



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
AIR UNIVERSITY

13 Nov 2018

Craig Bryan, PsyD, ABPP  
Executive Director, National Center for Veterans Studies  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Utah

Dear Dr. Bryan:

I am writing to provide my enthusiastic support for the National Center for Veterans Studies' (NCVS) proposal for designation as a research center at the University of Utah. Over the past few years, the NCVS has made critical contributions to the University of Utah community in the areas of research, education, and community engagement, and has established itself as a national leader in research focused on suicide prevention and the treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among military personnel and veterans. These accomplishments have provided invaluable experiences for our students and catalyzed an impressive multidisciplinary research program for the campus.

Suicide prevention and military mental health remain high priorities for multiple funding agencies including the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, and the National Institute of Mental Health. In addition, suicide prevention has become an important priority for state leaders here in Utah. I therefore expect the NCVS to continue its high level of success with respect to securing extramural funding, which will sustain the many educational opportunities available to our students and the collaborative research opportunities for our faculty members.

The NCVS's focus on the military and veteran communities provides a natural avenue for faculty members, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate and undergraduate students to connect with NCVS researchers and trainees. The issue of PTSD and its impact on the US military greatly affect the cadre and staff here with the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC). The 17 Air Force officers teaching and studying at the University appreciate improvements to the lives of those impacted within the military and on campus. The NCVS's central location in the Gardner Commons Building will greatly enhance these connections.

As a brother to a Special Tactics veteran suffering from PTSD- this truly hits home for me and my family. I am delighted that the NCVS has put together this proposal and fully support its designation as a university research center. I look forward to the ways that the NCVS will continue to contribute to the university and the broader community. The University AFROTC wish you the very best in this endeavor.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me [andrew.benson@afrotc.utah.edu](mailto:andrew.benson@afrotc.utah.edu) or (801) 581-6236.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andy Benson", is written above the typed name.

ANDREW J. BENSON, Lt Col, USAF  
Commander, AFROTC Det 850



Continue Mission  
1002 West 900 South  
Woods Cross, Utah 84087  
(801) 560-9889  
[www.continuemission.org](http://www.continuemission.org)  
[www.facebook.com/continuemission](https://www.facebook.com/continuemission)

5 February 2018

Craig Bryan, PsyD, ABPP  
Executive Director, National Center for Veterans Studies  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Utah

Dear Dr. Bryan:

I am writing to provide my enthusiastic support for the National Center for Veterans Studies' (NCVS) proposal for designation as a research center at the University of Utah. Over the past few years, the NCVS has made critical contributions to military personnel and veterans here in Utah as well as nationally in the areas of research, education, and community engagement. The NCVS has become a "go-to" source for support for our nonprofit organization, Continue Mission, which serves veterans with service connected physical, mental, and emotional injuries. Of note, the NCVS has served as a referral source for service members and veterans struggling with posttraumatic stress disorder and suicidal thoughts. In addition, you have volunteered your time as a board member, providing useful input regarding the direction of our nonprofit.

Suicide prevention and military mental health remain important national priorities. I therefore expect the NCVS to continue contributing to national and state efforts to address these public health problems and look forward to continuing our collaboration in the future. I expect that the NCVS's new facilities, located in the Gardner Commons Building, will greatly enhance the center's ability to conduct high-quality research and provide much-needed services to service members and veterans in our community.

I am delighted that the NCVS has put together this proposal and fully support its designation as a university research center. I look forward to the ways that the NCVS will continue to contribute to military personnel and veterans in our community.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Hansen  
Executive Director  
[mhansen@continuemission.org](mailto:mhansen@continuemission.org)  
801-560-9889



**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL  
AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE**

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Economics  
Family & Consumer Studies  
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**Institutes and Centers**

Archaeological Center  
Child & Family Development Center  
DIGIT Center  
National Center for Veterans Studies  
NEXUS  
Tanner Human Rights Center

December 13, 2018

Craig Bryan, PsyD, ABPP  
Executive Director, National Center for Veterans Studies  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Utah

Dear Dr. Bryan:

I am writing to provide my enthusiastic support for the National Center for Veterans Studies' (NCVS) proposal for designation as a research center at the University of Utah. The NCVS was established in 2010 and I actually thought that it had already received center status years ago. Over the past few years, the NCVS has made critical contributions to the University of Utah community in the areas of research, education, and community engagement, and has established itself as a national leader in research focused on suicide prevention and the treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among military personnel and veterans. These accomplishments have provided invaluable experiences for our students and catalyzed an impressive multidisciplinary research program for the campus. I was delighted when you received the Beacons of Excellence Award in 2015, evidence of the incredible impact you and the center have had on our university community.

