

# VUBES

FALL 2008

## Veterans Upward Bound

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## VUB Director Retires

Jim Kopecky, Director of Veterans Upward Bound, retired from Weber State University on June 30. Through his work with VUB, Jim has promoted educational access and success for veterans for 23 years. His service was honored by friends, family, and colleagues at a reception at WSU on June 25th.

"I never thought that I'd work for Weber State University longer than I was in the Air Force, but I did," Jim said. "I want to thank all of those individuals who helped Veterans Upward Bound be successful. Students, you made our program successful, and watching you

graduate made our jobs enjoyable."

Jim hopes his successor will continue to keep the program "one of the best in the nation," and he wishes all VUB students the best of luck in their endeavors. In turn, we, at VUB, wish Jim a happy and productive retirement.



## Educational Initiative for Veterans with Disabilities

The Office for Civil Rights has introduced a 'Wounded Warriors Initiative,' specifically designed to focus on those veterans returning from combat zones who qualify as 'individuals with disabilities' and intend to pursue higher education. In a letter dated July 25, 2008, Stephanie Monroe, Assistant Secretary, states that her office will "support veterans with disabilities" and "will work with individuals and service providers . . . [to] encourage institutions to adopt innovative approaches to serve this important population." Ms. Monroe points out that "unlike the vast majority of students with disabilities who attend college, warriors with disabilities often have no history of receiving disability-based accommodations in high school. Accordingly, they are less familiar with their disability-related rights and responsibilities." On the other hand, many postsecondary institutions "have not had a lot of experience in accommodating students with the types of disabilities common among wounded

warriors, including post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury [(TBI)], late acquired blindness or deafness, significantly disfiguring burns, and multiple amputations, among others."

Ms. Monroe referenced a pamphlet especially for veterans with disabilities titled "So You Want to Go Back to School." It is available online at <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/back-to-school-2008.html>. This pamphlet gives veterans advice on their rights as students with disabilities and discusses how to go about securing the accommodations needed to successfully manage the challenges they may face seeking their degrees. It also encourages veterans to realize that those who "are well informed about their rights and the laws protecting persons with disabilities will find that many perceived barriers and challenges can be removed or addressed, or simply do not exist."



## Shoeboxes for Veterans

Once again, Veterans Upward Bound (VUB) is sponsoring its Shoeboxes for Veterans Christmas project. Donations benefit homeless or nursing home veterans in the local area. If you would like to participate in this project, please contact the VUB office for specific information and a list of suggested items:

Telephone: 801.626.7173 or Email: [vub@weber.edu](mailto:vub@weber.edu). We will accept donations in our office November 15 through December 10 for delivery the week before Christmas.

*Utah's Veterans Upward Bound program is funded 100% by the U.S. Department of Education.*

## Golden Grenade Award



Each year, Veterans Upward Bound presents The Golden Grenade Award to a Utah individual who demonstrates exemplary volunteer service to veterans, making their lives more successful. It is a way of saying thank you to veterans who work tirelessly to

benefit other veterans in the state. This year's award recipient is Mr. Darrell (Sarge) Loveland, 30-year USMC retiree.

Since his retirement, Mr. Loveland has assisted in performing Military Honors and Flag Etiquette at local schools. He is active in many church and service groups, such as Rotary and Lions Club. He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and Benevolent Order of the Elks for over 40 years, and he is a life member of VFW and the American Legion. In the last ten years, he has selflessly contributed an astounding 25,000+ hours of community service in Box Elder County. He truly exemplifies what a Golden Grenade winner should be and VUB is proud to honor him with the 2008 Golden Grenade Award.

## Graduates

**A hearty congratulations to the following VUB participants who recently graduated:**

**JINYI BAE: Pre-Nursing, WSU**

**BOYD BARNEY: AS, General Studies, SLCC**

**ROGER CRAVEN: Commercial Drivers License**

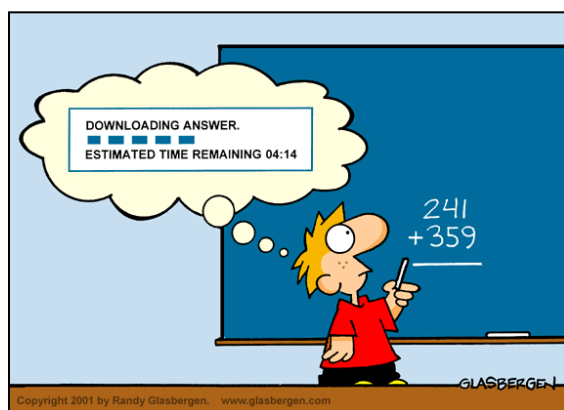
**IVAYLO DLAGNEV: Heavy Equipment Operator, SLCC Skills Center**

