



★ FSU VETERANS ★ YEAR-IN-REVIEW



The generosity of numerous donors continues to move the planned **Veterans Legacy Complex** forward. Commitment by a major donor will name the structure and institutionalize the university's pledge to past, present and future veterans.

Though its participation in the VA's **Yellow Ribbon** educational-benefits program, Florida State makes it possible for out-of-state veterans to attend FSU with no out-of-pocket tuition costs.

The FSU **Veteran Liaison Program** provides student-veterans with personalized and expert support within their academic majors.

MAY 2012

A deeper understanding of veterans issues and better ways to serve student veterans were identified during the inaugural **Seminole Veteran Benefits Expo**, which hosted a broad gathering of faculty, staff, students and student-veterans, as well as providers of resources for veterans.

At the Expo, student-veterans presented research from an FSU sociology course on the unique challenges student-veterans face, and how they manage those challenges.

AUGUST 2012

With its Summer 2012 commencement, Florida State University began saluting its graduating student-veterans and ROTC cadets with:

- ★ An exclusive graduation reception at the FSU president's home
- ★ Distinctive red, white and blue honor cords for veterans and cadets to wear at graduation ceremonies

Florida Gov. Rick Scott asked FSU student-veterans to be present when he signed two bills to help veterans in their quest to earn college degrees.

SEPTEMBER 2012

Student-veterans had an exclusive opportunity to network with employers the night before the university's fall career fair during **Student Veterans Networking Night**.

President Barron invited student-veterans to watch the home football game designated for **Military Appreciation** from the president's skybox.

OCTOBER 2012

Visiting artists conducted a three-day paper, book and printmaking workshop with student veterans, art therapists, fine art students and community members. An independent documentary filmmaker recorded the **Peace Paper Project** workshop and its resulting artwork will be showcased in the main FSU library. More information is at peacepaperproject.org

The **Leon County Commission** passed a resolution commending the FSU chapters of the Collegiate Veterans Association and Thank a Soldier Organization for their support of student and civilian veterans.

NOVEMBER 2012

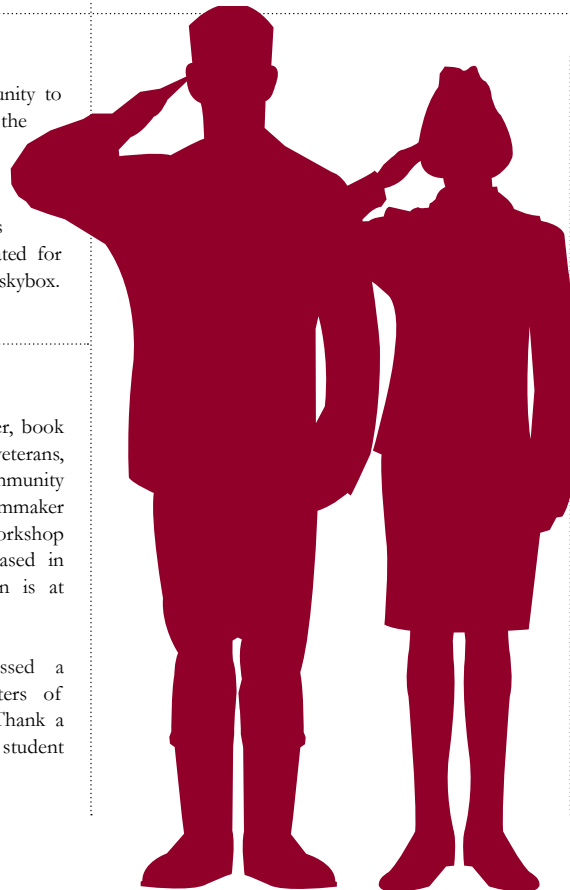
The Tallahassee armory of the National Guard sponsored its **First Annual Chili Cook-off** and the entire proceeds of this successful event were presented to the FSU chapter of the Collegiate Veterans Association.

The 2012 **Student Veterans Film Festival** featured *The Invisible War*, a powerful documentary that examined the issue of military sexual trauma. The festival was attended by subjects of the film and its director and received national media attention.

The director of *The Invisible War*, Kirby Dick, was presented with the inaugural FSU Student Veteran **Torchlight Award** for Outstanding Achievement in Filmmaking, which included a \$25,000 grant.

JANUARY 2013

FSU President Eric J. Barron spoke at the national conference of the Student Veterans of America.



**MORE EXCITING
NEWS ON BACK**

DONOR OPTIONS

- ★ Veterans Emergency Fund (for veterans facing an unanticipated financial crisis)
- ★ Student Veteran Events (Film Festival, Benefits Expo, etc.)
- ★ Veterans Legacy Complex



The FSU School of Communication Science and Disorders is planning a state-of-the-art **Veterans Specialty Clinic**, which will provide therapy for veterans with combat-related communication or swallowing impairments.

GI BILL BENEFITS

341 FSU student-veterans using GI Bill benefits.

541 Veteran dependents used GI Bill benefits.

87.5%

of student-veterans graduated from or continued their studies at FSU between Fall 2011 and 2012

“Where veterans issues are concerned, Florida State University is special for three reasons:

Support of these efforts all the way from the administration to faculty and staff.

The university's vision to honor the past, present and future of our nation's military with proposed complex for a student-veterans house, World War II institute, and its ROTC programs.

The appreciation of veterans and their service by the student body, whose leadership is key to this campus being the nation's most veteran-friendly.”

— **Billy Francis,**
Director, Student Veterans Center



Six military bases with more than 50,000 personnel are within a three-hour drive of Tallahassee.

“Florida State University is committed to creating the most veteran friendly and empowering public university in the country through an institution-wide initiative to help veterans successfully transition from the military to college life, retain them through graduation, and help them find jobs when they get their degree.”

— **Eric J. Barron,**
President

The **Veterans Advisory Group**, a committee of student-veteran leaders and administrators from across campus, continues to provide guidance and direction to the university's veteran initiatives.



VETERANS RESEARCH

Federal grants for **veteran-related research** have been secured by FSU programs in psychology, engineering and medicine.

ACCOLADES

In addition “veteran friendly” designation by *G.I. Jobs* magazine, Florida State was the **only public institution in Florida** to receive “thumbs up” reviews by student-veterans.