office, Veterans Upward Bound Program – TRIOS, VetSuccess On Campus Program – VA, Army and Airforce ROTC programs – DOD, Veterans Advisory Council to the Chancellor, Student Veterans of America – UWM Chapter, Veterans Upward Bound Entrepreneurship Program - funded by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs – WDVA, and Mobile Vet-Center Program – VA.

WHEREAS, several years of polling, exit interviews of transfer students, surveys by SVA, and Veterans Townhalls have identified the lack of co-location of Veterans Services as top obstacle to successful utilization of services by UWM student veterans.

WHEREAS, current veteran services are separated across the campus from each other, located from basements to 3rd floors, with students consistently confused about which to go to for what service.

WHEREAS, many UWM student veterans spend years at school without realizing what resources are on campus for them, often discovering them after serious academic setbacks that could have been mitigated.

WHEREAS, the physical separation hinders good, efficient, consistent collaboration between services that have shared populations and desired outcomes.

WHEREAS, co-locating UWM’s Military and Veteran’s Services would re-establish UWM’s historical significance as the premier veteran’s university in the Midwest.

WHEREAS, co-locating UWM’s Military and Veteran’s Services would allow for greater exposure, utilization and effectiveness of the support and services currently offered
WHEREAS, co-locating UWM’s Military and Veteran’s Services would foster growth in cutting edge services and programming

WHEREAS, co-locating UWM’s Military and Veteran’s Services would contribute to recruiting new military and veteran students

WHEREAS, co-locating UWM’s Military and Veteran’s Services would continue to improve on the already high veteran retention rate (90%)

WHEREAS, co-locating UWM’s Military and Veteran’s Services would build a healthy and cohesive UWM veterans community that will support longevity, loyalty, and commitment in UWM and its Veterans Alumni.

WHEREAS, co-locating UWM’s Military and Veteran’s Services would reduce confusion students, faculty, and community regarding points of contact for particular military and veteran student services and events

WHEREAS, without State funding and University support, a co-located Military and Veteran’s Center project cannot be successful due to the variety of funding streams, use of space agreements, and restrictions on academic services being housed in segregated fee funded buildings such as the UWM Student Union.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; the Student Association at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee supports the co-location of all UWM’s Military and Veteran’s Resources.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; the UWM Student Association recommends that administrators at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee support this project at the state level.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED; this legislation will be forwarded to the Military and Veteran’s Resource Center, the Military Education Benefits Office, the Veterans Upward Bound Program – TRIOS, the VetSuccess On Campus Program – VA, the Army and Airforce ROTC programs – DOD, the Veterans Advisory Council to the Chancellor, the Student Veterans of America – UWM Chapter, the Veterans Upward Bound Entrepreneurship Program - funded by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs – WDVA, the Mobile Vet-Center Program – VA, the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the Chief Student Affairs Officer of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the Union Director of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Alyssa Molinski
Student Association President

Legislative History
24 March 2019 – Considered by the Student Association Senate
7 April 2019 – Passed by the Student Association Senate