



2024
NASPA
SYMPOSIUM ON
MILITARY-CONNECTED
STUDENTS

OPERATION GATEWAY

**A Veteran Transition to Success. Not the
typical New Student Veterans Orientation**

Background



The presenters will share how a unique student Veterans orientation developed and continues to today.

Agenda:

- A brief history - evolution; not your standard orientation
- Micro Exercise of what students experience at Operation Gateway
- Evaluation/Lessons Learned

A brief history

Evolution; not your standard orientation

[Video History - Todd Steffan](#)

In 2007, the first Veterans Program Information Fair was initiated with good intentions to provide workshops and an information fair on and off campus services for Veterans.

Dilemma: the Veterans Info Fair lacked the input and voice of student Veterans themselves. A small group consisting of student Veterans, a dean, and a coordinator came together to plan a revised orientation program based on what the student Veterans actually wanted. This marked the beginning of Operation Gateway.

Evolution: Over the course of 15 years, Operation Gateway underwent several changes and improvements. Initially, it was a 4-day orientation, then reduced to 1 day, but eventually extended to 2 days again. Originally designed exclusively for student Veterans, the orientation expanded to include reservists/guard, active duty members, and dependents and spouses of Veterans as it evolved



Micro Exercise

- Small Groups
- Identify “challenges/fears”
- Brainstorm resources on campus to support students
- Collaborate
- Present to group strategies for addressing the challenges and fears.



Evaluation/Feedback

3-2-1 Evaluation

3 things I learned & found interesting

2 things I did not know about

1 question for the presenter

*Return card for the raffle

Operation Gateway

Print Name: _____

Presenter Name/Dept: _____

3-2-1 Evaluation

3 3 Things I learned & found interesting

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.


2 2 Things I did not know about

- 1.
- 2.

1 1 Question I have for the presenter

- 1.

Return Card for the Raffle
Veterans First Program @ Las Positas College



Sample Evaluation

Feedback is returned to presenter with a “thank you gift” - builds connection and support on campus

Departments have the opportunity to learn about veterans on campus

Operation Gateway 2023

3-2-1 Reflections

Library: Charlotte

Bagby

3 Things I learned & found interesting

- 3) 13 study rooms;
- 2) Linked to worldwide help;
- 1) Free Grammarly

- 3) Lots of things then just books;
- 2) Can checkout movies/ computers;
- 1) Hotspots and bueb cams can be checked out

- 3) What the library provides;
- 2) DVD's;
- 1) Printing.

- 3) 13 study rooms;
- 2) Accept gov. issued ID for checkout ;
- 1) Online chat service available 24hrs.

- 3) LPC library uses fact-based articles;
- 2) Chat options help students live!!!;
- 1) Technology can be rented.

- 3) No air print, login docs;
- 2) they have board games/ therapy;
- 1) They have classes for half credit.

2 Things i did not know about

- 1) Free printers;
- 2) Board games & puzzles

- 1) Its really big; 2) Eglsh help for an hour

- 1) Data base access;
- 2) How to check out materials.

- 1) Need to reserve study room;
- 2) Offer help finding articles

- 1) Hours are from 9am - 9pm;
- 2) Library will assit with research articles

- 1) We have noodletool for free as well as power notes;
- 2)Grammarly premium for free

1 Question I have for the Presenter

- Do you have audio books?

- How long can you have things checked out for?

- None

- What are the operating hours?

- Can students be provided with physical tutoring?

- Does the library provide free printing?

Thank you!



Questions?

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