

The 2020 SVA NatCon Post-Conference Survey
Ratings and Comments for the Individual Breakout Sessions

Compiled by
Student Veterans of America Research Department
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Part 1: breakout sessions on Friday 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Breakout Session Title: **Channeling the Power of the Diverse Student-veteran Population**

Breakout Attendance: 10

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.0
Length:	4.4
Usefulness:	3.9
Presentation:	4.3
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- This presentation was labeled as a diversity and inclusion however I felt it was more career oriented. It was more focused toward companies and why veterans should be hired. So I guess in the long run it falls under the inclusion. I might suggest possibly separating the two sections diversity and inclusion.

Breakout Session Title: **A Discussion on Improving On-Campus Services for Student Veterans**

Breakout Attendance: 35

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.0
Length:	4.1
Usefulness:	3.9
Presentation:	3.6
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	4.0

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- The naming for the event did not say what it really was. I got good info but not from the host.
- Bigger rooms for popular topics.
- I understand that the intent was for this to be a small group discussion type of meeting. That is fine. A more substantive lead-in would have made this much better.
- Very Useful.
- Even after the multiple announcements that chapters do not sit with each other, my table had 5/8 people from the same chapter. Additionally, I think I was able to provide some good info and ideas to the smaller chapters, but wasn't able to get much information back. I think maybe pairing up in tiers (community colleges versus commuter colleges/universities versus larger universities) at least for part of the session would be more helpful for everyone.
- Wish there was more time. Our group was bouncing a lot of information off of each other and trying to navigate time outside of the conference is very difficult.
- I liked the discussion topics but maybe instead of asking about if Vets know where the office is, maybe ask the participants what problems they hear from student veterans so then the discussion can be centered around solving the participants problems.
- One of the best sessions I attended.
- It was not much of a presentation, more so a discussion with the people sitting at our tables. I think just having a printout of sample discussion questions at each table would have sufficed, no need for a presentation.

- The mini interruptions by the presenter disrupted the continuous flow of conversation between others in the group and myself.
- presenter was not a comfortable speaker. Needed more time to discuss as a table. Whole thing felt rushed through despite how useful the conversations were.

Breakout Session Title: **SVA Chapter Best Practices**

Breakout Attendance: 50

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.4
Length:	3.9
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Great panel discussion.
- Schools that weren't doing much were giving brief about best practices, and wasn't very helpful. Advice from the panel was very anecdotal and very specific to their own circumstances. General guidelines supported by research would be more helpful.
- The panel of peers was great, but it would hold more weight and seem less anecdotal if data was presented with the so-called "best practices"
- This is always a helpful session for new and experienced chapter leaders.
- Having the panel with three different schools was very helpful because you learned about multiple practices instead of one.
- The panel was helpful but would have liked some more technical items for chapter best practices.
- I was one of the panelists for this session and I think it was moderated well by Siobhan Norris. I think that all of us panelists were able to get our messages across to the audience.
- I think it was a good overall but I think personally I didn't gain any new or insightful information. I believe it was more helpful for other chapters or attendees.
- I thought the topic was great but didnt like the panel format. It would take a lot of time for a question and have each of the 4 panelists answer. It seemed centered around social media and it wasnt the information I was expecting. I wish it mentioned things like best practices when working with your other Chapter Officers, recruitment, how to brainstorm ideas for events, etc. But it wasn't like that at all it wasnt until the floor was open to the floor that it got better, but even then only 3 audience questions were answered and seemed like a very broad answer . I think a power point would be better showing what best practices exist and proven through out SVA chapters
- Positive and relevant questions were asked to the panel.

- Handouts with information on ways to help improve SVO.
- Great session. Would like a longer one with more Q&A but overall it was very helpful.
- This was more a generic "RaRa" then and actual discussion on what was working and what was not. More specific handouts revolving around how actual successes worked out would have been much more beneficial.
- The only concern I have around breakout sessions, and something I plan on speaking about at my local chapter at our upcoming meeting about next years event is that the design of the sessions seems unfortunately punishing to smaller chapters who don't have the ability to spread members out across all the breakout sessions. In this instance, I might for example have to choose between attending sessions designed to help further my chapter such as Chapter Best Practices or Chapter Leader Best Practices vs benefits, federal employment, or scholarships. Ultimately this means I can only attend a small amount of sessions and bring limited information back when everything is useful for different people. I don't have an immediate do this next time answer, but without a coordinated chapter who is financially able to send a cadre of members, it feels limiting.

Breakout Session Title: **A Blueprint for Student Veteran Success**

Breakout Attendance: 39

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.2
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	3.9
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	3.9
Overall:	4.0

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- The information provided was OK, but it would have been fine to get a copy of the powerpoint slides.
- Janine Wert was a great presenter, as a fairly recent veteran, the information provided helped steer a course in which I hope to stay on. Her presentation was clear and concise with no off topic discussion that would limit the exposure to the information.
- Not sure if this breakout session was advertised as a think tank, group discussion format - if it was, I missed it in its description. I found it difficult to relate to others in my group b/c their schools were different than mine.
- I gained very useful insights regarding program planning for military students, including how best to structure peer-to-peer mentoring opportunities and the development of a zero-interest loan program for military-affiliated students. Best session I attended overall.
- I feel the length was not quite long enough. Possibly an hour and half would have been better with all the information that was shared. But over all it was very informative and useful for what I do as a Vet Corp Navigator at my school.
- This wasn't so much a Blueprint for Success as it was "This is What We Do at Our University," and much of the information was quite specific to that university, thus it lacked universal relevance. Additionally, the presenter denigrated three different populations of Veteran and breakout attendees during her presentation which significantly impacted her credibility.
- The information was useful, but ODU basically had everything that was covered already established. So I didn't get much out of it. Also I felt that it more pertained to a VSO not a SVA.
- Provide additional questions and answers time.

- Superb Class. The audio could be improved since it was hard to hear in the back. Thank you.
- Very dry & not engaging. If this topic was presented by a professional speaker, it would've helped a ton!
- I think there was some areas that could have been explored more.
- This was a great take on the pyramid of needs.
- The presentation is very helpful in providing a framework for which veterans can prioritize what truly matters.

Breakout Session Title: **Graduate Student Veterans**

Breakout Attendance: 17

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.3
Usefulness:	4.2
Presentation:	4.3
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.3

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Suggestions like buying an LSAT book as the only test prep suggestion... I mean come on. One of the presenters was not a veteran and her experience did align with a veteran.
- Always a favorite breakout session as I pursue law school. I learn something new every year.
- Went last year and went again this year-- clearly diversified the panelists and the questions were very well chosen! Loved the moderator!
- All of the participants were fantastic and very open and informational. This gave me great insight into the law school lifestyle and gave me a new sense of motivation.
- A more diverse representation of schools could provide a more comprehensive overview of opportunities. Representatives from the law school could also provide useful insights for perspective students.

Breakout Session Title: **How to Build Partnerships with University Leadership and Corporate Sponsors**

Breakout Attendance: 34

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.5
Usefulness:	4.4
Presentation:	4.4
Discussion / Q&A:	4.5
Overall:	4.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- The willingness of Tulsa leadership and Phillips 66 to provide their insights was outstanding.
- Appreciate having Dr Clancey involvement with SVA as a University President.
- I'd have liked to see more than one sponsor and more than one university, but other than that, it was very helpful.
- I enjoyed this presentation and felt that the content was necessary and relevant. My only piece of feedback is that there weren't a lot of deliverables. I think this was a problem across the board in every breakout session. It's important to discuss what's working, but without tangible things that students/advisors can take back to their campus, we're losing opportunities to be successful. Lastly, one of the panel members made a very negative comment about my university, without providing any context. I found this to be incredibly unprofessional.
- This was an amazing way to educate student veterans on how to be more successful when reaching out to companies for sponsorships and financial support for veteran centers. It provided a smart and successful tips that will effectively provide a more successful environment for student veterans.
- Title was misleading as there was no talk in regard to how to build partnerships with University Leadership. Instead, it was a only an attempt to talk about corporate sponsors...but nothing beyond work within your university structure to do so in order to avoid stepping on toes.
- I was hoping it would include more information on how to work with university leadership but it didn't. The information on corporate sponsors was great.
- I wish more break out sessions were like this one. It was good information on HOW to do something, not personal experiences like the most others.

- Some insight on helping smaller chapters attract sponsors through collaborating with other Chapters could be helpful.
- Overall great job.
- I thought it was good for a beginning familiarization, but I already had much of the knowledge.
- It was great to see such a great example of a strong bond between a student veteran org, the leadership of the university, and corporate partners. Tulsa is definitely an example to follow and it was a privilege to have the opportunity to learn from them.

Breakout Session Title: **Rock your resume: Best practices with Google**

Breakout Attendance: 23

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.4
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.2
Presentation:	4.4
Discussion / Q&A:	3.6
Overall:	4.3

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Coming into the session I thought they were going to be the ones looking over our resumes not our neighbor.
- Could have shown better examples and given a link on how to find examples of good resumes when we went home.
- As not all professions have the exact same rules and structure to resumes, there may be an opportunity to split sessions... 1) business/ admin/ social work 2) Engineering / STEM 3) DoD, Gov't contractor etc...
- Great job at working with the variety of individuals that attended the breakout session.
- Rude.
- Well done. I liked how the presenters took control of a rowdy room.
- I think it was a well ran but ran more to the google side of things. They pretty much did it if you were going to apply for google.
- Keep up the great work.
- The Q n A featured a tense exchange about censorship and political correctness in the workplace.

Breakout Session Title: **Chapter Career Development: Leveraging LinkedIn to Get A head**

Breakout Attendance: 15

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.5
Usefulness:	4.6
Presentation:	4.6
Discussion / Q&A:	4.4
Overall:	4.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- solid presentation. Could have used a little more practical information. How to utilize it with examples but overall solid.
- This was easily the best presentation of the entire convention for me.
- One of the most useful presentations I attended, there was a guest professional who was also a veteran. She was relatable and knowledgeable. I preferred this over the panels with current sva students.
- The overview of how to use LinkedIn was good. I would hope that most folks are familiar with the basic functions of the site. Maybe expand the topics a bit more to include premium features?
- Keep up the great work!

Breakout Session Title: **Addressing Toxic Behavior at the Chapter Level: Leading Through Conflict to Advance Diversity & Inclusion**

Breakout Attendance: 27

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	3.9
Length:	3.1
Usefulness:	3.4
Presentation:	3.3
Discussion / Q&A:	3.5
Overall:	3.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- IT problems harmed the utility of this session.
- Good opportunities, but didn't really dig into how chapters, organizations, or individuals can work through conflict. It also didn't recognize that conflict is not always a bad thing.
- Spent too much time on the story and not enough on HOW to address these issues.
- I was looking to learn more about how to address Toxic Behavior, but the majority of the time was focused on poor communication being the cause. In the last few minutes a bunch of resources were rattled off. The discussion would have been more useful if it focused on the resolution instead of the cause.
- Although this is not the fault of the presenter, the technical glitches experienced were very distracting and it made it more difficult to follow the presentation. I recommend doing a test run before the first sessions to hash out any issues before the attendees arrive.
- There were technical difficulties the presenter had no control over. Other than that the content was good but it was short because the power point was not work and it delayed the session.
- The presenters were well-intentioned, but needed to have rehearsed and obtained feedback prior to attempting their presentation. Presenters did NOT address the topic, i.e., toxic behavior at the chapter level. What happened was boring, irrelevant, off-topic, and failed to deliver.
- Needed more time.
- This presentation needed additional time for further discussion and Q&A.
- Topic is very relevant, technology issues prevented session from being what it could be. Time was lost and presenters seemed thrown off by technology issues.

- It essentially boiled down to active listening. The class started late due to technical difficulties then the woman ignored me every time I raised my hand to answer something and pick on another person. This topic was rushed through and I don't feel I learned anything other than use active listening and don't assume.
- I was expecting more of a "how to" session, I didn't come away from the session with much useful knowledge.
- The session started late, so it felt like it was rushed a little bit. It probably would have been better if they had the full time they were allotted.
- The talk was not prepared and the speaker was late.
- There was not enough time allowed for the presentation.
- I would have liked to have had more of a question and answer portion.
- lots of tech problems and un-useful exercises and then ran out of time.

Breakout Session Title: **Women in the Military: Understanding Women's Contributions to National Service and Post-Service Civilian Life**

Breakout Attendance: 33

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	4.4
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.3

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- The attendees in the room were very actively asking questions and giving feedback. As a female veteran myself, it often feels that because only a few sessions are dedicated to women in service or women veterans that we find ourselves wanting to engage at a great rate. I know that this can sometimes interrupt the speaker to the point of them not completing their full presentations. So, my suggestion would be that either more sessions be held that are specific to women veterans or that more time is allotted for those sessions.
- It was mainly just a bunch of research data....good data but not a lot of useful discussion concerning the topic.
- I appreciated the demographics that was shared and the large group discussion that was had at this breakout session. I was hoping for more ideas on how to better engage female veterans on our campus.
- Presenter had many data to support her claims as well as allowing room for the audience to connect/ discuss if their experiences were similar to what was being said.
- Would be great to see more sessions about women experiences
- More time!
- This was a statistics driven presentation which may be useful for researchers, but is less useful on a club level. I was pleased that the topic was getting attention and thought the information was great but it's really all at an O level. I would say it was more descriptive than prescriptive. The latter is what I'd hoped for. I also think that there was a missed opportunity in expressing why this is important. Most schools are actively pushing diversity and trying to moving away from toxic masculine cultures. Being inclusive is not only decent and shows appreciation for people who served, but

it's the way forward. Clubs who don't embrace this will eventually struggle as they are challenged to find support within administrations.

- As a female veteran, I felt that this breakout session was used more for female veterans to talk about how suppressed they are and then to continue on and tell everyone how awesome they are. I didn't find it useful and the presenter did everything she could to keep people on track, but it was honestly ruined by people in the audience. Which is not something that can be controlled at all.
- I loved this presentation. It focused on the contributions, but the discussion also touched on the lack of recognition women veterans receive on a daily basis. It made me feel less alone.
- I may be biased I'm not really into women demanding to get treated the same. I just earned the respect of my fellow sailors instead.
- More time would be nice so I can learn more from this speaker.
- I felt it was more of a complaint session more than informative.
- The conversations seemed less productive, didn't seem to actually ask questions, and went toward personal experience and group therapy rather than research relevant topics. The presentation and study was excellent. I'd love more topics about "how to be an ally" where we move beyond recognizing women's contributions, and into application of workplace practices that ensure women are given the credit deserved, grace deserved (as men are able to mess up but women are defined by it), and so on.
- It was great also she posted the presentation online for us to share on our campus.

