

Minutes
Veterans Action Committee Meeting
September 10, 2013, 8:30 – 9:30 am, Mt. McLaughlin

Attendees: Barb Conner, Casey Coulson, Chris Dalla, AJ Davilla, Joseph Maurer, Joseph Miranda, Tyler Pinson, Stephen Schultz, Nellie Stewart, Carl Thomas, Whitney Witherspoon

Absent: Jeff Pardy, David Thaumert

Updates –

- a. Klamath County Veteran's Resource Book: Chris Dalla will collect 50 copies of the Klamath Veterans' Resources Book. He will coordinate with Barb to distribute to the right departments on campus.
- b. Discussed Travel and budget for recruitment to TAP events.
- c. Sign for Vets Lounge/Bulletin Board: The Sign for the Vets Lounge has been put up outside. It looks low, but it is below trees for visibility. Tyler will load the bulletin board with information and flyers before Tuesday, September 17.
- d. ACAD 207, Section 6: Currently the GI Bill will not cover the cost of this course, it is not certified. Whitney will work with Barb and others to see if they can convince the GI Bill department the importance of this class for veterans and that it is a Freshman Prep Class. Or we will charge \$0 amount for veteran's class. They will also work on a list of veterans from Banner to then draft an e-mail to advertise the Wednesday, 4:00-5:00 pm class.
- e. Orientation Activities: The Climbing wall has been cancelled due to a precedent for an event in Springfield that was Military-related. Joseph will let Chris Frazier know. The Non-Traditional Session is Friday, September 27 at 1:30 pm; OVA could be represented as well. Also during Open House Time and the Community Fair.
- f. Veterans Data / Survey: Tyler is working on getting a survey distributed around base. The Commander may help with a push. The survey has a list of programs and then the question, "if not one of these, which one?"
- g. Veteran's Awareness Day: November 8 during Family Weekend. A speaker will present to Faculty about the effects on schooling, PTSD, brain trauma, signs, short-term and long-term memory loss. Barb has a contact in White City that Tyler and Casey will begin to connect with to set up arrangements and details.
- h. Survey for all Veterans on campus: Possibly the 3rd or 4th week of Winter Term.
- i. Veterans Resource Center: Worked with webinar provider to get business plan including economic impact. How to market/recruit veterans to Oregon Tech.
- j. Yellow Ribbon: Last one in October. Steve Schultz will get the date and look at possibly attending. Tyler mentioned that the last one is usually the largest attended because it is a requirement and lots of folks procrastinate.

New Topics/ Discussion

- a. *Tentative:* Tuesday, November 12, 7:00 – 8:30 am, Veteran's Breakfast hosted by the President.
- b. Chapter – SVA: Casey Coulson looks to become nationally recognized. The OVA currently already meets the three requirements to have a committee, a recognized e-mail address, and

written by-laws. He has begun the application process. The benefit will be the national recognition and possibility of grant money.

- c. Our VAC group would like to become a formal committee from the President's office. Chris Dalla will work on details with Adria Paschal.
- d. Next Meeting: Will look at Mid-November.

Written by Nellie Stewart