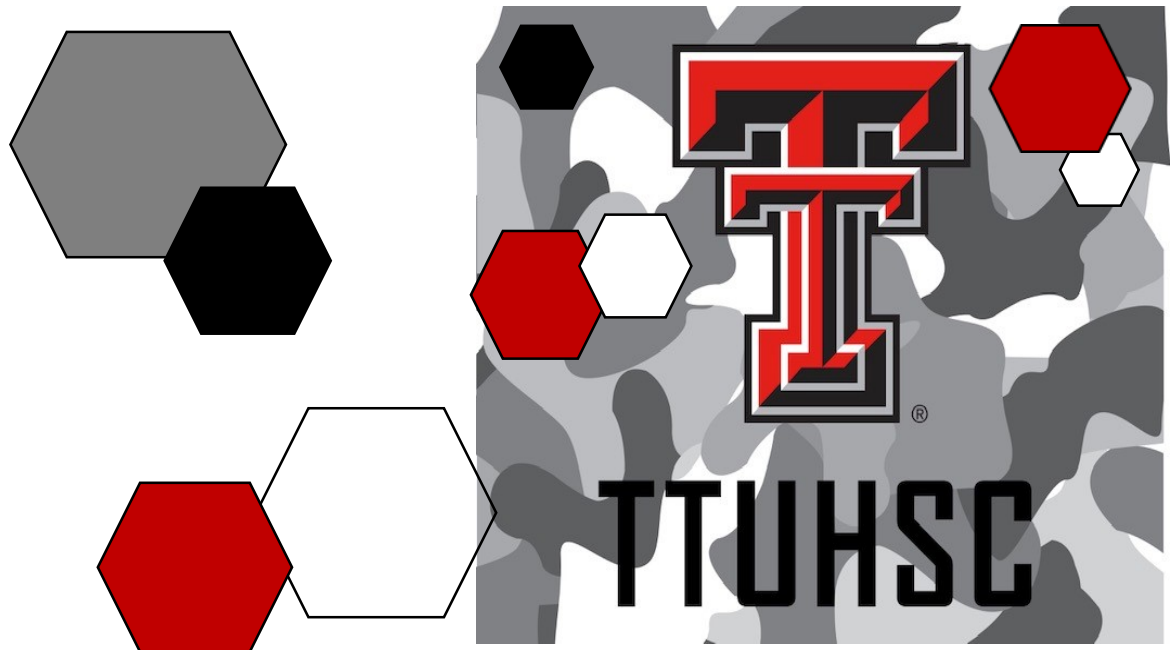


**TTUHSC**

**Veterans Resource Center (VRC)**

**NEWSLETTER**



# INSIDE THIS ISSUE

## SECOND EDITION - SPRING 2019

Here we are at the close of another successful semester at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. The HSC's updated Military Friendly® School designation, the current population of military affiliated students, our commitment to the 8 Keys to Veteran Success, and recommitment to the Principles of Excellence, veteran designation on student ID cards, and priority enrollment are just some of the items we have been busy working on!

Contact us at 806-743-7549 or [sara.henly@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:sara.henly@ttuhsc.edu) if you any questions at all! Please do follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

- PG. 1**  
Military Affiliated Student Population
- PG. 2**  
Military Friendly® School & 3D Printing Activities
- PG. 3**  
8 Keys to Veterans' Success & Principles of Excellence, Speakers, Facebook Frame
- PG. 4**  
Student ID Veteran Designation, Priority Enrollment, & More
- PG. 5**  
Still ahead in 2019...

## MILITARY AFFILIATED STUDENT POPULATION

### SPRING 2019

HSC had 141 student veterans utilizing benefits, and 246 total, which includes family members. Reporting efforts show HSC with 357 total military affiliated students across all of our 5 Schools.





# MILITARY FRIENDLY<sup>®</sup> SCHOOL

G.I. JOBS MAGAZINE AND VIQRTORY MEDIA

We are dedicated to our military and veteran community and have participated in the Military Friendly<sup>®</sup> Schools Survey, a comprehensive review of colleges and universities that serve this population of students. TTUHSC was upgraded to Silver designation for 2019-2020, and we are committed to growing the program and offering services to get to the next level.

