

# Military Veterans Services Center

A Year in Review

J.R.

**Director** JR Richardson **Manager** Sean McCollum





#### THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON

#### A Message for Bellevue University

On behalf of the Department of Defense, I extend my sincere congratulations to the men and women of Bellevue University on the occasion of the grand opening of your Military Veteran Services Center.

When my friend Bill Brooks helped found Bellevue College in 1965, he was determined to assist our Service members in achieving their educational goals. Bill's intentions remain inspirational to our veterans who desire to further their education, as well as to our active Service members and their families who pursue a degree while continuing to serve this great Nation.

l.c.

As you gather today to celebrate the opening of the Military Veterans Services Center, please accept my appreciation for your selfless support of the men and women of the Armed Forces, past and present.

I have always been very proud of my days as a trustee on the Bellevue University Board.

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Warmest wishes for much continued success.

Sincerely.

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### **Executive Summary**



The following is for anyone who supports our mission to create the most comprehensive veteran services center on any college or university campus. The successes and milestones that we have achieved thus far are a direct reflection of Bellevue University's commitment to members of the military and the veterans in our community and throughout the country. These successes would not have been possible without the support of our team members who share our vision and resolve.

#### Historical Gathering of Services Under One Roof

The 6,000-square-foot Military Veterans Services Center (MVSC) exemplifies Bellevue University's commitment to serve members of the military, veterans and their families. Organizations such as Veteran Leader Corps, the Department of Veteran Affairs, and for the first time in its history, the Disabled American Veterans, have assembled on one college campus to better serve our current generation of returning veterans. The aggregate talent and manpower enable the MVSC to provide employment services that have resulted in the creation of a Community Employment Guide specifically tailored to aid job searches in the Bellevue, Omaha and surrounding communities. The planning and execution of employment-related events and intense resume and interview preparations have directly resulted in 29 meaningful career opportunities for Bellevue graduates students and those military and veteran members whom we serve.

Additional services of the MVSC include business forums designed to foster entrepreneurship, veteran support groups, tutoring, housing information for incoming students or relocating veterans, student and alumni mentoring, referral services and much more. The amenities and features of the MVSC facility itself give our military and veteran students a place to socialize and visit with others who have served and or currently serving. This inviting atmosphere gives a true sense of trust and the realization that you are not alone. The MVSC has a lot to offer our service members and their families to include a large lounge area with soft seating (which quickly converts to multiple settings to host our events), internet cafe with a

full print station, private study cubicles, quiet study rooms, conference room and much more.

The Rotert building, which houses the MVSC, is named for Bill and Alice Rotert, the previous owners of the building. Bill, who passed away in 2012, was a Bellevue-based real estate developer. In the early 1990s it was estimated Rotert Brothers Buildings leased upwards of 200,000 square feet to defense contractors. Rotert was also a member of the Strategic Air Command Museum. The family is extremely proud of the fact that the building carrying their name is home to the MVSC.

# Early Successes Only the beginning

The University is proud to offer the MVSC to the Bellevue Community and all those who serve. While the MVSC has already generated success stories, the center needs additional resources to make our services more effective and accessible.



Perspective

#### June 4, 1942

In the early morning hours, an F2A-3 Buffalo fighter piloted by Marine 2nd Lieutenant William V. Brooks lands with 72 bullet and cannon holes. Lieutenant Brooks had just survived the historic Battle of Midway inside a malfunctioning aircraft that placed him in imminent danger throughout the battle.

#### June 1965

Veteran and Bellevue, Nebraska resident Bill Brooks enters a Bellevue Chamber of Commerce meeting with a new mission. Brooks was determined to create a new college in Bellevue to serve the personnel from nearby Offutt Air Force Base. Brooks' idea becomes a reality as he leaves the meeting with the Chamber on board and several members excited to make it happen. Within a year Brooks and his Chamber colleagues spearhead the founding of Bellevue College.

#### Today

Bellevue University serves military-related students worldwide and is recognized as one of the nation's most innovative in offering higher educational opportunities to an increasing population of nontraditional students.



Bellevue University proudly presents the **Military Veterans Services Center**.

#### **MVSC Mission**

Since our inception, Bellevue University has recognized that the experience of our servicepersons make them a national asset uniquely qualified to help shape our country. In keeping with our values, the mission of the Bellevue University Military Veterans Services Center (MVSC) is to serve those who have and continue to serve us all, and meet the needs of Bellevue University's increasing military and veteran student population.

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perhaps use:
- help
- assist
- offer assistance to

The MVSC provides the resources and services necessary to foster a smooth transition from the demands of military services to the challenges faced with the veteran's new mission the pursuit of their educational goals. Adding to the military and veteran student's overall experience, the MVSC goes beyond the classroom to create opportunities for mentorship and interaction with professionals and organizations that will help cultivate a meaningful civilian career.

