University of California Veterans Among US (VAUS) Newsletter

Issue #3 | Nov 2025

Welcome Message

Greetings UC Veteran Employee Community,

Whether you are a Veteran, a UC employee, an ally, or simply interested in learning more... VAUS is here to build community, foster engagement, and support our Veteran employees across the UC system.

Stay connected. Get involved. Make an impact.





Our Mission continues:

Veterans Among US (VAUS) is dedicated to "bridging the gap" within the UC community and our veteran community. The mission remains the same as would our beacon of hope; for VAUS to assist and inspire in creating spaces here at UC that would "bridge the gap" to better understand the unique strengths veterans bring into any workspace environment. By working together, we can ensure that every veteran finds their new mission within the UC community and the "UC should be a place where service to others, leadership, and community does matter."

Veteran Spotlight: "Bridging the Gap"

VAUS "Bridging the Gap" Proposal

The UC Veterans ERG, Veterans Among Us (VAUS), is developing a "Bridging the Gap" proposal to establish a UC-wide support structure for veteran employees. This initiative is designed to strengthen connection, advocacy, and visibility for veterans across the UC community, recognizing the unique skills and perspectives they bring to the workforce.

The proposal centers on two key pillars:

- **Leadership Up (Trust):** Building trust with UC leadership by demonstrating the contributions and impact of veteran employees and aligning initiatives with UC's broader mission.
- **Leadership Down (Buy-In):** Encouraging leaders at all levels to embrace and support veteran inclusion, ensuring practices that help veterans thrive are embedded in everyday operations.

Through this framework, VAUS aims to amplify the veteran voice UC-wide, provide consistent access to resources across all campuses, foster mentorship and community, and support leadership development. By "bridging the gap," VAUS seeks to institutionalize veteran support and create a strong foundation for veterans to succeed, while strengthening UC through their continued service and leadership.

Remember, you are never truly alone. We do have a community here ready to support you, share your experiences, and help you find your footing or space.

If you are interested in learning more about "Bridging the Gap" please reach out...

Events & Recognition

Oct 2025:

- Navy Birthday Oct 13th
- Filipino Heritage Month Oct 18th
- Night for Veterans Event Oct 17th

Nov 2025:

- USMC Nov 11th
- Veterans Day Nov 11th

Dec 2025

• Space Force Bdy - Dec 20th

- VAUS Veterans Day spotlight Nov 11th
- Native American Heritage month

Resources & Support

- CAL VET
- US Department of Veterans Affair
- Mental Health

- Riverside County Veteran Services
- Military One Source
- National Veterans Foundation

Crisis Lines

- NVF Lifeline for Vets 1-888-777-4443
- VA Suicide Hotline 1-800-273-8255

- National Suicide Hotline 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- Stop Soldier Suicide 1-.800-273-8255 #1

Veteran Community: Engagement & Encouragement

UC Veteran Info:

UC Davis: VEA (Veterans Employee Association):

- The <u>CARE Project</u> is holding its annual Veterans Day event on Monday, November 10 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to visit patients with veteran status, thank them for their service, and distribute yellow ribbons and pins.
- From Combat to Campus: José Roa is Building Community for Veterans at UC Davis

Veteran Stories:

Sacramento-area centenarian is one of around 5,000 WWII veterans in California

Veteran News:

California steps up to help military and veteran families while the federal government is AWOL VA awards \$84M in grants to fight Veteran homelessness



VA IT slashes costs and boosts efficiencies

Call to Action & Feedback

VAUS's call to action remains clear and urgent: to confront the gaps that persist, elevate the voices of Veterans, and ensure their service and sacrifices are not only recognized but supported within the University of California. Our continued concern is not only about the struggles Veterans face, but also about the missed opportunities when we, as a UC community, fail to stand together in unity of a shared responsibility that UC Veterans and the broader University community can be strengthened through trust, understanding, and accountability.

The importance of standing together cannot be overstated. By listening to one another, uplifting one another, and driving feedback into meaningful progress, we reinforce the power of community. Veterans and allies across UC are bound by a shared purpose: to serve, to support, and to lead with integrity. Together, we can build a network rooted in respect and resilience—one that ensures no Veteran within UC stands alone.

We'd love to hear from you! Share your stories, suggestions, or questions for the next issue.

Email us at: VAUS@ucop.edu

We kindly ask that you share this information with other UC Veterans and members of the UC community.

Thank you for being part of the UC Veteran community.

Stay strong and stay connected! — VAUS

Being a Veteran; there are a shared sets of values - integrity, discipline, teamwork, and a mission-first mindset that is respected in life and in the workplace.