Breakout Session Title: **Veterans Benefits Overview**

Breakout Attendance: 25

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.4
Length:	3.7
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.2
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Very good session. Important to hear directly from folks working with the VA Benefits.
- The info has been out for a while, and an informed Veteran will already know this. When VA answered my questions, they gave me the run around and kept giving me national averages. which I feel they are not accurate.
- Very informative session about resources available to veterans & their families offered by the VBA. Glad they had a session solely dedicated to Chpt 31 VR&E benefits because of challenges veterans have faced when applying & navigating through that program. Will be sharing information presented with fellow veterans in my VFW & American Legion posts, as well as with Post 9/11 organizations I am part of.
- More time - suggest something like this in panel style for the main session.
- Wish this would have been longer.

Breakout Session Title: **Networking: Getting Comfortable with Being Uncomfortable**

Breakout Attendance: 47

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.6
Length:	4.4
Usefulness:	4.4
Presentation:	4.3
Discussion / Q&A:	4.3
Overall:	4.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Room was overly crowded, and it was really hard to hear and got very hot in the room. Overall I enjoyed the presentation.
- The presenters were really uncomfortable presenting and didn't seem confident in the subject they were teaching.
- I learned a lot.
- There was a little too much discussion among the attendees. We had to get up and "network", which normally wouldn't be so bad, but the room was a little too small and crowded for that. It made for a very noisy and cramped environment. Besides that, I loved the rest of the presentation!
- The session was really exciting and I loved how interactive the presenters were with the crowd. I also enjoyed how they made us interact with one another.
- Overall, great presentation. Very dynamic presenters. They just needed a bigger room to be able to do their activities without it getting so loud and disturbing the neighboring presentations.
- Rose and Josh really brought the energy. Josh had me wanting to go and start talking to random people. Which I did. It did get a little rowdy and we disturbed other sessions. I don't believe the noise level was a bad thing, we were getting to know each other. Maybe this break out should be held away from the rest, if possible.
- needed more space.
- Maybe put it in a sound proof room. You can't have a networking exercise without noise.
- The two people who led this were knowledgeable and did an amazing job of showing and telling what was good and bad in as it related to the topic. The room was too small for the activities that we did.

- Large attendance did make the exercises difficult to complete, as the room was too full.
- The presenters had good energy, the presentation had great information, overall it was part of what I needed to do better at networking and make better use of mine and other peoples time while at the conference.
- As someone who struggles with social settings and putting myself out there, that session was extremely overwhelming and should have included was to help people deal with social settings instead of having them shake hands with everyone in an overly crowded room.
- Felt like a common- sense approach to networking.
- First 15 minutes was decent, after that the presenters lost control of the audience.
- The exercises weren't very helpful. we walked around the room and exchanged handshakes with every person in the room...unrealistic scenarios.
- This session was packed and everyone was very engaged. There were over 160 people registered for this session but the room had posted capacity of 68. There were over 30 people in the session without chairs to sit on.

Part 2: breakout sessions on Friday 2:45 pm - 3:45 pm

Breakout Session Title: **The Sea of Goodwill: Veteran Support Beyond the Federal Sector**

Breakout Attendance: 29

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.0
Length:	3.5
Usefulness:	3.6
Presentation:	3.6
Discussion / Q&A:	3.5
Overall:	3.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Felt that the info was poor, they kept talking about the big 5 VSO and how much money is given to them. We are a Large VSO but small chapters.
- Unfortunately the presenter read from a powerpoint the entire time, there were a lot of statistics, and there wasn't any real life to the presentation.
- Room was way to small.
- Presenter really just read from her notes the entire time. Not really sure the usefulness of the topic.
- The presentation was quantitative data heavy. It was a bit confusing to follow along with the presentation. Very few questions from the audience were fully answered by the presenter.
- For a session reviewing a study it was done pretty well.
- Very informative.
- Great topic and knowledgeable presenter. The studies were provided at the end, but there didn't seem to be enough for everyone, not to mention the fact that they were probably not a very easy read. Could use a compiled, brief pamphlet explaining some of the additional options to veterans out there. Overall pretty good.
- The information Kayla (CNAS) presented is incredibly useful. This session could easily be twice as long to allow for more in depth data discovery and Q&A. Would be great to go deeper into the data on Veterans in higher ed.

- Based on the title I was expecting to find out resources vets could use that they might not know about but instead, the first 20 minutes were presenting research that was kind of common sense which was not useful. I left early and was not the only one.
- I was a bit surprised at this presentation. There was a lot of information provided. I'm not sure how to improve this except to maybe provide more usability options, i.e. websites to follow up with.
- This was one of my favorite presentations. The information is very useful and I have already used the website to look up different veteran benefits in my own state. I hope our orientation presenter at our school will add this into their presentation because it is something everyone needs to know about!
- I thought this was a great topic, however, there was a lot of information and I felt it was very wordy throughout the presentation.
- Very high detailed presentation that was only for a specific audience. This is an advanced presentation that needs a lead-in prior to attending.
- Presenter just read results of a study. Speed of presentation was a bit quick for the amount of information presented.
- this topic needed to be a double period and would have scored much higher as it need double the time to explain services and allow time for Q&A.

Breakout Session Title: **Easing the Transition After a School Closes**

Breakout Attendance: 7

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.0
Length:	4.1
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	4.5
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

Breakout Session Title: **Using the GI Bill to Build Your Future**

Breakout Attendance: 15

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.1
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.4
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.3

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Overall good session and a great follow-up to the easier session on general benefits as this one focused on the educational side.
- The presentation was great in its over all capacity to provide information for the Pat Tillman Foundation and what they offer but felt that it did not cover what was conveyed with the title in an over arching manner.
- I learned a lot.
- As an SCO, I wasn't expecting it to be as statistical as it was. I was hoping for more in-depth information.
- Great presentation and information regarding the GI Bill.

Breakout Session Title: **Student Leader Best Practices**

Breakout Attendance: 63

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.25
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	4.2
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Could use more time to explore the difficulties for chapters and ways to solve them.
- I did not prefer the panels that had current SVA students. Maybe some higher up professionals in the workplace.
- Was kind of a sit and listen to people brag session. Would have preferred something like a list of leader qualities and then examples.
- This was a helpful session and important for new and experienced student leaders.
- I was one of the three panelists. It was great public speaking and networking event for me. I was able to provide my best traits and here feedback from others. I would love to be on a panel next year.
- Moderator had good questions, but panelists were too experienced and unprepared to provide any useful guidance beyond the obvious advice. Difficult to discern any 'best practices.' Panelists need to be vetted, i.e., these can't be the 'best student leaders.'
- It seemed like the panel hadn't seen the questions beforehand (causing them to stumble over their words & give advice that sometimes didn't seem well thought out).
- This was very helpful because it allowed student leaders particularly to help fellow leaders that are going through a lot of the same struggles within their SVA chapters.
- I actually attended the Chapter Strategic planning consultations but it wasn't listed. It wasn't a consultation and more so connecting business practices to forming a plan. but doesn't really go into depth, presenters came late.
- Justin Fulp and the other presenters did a great job at discussing relevant leadership practices.
- Handout on highlight about session.
- Participated in the panel, thank you for the opportunity!

- I didn't draw very much useful information regarding how to improve my practices. I feel it would've been better to have more of a lecture, rather than several speakers answering questions of their own.
- Very basic and felt more like a commercial for the companies attending.
- There should have been actual Student leader leading this discussion with actual experiences that they have struggled though instead of another motivational discussion. The people on the board only provided very vague answers.
- It was nice but wasn't very useful for me because I didn't learn anything that would apply to me or my chapter. I was expecting the speakers to talk to me about common strategies that chapters nationwide use, not the leaders from 3 colleges did. They were great, just not relevant to me.
- As a new Chapter Leader who took over shortly before NatCon, this was an invaluable session. Hearing that other chapters have similar issues and also hearing from them how they are attempting to solve them gave me a plethora of great ideas to try at my own chapter especially around increasing membership and getting greater buy-in.

Breakout Session Title: **Bicker, Moan, Take Out a Loan: Financial Survival Skills for Graduate Student Veterans and How Campus Administrators and the Workforce.**

Breakout Attendance: 12

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.2
Length:	4.1
Usefulness:	3.2
Presentation:	3.6
Discussion / Q&A:	3.4
Overall:	3.5

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- The presentation was very well however it could have been better planned out.
- The title was (according to the presenters) deliberately misleading; not enough new information about how to fund graduate coursework was presented.
- This sessions wasn't helpful. The presenters did not even discuss financial survival skills. The discussion was mostly on the personal experiences and how much debt they are in. Very disappointed.
- Great topic, fun exercise, really helped me see that there are ways to pay for graduate school and not to judge a book by its cover.
- This information was nothing new, I thought there would be better outlooks on how to pay for grad school. The only thing they talked about were loans and work study options.
- It was an excellent presentation.

Breakout Session Title: **Disability Services Liaison: DSL Implementation**

Breakout Attendance: 17

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	3.7
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	3.5
Discussion / Q&A:	3.8
Overall:	3.8

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Would have been helpful to see some of the SVA DSL training and be provided with the links to find the training.
- Great information that any institution can use to improve or develop a program.
- While I understand that last minute changes had to be made, the presenter was clearly not prepared for the topic. When concerns were highlighted about this being a VA Work Study Position, there was no one present that could answer the questions. Additionally, there was no information specifically on where the training is located, what it entails, or how it will be implemented for all.
- The presenters did a good considering they got plopped into someone else's presentation. I gained some good info.
- I thought it had a lot of good information.
- Provide more insight on who uses this and not just why it's important.

Breakout Session Title: **Stories of Success Using VocRehab Education Benefits**

Breakout Attendance: 21

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	4.2
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- The session focused on individual experiences which are difficult to generalize. Most attendees were concerned with how criteria would apply to them and their case. Including an actual VA VOC REHAB Counselor would have been extremely helpful as they can give many more examples of various student cases they have worked with.
- I recalled that Voc Rehab could help with a small business, but it was good to hear to be reassured.
- Very uncomfortable, the presenters did not seem to have the correct information and were corrected by a person in the audience.
- In depth discussion on challenges and opportunities to make connections with those who have used or are using voc rehab when you haven't thought of or started using the benefit yet.
- Did not address the pitfalls associated with using Chapter 31. The presenter only gave assumptions not connected facts relating to laws and regulations that govern the program. This breakout session could have published on the Discussion board.
- Might be beneficial to have some voc rehab professionals explain what it is they actually do.
- Good panelist. Jae spoke very well to his experience. I'd add more diversity to the panel in the future.
- Have people who have completed their course studies with Voc Rehab, only one person on the panel had finished, the others had jobs already but were still using their benefits and going to school.
- The feedback from those who have used and are going through the process with VocRehab made it much easier to understand the process and how to be successful. Also to be able to comprehend that not every case is the same or will it have the same outcome. This session is definitely needed and should be offered all three days.

Especially because many veterans are going through the process. It also helped that there was actual counselors there.

Breakout Session Title: **Cracking the Code: Understanding Federal Employment in the 21st Century**

Breakout Attendance: 39

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.1
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	3.9
Overall:	4.1

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- This was well done - a fairly esoteric topic that was demystified adequately.
- Having direct access to specialists from the Office of Personnel Management was a rare opportunity and it provided excellent insights into federal hiring.
- Good information, good presentation, recommend keeping each year
- Not a single thing about Federal Employment! It was all about the Pat Tilman Scholarship. A deceitful waste of time.
- The presentation was not great and information was lacking on how to apply to federal employment. Instead the presenter focused on how injured vets or widows could get benefits which is not what the title implied.
- Instructor should answer questions of very specific cases at the end of class and continue with class to prevent delays or lack of interest. Overall the class was great.
- I wish there were handouts we could have taken with us but I'm sure that would have consumed resources they weren't prepared to distribute.
- Followed instructions on the signage, entered room, presenter was not the one intended, left room, room signage had changed. Very disconcerting.
- I would have liked to have more information on how to successfully navigate and complete a resume that can make it through the first "checks" and make it to the interview phase of the process.
- Overall it was very useful, but some of the questions from the crowd took away from the discussion.
- The room was too small, for those who attended.
- I found the session to be very informative and meet others in the session who were very knowledgeable about the federal government jobs as well.

- As someone who's tried to get into federal employee for 7 years. This did not help crack the code. It was clear that even if you apply to a job and get into the extremely qualified box. The hiring manager doesn't have to look at your resume if they know someone in the pot. How can we change this ? They should have to interview all candidates or at the very least the veterans hiring initiative should work to insure that veterans preference means you are interviewed. A chance to not just be words on the page.
- Would have been nice to have representatives present from multiple sectors to better service the diversity of degrees and interests within the community.

Breakout Session Title: **Uniting and Empowering Remarkable Student Veterans: Using Scholarships to Supplement Your GI Bill**

Breakout Attendance: 21

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.1
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	3.55
Presentation:	3.8
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	3.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- It was perhaps too focused on Tillman exclusively, which was confusing since the title made it sound like it was about scholarships more generally.
- I thought this topic would be more general. I found it to be specific about the Pat Tillman Scholarship.
- The topic appeared to be somewhat misleading. It was primarily about the Pat Tillman Scholarship rather than "scholarships" as used in the heading.
- I was a panelist for this session.
- I expected this to be about the topic at hand not an advertisement and Q&A for the Pat Tillman Scholar Award.
- The title was a bit misleading in that this was a session about the Tillman Foundation Scholarship and only that scholarship. It was a very good session albeit it one-dimensional given the title
- Keep up the great work!
- This should have been billed as the "How to apply for the Tillman Scholarship" as that's all that was discussed. Good info if that's what you were only interested in...but otherwise a waste of time.
- Include a university scholarship adviser on the panel in addition to scholars to ensure that accurate information can be shared and to give another side of insight into applying,.
- I wish it would have been about more than one program.
- This was specifically a lengthy plug for the Pat Tillman scholarship. Great scholarship, but they are extremely limited in acceptance... was hoping to hear about various scholarships available to veterans. The disingenuous name of this session kept me

from experiencing a useful session. They presented their material well and had a great panel, but focused solely on The Pat Tillman scholarship.