As the director of the NCVS, you have done a remarkable job in building a research team and catalyzing research across campus on issues relevant to veterans. Your leadership has made the center truly a catalyst for collaborations generating grants where others are PI (from psychology to social work). Suicide prevention and military mental health remain high priorities for multiple funding agencies including the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, and the National Institute of Mental Health. In addition, suicide prevention has become an important priority for state leaders here in Utah. The NCVS has had remarkable success in securing extramural funding, which will sustain the many educational opportunities available to our students and the collaborative research opportunities for our faculty members. The proposal for center status lists \$23M in external funding currently held by the NCVS.

The NCVS has been an important hub for faculty members, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate and undergraduate students interested in veteran's issues. Your expansion into issues of mindfulness meditation to address pain as well as statistical techniques to address suicide risk on social media is truly impressive. NCVS and CSBS have also jointly sponsored outreach events to bring this research to our Utah community, including the Ride to Zero, a fund raiser sponsored by the Combat Veteran's Motorcycle Association, drawing veterans and their supporters from across the country. The NCVS's central location in the Gardner Commons Building

**Office of the Dean**

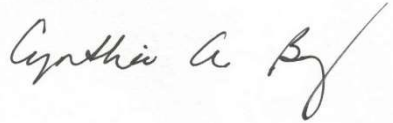
Gardner Commons Suite 3725  
260 South Central Campus Drive  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112

*Inspiring human solutions to life's challenges*

together with new interdisciplinary research space in NEXUS that is adjacent to the NCVS will greatly enhance these connections.

I am delighted that the NCVS has put together this strong proposal and fully support its designation as a university research center. I look forward to the ways that the NCVS will continue to contribute to the university and the broader community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cynthia A. Berg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Cynthia" is written in a larger, more prominent script, followed by "A." and "Berg". The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

Cynthia A. Berg

Dean and Distinguished Professor of Psychology



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT  
*Governor*

SPENCER J. COX  
*Lieutenant Governor*

## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

ANN SILVERBERG WILLIAMSON  
*Executive Director*

### DIVISION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH

DOUG THOMAS  
*Director*

November 14, 2018

Craig Bryan, PsyD, ABPP  
Executive Director,  
National Center for Veterans Studies  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Utah

Dear Dr. Bryan:

I am writing to provide my enthusiastic support for the National Center for Veterans Studies' (NCVS) proposal for designation as a research center at the University of Utah. Over the past few years, the NCVS has made critical contributions to the State of Utah in the areas of research, education, and community engagement, and has become a "go-to" source for information and support in the state's suicide prevention efforts. Of note, the NCVS has provided evidence-based trainings for suicide prevention to hundreds of mental health professionals, juvenile justice officers, and other community members working with high-risk Utahns. In addition, the NCVS has been an active and engaged contributor to several state-level committees and task forces focused on firearm safety and implementation of empirically-supported treatments.

Suicide prevention and military mental health remain high priorities for the State of Utah, as evidenced by the recent formation of a Governor's Task Force for Suicide Prevention and multiple legislative efforts aimed at reducing suicides in the state. Military personnel and veterans, in particular, are a priority group for our state leaders. I therefore expect the NCVS to continue its central role in statewide efforts to address this public health problems, and look forward to continuing our collaboration in the future. We expect that the NCVS's new facilities, will greatly enhance the center's ability to conduct high-quality research and provide much-needed services to service members, veterans, and first responders in our community.

I and fully support the NCVS's designation as a university research center. I look forward to the ways that the NCVS will continue to contribute to the State of Utah. If you have any questions or require further information from me, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Thomas".

Doug Thomas  
Director



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS UNIT  
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
110 S. 1452 E.  
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84112-0430

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
5216  
Ser 147  
December 3, 2018

Craig Bryan, PsyD, ABPP  
Executive Director, National Center for Veterans Studies  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Utah

Dear Dr. Bryan:

I am writing to provide my unequivocal support for the National Center for Veterans Studies' (NCVS) proposal for designation as a research center at the University of Utah. Over the past few years, the NCVS has made vital contributions to the University of Utah community in the areas of research, education, and community engagement, and established itself as a national leader in research focused on suicide prevention and the treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among military personnel and veterans. These accomplishments have provided invaluable experiences for our students and catalyzed an impressive multidisciplinary research program for the campus. More importantly, NCVS has supported our veterans and military personnel unlike any other institution.

