

TESTIMONIALS
FOR CONGRESS
WASHINGTON, D.C.
MARCH 2006



from
TRIO --- VETERANS UPWARD BOUND (VUB)
at
The Academic College Enrichment Services Department (ACCESS)

Wayne State University, Detroit, MI 48202

Mr. Paul Rease, Director
Veterans' Educational Opportunities Program (VEOP)

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Michael James Dunn, U. S. Navy Veteran.

Due to an unforeseen injury, a transition from my occupational skills into educational readjustment would be virtually impossible without the assistance of the Veterans Upward Bound (AKA VEOP) Program at Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

The elimination of this program would mean that I would be unable to ascertain my academic level and my needs, and successfully reenter the academic environment.

The elimination of TRIO programs would not only deny thousands of students the necessary preparation for enrolling in college, it would widen the gap between low-income, first-generation students and their more fortunate peers. Therefore, I strongly urge you to support the restoration of funding levels for the TRIO programs.



Jacqueline Olden, U. S. Army, 1980-1984.

Before I was unsure, but VUB has opened my mind and given me a real chance for a foundation, growth, and my ambitions, and it has embraced me, allowing me to see what matters. I am pleased to be a part of what matters! Please support VUB, and support what matters for our community.



Richard Gist, U. S. Army Veteran.

I am a student at VUB now, but have been a supporter for 9 years, and even volunteer here too. When I first got here, I knew nothing about computers but I have learned a lot. This program has even opened up my mind in all sorts of ways. If this program was to be canceled, it would hurt me and a lot of other vets.

Karen Smith, U. S. Army, Gulf War Veteran, 10 years of service.

The benefit that I *currently* receive from VUB-VEOP is an educational enhancement. The *education* that I have received here has helped me to pass the Math Proficiency Exam at Wayne State University, Detroit, MI. But more than that, the *real benefits* that I received here was a warm welcome at a time when I needed it. I was depressed and the VUB-VEOP staff helped me to get through it with its counseling. The staff encouraged me and showed me that I could attend Wayne State University and do well, all because of its concern for the clients. This motivated me to do well. I now have a 3.06 GPA (I am working to improve it), and will earn my undergraduate degree soon. I also plan to go on to graduate school! I still seek counseling here and tutoring with my courses. If it wasn't for VUB-VEOP, I don't know where I would be at this point in my life.

Please continue your support of VUB. Thank you!



Wayne Hickman, U.S. Army Veteran (former drill instructor, overall service 14 years).

Since the enrollment in VUB I have obtained the GED, and am currently attending a local community college to prepare to get my undergrad degree later, and ultimately get a law degree. This program has taught me college survival skills and tutored me in Computers, Mathematics, English Grammar and even Writing. It has provided excellent advice and counseling too, and I can count on it to help me as needed, all the way through my undergraduate degree!

Also, I want VUB to be there for all vets who might still need it, because it may help them too to increase their overall knowledge, prepare them for college, and a better life in general. For one, I'm counting on VUB!



Ismail Ali, U. S. Air Force Veteran.

I was a homeless veteran, 18 months ago. The VUB program at WSU helped me to get my life back on track through tutoring and one-on-one counseling. I was able to stay focused and complete my journey here because the people here cared about me. Upon completion I enrolled at Wayne State University as a finance major. Without the patience and care from the VUB staff I don't know if my life would have gone in this positive direction.

Please vote to continue these services for us Vets who've served their country! Elimination will hinder our growth and upward mobility, also of all veterans who will still need this vital program in the future. Thank you!



Wilmer Kenner, U.S. Army, 1986-1989, Sergeant, E-5, Legal Specialist. Three Army Achievement Awards, Soldier of the Year, 1987; Sergeant Major Award-1987; VUB Student.

I am writing about a matter that is very important to me...the survival of the Veterans Upward Bound Program (VUB).

As you know, President Bush has (for the second year) included in his FY Budget the elimination of two of TRiO's programs. (Upward Bound [incl. Veterans Upward Bound] and Talent Search)

Since 1972, VUB has helped veterans such as myself. I joined VUB in 1997 at a very bad period of my life. VUB became a first step back to college, and to improving my job skills. By the time I graduated I was taking classes at Wayne State University, and I was the top recruiter in Michigan's Southeastern District at the American Red Cross. VUB not only helped me get into college but helped me prepare to get the job. In fact, I can truly state that Veterans Upward Bound not only made me what I am, but saved my life.