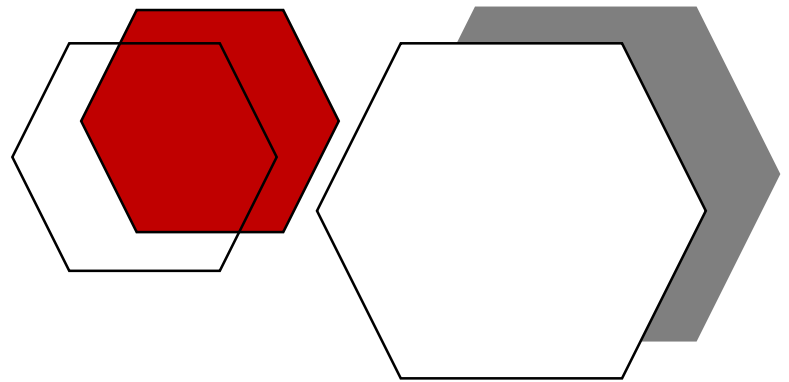
Sara Henly was selected to serve as a member of the 2019 Military Friendly<sup>®</sup> Schools Advisory Council (MFAC).

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## 3D PRINTING ACTIVITIES

### METHODOLOGY LAB

In an effort to provide an activity to help students find time to interact outside of their academic activities, we partnered with Kate Serralde and invited student veterans to the Methodology Lab in the Preston Smith Library to paint a 3D printed heart. Pictured below is GSBS student and Air Force veteran, Rachel Washburn.



# 8 KEYS TO VETERANS' SUCCESS

The "8 Keys to Veterans' Success" are steps that postsecondary institutions can take to assist Veterans and Service members in transitioning to higher education, completing their college programs, and obtaining career ready skills.

The 8 Keys is a voluntary initiative through the Departments of Education, Veterans Affairs, and Defense and highlights specific ways we can support veterans.

## COMPLIANCE SURVEY

Each year it is expected that we receive a compliance survey from the VA or Texas Veterans Commission. On March 26, we were visited by Chelle Olague from the TVC who reviewed the files of 15 students in receipt of VA benefits. We are happy to report there were no discrepancies found and should be receiving a formal report shortly.

## 50<sup>th</sup> FACEBOOK FRAME

In the spirit of celebrating HSC's 50<sup>th</sup>, we created a Facebook frame to share with our student veterans, especially those graduating this year. Test it [here!](#) For those student veterans graduating in May, your camo stole will be at your respective ceremony.



# PRINCIPLES OF EXCELLENCE

## EXECUTIVE ORDER 13607

Much like the 8 Keys to Veterans' Success, the Principles of Excellence are guidelines for educational institutions receiving Federal funding. Schools that agree to participate will:

- End fraudulent and aggressive recruiting techniques and misrepresentation.
- Provide students with a personalized form covering the total cost of an education program.
- Provide educational plans for all Military and Veteran education beneficiaries.
- Provide accommodations for Service Members and Reservists absent due to service requirements.
- Assign a Point of Contact for academic and financial advising
- Make sure all new programs are accredited before they enroll students.
- Align institutional refund policies with those under Title IV.

## SPEAKERS

We had several speakers out to visit with faculty, staff, and students about a variety of programs:

- **Texas Veterans Commission (TVC)** – Clarence Court, Education Coordinator, 915-208-9356, or [clarence.court@tvc.texas.gov](mailto:clarence.court@tvc.texas.gov)
- **VetStar** – Steven Lara and Drew Gilpin 806-470-9317 or [help@vetstar.org](mailto:help@vetstar.org)
- **U.S. Air Force Nurse Corps** - TSgt Alexandria Trempe, 303-366-6804 or [alexandria.trempe@us.af.mil](mailto:alexandria.trempe@us.af.mil)
- **U.S. Navy Medical and Nursing** – Chief Craig Ward, 408-375-3018 or [craig.a.ward@navy.mil](mailto:craig.a.ward@navy.mil)
- **U.S. Army Medical and Nursing** – SGT Chad Arredondo, 806-792-2947 or [chad.e.arredondo.mil@mail.mil](mailto:chad.e.arredondo.mil@mail.mil)
- Army Family Medicine Resident Dr. Akash Mittal came to visit with current Army HPSP students. [akashmittal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:akashmittal@sbcglobal.net)