Suicide prevention and military mental health remain high priorities across the Department of Defense. As a military commander, I have too often dealt with the impacts of post-traumatic stress and the tragedy of the loss of a shipmate to suicide. I have witnessed the life-changing effect of programs such as NCVS and cannot overstate its importance to our veterans and active duty service members. Moreover, state leaders here in Utah are prioritizing suicide prevention amidst the growing military population in the state. Therefore, I am certain NCVS will continue its high level of success in securing extramural funding, sustaining the many educational opportunities available to our students, the collaborative research opportunities for our faculty members, and the life-saving support our veterans and military members deserve.

The NCVS's focus on the military and veteran communities provides a natural avenue for faculty members, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate and undergraduate students to connect with NCVS researchers and trainees. Additionally, NCVS's direct support to my Sailors and Marines at the University and in the greater Salt Lake Area offers support unlike any other Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program nationwide.

I am delighted that the NCVS has created this proposal and fully support its designation as a university research center. I am certain of NCVS's continued contributions to the university and the wider community of veterans and military personnel nationwide.

Sincerely,

T.D. VANDEGRIFT  
Captain, U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer  
Professor of Naval Science



**GEORGE E. WAHLEN**  
**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER**  
**Salt Lake City Health Care System**  
**500 Foothill Drive**  
**Salt Lake City, UT 84148**

November 27, 2018

In Reply Refer To: 660/116OP

Craig Bryan, PsyD, ABPP  
Executive Director, National Center for Veterans Studies  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Utah

Dear Dr. Bryan:

I am writing in strong support for the National Center for Veterans Studies' (NCVS) proposal for designation as a research center at the University of Utah.

The NCVS is an excellent resource for the VA Salt Lake City Health Care System. The NCVS has provided evidence-based trainings to our mental health professionals and has collaborated with our researchers on multiple research studies. In addition, The Salt Lake City VA has collaborated with the NCVS in training several students to provide effective evidenced based treatments for veterans.

Since its inception, the NCVS has made critical contributions to military personnel and veterans here in Utah as well as nationally in the areas of research, education, and community engagement. The research and clinical applications developed by NCVS, particularly in suicide prevention, have had far reaching impacts in veteran care and provide a very positive reflection on the University of Utah's commitment to excellence.

Suicide prevention and military mental health remain high priorities for the Department of Veterans Affairs as well as our own state leaders. I expect the NCVS to continue contributing to national and state efforts to address these public health problems, and look forward to continuing our collaboration in the future. I anticipate that the NCVS's new facilities, located in the Gardner Commons Building, will greatly enhance the center's ability to conduct high-quality research and provide much-needed services to service members and veterans in our community. Furthermore, I anticipate that our training efforts with graduate students enrolled in psychology and social work programs will be strongly supported by the supplemental education and mentorship provided by faculty members and staff affiliated with the NCVS.

I am delighted that the NCVS has put together this proposal and strongly support its designation as a university research center. I look forward to the ways that the NCVS will continue to contribute to the State of Utah. Designation of the NCVS as a research center at the University of Utah will continue to enhance the reputation and impact of the University of Utah.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Allen", written in a cursive style.

STEVEN N. ALLEN, PHD  
Coordinator, PTSD Clinical Team  
(801) 582-1565, ext 2390



November 13, 2018

Craig Bryan, PsyD, ABPP  
Executive Director, National Center for Veterans Studies  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Utah

Dear Dr. Bryan:

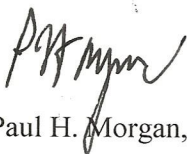
I am writing to provide my enthusiastic support for the National Center for Veterans Studies' (NCVS) proposal for designation as a research center at the University of Utah. Over the past few years, the NCVS has made critical contributions to the University of Utah community in the areas of research, education, and community engagement, and has established itself as a national leader in research focused on suicide prevention and the treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among military personnel and veterans. These accomplishments have provided invaluable experiences for our students and catalyzed an impressive multidisciplinary research program for the campus.

Suicide prevention and military mental health remain high priorities for multiple funding agencies including the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, and the National Institute of Mental Health. In addition, suicide prevention has become an important priority for state leaders here in Utah. Therefore, I expect the NCVS to continue its high level of success with respect to securing extramural funding, which will sustain the many educational opportunities available to our students and the collaborative research opportunities for our faculty members.

The NCVS's focus on the military and veteran communities provides a natural avenue for faculty members, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate and undergraduate students to connect with NCVS researchers and trainees. The NCVS has proven to be an invaluable resource to my office by providing treatment to student veterans, crisis response training to our staff, and a source of unquestionable expertise. The NCVS's central location in the Gardner Commons Building will greatly enhance these connections.

