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Veterans Upward Bound Newsletters

Fall 9-1-2013

2013 Fall - Veterans Upward Bound Newsletter

Veterans Upward Bound, East Tennessee State University

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Veterans Upward Bound Voice

Ronnie D. Gross, Executive Director
Len Morrison, Director
Bobby Westbrook, Counselor, (Ret.)
Carl Cole, Education Advisor
Joan Hathaway, Executive Aide
Teresa Carver, TRiO Executive Aide
Greg Stout, TRiO Project Specialist

VUB Fall Semester Information and Instructions

Page three of the newsletter contains the VUB 2013 Fall Semester schedule of classes. It contains pre-college class opportunities for all veterans preparing for post-secondary programs.

We will continue our basic math and English classes this semester by offering tutoring for those who need to brush up on their basic skills. Please call the VUB office to arrange this individual service. We will continue to provide tutoring for those who need additional preparation before taking the COMPASS test.

Please note that our computer skills class will meet on Monday and

Wednesday and all other classes will meet once per week. Also note that the semester will begin on September 9.

Check out the schedule and contact any VUB staff member if you have questions. To register for classes follow the instructions at the bottom of the page. You may register by phone, by e-mail, or you may remove the page, fold it so that the VUB address is on the outside, staple/tape it and mail to us not later than September 6, 2013.

We recommend that all participants register for at least two courses so that

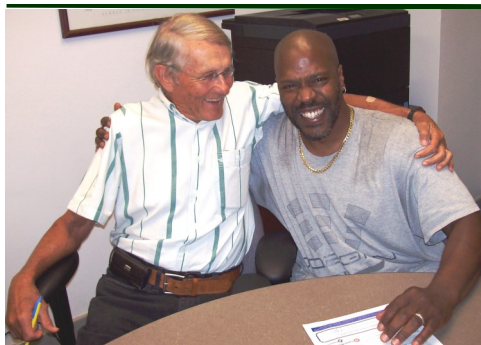
you will receive the full benefit of the instruction and be better prepared when you enter a postsecondary program. We have designed the schedule so that you will be able to register for all classes during a four-day period without any class conflict.

If you plan to operate a vehicle on campus, call us to get directions and a permit.

If you are in college already, keep us informed of your progress, call if you need help, and let us know if you change your address or phone number. Have a great Fall!

See page 2 for scholarship information for next year.

VUB Counselor Retires



L-R Bobby Westbrook and VUB participant Tim Drane

John Robert (Bobby) Westbrook, VUB's Counselor for the past 16 years, has decided to retire. Bobby was well suited for the position he held. As a retired Army Lt. Col. he had several years' experience working with military personnel, and as a college administrator he had an abundance of experience with college students. A very loyal and dedicated employee, Bobby enjoyed working with veterans and he always encouraged them to perform to their fullest potential.

Bobby's philosophy is best described in his own words: "Helping veterans move

toward their dreams, plans and goals has been my opportunity for more than 15 years. I am glad that ETSU did not know how much I enjoyed my job, because they might have refused to pay me and I might have continued with no salary. Some veterans gave a LOT and some gave ALL but each honorable veteran deserves service and support to help them develop their plans and goals. I retire believing I am successful and I tell veterans my method was: #1, Attend every school (military and civilian) opportunity that I could; #2, 'Show up' for appointments early; and #3, Employ a positive attitude. Veterans need information about opportunities and procedures that can help them move toward success. I know I did, so I try to 'unlock doors' and point the way to assist them. There were some vets I could not help, because they would not 'put feet on their plans' but some who failed many times have returned to claim success. I salute them, the Veterans Upward Bound Program, and the USA. I believe God has blessed America."

The VUB staff wishes Bobby and his wife, Beth, the very best in their retirement.

David Baxter Wins 2013 NAVUB Scholarship



Congratulations to David P. Baxter, Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) participant and Northeast State Community College freshman, for winning the 2013 National Association of Veterans Upward Bound

(NAVUB) Program Scholarship of \$1,000.

David followed a college-prep course of study while in high school and although his living conditions were dire, he graduated in 2001 with a 3.81 GPA. He was interested in attending college but decided to first serve his country and then pursue higher education. He served for two years in the Army and was discharged honorably with a 40 percent service-connected disability rating for injuries while in service.

After military service David searched for satisfactory work, but with little success. He worked odd jobs to help support his family and was able to return to college in the spring of 2007 and, in spite of the hardship, he was able to complete 20 semester hours with a 3.64 GPA. His time in college was short-lived, however, and he had to withdraw due to an unfortunate family situation that severely drained his resources and prevented him from continuing his education.

With some major adjustments in his life and working tirelessly at several jobs, he finally was able to prepare for reentry into college. He had heard about ETSU's Veterans Upward Bound Program and in September of 2012, he entered the program as a low-income, first-generation eligible veteran. Although his financial status had been weakened by maintaining adequate support to his family and the cost of education, he never lost sight of pursuing a higher level of education.

To confirm his academic ability he was administered the Tests of Achievement and Proficiency (TAP) and his scores were in the highest college grade-level range: 15.5 to 18.8. He was provided information and supportive services needed for reentry to college and he is now a freshman at Northeast State Community College. His college placement (ACT Compass) scores were: Reading, 95; Writing Skills, 99; and Algebra, 99.

