The Veterans' Services Office would like to REMIND all student-veterans to complete and submit your V. A. recertification (Request For Enrollment Certification) form the same day you enroll in classes for the next semester. By doing so, there should not be a gap in your benefits. You can get this form in our office. Also, do not forget to file your income tax return. After filing, make sure you complete and submit your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form for the 2008-2009 academic year. The earlier you complete your tax return and FAFSA form, the closer you will be to the front of the line if you need to apply for loans, grants, or scholarships. Enjoy the remainder of your semester!

The Non-Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA) will host a National Job Fair on Thursday, June 5, 2008 at the University of Houston Hilton Hotel, 4800 Calhoun Street, Houston, TX, 77204, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Prior to the start of the job fair, Bill Copp of ManTech International will present a free seminar entitled “How to Work a Job Fair” at 9 a.m. Get the inside scoop on how to “woo” the company recruiters and get hired!

This event is free and open to the public! Dress appropriately, bring plenty copies of your résumé, and be prepared to meet with over 40 local and national recruiters who are hiring in all industries! Here’s a partial list of companies that will be present: Air Force Reserve Recruiting, Austin Police Department, Bradley-Morris, ClearanceJobs.com, Computer Sciences Corporation, Fluor, Lockheed Martin, ManTech International, Northrop Grumman, Omega Protein, Sears Holding Corporation, U. S. Customs and Border Protection, and many others!

The NCOA is a nonprofit organization chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1960 to support the welfare of all service members of all branches (including the Reserve, National Guard and Coast Guard) and their family members. The NCOA Job Fair attracts retiring or separating military members (officers and enlisted), military spouses and family members, veterans, and the general public.

To register your résumé for this event and to view a complete list of participating companies, visit us at www.militaryjobworld.com.
There is a segment of our student population that is underrepresented and under-supported. Approximately 700 students strong, these men and women make up a group that proudly served this nation, and many still do. Honor, duty, and loyalty are our watchwords—principles instilled in us from the severity of the responsibility of the defense and preservation of a great nation. We are student-veterans, and the time has come for the University of Houston (UH) to fulfill its obligation to us.

Student-veterans are mostly non-traditional students. Many are married with children. Many have careers or still serve on reserve status. With the current university policies, too many of us slip through the cracks of a flawed system and a clogged bureaucracy. We have been marginalized and tucked away into a system that is inefficient and unable to promptly...

The previous issue of The Reveille introduced Chapter 1606 for veterans in the Selected Reserve. The Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) is another source of educational benefits for members of the Selected Reserve (Sel Res) and Individual Ready Reserve (IRR). Also called Chapter 1607, the program is limited to those who are called or ordered to active service in response to a war or national emergency as declared by the President or Congress. This includes the Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve, Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Army IRR, Air Force IRR, Navy IRR and Marine Corps IRR.

“Active Service” is service on active duty or full-time National Guard duty. The Department of Defense or Department of Homeland Security will make final determination of eligibility. However, you must be a member of a reserve component who served on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. That service must be for at least 90 consecutive days or more and their service is:

- authorized under section 502(f), title 32, U.S.C.,
- authorized by the President or Secretary of Defense for a national emergency, and
- supported by federal funds.

If you would like more detailed information about your eligibility for Chapter 1607 or any other Montgomery GI Bill program, go to http://www.gibill.va.gov/GI_Bill_Info/benefits.htm or call a Veterans Administration Regional Office.

1-800-827-1000 Houston
1-888-GI-BILL-1 or
1-888-442-4551

(A similar version of the following message appeared in The Daily Cougar, a UH student newspaper. We share it now with our readers, UH alumni veterans, and friends of veterans.)

By Christopher Webb
Vice President Veterans Collegiate Society
resolve inevitable issues and problems.

Although there are many problems, there are solutions. First and foremost, there must be a special ninety-day payment plan without fees and interest rates for recipients of the GI Bill. This is to prevent student-veterans from being dropped from their classes and to allow enough of those benefits to accumulate in order to pay tuition and fees. To believe that a state and federally-funded public university cannot accomplish this is ridiculous. Many other schools do this, and it’s time for UH to follow suit.

In addition, the role of the Veterans’ Services Office should be expanded to assist student-veterans in certifying their documents directly to the Veterans Administration headquarters. The current method places additional burdens on an already strained registrar’s office. The Veterans’ Services Office is a fully-functioning computer lab and study area located in the University Center. Staffed by veterans, the employees know exactly what other student-veterans need to do in order to receive their educational benefits. This facility is primed and ready to advance its role in providing expedient and competent support to fellow student-veterans.

As the United States military continues to carry out wars and missions overseas, our numbers here will continue to swell, and the current university policies and network of support and assistance will become increasingly strained without significant and prompt change. Whether or not one agrees with our nation’s current posture and activities abroad, we who decided to volunteer to preserve and defend this nation must hold our government and its institutions to their promises.

Addressing these problems immediately ensures that student-veterans receive the opportunities and service we deserve. Enacting positive change not only takes the voices of student-veterans, but those of our fellow students, faculty, and staff who desire to see commitments honored for those who served.

Events Calendar

**April 12**

**Army ROTC 5K Run**
http://www.class.uh.edu/rotc/army

8:00 a.m. at UH Hofheinz Pavilion

This event benefits the Student Scholarship Fund.

**June 5**

**NCOA Career Fair**
(Non-Commissioned Officers Association)

See page 1 for details.

**November 6**

**Fourth Annual Veterans’ Business Seminar**
“Entrepreneurship and the 21st Century Veteran”

Details to be announced
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 are leaving behind? If so, let us know in 300 words or less. Suggested topics:
- If I Knew Then What I Know Now
- What I Learned in the Military That Has Helped in College or Civilian Life
- How the UH Veterans’ Services Office Has Assisted Me

Keep in touch with the VSO after graduation. We’d like 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 the next issue, submit article at least three weeks prior to the first day of the scheduled publication month. Article should be in MS Word format and sent to the Veterans’ Services Office e-mail address.

Thank You

Student Fees Advisory Committee
For Your Continued Support!