

The Husky Vet Gazette

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UConn

VETERANS & MILITARY
PROGRAMS

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**FREE FOOD! JOIN THE OFFICE OF
VETERANS & MILITARY PROGRAMS
TO KICK OFF THE YEAR!**

WELCOME BACK LUNCH

THURS. SEPT. 12
11:30AM-2:00PM
HAWLEY ARMORY

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

P.2

UConn Military Appreciation Game
Vet Center Visit
VR&E Visit

P.3

Post 9/11 Military2VA & VBA Visit
Career Fairs at UConn
Lunchtime Gametime

P.4

Veteran of the Month
Upcoming Events Fall 2024

UConn

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UCONN MILITARY APPRECIATION FOOTBALL GAME

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
RENTSCHLER FIELD, EAST HARTFORD
4:00PM BBQ & TAILGATE PARTY
7:00PM GAME TIME

PLEASE VISIT
VETERANS.UCONN.EDU
FOR VOLUNTEER INFORMATION
AND FREE TICKET SIGN UP

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RESOURCES

Vet Center Visit

When: Thursday, September 19th

Time: 10a.m. - 12p.m.

Where: Veterans Lounge in Student Union (Storrs and Virtual!)

The VetCenter offers confidential counseling services for Veterans, service members, and their families at no cost.

Aaron Costa, the Veterans Outreach Program Specialist, will be available to answer questions about the services the Vet Center offers. He'll also be available virtually! Email him at aaron.costa@va.gov to schedule a virtual meetings.

RESOURCES

VR&E Storrs Visit

When: Thursday, September 26th

Time: 9a.m. - 3p.m.

Where: Hawley Armory (Storrs)

Are you a Veteran or service member with a service-connected disability that impacts your ability to work? VR&E (Veteran Readiness and Employment) program may be able to help! If you're unfamiliar with this benefit or would like to see if it's a good fit for you, please visit Alexander Fernandez from Veterans Affairs!

For those of you already using the benefit this is a great opportunity to check in and discuss goals/planning for the future.

Email him at

alexander.fernandez@va.gov

RESOURCES

Post 9/11 Military2VA & VBA Visit

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

Time: 10:30A.M. - 1:30P.M.

Where: Hawley Armory (Storrs)

Answering questions and offering support on:

- Healthcare enrollment/accessing services
 - Reporting problems with coordinating services or the system overall
 - Burn pit exposures/registry information
 - Access to mental health care
 - VA benefits and other general information
-

Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) will be offering a claims clinic for students to meet individually and discuss benefits and disability amongst other services such as:

- Claims Questions
- [Compensation Service](#)
- [Pension and Fiduciary Service](#)
- [Insurance Service](#)
- And much more!!

FUN

Lunchtime Gametime

When & Where? Every Thursday at 12:00p.m. in Hawley Armory (Storrs)

These are not your everyday board games and it's open for anyone interested in joining the fun. different games will be played each week with the rules explained by the Game Master!

Questions? Contact Jon Ramos (a.k.a. the Game Master) at jonathan.ramos@uconn.edu

OPPORTUNITIES

Fall Career Fairs

All University

Tuesday, Sept. 17th, 11 a.m. - 3p.m.
Gampel Pavilion (Storrs)

STEM Majors

Wednesday, Sept. 18th, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Gampel Pavilion (Storrs)

These career fairs are a great way to connect with potential employers and explore different paths. Employers from various industries will be present offering internships, co-op positions, and full-time job opportunities.

Go to the Center for Career Readiness and Life Skills to [register online](#) and [activate your Handshake account](#).

CONGRATULATIONS

Veteran of the Month

Elijah Bova

The Office of Veterans and Military Programs (VAMP) at UConn is pleased to recognize Elijah Bova as UConn's Veteran of the Month. Elijah is a UConn student who is a Geography major who served in the Army for four years.



John was a 15E unmanned aerial vehicle technician in the Army and became a flightline crew chief. His job as a 15E was to maintain the RQ7B shadow surveillance UAV (or drone). He was responsible for the preventative maintenance and repairs on the aircraft and launcher, doing preflight checks, establishing a flightline, setting up a HAZ materials station and fueling the aircraft. He was in the 173rd Airborne brigade, so after his training time in Arizona learning about the aircraft, he also went to airborne school at Fort Benning Georgia. One of his most memorable experiences was participating in a NATO exercise with the Spanish military in which his platoon was the first Americans to fly unmanned vehicles in Spanish airspace. He was appointed as a translator for the operation and worked very closely with the Spanish soldiers for the month they were there in May 2018.

As a Geography major, Elijah's goal is to get the most out of the courses that he's taking. He's focusing in GIS and has been working on a mapping system model to help businesses track their sales. He hopes to get this polished and ready to launch by the end of the semester. He enjoys the UConn community and is involved in many groups including the ultimate club, disc golf club, table top gaming club, and cycling club, which allow for a nice reprieve from studying.

His one piece of advice to other students like him is to go over to the VAMP office and say hi and meet the community. He says "until I was a junior I hardly knew where the VAMP office was. I would go to the Oasis occasionally, but had little contact with the Veteran community. Coming by and exploring this group that I fit into opened me up to friends and experiences I otherwise would have missed."

CALENDAR

Fall 2024

September 2

Labor Day - No Classes

September 12

Welcome Back Lunch

September 17

Career Fair (All University)

September 18

Career Fair (STEM majors)

September 19

Vet Center Visit

September 21

Military Appreciation Game

September 26

VR&E Visit

October 1

Post-9/11 Military2VA