

Best Practices for our Military Student Population

Presented by Penn State's
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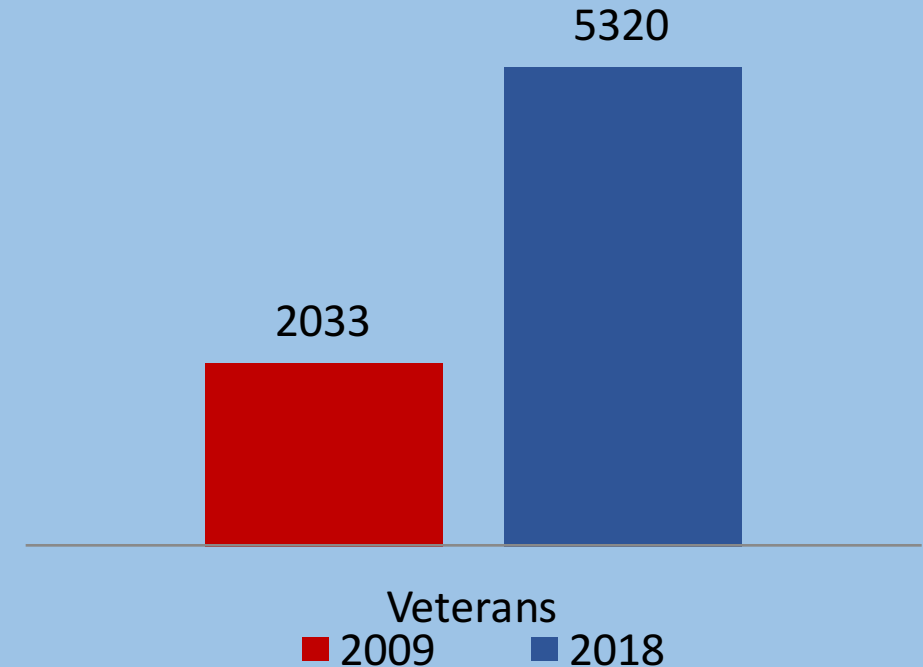
PennState

Hendrick Best Practices for
Adult Learners Conference

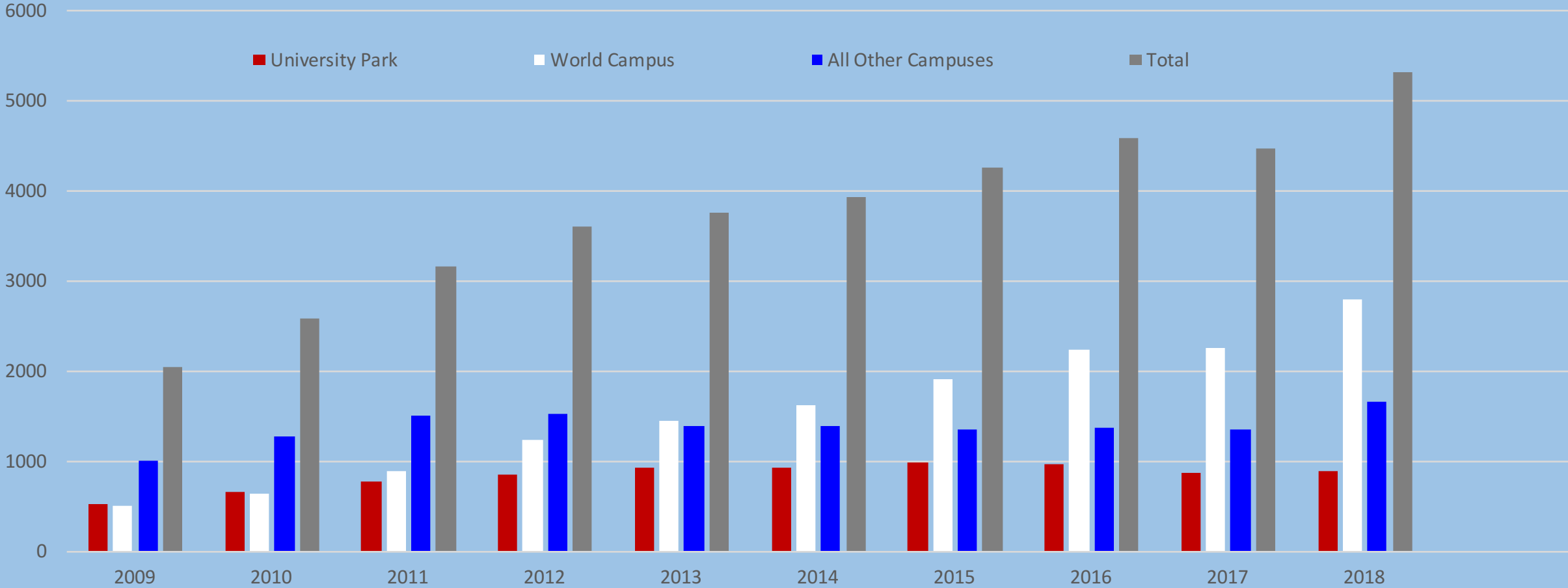
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Student Veteran Population

