Do you want information about the 9/11 GI Bill rights and benefits you earned through your service to your country, as well as assistance with student services offered on and off campus? Thanks to an extremely generous donation from the Cyr family to the VSO, that information is coming your way!

A VSO Mobile Service on wheels, or as we call it, the UH Veterans Mobile Unit (UHVMU), will make stops around campus to help you with inquiries. Check our website for a schedule of how close our UH Veterans Mobile Unit is coming to you. Additional on-call stops will be available for disabled veterans for their convenience. The VMU will also assist student-veterans in getting to VA appointments and Veteran Outreach Centers within the Houston area. The UHVMU will be present for educational fairs at military institutions throughout the year to enhance the University of Houston “Military Friendly” image and to carry out UH Strategic Goal #3: Increase community advancement activities and improve intra- and inter-connectivity and collaboration.

For more information about UHVMU touring, please call (713) 743-5490, or use one of the contacts on the VSO website: www.uh.edu/veterans.
Making Each Credit Count

By Stephen Cremona

All of us student-veterans know that going to school is a game of time and money. They want to keep us in as long as possible so we can pay more money. After a bit of time and money that I invested into the University of Houston (UH), I found a way to make my time and credits that I had earned count. I remember first sending my transcripts in fall 2008 before I was about to finish my active duty contract with the United States Air Force. It was great finding out that all of my 70 credits I earned through community college and technical school while in the Air Force had transferred to the University of Houston.

Of course, all students should learn after a semester or two that once you get into UH, it is now time for the student to look at the individual colleges, such as business, technology, engineering, education and so on. The point is I found it very frustrating when I went to the College of Engineering. They told me my credits were worthless, since I did not use calculus in my tech school classes. It was very hard for me to accept that all the education I had learned meant nothing. I kept searching for a loophole in the system, since the individual colleges here at UH are not too up-to-date with accepting credits that veterans, reservists or active duty members earned through military education.

Finally, I went to the technology advisor and told him I was considering changing my major. I had been attending the College of Technology studying Mechanical Engineering Technology, trying to petition for some of the credits from my tech school. He then took a look at my credits and suggested the degree plan for Leadership and Supervision. After reviewing the degree plan, I said I was interested, especially after he told me I could use all my credits from Air Force tech school. This is due to the fact that my tech school training covered such topics as heating, air conditioning, ventilation, and refrigeration, which all correlated to the same subject.

So, if you have a technical trade and don’t want to lose those well-earned credits that you received in the military, go talk to the advisor, Aaron Bishop, in the College of Technology. See if he can help you avoid completely starting over by putting them to good use with the Leadership and Supervision degree plan. I wish you the best of luck in your goal.

Student Resolution

Student concerns should be handled through normal channels at the appropriate workgroup level. Reasonably clear guidelines exist to move escalating issues through the proper channels. Work continues on clarifying those guidelines even more. The quickest way to having your problem resolved is by using the following procedures.

1. If you have an academic concern (e.g. petitions, medical withdrawals, advising), try to resolve the issue with the director of the college, school, or department first. Only contact Dr. Heidi Kennedy (hakennedy@central.uh.edu) (UH Ext. 3-9187) if absolutely necessary.

2. If your concern arises as a result of Enrollment Services [e.g. Admissions, Registration, Scholarships/Financial Aid, Bursar (Student Financial Services)], try to resolve the issue with the director of the department first. Only contact the Resolution Team if absolutely necessary. The Resolution Team has a central Extension (2-8716) and a central email address (esresolutions@uh.edu).
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One in every four people in the U.S. has a connection to the military today. We have an all-volunteer military that includes significant numbers of National Guard members and reservists and more than 1.5 million service members who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Nearly half of all active and reserve members experience multiple deployments, and psychological issues rise significantly among those with repeated deployments. Fortunately, 90% of wounded service members survive their injuries. Unfortunately, a greater percentage is coming home with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) or severe Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Over 75% of service members surveyed report mental health as one of the three most common health issues.

Students from the UH College Of Pharmacy Pharm D class of 2012, with the cooperation of the Worthy Inner Guard, Phi Delta Chi, partnered with the UH Veterans’ Services Office to present a series of workshops from March through April 2010 for students, staff and faculty to understand PTSD.

Call (713) 743-5490 or 5493 for more information.
WHAT WE OFFER
OUR UH VETERANS

• Referrals for credit evaluation of military training
• Referrals for VA health benefits.
• Assistance with transition and adjustment to civilian life
• Unlimited, free access to computers, local telephone calls, and facsimile transmittals
• 200 photocopies or computer print-outs per month
• A quiet study room

268 University Center
Houston, Texas 77204-4024

Phone: 713-743-5490
Fax: 713-743-0680
vets@mail.uh.edu

www.uh.edu/veterans

Program Director:
Allen Grundy
713-743-5493
agrundy@mail.uh.edu

"Veterans Helping Veterans"

Editor: Sandra Glass

Graduating Veterans & Veterans’ Dependents

We’d like to help you celebrate this milestone in your life. If you’re graduating this semester, let us know so that we can recognize you in the next issue of The Reveille. In addition, do you have words of wisdom that you’d like to pass on to the student-veterans you leave behind? If so, let us know in 300 words or less. The following are a few examples for a topic:

• What I Learned in the Military That Helped in College (or Civilian Life)
• The Importance of the UH Veterans’ Services Office While I Was a Student
• My College Experience As the Dependent of a Military Veteran

Keep in touch with the VSO after graduation. We want to know how you’re progressing with your career so that we can spotlight your successes and use them to encourage others. To be considered for inclusion in any issue, submit an article at least three weeks prior to the first day of the scheduled publication month. Read above for publication months. The article should be in MS Word format and sent to vets@mail.uh.edu, Subject: The Reveille.

Congratulations Graduate

Cordell D. Myers
B.S. Degree—December, 2009
Major: Nutrition