

Minutes
Veterans Action Committee Meeting
April 23, 2013, 2:00 – 3:00 pm, Sunset

Attendees: Casey Coulson, Chris Dalla, AJ Davilla, Joe Miranda, Susan Richards, Jennie Spencer, Nellie Stewart, Carl Thomas

Absent: Jeff Pardy, Stephen Schultz

Updates –

- a. Yellow Ribbon Events: The 4/27/13 event was cancelled. Will look for June and August dates to schedule OIT representation. Chris Dalla was asked to request funds (\$3000) for Veterans Action Committee for travel to visit bases. MaryAnn Zemke, VP Finance suggested the use of SEM budget for Enrollment Management which is maintained by Erin Foley, VP Student Affairs. Erin has agreed to match and provide \$1500. Next steps are to schedule a meeting with President Maples with proposal for the other \$1500, and to check with Carl Thomas, Director of Admissions for the right timing during the summer.
- b. Sign for Vets Lounge: Casey Coulson and Joe Miranda will look at the cost through signvertise, a local company, and choose a design. If the budget exists for this project this year, they will purchase, if not, will wait till budget is released from ASOIT for next school year.
- c. ACAD Class for Vets only: Start Fall term, if possible. Chris Dalla will ask Barb Connor, Coordinator of Retention with SSC to teach the course with possible topic sessions given by Susan Richards, local education, medical benefits, ODVA. Still working on course title, *Military Transition, Veterans Network*. We will plan on sending postcards to admitted veteran students to promote this ACAD section.
- d. Administrative Support for VRC (Veteran's Resource Center): The OVA met with President Maples during Spring Break. The President is on board with the proposal for building an Oregon Tech VRC on campus. He will look into state funding.
- e. Vet Program Leaders for 2013-2014 school year: Casey Coulson, Nigel Bliss, Tyler Pinson. Programs do not require constitution or by-laws.
- f. Ideas from other schools programs: not discussed
- g. Veteran's data at OIT: Included the age, major, full/part time status of every veteran (self-reported) on campus. Showed a wide variety to these answers.
- h. The Iron Owl: For the Opening Ceremony on Friday, May 17 a 17-mile run relay race will be participated by OIT athletes, coaches, and volunteers. The final stretch will be run by President Maples to end at the OIT Track for a speech by Todd Kellstrom and musical performance by Klamath County Honors Band. Each participant will carry the Iron Owl Flag. President Maples will provide a breakfast to the competitors on Friday, May 17.
- i. Summer Meeting: Possibly meet with or without students during 2nd week of July. Climbing wall still scheduled for Orientation Week.

Written by Nellie Stewart