- Nationally, more veterans attending college
 - In 2008, ~2 million student veterans
 - As of 2015, ~2.8 million Post 9/11 veterans in U.S.
 - Projected growth to ~3.7 million by 2020
- Veteran student enrollment at Penn State has almost tripled since 2009
 - 3.5% of undergraduate population
 - 6.1% of graduate population



Current Penn State Student Veterans



Reason for Influx in Student Growth

- Implementation of the Post 9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) in 2009
 - Based on the time in service after 9/11/01
 - Will pay up to 100% of in-state tuition/fees
 - Provides a monthly housing stipend & book/materials allowance
 - As of Nov 2013, over one million veterans have used Post 9/11 benefits, with over 30 billion dollars spent
- Vocational Rehabilitation (Chapter 31) benefits
 - Qualified students with a 20% or higher service-connected disability rating with the Veterans Benefits Administration
 - Pays for tuition/fees, materials, as well as a monthly stipend
 - Due to nature of conflicts in past 15 years, more veterans qualify for this benefit than ever before

Transition from Service to Student

- Unique characteristic of veteran students that can impact transition
- How to promote academic success for veteran students
 - Holistic approach
 - Collaboration across programs/departments/colleges/university resources/etc.
 - Promoting self advocacy and collaborative problem solving
- What is your role in leveraging university resources to enhance the academic success of veteran students



Campus Climate

- What is your campus climate surrounding adult learners/veterans?
- What is (are) your role(s)?
- What is your support structure?
- Leadership's stance?
- Using community/university resources in advocating for this population.



What Programs and Initiatives are needed for or wanted by our student Veteran population?

- How do we know?
- Who do we contact?
- Who are these programs and initiatives for?
- How can we connect to exemplify the ONE TEAM concept?



Programs & Initiatives

- RONA
- ConAp
- Veterans First-Year Seminar
- “Thank You For Your Service” Seminar
 - Veteran Campus Housing
- Veterans Recruitment Reception...Career Fair
 - Welcome Week Seminar
 - Mentor/Tutor Program
 - Child Care Subsidies
 - Military Honor Cord Ceremony
- Vet Data Initiative...Renee will speak about this.
 - And more.....

Looking to the Future

Veterans Data Initiative

- Forever GI Bill and potential for additional reporting requirements
- Justifies budget/services
- Programming guidance

Staff/Faculty Training and Partnerships

- Green zone
- Advisor Training
- Educational Equity/Student Affairs collaboration

Case Management

- Assigning students a veterans “case manager”
- Access to Starfish to collaborate with community of support (advisers, Student Disability Resources, etc.)



Discussion/Questions?



Office of Veterans Programs

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