Currently I have re-enrolled in VUB. With its guidance, I am taking self-study in computer skills with the intention of re-entering Wayne state University in the fall of 2006. Without these classes I can say that I would not have been ready for continuing my post-secondary education or the position that I have received in civilian life.

VUB has been beneficial to me in many other ways, with support, motivation, and direction. VUB helped me to understand and plan my short and long-term goals. The staff at VUB is extremely helpful; they not only understand me but point the way, while allowing me to make my own choices. And just being able to study with and talk to other veterans who have been through what I have, is a big help.

VUB gives me the confidence to compete on an equal level with anyone in the work force. One can say that VUB leveled the playing field for me. Please allow VUB to continue its invaluable work! Thank you!



Richard Spivey, U. S. Marine Corps Veteran.

I am in the VUB program at Wayne State University and I am in need of this program, because it is the link to my life's mission. Being here has helped me so much, from tutoring to counseling. Please help us to keep this program going.

Thank you!



Jim Downing, Vietnam Veteran.

This VUB program (VEOP) has been extremely helpful in my quest to continue my college education and get my undergraduate degree. I put my life on the line for my country during an extremely difficult period and lost many friends and acquaintances in that war. I, as well as everybody in the program, we deserve VUB! Thanks for all you can do!



Please keep VUB alive!

George Green, U.S. Marine Corps, 1964-1968, Corporal, E-4.

Since I have been a student at the VUB- (AKA: Veterans Educational Opportunities Program) here in Detroit, I have been afforded the opportunity to further my education and learn new skills in not only Computer Science, but also in English Grammar, Composition, and Literature. VEOP has also enabled me to learn Spanish, and Speech Communication. Now I am back in college as a civil engineering student and working toward my undergraduate degree and will regain my marketability, soon.

VEOP has surely been a catalyst for me and it is most definitely a program that aids veterans in gaining the knowledge and means to improve and hone their skills.

Funding for 2007 and beyond should be allocated and even increased. This very vital program must be allowed to continue.



Druell Henry, U.S. Army Veteran, Specialist IV.

The elimination of Veterans Upward Bound would take away valuable training in crucial areas, like Math, English and Computer skills. The completion of these courses could lead to gainful employment in all sectors of society.

The VUB program in Detroit has helped me in many ways to re-educate myself and to return to the work force, and further my education. I can now even help the Veterans that come after me, in the areas that they might need assistance in.

Therefore, I strongly urge you to support the continued funding for the TRIO programs in 2007 and beyond.



Jeff Satterly, U. S. Air Force, 1992-1996.

The VUB program is very beneficial to me as it has taught me some very much needed Computer Skills necessary to advance myself. VUB has also tutored me in Mathematics skills necessary for Algebra, a very difficult subject for me.

As a homeless, unemployed Veteran, VUB also gives me the chance to do on-line job searches, and work on many other skills. I cannot afford a computer or internet services, and also, I feel welcome here. Losing this VUB program would seriously hinder my opportunities for educational and job advancements.



Gary D. Smith, U. S. Army, 1977-1988.

I am a new student at VUB in Detroit. I hope to start at a nearby Community College in the fall of 2006, and hope to major in substance abuse counseling.

Even in this short period, this program has already been very helpful to me, and to lose it, would harm me greatly. As you may know, many of our Vets need this program.

Please allow it to continue!



Scott Fistler, U. S. Army, 2002-2004.

The VUB programs need to stay open; so many vets depend on the services that they provide. Because of its help to me, I am now in college, working on a degree. This place is centrally located, easily accessible to Vets and supports us greatly, so VUB deserves to be continued.



Katherine Sadler, U. S. Air Force, Vietnam Veteran
Senior Student, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

Thanks to VUB I have been able to return to college and will graduate May 2007. I will forever be grateful for this program to give me this opportunity and make my dream come true. Please don't let VUB close, we need it so much!



Ewart Jarrett, U. S. Army Veteran.

When I was discharged in 1980, I was totally unprepared for my college program completion. I had a good start, good grades during the first two college 'probationary semesters'. (I was on probation for the first year because my High School Grade Point Average was inadequate.) However, I got bogged down in the technical courses, and I encountered serious health and financial problems. Veterans Upward Bound at Wayne State University, Detroit, MI (here known as VEOP-Veterans' Educational Opportunities Program), gave me the encouragement, advice, motivation, and stability I needed to overcome these obstacles and complete a Bachelor of Arts degree in Computer Science.