- I thought it was only ok because they only focused on one scholarship and didnt really give any useful tips on how to go about finding scholarships or writing answers asked by different types of scholarships.
- Was solely about the Pat Tilman Foundation, and did not elaborate on any other sort of scholarships available to students. It would have been more helpful/useful if they eluded to a more diverse amount of scholarships available to student veterans.
- Topic sounded good, but poor execution. There wasn't much relevant information.

Breakout Session Title: **It's a Spectrum: Capturing the Experiences of LGBTQ Service Members and Veterans.**

Breakout Attendance: 16

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.4
Usefulness:	3.6
Presentation:	4.3
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- I didn't really see the connection to current student veteran issues or needs.
- Important topic, but it lacked in audience takeaways.
- Accommodations! Room was overflowing & folks were standing & sitting on the floor to hear presenters & ask questions. I was one of the members of the panel discussion, & am glad that SVA had this type of breakout session recognizing the diversity & being more inclusive of the spectrum that encompasses the Veteran community. Definitely would like this panel (or something similar) in future SVA Nat Cons!
- Christine Black did an amazing job moderating the session. I could have listened to her speak for the whole session. I felt the session could have been better focused or maybe tighter questions, it wasn't as good of a session as I wanted it to be.
- My perspective is skewed I grew up in the SF bayarea, so I felt like this was a bit more of a heads up to club leaders that LGTBQ veterans exist. I think it was great exposure for people who have little or no contact with these groups. I also think that there was a missed opportunity in expressing why this is important. Most schools are actively pushing diversity and trying to moving away from toxic masculine cultures being inclusive is not only decent, but it's the way forward. Clubs who don't embrace this will eventually struggle as they are challenged to find support with in administrations.
- Can we have more panels like this!!
- I understood LGBTQ+ individuals had many hardships regarding their active duty and veteran status but I learned that they have the same problems as everyone else but are generally ignored as they are "outside the norm". All panel speakers provided useful anecdotes regarding their experiences in and out of service.

- The panel consisted of people who identified at Lesbian and or transgender people. There was nobody who identified as Gay or Bisexual so there was not a good representation of the LGBTQ community. This panel did not represent the experiences of the LGBTQ veterans.
- Needs more of these kind of breakouts.

Part 3 breakout sessions on Saturday 9:30 am – 10:30 am

Breakout Session Title: **Strategies for Veteran Well-Being**

Breakout Attendance: 33

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.1
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	3.8
Presentation:	4.1
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	3.9

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Was mostly an advertisement for their MVP program, not useful information.
- the MVP organization is amazing and I wish it was available across the country.
- topics like this should always be longer in my opinion.
- The Merging Vets and Players team were excellent. I would love to see them come back with members sitting on the panel and sharing their experiences and gains from the program rather than board members and analysts who assessed the program.
- The information was presented well on the display however the presentation could have been a little more confident and fluid.
- Wish this would have been another hour.
- The presentation was a great discussion on what MVP does, and how well they are doing. Unfortunately, it is limited in scope and not applicable to cities that don't have an NFL team with participating members.
- This session's description did not meet my expectations but it was a good presentation. I would not have gone to this session if I knew MVP was only available in a few large cities now and in the foreseeable future since I don't live near LA, Las Vegas, Chicago, NYC, or Atlanta.
- It was outstanding.
- MVP discussion was excellent, but unfortunately, not relevant for non-major sport city. Only applies to LA, LV, Chicago and Atlanta.
- I was hoping the session would cover strategies ALL student veterans can practice for well-being. Instead, the breakout session was about one organization that operates in

a handful of cities, and how they're making an impact with their veterans. I'm glad they're making a difference, but I think everyone there wanted to learn what they can do as individuals on a day-to-day basis in order to improve their quality of life.

- Great breakout. Presenters were prepared and engaging.
- The program discussed is only for areas that have NFL teams we come from a smaller state so it does not apply to us.
- Kirstie Ennis is INCREDIBLE.
- I thought I would learn about how veterans could cope better with daily life, but they just turned me to this organization.
- It seemed very specific regarding methodologies. While the methods were good, it did not encourage a lot of growth.

Breakout Session Title: **Fundraising in Higher Education for Student Veterans**

Breakout Attendance: 53

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.1
Usefulness:	3.9
Presentation:	3.9
Discussion / Q&A:	3.9
Overall:	4.0

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- It was a great session... Standing room, it could have housed more participants. I would highly recommend to have it at the SVA NatCon 2021.
- My only wish was that the panelist from Colorado State University addressed how he fully funded 27 students to go to the conference, at no cost to the college.
- Lot of potential but disappointed with the execution. Too many tangents and never really provided answers.
- This wasn't even about fundraising. All the did for an hour was talk about corporate sponsorship.
- This was a discussion focused more on receiving crazy amounts of money that isn't reasonable for the student level. This is beneficial for faculty/staff but not us students trying to afford attending NATCON.
- Should have been in a much bigger room.
- room size was poor. seating for 40 and 80 were in the room.
- Great presentation, but room was too small.
- Great insight into how to leverage the data on student Veterans when approaching sponsors/donors.
- Considering the sessions I went to last year and this year at NatCon this was by far the very best session I had heard of or attended. Some sort of breakout like this needs to be a regular session at every NatCon.
- It focused on the corporate side of fundraising and they didn't touch any area of topics for fundraising among student veterans.
- Glad that there was a broad section of panelists representing different types of institutions.
- Limited diversity on panel. All school represented were public institutions. Where are the private schools?

- there need to be more how-to presentations.
- Extremely useful. I loved hearing how those colleges are fundraising.
- The room was too small for the number of people who wanted to attend. You could not see the panelists. The topics covered for most of the session pertained to large campuses with well developed fundraising; not enough practical advice for those who are just getting started.
- One of the best sessions I attended. Very informative.
- A huge part of this presentation was corporate fundraising, which for a lot of schools isn't a plausible option due to a small veteran/ military affiliated population and lack of man power.
- Speakers did a decent job of conveying useful information...but didn't deliver on all topics they introduced at beginning. Specifically, how to get Student Vets funded to attend NATCON.
- It was great to hear what other schools have done to raise money. I hope that I can take their practices and expand the number of attendees from my school at the next NatCon.
- N/A no slides
- Could have double the time allotted for this session!
- Could have used one of the bigger rooms. Is there a way to do back to back sessions this one needed more time due to the number of panelists and their feedback.?
- Wished they would have provided more of an outline on how to approach companies about donations.
- The room was extremely overcrowded people were sitting on the floor and standing. There was not enough time for questions. The speakers were very vague and providing clear sources.
- Incredible presentation - top notch. I am hoping to use several of the funding sources in the future.
- Too Many Speakers in a short amount of time. Room was too small for the session turnout.
- I expected this to be centered on the student organization chapter level, but this was centered on the university staffed organization level. We are a chapter who doesn't get money from donors because we are a student organization. This was a big let down.

Breakout Session Title: **How Key Decision Points Affect Student Veterans' Education Life Cycle Outcomes**

Breakout Attendance: 21

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.4
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	3.9
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	4.0

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- The main speakers did not seem well-prepared and the number of "ums" and "ahs" were distracting. It would have been interesting to learn more about the implications of the data gathered, and what the data tells us about student veterans and how to improve their experiences.
- I was really impressed with the usefulness of this innovative project. Especially the future possibilities. Nicely done.
- This was by far my favorite presentation! Dr. Chris "The Guru" Cate and his protege Chad executed flawlessly. In short, when I grow up, I want to be Dr. Cate, PhD - not to be confused w/ ABPD.
- Would appreciate having access to the PowerPoint information presented after the session.
- The information presented was very interesting, but I was hoping to have a little more discussion on how we as an office can implement this data to assist our students.
- The presenters bounced around the topic, seemed disjointed at times. I took away a few useful nuggets of information, but mostly, nothing new or groundbreaking.
- It is a really useful tool to use when trying to figure out people's transition stories and showing new student veterans other people's transition paths.
- Presentation was good, but delivery was choppy.
- Interesting data on the many paths veterans can take.
- I loved this presentation and would like to see more data on this.
- If we are going to have these discussions, they cannot be all fluff and fun. Let's talk about real key decisions that are really being made like, the decisions that make us Felons, Homeless, Penniless and Dead. 10% of Veterans returning from war get arrested. The research is incomplete and needs work before being presented again.

- The only critique is that there was not enough time for a deep Q and A.
- As mentioned during my Q/A I would like to see this research adapt to include the many serve members who join without a high school diploma.

Breakout Session Title: **Veteran Service Organizations: A Legacy of Service**

Breakout Attendance: 19

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.4
Length:	3.8
Usefulness:	4.4
Presentation:	4.1
Discussion / Q&A:	3.6
Overall:	4.3

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Not enough time for audience questions. Low diversity of panelists.
- More time for Q&A needed. Would like to have seen the Post 9/11 vet organizations (The Travis Manion Foundation, The Mission Continues, Team RWB, WWP, Team Rubicon) also have their own break out session OR in collaboration with this breakout to show what these orgs have to offer to the veteran community. Very informative & shed some light on how the legacy VSOs are working with SVA to be more inclusive, & how the legacy VSOs are addressing the issue of membership decline due to aging/demise of members.
- I appreciated each VSO sending a representative to tell us the history of their organization. Each org discussed how diverse their demographics were but all of the panelists were male, excluding the one female liaison (not a direct representative of a VSO. I was hoping to learn about what each org offered, in addition to their history and what contributions each has made.
- Interesting panel. Learned about different organizations and why they are important. The one person who got to ask a question was a jerk, so that was a bummer and I felt sorry for the panel.
- I enjoyed hearing about the different organizations.
- This one is interesting for the folks that do not know about all of the SVO's that are available to them.
- Need more time to discuss the veterans issues of concern to all the organizations and veterans. Could use more on issues other than school, employment, advancement.
- It was good to learn about the different VSO's and what they push for. It was definitely helpful and made me look at opportunities involving VSO's.
- Could have used more time

- I really liked this breakout session because I do not know a lot about the different VSO's that are available for us to be a part of. I brought back all this information to my school and we are now trying to reach out to the different VSO chapters in our area to become more involved with them.
- This topic required a double period to facilitate further information and allow for Q&A.

Breakout Session Title: **From Military to Media: How Veterans Applied Skills from Military Service to a Career in Media**

Breakout Attendance: 14

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.3
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	4.4
Discussion / Q&A:	3.3
Overall:	4.5

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- It was inspiring to hear how other veterans got to where they are currently in their career and gave me motivation to step out of the box and learn something new.
- The feedback from the panel was useful and interesting as it pertained to me as someone who will be looking for a job soon, possibly in the media field.
- Why were there no women or members of the LGBT+ community outside of the moderator? It was a mostly white, straight, and male panel.
- I liked hearing the multi faceted stories of perseverance that led the speakers to gain careers in the media with the Disney Company. Demonstrating networking skills and knowing when to "take your shot" with an Idea, once on the job.
- I loved the presentation because different angles of media being used from our service was demonstrated. The relief of life was not dependent on us giving an opinion or making a decision in media and we are able demonstrate knowledge of our service and military action!

Breakout Session Title: **Women Veterans: Never Invisible, Always Serving**

Breakout Attendance: 33

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.9
Length:	4.5
Usefulness:	4.8
Presentation:	4.9
Discussion / Q&A:	4.8
Overall:	4.9

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Amazing presentation!
- Speaker was brilliant! Extremely powerful women speaker, this woman made me want to do better and to be better. She was extremely encouraging and motivating. 10/10 would recommend again.
- This presentation really helped me (being a navy spouse who holds the minority veterans officer for my school's organization) have a better understanding of the things women face while serving and the battles they have overcome to get where they are today.
- Outstanding presentation - could have used more time because there was such great conversations in the room.
- MORE TIME!
- Great job presenting!
- This session was outstanding. I have been to many presentations on Women Veterans and on veterans & diversity topics in general, this session was the best one I have ever seen. Linda Hinkle did an amazing job. In fact, we are already working on getting her to come speak on our campus in March.
- Wish it could have been longer.
- This was the talk I was hoping to hear. I wanted to know how best to help support and ally with female veterans. Great session. Topics like this are what are going to drive veterans clubs into being thriving entities on campus rather than struggling groups in the shadows. Having a diverse veteran's group is also engaging and beneficial to the country as a whole. Changing the image in the public discourse is the best kind of PR for the military and veterans. Most of the kids they meet in college will have very limited engagement with veterans in the future, so it's critical to make that bridge and allow other people to see themselves in veteran communities. Last time I checked

51% of the country was female, so maybe it would be a good idea to honor women's service more than appears to be the current norm. For the record I am not female, but thank you so much for putting this on. I think its so much more important that another talk about the mechanics of the SVA. Also thank you to the presenter, you did a wonderful job of both presenting and fostering discussion. I have a lot to take back to my club.

- The Speaker & the topic was Outstanding! I wish the duration was longer, and I wish everyone in the conference could've heard it. As a male, I strongly believe this Speaker & topic needs to be brought back for 2021.
- Linda Hinkle was absolutely wonderful!!
- I absolutely loved this. It was so empowering to have another female veteran to look up to that was really trying to make a difference for other female veterans.
- Linda was a dynamic speaker, drew in the audience, connected and made info relevant.
- loved this. I actually came because the original panel I wanted to be in was full. I didn't expect a lot of great information in this class and appreciate how available the presenter was to share this information.
- Linda Hinkle was an exceptional presenter - informative, insightful. Her experience and research is relevant today. Definitely include her and her topic in next year's NATCON.
- Linda Hinkle was absolutely amazing. Her entire presentation was extremely informative, relevant, and empowering. This was my favorite breakout session of the day and allowed me to take away incredible, useful information.
- Very empowering presentation with lots of facts and truths.
- Amazing
- This was one of my favorite sessions that I went to over the weekend, she had such passion a wealth of knowledge and a willingness to ensure that anyone that reached out to her to get more ideas to figure out how to grow the women veterans at any college would have her attention and as much help as she could offer.
- Linda Henkel is amazing and very inspiring. I would attend any presentation she gives in the future.
- OMG this woman killed it! You have to bring Linda Hinkle back next year. She has so much good energy, resources, and motivation to share.
- She was very in tune with the subject matter and also at the very end had quite a twist.
- Hands down the best breakout session that I went to all weekend long. Phenomenal speaker and presentation.
- Please invite her back again.
- Linda Hinkle is by far, one of the best speakers I have ever heard on this topic. She is honest and brings that raw experience to her listeners. Myself and the entire audience were truly touched by her words, as she finished her dialogue, everyone in the room went up to thank her and grab a business card. She is an amazing speaker.

