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### ROTC 102nd Annual Chancellor's Review

Kent Syverud  
*Syracuse University*

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# Syracuse University

Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud

Delivered on March 29, 2019

Location: Dome

Remarks: ROTC 102nd Annual Chancellor's Review

*The Chancellor was introduced by LTC Jason Warner, Army ROTC*

Welcome to all the Cadets, families, and supporters.

Today is the 102<sup>nd</sup> annual Chancellor's review. It is a privilege to recognize the Army and Air Force Reserve Officer's Training Corps.

First, I would like to thank those individuals who play a significant role in the lives of many of these fine cadets and who helped organize today's event:

- Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Kimbrough, Commander of Air Force ROTC Detachment 535 and professor of aerospace studies;
- Lieutenant Colonel Jason Warner, Army ROTC professor and chair of military science
- Retired Army Colonel Ron Novack, executive director of the Office of Veterans and Military Affairs;
- Rev. Brian Konkol, Dean of Hendricks' Chapel;
- Laura Bates, Syracuse University Army ROTC office coordinator
- Virginia O'Connor, Syracuse University Air Force ROTC office coordinator.
- Mirza Tihic, Office of Veterans and Military Affairs
- Margaret Lambrecht, Development Associate at Institute for Veterans and Military Families
- Lauren Pyland, Office of Veterans and Military Affairs
- The Families and friends of our cadets

In 1917, Chancellor James Roscoe Day decided to make military training part of the curriculum at Syracuse University.

Later in April 1917, the first review on campus took place in front of Carnegie Library.

A short time later, Syracuse became the first University in the U.S. to offer a combination of military and college subjects. That was in 1918, when we established ROTC with the War Department.

In fact, today's Chancellor's Review is part of a greater military tradition that pre-dates American independence. Many of our Army cadets will be leaving immediately after today's review for a Senior Staff ride to the Boston area, where the roots of today's ceremony began with the formation of the Continental Army. The discipline practiced in drill and ceremony are designed to create a "model company". The model company then teaches the rest of the troops.

Our Army ROTC, features 117 cadets, and our Air Force wing features 54 cadets. They come from Syracuse University and our partner schools in Upstate N.Y., which include our good friends at SUNY ESF and LeMoyne College. These cadets balance the rigorous demands of academic discipline and requirements of ROTC training. Cadets are consistently among our most accomplished scholars at our schools. Among our graduating class this year, are cadets who will go on to earn medical degrees, launch rockets at Cape Canaveral, and control satellites from NASA's mission control. I thank the many University faculty, staff and administrators who are in attendance today. I thank you for supporting our cadets and for your faith that these students each have a capacity for greatness and represent our school at its best.

Syracuse University and our partner schools support both the Air Force and Army ROTC programs. We are also committed to veterans and military families. Syracuse University has worked hard to increase our veterans and military connected enrollment. I'm happy to report that this enrollment has recently passed 5% of our total student enrollment at Syracuse. Our ROTC programs and our Office of Veterans and Military Affairs and our Institute for Veterans and Military Families now employ over 100 professional staff to make this the best place in the country for veterans and military connected students, faculty, staff and alumni. Our cadets will be moving into the National Veterans Resource Center next academic year. I believe that building will provide the best ROTC corps facilities at any university. I apologize to the seniors here today – we are getting the ROTC facilities right just after you graduate.

I thank the seniors in particular, therefore, because you maintained a legacy of excellence in our ROTC programs that has enabled us to provide your successors with the finest facility in the world for university-based veterans and ROTC programs. Thank you for leading the way.

ROTC began here. ROTC will continue here. The habits, discipline and duties that these cadets and veterans perform can be counted on by this University, and this region, and this country. This is a model company that shows how to live aligned with our values. We will continue to support you.

Congratulations, cadets. Thank you for making this university a better place, as did all those veterans and cadets who came before you here for more than 100 years.

We are proud of you, we believe in you, and we expect great things from you.

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