

News Release

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THE STURM FAMILY
FOUNDATION

University of Denver's Historic Buchtel Memorial Tower Rededicated in Honor of Military Veterans

*University also strengthens commitment to veterans through announcement
of new mental health and legal services initiatives*

May 28, 2015 – DENVER – The University of Denver announced today the rededication of one of its most historic structures, Buchtel Memorial Tower, in honor of the nearly 500 military veterans who now are part of the student body. It also demonstrated the University's dedication to the men and women who have served our country in the military.

Located on the south side of campus, Buchtel Memorial Tower is all that remains of the Memorial Chapel building, which was destroyed by fire in 1982. The building was completed in 1917 and was named in honor of alumni who died serving their country during World War I. In 1949, Memorial Chapel was renamed the Buchtel Chapel after Chancellor Henry Buchtel who served as chancellor of the University from 1900-1924.

At today's dedication, Donald L. Sturm, a former Army psychologist, University of Denver trustee for more than two decades, and founder and chairman of ANB Bank, announced support of two initiatives toward the University's ongoing commitment to veterans.

To assist veterans with the unique mental health issues they face, the Sturm Family Foundation and the Graduate School of Professional Psychology (GSPP) have partnered to create a new specialty education and training track, with dedicated clinical services for veterans. The Sturm Specialty in Military Psychology will help create more knowledgeable and skilled mental health care providers for veterans and expand services for the men and women who have served our country, in both the Denver and the University of Denver communities.

"We are extremely grateful to the Sturm Family Foundation for partnering with us to address this urgent need," said GSPP Dean Shelly Smith-Acuña. "The Sturm Specialty in Military Psychology will provide our students with state-of-the-art knowledge needed to deliver high quality psychological services to veteran and military populations. In combination with a new dedicated Veterans Clinic, this specialty follows our 40-year history of uniquely integrating

research, service, and training to respond to community needs. Our aim is to create a national model in specialty training for veterans.”

Mr. Sturm, a graduate of the University of Denver’s law school, also announced the creation of the Veterans Advocacy Project (VAP) at the Sturm College of Law, which will provide legal advice and services to assist with the myriad legal issues many veterans face.

“Augmenting Denver Law’s robust roster of externship offerings, the new Veterans Advocacy Project (VAP) presents an invaluable experiential learning opportunity for our students that would not be possible without the strong support of the Sturm Family Foundation and the leadership of Ann Vessels, who will be directing the project,” said Martin J. Katz, dean of the Sturm College of Law. “The VAP was created in direct response to a growing need for legal services that assist veterans, and Denver Law is honored to serve those who have served our nation.”

Mr. Sturm, who has supported several units at the University of Denver, including Sturm Hall, home to social sciences and humanities programs, and the Sturm College of Law, which enrolls more than 1,200 aspiring lawyers, says that these gifts to support veterans are especially important to him.

“The Sturm Family is committed to creating positive change for those who have defended and served our country,” said Mr. Sturm. “We believe that our partnership with both the Graduate School of Professional Psychology and the Sturm College of Law will effectively educate and train mental health practitioners and lawyers to better deal with the unique needs of veterans on the DU campus, in both dedicated veterans clinics and through the careers these students undertake after graduation.”

In addition to supporting these initiatives, Mr. Sturm added that his decades-long commitment to the University of Denver, and the University’s reputation, made these gifts an easy choice.

“Through our long and fruitful relationship with the University of Denver, the Sturm Family knows the University as an attentive, responsive, and effective organization, and when we decided to make this a focus area, we first thought of DU as the partner we wanted,” said Sturm. “Both GSPP and the Law School have lived up to the University’s reputation. We are excited to be implementing these impactful programs with such great teams of people.”

For more information about The Sturm Specialty in Military Psychology, please visit www.du.edu/gspp/programs/military.

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Founded in 1864, the University of Denver is committed to engaging with students in advancing scholarly inquiry, cultivating critical and creative thought, and generating knowledge. The University strives to educate the 21st-century citizens and leaders needed in its organizations and communities. The University of Denver ranks among the country's top 100 national universities, and the Institute of International Education ranks it No. 1 among national doctoral and research institutions in the percentage of undergraduate students participating in study abroad programs. For additional information, visit the University's Media Relations [website](#), or follow the University on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).