Mr. Baxter is a very energetic, enthusiastic, and goal-oriented individual. He is very knowledgeable, motivated, and is an inspiration to the VUB staff and other veterans. He volunteered to help with a VUB college success workshop relating to other veterans how to avoid pitfalls and plan for success. He also has recruited veterans for the VUB program and has helped classmates with homework. David is commended for his contributions to VUB and for winning the NAVUB Scholarship.

Preparation Tips for Veteran Scholarships

Veterans are eligible for three TRiO scholarships: The National Association of Veterans Upward Bound Programs (NAVUB); the Tennessee Association of Special Programs (TASP); and the Southeastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (SAEOPP). All are submitted annually in the Spring. All programs have similar features and all have differences.

All three scholarship applications require an essay that addresses how the program has helped the participant; all applications must contain academic performance information, involvement in program activities, leadership activities, and letters of recommendation.

Veterans interested in applying for any one of the scholarships should contact the Veterans Upward Bound office to obtain additional information and guidance regarding the requirements, process, submission dates and other information needed.

Competition is usually very keen and only one nomination per program can be submitted.

Since the essay has the greatest point value, it should be well written without errors in grammar, spelling or content.

Financial need as well as community service are important factors to include in an application.

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY VETERANS UPWARD BOUND

(423) 439.2281

VUB 2013 FALL SEMESTER : September 9—November 14

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES (ETSU Main Campus / VA Campus)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Flexible Time	MATH I / ENGLISH I TUTORING VA Bldg. 2, Room 013 Call VUB to arrange date & time	MATH I / ENGLISH I TUTORING VA Bldg. 2, Room 013 Call VUB to arrange date & time	MATH I / ENGLISH I TUTORING VA Bldg. 2, Room 013 Call VUB to arrange date & time	MATH I / ENGLISH I TUTORING VA Bldg. 2, Room 013 Call VUB to arrange date & time
1:30- 3:30			SCIENCE (Wed. only) <i>Includes physics, chemistry, earth science</i>	
3:45- 5:15	COMPUTER SKILLS (meets Mon & Wed) Brown Hall 264 <i>Consists of Windows 2007, MS Word, Internet & E-mail</i>		COMPUTER SKILLS (meets Mon & Wed) Brown Hall 264	3:15-5:15 (Thu. only) LITERATURE SURVEY Brown Hall 304 <i>Emphasis on reading</i>
5:30- 8:30			MATH II Brown Hall 304 <i>Factoring, rational numbers, inequalities & polynomials, etc.</i>	

OFF ETSU JOHNSON CITY / VA CAMPUS CLASSES (Dates/times may be adjusted to meet student needs)

OFF ETSU MAIN / VA CAMPUS SITES	SUBJECT	DAY(S)	TIME(S)	ROOM
Bristol Public Library	MATH / ENGLISH	Tue	3:00-4:30/4:30-6:00P	Mtg. Room
	COMPUTER SKILLS	TBD	TBD	
ETSU Kingsport	COMPUTER SKILLS	Tue	9:00-11:00A	216
	MATH / ENGLISH TUTORING	TBD	TBD	216
ETSU Nave Center Elizabethton	ENGLISH / MATH I	Mon	5:30-7:30/7:30-9:30P	122
	COMPUTER SKILLS / MATH II	Wed	5:30-7:30/7:30-9:30P	122
Johnson County Extended Service Center	ENGLISH / MATH	Wed	4:30-5:30/5:30-6:30P	JCESC
	COMPUTER SKILLS	Wed	6:30-7:30P	

You may register by phone, by e-mail, or you may remove this page, circle the scheduled classes listed above and complete the box below, fold it so that the VUB address is on the outside, staple or tape it and mail it to us not later than September 6, 2013. Consult a VUB staff member at (423) 439-2281 if you have any questions or need assistance.

Name: _____ Phone : _____



East Tennessee State University
Veterans Upward Bound
Box 70306
Johnson City, TN 37614-1701

Veterans Administration Medical Center
Building 2, Room 13, Dogwood Ave.
Mountain Home, TN 37684
(423) 439-2281

Check Us Out on the Web!

www.etsu.edu/vub

DATES TO REMEMBER

VUB Fall 2013 Semester ~ September 9—November 14

College Success/Study Skills Workshop ~ Tuesday, September 24 ~ 4:30-6:00 P.M. ~ VA Bldg. 2, Room 128

Financial Aid/Financial Literacy Workshop ~ Thursday, October 17 ~ 4:30-6:00 P.M. ~ VA Bldg. 2, Room 128

Fall Break (no classes) ~ October 14-15

Thanksgiving Holiday ~ November 28-29 (offices closed)

VUB Spring 2014 Semester begins Monday, January 27

Veterans Upward Bound is a unique program designed to assist eligible veterans prepare for entering and succeeding in a program of post-secondary education. VUB has operated successfully at ETSU since 1980 helping hundreds of veterans achieve their educational goals. Through academic counseling, advising, encouraging, motivating, and providing basic skill and short-term remedial and refresher courses, VUB has been an important program in the lives of many veterans.

Take advantage of the many benefits VUB has to offer.

Veterans Upward Bound is a federal TRiO program funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

East Tennessee State University is a Tennessee Board of Regents institution and is fully in accord with the belief that educational and employment opportunities should be available to all eligible persons without regard to age, gender, color, race, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. ETSU is a Tobacco-Free Campus where all use of tobacco is restricted to private vehicles.
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