This year we are honored to have Jim Koutz as our keynote speaker for the Veterans Day ceremony at Rice Plaza on 11 November 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Koutz is the Past National Commander of the American Legion and resides in Boonville, Indiana. “Typically, we have speakers that are either Veterans of a conflict or local representative, but to have a nationally recognized individual of such a large organization that was founded in Indiana is remarkable” said Joel Matherly, Manager of the Veteran Support Services on campus.

Mr. Koutz is a Vietnam Veteran who served 42 years in the military and was elected National Commander in 2012.

Once again this year, the USI VSS, SVA and American Legion Post 324 will participate in the Four Freedoms Veterans Day Parade which is held on November 8, 2014.

Last year’s parade doubled in size and is expected to grow in both participants and spectators this year.

SVA was able to get the USI float again this year, but still need Student Veterans to ride or walk behind the float and hand out candy to the spectators.

This event is open to families and is a first come, first served basis for space on the float. Sign up sheets are located in the VSS office. Please let us know how many will be attending so we can plan for chairs and space on the float.

Staging area is located behind Ri-Ra’s at 12:30 a.m., then the float will stage at approximately 1:30 p.m. on Riverside Drive.

For more information, please contact Mr. Pete Snowden at 812-461-5302 or alpost324@yahoo.com.
LEGION COLLEGE HOSTS ITS LARGEST CLASS

Earlier this week, Pete Snowden, Commander, AL Post 324 attended the largest National Legion College class in 15 years at the American Legion National Headquarters in Indianapolis. The 2014 class of 57 Legionnaires, representing 31 departments, gathered for six days in the National Executive Committee room on the fourth floor of the headquarters building where they will learn how to:

- Write a resolution on any topic of The American Legion.
- Become an effective leader and mentor in the Legion.
- Develop a department-level Legion College.
- Run a district meeting.
- Create brand awareness.
- Promote Americanism programs at the local level.
- Use mylegion.org effectively - See more at: http://www.legion.org/college/224909/legion-college-host-its-largest-class#sthash.YBij7RJ4.dpuf

I AM THE AMERICAN LEGION—KRISTA METTE

“Y ou c an m a ke t ime i n y our l ife t o d o a ny t hing t hat y ou w a nt t o d o”

Krista Mette is not just the first female commander of Post 924 in Teutopolis, Ill. The 29-year-old is also a new mother. Though Mette is busy at work and home, she places a high importance on serving veterans.

“With The American Legion, even though there is a huge age gap and we are all different, we all have something in common: we want to help each other, and we will help each other when we are in need,” says Mette, an Army veteran of the Iraq war. “I joined the Legion because I like helping others and I like to volunteer in our community.”

As post commander, Mette has been planning events, raising donations for programs and interacting with the media to promote the Legion all while working full time as a paralegal and raising her 8-month-old son, Oliver.

“He’s (Oliver) have the opportunity to come to meetings, be a part of the Legion Family and see others being active, volunteering and helping out a good cause,” Mette says. “It’s important to us that he’s an SAL member because he will know how to thank veterans for their service and dedication to our country.”

- Steve Brooks, American Legion

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ON-CAMPUS AMERICAN LEGION POST 324

The American Legion conducts many major programs and is a good way to remain active with your comrades in arms.

Our Legionnaires participate in many community activities and is one of two on a college campus in Indiana. Like everything else, it lives off of participation and your help is needed. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month. Contact Pete Snowden, Post 324 commander at alpost324@yahoo.com.
WASHINGTON, D.C. - General (Ret) George Casey Jr., joins Student Veterans of America's (SVA) Board of Directors (BOD) after previously serving two years on SVA’s Honorary Board of Advisors (HBOA). Casey is one of the most accomplished soldiers in U.S. history and an authority on strategic leadership. He was nominated for elevation to Chief of Staff of the Army by President George W. Bush and served in this role from April 2007 to April 2011.

Today, SVA also announced the addition of seven new leaders from the armed forces, education, non-profit, and corporate sectors to the HBOA.

