

VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS MID-YEAR IMPACT REPORT

VRC MISSION

The Veterans Resource Center (VRC) supports the academic and personal success of Cal Poly Pomona's (CPP) military affiliated students.

2022-2023 DEPARTMENT PRIORITIES

During the fall 2022 semester, the Veterans Resource Center made significant progress towards meeting its goals and objectives for the academic year.

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

- In collaboration with CPP's Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) Committee, the VRC submitted a referral (AA-005-223) to the Academic Senate requesting a formal CPL policy for the campus. This referral included a draft CPL proposal which the CPL Committee created to aid in developing the CPL policy. It is being reviewed by the Academic Affairs Committee.
- Jose Lozano, CPP Articulation Officer, and Elke Azpeitia, Director of the Veterans Resource Center presented on CPP's CPL strategies and practices at the 3rd Annual CPL Summit hosted by the California MAP Initiative. Over 300 guests from the California Community Colleges, California State University system, and industry leaders attended this online conference.
- The VRC in partnership with Enrollment Management & Services drafted a Military Transfer Credit Proposal that would enhance military transcript evaluations and articulations for CPP's military affiliated community. We are collaborating with University Advancement to identify Foundations that may be interested in funding this project.

ASSESSMENT & COMPLIANCE

- The VRC participated in PSY 4430 program evaluation course. The Center worked with team of students that evaluated its Future Forward event. Some of the study's findings were:
 - ★ 96% of student participants believed that they gained valuable information on how to get a job or internship.
 - ★ 88% of student participants felt satisfied with the connections they made at the event.
 - ★ 84% of student participants felt satisfied with their overall experience at Future Forward.
- Engagement with the Office of Assessment, Data, & Evaluation (ADE) has been productive for the VRC. The ADE team is currently evaluating the VRC's student engagement rosters between 2012-2019 to put together a preliminary summary report.
- Cal Poly Pomona's 2023-2024 Military Friendly Schools survey was completed by the VRC along with various campus partners (e.g. Cashier's Office, Institutional Research, Planning, & Analytics, and Enrollment Management & Services) to report on how CPP supports the academic and personal success of its military affiliated students. Results will be published nationally in Victory Media's Military Friendly School's website and magazine.

VRC Social Media



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www.cpp.edu/veterans

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OUTREACH

- The VRC hosted campus tours for Cerritos College and Santa Ana College during the fall semester. Prospective student veterans met with the VRC team and learned about CPP's admission requirements from Matilda Obaseki, Outreach Counselor for Outreach Recruitment and Educational Partnerships.
- Some off campus outreach events that the Center engaged in were East Los Angeles College's Charlie Mike Resource Fair and Citrus College's Veteran Class Visit.

WELLBEING

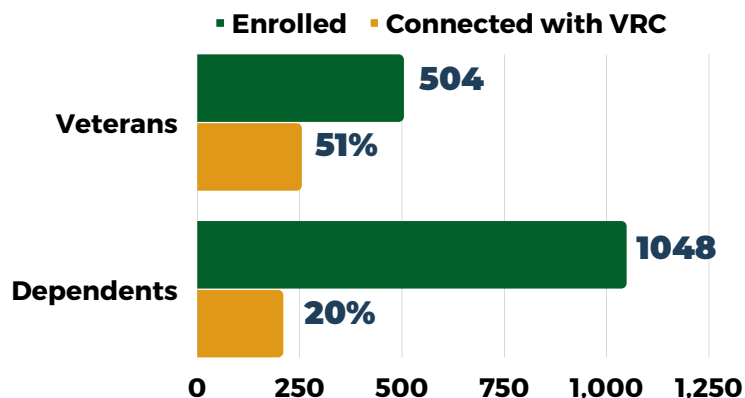
- The Horses for Heroes program is a partnership between the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center, the VRC, and Counseling & Psychological Services. Participants learned strategies on how to work on their wellbeing while making a strong connection with their horse and the campus. This program was recognized by Channels: 4, 7, and 52. [Click here](#) to view the Channel 7 spotlight.
- VRC student employees had one on ones with the VRC leadership team to check in on their academic and personal well-being. An open door policy is also in place to give staff members the opportunity to discuss their needs and/or concerns whenever they are in need of support.
- Visits to the Arabian Horse Center to help staff de-stress from the work week.
- Self evaluations for student employees were completed to help advance their development as professionals. These evaluations will be reviewed by the VRC leadership team and used to write their final evaluations that will help to guide their development for spring semester.

PARTNERSHIPS

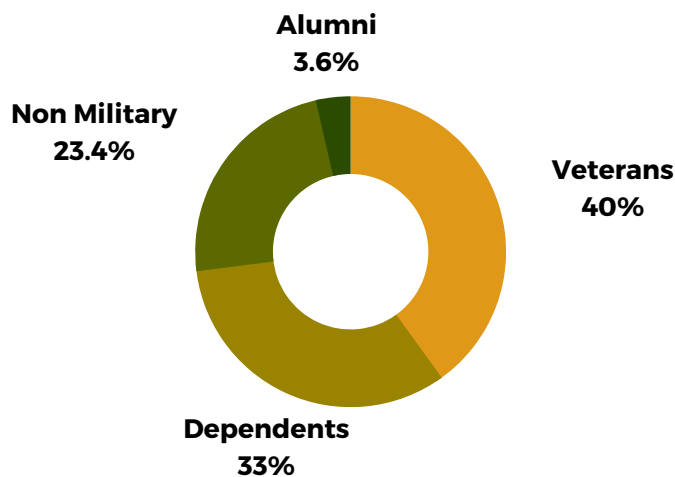
- Established a partnership with Isabel Gutierrez, CEO of Vistendo and CPP alumnus, to participate in a collaborative research project that will help the U.S. Army have an app that will monitor the mental and physical well-being of its soldiers.
- Tri-City Mental Health Services collaborated with the VRC to provide mental health wellbeing activities such as our Succulent Workshop.
- Over 20 off campus partners engaged in Future Forward to support the professional and personal wellbeing of CPP's military affiliated students.
- Successfully renewed CPP's MOU with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) which provides a VA Readjustment Counselor to serve CPP's military affiliated students.
- Successfully reapplied for CPP's VA benefits approval renewal to the VA.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (JULY-DECEMBER 2022)

