



## Happy New Year from the UNT Veterans Center!

After a decade of involvement in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, colleges and universities are experiencing a steady increase in the enrollment of student veterans (O'Herrin, 2011). While we can look upon our accomplishments in the past year, we cannot be fully satisfied in our efforts to support the UNT military community and uphold our mission. This year begins with a renewed fervor and continued growth. The Veterans Center will continue to advance the Boots to Books textbook loan program and the "Veteran Friendly Campaign." We are here to honor those who have served and welcome troops home and to their new home at the University of North Texas.

"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man."  
— Benjamin Franklin

UNT Veterans Center

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## VETERANS NEWS UPDATE

### Boots to Books Program

The Boots to Books program is a new program for veterans through the Student Money Management Center. The program can only be utilized by Denton campus student Veterans and they must be enrolled during the semester they are applying for the program.

The Boots-to-Books Loan Program was established as a resource to ensure that student Veterans will have their textbooks and course materials, should they encounter any delays in the processing or disbursement of their financial aid. The loan program is not intended to serve as an alternative loan resource between financial aid disbursement dates.

This short-term, needs-based loan, facilitated by the Student Money Management Center, enables student Veterans to purchase/rent textbooks and course materials as a line of credit with the UNT Bookstore. Loan amounts vary and reflect the needs-based assistance requested by each applicant within a maximum level of support of \$500 for each the Fall and Spring semester. For

the Summer semester the maximum level of support is \$197. *More information can be found at:* <http://moneymangement.unt.edu/loans/b2b.html>.

### Veteran Sensitivity Training

For the second year in a row, the University of North Texas has been named 2012 *G.I. Jobs* Military Friendly School & 2012 *Military Times EDGE* Best for Vets Institution. In support of that idea, the University of North Texas is aiming to create an even more military friendly environment. Veteran Sensitivity Training will be available to faculty, staff, and students starting at the beginning of each Fall and Spring semester.

Training will focus on three pillars: to help remove barriers student veterans have, through an emphasis on transition support through campus life; to provide connection to resources both on and off campus that assist student veterans; and to give due recognition to the service members in our UNT community through programs and scholarship. *For more information or to schedule a training session, contact Claire Medina at (940) 369-5080 or you can send an e-mail to Claire.Medina@unt.edu.*

# STUDENT VETERANS ASSOCIATION

# of UNT

## What is SVA?

The Student Veterans Association of UNT assists veterans and their dependents to make an easier transition into the academic community. The goals of this organization are to enhance the educational experience of veterans at the University of North Texas; to provide fellowship among student veterans and faculty; to represent student veteran needs and wants in regard to their experience and education at the University of North Texas; and to advocate on the local, state, and national level to ensure our veterans receive the benefits they have earned. They are also a chapter of the Student Veterans of America.



## How to Join?

To join the SVA, simply register on [OrgSync.com](http://OrgSync.com). When registering, select the University of North Texas, enter your information, and create your account. Once your account is created, select join an organization. Search for Student Veterans' Association, and select join. The password is **military**, all lowercase letters. You can also find them on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/untsva](http://www.facebook.com/untsva)



H&R BLOCK®

**H&R Block Tax Bus**  
February 10, 2012

**8 AM - 6 PM**

**Union Circle**

Free filing for students filing with 1040EZ, free second looks on your paperwork, and free tax advice or answers to any general questions you may have.

**There will be someone available who has experience with Veteran tax returns.**

If you are a Veteran, a spouse of a Veteran, or someone committed to serving the veteran community then the **College of Public Affairs and Community Service (PACS)** is looking for you as an intern.

PACS is hiring interns that may work organizations involved with assisting military families with physical and psychological care including disability and substance abuse, financial literacy, housing assistance, education and job training, emergency services, and those who assist spouses, youth, and children with various needs such as tutoring, recreational activities, and support groups that strengthen the family.

If interested please email Freda MacArthur-Lee at [freda.macarthur-lee@unt.edu](mailto:freda.macarthur-lee@unt.edu), or call her at (940) 369-5936.

Folds of Honor Foundation awards scholarships that can be used for tuition and fees, textbooks, room and board, course-required tools,

approved tutoring, and other school-related expenses. Scholarships can be used immediately, or can be held by the Foundation until the children reach their time of enrollment.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Complete and submit either an immediate or future-use application, as well as satisfactory evidence that they qualify according to the existing eligibility requirements (a DD1300, Certificate of Retirement or Death, Purple Heart, or etc.). If awarded, the scholarship will be sent directly to the university in two increments at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters.

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Application deadlines are on May 31st and November 15th. Applications can be downloaded at: <http://www.foldsofhonor.org/scholarships>



### **Eligible applicants must be the spouse or dependent of:**

- An active duty or reserve soldier, sailor, airman, Marine or Coast Guardsman killed or disabled in the line of duty.
- An active duty or reserve soldier, sailor, airman, Marine or Coast Guardsman currently classified as a POW or MIA.
- A veteran who died of any cause after being classified as having a service-connected disability.
- A service member missing in action or captured by hostile forces in the line of duty.
- A service member forcibly detained or interned by a foreign power in the line of duty.
- A service member who received a Purple Heart Medal.