Breakout Session Title: **Empowering Policy for Student Veterans: 2020 and Beyond**

Breakout Attendance: 21

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	3.9
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	3.7
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.1

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- This session could use some time at the end for all of the discussion leaders to share the important points from their table's discussion. Otherwise excellent and informative.
- I arrived late and sat down at the Voc rehab table. I have no personal experience with voc rehab so I really sat there listening to what issues others have had with it.
- Having the opportunity to discuss policy concerns and priorities with VSOs was very helpful in providing an outlook for future challenges and services.
- I didn't realize this was entirely discussion of topics related to policy rather than instruction on that policy. If I would have realized, I would have been more prepared to discuss, however it was nice to express some of my concerns about specific policies and know they will be heard. This could be an "A and B" breakout where the first half is a presentation and the second is discussion.
- This is always a great way for student veterans to have their ideas heard by the SVA staff, which can then be advocated for on the Hill.
- It was disappointing that as an attendee I was only able to discuss one topic when every topic was impactful for the future of Student Veterans. Additionally, the "table monitor" did not help steer the conversation in a way that was beneficial for all. One person was able to completely derail the conversation everytime they spoke, would interrupt and not listen to others, and would not allow the conversation to move from the one aspect that they wanted to talk about. Because of this, I found it to be a waste of time and poorly executed although the pretense of what the goal should have been was excellent.
- This session is critical for the future of SVA in supporting our student veterans. Would be useful to have a presentation on current legislative initiatives prior to discussing challenges and potential new initiatives.

- Poorly organized breakout session. No control over the audience trying to push their own personal agenda. No meaningful conversation.
- This breakout was labeled as fundamental, however it was not. Because the topic was on policy, the discussions quickly were dominated by individuals with loads of experience and knowledge on the subject. This domination in the discussions was exasperated by the differing locations of the individuals with the experience and knowledge. The discussions tended to be focused on local and state policies of the individuals speaking. The effectiveness of school and state policies are important, potentially vital to our organizations. Yet the necessity of this breakout seemed to be lost when an individual experienced in policies in Texas controls the conversation; this had little to no help for my small school in West Virginia. This breakout could be improved by changing the level to intermediate or advanced or providing moderators who can better control the topics to be more inclusive.
- Format was useful, however left early due to no new information and used the time to network.
- These think tank style sessions are fantastic. I just wish they were a little longer.
- This breakout was just sitting down and giving feedback to different organizations. While this may not have been a bad idea, it seemed as if this would have been a breakout on policy in the works, rather than asking for ideas for policy.
- This could be a longer session (or two sessions?) But was very very helpful! Loved the 3 policy makers at the miscellaneous table!
- Great session.

Breakout Session Title: **Student Leader Best Practices**

Breakout Attendance: 20

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	3.8
Usefulness:	3.7
Presentation:	3.5
Discussion / Q&A:	3.6
Overall:	3.7

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- Didn't seem like there was much in the way of preparation.
- Student leader feedback is the most powerful part of NatCon for other student leaders.

Breakout Session Title: **Graduate Student Veterans: Tomorrow's Leaders in Business**

Breakout Attendance: 22

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	4.2
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.3

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- This breakout was okay at best. I think there should have been more highlights of why a Veteran Graduate is a better candidate, and all the companies looking to hire Veterans.
- Although the panelist gave some good information about their experiences, not many of them were actively involved in their chapters at their graduate, which I found disappointing. As I transition to be a graduate student, I wanted to get their input on involvement and what resources graduate student veterans would need versus being an undergraduate student veteran, and they could not answer my question. I also think there should be room for panelists who are attending top 10 business schools. As student veterans we need to stop settling for schools that are convenient and easier, and reach for the stars. I think panelists who are part of Top business programs would encourage the rest of the student veteran population to reach higher as well.
- Great class overall. Well prepared and informative.
- It wasn't what I was expecting. I was more curious on different methods of funding for grad school. Not MBA specific.
- This was good to understand the importance of an MBA as a tool to transcend many disciplines.
- I would hope the presentation was more diverse in topics covering how to cater all military service, civilian education and graduate level of education into one complete package instead of success stories.
- Would like to have discussed graduate level in more detail as the focus was on undergraduate level.
- Attended as a panelist and don't want to skew results of participants.
- Great discussion for anyone considering a Master Degree.

Breakout Session Title: **The Intersecting Identities of Veterans and Disability in the Corporate Workplace**

Breakout Attendance: 9

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	3.7
Length:	3.6
Usefulness:	3.3
Presentation:	3.5
Discussion / Q&A:	3.6
Overall:	3.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below.

- 'This man represents my university and did not contact the VSO once. He had NO DATA to back up his claims.
- Topic was slanted more heavily toward recruitment processes than I'd expected.
- Too many panel members and very broad. There was no true discussion on how intersecting identities matter. This panel had too many audiences - corporate leaders, student veterans, hiring managers, and nonprofits. Recommend being more specific around topics and outcomes for panels like this.
- I liked how we heard from both sides of "corporate America" regarding disabled veterans and how we should self-identify. Hearing what veterans in corporations and the non veterans that generally oversee them had to say from their perspectives helped me understand that self identifying as soon as possible is best.
- Found this session useful in thinking about the disabled veteran/employer relationship and how to navigate discussing disabilities.

Breakout Session Title: **Take Command of Your Personal Brand: Discover, design and deploy your next career strategy**

Breakout Attendance: 44

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.8
Length:	4.6
Usefulness:	4.6
Presentation:	4.7
Discussion / Q&A:	4.5
Overall:	4.7

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Leave more discussion time.
- More time was needed and a larger space. Ran long w/o a real opportunity for Q/A. Great presenter.
- I was unable to attend because the room was already full 10 minutes for the breakout started.
- One of my favorite presentations - great topic, well delivered, very informative.
- Very useful and relevant topic.
- Lida provided good, useful feedback and ways to improve career strategy.
- I had no issues with the presentation, however the presentation was a waste for me to attend due to the same material being presented at the main session Thursday.
- Not enough chairs for everyone to sit, also presentation was repeated during the main guest talk later on.
- Loved what I learned.
- I got to the breakout session a bit late and there was no room. I had to stand out in the hallway. This is a great topic and should have a larger area.
- good information well presented.
- I got so much out of this presentation that I purchased the speakers books so that I may follow up on more of her advice.
- Probably my favorite session during the convention. Would highly recommend having for next year.
- Workshop/Lab could be beneficial.
- Love Lida! I would love to see her return!
- Great session, very informative, and interactive.
- This was fantastic! My favorite breakout of the conference.

- Small room, chairs very close together. Many people had to stand.
- I was in so much pain from standing I had to leave half way through as there was not enough seats. For the most part this was something I already understood and applied.

Breakout Session Title: **Industry Panel: Preparing Now for Your Career**

Breakout Attendance: 14

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.1
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- This presentation was great in informing individuals what works to get hired, the resources out there to assist in our need, and what we need to do to be excellent candidates. I believe it was Steven Blazejewski who had gave the notion that, regardless of your veteran status, we need to make the effort to be great candidates. It is not apparent until someone points it out. This session was very useful.
- Gave insight on difficult questions an employer might ask and how to get your resume ready. Overall the best breakout session I attended over the weekend.

Part 4 breakout sessions on Saturday 10:45 am – 11:45 am

Breakout Session Title: **Industry Panel: Preparing Now for Your Career**

Breakout Attendance: 12

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	3.7
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	3.5
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	3.7

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- I actually took Chapter Strategic Plan Consultation but that was not an option, so these rates are for the session I attended, not the one I chose.
- Reminded me that I need to research the position and company before going into an interview.
- I would have liked if the presentation was tailored more to the general audience rather than specifically to being hired at Raytheon.
- To much about company.
- it had pretty good information though a little boring at times.

Breakout Session Title: **Diversity: The Value Veterans Bring to the Workplace**

Breakout Attendance: 23

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	3.8
Presentation:	3.5
Discussion / Q&A:	3.7
Overall:	3.7

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- I loved how it was an all female panel of different branches, civilian careers and Ethnicities.
- It was quite all over the place could have used more in-depth examples and less experience specific to Accenture.
- Larger room was needed for this session. Left within 10 mins of start due to overcrowding of room. Topic looked interesting, but did not attend.
- Great information.
- Another session where the title was a bit misleading: not so much about the value Veterans bring to the workplace than about how to sell yourself for a job.
- I didn't really gain anything from this session. It was probably a good boost of confidence for the female veterans in the room seeing a panel full of women being moderated by another woman. I didn't really ever hear the selling points though. The individual success stories from the panel were great, and I'm glad they're all succeeding, but I would've loved to see some actual statistics about the impact veterans are making in the private sector. Maybe some testimony from Fortune 500 company representatives on the impact a veteran hiring initiative has had on their firm's performance and retention. I really wanted to walk away from this session with some cold hard facts about the title of the session, "The value veterans bring to the workplace." Instead, I walked away knowing the panelists worked hard, networked, have discipline from the military, show up on time, and are doing pretty well.
- They spent most of the time speaking on how to get a job, not how to make the work experience more inclusive. We all know what veterans bring, we are veterans. Tell us how to get a workplace more familiar with veterans.

- It hit key notes on how to do basic representation and translation of your skills. The Q and A though didn't help me at all and was very nitch. It just wasn't the robust presentation to flesh out your skills I thought It would be.
- The moderator started out by having the panel give lengthy backgrounds. Which was nice to hear, but I don't feel that i gained much knowledge of the Value Veterans Bring to the Workplace. I feel that the moderator was more focused on how successful the panel has been rather than how to make the workplace diverse and successful.

Breakout Session Title: **Doing an Internship: Why Working for "Free" can be Crucial to your Transition.**

Breakout Attendance: 17

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	3.8
Presentation:	3.8
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Having current SVA students and their experience was a little help but I suggest maybe having a small panel of 2 students instead of 5. It wasn't as helpful as it could have been.
- I thought the topic was very specific to the Washington internships. I wanted a more general overall vision of internships. Next time have the panel made of different people who applied for various internships for various companies.
- Good session, but there was a similar one that I attended that was even better.
- I appreciated that the presenter would highlight each of the students' time as an intern and made smooth transition in the questions. All the students were happy to share their experiences and advice. I never thought about internships until I went to this panel, definitely recommend it.

Breakout Session Title: **Maximizing Collaborative Leadership to Improve the Health and Well-Being of Veterans**

Breakout Attendance: 21

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	3.9
Usefulness:	3.7
Presentation:	3.8
Discussion / Q&A:	3.7
Overall:	3.8

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- It was more a giant presentation pushing the bush institute. It didnt actually help anything.
- The title of this session was miss leading. I talk to another attendee that was expecting tools and tips for SVA CHAPTERS to optimize wells for themselves and their student vets. Instead, we got a commercial from the Bush Inisisite on what & how they are creating relationships & tools to serve veteran's wellness. Less helpful.
- Not as relevant to me specifically.
- I am very interested in the outcome of their upcoming study and will diligently follow their results.
- Excellent presentation.
- Presenter, needs practice. Was very interesting topic, but hard to follow due to poor presenter.
- It was very interesting to see how the Bush Foundation is gathering data to best engage Veterans at a time and medium for the highest degree of success in medical and mental health.
- I had a problem with the construction of the seminar. The first 30 minutes were spent bragging about the George W. Bush Foundation. I left after feeling like I was sitting in an advertisement. The presentation was all about the foundation and seemed to say nothing about what it was titled.
- As with others, the topic title sou ded good, but the execution was terrible. It was mostly lobbying for the apeakers personal organization and really didn't help.
- This was a very different discussion then I thought it was going to be.

Breakout Session Title: **Degrees of Separation in Today's Job Market**

Breakout Attendance: 16

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.4
Usefulness:	4.7
Presentation:	4.7
Discussion / Q&A:	4.5
Overall:	4.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- It has become apparent to many veterans seeking employment that a degree is your most useful tool. This session brought light to the fact that job seekers are looking for at the soft skills that make the individual a breakout candidate. The panel was great and the information was hard hitting to those who are aiming for the end product but not the quality of the product.
- I found it useful to know that most jobs are now leaning towards digital badges.
- This was the best breakout session that I participated in. The presenter keep the conversation flowing. The panel didn't go into boasting about their organization. Overall, awesome.
- Gained valuable information about the utility of pursuing digital certificates to include on resumes/LinkedIn, including specific recommendations to share with my students.
- I felt that Danny Chong did a great job facilitating the discussion. Each of the panel members provided great information.
- Have highlight from session on SVA website to go back and share with others.
- This was very interesting and I appreciated hearing the different perspectives.
- There were some really good questions asked to the panel. Good representation of the branches, but the panel could use some more diversity.
- Really enjoyed hearing from HR reps about what they look for in an applicant and what to do/not do when applying for a job.

Breakout Session Title: **SALUTE Veterans, National Honor Society**

Breakout Attendance: 22

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.4
Length:	4.3
Usefulness:	4.2
Presentation:	4.3
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Some good information. Nothing highly interesting or applicable though.
- I may be biased, but this just seemed like a sales pitch from SALUTE. In reality, their service doesn't seem to be very useful, and may also distract from local SVA chapters. I did some math, and I was confused as to how this was non-for-profit. They claimed to have given \$8000 in awards last year, but when you crunch the numbers... \$35 lifetime membership multiplied by 18,000 members = \$630,000 in membership fees alone. That's almost 79 years of awards if they give \$8000 a year. That membership fee also doesn't include graduation regalia or the one time \$150 payment from the school to start a chapter... so you have to pay extra for it, adding onto their funds. The membership comes with a recommendation letter from someone who doesn't even know you, and the requirement for the honor society is only a 3.0, which doesn't make it competitive. Their scholarships are great, but small enough to where it's going to be offset by what you lose in financial aid every year. Their best promise seems to be what's "in the works" as they said in the breakout. I'm not sure if I'm just mistaken, and if they are legitimate I apologize, but I wasn't very impressed.
- This was a great presentation. They gave really good information and I left motivated to start a chapter at my institution.
- Should have been longer because of all the information they were giving.
- This was great information! I would suggest having a bigger room for them next year because a lot of people came out.
- Very excited to bring the knowledge and resources gained at this breakout session back to CCRI campus. CCRI will have the first SALUTE national Veteran based honor society in Rhode Island.
- Everything was jam packed. I tried 3 different breakout sessions and they were out the door.

