



GSO Senate Resolution 23.02

A Resolution to Recognize Veterans Day

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Sponsor(s): Michael Ammouy (Vice President of External Affairs); Kellin Tasber (University Senator); CJ Arnell (APS Biology); Hemalathaa Kasiviswanath Yuvaraja (University Senator); Mike Headley (MBA/EMPA, Air Force Veteran); Gentry Hill (MBA/EMPA, Navy Veteran); Ellen Sutey (MBA/EMPA, Army Veteran); Nathan Whitham (MBA/EMPA, Army Chaplain); Peyton Jarrell (MBA/EMPA, Army Officer); Di Wu (MBA/EMPA, Army Officer); Theresa Loftin (MBA/EMPA, Army Civilian); Bong Chi (MBA/EMPA, Army Officer); Leslie Tamez (MBA/EMPA, Army NCO); Dominique Gibson (MBA/EMPA, Army Civilian); Eric Timko (MBA/EMPA, Army Civilian); Ayad Al Dakheel (CS/EE); Laurie Coffey (Law); Samuel Bowden Murray (Undergraduate); Jean Marcus Castilla (Undergraduate)

Date(s): 9 November 2022 (Voting Date)

Action(s): Passed (27 Yes; 7 No; 4 Abstentions)

Chair of the Senate: Daniel J. Kimmel

President Pro Tempore of the Senate: Vito Iaia

Parliamentarian: N/A

President of the Student Body: Yousr Dhaouadi

Whereas, Veterans Day is nationally recognized in the United States on November 11th as a day of reverence that we commemorate to honor the service, dedication, valor, and sacrifice of the millions of Americans who have answered the call to serve and took an oath to defend and preserve our Nation's ideals of liberty and democracy; and

Whereas, Syracuse is home to 5,212 veterans as of the 2020 Census and Syracuse University is proud to currently enroll more than 1,000 veteran and military-connected students; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Chancellor Kent Syverud, Syracuse University is referred to as the best place for veterans and SU is home to the National Veterans Resource Center (NVRC) at the Daniel and Gayle D'Aniello Building; and

Whereas, Syracuse University's commitment to veterans and military students goes back at least as far as World War I, when SU established a Students Army Training Corps (SATC). In 1919, the

U.S. War department reorganized the SATC into the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) and the Army ROTC Stalwart Battalion became a permanent military department at SU; and

Whereas, during World War II, Syracuse University hosted a number of defense training programs, including the Civilian Pilot Training program, the Cadet Nurse Corps, War Service College, and Army Specialized Training Program; and

Whereas, during WWII, Wimeth Sidat-Singh and Hilliard Pouncey were SU alumni who served their country as members of the Tuskegee Airmen, the only African American unit in the Army Air Force; and

Whereas, during WWII, the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps was established in 1943, three days after the Syracuse University School of Nursing admitted its first class, to aid in the war effort; and

Whereas, unprecedented numbers of veterans used the benefits of the GI Bill of Rights to attend universities after WWII. Chancellor Tolley was instrumental in advocating for and securing these rights through federal legislation, and he opened SU to any veteran wanting to earn their college degree. By 1947, the SU student body tripled in size with roughly 9,000 student veterans among the 18,000 total enrollment, and overall, veterans accounted for 49% of all U.S. college enrollments; and

Whereas, in 1946 Air Force ROTC Detachment 535 was one of the original 77 Air ROTC units established by then Chief of Staff of the United States Army, General Dwight D. Eisenhower; and

Whereas, in 1952 the Defense Comptrollership Program (DCP) was founded at SU's Martin J. Whitman School of Management in collaboration with the Department of Defense (DoD), in response to financial issues during WWII. More than 2,000 military and civilian personnel have attended, and its graduates have risen to the highest ranks of DoD financial management. DCP graduates earn an M.B.A. from the Whitman School and an Executive M.P.A. from the Maxwell School; and

Whereas, in 1963 the Military Photojournalism Program was established at SU's top-ranked S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications by Fred Demarest, a Korean War veteran. It taught active-duty personnel serving as combat photographers and military journalists to become better storytellers. In 1992, the Military Motion Media course was added, focusing on broadcast journalism. Today, the program is sponsored by the DoD and is offered to all branches of the military; and

Whereas, in 1996 SU's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs began offering the DoD-sponsored program in National Security Studies, offering premier professional development for senior civilian and military executives in the public and private sectors. More than 1,700 have participated; and

Whereas, in 2009 University College opened the Veterans Resource Center. The Center provides support to student-veterans with a personalized set of services from recruitment to degree

completion. The Student Veterans Organization (SVO) at Syracuse University becomes a recognized chapter of the Student Veterans of America and a recognized student association group at SU; and

Whereas, in 2011 the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) launched in partnership with JPMorgan Chase to serve U.S. veterans and their families. IVMF's research and programming focuses on social, economic, educational and policy issues impacting the veteran and military community; and

Whereas, in 2014 the Wohl Family Veterans Legal Clinic (VLC) was founded. The VLC provides representation to veterans and their families who are seeking benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) or upgrading a military discharge through the various military branches. Among the clinic's staff are SU College of Law students who provide pro-bono services to veterans from New York State; and

Whereas, in 2015 the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs was established to serve as SU's single point of entry for all veteran and military-related programs and initiatives. It collaborates and coordinates with all stakeholders to best serve veterans, military-connected students, and military family members at SU; and

Whereas, in 2018 the Veteran Resource Center evolved into the Office of Veteran Success (OVS). The OVS serves as a central hub of resources for military-connected students to certify their VA education benefits and connects them with support services that enable their academic, professional and personal success; and

Whereas, Syracuse University observes Veterans Day with events on campus, but SU does not currently recognize Veterans Day as federal holiday in the academic calendar; therefore be it

Resolved, that the GSO encourages all students and the Syracuse community to recognize the service and sacrifice of veterans through appropriate ceremonies and activities; and be it

Resolved, that the GSO supports Syracuse University's commemorative expressions and programs for Veterans Day, and that the GSO also supports the recognition of Veterans Day as a federal and bank holiday in Syracuse University's academic calendar; and be it

Resolved, that the GSO strongly encourages Syracuse University leadership to recognize Veterans Day as a federal and bank holiday in Syracuse University's academic calendar; and be it

Resolved, that copies of this resolution be distributed by the GSO President to: the Chancellor, the Provost, Board of Trustees, Chancellor's Executive Team, University Leadership Team, the University Senate, the Academic Senate, the Deans of Schools and Colleges, Office of Veterans and Military Affairs, National Veterans Resource Center, the Undergraduate Student Association.