

Student Veteran Services Newsletter

May 2020 Edition



LOOKING AHEAD

Now that Spring Semester 2020 is behind us, we all need to begin looking ahead to what comes next. While some events and circumstances are already prescribed for us, others are not. Everyone is doing their best to make sense out of the madness, while trying to maintain some semblance of normalcy.

Congratulations to our graduating Seniors! Virtual commencement is taking place Saturday, May 16. I encourage you to “participate” if you can. You can always “throw” some likes/hearts/hugs at our graduates during the Facebook livestream. Plus, Luke Combs is performing at the end of the event!

Next, summer sessions are nearly upon us. As you already know, all summer courses have been moved online. Campus support services (tutoring, counseling, writing center, library, etc.) will remain at the ready to be of assistance if students are in need.

Finally, fall remains a bit murky at this point, but UNC System Interim President Roper has [announced](#) that he plans for System campuses to be open to welcome students. However, it is uncertain what precautionary measures may still be in place when we reopen. Any updates or changes will be posted on the App State Coronavirus [site](#).

As always, if you plan to use VA Education Benefits during upcoming terms (summer and/or fall), don't forget to submit your request for certification (Enrollment Data Sheet) once you register for classes. Stephanie and I are in the process of submitting certifications for summer, and we plan to start submitting fall certifications in the next few weeks.

Best wishes and stay safe!

Jennifer

VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT

For the first time in Appalachian State's history, there will not be a traditional commencement ceremony following the spring semester. As an alternative, the Office of the Registrar, with support from the Chancellor and campus community, has created Appalachian's first Virtual Commencement Ceremony.

The virtual ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2020. The livestream will begin at 11am via YouTube and Facebook Live. For more information, or to access the livestream, visit:

<https://www.appstate.edu/commencement/>.

SUMMER SESSIONS

On March 30, UNC System Interim President Bill Roper announced that all System schools would continue with online learning through the summer. The first summer session runs from May 26 through June 26, and second summer runs from July 1 through August 4. Some courses span the entire summer – from May 26 through August 4. You can verify your summer course dates on your AppalNet Account.

ACKNOWLEDGING SOME UNKNOWNNS

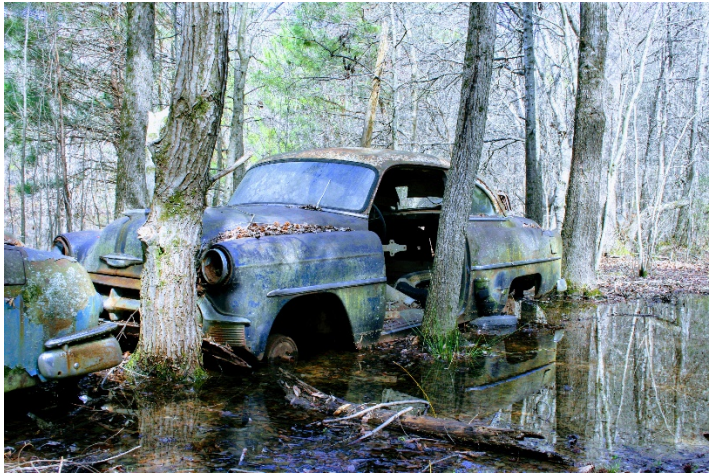
At this point, being totally honest, I am not sure when I will be back on campus or when I will be permitted to reopen our center. The close proximity of the space may make it challenging to be open for regular use, especially while social distancing expectations remain in place. As soon as I know more, I will share with you all.

I am working to identify alternative ways for us to engage with one another, and I am very much open to suggestions if you have any. Just know, I am just a phone call, email, or Google chat away if there is anything you need. Much love to you all!

Just for fun...

At the end of February my family and I visited Old Car City in White, GA. Here are a few photos from our visit:

As we continue to traverse these uncertain times, we must embrace our resiliency and appreciate the beauty we encounter along the way.



“When we learn how to become resilient, we learn how to embrace the beautifully broad spectrum of the human experience.” ~ Jaeda Dewalt