- It was greater getting insight into a program that has largely been ignored on our campus previously. As a Veteran who is in several honors societies this year, I am trying to revive this organization while in place as our SVA Chapter Leader. It was nice to hear about the benefits of membership from them directly.

Breakout Session Title: **SVA Chapter Advisor Best Practices**

Breakout Attendance: 41

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.0
Length:	3.8
Usefulness:	3.5
Presentation:	3.4
Discussion / Q&A:	3.4
Overall:	3.5

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- It would be more beneficial to hear from advisors that have more experience. I think this is an important topic and that it should be structured in a way other than a question and answer format.
- Overall good session. Interesting to get the perspectives of Advisors from different institutional types.
- Felt like another "best practices" panel.
- Presenter and panel were excellent.
- I sat with our Advisor in this one, to see if there was anything I could bring back to help our Veterans. But unfortunately nothing new was learned from this. Also to find out our Chapter is further along than most chapters.
- I'm not sure it was really focused on best practices; it was just a question and answer of how the three advisors do things.
- It was a bit difficult to hear with how large the room was. I appreciated each advisor taking the time to share their best practices and experiences with us.
- As my institution's chapter President, I went into this session with a mindset of trying to help understand how my advisor can better help me navigate things on campus. While this session was informational, it didn't seem to shed any light on anything I already didn't know.
- Expected to hear about Best Practices when some of the Advisors shared challenges they are facing at their institution but no solution. One fellow came across as very combative. I submitted questions using the app but the moderator was not reviewing the questions.
- I am new to the advisor role, so hearing what works and what doesn't work with SVA chapters was very helpful. I think that having more time for Q&A would be helpful in the future.

- Advisors, although well-intentioned, lacked sufficient experience/expertise. You need to vet panelists and insure they're prepared. The moderator was skilled and seasoned . . . the advisors were NOT. There's no growth if the blind are leading the blind.
- I was expecting more roundtable discussions over advisors of the year nominees telling us what they did - perhaps a mix of both next time will be more valuable.
- I'd like to see a more in-depth version of this session offered. The panel was okay, but I'd like to see a more formal presentation of what SVA advisors should be doing at a minimum, and maybe share ideas of ways to encourage student participation or successful events at other colleges and universities.
- Didn't seem rehearsed. Participants on the panel didn't seem to have much experience over those in the crowd. The person leading it was great.
- If billing as Best Practices, they speakers should provide specific/tangible best practices. Anything learned was extracted via Q&A.
- I did not attend SVA Chapter Advisor Best Practices. The breakout I attended was as listed in the program but not here on the website. This makes sense because there was no breakout in Gold 1 at 10:45 am. Chapter Strategic Plan Consultation was scheduled but did NOT happen. No presenter arrived nor did anything happen. A huge let down, I am very disappointed. After realizing nothing was going to happen, I left and walked into Gold 2 for SVA Chapter Advisor Best Practices.
- I was a panelist for this session, while the session went well much improvement could be made. Assigning panelist specific question based off experience, knowledge, and ability to convey the message in a clear manner would be beneficial to audience members.
- THIS IS NOT FOR BEST PRACTICES.. I attended Strategic Plan Consultations with Mr. Lyon. He did a good job of ramming a bunch of numbers down our throat and taught us nothing about the Plan. Then he said "Just call the office we will walk you through one (A plan)" Absolutely worthless.
- Presentation focused on experiences instead of best practices /
- There was a great topic that I liked to listen to and I thought had some great insight into how I can bring those ideas back to my chapter and change it for the better.

Breakout Session Title: **Why Can't We Be Friends? Building Relationships with Campus Partners to Achieve Your Chapter's Potential**

Breakout Attendance: 33

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.6
Length:	4.3
Usefulness:	4.2
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	3.8
Overall:	4.1

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Very useful information.
- I felt this was so centered on how one organization did it without providing suggestions on how to further outreach and connect with other orgs.
- I wish we had more time to do a deeper dive into this topic. Presenter provided great insight into the reality of capitol and how to follow through.
- Was not prepared. Did not let other presenter present any information until questions. Information not realistic to other institutions. Focused on one area (money) the whole time.
- It was useful, but once again ODU already does most of what was mentioned. Still a great topic.
- He was a good presenter and I admire the growth he experienced and am glad his strategies work for him. However, some of his strategies wouldn't work for vets on my campus such as running the organization like a business. This puts our members off. He also talked about donors with millions of dollars and we don't have those types of resources.
- This presentation was great. I really enjoyed how they included ways to get new donors and methods to use the money once you have a donor. Well done!
- Jeremiah was very engaging, honest, and realistic. One of the best sessions I attended.
- The presentation wasn't general enough for most schools to relate to I don't think. I thought the presentation would be more focused on how we should be building relationships with other clubs and organizations on our campus and creative events to do with them instead of trying to find donors.
- Had two presenters, however only one did the presentation.

- Felt very general, could have used more detail.
- Overall good job.

Breakout Session Title: **What are the Challenges, Barriers, and Opportunities for Veterans in Higher Education Research?**

Breakout Attendance: 28

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.2
Length:	3.9
Usefulness:	3.6
Presentation:	3.6
Discussion / Q&A:	3.7
Overall:	3.7

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- I would like to see how SVA is following up on the ideas discussed during this breakout session.
- I had hoped we could have heard a summary from each group- like 3 take home points in challenges, barriers, opportunities in Policy, academic achievement and employment It was a think tank idea format, but maybe too easy for some topics that took the majority of the time.
- Would appreciate having access to the PowerPoint information presented after the session
- This breakout was poorly executed and was clearly not what I expected. My hope was that it would be an opportunity to explore and discuss ongoing research initiatives in the Veteran space and identify gaps in research that need filled. Instead, this was geared solely to students interested in or currently conducting research of any kind.
- I would have preferred this topic be discussed as a whole group rather than subgroups. Or at the very least we should have come back together as one group for final discussion. I suspect relevant /useful discussion was driven by the group you were in. I would have liked to hear from the other groups.
- We were broken up into 4 different groups, higher education, career development, disability services, and something I can't remember. We didn't have time, in the end, to discuss what the other groups talked about. 1 session 1 subject stay focused. 'These think tank style sessions are fantastic, I just wish they were a little longer.

Breakout Session Title: **Intersections of disability, gender and veterans in higher education: exploring students' social identities and campus experiences.**

Breakout Attendance: 16

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.1
Length:	3.4
Usefulness:	3.3
Presentation:	3.4
Discussion / Q&A:	3.4
Overall:	3.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- The presentation was well. I felt the slide shows were rather wordy and he sped through the presentation rather fast.
- Will be interesting to see this presentation AFTER the research has been conducted.
- The presenter lacked the fundamentals for beginning research on the topic he presented. He provided no post or pre-survey data. As he stated, this is a Ph. D proposal and wanted help with the following: How has the topic narrowed or expanded? Identify your primary source of information. What is the most important concept or idea or argument you identified? What the second most important concept or idea or argument you identified? What the third most important concept or idea or argument you identified? What are the three key vocabulary words you identified? What are the two main points of view you identified?
- The presenter was preparing to conduct research, so no results were obviously provided. This discussion may have been better suited for a round table to assist the presenter with his research.
- Was a proposal for a study but good info on topics not yet researched.
- This session was still under construction as it was a doctoral dissertation by the presenter that he was currently conducting. Most of the session was him talking about what his thesis and experiment/survey was to have. As it is ongoing/just started we had no conclusions.
- Topic was wishy washy and about a survey rather than services.
- Not sure what the point of a presentation of someone's probable dissertation ideas. Presenter didn't even have knowledge of his own university's data. Also had preconceived bias against Veteran's with disabilities.

Breakout Session Title: **Yesterday's Pension, Today's TSP, Tomorrow's 401(k): Take Charge of Your Financial Future!**

Breakout Attendance: 25

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.5
Usefulness:	4.8
Presentation:	4.6
Discussion / Q&A:	4.6
Overall:	4.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- I learned a lot on how to manage my money for retirement. Financial classes should be at every NatCon.
- I'm not exaggerating, this was the best breakout I've been to in the three years at SVA. Most practical advice I've been given. Wish it was longer.
- Great information for young and old veterans.
- This class was very useful.
- Some questions from the audience because it dealt with financial, they wanted to ask personal questions about their own finances. This was good in some respects, but overall these should be done more one on one.
- Great class with lots of useful information. Unfortunately, instructor lost control of the setting when audience started asking questions.
- I always attend presentations on finance. Although the speaker didn't cover any material I wasn't already using it was still an excellent presentation with very useful information.
- Who doesn't love to talk about money and how you can have ore in the future!
- Great presenter and info. Admittedly it was all info I had heard before, but it was a great reminder to take a closer look at my financial situation and make some adjustments.
- Amazing presentation, and super informative.
- Would have liked more time with this topic. Will use the information to, hopefully, set myself up for retirement.
- This session should definitely be repeated next year.

Part 5 breakout sessions on Saturday 1:15pm – 2:15pm

Breakout Session Title: **Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment Modernization**

Breakout Attendance: 40

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.3
Length:	3.9
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	3.8
Overall:	4.1

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- So much potential but the presentation itself went too long - the valuable information got lost. Not enough time for substantive questions. Was really looking forward to this but spent so much time talking about changes that never got to the current issues facing folks right now.
- Was hoping for more of a informative session than it was but still worthwhile.
- This is a topic that could have used more time. The message to institutions is that CH31 is moving forward to improve responsiveness and efficiency to best support Veterans.
- This session was very informative and I really enjoyed understanding what was to come through the VocRehab venture. The presenter gave a lot of promises and I really pray this does not change and was not just said to make us happy. Change really needs to happen.
- This presentation turned into a "look at all of the great things" and ignore everything that is wrong. The impact that VR&E can have on a veteran can either be wonderful (which is where all the attent was) or life threatening (which was either sugar coated or blatenly ignored by the presenter). The presenter had way too many slides, packed with way too much generic information, that was not appropriate for the amount of time they were slotted. Additionally, the Q&A did not actually answer any questions. Multiple people asked a question and the "answer" was "just reach out to me and I'll take care of it" which is not helpful and missed the point of the question.
- Very helpful info

- Add more time for question and answer time!
- This was a necessary breakout session, however, time was not spent wisely and I felt rushed at the end. This could have been a longer session.
- I went into it hoping I would be able to actually learn more about the benefits that Voc Rehab offers because our VSO is not forthcoming about any of that information.
 \nInstead we just got told we know our program sucks but were trying to fix the bugs by adding technology. I have not seen the improvements or anything that will benefit me so far.
- This session was 75% useless updates on the VA's VR&E program. Which seemed like a pitch from the director to highlight how he's improved the program... great, but it wasn't useful for someone that was looking for info on eligibility and program benefits. I still rated this session high because interspersed in the irrelevant specifics of how they improved the system were a few nuggets that answered my questions.
- As a student alumni of the VRE program, and now a Veteran Coordinator for a college, this session was vital for my personal and professional growth in my career industry.
- I learned a lot more about what is in the pipeline for improving the Chapter 31 program and matching up with the current programs inline with pay.
- The presenter took an entire hour to explain the two small new features of the Voc Rehab program, which seemed completely unnecessary. He spoke a lot about his team and his job, which was not very pertinent.
- I attended this breakout session because the description said there would be discussion of eligibility and how it works. The main thing I got from this breakout session was all of the new features associated with Voc Rehab on their website. This was a tough session for me to sit through.
- My concern revolving around this session was less to do with its presentation and more to do with the takeaway, which was: Its subjective, inconsistent, but powerful. I also walked away feeling like the potential appeals process wasn't worth doing. Ultimately, the message seemed to be important though: Have a good relationship with your counselor or else. It was a slightly off-putting session though as it came off more negative than positive.

Breakout Session Title: **Rock your resume: Best practices with Google (Bravo)**

Breakout Attendance: 26

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.2
Presentation:	3.9
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- resumes are subjective and I am always concerned when anyone presents "Best Practices". That being said, this was ok.
- Good topic for resume building, including order, hyperlinks to save space, creating resume in .pdf, what to include if your work experience is over 10yr in duration. Would definitely recommend!
- I enjoyed receiving the pamphlet at the end that gave tips on how to write a resume.
- I appreciated the personal insight by the presenters from both an applicant and recruiter standpoint.
- The topic was good and very informative. It actually helped me learn that my resume could actually be better written and made me reevaluate my resume as a whole.
- This is my third time attending this workshop, but it had really good info for new student vets attending the conference.
- It really didn't cover anything more relevant than I have already done with my resume'. It was as though the people that were doing the presentation through it together at the last minute.
- I enjoyed the topic and found elements very useful but the presentation was somewhat off. It seemed they knew what they wanted to say but it wasn't as fluid so it sometimes was hard to follow.
- Speakers were energetic and engaging. Topic was excellent and very applicable to a retired veteran that is entering a new career field and hasn't done a resume in 30 years.
- Excellent presentation. Not just about google.

- Good to know how the private sector is looking at resumes and how to strengthen my own.
- I was hoping for way more, almost nobody actually brought their resume it seemed to just be a restating of the demystifying talent acquisition session and seemed like a bit of a waste when it's just the same thing I just sat through.
- Should give out or allow people to take vital notes on resumes present in front of them on best practices and allow for a short follow on lab to work on actual resume in case of questions.
- very useful exercises presenting in the talk. I found it helpful to know the proper way to break down your resume.

