



MINUTES

Military, Veterans and First Responders Task Force

Date: February 13, 2020

Location: Rhatigan Student Center Room 261 (Olive Room)

Meeting Time: 9:00a – 10:30

Attendees: Michael Bearth, Deanna Carrithers, Camille Childers, Chief Rodney Clark, Lai-L Daugherty, Darin Kater, Bridget Kennedy, Will Fulls, Corey Herl, Donna Hughes, Joe Jabara, Lainie Mazzulo, Dr. Susan Norton, Dr. Marché Fleming-Randle, and Randy Sessions, and Dr. Chris Stone

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Chief Clark opened the 2nd meeting of the Military, Veterans, and First Responders Task Force by welcoming everyone and providing all those in attendance with a Campus Police poker chip that granted a discount at the RSC food court. All participants were asked to introduce themselves due to the arrival of new members on the task force.
- II. **Review Purpose of the Task Force** – Chief Clark provided an overview of the agenda for the day that would consist of meeting in pillar groups to discuss ideas, thoughts, and recommendations for their particular task/pillar group. Dr. Fleming-Randle reiterated that documentation/notetaking must be accomplished in the pillar groups/task force meetings and sent to Deanna Carrithers for a task force packet to be generated. Dr. Fleming-Randle discussed the pillar groups and the recommendations that should be generated from each group.
- III. **Supplemental Information Review** – Chief Clark informed the task force about information he has inquired about to use as conversation starters as members transition into pillar group discussion.
 - a. Chief Clark and his department created a logo and provided information regarding the VA such as VetSuccess on Campus (see attached documents). Chief Clark mentioned that KU is one of the universities in Kansas that utilizes this program and has inquired with the VA for more information.
 - b. Chief Clark informed the task force about researching other universities to gain insight on successful vet centers across the country.
 - c. Chief Clark provided insight on San Diego State University which offers a program called Troops to Engineers. A one-million-dollar endowment was awarded to SDSU to



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implement this program. This is an example which can generate ideas for similar programs/ funding.

- d. Retired Wing Commander from McConnell AFB was in attendance and provided insight about McConnell's interest with education and Wichita State University. He provided insight about the mental health residential unit that the VA is building at the VA Dole Center downtown to help veterans.
- e. Dr. Fleming Randle and Chief Clark adjourned the task members to meet in their pillar groups after requesting that members discuss ideas for veteran entrepreneurship.

IV. **Pillar Groups** – The pillar groups met with their respective team to discuss current offerings and future recommendations in accordance with their specific pillar.

- V. **Task Force Assignments and Next Steps** – Dr. Fleming-Randle discussed objectives that need to be accomplished as task members transition into their pillar groups.
- a. A 45-day timeline was established for task members to provide a one-page document that outlines recommendations/programs for the present and future implementation.
 - b. Dr. Fleming-Randle informed the first responder pillar group to provide recommendations since we currently don't have a first responders program at the university.
 - c. Funding and research options for the military and veteran center was an element for discussion to add on to current university offerings.
 - d. ROTC recommendations will be implemented for review by the task force because of the important role they play in the military.
 - e. Dr. Fleming-Randle reiterated to the task members to submit documentation/recommendations to Deanna.
 - f. Deanna Carrithers provided updates about submitting documentation, discrepancies, and task force inquiries.

VI. **Next Meeting** – Chief Clark informed the members of the task force that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, February 27 at 9a in RSC 261 (Olive Room).



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