The entire process took ten years, but I couldn't have done it without Veterans Upward Bound.



Ronald Creswell, U. S. Air Force Veteran.

Ever since I started in VUB, in 2000, I have steadily improved my education. I then entered college and have received 5 scholarships in 4 years, and in 2005 I earned my Bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from Wayne State University, and with a 3.36 Grade Point Average.

I have also worked for VUB, as well as Upward Bound (UB), tutoring Vets and High school students in Science. My personal and professional skills continue to improve and I often volunteer for Vets-related events.

VUB has expanded my life's view and strengthened me enormously. VUB is a source of inspiration as well as education. My son is currently in the military and may need VUB too, in the future.

With your renewed support I can continue mine. I will always support VUB, for all Vets! Please do the same!



Gloria Rodriguez, U. S. Army, 1984-1986. MOS: Field Medical Specialist, 91A10; Rank Attained: Specialist 4. Military Awards: Army Achievement Medal, 1st Oak Leaf Cluster.

Degree: BA, Romance Languages, Spanish Concentration, Art Minor, Cum Laude (GPA 3.75) **Awards:** First Annual NAVUBPP Scholarship; Five-time recipient: Latino En Marcha Scholarship.

Occupation: Adviser/Counselor, Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies, WSU.

I first entered VUB in 1989, while attending a local community college, pursuing a major in Fine Arts. Back then VUB helped me to get financial assistance, in particular, the Army College Fund. After completing 2 years of college, parental duties forced me to postpone education. Then, in 2003, I was blessed and able to pick up where I had left off over a decade earlier; I returned to college for my Bachelor's Degree. The only problem was, I needed to continue contributing to my family's income, so I called WSU-VUB for job search assistance. They did much better than that; they offered me a position within VUB as a Spanish Instructor. I happily accepted. That decision ended up being one of the best ones of my life. Through this experience I went on to teach a Study Survival Skills seminar, Mathematics I and II, and English Grammar I, as well as the Spanish Classes for which I was originally hired. I received wonderful educational counseling from both my assigned counselor Ms. Anneliese Davis and my supervisor Mr. Ewart Jarrett, and was able to graduate Cum Laude in December, 2005 (as planned), and to accept a position as Advisor/Counselor at the Center for Chicano-Boricua Studies at Wayne State University.

I credit VUB with helping me achieve these two extremely important goals in my life, **and with all my heart I urge you to continue funding the program**, so that its wonderful staff may go on improving the lives of so many other Veterans who also need the special tutorial, financial, and inspirational support that only VUB can provide.

Thank you very much for your time, and may God bless you and VUB!



Mike Ellison, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran.

When I found out about the VUB program here and how many benefits it offers, it motivated me to attend. This is now my 2nd year in the VUB program at Wayne State University. The location and tutors are great; it's a good program for me. I am a construction engineer and VUB has helped me to move on and improve my basic skills.

My counselor and other staff have helped me to get prepared for college life. The courses have helped me to increase my skills and get prepared for community college entry, this Fall 2006! I hope this program can continue forever. Please vote for VUB's survival!



Edward Moore, WWII Army Medic.

The elimination of the VUB program would hinder me --if not prevent me-- from developing and updating those mandatory skills needed to harmoniously and productively fit in and serve my family's needs and those of our ever-expanding and Upward Bound American Society.

Please allow VUB to continue, and thrive, and even expand if feasible.



Richard Marsh, Disabled U. S. Navy Veteran, Aviation Electrician.

I have been out of college for 30 yrs, due to chronic illness. I have just started in Veterans Upward Bound, and am taking remedial English, and a Computer class for the first time in my life, and to be able to email my son is very exciting! These classes are great!

I also feel very safe and welcome here, and have already made some good friends too. I intend to make good use of the counseling too, because I can see that VUB cares about me.

I plan to go back to college as soon as possible, and as long as good health permits. I look forward to maintaining my relationship w/ VUB throughout my post-secondary studies, and until I can work again.

