An Education Partnership with the Governor of California, State Agencies, the Military, and California’s Public Colleges and Universities

Promises Made Promises Kept
Troops to College Update for the Governor’s Staff
Background: Veterans and Service Members
Profile

- High school graduates – Smart, Focused, Motivated
- 25.3 = average age
- Only 1 of 4 are qualified to enter the service today
- 84% male and 16% female
- Demonstrated leadership, smart & and morally fit
- Two top reasons for enlisting:
  - Education, post service
  - Acquiring skills for future careers
Background: California Demographics

- California leads nation in number of veterans
  - 2.2 million (9.2%) of 24 million nationally

- 11% of active duty in U.S. Armed Forces are from California
  - 170,000 of 1.45 million

- 12% of active duty are stationed in California
  - 175,000 of 1.45 million

- 20,000 Air Force Reserve and Army National Guard stationed in California
Governor’s Vision

- **Goal** - California will become the nation’s model and leader in providing educational opportunities and assistance to active duty military and veterans
  
  - Increase enrollment of active duty and veterans at California’s public colleges and universities
  
  - Provide increased instructional opportunities to men and women on active duty, the National Guard, and the Reserves
  
  - Bottom line: Provide more highly qualified men and women to the California workforce
Troops to College and Veterans Education Partnership

State
- Secretary Education **
- Secretary Veterans Affairs
- Secretary Labor

Systems
- CCC
- CSU ***
- UC

Armed Forces
- USMC
- USN
- USAF
- USA
- CG
- NG

** Lead staff for Governor, provides critical coordination
*** Provides significant leadership and 100% of resources to support program
Veteran Continuum

Recruit → Active Duty → Transition → Civilian → Good Citizen

Promises Made

Recruit

Promises Kept

Recruiter

Responsibility Citizen

Family

Troops to College

Community

Careers

Troops to College

Careers

Troops to College

Enlistment

Career Planner

Choices

Duty Station

Re-Enlist

Leadership/Mentor

MGIB/Education

Family/Spouse

Family/Spouse

Education/Tuition Ass’t

Transition Assistance

Life Changing Experiences

VA

Troops to College

EDD

Valuing Service

Troops to College

Troops to College
Mission

- Tasks
  - Communications, Marketing, and Website
  - Active Duty and Veteran’s Outreach
  - Campus Support
  - Admission, Credit Articulation & Financial Aid
  - Partnerships Between Campuses and Bases
  - Best Practices
  - Serving the Severely Injured
  - Education as a Pathway to Rewarding and Challenging Careers (most important task)
Veteran Support Team

On Campus VA Office

Financial Aid

Disabled & Psychological Student Services

Housing

Faculty

Local Colleges

University Advancement

Local Veterans Organizations

Admissions And Records
Outcomes to Date:

- CSU has set the standard for California and the Nation thanks to Chancellor and CSU Leadership
- Established campus veteran support teams and student veteran organizations on campuses; expanding effort; growing partnership with Student Veterans of America
- All three systems and their campuses have veteran websites. Established the Statewide website www.troopstocollege.ca.gov; produced marketing materials for use at base Education offices; Promoted at the Indy/GrandAm Race at Infineon Raceway
- Established the Severely Injured program at Balboa and Camp Pendleton (partnership with CSU, Balboa, and ACE)
- Reviewing credit transferability processes and criteria with an eye towards “advantaging” the veteran – high priority. CSU has entered into an MOU with U of Maryland and is working with ACE for system wide solution.
- Established partnerships with military bases and campuses (particularly among the Marine and Navy Bases in California. Significant progress in this area)
- Creating Career paths; Troops to Engineers launched (Stellar, Northrop Grumman, BD Bioness, Qualcomm; Life Sciences etc); Professional Science Masters Program
- Significant increase in enrollment (2007-2009) – 10% with forecast for much higher increase by 2010
- CSU TTC Admissions Program
Troops to College - Next Steps

- Reinforce a sense of urgency on all campuses; expand relationship with Student Veterans of America
- Education and Careers – Match the opportunities; Create Pathways; Troops to Engineers and Professional Science Masters; Enlist support of the private world
- Enhance communications and marketing with improved CDVA WebSite and partnership with MyVetWork (a social network for veterans)
- Launch CSU East Bay On Line “university for active duty and veterans”
- Assist campuses with Post 9/11 GI Bill Implementation
- Strengthen and expand campus veteran support teams and student organizations; focus of effort in the coming year with Community Colleges
- Continue to Serve the Severely Injured – broaden program where needed to include Cal Poly SLO engineering effort
- Resolve the issue of credit acceptance for military experience and schools; University of Maryland MOU with CSU; American Council on Education standard
- Engage alumni organization and student organizations as resource for veteran students and graduates
- Troops to College Outreach to include private institutions (Yellow Ribbon) and other states
- Establish metrics and reporting processes
Sampling of Innovative Programs

- San Diego State & Sac State - model campuses
- UCSD and CSU San Marcos growing programs
- UC Berkeley Transition Course
- UC Santa Cruz Mentoring Program
- UCLA Entrepreneurship Program
- CSU Special Admissions Program
- Troops to Engineering & Professional Science Masters
- Citrus Community College Boots to Books
- Sierra Community College & American River College: The Road Home
- Las Positas Community College Veterans Website
- Sac State Veteran Programs embraced by all levels of campus
- CSU EB On Line University
- Cal Poly SLO Engineering Initiative for the wounded
California Good Ideas & Practices (Only a few of many)

- Troops to Engineers – See attached brief
- Professional Science Masters Program – See attached and see link to video www.neverstoplearning.net/military
- UC Berkeley Veterans Transition Course – www.trsp.berkeley.edu/veterans
- UC Santa Cruz Mentoring Program – See attached example of weekly bulletins
- CSU Special Admissions Program – See attached Letter
- Citrus Community College: Boots to Books (a veteran transition course - See attached)
- American River College & Sierra Community College: The Road Home http://arc.losrios.edu/roadhome
- A model campus website: Las Positas Community College Veterans Website www.laspositascollege.edu/veterans/index.php
- CSU East Bay On Line University initiative – See attached
- CSU Veterans Connection WorkShop – www.sfsu.edu/~veterabs/news.html
Campus & Systems Veteran Key Indicators

- Campus Veterans “Steering Committee”; or Campus “Vets Team”
- Campus Veterans Website
- Military Schools and courses recognized and Credit Articulation Processes in place
- Campus Veterans Organization/Club
- Annual Veterans recognition events (Welcome Back Vets Reception; Veterans Day and Memorial Day events)
- Campus Veteran Center
- Special Transition Courses
- Career Pathways