

# Program Schedule

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024

8:00 – 8:30	<b>Registration, Check-In, and Breakfast</b>	Bethancourt MSC 2300 A-C
8:30 – 9:00	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>	Bethancourt MSC 2300 A-C
9:00 – 10:00	<b>Keynote Engagement – Catalysts for Change: Empowering Military-Affiliated Students Through Innovation and Collaboration – Michele Spires</b>	Bethancourt MSC 2300 A-C
10:00 – 10:15	<b>Break</b>	
10:15 – 11:15	<b>Plenary Session – Wounded Warrior Project – Eric Ellenberger and Jake Norotsky</b>	Bethancourt MSC 2300 A-C
11:15 – 12:15	<b>Plenary Session – Texas Veterans Commission</b>	Bethancourt MSC 2300 A-C
12:15 – 1:30	<b>Lunch</b>	Bethancourt MSC 2300 A-C
1:30 – 2:30	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>	
	<u>Valor Partners</u> – Kelli Campbell-Goodnow – The Heart of America Patriot Foundation will rebrand as Valor Partners Foundation in 2024, continuing to support Chapter 35 students with scholarships.	MSC 2405
	<u>It is Your Circus</u> – Dr. Seth Gordon – This workshop offers strategies for small offices to create a welcoming environment for student veterans, covering training and partnerships.	MSC 2406 A
	<u>Operation IE</u> – Dr. Glenn Phillips – This session explores how assessment can benefit offices serving military-connected students, covering basics and connecting with research professionals.	MSC 2404
	<u>TVC Approval Overview</u> – Chris Garcia – This session provides an overview of the Texas Veterans Commission approval process, highlighting key requirements and support for veterans in education.	MSC 2406 B
2:45 – 3:45	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>	
	<u>Veterans, Suicide, and Firearms</u> – Dr. Ted Bonar, Dr. Abby Kinch, R.J. Jenkins, Montaigne Long – This presentation covers the link between firearms and Veteran suicides, focusing on safety discussions and strategies for effective communication.	MSC 2405
	<u>Beneath the Redwood Canopy</u> – Dr. Eddie Arambula and Kristin Van Diest – This session explores storytelling as a transformational tool for veterans' reintegration, promoting well-being and peer support in their transitions.	MSC 2406 A

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The Bass Military Scholars Program - Scott Brower - This program offers unique support for graduate veterans, combining scholarships with service activities to enhance community understanding. MSC 2404

VA/VR&E - Kelly Shupak - This session covers the VA's career and education services, focusing on the VR&E program for veterans with disabilities, including benefits and eligibility. MSC 2406 B

3:45 - 4:00 **Break**

4:00 - 5:00 **Concurrent Sessions**

Reflecting on Your Higher Ed Career Path - Andy Hibel and Montaigne Long - This session explores building a professional identity in higher education, addressing key questions during career transitions and advancements. MSC 2406 B

More Than a Feeling - Dr. Abby Kinch and Dr. Mark Wooten - This presentation explores how institutional factors and SVA chapters support student veterans' success, highlighting effective strategies and fostering inclusion. MSC 2405

Leveraging Technology and Creativity - John Smith - This panel explores innovative strategies for supporting military-affiliated students in higher education, showcasing tech-driven programs for success. MSC 2300 A-C

Using the Science of Cognitive Bias - R.J. Jenkins - This session explores cognitive biases, their impact on student performance, and how understanding them can enhance support for veterans in education. MSC 2406 A

Military-Affiliated Student Policy - Dr. Janine Wert - This interactive session teaches how to develop and implement policies supporting military-connected students, fostering consensus and shared responsibility. MSC 2404

