



# Veteran Student Newsletter



## Message from Administration

At the College of Southern Idaho being a “military friendly school” is much more than a catchy label. CSI welcomes and supports all students who can benefit from our programs and services, including active duty military personnel and veterans.

We appreciate your service to our country and pledge to do all we can to support you as you return to school to continue your education. We are committed to providing quality education at an affordable cost, and support services that help our students learn and succeed. Some of these services include: advising, financial aid, career services, tutoring, library and information services, personal counseling, as well as opportunity to participate in a wide range of student activities and organizations such as student senate, Veterans Club, etc. The Veterans Club promotes an enriched learning experience and helps veterans establish a fellowship forged by the bonds of military service. These opportunities for involvement help veterans by ensuring that they are not isolated and they have access to appropriate support systems.

We are here to help you succeed by providing the support, resources, and information that meet your unique needs as a veteran and a student. Wish you Happy New Year and a successful Spring 2013 semester!

**Dr. Edit Szanto**  
Vice President of Student Services,  
Planning and Grant Development

## CSI Career & Counseling Services

### Experiencing Anxiety or Depression?

Our staff includes 2 full-time, licensed counselors, and three interns. We see students for many issues, including anxiety, PTSD, depression, relationship concerns, lack of motivation and others. We also provide groups, such as Test Anxiety, to help students learn to better deal with excessive anxiety surrounding test performance.

### Not sure What you Want to be When you Grow Up?

Additionally, students may access our services for Career Exploration. Take a personality or interest assessment, explore the world of work using our free online tools, and talk with one of our Career Development professionals to find the best match for you.

### Need a Job?

Merry Olson, our Job Seeking Skills expert, can spruce up your resume, improve your interviewing skills, and show you where to find job openings.

To make an appointment with one of our staff, call 732-6260. Our receptionist will set you up for a day and time that works best for you.

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Counseling Services are available on walk in and appointment basis.

<http://careers.csi.edu/>

**Carol Vanhoozer**  
Counselor

**Monday - Friday**  
8am to 5pm



## CSI Veterans Services Webpage

As you many know, the CSI Veterans Services ([www.csi.edu/veteransServices](http://www.csi.edu/veteransServices)) webpage has many helpful resources for students. New sections have recently been added to the webpage. The following outlines what information can be found on the webpage:

- **Veteran Affairs Educational Benefits Chapters:** Provides information about the different VA educational benefits available to students enrolled at CSI.
- **Veterans “Getting Started” Checklist (NEW):** Outlines the steps students need to take to apply for VA educational benefits and to enroll in school.
- **Policies for VA Educational Benefits:** Lists important policies regarding VA Educational benefits.
- **Resources for Veterans and Active Service Members (NEW):** Lists of helpful local and regional resources for veteran, active service members and their families.
- **Military Transcripts:** Provides descriptions of the different kinds of military transcripts and links to websites you can request official transcripts from.
- **Tuition Assistance (TA) (NEW):** Provides information about the TA program and links to the different armed services TA websites.
- **Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) (NEW):** Provides information about the VRAP program.



### FAFSA Completion Day!!

**Saturday, February 23rd**  
**10 am - 2 pm**  
**HSHS building, 2nd Floor Computer Lab**

Financial Aid Advisors will be on hand to help fill out the 2013-2014 FAFSA and answer questions

### Important Dates:

- January 25th—Last day of registration. Add/Drop/Audit
- January 25th—Last day for 100% refund
- March 15th—Deadline to apply for Spring graduation
- April 1st—Summer/Fall registration begins
- April 12th—Last day to Withdraw (WV grade issued)



CSI Student Veterans Club:  
“Like” us on Facebook



The College of Southern Idaho (CSI) is thankful for the service and the sacrifice that current service members and veterans have made and continue to make for our country. With that said, CSI wants to make the process for receiving Veteran Affairs (VA) educational benefits as easy as possible. Veteran Services at CSI are provided by [Carol Carlile](#) and [Tara Nunnally](#), CSI Veteran's Certifying Officials, and the [CSI Advising Center](#). Both are located in the Matrix Center, inside the Taylor Administration Building. After registering for classes each semester, veterans must complete the CSI Veterans Certification Form and