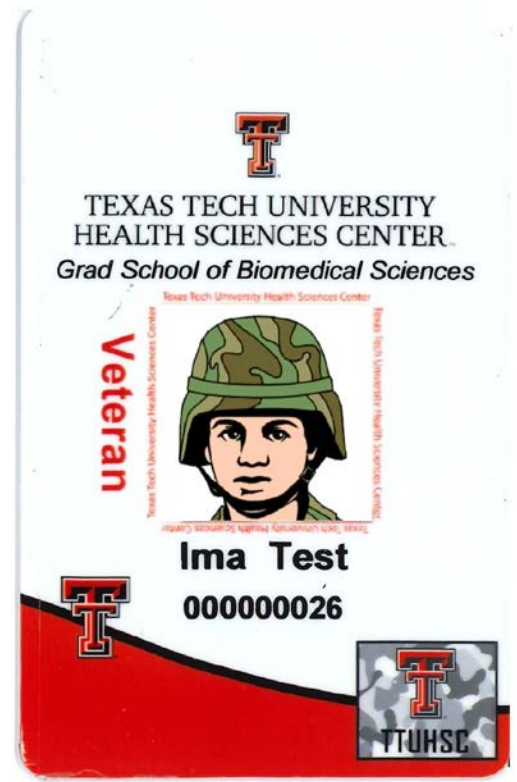
# VETERAN ID CARD DESIGNATION

We partnered with Joann Wright at the TTU ID Card Office to place a Veteran designation on student IDs.

Student veterans can now visit the ID Card Office on the TTU campus, in the Student Union Building, Room 103. Their hours are Monday-Friday 8am-5pm. A new PD c-cure requisition form is required, which is available at the respective School's Student Affairs office.

Distance Ed students go to [raidercard.ttu.edu](http://raidercard.ttu.edu)

- Click Distance Education
- Click TTUHSC under "What do you need?"
- Complete HSC ID Verification Form
- Submit photo online under "Student" tab



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## SEMESTER SURVIVAL KITS

We randomly selected 10 students to win a semester survival kit full of goodies to help make the Spring semester a little easier.

## PRIORITY ENROLLMENT

Beginning with Summer 2019 registration we will work to allow student veterans to register early for upcoming semesters to the greatest extent possible. In turn, those utilizing VA Benefits can be certified so that these students can receive any eligible books and supply stipend as early as possible and other payments such as housing allowances begin on time. Being able to certify students early will be particularly helpful for when provisions of the Harry Colmery Act, also known as "Forever GI Bill" are implemented by VA at the end of 2019. This benefit is now reflected on the GI Bill <sup>®</sup> Comparison Tool.

