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Veterans Day Message

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Nov. 7, 2012

Dear Friends:

This weekend marks our nation’s annual observance of Veterans Day—a time for honoring all who have served our country in the military and for recognizing their sacrifices.

While the traditional date, Nov. 11, falls on Sunday this year, the official observance will be on Monday, Nov. 12. I urge you to take part in all of the opportunities this annual event offers. Here on campus, our chapter of Student Veterans of America, the Department of Military Science and our Office of Military and Veterans Affairs are leading the way in organizing activities.

Friday, Nov. 9, a Veterans Day celebration and 5K run will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. starting at the Campus Flagpoles near the Wesley Foundation. A brief ceremony will begin at 9 a.m. and is open to the public. It is expected to attract veterans and their families and friends as well as civilian supporters and community members.

The 5K run will follow the ceremony and will be led by WMU Army ROTC. Plan to cheer the runners as they traverse our campus to complete the 5K course. If you wish to show your support by participating, send an email message to the WMU military affairs office at military-affairs@wmich.edu.

Also Friday, during the 7 p.m. WMU vs. Bowling Green hockey game at Lawson Arena, there will be a focus on veterans. Prior to the game, there will be a WMU ROTC color guard to post colors, and the ceremonial puck will be dropped by Mrs. Marty Howell-Myer and her son McLean, 9, in honor of her husband, Lt. Col. Bill Myer, who is on his second deployment to Afghanistan. Military care package donations will be accepted in the Lawson lobby.

Monday, Nov. 12, WMU will observe a moment of silence beginning at 2 p.m. The Kanley clock tower will be silenced, and across the campus people will take a moment for remembrance. Wherever you are, please stop and quietly pay tribute to those who have and continue to protect our nation.

We are immensely proud of our veterans. They are students, faculty, staff and family members. Our commitment to them is of paramount importance. Please join me in taking advantage of this annual observance to let them know how much we all appreciate their service.

Best regards,

John M. Dunn, President