Breakout Session Title: **Leadership Development Action Lab**

Breakout Attendance: 39

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.6
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	3.0
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.1

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- It was fun and interesting.
- Did not relate how to apply topic to being an SVA leader. Title and description of topic misrepresented actual content on leadership types.
- Could be more time in understanding the enneagram.
- Learned a lot and was very engaging.
- I was hoping for something more professional for leadership building than an enneagram to tell me what Facebook surveys have told me for 10 years.
- This was a very useful tool and I enjoyed this lab.
- The delivery by the presenters was a little weak. However the workshop itself was very beneficial and should definitely be used in the future. Being able to first identify what kind of leader you will definitely help how you run your chapter.
- Well done. This one took some time but the information was useful.
- I loved the interactions and getting to learn a different (much faster) way of assessing how people make decisions. This will really help in my interactions with others.
- The only thing I got out of this was that everyone has personality types. We also ran out of time though I was not sad about this because this was not very useful.
- Great presentation. Some of the documents were limited in numbers.
- While an interesting topic, our timeline kept the discussion pretty shallow. Schools already do these personality tests and leadership style profiles for students. Maybe it would be beneficial to discuss organizational behavior and ways to actually be a more effective leader in the workplace. That way, we can actually get something out of the lab.
Also, encourage the individuals leading the lab to avoid using political figures, especially presidential candidates! We got to hear about the admirable qualities of Cesar Chavez, Joe Biden, and Barack Obama. I thought this was pretty tacky.

- In theory it's a great idea. In practice, the leadership style identified and subsequent crowdsourcing for management ideas was not useful, and felt more like chatter about the types of people we were. Overall, I wasn't able to take much away from the session.
- I think this session could have had been more engaging.
- This is a more effective way for school faculty and student veterans to engage. Action lab was outstanding. Highly recommend more action labs. All other break out sessions hearing the guest speaker is ok, but you have group participation I believe more was accomplished. Outstanding lab !!

Breakout Session Title: **SVA Chapter Best Practices**

Breakout Attendance: 26

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.2
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	3.1
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.0

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- While it was nice to hear this session, there wasn't anything that I could bring back to my chapter that I already didn't know. Maybe doing a think tank for this type of session to hear what other chapters are doing and how they navigate at their institution may be more useful.
- Good panel discussion.
- This was very helpful to learn what other SVA chapters are doing, especially as a new advisor. I have great notes to take back to my students.
- This breakout session was very helpful to me. I just feel like it could have been more useful and worth our time if the panel didn't give such long answers. I know this is something that can't be controlled, but the answers to the questions should be more direct instead of repeating the same thing all the time or saying exactly what the person next to them already said, but in different words.
- Session was too short to get concrete action plans.
- All breakouts felt like they were geared toward individuals or large universities.
- I think they didn't show up to this session?
- Majority of the Q and A were discussing issues that multiple SVA chapters have but did not really touch on solutions to those issues.
- Great to hear from students who are experiencing what it takes to run a chapter.
- This session was great in theory. I was expecting the SVA to tell me ideas instead of the small group discussions, but the small group idea worked out wonderfully. I just needed to be way longer because most groups ran out of time.

Breakout Session Title: **The Unstoppable Pursuit of Education: Engaging Catastrophically Injured Veterans**

Breakout Attendance: 3

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	5.0
Length:	3.5
Usefulness:	3.5
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	4.5
Overall:	4.3

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- While I appreciated the presenters' perspectives, they attended school several years ago when the climate surrounding inclusivity was different; I had hoped for more specific ideas for students/administrators to take away on next steps in the current campus environment.
- .Having some vets there to discuss what engagement efforts worked for them might be beneficial for professionals in the field to learn about from the veteran themselves.

Breakout Session Title: **Create Community in the Workplace: Your Next Leadership Challenge (ERGs and more)**

Breakout Attendance: 14

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.1
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	4.2
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Learning more about Employee Resource/Affinity Groups, their purpose and impact was highly informative, and the panelists were very helpful in understanding how to better engage in the workplace and the community.
- This seemed to be to high level for a college student.
- Really useful for people to think about transitioning from school to the workplace and it can also be applied to connecting student veterans with on campus communities.
- ERGs essentially seem like SVA or Veteran Student Clubs, the overview of ERGs in each center could have been specifically tied back to SVA chapters at schools and how to engage in campus. Overall it was good, and at least offered insight to ERG/BRGs in the corporate world outside of academia.
- According to the breakouts description, I thought some talk might be on mentorship, but there wasn't.

Breakout Session Title: **Hill Town Hall**

Breakout Attendance: 19

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.8
Length:	4.5
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.5
Discussion / Q&A:	4.4
Overall:	4.5

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Good information on what's being done at higher governmental levels with student input, but, as tends to be the case, school's are relegated to being reactionary and told what to do rather than being vested partners in the development process of policy and procedures. School practitioners are the vital link to the military and veteran student body.
- Learned a lot from the panel and it was awesome opportunity for me to network with Hill professionals.
- There was a lot of lingo in this and if felt like you needed to already know of know about the policy before going into it. I would recommend having them do more explaining about the policies.
- It felt overall flat and unfulfilling. It made me question what the purpose of the session was even for. It felt we were being talked at and there wasn't even a real discussion on the world of politics.
- Very knowledgeable panel. Very good dialogue between the panel and the audience. Very good control of the group.
- Ran out of time towards the end- Q&A portion needed to be longer. Over all good topic and information shared.
- I thought the panel was great. It provided insight to what lawmakers are doing for veterans and other Bill's in the process of becoming law. It was a good look inside our legislative branch and the questions and information were great.
- I liked this breakout session because it gave a lot of information about upcoming bills and laws that are hopefully going to be passed and it also gave information about Rolling to Remember. I did not know that this actually happened and will be trying to make it to DC to attend. It's an important topic and I think it would be a good experience.

Breakout Session Title: **Two lenses: The Power of Internships**

Breakout Attendance: 12

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.0
Length:	3.8
Usefulness:	3.4
Presentation:	3.5
Discussion / Q&A:	3.6
Overall:	3.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- The session was okay, however both panelist were from the same field and had very similar experiences. It would have been much better to have panelist with diverse internship experiences to capture more of the audience. In addition, they were both successful, we would all benefit know what not to do as well.

Breakout Session Title: **Diversity Spotlight -- How Managing Self-Disclosure Can Impact Your Career at PwC**

Breakout Attendance: 8

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	4.6
Length:	4.3
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	4.1
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

Breakout Session Title: **Grassroots Engagement: It's Not a Chamber of Secrets**

Breakout Attendance: 14

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below.

Topic:	3.5
Length:	3.1
Usefulness:	3.2
Presentation:	3.6
Discussion / Q&A:	3.6
Overall:	3.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- I thought it was going to be about engaging vets on campus to address the participation issues HOWEVER, I was not the least bit disappointed that it was about the US chamber of Commerce very good info.
- Great title, not what I experienced in the actual session. The message I got was to get involved with your local chamber of commerce and promoted Veterans. Too short.
- I walked out. This was a waste of time. I don't have any idea why we did this or its applicability to the big picture.
- I did not feel it was useful.
- The session was useful and the information was ok, but the whole thing could have been 10 minutes long, and just as useful.

Breakout Session Title: **Financing College on the Post-9/11 GI Bill: Myths and Realities as Described by Veterans**

Breakout Attendance: 17

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category

Topic:	3.8
Length:	3.6
Usefulness:	3.6
Presentation:	3.9
Discussion / Q&A:	3.8
Overall:	3.8

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Felt like they were using us to gather more information for their research.
- The title was misleading and the subject matter was irrelevant. At no point was there any tangible presentation discussing their topic because their whole directive was to discuss their institution beginning research on the topic. No purpose was served.
- Great beginning stages to the qualitative interview portion of how the GI Bill is being used, and why veterans are taking out student loans.
- I believe the title should have been tailored a slight bit differently, the research provided will greatly improve what those in the future will need to become more informed in the education careers. I appreciate both Mr. Phillip Oliff and Mrs. Ama Takyi-Laryea in their pursuit to quantify the importance of the Post-9/11 GI Bill.
- This was very informative to me since I'm a club advisor and do not have the Post 9/11 GI Bill. I have a much better understanding of the veteran's benefits now and issues they face paying for education.
- Not sure what the idea of this presentation was suppose to be, however it was interesting but I don't feel it was very informative for student veterans. Toward the end it seemed to be a complaint session on how reservist don't get the same entitlements as active duty and so on.
- I wish I remembered more about this session, unfortunately while I think it was good, I don't know what takeaways I came out with.
- I had no idea that many veterans were not using their benefits or were borrowing money still even when using education benefits. This session is also an ongoing survey/experiment but we had some useful active info from the people attending.
- This topic didn't really go to much in depth. I did enjoy the at the moment polling.
- There were many things that we went over in this session that was great but also our advisor already knew.

Breakout Session Title: **How Warrior-Scholar Project Empowers Student Veterans:
Sneak Peek and Crash Course**

Breakout Attendance: 17

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.6
Length:	4.4
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	4.1
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Excellent demo and practical exercise/workshop style.
- The hands-on exercises felt odd and a time-waste. Would've rather heard more about the programs and various components than to spend 15 minutes practicing an exercise that wasn't well explained to begin with. It felt odd.
- This was a great session for me to learn about what Warrior Scholar Project and REVU offer. I am excited to share these opportunities with my students. I especially appreciated the direct contacts being available at the session for questions.
- This was an awesome presentation, definitely going to check my calendar and apply!
- It would be great if you could incorporate this into TAPS! Very helpful for service members who joined right out of high school to build skills and confidence to launch into higher education.
- Very well conducted, informative. Presented student views very well and addressed pertinent questions. The addition of the service2schools presentation was very helpful.
- Maybe include a panel that has graduate school opportunities and prep as well.
- Essentially recruiting for a "how to study" program. Needed for many, but not for grads. Wish it would have specified.
- Wonderful breakout session, I've already gained so much from WSP and I hope to attend either Notre Dame or USC this summer.
- I signed up. Very useful. a good resource to have.

Part 6 breakout sessions on Sunday 9:30 am – 10:30 am

Breakout Session Title: **What, Where and How: Fellowships, Scholarships, Internships and other peak experiences**

Breakout Attendance: 24

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories.

Topic:	4.4
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.3
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.1

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question

- This session provided the importance of internships and how to utilize your time in college/university to your advantage. All the presenters on the panel provided great information and how they got to do things they would not have been able to if they did not network with key people. The presentation was great, especially for those who want to study and not network.
- This was much less objectively informative and much more anecdotal than I hoped. I was frustrated when it became literally a panel of what 4 Penn students in relatively similar fields did to get a fellowship or what have you.
- It seemed to be more for a civilian college student not a veteran student.
- Helped change my mindset on internships, which is that A) it's for the younger kids who have no work experience, B) compensation is usually subpar (this is a big deal for older students like student veterans), and C) that it's worth my time overall. Definitely worth my time.
- This was a powerful session with competent board of individuals who were actually doing what they were saying. Found this session to be one of the best in the entire conference. U of Penn did an outstanding job and presentation: was very enlightening and encouraging for all in attendance.
- The Fulbright and Boren Awards are incredible opportunities that I feel like are not talked about enough, at least here on my campus. I've only seen the Boren Award mentioned once and I've never seen the Fulbright talked about in anyway beyond hearing that a student once got accepted. As someone who is personally interested in study abroad and foreign language immersion programs, I found this to be really helpful.

Breakout Session Title: **How to be More Than Just a Club**

Breakout Attendance: 33

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.1
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	3.9
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Wish it was a little longer in order to have more ideas from the other clubs.
- This is probably in general, but if there was a way to have a facebook group, microsoft teams group, or any of the similar for SVA leaders and/or members to share ideas it could possibly help. The amount of time given to discuss our ideas on how to be a better organization was little due to presentations.
- This was a good one.
- I wanted more information about outreach and collaboration, but the session was more focused on how successful your chapter was the previous year. Not as helpful and not the information I was expecting to gain.
- We answered questions at our table but responses were not shared with the group. Seemed like a lot of questions to be answered in a short amount of time. No access to the Power Point. Please note: It would have been helpful to have these on the app as it was difficult to see the questions in a crowded room.
- There was too much packed into the breakout session, either cut it down so the topics that are presented can be satisfactorily discussed or turn it into its own thing. There was just too much.
- Reminded me that I need to make sure our club has goals and more events for the next semester.
- It seemed more like information going back to SVA Headquarters than information for individuals. It seemed hard for the presenter to keep attention of the room (some random person yelled for everyone to be quiet and it was very odd). I felt that the questions presented were okay but mainly a chance to discuss them between the people at your table but not a whole room discussion. As they asked for posters to be posted around the room but at the very end so didn't get the chance to see what other groups had discussed.

- Would work a bit more on moderation. People at my table tended to stray off on the topics.
- This breakout session was the most useful out of the whole time I attended the conference. I was able to bring back a lot of information for my next club meeting on how we can do things better. My only regret is that I was unable to get the contact info of the people in my group (both due to being introverted but also they were not registered on the app to attend the session).
- Working with groups from different SVA chapters, we were able to compile a "best practices" list and common hindrances and offer condolences and advice for struggling chapters.
- again as a small school fell short for me.
- We broke out in groups in this session and it was an excellent way to learn about how organization from other schools are using their resources.
- Overall good job.

Breakout Session Title: **Getting Started: How to Leverage Diversity in A New Role**

Breakout Attendance: 5

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.2
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	3.6
Presentation:	4.2
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- The conversation was not general enough because the panelists talked about how to leverage diversity at their specific company, not just in jobs in general. It seemed that they were just talking about why you should apply to Accenture than anything else.
- I like how there were different panelists. It was nice to have different opinions! There was only one company represented, so maybe have multiple companies?

Breakout Session Title: **Health Care Options for Student Veterans**

Breakout Attendance: 15

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	3.8
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	4.1

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Most of the information presented can be easily found online, but it was important for me to learn about other healthcare options for veterans rather than just what applies to myself. The presentation was very concise and well put together.
- Presenters were knowledgeable about health care options for veterans from civilian and veteran standpoints. Presenters encouraged healthcare professionals in the audience to correct any comment or to ask questions they may have.
- The primary care physician who was the guest did not provide much useful information. A few of the questions that were asked the presenters, we're unable to be answered. Someone who is more knowledgeable with health care options out there, there were many people interested in this presentation, only to be disappointed.
- The use of a panel presentation was useful to get different perspectives on the same question.
- The presentation didn't really go over many health care options aside from Tricare West and the VA.

