



THE TOPPER

VETERANS UPWARD BOUND ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

Veterans Upward Bound held their 19th annual awards banquet at the Carroll Knicely Conference Center on WKU's south campus on May 6. Speaking to the audience during the welcoming greetings was Dr. Ellen Bonaguro, Associate Dean of the Academic Advising and Retention Center.



Dr. Ellen Bonaguro

This year's banquet was the fifth year of awarding the Col. Joe Wright Memorial Scholarship sponsored by the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). The recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship was Kent Johnson. Announcing the award was Bill Lylte of MOAA, Cumberland Trace chapter and Col. Bob Spiller. Kent is a current student of WKU and has a double major in International Affairs and Political Science.



Bill Lylte, Col. Spiller & Kent Johnson

Kent is also this year's nominee for the NAVUB scholarship, The winner will be announced by July 1, 2011.

Other scholarship recipients were Alex Aguirre, receiving a scholarship from the local Veterans of Foreign Wars. Presenting the scholarship (\$500) was Chris Westray, Post Jr. Vice Commander.



Alex Aguirre and Chris Westray

Alex was also the recipient of VUB's *Student of the Year* award presented by Rick Wright.

The recipient of the American Legion Scholarship (\$500) was Julian Heinze.

For the first time in five years, VUB presented two students the *Alumni of the Year* award. Davy Stone presented one award to Robert "Buck" Hulsey. Buck was a prior winner of the MOAA scholarship in 2008. He is graduating WKU this spring having acquired a Bachelors of Science in Agriculture.



Robert "Buck" Hulsey and Davy Stone

David Angle awarded the other *Alumni of the Year* award to Nicholas Basham. Nicholas is graduating from WKU this spring with a Bachelors of Science in Biology/Pre-Med.

Continued on page 2

THE TOPPER

June 2011 Volume 17 Issue 2

The Director's Desk.....	3
News and Notes.....	3
Important Phone Numbers and Dates.....	4





	Martha R. Kenney Director (270) 745 5024 martha.kenney@wku.edu		Davy Stone Adult Education Specialist (270) 745 6876 davy.stone@wku.edu		David W. Angle Adult Education Specialist (270) 745 6570 david.angle@wku.edu
	Rick Wright Counselor/Coordinator (270) 745 5008 rick.wright@wku.edu				Bertha Hunter Office Associate (270) 745 5310 bertha.hunter@wku.edu

Continued from page 1



Nicholas Basham and David Angle

VUB students that have completed our program and applied to or enrolled in postsecondary education during 2010/2011 received achievement certificates. These students were:

- Alex Aguirre — WKU, Graphic Design
- Freeman Bridges — WKU, non-degree seeking
- Roger Halcomb — WKU, Industrial Education
- Julian Heinze — WKU, Physics
- George Noe — WKU, Environmental Health Science
- Chris Westray — WKU, History



Kent Johnson, recipient of MOAA scholarship.

Other degree completers were:

WKU Graduates:

- Juanita Birge — BS in Accounting
- Aaron Early — AA in Nursing
- Eduardo Flores — BA in Psychology
- Joanna Jones — BS in Health Care Administration
- Andrew Skinner — BS in Architectural Science & Manufacturing
- Jesse Varner — BIS in Education

KCTCS Graduates:

- Jason Bugher — AA in Information Technology
- Steven Bunton — AA in Engineering Technology
- Charles Jackson — AA in Information Technology
- Charles Spencer — AA in Applied Sciences



Alex Aguirre, recipient of Student of the Year and VFW scholarship.



Nicholas Basham, recipient of Alumni of the Year.



Col. Robert Spiller, advocate for all veterans and VUB supporter.

We here at VUB wish to extend thanks to all our guests who attended this year's banquet and made it a resounding success. We want to remind all our students that we owe our success to your participation in our program. The scholarships we make available is our way of honoring a few of those students. Those students interested in scholarship opportunities for next year should apply between mid-March to early spring. Check with VUB if you are interested: 745-5310.



Buck Hulsey, recipient of Alumni of the Year, with daughter, MacKenzie.



TIME CHANGE!

WKU is instituting new summer hours different from what they have practiced in the past. Staff will be reporting to work at 7:30 and our offices will be closing at 3:00.



Because of this we will be making an adjustment to our Tuesday and Thursday afternoon classes. Those classes will now be scheduled from 12:30 through 3:00. At this time, our evening classes will be suspended on Tuesdays and Thursdays (5:00 — 7:30). WKU will resume normal business hours on August 12.



Martha R. Kenney
Director

The Director's Desk



Thank you to all who joined us for our annual VUB Awards Banquet on May 6. Our staff was pleased that you chose to be with us, as we honored our Veterans Upward Bound students. We are always happy and proud to recognize the accomplishments of our current students, as well as those of past participants who have completed their postsecondary degrees!

A special "Thank You" to Dr. Ellen Bonaguro, for sharing in our celebration. We appreciated immensely that she joined us in saying "Congratulations" to our veterans. It is with sadness and regret that we must say "Farewell" to Dr. Bonaguro. She will be returning to the WKU Department of Communications as a Graduate Professor in the Fall semester. Everyone in the Veterans Upward Bound program owes Dr. Bonaguro a great debt of thanks for her response when our program was

faced with the possibility of being defunded in September 2010.