5:00 - 7:00 **Networking Reception** University Club

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024

8:00 – 8:30	<b>Registration, Check-In, and Breakfast</b>	Bethancourt MSC 2300 A-C
8:30 – 9:30	<b>Keynote Address – Dr. Amy Morys</b>	Bethancourt MSC 2300 A-C
9:45 – 10:45	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>	
	<u>Collaborating for Financial Solutions</u> – Nora Cargo and Jeremy Tanner – This session will explore the advantages of partnering with/within your institution's financial office to assist student veterans in maximizing financial resources.	MSC 2404
	<u>Building a Resilient Future</u> – Rachel Brauner and Dr. Lakshimi Mahadevan – Join this interactive workshop for student veteran providers to learn stress management techniques and build resilience for unique challenges.	MSC 2405
	<u>Assessing and Advocating</u> – Dr. Glenn Phillips – This presentation explores oppression faced by student veterans in higher education, introducing frameworks to help identify and address these challenges.	MSC 2406 A
	<u>California Community College System MAP</u> – Terence Nelson and Calvin Gloria – The California Community College System supports military-connected students through the MAP Initiative, offering credit for prior learning and aiding transitions.	MSC 2406 B
	<u>TVC Overview</u> – Melanie Moynahan and Linda Alexander – Join us for an overview of the Texas Veterans Commission, exploring resources and support for veterans in education, employment, and wellness initiatives.	MSC 2300 A-C
11:00 – 12:00	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>	
	<u>Biomanufacturing Opportunities for Veterans</u> – Dr. Baley Reeves – Join us to explore how the National Center for Therapeutics Manufacturing trains veterans for biomanufacturing careers, connecting them with top companies.	MSC 2405
	<u>Beyond Veteran Friendly</u> – R.J. Jenkins – This session emphasizes the need to empower veterans in higher education, highlighting strategies to transform support and foster their full potential.	MSC 2406 A
	<u>Importance of Data</u> – Jeremiah Gunderson – This presentation shares our journey to develop a data collection plan in higher education, highlighting tools and lessons for tracking student success.	MSC 2406 B
	<u>Creating a Stand Alone Military and Veteran Center on Campus</u> – Clarence Court, Tony Williams and Pedro Saldana – Creating a stand-alone Military and Veteran Center on campus fosters community, provides tailored resources, and enhances support for military-connected students.	MSC 2300 A-C
	<u>THRIVE: A Course to Promote Mental Health and Well-Being</u> – Dr. Camille Minor and Chris Vidaurre – Join the Travis Manion Foundation's THRIVE seminar to explore positive psychology and well-being tools, enhancing personal growth and supporting others.	MSC 2404

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024

12:00 – 1:15	<b>Lunch</b>	MSC 2300 A-C
1:15 – 2:15	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>	
	<u>Two Weeks to Two Hours</u> – EJ Goodroe and Chris Giles – This presentation will show a roadmap of how we went from a paper process, with little-to-no technology, to our completely paperless process in our system of record.	MSC 2406 A
	<u>Build a Better World</u> – Dr. Patrick Suermann – Hear diverse veterans share their journeys and motivations as graduates of the #1 veteran-serving College of Architecture, launching successful careers.	MSC 2405
	<u>Best Practices for Mental Health Support</u> – Dr. Sarah Skelton – This session covers best practices for supporting student veterans' mental health, including peer interventions, outreach, and suicide prevention strategies.	MSC 2404
	<u>VA Updates</u> – Andy Hernandez and Jennifer Linnell – VA representatives will update attendees on education and compliance in Texas, addressing trends, challenges, and providing insights for supporting veterans.	MSC 2406 B
2:30 – 3:30	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>	
	<u>Hazlewood Updates</u> – Kelli Smith and Hannah Nestorick – Topics include common law marriage, new DD-214 use for determining eligibility, and new Hazlewood system.	MSC 2406 B
	<u>Nurture, Not Network</u> – Dr. Shari Bowen – Explore effective strategies for integrating veterans into higher education, focusing on talent management, support, and enhancing the transition process.	MSC 2405
	<u>Using Storytelling as a Means of Healing from Trauma</u> – Stesha Colby-Lynch – This interactive session explores healing through storytelling, highlighting diverse military experiences and fostering connections between student veterans and the community.	MSC 2404
	<u>Best Practices for Communicating with Executive Level Leadership</u> – Dr. Monika Sziron – This session covers best practices for advocating change and funding in higher ed, focusing on military-affiliated services and effective communication strategies.	MSC 2406 A
3:30 – 4:00	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Bethancourt, MSC 2300 A-C