Veterans Upward Bound is a necessary program

Compilation, editing, and lay-out: Anneliese Davis, VUB/VEOP, Wayne State University, March 2006

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Terrance Anderson, U.S. ARMY, February 1996 - June 1998.
Currently: Sophomore Student, Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD), Detroit, MI
College Work-Study Employee, Veterans Educational Opportunities Program (VEOP), Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

I am a graduate of the Detroit VUB program "VEOP", and now also its employee. I know that many veterans leave the Armed Forces without plans. We wander around familiarizing ourselves with our old neighborhoods and friends, yet feeling like we have no place in this unstructured civilian life. I felt that way for several years after my discharge from the Army. I had no clue as to what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. Then I heard about VUB (VEOP) from a VA benefits counselor and I got the phone number.

I got an appointment and started taking Math and Writing classes at VEOP in January, 2001. The VEOP staff is still working with me so I can continue to discover the talents I have to offer society. VUB is more than a remedial, refresher and college-preparatory program; VUB helps veterans reclaim their place in civilian life!



Karen Jean Smith, Army Veteran. Currently: Junior student, and Student Assistant, VUB - VEOP, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

I need to tell everyone about my experience at Veterans Upward Bound (VUB), Entitled The Veterans' Educational Opportunities Program (VEOP) which is a part of TRIO at Wayne State University (WSU), Detroit, MI. I am an Army Vet and also served in the Reserves in the early nineties (Kuwait, Saudia Arabia, and S.E. Asia.) I have earned 3 Bronze Stars and am still affiliated with local Veterans' organizations.

Before I arrived at VUB, I had experienced some hard times. After many professional years, I had been laid off with no idea how to redirect my life. In the meantime, my earlier eyesight problem got worse. But I believe that God places us where we need to be, and I thank God for placing me with VUB. (A Detroit V.A. Medical Center counselor referred me to VUB.)

When I completed VEOP's intake process I knew, this was the place for me! The staff was so welcoming, and I started my refresher classes right away. What's more, the counselors saw the potential in me that I could no longer detect, and showed me that with additional support from Educational Accessibility Services (EAS) at WSU, (which helps those with special challenges) I would be able to redirect my potential and aspire to a new academic goal and career. Immediately, things began to improve. I needed only one semester of VEOP refresher classes before I knew that I was ready to enroll at Wayne State University. Being in college is tough and I must stay organized. But I have just one more year and I will have earned my B.S. in Psychology.

I thank the VUB (VEOP-WSU) staff for all its tireless, continued support and encouragement. Special thanks go to Ms. Davis, my VEOP counselor and the rest of the staff for the scholarship application support they have given. For 2005-2006, I will receive the WSU-TRIO Eric James Moore tuition scholarship of at least \$4,000.00. Furthermore, through The WSU Ronald McNair Program I will also receive a Research Scholarship, and work with a WSU researchers during my final year. Then I plan to get my Master's in Psychology from Argosy University, Virginia.

Maurice Taylor, U.S. ARMY, 8/1985 - 1/ 1988.
Student, Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD), Detroit, MI

VUB-VEOP is a definite stepping-stone to higher learning. I had not been in school since 1985, and had had no formal trade or career training since 1993. With VUB's help I am now a student at WCCCD. I have a dual major in Food Service System Management and Dietetic Technology, with a 2.5 Grade Point Average. I am on the Food Nutrition Committee at my college and a member of the American Dietary Association.

I am certified through the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation and The Michigan Department of Agriculture. I was able to accomplish all these things thanks to VEOP's support. The tutors helped me to refresh the basics of English and Math. The counselors gave me the confidence and motivation I needed to further my education. And they will continue to support me through my continued undergraduate studies.

Without VUB/VEOP I would not be where I am today.

Veterans need VUB!

George Green, USMC (Marine Corps), 1964 - 1968

VEOP classes: Study Skills, Basic and Advanced Computers, English Grammar, Basic Spanish, 12/2003 - currently.

Academic Studies: Civil Engineering Technology, Thomson Education Direct, Graduation anticipated: 6/2006.

The VUB program has definitely helped me to advance and hone my skills to aid me in the Engineering field. I know that many Vets have used up their G. I. Bill funds and depend on this program to help them with re-education, re-entry into the work force, and become gainfully employed persons again.

The VUB programs should be left in tact; they have helped many Vets to prepare for and finish their vocational and college studies, and reach their life's goals.

It is my request that we not let down my fellow Vets and cast aside those men and women who also gave this country their measure of devotion for the cause

of freedom and democracy.



