

VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

April 7, 2009

Location: Facilities Management Conference Room

2:30-3:30

1ST MEETING

AGENDA

1) CALL TO ORDER

2) ATTENDANCE:

- **Introduction of all members**
Janis Armstrong
C.W. West
Joyce Morgan-Dee's
J.B. Messer
Ross Kiddie
Myra Decker
Gary Wallace
Roland Echohawk-Student, Veteran Office, work-study
John Mansera-Veterans Office

3) REPORT FROM COORDINATOR of VETERAN'S SERVICES

- **Scholarship program (Name? Criteria?)**
- **Faculty orientation; add session on veterans issues example (PTSD)**
- **How can we build a Veteran Friendly campus? Any concerns? Suggestions? (Web Conference) April 29th**
- **Revise procedures for evaluating military credits. For example, Waiving Success in college and Life**

- **Questions, Discussions, Suggestions**

4) NEW BUSINESS

- **Volunteers for Chair and Co-Chair**

5) NEXT MEETING – To be approved by members

May 5th 2009

2:30-3:30

Facilities Management Conference Room

Minutes

April 7th 2009

Present

Janis Armstrong

C.W. West

J.B. Messer

Myra Decker

Gary Wallace

Roland Echohawk

John Mansera

Absent

Joyce Morgan-Dees

Ross Kiddie

Discussion Items:

- Janis Armstrong: Implementation of a session during faculty orientation regarding vet issues such as PTSD and to bring awareness as to why vets may act differently i.e. sitting in the back of a classroom as to not have anyone behind them.
- Myra Decker: Need to figure out a way to identify vets without them coming to the faculty and telling them.
- Janis Armstrong: ordered a Web Conference on April 29th to be held in the CU about building a Vet friendly Campus open to all employees.
- J.B. Messer: Communicate through Public Relations the good happenings on campus regarding vets and market it to the students and public.
- Janis Armstrong: Need to set up a system so that Bursar Office does not assess late fees and finance charges to vets when waiting on GI bill or Tuition Waivers.
- J.B. Messer: Maybe a verification system can be put in place to avoid the late fees and finance charges.
- Janis Armstrong: Need to reevaluate the need for the SSCL 1001 (Success in College Life Course) for vets, may not be necessary, a lot of them tend to fail the class primarily because it does not pertain to them- invite Barbara Gowdy to next meeting to discuss possible changes.
- Roland Echohawk: SCL 1001 should be made into a couple of weeks vs. an entire semester.
- Myra Decker: Instead of SCL 1001 can the vets take a different life skills course such as nutrition or fitness or possible tailor a SCL 1001 for vets only.
- Janis Armstrong: Maybe a special SCL 1001 for vets should be created

- C.W. West: Vets should not need to complete Computer Proficiency Course (CS 1103) due to the training all soldiers receive which makes them competent.
- Myra Decker: Possible test to test out of CS 1103.
- C.W. West: Can basic training be counted as a physical education credit
- C.W. West: Why are military training hours not counted toward a degree plan here while many private schools do?
- Roland Echohawk: Vet on campus is working to form a student organization for vets.
- J.B. Messer: There is a welcoming area at the airport for vets.
- Janis Armstrong: Webpage needs to be updated for Veteran's Services
- J.B. Messer: How many vets are new each semester? How many vets are processed each semester? How many vets took SCL 1001 in a semester?
- Myra Decker: Offer WOW sessions giving info on vets online and live for faculty several times per year.

Scholarship Program:

- School wants a name and criteria for scholarship which can be for veterans who are deployed, not deployed, family of vets and disabled veterans.
- Roland Echohawk: Scholarship could possibly be named after a deceased vet that was a student here.
- Janis Armstrong: Money was donated by the Mayors office for scholarship (Tulsa Area).

Looking Ahead:

- J.B. Messer & Ross Kiddie: will work on building a vet friendly campus and check out other 2yr colleges.
- John Mansera and Roland Echohawk, Myra Decker: will work on who can be honored by scholarship.
- C.W. West: will work on revised military credits.
- Gary Wallace: will work on tech schools.
- Myra Decker: will work on private schools.
- Janis Armstrong and Joyce Morgan will work on the 4 year colleges
- Janis Armstrong will work on getting some numbers of Veterans that have enrolled in the student success class and a number of veterans that have never attended or failed.