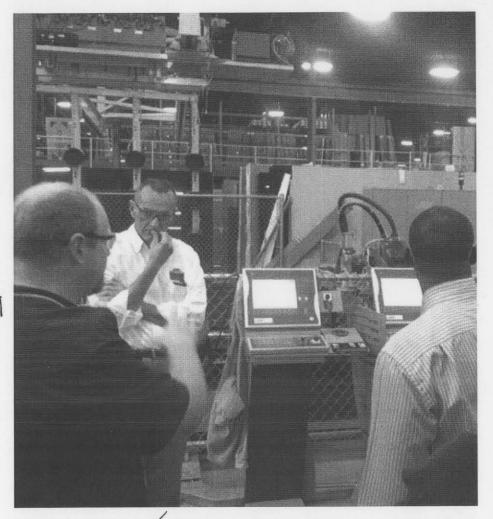
#### **Measuring Effectiveness**

We measure our effectiveness by the number of individuals we assist in completing their degrees or advanced to meaningful employment. We strive to assist all who need our services, including online students and alumni across the country. We also review and act on satisfaction surveys available to all MVSC users.

# AP Stylebook (and others) permit all caps only for acronyms, even if companies themselves incorrectly use all caps Services

#### **Employment**

MVSC staff members work directly with our on-site Veteran Leader Corps team members to conduct interviews with military members and veterans to determine qualifications and employment-seeking strategies. We help create and update resumes, conduct mock interviews, provide career coaching and create small lunch and learn type events that enable veterans to closely interact with those employers New seeking their skill sets and or looking to hire veterans. Since our grand opening the MVSC has placed 29 veterans in jobs. with such organizations as Bellevue University, Direct Insight Services, First Data, MANKO Windows, Lutheran Family Services, Principle Financial Group, Whiting Turner, Window Genie, Veteran Leader Corps, Veteran in Business Forum and more. These direct placements have been in such meaningful career opportunities as Project Managers, Construction Manager, Systems Engineer II) Frocess Engineer, Facilities Manager, Support Specialist and others. Our team members are currently assisting numerous others in their search for employment and internships.



MVSC scheduled 6 BU Veteran students and a local veteran to tour the MAYKO Windows Manufacturing in Papillion. Three members of the group accepted employment with MAYKO including Biology Student Johnny Farnen as Flant Facilities manager

Google says Omaha(?)



"The goal of the MVSC is not only to support the needs of our military and veteran students so that they stay in school and graduate, but we strive to make sure they leave with a meaningful -I.O.B. as well."

im Biernesser, Senior Director Military Programs

the. The MVSC staff would like to thank following companies for their visits and sharing your time and opportunities with us:

- · Mechanical Systems Inc.
- · First Data Corporation
- Principal Financial Group
- · Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company
- · AFROYER Staffing Agency
- · Nebraska Furniture Mart

- · First National Bank of Omaha
- BAE Systems

use italic for emphasis

- · Northrop Grumman Corporation
- · Leonum Advisors
- Science Applications International Corporation
- · McCallie Associates Inc.

Ak-Sar-Ben

- · Aksarben Companies, Inc.
- · No Frills Supermarkets
- · Union Pacific Railroad
- · Window Genie
- · Direct Insight Services Inc.

#### Entrepreneurship

The MVSC is proud to host the Omaha area Veterans in Business Forum (VIBF), a group of Veteran owned and non-veteran owned business owners and leaders who meet on the first Friday of every month for breakfast to network and collaborate with government, non-profits, and other business influencers, to share concerns and ideas for

economic development throughout our region. The VIBF serves as a venue for teaming, partnerships and education on veteran related businesses and is open to the public, especially those businesses that want to team with veteran owned businesses in Nebraska.



#### Veterans in Business Forum

2 not BF

Date: 3 October, 2014

Time: 0730

Location: Lower Level Administration Bldg

add space med. dush where circled AGENDA.

Registration Starting at 7:15 J.R. Welcome R Richardson

Moderator-Mark Spadaro

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag - Anthony Cato Jr.

Guest Speaker - Jeff A. Bender Senior Military Liaison Greater Omaha/Economic Development Partnership Open Forum Heartland Family Services Legacy Corps

Elizabeth Yearwood SBA Nebraska District

FRay Espisito - Brass Ring Society

Legislative Update - Brec Wilshusen

Attendee Introductions OAII

Closing Remarks Dwight Lydic

Additional NETWORKING 9:00-9:15 > BF ?

#### TRAINING OPPORTUNITY 9:15-10:00

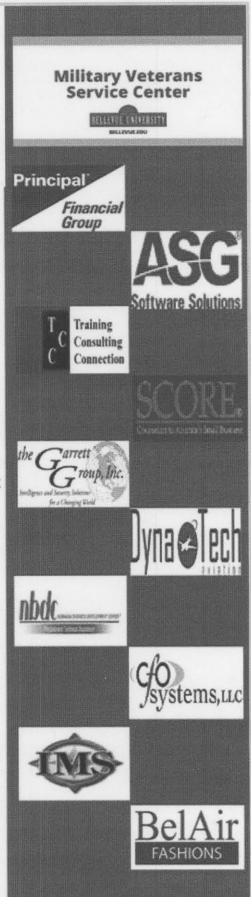
Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC) Andrew Alexander and Gordon Bonnes



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lilete extra space

suggest using vertical separators ide



Man Thanks Veteran With Chance to Start His Own Business (Fox 42 News)

Dick Stieren owns a window washing franchise called "Window Genie," and when he wanted to hire someone he could groom to potentially take over the reins of his business someday, he says he found the perfect hire. "I went down to the Veterans Services program at Bellevue University and Wade was the first person I interviewed and I knew he was the right guy, right away," said Stieren of hire Wade Jensen.