Last but not least, I thank Mr. Paul Rease for affording me a College Work Study and now a Student Assistant job at VUB, and allowing me to be a working part of his wonderful team that helps all Veterans who come to VUB.

This is my family away from home and I will never forget family.



Deborah Herron, Navy, 1983 - 1990

VUB classes completed: English Grammar 3, Math 3
Senior: Interdisciplinary Studies, Wayne State Univ. (WSU), Detroit, MI, GPA: 3.66

In a very short period, VUB here has helped me to get ready to re-enter the university, and also prepare for final proficiency exams in English and Math. The academic and counseling help offered is indispensable; VUB helps me to find my place as a college student and even pace my busy life, so I can succeed. After my B.S., I will start graduate studies in Psychology, also at WSU. It is great that VUB is here for me until I graduate. I'll always remember the VUB folks here; they are a great help!

And I'll always recommend VUB to all Vets who need education, direction, and support. This is truly a great program!



RONALD CRESWELL, U. S. Air Force.

VUB classes: Math, English, Spanish.
Senior Student, Wayne State University;
Graduation expected: May 2005.
National Honor Society Member
Student Employee, VUB-VEOP at WSU,

I am proud to be a Veteran whose oldest son now serves in the Marines.

VUB is a place where Vets, their families, and our community in general can make a strong educational connection.

I have been a student/client here since 2000. VUB at WSU has shaped me into a well-rounded student, and has provided quality services. With VUB's help and recommendations I have also earned several scholarships, one of which brought me to Washington, D.C., in March of 2003, for a very valuable experience.

VUB's tutoring has created in me the incentive to keep my GPA above a 3.0. Its director has taught me to raise my general awareness and professionalism, as a student, employee, and person. And from day one, VUB's staff has encouraged me to stay focused, be conscientious and consistent, and helped me in every way possible. I believe this is why I have become a successful student and why I am driven to earn my degree.

As a VUB employee I participate in our local "Stand Down" event and help advocate for VUB, and provide basic services to forgotten and homeless Vets. I also volunteer at VUB-VEOP whenever I can.

VUB is a much needed cornerstone for improving Vets' education, social, and personal life. VUB has expanded my view on life, improved my life and I know it is helping other Vets as well.



ERIC WRIGHT, Navy, and U. S. Marine Corps Reserves: 1993 - 1999

Rank Attained: SGT, 4 promotions, 3 medals

Pre-Med Student, Senior, Wayne State University, Bio-Sciences Research Assistant, Grade Point Average: 3.5

Scholarships: Edward McNamara (full), 2001, Eric J. Moore (full), 2004.

The Veterans Upward Bound (Veterans' Education Opportunities Program, Wayne State University) has really opened the door for my various student successes. I entered VUB at Wayne State University, Detroit, in March, 2000, and received great tutoring and counseling, and the direction and head start I needed to do well in college. Before that, I knew only my end goal but, not how to get there. Since I have been a VUB student, I also have been able to attend a MI-MAEOPP conference and met different people with the same goals, and I feel encouraged by knowing that we share a common goal.

Also, I understand that TRIO helps not only veterans but also many others to set and achieve their educational goals, such as young teenagers and high school students, as well as those of us already in college. Had I not served in the military I would have needed a different TRIO program like Project 350 or Upward Bound to get the same direction that I received from VUB.

Since I entered this program, I have made significant progress. I have received several scholarships, co-conducted medical research and co-presented these project during the summer terms, and already have been able to give back to my community.

It is imperative that we believe in the importance of TRIO. The service it provides is right in line with our mutual expectations for future America. TRIO programs serve the public, adolescents and adults alike, and are



a way to improve our country in general.

Shawn Curry, U.S. Navy, Active: 1989-99; **Michigan National Guard**: 1999-Present.

Student, National Institute of Technology, Major: Medical Insurance Billing.

VUB has helped me to be more prepared for more studies in college and when I get a professional job.

I think VUB deserves funding and to stay open. And TRIO, in general, should be allowed to continue.



Gloria Rodríguez. Army Veteran, and Future Educator

Service Years: 1984 - 1986, MOS: Medical Specialist, 91A10; Rank attained: Specialist 4. Awards: 2 Army Achievement Medals.

