

5600 Memorial Union
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Date: May 18, 2022
From: Rita Case, Director, Military-Affiliated Student Center
RE: Name Change: Military-Affiliated Student Center

We are pleased to announce a name change within the Dean of Students Office, a unit of the Division of Student Affairs. Effective July 1, 2022, the Veterans Center will become the **Military-Affiliated Student Center**.

The new office name will be more inclusive of the Reservists, National Guard, Active Duty, ROTC, and family members of service members that this department serves. The new title will highlight the department's focus on serving all military-affiliated students on campus.

Historical Background

An important consideration in all definitions of the word "veteran" is how it restricts who is included in the term. Historically, the title of veteran has limited criteria associated with it such as the nature, location, and duration of military service. Many veteran definitions refer to those who are no longer serving on active duty; thus, the word "veteran" is by and large not viewed as inclusive of current service members.

Impact

Changing the name from the Veterans Center to the Military-Affiliated Student Center will positively impact military-affiliated students, particularly active duty service members, (including Guards and Reservists), ROTC, and dependents of military-connected students, as they will become more aware that this department serves them as well as military veterans. Half of the current Big 12 schools utilize both the terms "Military" and "Veteran" in the names of their veteran's centers as a way of incorporating active duty service members. An added benefit of changing the name of the ISU Veterans Center is so that is no longer being confused for the "Vet Center," (a national veteran mental health non-profit that is run in coordination with VA hospitals) or the Veterinarian Sciences "Vet Med" program.

Implementation

The name change will be official July 1, 2022. Please also note that the Military-Affiliated Student Center is now located on the fifth floor of the Memorial Union, room 5600. Some updates will be implemented prior to new student orientation so new students and families are familiar with the name and new location of the center before the start of the academic year. **Please update department records, websites, and marketing materials accordingly, and share this information with colleagues in your area(s).**

Mission

The Military-Affiliated Student Center strives to provide academic support, transition assistance, and advocacy for students who are Active-Duty service members, veterans, ROTC cadets, Reservists, National Guard members, and dependents (spouses and children).

Vision

The Military-Affiliated Student Center will be a catalyst to educate, support, and empower our military-affiliated students so they are able to succeed in their personal and professional aspirations.

Pillars

Inclusion

Leadership

Academic Success

Community

Staff Titles

Rita Case,

Director, Military-Affiliated Student Center

Kay MacGregor

Assistant Director, Military-Affiliated Student Center