



CAL MARITIME

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAL MARITIME HOSTS CSU VETERANS CONNECTION FEBRUARY 26TH

(Vallejo, CA – January 29, 2009)... The California Maritime Academy plays host February 26th to a day-long event aimed at veterans thinking about expanding their career options through higher education. The program includes speakers, on-site transcript evaluations and answers to questions about veterans' benefits and educational options. Cal Maritime and five other northern California State University (CSU) campuses (East Bay, Sacramento, San Francisco State, San Jose State and Sonoma State) are co-sponsoring the second annual veterans outreach event. "We've got a great program lined up for the day," explains Cal Maritime Admissions Director Marc McGee.

- Ted Puntillo, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Services for the California department of Veterans Affairs will speak on the new G.I. Bill.
- Bucky Peterson, Chairman of the Troops to College program and
- Cynthia Bruce, Director of Military Evaluations for the American Council on Education (ACE - Washington, D.C.) will also be on hand.
- Currently enrolled veterans attending CSU and community colleges will talk about their personal experiences on making the transition from the military to campus.

McGee said veterans and former military personnel interested in attending college are encouraged to bring any AARTS, SMART, CCAF or Coast Guard transcripts for on-the-spot credit evaluations.

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The day starts at 9 a.m. in Cal Maritime's Rizza Auditorium with a welcome and information fair. Veterans can drop off their transcripts for credit evaluation. From 10-noon, speakers will review the new G.I. Bill, transition issues, and benefits and services for veterans who are students. Following a luncheon, and an ACE workshop for college personnel on how to evaluate military documents, the information fair will continue until 2 p.m., giving veterans a chance to talk to representatives from participating area campuses. Attendees can pick up their transcript evaluations, get answers to any additional questions, and referral to additional resources on registration, enrollment and veterans benefits, resources and support services.

More information about the day-long program including on-line enrollment can be found at www.csum.edu/VAevent

"This is a concrete example of the CSU's commitment to providing educational access for military personnel returning from deployment who are transitioning to civilian life, as well as long-time veterans now ready to pursue their college degree," McGee noted.

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