Breakout Session Title: **All Politics is Local: Institution, Local, and State Policy as a Student Veteran**

Breakout Attendance: 21

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.2
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	3.9
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.1

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- More like this please it was one of the most beneficial for poli sci majors.
- I felt like the woman did not get to speak a whole lot on her experience, but overall all three were great speakers.
- I think the moderator could have done a better job asking questions to dive deeper into the panelist experiences in policy instead of hyping up the policy liaison program.
- Overall, the session seemed without focus and meandered over lots of different areas. Didn't come away with really any take aways.
- Ended up being a VFW recruitment.
- Looking forward to the Policy Liaison Program.
- I appreciated the speakers enthusiasm but once again this session was overflowing with people standing and sitting on the floor.
- I thought there was a mix in goals-- but if the goal was to help student veterans to get involved in career in policy I think it did that well! Also, what great panelists! Could definitely identify with them and look up to them.

Breakout Session Title: **Student Leader Best Practices**

Breakout Attendance: 9

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.7
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.1
Discussion / Q&A:	4.6
Overall:	4.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Topic was not well defined, one presenter seemed unprepared, did not give new advice or strategies to use in the organization.
- I can't wait to bring what I learned and the people I want to connect with back to my campus and be a better leader for other veterans, faculty and staff.
- The panel essentially stated that we have all been leaders since we joined the military. We need to take what we have learned and apply it to the campus and workplace. I believe that is something all of us already know. I was hoping to get more insight on how to be the best leader on campus that I could be.

Breakout Session Title: **Disability Services and Student Vets Building Bridges to Success**

Breakout Attendance: 23

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.6
Length:	4.4
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.5
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.5

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Again repeat of info and generic answers and national averages. Which again feel are not accurate.
- Hands down my favorite session I attended. I got so many great ideas and information to take back to my campus. Presenters were very helpful in the end to answer individual questions, as the time of the session went by quickly and we did not have a lot of time for Q&A.
- This was a great presentation and lots of useful information.
- I took a lot of notes and I am so grateful you put this one in the mix. I took a lot from the presentation and the ideas were awesome! I am so happy I get to work with SSD here at my University to get going with these ideas and the data they presented.

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Length:	4.4
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.5
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.5

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- I took a lot of notes and I am so grateful you put this one in the mix. I took a lot from the presentation and the ideas were awesome! I am so happy I get to work with SSD here at my University to get going with these ideas and the data they presented.

Breakout Session Title: **Increasing Military Cultural Competency and Awareness Among University Administrators**

Breakout Attendance: 33

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.6
Length:	4.4
Usefulness:	4.5
Presentation:	4.5
Discussion / Q&A:	4.4
Overall:	4.5

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- PsychArmor is an amazing product and resource.
- Not what I was initially expecting out of this session. Got some information out of this but I think a missed opportunity. Liked the videos but needed more.
- Too much of a sales pitch for PsychArmor, which is a good organization with a valuable tool, but didn't offer enough time for institutions to ask questions or share best practices about actually bringing cultural awareness to the campuses.
- Psych Armor was excellent and the practical group exercises were great!
- One of the best sessions I attended.
- PyschArmor was a treat to learn about. I am excited to utilize their videos in our staff, faculty, and student training to help build military cultural competence on our campus.
- The presenters and their information were outstanding.
- This was absolutely incredible. Worthwhile, informative, just wished it was longer.
- I did not know about PsychArmor and I'm very interested in getting involved with this to see how I can use it to help build my chapter more.
- Glad to have gottens training resource.
- Psych Armor is a fantastic organization that brings incredible value to the veteran space. Their platform is the future of how we train/educate our university staff/faculty to better understand and serve our Veteran and Military Connected Students. Bravo to Tina Atherall!
- This, for me, was probably the most relevant topic. The presenters were very engaging and informational.
- I found this useful because it was a chance to be able to learn how to speak to university leaders about the different problems student veterans face. The chance to speak with others at the table and hear their experiences was very useful.

- So very helpful for academic institutions who want to offer Green Zone and other trainings on limited resources!
- Great presentation - we are planning on using PsychArmor at our institution to get faculty and staff more involved.

Breakout Session Title: **Graduate Student Veterans: Tomorrow's Leaders in Research**

Breakout Attendance: 20

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.1
Length:	3.8
Usefulness:	3.8
Presentation:	3.8
Discussion / Q&A:	3.9
Overall:	3.7

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- These presenters really concentrated on doctorate programs. I would have liked to see more about the masters level. Maybe it would be better to separate the two topics.
- It seemed to be almost entirely focused on Vets who are already completed or nearly completed their bachelor degrees. I feel like it was tough as a new student to understand the gap in between what they were talking about and where I am at. I'm not sure if this is intentional, and that I may have misunderstood the purpose of the session or not.
- For this, I don't feel like I learned anything new about graduate school. I Think a presentation may be more beneficial than a panel of people talking about their experiences.
- A good overview of what to do in Grad school. Maybe highlight some more options of what to do as a post grad?
- We need more research on graduate student veterans and their needs, especially when GI Bill benefits are exhausted.
- This is a relevant topic. Important to encourage student veterans to pursue graduate education.
- This was completely useless. All panels were useless at this conference as they turned into individuals telling their personal stories but not supplying useful information. If this conference is to be useful to veterans who are already involved helpful information should be supplied, not simply statements about how the panel veterans did not know what they wanted to do when they applied to grad programs.
- This was very interesting, but I would be interested to see more information on technical majors. All three panelist were great but they spoke about Liberal Arts degrees and I feel that as an engineer I would have a very different experience.

Breakout Session Title: **The Warrior Wellness Alliance: A Collective of Best In Class Peer Networks and Clinical Providers Serving Veterans and their Families**

Breakout Attendance: 5

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.0
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	3.8
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Really awesome and informative, loved the speaker and her passion for the topic.
- Fantastic coverage of a new initiative; very informative and the presenters entertained many questions.

Breakout Session Title: **Veterans' Reintegration into the Civilian Workforce: A Review and Recommendations**

Breakout Attendance: 16

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.2
Length:	3.8
Usefulness:	3.6
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	3.8
Overall:	3.9

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- This is a topic that should be given every year. It is important and one of those things that veterans do not realize the importance of until they are in the middle of it.
- She didn't really provide much outcomes- most of the presentation was the methodology on the literature review- I thought there would be more take home points.
- Very useful data that would be much more valuable with a defined pathway for execution. (Though, it is still young in its design).
- This was a great session to see how little work has been done on this topic. Hopefully, it encourages additional research.
- Dr. Ghosh shared some wonderful information but spent too much time explaining how the data was collected from existing articles. Suggest focusing more on the results and moving more quickly through the methodology.
- I have nothing.
- I did not get a lot of this presentation. It was not interesting to me.

Breakout Session Title: **Transition Success - Preparing for your next career**

Breakout Attendance: 27

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	3.9
Length:	3.8
Usefulness:	3.7
Presentation:	3.7
Discussion / Q&A:	3.7
Overall:	3.8

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Relevant topic, but the presentation geared too much to one employer.
- I listen to half of this presentation and walkout. The lack of energy of the presenter, low voice tone, un compelling powerpoint, and topics made this THE WORST breakout session of the entire conference. SVA should create a training on how to put on a successful Breakout session.
- Presenter was qualified, prepared, and able to deliver a professional presentation at a national conference. Material, recommendations, etc., were relevant and useful and well-targeted. Presenter should've filled in gap left by lack of questions/discussion.
- Have highlights posted on SVA website.
- This session was not as informational as I would have hoped. I enjoyed most panels but felt there was a lack of structure.
- Was more tailored to a specific career and I couldn't relate.
- I would have liked to see more of a Q&A period in this section and less Q&A during the presentation.

Part 7: breakout sessions on Sunday 1:45 pm - 2:45 pm

Breakout Session Title: **Health Care Professional to Advocate-Using Health Care Degrees in Non-Traditional Roles**

Breakout Attendance: 19

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	4.0
Presentation:	4.1
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.1

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Personal experiences and stories irrelevant to the topic. Very niche roles that interest very little veterans. Would have loved to address traditional health care models and educational degrees first. A gentlemen in attendance who has an initiative for Veterans In Medicine and was representing the UNLV school of medicine had excellent insights when speaking with him after. I noticed that a few people in the audience were also in line to speak with him after. I would have loved to see him present in regards to veterans in medicine and I think many others in attendance came here because of the health care profession in the name but found it very irrelevant like myself. Please invite the gentlemen from the UNLV school of medicine to speak at the next conference.
- Somewhat enlightening. Very anecdotal.
- Good session, talk a lot about what each panelist has done, but didn't feel like I knew what steps I could take next.
- How is this breakout the only thing in the entire NatCon with a focus on health care? Representation for our combat medics, Corpsmen, and other healthcare providers (including mental health) was noticeably absent. It seems drastically inappropriate for such an large and important field, especially among veterans, to go underrepresented at this convention.

- These 4 women did a fantastic job at showing other women (and men) how to use your time in the military to your advantage. Also, showing how your degree evolves over time.
- The lady presenting did a good job. Personally, I wish there were more topics on careers in health care.
- Needed more time.
- The presenters did a wonderful job and the session was interesting, but it was very specific to certain areas of study and not applicable to most.
- This spoke directly to me.
- It would have been better if 2 of the presenters didn't have another presentation to leave to give. Don't schedule back to back.

Breakout Session Title: **Veterans Advocacy from Campus to Capitol Hill**

Breakout Attendance: 16

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.0
Length:	3.8
Usefulness:	3.9
Presentation:	3.8
Discussion / Q&A:	3.9
Overall:	3.9

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Learning about options for students to engage with legislative fellowships was very good.
- I was on the panel with Pat and Kris. If you continue this next year I suggest you have a moderator that doesn't work for the VFW. I saw a lot of people leave the breakout because people were asking questions about how the VFW operates instead of asking about how advocating on the Hill. This caused the VFW to take up much of the time defending themselves. I brought this up to the VFW last in the hopes this would not happen again but I plan to submit my own presentation next year to better inform student vets about the advocating process.
- I found the panel members to be arrogant and insulting to the students and advisors asking questions. ',
- We heard way too much from the current SVO/VFW fellows. It was great to hear from them to hear about their studies, but they should not answer every question and steal the conversation. The rest of the general public was completely shut out from meaningful conversation.
- Presenters were very specific to their particular fellowship. Fellows that attended took control of much of the presentation.
- This ended up just being a pitch for internships-- I wanted more options not just three places pitching their internships that I don't qualify for. I thought it did that well, but it should have been advertised as that.

Breakout Session Title: **Motivating, Mentoring, and Mediating: Advising a Student Veterans Organization**

Breakout Attendance: 4

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.2
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.2
Presentation:	4.5
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

Breakout Session Title: **Understanding and Navigating the Management of Mental Health in the Workplaceans**

Breakout Attendance: 7

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.3
Usefulness:	4.2
Presentation:	4.7
Discussion / Q&A:	4.7
Overall:	4.5

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- I appreciated the data that was sharing, coupled with the anecdotal stories of the two alums.
- Very informative.
- The panel offered advice for job seekers, when asking a company about their mental health policy's.

Breakout Session Title: **Building Inclusive Programs for Minority and Underrepresented Student Veterans**

Breakout Attendance: 15

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.5
Usefulness:	4.6
Presentation:	4.5
Discussion / Q&A:	4.5
Overall:	4.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- It would've been great to leave with more actionable resources to put into action. I felt that a large focus of the topic was spent on justifying the need for diversity and inclusion which I felt was unnecessary because those attending already valued this topic to some degree.
- Overall, this was a great presentation. I saw one similar to this last year and these presenters have really grown & honed their presentation. I just wish there was more time to allow for more discussion!
- We need more of this!!!!
- Don't limit your audience and try to not get so offended. People asked questions and got sniped for not using PC terminology when this is literally a course to teach you how to speak with this unfolding topic. Otherwise the topic and presentation were very enlightening.
- Definitely bring them back next year. I felt so much relieve by just being around them. I learned a lot from this session. I wish more people could see the value in this session. Maybe the title needs to be more attractive to those who need to learn this.

Breakout Session Title: **SVA Chapter Advisor Best Practices**

Breakout Attendance: 6

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	3.6
Presentation:	3.6
Discussion / Q&A:	3.5
Overall:	3.5

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- I was a panelist for this session, the second go was much smoother then the first as the panelist were much for comfortable and confident. This only drives home the fact panelist should be vetted and or prepped with more scrutiny. Unfortunately, the session was not well attended.

Breakout Session Title: **New Recruits: Encouraging Student Veterans to Apply for Nationally Competitive Scholarships**

Breakout Attendance: 15

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.3
Usefulness:	4.2
Presentation:	4.3
Discussion / Q&A:	4.4
Overall:	4.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Wasn't geared towards me or my fellow vets at my school.
- This was an awesome session!

Breakout Session Title: **Corporate Partnerships for Successful Internship Placements for Student Veterans**

Breakout Attendance: 7

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.5
Usefulness:	4.5
Presentation:	4.5
Discussion / Q&A:	4.7
Overall:	4.7

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- By far my second more favorable sessions. The panel drove the focus on internships, networking, where to go and who to talk to in order to get the most of your college experience. I have taken notes with all my sessions and this session spoke to me as a student to get my self out there.
- This was great. I wish there was more time. I especially enjoyed the multiple perspectives from corporate, student, and school administrator. Everyone should attend this.
- I learned a lot.

Breakout Session Title: **You want to work for the Federal Government. Now what**

Breakout Attendance: 25

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.2
Presentation:	4.1
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Did not really talk about DOD opportunities.
- Very informative. Would like for them to have included more on VRA, veterans preference, special hiring authority, etc. Would also liked for them to address the fact of how HR looks at veteran preference & what that means when someone is applying that criteria to federal employment because there is general confusion on being a veteran but not having the qualifications & believing they are still eligible because they are a veteran/have veterans preference.
- Have a recording of session to share with others back at school.
- Apparently I had the wrong room info because I did not end up in the right place.
- The panel was informative however I felt it needed more structure. It would have been great if there was a presentation to support it.
- Some good tips.
- All panelists were very knowledgeable, but I felt that they focused on higher end jobs (GS-13+) and most in the room would probably need information on lower grades.
- It was really great having people form the federal government give you tips to apply. However them simply saying to get connected with employees in the sector you want to work isn't the best of all the advice as well as there were no coverage of federal resumes at all and that is the biggest hurdle in order to be a candidate for the job in the first place.

