

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## Supporting Student Veterans

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Veterans Services Coordinator

IOWA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
VETERANS CENTER

# ISU Veterans Center

- Task force to evaluate needs of military students
- 20 members from across campus
- Recommendations included the creation of the Veterans Center and Veterans Services Coordinator position

# Transitioning to Civilian Life

- It was when I was put back into a leadership role that I began to find my place again and came to recognize that I (along with my fellow Veterans) am a natural leader of my family, my community, and my nation.

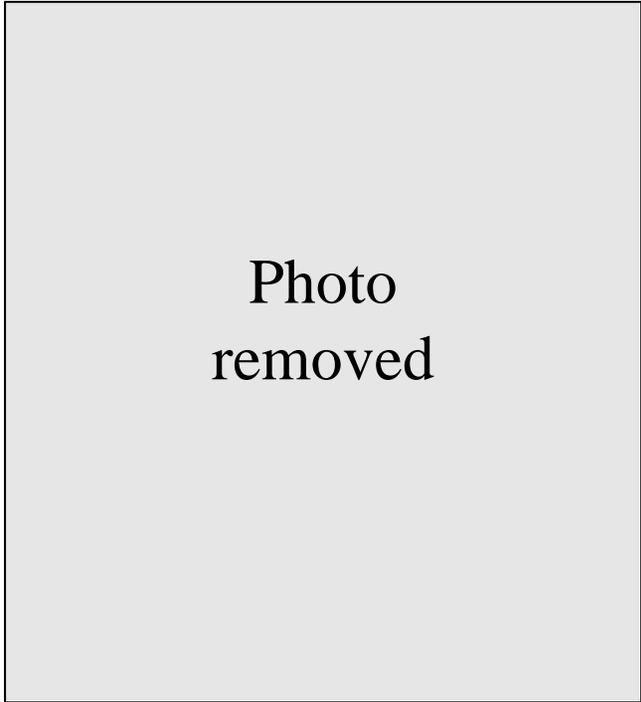


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# Who are our student Veterans?

- Diverse backgrounds
- Multiple deployments
- Families and other responsibilities
- Post-traumatic growth

*Student Veterans bring rich experiences that, when integrated, can add value, strength, deeper understanding and growth within our university communities*

# Veterans by Extension

Recognizing that when Veterans deploy, they don't go over there alone.

- A sister's love, compassion, concern
- A daughter who has lost a father
- Many others on our campuses who are connected and affected by the Veteran experience

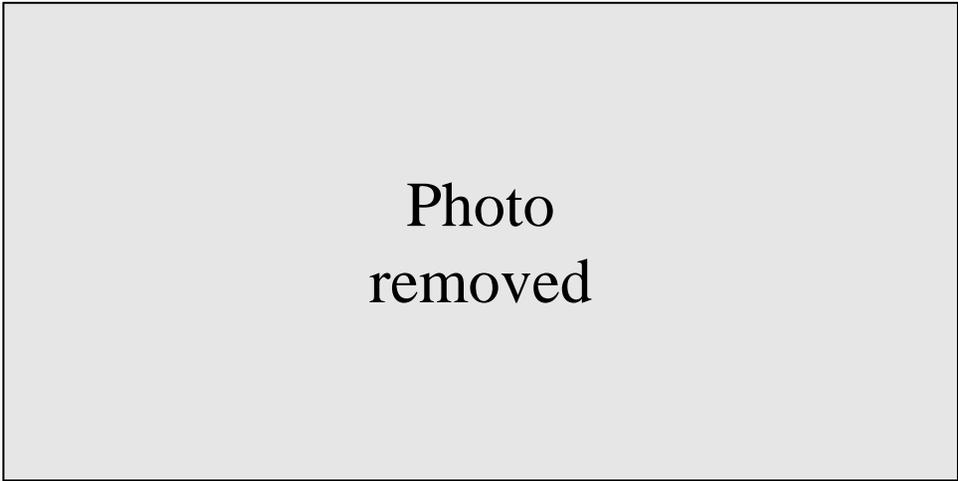


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# Often the first place that Veterans reintegrate is within Higher Education

Thinking in terms of disparities:

- Educational benefits
- Employment Opportunities
- Classrooms
- Patterns of behavior

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*When we more fully acknowledge the experiences that many Veterans bring, we have the potential to invite them into discussion that can enrich our classroom settings and broader university communities.*

# Challenging Veterans with Continued Leadership

*I challenge every Veteran that comes into the Veterans Center to help make our community a better environment for their future brothers and sisters. Every Veteran has connected with the idea, because it's about being part of something larger than themselves and puts them in a leadership role.*

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## Direct Services

## Indirect Services

Individual /  
Participant

Safe space to share experiences  
Programming: Thursday Night Dinners  
Veterans Learning Community  
Orientation  
Information and resources  
VA Work Studies  
Mentoring Program  
Direction and guidance  
Referrals  
And more...

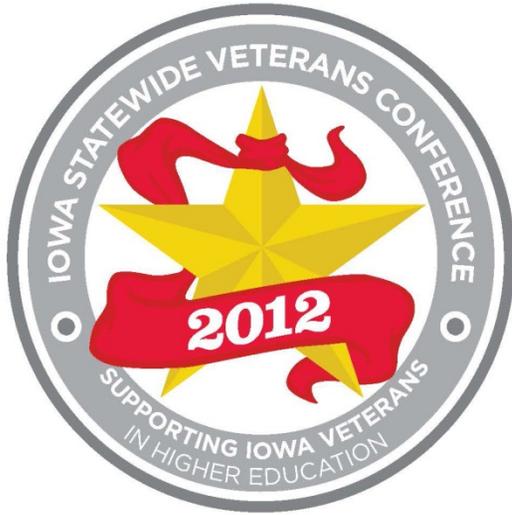


Peer to peer support  
Completion of Degree / Retention  
Creating/Building Info. Resource  
Transitioning / Reintegration  
Promote Healing  
Opportunities to return services  
Professional employment  
Feedback  
Recruitment  
And more...

System

Faculty / Staff "Gold" Star Training  
Community Outreach  
Referrals  
Research  
Liaison with Veterans and community organizations, agencies, active military  
Veterans advocacy  
Housing assistance  
And more....

Consolidation of information  
Policy changes  
Recruiting Allies  
Building Coalitions  
Networking  
Research  
Shared knowledge  
Trauma resolution  
And more...



# Third Annual Iowa Statewide Veterans Conference

- Supporting Iowa Veterans in Higher Education
  - Inclusiveness & collaboration at all levels
  - Indirect benefits
  - Local solutions and best practices

# Thank you

I sincerely appreciate your leadership and look forward to following your lead.

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