Her immediate actions kept the program alive, and her guidance and direction helped us to be able to provide services to many more deserving veterans. Dr. Bonaguro, your excellent leadership will be intensely missed. We will always be grateful for everything you did for VUB. You are the BEST!

Special recognition is also due to all degree completers, VUB completers, and scholarship winners. (see page 1 & 2). "Job well done to all of you!" All of the staff at VUB shares in the "Joy" of your accomplishments. Your success adds significance to what we do each day at Veterans Upward Bound.

THE TOPPER is published three times yearly by the Veterans Upward Bound Project at Western Kentucky University. VUB is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education (Fiscal Year 10-11: \$278,881). The opinions expressed within this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of either the U.S. Department of Education or WKU, and no official endorsement should be inferred. Printed with grant funds provided by the U.S. Department of Education.

Notes and News



The VA has a new program that gives veterans online access to many health resources including prescription refills. The program is My HealthVet and serves as a gateway to veteran health benefits and services. It provides access to trusted health information, links to Federal and VA benefits and resources, the Personal Health

Journal, and now online VA prescription refill. In the future, MHV registrants will be able to view appointments, co-pay balances, and key portions of their VA medical records online, and much more. My HealthVet is a powerful tool to help you better understand and manage your health.

The Personal Health Journal provides all these valuable features for managing and tracking your personal health information.

- **Personal Information** — Helps you keep track of your:
 1. Contact information and emergency contacts
 2. Health care providers and treatment locations
 3. Health insurance information
- **Wallet ID Card** — Print your personal information on a handy, pre-formatted wallet card for convenient reference. It also has open spaces for you to list allergies and other critical medical conditions.
- **Military Health History** — Record important events from your military service, exposures you think you may have experienced, and assignments related to your health history.
- **Medications, over-the-counter drugs, herbals and supplements** — Record the name, starting and ending date, prescription number, and dosage.
- **Allergies** — Keep track of your allergies by date, severity, reaction, diagnosis, and comments.

If you are a VA patient, register with My HealthVet at www.myhealth.va.gov



THE TOPPER

Veterans Upward Bound
 Western Kentucky University
 1906 College Heights Blvd.
 #11098
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098



WKU[®]

Military Student Services

by Tonya Archey, director of Military Student Services

In 2010, Western Kentucky University was named among the top “military friendly” schools in the nation. This is due to the hard work and dedication of faculty and staff members working diligently to ensure our military students are getting the services and support they need.

A special thanks goes out to the outstanding staff from admissions, financial aid, DELO, Ft. Knox/Radcliff, the advising staff, Information Technology, Veterans Upward Bound, and many others working together to establish policies to assist our veteran students. I call this our ‘Military Success Team’ and a few of their accomplishments include establishing:

- A military scholarship
- Liberal transfer credit acceptance
- Participation in the Yellow Ribbon and MyCAA programs
- The only Veterans Upward Bound in the state of Kentucky

To support these initiatives, the Office of Military Student Services has recently opened in Tate Page Hall 201. As a part of the University College, this office will focus on assisting all of our military students and their dependents as they pur-

sue their educational goals. From our office, students can link to tutoring and counseling services, participate in our Vet-2-Vet peer sponsorship program, join our military listserv, find out about the Student Veterans Alliance, and get assistance with issues they may be having. We serve as a point of contact for GoArmyEd, and Servicemembers Opportunity College. Through GoArmyEd, soldiers can request tuition assistance anytime anywhere. This portal is used by active duty Army and Army Reserves. In June, the Army National Guard will begin using this system to receive tuition assistance benefits.

Although WKU has made great strides in assisting our military students, I am still discovering many students who aren’t aware of their benefits, or the services we have available. For instance, many students aren’t aware that they may be entitled to course credit for their military training and experience. Their AARTS and SMART transcript was not evaluated when they enrolled. This is due in many cases because the student did not self identify as a veteran at the time of enrollment.

If you are a military veteran and would like more information about services and programs we offer, please stop by Tate Page Hall 201.



Important Numbers and Dates

Schella Smith, WKU VA Certifying Official
 (270) 745-3732

Stephanie Gabbard, VA Voc-Rehab, B.G. Office
 (270) 846-2092

Military Student Services, WKU
 (270) 745-5837

Department of Employment Services, Bowling Green
 Gerry Neely (270) 746-7425 Ext. 104

VA Regional Office, Louisville
 (800) 827-1000

VA Regional Office, Nashville, TN
 (615) 695-6372

VA Medical Center, Louisville
 (502) 287-4000

VA Medical Center, Nashville, TN
 (800) 228-4973

Military Records Branch, Frankfort
 (502) 564-4883

Disabled American Veterans, Louisville
 (800) 333-1720

American Legion, Bowling Green
 (270) 781-3574 Veterans Service Officer
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Bowling Green
 (270) 781-1872

JUN 11	ACT Test Date
JUL 4	Independence Day, VUB Closed
JUN 25	Aviation Heritage Park Annual Party
AUG 4	Last Day of VUB Summer Classes
AUG 12	Registration Deadline for ACT, Sep 10
AUG 22	First Day of VUB Fall Classes
SEP 5	Labor Day, VUB Closed
SEP 10	ACT Test Date
SEP 11	Patriot Day
SEP 16	Registration Deadline for ACT, OCT 22
OCT 22	ACT Test Date

*Please call early for information on test dates. VUB may pay testing fees, but to do so we must have your application at least six weeks prior to the registration postmark deadline.