**Scott Lindquist**  
**Student Advisor**

## Join the Veterans Club

CSI's Veterans Club is a club for active military and veterans of all ages. We provide veterans the chance to successfully transition from a martial lifestyle to a civilian lifestyle by fostering a healing environment creating a supportive and social atmosphere. We provide members with:

- Transition and peer support
- GI Bill/VA info
- Counseling Assistance
- Meet other veterans
- Outdoor recreation/activities for veterans
- Job Search Assistance
- Outreach
- Scholarship Info



We continue to grow as a club every semester and provide special opportunities for veterans, military, and their families. If you would like to join, please contact Brittney Gray ([bgray@csi.edu](mailto:bgray@csi.edu)). We meet once a month (every 3rd Thursday at 12:30 pm in Taylor 247). You can also add us on Facebook at College of Southern Idaho Veterans Club for club news and updates.

**Brittney Gray**  
Veterans Club Advisor

## CSI Veterans Scholarship

The CSI Foundation is sponsoring the CSI Veterans' Scholarship for the fifth year in a row. Three \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded for the 2012-2013 school year. Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Must have served in a branch of the United States armed services or the Idaho National Guard and have been honorably discharged on or after January 1, 2008.
- Must have a minimum cumulative high school grade point average (GPA) of a 3.0; or have completed at least 12 college credits with a minimum cumulative college GPA of 3.0; or a composite COMPASS score of 195 (reading/writing/algebra) if GED/HSE graduate.
- Must be a full-time student (12 or more credits).

The application is available at the CSI Veterans Services webpage (<http://www.csi.edu/veteransServices>). The application is due by August 1st, 2013. If you have any questions about the Veterans' Scholarship, please contact Scott Lindquist (732-6252 [slindquist@csi.edu](mailto:slindquist@csi.edu)).

**Scott Lindquist**  
Student Advisor

## REMINDER:

Chapters 1606, 1607, and 30's Don't forget to verify your attendance at the end of each month. This can be done online [http://www.gibill.va.gov/resources/verify\\_attendance/](http://www.gibill.va.gov/resources/verify_attendance/) or by calling 877-VA-ECERT.



Questions about the CSI Veterans club? Contact them: [csveteransclub@gmail.com](mailto:csveteransclub@gmail.com)



## Important Links:

**FAFSA**  
<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

**Financial Aid**  
<http://www.csi.edu/prospectiveStudents/studentServices/financialAid/>

**Scholarships**  
<http://scholarships.csi.edu/>

**NetPartner**  
[netpartner.csi.edu](http://netpartner.csi.edu)



## Student Success

On behalf of the CSI Staff, I would like to welcome you to a fresh new semester! We are so happy that you have chosen to spend the spring term at CSI. You may have noticed a lot of changes on campus recently, but one thing that will never change is that we *want you to succeed*. The faculty, staff, and administration are here to serve you, so please take advantage of the supportive staff and valuable resources on campus. One of the best things you can do for yourself as you start the semester, is to take inventory of your habits, preferences, and goals so that you can tailor your college experience to work best for you.

### A few tips to help you succeed in the classroom:

1. Establish a place to study- make sure to have a comfortable environment with good lighting and comfortable temperature.
2. Do as much of your studying in the daytime as you can
3. “Eat the Frog”- study the hardest subjects, or do the work you are dreading the most, first.

Trust me, this works!

4. Find at least one of two students in each class to study with- studies show that students who study with someone routinely get better grades.

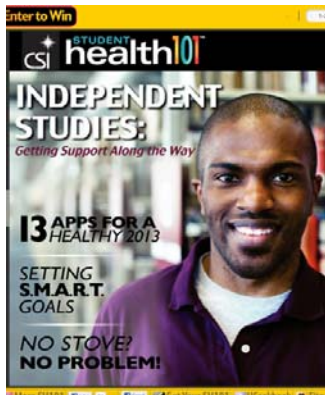
5. Make use of resources on campus:

