

## Message from the President

As Veterans Day draws near, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to all who have served our nation as members of the Armed Forces. You epitomize the definition of “selfless,” and are a source of inspiration to us all. Thank you!

One of the most important things that a university can do is to provide a high standard of services to its student veterans, military service members, reservists, and their families. I am very proud of the fact that West Chester University has been designated a “Military Friendly School” by Victory Media, publisher of *GI Jobs* magazine. We also recently learned that WCU will be listed as a “top school” in the *2016 MAE&T Guide to Colleges & Universities* published by Military Advanced Education and Transition.

WCU’s Veterans Center, which opened in 2011, is a place where student veterans and ROTC cadets can connect and support each other. Since 2013, the Veterans Center has been under the direction of its first fulltime coordinator, Lillian Morrison. She and graduate assistant Mandi Resnick point our student soldiers and veterans to the resources they need, including how to access and utilize their G.I. educational benefits.

Another way our military members come together is via WCU’s Veterans Support Group. This organization volunteers for community events, collaborates with other student organizations and organizes field trips that range from Phillies games to paintball excursions.

Another important component of WCU’s military programming is Troops to Teachers, which has been recognized for its achievements in placing veterans into America’s schools. The Troops to Teachers regional office, located at WCU, is responsible for serving veterans in Pennsylvania and eight other states. Troops to Teachers is under the direction of Vanessa Barron and student advisement is handled by Elizabeth Breitmaier.

Having active military and veterans as part of the University community strengthens the collegiate experience for everyone. Military members expand the diversity of perspectives at WCU and enhance the intellectual discourse as a result of the unique life experiences they have had.

Know a veteran who wants to know more about your alma mater? Encourage them to contact the Veterans Center at 610-436-2862, Undergraduate Admissions at 610-436-3541 or Graduate Admissions at 610-436-2943.