Military Affiliated Student Enrollment by
% that connected with VRC

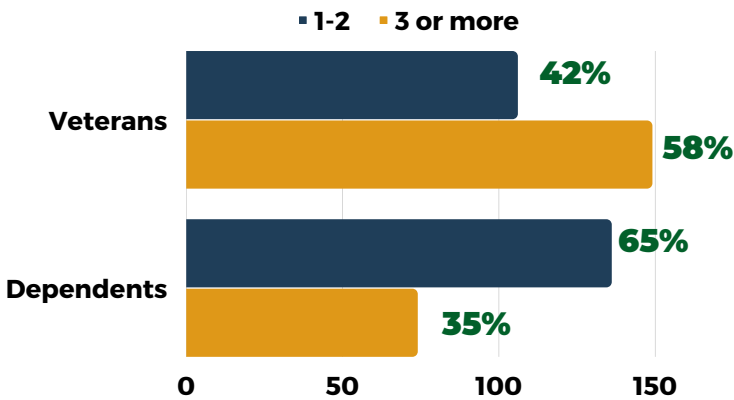


Students that accessed the VRC

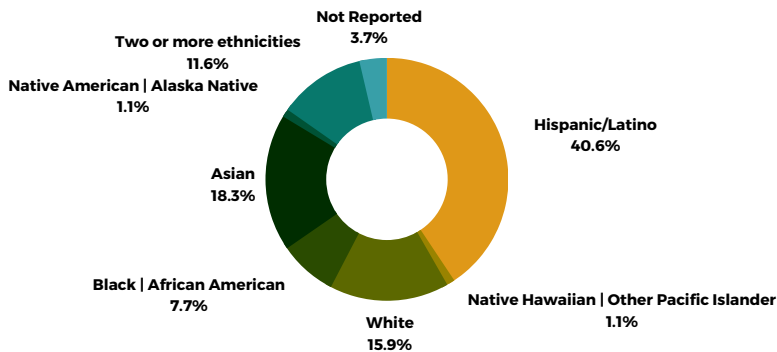


VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER

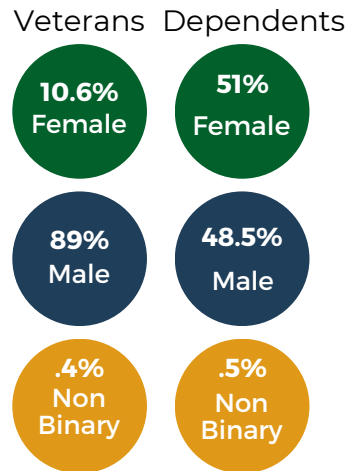
% of Student Connections with the VRC



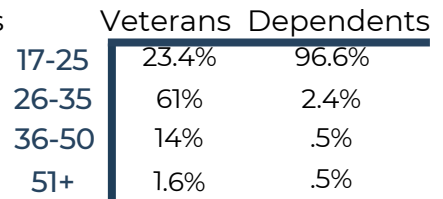
VRC Military Affiliated Students by Ethnicity



VRC Students by Gender



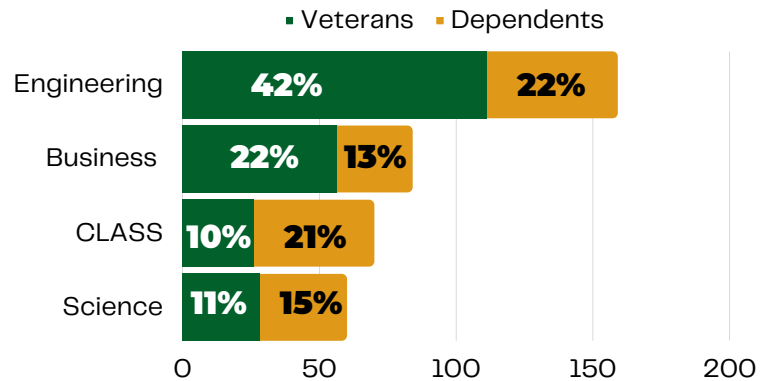
VRC Students by Age



Top 3 VRC Services

- ★ VA Benefits
- ★ Enrollment Services
- ★ Community & Peer Support

VRC Students by Top Academic Colleges



FALL 2022 CHALLENGES

- The Center went through a leadership change and became independent over the fall semester. Some challenges were:
 - Bureaucratic changes (e.g. payroll, signature authorizations, training etc.)
 - Gaps in department internal reporting structure and responsibilities.
 - Understaffed and staff wellbeing.
 - Delayed budget
- Over 70% of courses returned to in person lectures for the fall semester. Some challenges were:
 - Reestablish connections with current and new students.
 - Telecommute policy for staff conflicting with students accessing services during business hours.
 - Military affiliated students prefer in person services.

SPRING 2023 NEXT STEPS

- Survey students to determine their interest in having extended office hours for spring semester.
- Complete all documents to gain access to all VRC accounts.
- Complete the reclassification process for Kim Katayama from SSP II to SSP III to address some service gaps identified during the fall semester (e.g. VA benefits).
- Complete Mental Health First Aid training for all staff.
- Assess VRC services to identify additional dept. needs.

VRC TEAM



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