## TTUHSC EL PASO

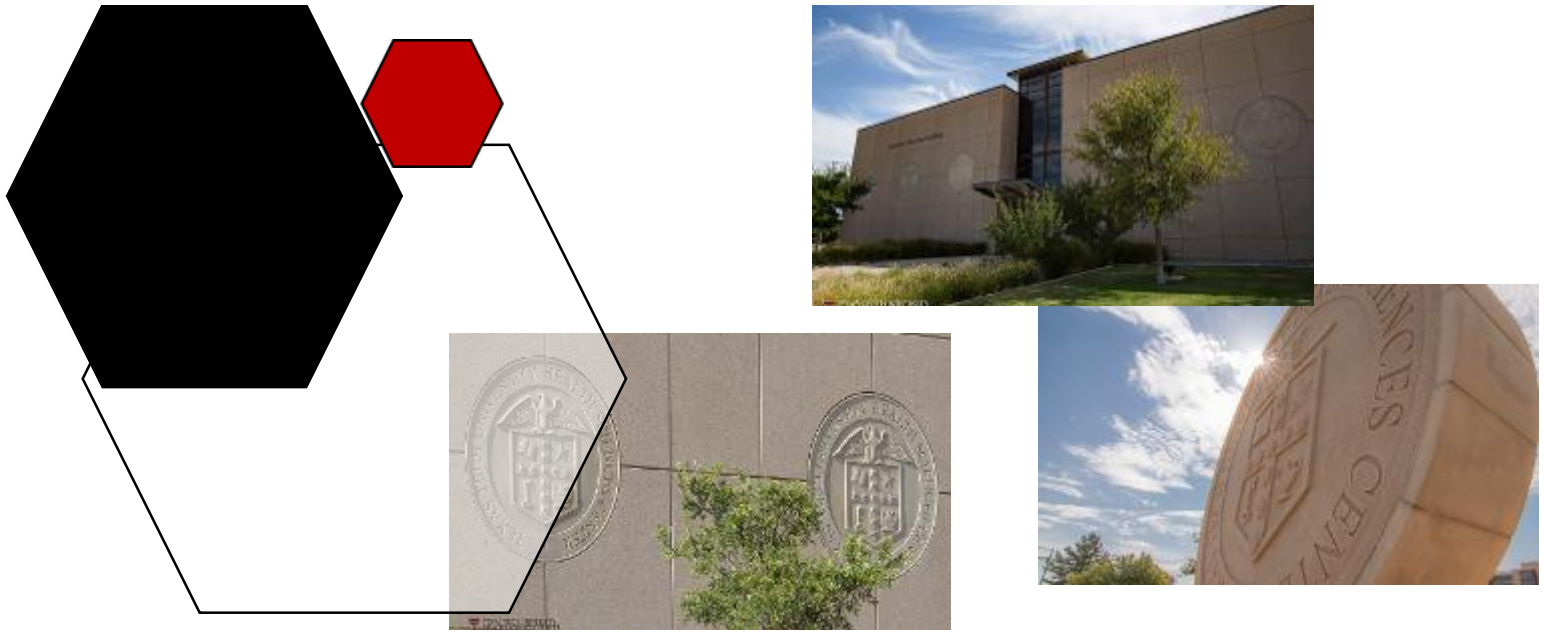
TTUHSC-EP has been approved for its own VA Facility Code. Araceli Moreno and Ron Williams from the Office of Financial Aid will take on the role of School Certifying Official for El Paso students using VA and Hazlewood benefits.

## WEIGHT OF HONOR SCREENING

In conjunction with the Global Perspectives Film Series, the HSC screened *The Weight of Honor*, on February 21<sup>st</sup>. The film follows the lives of the caregivers of veterans who have been catastrophically wounded. Director Stephanie Seldin Howard, along with Col. Dave Lewis, Institute for Peace and Conflict, TTU; and Dr. Sarah Wakefield, Director of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services, TTUHSC held a Q&A following.

## TRAVEL

The HSC VRC attended the Carl R. Darnell Army Medical Center (CRDAMC) Education Fair in Ford Hood in January. TTUHSC and TTU staff attended the Texas Association of Collegiate Veteran Program Officials (TACVPO) in Beaumont, TX in March.



## STILL AHEAD IN 2019 AND BEYOND... ---

1. Electronic form submittal for students using benefits
2. Green Zone Training expansion
3. How to read a DD Form 214 training
4. Resume workshop – Translating military experience
5. Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) training with Erin McGann from Texas Veterans Commission June 20-22 in ACB 110
6. West Texas Salute to Veterans June 8 at Silent Wings Museum. A free event honoring active military, veterans, and their families
7. Maintaining relations with HSC veteran and military alumni with the Alumni Association.

*We hope you've enjoyed this newsletter.*

*Have a wonderful Summer!*