Senior Student, Wayne State University (WSU), Major: Spanish, (> 100 credit hours), Grade Point Average: 3.7.

Graduation due: 12/2005

Awards: First Annual NAVUBPP Scholarship, 2004; Three Chicano-Boricua Studies Scholarships, 2003-2004 (semesterly.)

Tutor: VUB-VEOP at WSU; Study Skills, Spanish, Grammar, Math, and Workshops. Jan. 03 - Present

Initially, I was a Veterans' Upward Bound student from 1989 to 1992, when I was enrolled in a Fine Arts degree program, concentrating on Graphic Design. First, VUB helped me with the needed applications for financial assistance. Then, with VUB's help I finished two years at Henry Ford Community College, then transferred to Wayne State University, but had to postpone my education to raise four children.

In 2003, God once again blessed me with the chance to return to college, this time for undergraduate studies in Spanish. I contacted VUB/VEOP at WSU and requested assistance. They tutored me but also, immediately, offered me a position as a Spanish Tutor. I am very glad that I accepted this eagerly, because VUB affords me the on-the-job skills that I will need for my future career. Soon, I plan to attend Graduate School, obtain a Master in Spanish Literature, then teach at the college level.

I have been very well-received at VUB-WSU, and feel right at home. The staff is extremely helpful and dedicated —especially my advisor, Ms. Davis, and my immediate supervisor, Mr. Jarrett, who together have given me abundant support, motivation and direction. Also, they continuously look out for other students' welfare as well. They advise/counsel about scholarships, the right contacts, and make suggestions and recommendations, as well as offer me the opportunity to prepare for and thrive in college life. And I know they do the same for all our Vets.

I am truly thankful for VUB at WSU. Day after day, its staff gives me the experience and support I need (in keeping with the military tradition of helping and training its own). Being a Tutor here has helped me financially, and I know VEOP assists other veterans with jobs too. I hope and pray that it will continue to help many more Veterans in the years to come, because...

great soldiers need and deserve a **great** organization that will enable them to become **great** and productive citizens.



James Riley, US. Air Force, 1976 - 1978

VUB graduate: Grammar classes completed, 1998

Engineering Student, Wayne State University, Graduation: May 2007

VUB/VEOP-WSU has definitely helped me to refine my skills! And with many Vets leaving the Service, and often without a sense of direction, more Vets need to be able to take advantage of VUB's great services.

It gives me an enormous sense of pride to be a part of VUB; I have been served by some very capable, sincere, and dedicated professionals. We have served for democracy and freedom. Please do not deny us this



invaluable program.

Eric D. Neal, United States Marine Corps, '92 - '96. VUB Student, at Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, Winter 2003.

Pre-college courses completed: College-prep math 3, English Grammar 3, College-prep writing, College-prep Physics, Access and Excel, Spanish 3

Full-time College Student, Wayne State University; Major: Business Management.

VUB is essential to my development for many reasons. Not only has VUB assisted in preparing me academically for college-level courses but its counseling staff has helped me with sometimes intimidating yet crucial documents, such as financial aid requests and scholarship applications. It also helped me to get a 1-year scholarship. VUB's supportive atmosphere aides in maintaining a network that helps Veterans adapt to higher education and achieve



high levels of success in college.

Cris Yolanda Fortson-Brown,

Navy, 1986 - 1990; Reserves, 1990-1995.

Discharge: Honorable. **Disabled Veteran.**

Senior Student, Interdisciplinary Studies, Wayne State University (WSU);

Student Assistant, VUB (VEOP at WSU)

The VUB program here is a great asset to me. As a client and student I get excellent tutoring in Math and English as well as advise so I can maintain my educational focus and do well. Before I entered VEOP, I was receiving help at the university, however, the personal attention that I needed was lacking. I felt alone and lonely, so I did not do well and almost dropped out. But VEOP changed all that, and my GPA went from 2.0 to 2.9! Now, I am about to graduate.

As a student assistant, VUB is teaching me strong work ethics that I had never learned before. In fact, I had been unable to keep a job anywhere after I re-entered civilian life. Not only do I get excellent job advice, VUB strengthens the self-esteem and perseverance I need to reach my goal. I know, VUB/VEOP will continue to help me and for that I will forever be grateful.

If the Nation eliminates its VUB programs, taking away or reducing our civilian and personal potential, the whole Nation will suffer.



Please, keep VUB alive!