Breakout Session Title: **Transitioning Military Leadership to Campus & Civilian-World Success**

Breakout Attendance: 18

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.3
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.1
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- This session brought up some useful changes in mindsets when veterans are transitioning from the military to academia.
- Fantastic presentation on a topic that is needed every year. I would hope these speakers are brought back next year! Very engaging.
- i liked hoe well the two presenters worked together and offered different perspectives. Q&A was great.
- Breakout session presentor delivered material as a motivational speech and cadence. I felt it was inappropriate given the environment.

Breakout Session Title: **A Case Study of 3 Veterans Studying Internationally**

Breakout Attendance: 8

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.6
Length:	4.3
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	3.5
Discussion / Q&A:	3.9
Overall:	3.8

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Could barely understand what the people on the video chat was saying due to technical difficulties.
- Besides the technical problems, the presentation was great! Very informative and engaging. I wanted to book a trip to Australia right after this. I am now seriously considering studying abroad thanks to this panel.
- lack of focus, very unprepared and very lack of information.
- This needed to be a double period with time for the array of Q&A's.

Breakout Session Title: **Is Your Financial House in Order**

Breakout Attendance: 25

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.3
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- This was my favorite break out session- the content was perfect for student veterans, and the questions from the audience showed how engaged they were.
- This presentation was presented with high energy, packed full of applicable statistics, tools and information and was easily the highlight of the weekend. This is the education we should be requiring of all people during their educational career
- Very good session.
- Left early because I had attended the finance TSP session the day before.
- I really liked this one.
- This is another one that could have been longer.
- Financial literacy is important, but I wish this was more tied to student veteran needs over personal financial well-being.
- Keep up the great work!
- It was a good robust look at how to build and maintain your financial health. The options presented were good and it was nice to get a refresher on financial matters.
- I could not get in the room because it was standing room only. I am frustrated at the lack of ability for the SVA to adjust this problem into a bigger room.
- It was a lot of information that I already knew, but it also gave more details on aspects of financial stability that I was not aware of.
- I really enjoyed this session. I am a firm believer that people should focus on their personal benefits first. Then after they are good to go themselves they can help others and this session brought to light many ways to start helping yourself first and then ways to help others.
- did not like the presentation style of the session and there was a lot of information packed into it.

Breakout Session Title: **Is Your Financial House in Order**

Breakout Attendance: 25

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.3
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

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- did not like the presentation style of the session and there was a lot of information packed into it.

Breakout Session Title: **Student Government Can Help You**

Breakout Attendance: 24

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.3
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	3.8
Presentation:	4.0
Discussion / Q&A:	4.0
Overall:	4.0

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- It didn't really help with tips about student government. It was just a panel saying what they do as a student governor.
- The panel speakers talked for extended amount of times which made the presentation drag. I was extremely impressive to see that other school's incorporate and are involved with military students.
- Another very good session. The second best of the ones I attended this year. This is a great topic and is highly useful.
- Again seemed more like the panel was bragging more than giving useful information.
- I think it would have been better to have an actual presentation and explain in a general level how to work together. Hearing from multiple students did not provide consistency of information. It was more a little their experience. Focus on topic and deliver what was suppose to be delivered.
- This session was good and it made me think about how I can interact with my student government and how they can help my chapter and the veteran population have a voice on campus.
- Bring It Back!
- I think it's a good idea to have a non-veteran student leader on the panel because it gives a more diverse aspect to how they view us and what works best to communicate with them.
- Didn't learn much besides the fact that the club needs to get help from student governments and other clubs to achieve its goals.
- Awesome questions were asked to the panel! Very helpful and relevant information!

- The topic was very good but Q&A seemed to turn a little bit into showcasing schools achievements rather than answering the questions.
- This session was wonderful! 100% perfect session.

Part 8: breakout sessions on Sunday 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Breakout Session Title: **Bringing About Transformational Change Within a Veteran Services Office**

Breakout Attendance: 12

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	3.9
Length:	3.7
Usefulness:	3.1
Presentation:	2.9
Discussion / Q&A:	2.9
Overall:	3.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- It was just the story of the evolution of the UNC Veteran Program.
- Nice to learn about another school and their challenges, but their were not any real takeaways that the title implies.
- Another session of "This is what we did/do at our university," completely lacking that universal relevance piece. Further, the lead presenter (William Wilson I believe) was unsat: it was very much about HIM and HIS leadership. The dynamic between him and the other presenter was extremely disconnected and uncomfortable for an audience member. I got up and left before the end; horrible.
- The presentation should be more inclusive, why are we focused on one university? With a presenter who basically just talked about what his office had vs. how he got it and what the steps are to get where he wants.
- Great technology.
- Better description of presentation would have been helpful - I was excited by what I read but disappointed by what I heard and saw.

Breakout Session Title: **Small Business Success: Tactics & Tips- Panel Discussion**

Breakout Attendance: 14

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.4
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	4.2
Discussion / Q&A:	4.3
Overall:	4.3

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Great session.
- Would love to see this next year!
- Would be nice to have more entrepreneurs on the panel.
- I thought it was a good interaction, but more of a motivational panel for entrepreneurs. I was hoping to get specific advice on how to jump start a business, but was given the basics. It was a great panel nonetheless, but I was hoping for more interaction.
- There definitely could've been more diversity on that panel 1000%. I could've been on that panel for crying out loud!
- The session was supposed to focus on small businesses and only one out of the four panel members actually owned a small business. The other members boasted about their successes and didn't have much valuable information.
- There should be more sessions like this

Breakout Session Title: **Moneyball for Education: Using Big Data to Construct a State Analysis on Student Veterans in Higher Education**

Breakout Attendance: 19

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.5
Usefulness:	4.5
Presentation:	4.5
Discussion / Q&A:	4.3
Overall:	4.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Brian did an excellent job of producing data that told a very important story. This was probably one of the most important presentations of the conference. I wish he would write a book or a guide to producing the data he uses. How do we access the data resources?
- Good use of data.
- The most useful breakout session of the convention. Should be considered for a keynote address next year because of the large impact it could have if more veterans new about this work.
- The presentation gave me a higher insight into the economics of what the GI Bill does for the state of Oklahoma. This information is vital to improving services in colleges and the community overall. My Adviser, one of our veteran advocates, and I were profoundly impacted by the research and work put into this initiative and will hopefully be providing our own data to help increase the stores of data that can affect out local communities, state and national levels.
- I thought that this presentation was excellent until it came to the Q&A. The presenter took questions from men only even though there were multiple women with their hands up. It is unfortunate that even in 2020 women are overlooked in a professional presentation setting.
- This was a great view of wonderful research. The presenter answered many questions and volunteered to assist others in the future...he's a team player. NATCON was a great venue for this presentation.
- Well presented, well prepared. Knows what he is talking about. Glad he is in the business of helping others get into college. I intend to use his data and analytics to build my own for legislatures here in Nebraska. He gets an A++

- This portion of the trip was the best for me personally! I really enjoyed what the presenter had to say and how he used the numbers to present his opinions and also how he was able to gain funding for useful government programs.

Breakout Session Title: **All You Need Is a Battle Buddy: Big Opportunities for Small Schools**

Breakout Attendance: 20

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.6
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.5
Discussion / Q&A:	4.4
Overall:	4.4

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Amazing community service that this institution was able to provide veterans with the Veteran History Project.
- I really appreciate the idea I got from this presentation to bring this to our chapter, but why focus on just one addition?
- This something that will be coming to campus this spring or fall of 2020.
- Thank you for taking the time to share your experience with us. I look forward to hosting a Veterans History Project event here at our campus.
- The topic title was misleading and I should have read through the synopsis but I chose this session last minute. The opportunity was not what I was looking for but the presenters did a great job breaking down the details of how they accomplished their event.
- I was expecting more than one type of opportunities for my school. Topic title is inaccurate and recommend changing to something different.
- The topic idea is great, but the presenter was terrible.
- The title is misleading. I get it was based on a case study from a community college, but honestly, this should have been an introduction or action lab on how to utilize the Veteran's History Project on campuses.
- This one really inspired me to go back to my old school (community college) to present this idea to them. Hopefully, they can find success with it.
- This was the best session for me by far. I like that I walked away with something that I could do at my campus to help make a difference and connect multiple layers of individuals at my campus and in the community.

Breakout Session Title: **Epic Steps to Build a partnership Between your SVA Chapter and a Local VFW Post**

Breakout Attendance: 11

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.4
Length:	4.6
Usefulness:	3.6
Presentation:	3.8
Discussion / Q&A:	3.9
Overall:	3.6

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Our Campus has an American Legion Post on Campus that works directly with our SVA chapter. And unfortunately our VFW's in our area, are not as big in helping out our younger generation.
- Fast paced, but good. Wasn't familiar with some of the references and terms, but it was good.
- I knew that VFW supported SVA, but was not aware of how to make it a valuable partnership for both parties. This gave me a better sense of that and made me want to connect with VFW further.
- Would have liked to seen more detailed steps outlined on how to partner with the VFW. Glad the VFW guys were in there to help answer questions.
- This was a super great topic but there was so much potential to learn more and not focus on one specific place and talk more about things every club could use. There was a lot of great info though.

Breakout Session Title: **Striving for Success: Accommodations and Assistive Technology**

Breakout Attendance: 9

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.7
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	4.5
Presentation:	4.4
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.5

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Probably the BEST session I attended!
- This could have been a excellent course all around. I don't think there class had enough time to cover everything and allow a Q&A. Allow more time for this course.
- This breakout session could have lasted two hours with the amount of assistive technology that is available to help students with accommodations. The presenters were excellent and provided "show and tell" that allowed a few of the attendees to use the equipment.
- Professional and Knowledgeable presenters.
- This was the Best Session I attended at NatCon very useful and informative.

Breakout Session Title: **Creating a Personal Statement that Pops!**

Breakout Attendance: 20

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.6
Length:	4.2
Usefulness:	4.2
Presentation:	4.3
Discussion / Q&A:	4.3
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- The session was fine, there were a couple good points made, but overall I don't think I learned anything new.
- Very good info.
- I would have like to have seen more examples of what makes a great personal statement but the presenters were very passionate about it and entertaining.
- The topic was not super useful as I havent needed to create a personal statement yet while applying to colleges or trying to get a job. The worst part of it was the presentation as the speakers were very cheesy and destracted me from their focus. With different speakers I may have enjoyed it more. Also was too long so left 15 minuets before the end whereas I listend through all the other sessions.
- Keep up the great work!
- I didn't know this was for grad school. Better title next time.
- Both of the presenters worked well with each other and feed off of each other lead.
- As a student Veteran who applies and receives many scholarships this could have been done better. This was not helpful at all for personal statement writing in my opinion.

Breakout Session Title: **Veteran Centers, Scholarships, and Clubs: The Impact of Education Common Components on Student Veterans' Success**

Breakout Attendance: 6

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.6
Length:	4.0
Usefulness:	4.3
Presentation:	4.2
Discussion / Q&A:	4.2
Overall:	4.2

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Very data heavy, which was good. Would like to have seen more summarized "bottom-lines" from the data to take back with us. ',
- There was quite a lot of information and graphs, it just confused me more. It was actually a little boring...sorry :(.

Breakout Session Title: **U.S. Government Fellowships: Veterans**

Breakout Attendance: 10

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.1
Length:	4.3
Usefulness:	3.9
Presentation:	3.9
Discussion / Q&A:	4.1
Overall:	4.1

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Not really what we were expecting. It seemed like just an ad for the VFW fellowship.
- This was incredibly boring and I did not stay for the whole thing because all of the fellowships required several years of language proficiency.
- Probably the best session I attended the entire convention. It really made me feel that despite being an older student, that there were opportunities for me to enjoy my time as an undergrad (and get funded to travel and study a language that I'm interested in abroad) as opposed to just trying to get it over with ASAP and join the workforce/get started on a career.
- I learned so much in this session about opportunities and networking.

Breakout Session Title: **How to Navigate the VA Vocational Rehabilitation Program-Application thru Career Employment**

Breakout Attendance: 14

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	4.5
Length:	4.4
Usefulness:	4.1
Presentation:	4.1
Discussion / Q&A:	3.9
Overall:	4.3

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Excellent breakout session but I felt like a majority of other veterans there just came to complain about issues instead of learning how to mitigate and navigate them.
- It would be more beneficial to have a qualified voc rehab counselor explaining this. The presenter used wrong terminology but did give some good info. Have voc rehab explain voc rehab!
- Needed more Q/A time.
- It basically just turned into a question and answer session so I was not really sure about what I was supposed to learn, but I did receive help on what I should do with the problems I am currently facing with my Voc. Rehab counselor.
- The entire presentation was based around the concept that vocational rehab could be a great program but there are poor quality case managers out there that might not help you. The entire presentation and the Q&A was based off of issues that students have with their case managers and how case managers have no quality control to fix the problems. To be honest, the whole thing completely turned me away from wanting to participate with the program. This speaker was rude to members of the audience as well.
- same stuff every year.

Breakout Session Title: **Where Do I fit in a Defense Company**

Breakout Attendance: 20

NatCon 2020 attendees were asked to rate the breakout sessions they attended on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) on six different categories. The average scores for each category are below

Topic:	3.8
Length:	3.9
Usefulness:	3.6
Presentation:	3.7
Discussion / Q&A:	3.8
Overall:	3.7

The attendees were also given the chance to provide comments, suggestions, and constructive feedback on the breakout session through an open-ended question. Their comments are below

- Subject was bland, the ppt was focused too much on their own company the presenter tried to be more open but not quite.
- The synopsis made it seem like this would be a more general overview. This ended up being more a specific recruiting tool for Raytheon. Which is fine because it can be transferable to other companies but in the end it was more on why Raytheon is good and why you should consider it as an employer. The overview on the app was just a little misleading. Maybe it would be better to get multiple companies in on the panel and not just one company.
- Great chart on the best qualities of veterans and pointing out that you can get hired without a degree!
- Talked about their company not how I fit in a Defense company.
- Outstanding breakout session led by Raytheon we are returning to our Campus with so much more knowledge, resources and motivation.
- It was a good look at Raytheon and their Programs and involvement. It was a good look at the culture and what to expect for a defense company, but wasn't really for me.
- Only presenters were from Raytheon, would have been beneficial to add an additional company.
- Took away some tips, but overall the breakout was not as helpful as I thought it would be.
- Great!
- Thank you.
- This felt like a infomercial for the host of the event.