## CONGRATS Salute Honor Society Inductees

Service – Academics – Leadership – Unity – Tribute - Excellence

## CONGRATULATIONS to the FALL 2011 Inductees



The SALUTE Honor Society recognizes American active military and student veterans who have earned an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher (graduate students must have a minimum 3.5 GPA). Notification will be sent via email, inviting them to be a

part of the inaugural class of SALUTE scholars.

For any questions about Salute, please contact:

Dantrayl Smith at [Dantrayl.smith@unt.edu](mailto:Dantrayl.smith@unt.edu)



# ΩΔΣ

Omega Delta Sigma  
National Veterans  
Fraternity, Inc.  
Texas Beta Colony



*Professionals Scholars Warriors*

Name: Freda MacArthur-Lee

Branch: United States Air Force

Years of Service: 1984-2004

Major: Rehabilitation Counseling

Classification: Graduate Student - Graduating in 2012.



## VETERAN SPOTLIGHT



Bio: Freda was an Aeromedical Specialist in the Air Force, where she was responsible for the health, safety, and medical qualifications of individuals who were air crew members. She was also an EMT and a member of the Crash Response Ambulance crew. She also served as a Technical School Instructor for five years, and went on to work in Aerospace Medicine Research for three years. Since retiring she has moved twice and been a fulltime mom, wife and student. To her fellow future student veterans she suggests, "to plan ahead and if you need help to seek it out, early and often. Approach your professors and the counseling staff here at UNT. Transitioning from

Military life to civilian is not easy, do not go at it alone! I still look for my hat when leaving a building and have trouble carrying a book bag or anything over my right shoulder (just in case I have to salute someone!)."

## Requirements for Membership

Have a minimum of a 2.5 G.P.A.  
Be enrolled at least 6 hours  
Qualify as: Active Duty, Reservist with 180 Active Days, or Veteran  
Must be **motivated** and **willing** to be involved.

If you wish to become a member of Omega Delta Sigma, please contact our UNT Colony Membership and Recruitment Officer Nathan Hall at [nlhall010@gmail.com](mailto:nlhall010@gmail.com).

Also, Find us on [OrgSync.com](http://OrgSync.com); register with UNT, locate Omega Delta Sigma, the password is :

## Warriors

# COMING DOWN THE PIPE

By: Brian Thornton



Coming Down the Pipe is the UNT Veterans Center's column strictly focused on providing veteran students with information about what is going on in the policy world for veterans. This edition provides an overview of several great programs being considered currently by the Texas legislature.

If any of these are of particular interest to you petition your Texas Veteran Affairs & Military Installations committee representatives.

The web address for this committee is located at: <http://www.senate.state.tx.us/75r/senate/commit/c650/c650.htm>

The list of all bills being reviewed can be found here: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/Reports/Report.aspx?ID=committee&LegSess=82R&Code=C650#out>

**House Bill 2688 Relating to tuition and scholarships and fee exemptions** for certain members of the armed services and certain military veterans attending institutions of higher education. This bill if enacted will encompass into the exemptions already in-place for veterans those veterans that were members of the Texas National Guard or the Texas Air National Guard who were assigned to a theater of combat operation with the armed forces of the United States and those members of the Texas State Guard that served for at least one year and are willing to extend service in the State Guard for eight additional years.

**House Bill 3237 Relating to the establishment and operation of the Texas Women Veterans Program.** The Texas Women Veterans Program proposes to establish a commission whose mission would be to ensure that the women veterans of this state have equitable access to federal and state veterans' benefits and services, and perform outreach functions to improve the awareness of women veterans' eligibility for federal and state benefits and services.

## IMPORTANT DATES

February 1 Spring Organization Fair  
11am-1pm in the  
One O' Clock Lounge

March 19-25 Spring Break

May 4 Reading Day  
(No Classes)

February 10 H&R Tax Bus Event  
8am-6pm at Union Circle

April 18 Employer Panel Discussion  
4pm-6pm in the Golden Eagle Suite

May 5-11 Finals Week

## VETERANS CENTER PEER ADVISORS

The Veterans Center Peer Advisors are Student Veterans who assist fellow Veterans with the transition from the military to the civilian/student life. Tosha, Kris, Mercer, and Adam have served in the US Army, US Navy, or Texas National Guard. They have had various experiences to include completing NCO training and performing in the Army Band. Their UNT Majors are equally different consisting of Engineering, Emergency Administration and Planning, and Music. Julia is a dependent of an Army Veteran and is a Psychology Major. Please feel free to come by the office to meet the peer advisors and bring your questions, comments, and concerns.



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