The Texas A&M University System
6th Annual Military Friendly Symposium
“Mission Forward”
Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2014

Co-presented by Operation College Promise
Hosted by Texas A&M University-San Antonio
Central Academic Building
One University Way, San Antonio, Texas 78224

Directions
http://www.tamusa.tamus.edu/tamusacampuses/maincampus/index.html

**UPDATE 9-15-14 Agenda/subject to changes**

**Monday, Sept. 29**

0730 – 0830+ Registration (+continues through morning). Fees paid (check only) at registration.

0830 -- 0900 Welcome and posting of colors—Dr. Charles “Chuck” Rodriguez, MG, USA (Ret.), Chief of Staff and Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Military Affairs, TAMU-SA

0900 -- 1000 Introductory remarks—Dr. Maria Hernandez-Ferrier, President, TAMU-SA. Regent Elaine Mendoza, Texas A&M University System

1000 -- 1050 Panel 1: Benefits Update TVC, VA, College Credit for Heroes—Rufus Coburn, Education Director, TVC; Apurva Naik, Director, CCH; Texas Workforce Commission; ** VA representative tbd

1100 -- 1150 Panel 2: Health Support—Dr. Susanna Hupp, Associate Commissioner for Veteran Services, HHSC; Perry Jefferies, Manager, TexVet; Sean Hanna, Statewide Coordinator, Military Veteran Peer Network; Michael Carrion, Regional Manager, Combat Stress Recovery Program, Wounded Warrior Project

1200 -- 1300 LUNCH

1330 – 1450 Keynote Speaker — Dr. Kenneth MacLeish, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Health and Society, Vanderbilt University. Author of Making War at Fort Hood. With Q&A.

1500-1550 Panel 3: Campus Support—Jerry Smith, Col., USMC (Ret.), Director, Veteran Resource & Support Center, Texas A&M University; Dr. Angela Dickson, MSG, USAF (Ret.); Dr. Steve Vitucci, Major, USA (Ret.), Director of Military Programs and Relations, Texas A&M University-Central Texas; Dr. Charles “Chuck” Rodriguez, Chief of Staff and Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Military Affairs, TAMU-SA

1600-1650 Panel 4: Arts and Healing—BR McDonald, founder, Veteran Artist Program; Jonathan Wei, Executive Director, The Telling Project
1700-1745 Optional guided tour of new Patriots’ Casa. Assembly area to be announced.
1800-- Evening on your own

Tuesday, Sept. 30

0830 -- 0900 Orientation for day

0900 – 0950 Panel 5: Jobs – Duncan McGhee, Director, Veteran Entrepreneur Program, Texas Veterans Commission; Bobby Gear, Director, Texas Veterans Leadership Program, Texas Workforce Commission; Mark Posada, Manager of Education and Training Initiatives, Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX); Marcus Barnes, Warriors to Work specialist, Wounded Warrior Project; Kay Schwartz, LTC, USAF (Ret.), Military Hiring Advisor, USAA

1000 -- 1050 Guest speakers – Tom Palladino, Col. USA (Ret.), Executive Director, Texas Veterans Commission. (**Second speaker tbd)

1100 -- 1150 Panel 6: Student Veterans (TAMU-SA and other universities)

1200 -- 1300 LUNCH

1300 -- 1315 Updates

1315—1345 SOC important changes update. Live online presentation—Kathy Snead, Director, Servicemember Opportunity Colleges

1345—1400 Operation College Promise Overview—Wendy Lang, Director, OCP

1400—1450 OCP Module 1: Soldier for Life—LTC Ryan Raymond, USA, Director, Education and Training, Soldier for Life Program, Office of the Chief of Staff of US Army

1500—1550 OCP Module 2: The Importance of Data—Wendy Lang, Director, OCP; Nick Kilmer, Assistant Director, Veterans Services, Scholarships and Financial Aid, Texas A&M University

1550—Early release for “Telling San Antonio” performance

1830—2000 ** “Telling San Antonio” special media night performance at Tobin Center for the Performing Arts—KEY SYMPOSIUM EVENT. (End time approximate)

2000--2100** OCP-sponsored reception at Tobin Center following performance (time approx)

Wednesday, Oct. 1

0900 -- 1015 OCP Module 3: American Council on Education --Tanya Ang, Interim Director, Veterans’ Programs, ACE; Apurva Naik, Director, CCH; Texas Workforce Commission
1015 – 1130  **OCP Module 4: Re-integration and Transition**—William Keyes, QMC(SW) USN (Ret.), Deputy Director, Operation College Promise

1130--1300  **LUNCH**

1300 -- 1415  **OCP Module 5: Invisible Injuries of Contemporary Warfare**—Dr. Harvey Levin, Research Scientist, Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center

1430 -- 1530  **OCP Module 6: Warrior and Family Support**—CDR Brent Embry, USN, Director, Northern Region, Office of Chief of Staff, Warrior and Family Support Office

1540—1600  Closing remarks: OCP and TAMUS

1600—Retirement of colors and adjourn