[University of South Carolina- Student Success Center]

Named to Victory Media’s 2016 Military Friendly® Schools List

[Columbia, SC – November 5, 2015] - The University of South Carolina’s Student Success Center is proud to announce that the university has been designated a 2016 Military Friendly® School by Victory Media, the leader in successfully connecting the military and civilian worlds, and publisher of G.I. Jobs®, STEM Jobs® and Military Spouse. Now in its seventh year, the original, premier Military Friendly® Schools designation provides service members and their families with transparent, data-driven ratings about post-military education and career opportunities.

Institutions competed for the elite Military Friendly® School title by completing a survey of over 100 questions covering ten categories, including military support on campus, graduation and employment outcomes, and military spouse policies. Survey responses were scored against benchmarks across these key indicators of success. In addition, data was independently tested by EY (Ernst & Young) based upon the weightings and methodology established by Victory Media with guidance from an independent Advisory Board of higher education and recruiting professionals. A full list of board members can be found at MilitaryFriendly.com/advisory-board.

The Military Friendly® Schools designation is awarded to the top colleges, universities, community colleges and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace military students, and to dedicate resources to ensure their success both in the classroom and after graduation. The methodology used for making the Military Friendly® Schools list has changed the student veteran landscape to one much more transparent, and has played a significant role over the past seven years in capturing and advancing best practices to support military students across the country.

As part of a comprehensive self-study of veteran services on the Columbia campus the University of South Carolina Veteran Student Services Advisory Committee, led by the Student Success Center, spent the last year reviewing programs and services for student veterans. The results of which are the honor of being designated once again as a “Military Friendly” school and a comprehensive list of recommendations for continued improvement to our services for military students and their families.

“This has been a year of reflection and dedication,” said Student Success Center Director Dr. Eric Moschella. “Partners from all across campus have come together to critically examine and renew the University of South Carolina’s commitment to serving those who have served our country.”

“Post-secondary institutions earning the 2016 Military Friendly® School award have exceptionally strong programs for transitioning service members and spouses,” said Daniel Nichols, Chief Product Officer of Victory Media and Navy Reserve veteran. “Our Military Friendly® Schools are truly aligning their military programs and services with employers to help students translate military experience, skills and training into successful careers after graduation.”

The University of South Carolina will be showcased along with other 2016 Military Friendly® Schools in the annual Guide to Military Friendly® Schools, special education issues of G.I. Jobs® and Military Spouse Magazine, and on MilitaryFriendly.com.