**Diverse and Experienced Talent Joins Board—SVA announces new additions to Board of Directors and Honorary Board of Advisors**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. - General (Ret) George Casey Jr., joins Student Veterans of America's (SVA) Board of Directors (BOD) after previously serving two years on SVA's Honorary Board of Advisors (HBOA). Casey is one of the most accomplished soldiers in U.S. history and an authority on strategic leadership. He was nominated for elevation to Chief of Staff of the Army by President George W. Bush and served in this role from April 2007 to April 2011.**

**Today, SVA also announced the addition of seven new leaders from the armed forces, education, non-profit, and corporate sectors to the HBOA.**

**Jan Donatelli:** former Navy pilot and Mission Commander, Strategic Communications Network

**John D. Edelman:** Managing Director of Global Engagement and Corporate responsibility, Edelman

**John Fakhoury:** Chief Executive Officer, Framework Communications

**J. Ford Huffman:** former Deputy Managing Editor, USA Today, and Content Strategist

**Rory A. Cooper, PhD:** Distinguished Professor, University of Pittsburgh

**Joseph Butler, PhD:** Entrepreneur

**Harry N. Walters:** former Administrator of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs under President Ronald Reagan

"I'd like to welcome Jan, John D., John F., J. Ford, Rory, Joseph and Harry to the SVA Board. These are dedicated individuals who support our mission to make sure veterans get the resources and support they need to succeed," said SVA Board Chair Rodrigo Garcia. "I look forward to working with them as we expand our efforts and outreach so veterans become more and more aware of the assistance SVA has to offer."
The English Department has taken a new approach to supporting our student Veterans by offering classes with a Veteran theme that is aimed at integrating military with traditional students to gain a perspective from each group. The courses will range on a variety of topics and studies from inviting students to write on their experiences and viewpoints to the study of poetry of war-time topics. The list of offered courses for Spring 2014 are below. Further information can be obtained by contacting Dr. Paula Von Loewenfeldt at (812) 465-1258 or pmvonloewe@usi.edu.

### Eng 101
**Rhetoric/Composition I: Literacy/Self**
- **101.002**: MWF 8:00 – 8:50
- **101.009**: MWF 11:00 – 11:50
- **101.017**: TR 1:30 – 2:45

- Xavia Harrington-Chate
- Brianne DiBacco
- Leisa Belleau

### Eng 105
**Introduction to Literature**
- **105.002**: MWF 10:00 – 10:50
- **105.001**: MW 3:00 – 4:15

- James Hunter
- Brianne DiBacco

### Eng 201
**Rhetoric/Composition II: Literacy/World**
- **201.N01**: M-F Online
- **201.019**: MWF 1:00 – 1:50

- Xavia Harrington-Chate
- Paula von Loewenfeldt

### Eng 226
**Introduction to Folklore**
- **226.001**: MWF 1:00 – 1:50

- Jennifer Horn

### Eng 255
**Introduction of British Literary History**
- **255.002**: TR 3:00 – 4:15

- Paula von Loewenfeldt

### Eng 288
**Introduction to Women’s Literature**
- **288.001**: MWF 10:00 – 10:50

- Xavia Harrington-Chate

### Eng 302
**Creative Writing**
- **302.003**: TR 1:30 – 2:45

- Matthew Graham

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### VSS HOLD HITS ACCOUNTS

**Student Veterans:**

Recently you may have received a message stating that your account was placed on a “VSS Hold”. First let me state that this hold will in not affect your priority registration. I will explain more about this hold in detail, but apologize that this was not communicated to you prior to the hold being placed.

Part of your responsibility as a VA Education beneficiary is to keep our office informed of any changes to program or classes – either drop or add. What we found is that a majority of our students are dropping, adding classes or changing their program (Major) without informing our office which, at times, is either causing a under payment or debt to the student. Another issue is when students mobilize or feel they are getting ready to mobilize. This hold ensures they are coming through our office so they can out process from the University and offices (such as Financial Assistance, Bursar, Registrar and Advisor) completely to ensure a smooth transition back when they decide to return.

To combat this, we have placed holds on our student Veteran accounts so that you come to us and inform our office of the changes you need to make. It is not our intent to prevent any change; it is only a means to keep your account with the VA current and to advise you of any payment changes as a result. We want you to be informed at all times. This is the same type of hold our University uses with its athletes.

This hold will be placed each semester on the Monday after the 100% drop/add period (typically the first full week of class) and extend until the Friday before Priority Registration begins. I apologize for any inconvenience or additional stress and for the delay of your notification. Again, your priority registration will be available on 3 November, unless there are other considerations outside of the VSS Hold.