VETERANS AFFAIRS
AT
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
OVERVIEW

- Veterans Affairs Office, Dossett Hall
- Student Veterans of America
- Veterans Upward Bound, Quillen Campus
- Veterans Affairs Standing Committee
- New committee forming in the Office of Students Affairs for Student Veterans
- College of Medicine Student Veterans Organization
- ROTC Standing Committee
- Department of Military Science
500+ Veterans and family members attend ETSU (Receive GI Benefits)

- Economic Impact: Estimated $11 Million per academic year
- ETSU has been named a “Military Friendly School” for the last 6 years
  - [http://www.militaryfriendly.com](http://www.militaryfriendly.com)

**Academics**

- Tuition deferment
- Priority registration
- In-state Tuition (Starts Fall 2014; Veterans Education Transition Support Act (VETS))
- VA Work Study
- Buc – Hero Scholarship Program

**Veteran Outreach**

- [http://www.etsu.edu/veterans](http://www.etsu.edu/veterans)
STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA - ETSU CHAPTER

- History Nationally
  - Founded in 2008
  - Over 950 Chapter affiliates at the local and national level
  - To meet the needs of Student Veterans on university and college campuses

- History at ETSU
  - Founded in 2010
  - Dedicated to help the Student Veteran transition from the military to the classroom
  - Make the campus aware of the effects of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
  - [https://www.facebook.com/pages/Student-Veterans-of-America-at-ETSU/301908706487211](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Student-Veterans-of-America-at-ETSU/301908706487211)

- SVA at ETSU - Annual 5K run
  - To raise awareness of Veterans on campus
  - To raise money for books and other items needed for education purposes

- Student Veterans Lounge (3rd Floor Yoakley Hall; Opened 8 March 2013)
VETERANS UPWARD BOUND, QUILLEN CAMPUS

- History Nationally
  - Upward Bound created from the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964
  - Veterans Upward Bound created from Second Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1972
  - Mission: Provides education and support services to enable veterans to make the transition to postsecondary education
  - Provides instruction in mathematics, science, and foreign language.
  - Advise and assistance in postsecondary course selection
  - Advise and assistance in preparing for College Entrance Exams and Applications
  - Advise and assistance with financial planning for postsecondary education
  - Provides mentoring programs; counseling; and exposure to cultural events
  - Assists Veterans in securing other Veteran support services (i.e. Veterans Administration)
VETERANS UPWARD BOUND, QUILLEN CAMPUS

• History and Impact at ETSU
  • Founded in 1972
  • Over 2,590 Veterans have been served
  • Over 680 have enrolled into postsecondary education
  • 226 Diplomas Awarded to VUB graduates
    • 52 Certificates; 58 Associate Degrees; 101 Bachelor Degrees; 12 Master Degrees; 1 Education Specialist Degree; and 2 Doctorate Degrees

• Eligibility
  • Veteran who has served at least 181 continuous days on active duty after 1955
  • At least a General discharge or higher
  • In a low income bracket or a first generation college student

• Serves veterans from seven NE Tennessee Counties and two SW Virginia Counties
• All Services are provided for free
• http://www.etsu.edu/academicaffairs/trio/vub/
VETERANS AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE

• History
  • Founded in 2001 for the express purpose of planning, organizing, fundraising, and over site of building the Veterans Memorial at ETSU
  • Fundraising was accomplished through selling Veterans Bricks, Veteran donors and ETSU funding

• Organization
  • Three Staff, Faculty and Student Veterans
  • SGA President or designee; Assistant Registrar for Veterans Affairs; Representative from the Department of Military Science; Student Veterans of America designee
  • Will soon add Veterans Upward Bound designee and Quillen Campus designee

• Current Responsibilities
  • Address the issues and concerns of Veterans enrolled or working at ETSU
    • 100 Faculty/Staff Veterans; Over 500 Student Veterans and dependents
  • Raise awareness of Veterans on campus
  • Sponsor/co-sponsor recognition for Veterans (i.e. Veteran’s Day)
  • Be a source of information for Students, Staff and Faculty Veterans at ETSU
  • Facilitate outreach to regional military affiliated organizations (i.e. Rolling Thunder, Tri-Cities Military Affairs Council)
VETERANS AFFAIRS STANDING COMMITTEE

- Latest and Greatest
  - In collaboration with the Office of the President, Department of Military Science and Veterans Affairs, the committee worked with Facilities Maintenance and Contractors on the planning, movement and final placement of the ETSU Veterans Memorial;
  - Recommended the naming convention for the Quad (To be named on Veterans Day);
  - In collaboration with Rolling Thunder, recommended the placement of the POW/MIA Chair (Approved)
  - Participated in the “Save ROTC Committee” and campaign and now has a seat on the ROTC Standing Committee
  - Currently working with the Office of Student Affairs to form a committee for Student Veteran success
  - Fully supported SVA’s request of a Student Veterans Lounge
  - Continued oversight and responsibility of the ETSU Veterans Memorial Brick Program (Over 220 Bricks)
  - Continued support and visibility of Veterans issues on and off campus
  - Co-sponsors w/ the Department of Military Science the Veterans Day ceremony each year (10 November 2014; Congressman Roe)
  - The “Victory from Within: The American Prisoner of War Experience”; 14 September 2015
  - [http://www.etsu.edu/universitygovernance/committees/veterans.aspx](http://www.etsu.edu/universitygovernance/committees/veterans.aspx)
Questions