Designation as a university research center is the next logical step for the NCVS, given its growing national recognition and global contribution to suicide prevention and PTSD treatment. I look forward to the ways that the NCVS will continue to contribute to the university and the broader community.

Sincerely,



Paul H. Morgan, Ph.D.



November 8, 2018

Craig Bryan, PsyD, ABPP  
Executive Director, National Center for Veterans Studies  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Utah

Dear Dr. Bryan:

I am writing to provide my unconditional support for the National Center for Veterans Studies' (NCVS) proposal for designation as a research center at the University of Utah. Since its inception in 2010, the NCVS has made critical contributions to the University of Utah community in the areas of research, education, and community engagement. It has now established itself as a national leader in research focused on suicide prevention and the treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among military personnel and veterans. These accomplishments have provided invaluable experiences for our undergraduate and graduate students, and catalyzed an impressive model multidisciplinary research program for the campus.

Suicide prevention and military mental health remain high priorities for multiple funding agencies including the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, and the National Institute of Mental Health. In addition, suicide prevention has become an important priority for state leaders here in Utah. I therefore expect the NCVS to sustain and even expand upon its high level of success with respect to securing extramural funding, which will sustain the many educational opportunities available to our students and the collaborative research opportunities for our faculty members.

The NCVS's focus on the military and veteran communities provides a natural avenue for our faculty members, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate and undergraduate students to connect with NCVS researchers and trainees. The NCVS has been important to the department's goal to engage in impactful community-based research and outreach. It has benefitted our faculty and students who now have the opportunity to receive training and engage in research in this important interdisciplinary area. Examples of such benefits include training on empirically supported therapies for suicide prevention, and multiple grant awards in collaboration with other faculty in our department. More generally, the NCVS designation as a research center will foster its ability to fully realize its considerable goals and connections with our department. The NCVS's central location and spacious accommodations in the Gardner Commons Building will also greatly enhance these connections.

I am delighted to fully support this NCVS proposal to be as a university research center. I look forward to the ways that the NCVS will continue to contribute to the university and the broader community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bert Uchino", written in a cursive style.

Bert N. Uchino  
Professor and Chair

November 16, 2018

Craig Bryan, PsyD, ABPP  
Executive Director, National Center for Veterans Studies  
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Utah

Dear Dr. Bryan:

I am writing to provide my enthusiastic support for the National Center for Veterans Studies' (NCVS) proposal for designation as a research center at the University of Utah. Over the past few years, the NCVS has made critical contributions to the University of Utah community in the areas of research, education, and community engagement, and has established itself as a national leader in research focused on suicide prevention and the treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among military personnel and veterans. These accomplishments have provided invaluable experiences for our students and catalyzed an impressive multidisciplinary research program for the campus.

Suicide prevention and military mental health remain high priorities for multiple funding agencies including the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, and the National Institute of Mental Health. In addition, suicide prevention has become an important priority for state leaders here in Utah. I therefore expect the NCVS to continue its high level of success with respect to securing extramural funding, which will sustain the many educational opportunities available to our students and the collaborative research opportunities for our faculty members.

The NCVS's focus on the military and veteran communities provides a natural avenue for faculty members, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate and undergraduate students to connect with NCVS researchers and trainees. The College of Social Work highly supports the development of NCVS. The NCVS's central location in the Gardner Commons Building will greatly enhance these connections.

I am delighted that the NCVS has put together this proposal and fully support its designation as a university research center. I look forward to the ways that the NCVS will continue to contribute to the university and the broader community.

Sincerely,



Martell Teasley, Ph.D., MSW  
Dean and Professor

January 28, 2019

Graduate Council  
University of Utah

Members of the Graduate Council:

I am writing in support of the National Center for Veterans Studies' (NCVS) proposal to become a full Center and bypass the provisional requirement.

As you can see from the proposal documents, NCVS, which was established in 2010, has a proven track record of success in research, education, and community engagement. NCVS is a national leader in research focused on veterans' suicide prevention and posttraumatic stress disorder and has been successful in working across campus and obtaining extramural funding.

NCVS has an outstanding leader in Dr. Craig Bryan and he has built an impressive team to work with him. The reason to have provisional status is to determine if a center can be successful and have the resources necessary to carry out its mission. I am convinced that NCVS has established funding and resources to keep the center a going concern and execute the financial plan that they have.

I believe that there is enough information for the Graduate Council to make a decision on whether NCVC meets the University standards to be a Center and that being designated as a provisional center could actually be detrimental to a thriving, productive research group's perception by the external community.

If you have any questions, please let me know and I will be happy to meet with you.

Sincerely,



Cathy Anderson  
Chief Financial Off