

Minutes
Veterans Action Committee Meeting
May 23, 2012, 3:00 – 4:00 pm, Sunset

Attendees: Chris Dalla, Jennie Spencer, Carl Thomas, Stephen Schultz, Casey Coulson, Joe Miranda, Kristin Sayles, Nellie Stewart

Guests: Joel McPherson, Chris Frazier

Website – Joel has created a Veterans Resource page that has the links to everyone’s Veterans web page that already exists. Suggestions were made by the committee and once finalized Joel will await our approval to go live.

Suggestions – Add a GI Bill link, Add location of the OVA office to the CU campus map, Spell out Oregon Tech Veterans Association with abbreviation OVA afterwards, Add Kristin Sayles title to contact information.

Hootie’s Halloo – Chris informed the committee on the schedule of Student Orientation Hootie’s Halloo to be held on September 20 – 22. The committee decided that having the OVA office open during ROAD with it listed as a “STOP” on the ROAD schedule will be a huge improvement.

Suggestions – Add Veteran information to the 1:30 – 3:30 pm Non-Traditional Student pull-out session. Joe will look into making the Rock Wall available on campus or at Veterans Park during the festivities.

Topics – Chris Dalla

- a. Update on the Yellow Ribbon Event: Carl and Steve have made arrangements to attend quarterly. It has been approved for Carl to speak/present on behalf of all OUS schools, in addition to hosting a table. U of O will also be hosting a table and Carl will be enlightening OUS Admission Directors of this opportunity. The upcoming event is June 23rd. Joe and Casey have been invited to attend with Carl to this first session to speak as well. Their expenses will be covered through Veteran funds. Steve told the group there will be 25 returning from tour from Klamath Falls that will be at the event.
- b. Chris asked if any additional members needed to be added to the committee. Everyone agreed the size seems good.
- c. Chris talked about academic advising – is it vet-friendly? Steve Schultz believes advisors are doing well with all students, but it would be helpful to let advisors know that Veterans only receive benefits for a total of 36 months and sometimes it is to their benefit to start at a Community College and pay out of pocket at a cheaper rate, however, this is something that all advisors should tell all students because some of the same rules apply with regular financial aid.

Reminders

Next Meeting – July 3rd.

Bring topic suggestions.