

**Introduced By:** MVC Chair Collazo  
**Sponsored By:** Military and Veterans Caucus, UCF Chapter Student Veterans of America, UCF Women’s Veteran Association  
**Contact:** [sgmvccaucus@ucf.edu](mailto:sgmvccaucus@ucf.edu)  
**First Reading:** October 22, 2024  
**Committee Action:** 10-0-2  
**Second Reading:** October 30, 2024  
**Final Vote:** 28-0-0



**University of Central Florida  
Fifty-Sixth Student Body Senate  
Proclamation 56-20**

[Proclamation Recognizing the Month of November as National Veterans and Military Families Month]

**WHEREAS**, Senate Rule 2.04(G)(1) states that the Student Body Advocacy (SBA) Committee shall pass measures advocating on behalf of the student body regarding student and university affairs at the University of Central Florida (UCF);  
**WHEREAS**, Senate Rule 5.01(D)(1) states that Proclamations are defined as measures recognizing, celebrating, or condemning extraordinary events, organizations, or individuals on behalf of all Student Government Agents;  
**WHEREAS**, November is nationally recognized as Veterans and Military Families Month, with a history dating back to 1996 when President Bill Clinton signed the first Presidential Proclamation to establish a month dedicated to honoring and supporting our military community;  
**WHEREAS**, November serves as a reminder that the sacrifices made by veterans and their families are integral to the strength and security of our nation;  
**WHEREAS**, The families of military personnel are often the unsung heroes, providing unwavering support, enduring hardships, and making sacrifices to ensure the success of their loved ones in service;  
**WHEREAS**, The Office of Military Veteran and Success Center recognizes and supports student veterans as they transition from military to student life;  
**WHEREAS**, The MVSC serves all veteran students and eligible dependents who are using VA educational benefits to further their education. The office provides information concerning entitlements, filing claims to the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), certifying enrollment at the University, and deferring tuition and fee payments;  
**WHEREAS**, The MVSC has been designated as a center for excellence for veteran-student success, and since 2011 UCF has been named a “Military Friendly School” by G.I. Jobs magazine;  
**WHEREAS**, UCF ranks No. 5 on U.S. News & World Report Best Online Bachelor’s programs for Veterans;  
**WHEREAS**, UCF has earned the Collegiate Purple Star Campus designation for the 2024-25 academic year from the State University System of Florida;  
**WHEREAS**, UCF ranked No. 11 on College Consensus’ 2024 Best Online Colleges for Veterans list;  
**WHEREAS**, the MVSC offers a variety of services and accommodations to support veterans and their families, including administering various education benefit programs such as the Post-9/11 GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, Yellow Ribbon Program, Chapter 35 Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance (DEA) Program, Chapter 31 Veteran Readiness & Employment (VR&E), Chapter 36 Educational & Career Counseling and others;  
**WHEREAS**, Many student veterans who return to school may also face disabilities related to their military service, and it is essential that UCF provides comprehensive support and accommodations to ensure their successful transition and academic achievement;  
**WHEREAS**, Numerous organizations, both on and off campus, provide vital resources and support for veterans and their families, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and community solidarity in addressing their needs;  
**WHEREAS**, The UCF Student Government is committed to fostering an inclusive environment that recognizes and celebrates the diverse backgrounds and experiences of all military personnel and their families;  
**WHEREAS**, The MVSC provides veterans with private study spaces, including study rooms available for use during MVSC hours, and access to free tutoring from the SARC or individual study in a distraction-free environment;  
**WHEREAS**, student veterans at UCF receive priority registration for classes to help facilitate their academic success;  
**WHEREAS**, UCF’s military and veteran students continue their service through the Soldiers to Scholars (SLS) program, serving as mentors to safely escort children to and from school, facilitate after-school programs, and organize special events aimed at enhancing academic performance;  
**WHEREAS**, During UCF’s Veterans Week, the Veterans Salute: Honoring & Remembering Our Alumni Veterans Ceremony will be held at the Veterans Commemorative Site on Memory Mall, honoring and remembering our alumni who have served in the military;  
**WHEREAS**, It is the solemn duty of UCF Student Government to pay homage to the heroes who have served our country, defended our principles, and secured the blessings of liberty for all; and  
**WHEREAS**, We are dedicated to upholding the core values of honor, courage, and commitment exemplified by our servicemen and women.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fifty-Sixth Student Senate of the University of Central Florida will recognize the month of November as National Veterans and Military Families Month, support any events and celebrations, and recognize the sacrifices that these veterans and their families have made; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Proclamation be sent to Vice President of Access and Community Engagement Dr. Andrea Guzman, Director of the Military and Veteran Student Success Center LTC (Ret.) Michael Kepner, President of the Student Veterans of America UCF Chapter Michael Richardson, President of the UCF Women's Veteran Association Alexandria Marcellus, Professor of Military Science/MSIV Instructor LTC Patrick Mulloy, UCF AFROTC Detachment 159 Commander Colonel Phelemon T. Williams II, Executive Director of UCF RESTORES Dr. Deborah Beidel.

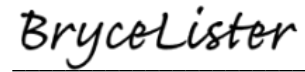
**AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES**



Allison Pohlmann  
Senate President

10/31/2024

Date



Bryce Lister  
Student Body President

11/1/2024

Date