- **Are you a single parent?** The Center for New Directions (Taylor 174C 8:30a-1:30p M-R) is a great campus resource for you. There are support groups, workshops, and programs designed specifically for single parents and students in non-traditional occupations.
- **Experiencing Test Anxiety?** The Career and Counseling Center offers free test anxiety workshops every semester for students. Learn how to overcome stress and improve test scores. Call 732-6260 for dates and times for the spring semester.
- **Want to get involved on campus?** The Veterans’ Club is awesome! There are also many other clubs and organizations to get involved in. Social Geeks, Diversity Council, Sustainability, Latinos Unidos, Math Club, Film Club, and many more! Check out [http://www.csi.edu/prospectiveStudents/\\_studentServices/studentActivities/clubs/](http://www.csi.edu/prospectiveStudents/_studentServices/studentActivities/clubs/) for a complete list.

Above all else, BE GOOD TO YOURSELF! You will be as successful as you prepare for, and allow yourself to be. Never hesitate to ask questions, or reach out for assistance.

Erin Devlin

Retention & Graduation Coordinator



Take a look at the new CSI Student Health 101 Magazine.

<http://readsh101.com/csi.html>

A new issue is released every month with a variety of topics including

- Fitness
- Nutrition
- Goal Setting
- Finances
- Coping with College Life



Visit the Student Success webpage at <http://www.csi.edu/studentuccess/tips.asp> for more helpful tips

## A Letter from your School Certifying Official

### Welcome to the Spring 2013 Semester!

I hope everyone had a great Fall semester. Please remember that every semester you must be recertified to continue receiving your GI Bill or Veterans Education Benefits.

After speaking with your major advisor and registering for classes, **fill out the CSI VA Certification form and submit to the Front Line Staff in the Admissions & Records Office.**

If you are a post 9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) recipient, monitor your MyCSI account to ensure your tuition is being paid accordingly. If it is not showing up on your account by January 25<sup>th</sup>, please come in and speak to one of the school certifying officials to complete a CSI Tuition Loan Agreement (TLA). **\*We also *must* have a copy of your most current Certificate of Eligibility on file. One can be obtained either online at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal> or by calling the VA regional processing office at 888-442-4551.**

If you are a recipient of any other GI Bill program (Chapter 30, 31, 35, 1606 and 1607) and are unable to pay your tuition in full, feel free to stop by the Admissions and Records office and sign a Tuition Loan Agreement. The first ¼ of your tuition balance + \$50 processing fee is required upon signing.

Be sure to notify the School Certifying Official of any changes in your enrollment (add/drop/withdraws), or major changes throughout the semester.

I encourage students to get involved in clubs and organizations. Getting involved is a great way to meet people with the same interests and make the most out of your college experience. A list of clubs and organization including the veterans club on CSI's campus can be found online at: [http://www.csi.edu/prospectiveStudents/\\_studentServices/studentActivities/clubs/](http://www.csi.edu/prospectiveStudents/_studentServices/studentActivities/clubs/)

Feel free to contact me or Carol with any questions or concerns with your benefits. My open hours are M-F 8:00am until 12:00pm and Carols are M-F 1:00pm until 5:00pm.

I hope you have a wonderful Spring semester!

**Tara Nunnelley**  
Student Services Specialist

### NEW STUDENT?

**Join us for orientation workshop sessions!!  
No reservation necessary  
Choose what works for you!**

	Date	Time	Location
	W Jan. 30 <sup>th</sup>	1p-3p	SUB 248
	R Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup>	1p-3p	SUB 248
	F Feb. 1 <sup>st</sup>	3p-5p	SUB 248

### College of Southern Idaho Veteran Services Contacts

**Carol Carlile**—School Certifying Official  
ccarlile@csi.edu 208-732-6237

**Tara Nunnelley**—Student Services Specialist  
tnunnelley@csi.edu 208-732-6231

**Scott Lindquist**—Student Advisor  
slindquist@csi.edu 208-732-6252

### Visit us Online:

<http://www.csi.edu/veteransServices/>

### Newsletter Contributors:

- Tara Nunnelley
- Scott Lindquist
- Brittney Gray
- Edit Szanto
- Carol Vanhoozer
- Erin Devlin
- Erin Nunnelley



Suicide Prevention Hotline  
1-800-273-8255