

STUDENT VETERANS LEADERSHIP DAY

February 25, 2015

Illinois State Museum, Auditorium

Springfield, IL



10:00 - 10:20 a.m.

* **Dan Wellman** of IDVA invites Color Guard to present colors

* Flag Ceremony and Pledge of Allegiance

10:20 – 10:50 a.m.

* **Opening Remarks** by **Dr. James Applegate**, Executive Director, Illinois Board of Higher Education

* **Keynote Speaker: Robert Blackwell on Leadership**

* **GENERAL SESSION** *

Main Auditorium

Legislative/Governmental Leadership

11:00 - 11:50 a.m.

Moderator: State Representative **Linda Chapa LaVia**, veteran, officer in the US Army

Panelists:

- ❖ **Nathan Huff**, student veteran
- ❖ Illinois State Representative **Jerry F. Costello, II (D)** - 116th District, veteran
- ❖ Senator **Antonio Munoz (D)** 1st District, veteran

State legislative leadership is at the core of the democratic process. Legislators who are veterans play an important role because of their experiences in the military and this military-to-civilian transition brings added knowledge about the world, our country and our state. Many veterans, after their military experience enter government service at different levels because they still want to serve a greater cause. Learn from those who have made this transition.

Stratton Building

Lunch

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch will be served in the **Lower Level** of the **Stratton Building** in the **Cafeteria**. There will be a variety of boxed lunches to choose from.

*** CONCURRENT SESSIONS ***

Workroom

Educational Leadership Session

1:00 – 1:50 p.m.

Moderator: Richard Tapia, Associate Director of Diversity and Outreach, Illinois Board of Higher Education

Panelists:

- ❖ **Jess Ray**, University Registrar, Illinois State University
- ❖ **Amy Sherman**, Associate Vice President for Innovation and Policy, Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL)
- ❖ **Steve MacInnes**, Director of Student Management for National Teachers Education Center, a partner of NLU
- ❖ **Loreen Keller**, Associate Dean, Humanities & Social Sciences, McHenry County College

Strong leadership skills are critical to the areas of education and workforce readiness and to sustaining a commitment to college completion as a key priority for our state and our nation. This panel will encourage dialogue about some of the most pressing issues that student veterans are facing and discuss how you can channel your voice and leadership skills to make a difference in the lives of all students.

Main Auditorium

Entrepreneurial/Business Leadership Session

1:00 – 1:50 p.m.

Moderator: Paul Knudtson, Director of Armed Services Relations, National Louis University

Panelists:

- ❖ **Nicole N. Mandeville**, Director of the Women's Vetrepreneurship Program and Associate Director of Entrepreneurial Programs at Women's Business Development Center (WBDC)
- ❖ **Brandon Bodor**, COO of The Bunker, a business incubator focused on cultivating ventures led by military veteran entrepreneurs

Why are student veteran entrepreneurs the perfect assets for success? Learn what it takes to leverage existing veteran owned businesses and how to develop and deliver your own start up through critical thinking and strategy.

* GENERAL SESSIONS *

Main Auditorium

Community Leadership Session

2:00 – 2:50 p.m.

Moderator: Kathy Engelken, Executive Director, Illinois Campus Compact

Panelists:

- ❖ **Bert Patania**, M.Ed, CADC, Iraq War Combat Veteran, Intervention Team for Oak Park and River Forest Townships, CIT Instructor
- ❖ **Riley M. Wright**, Volunteer Student Veteran Liaison at National Louis University and an Americorps VISTA with Illinois Campus Compact and SVA-IL
- ❖ **Sheika Glenn**, veteran and doctoral student at Adler University, studying Clinic Psychology
- ❖ **Albert “Donnie” Latuch, III**, M.A, second year Adler University doctoral student, studying Clinical Psychology, Military Psychology Track

This panel will provide some framework and a core understanding of leadership, democracy and citizenship. “Connecting Military Service to Community Service” recognizes that our Veterans bring leadership skills back from the military and share, looking for ways to “fit in” those skills. They come home with a sense of civic, community and engagement that might look a little different in the military, but is very transferable to life back home.

Main Auditorium

Student Veteran Leaders Session

3:00 - 3:45 p.m.

Moderators: Roman Ortega, Director, Veterans Affairs and Recruitment, Lewis University
Richard Tapia, Associate Director Diversity and Outreach, Illinois Board of Higher Education

Panelists:

- ❖ **Jason Memmen**, McHenry County College
- ❖ **Nathan Huff**, Northern Illinois University
- ❖ **Ethan Blumhorst**, Illinois State University

This last session will be an opportunity to hear from student veterans about what their experiences with leadership opportunities have been at their institutions or in their communities and how to create them.

3:45 - 4:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks by Dr. Karen Anderson, Executive Director, Illinois Community College Board



Illinois Department of
Veterans' Affairs



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