**TENZIN KABSANG: AS, General Studies, SLCC**

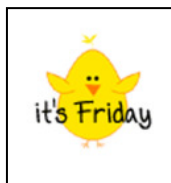
**STANTON NIELSON: BS, Geography, WSU**

**ROBERT ROLLINS: AS, Computer Science, SLCC**

**MATTHEW WILLIAMSON: AS, General Studies, SLCC**



## Student Support Services Fall 2008 Seminar Series



**When: Fridays, 1-1:50pm**

**Where: Weber Campus, UB Room 305**

**\* The topics and presenters are excellent, and these workshops are stipend-eligible for VUB students! \***

September 12	"All You Need to Know About the TBE Literacy Requirement"	Carol Barrios Lapine, TBE Literacy Administrator
September 19	"How to Add Muscle to Your Motivation"	Jill Yeiter, Coordinator, Employee Wellness
September 26	"Professor Protocol—All You Need to Know About Networking With Your Teachers"	TBA
October 3	"Library Logistics—All You Need to Know About the Library"	Presenter, Fran Zedney, Library
October 24	"Get Healthy and Stay Healthy with Fitness and Nutrition"	Hanalee Hawkins, Prevention Specialist, Drug & Alcohol Program
October 31	"Vanquish Those 'Spooky' Thoughts"	Dr. Dianna Rangel, Director, Counseling Center
November 7	"Get Ready for Grad School, Everything You Wanted to Know About Entrance Exams"	Yvette Rosenberg, Director, Student Support Services
November 14	"AAAHHHH, Relaxation Techniques for Tense Times & Stressful Scenes"	Dr. Craig Oreshnick, Counselor, WSU Counseling Center
November 21	"College Portfolios, A Necessary Ingredient for Success"	Marilyn Diamond & Leanna Riddle, Advisors, WSU Honors Program

## News You Can Use ...

§ **The Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008:** This legislation was passed June 30th, 2008. Here's a FAQ site to help you sort out all the new information: <http://www.gibill.va.gov/s22.htm>. At this point, there are more questions than answers, so the best thing is to check the website, <http://www.gibill.va.gov/>, frequently as more information is made available.

§ **VA Reaching Out to Vets with Mortgage Problems:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is encouraging military members, veterans and surviving widows with at-risk loans to seek advice from VA loan counselors even if their loans are not VA-guaranteed. To find your nearest VA regional loan center, call toll-free 1-877-827-3702.

§ There is now an Internet link for the new **Combat-Related Special Compensation** application. The recently passed National Defense Authorization Act allowed PERMANENT medical retirees to be eligible for the benefit. The link has information on how to submit a claim. If you think you qualify, visit <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/infomgt/forms/eforms/dd2860.pdf>.

§ **VFW Moving Services:** If you are one of the millions of Americans moving this year you are eligible for a new VFW veteran benefit. Your move will be managed by one of the nations leading moving services. Cartwright Companies manage moves for the Defense Department all over the world. Call 866-481-8398 or visit: <http://www.vfwhomeandloan.com/otherMain.aspx>.

## Veterans Benefits Expiration Dates:

Many of your earned benefits have an expiration date. Below are several of the more important ones to remember. Make sure you take advantage of your benefits before they expire.

- \* Tuition Assistance: \$4,500 a year that expires as soon as you transition from Active Duty.
- \* Montgomery GI Bill for Active-Duty (MGIB): 10 years from date of last discharge or release from active duty.
- \* Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP): 10 years from date of last discharge or release from active duty.
- \* Montgomery GI Bill for Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR): 14 years from the date of eligibility for the program, or until released from the Selected Reserve or National Guard. Some extensions are available if activated.
- \* Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VocRehab): Generally, 12 years after separation from service or within 12 years of being awarded service-connected VA disability compensation.
- \* Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI): Coverage ends 120 days after separation or can be extended up to 1 year for totally disabled veterans.
- \* Combat Vet VA Health Care: 5 years after discharge for non-service connected care.
- \* Combat Vet VA Dental Care: 180 days after discharge for non-service connected care.

**ALSO SEE:** <http://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-benefit-expiration-dates>

## New Math Tutor at SLCC



VUB is happy to have Michael Montgomery as our new SLCC Math Tutor. Michael recently graduated from the University of Utah with a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics. He is able to tutor all math levels from developmental math through calculus and trigonometry.

“Math is undoubtedly my favorite thing in the world,” Michael says, “I enjoy tutoring, not only because it’s fun to teach, but also because I love reviewing math I’ve already learned.”

We look forward to working with Michael. He is anxious to help VUB participants with their math.

**NOTE:** Beginning Fall Semester 2008, VUB will offer math tutoring services in the evenings on Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Veterans Services Office at SLCC. The office is located in the Student Center, Room 059. Monday and Wednesday Michael will help students in CT 194 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

# VUB Fall 2008 Instruction & Advising Schedule

## Math Instruction:

### Weber State University

Miller Administration Room 103  
Monday-Thursday, 8:00am-4:30pm; Friday 8:00am-12noon

### SLCC Redwood Campus

CT 194:  
Monday & Wednesday, 1:00pm-5:00pm  
Veterans Service Center, SC 59:  
Tuesday & Thursday 3:00pm-7:00pm



## English & Computer Literacy Instruction:

### Weber State University

Miller Administration Room 103  
By Appointment

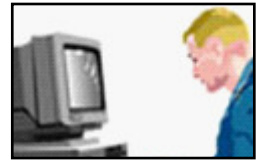
### SLCC Redwood Campus

Veterans Services Center, SC 59  
Tuesdays, 2:00pm-4:00pm

## Advisor Schedule:

### Weber State University

Miller Administration Room 103  
Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm  
*Fridays by appointment*



### SLCC Redwood Campus

Veterans Services Center, SC 59  
Tuesday & Thursday 8:00am-11:00am

### SLCC South Campus

Veterans Services Center W137  
Thursday, 12:00pm-2:30pm

*Some computer-based instruction  
in various subjects is available.  
Please contact our office for  
more information.*



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