VCNG minutes for 16 Mar 2015

Present where Sue Withers, Glenn Larratt, Jase Baese, Rob Stundtner, Emily Franco, Ben Margolius, Sue Margolius, Cassie Joseph, Cara Tilton, and Rick Roper.

2a. Initiative updates – Mentoring – EDI’s career mentoring program is very formalized and student-focused; the general model is that the students in the program seek out mentors in the business community. Emily and Judy are to talk further about ways to incentivize students to self-identify as veterans, and other opportunities. Cassie pointed out that several of the Cornell Cooperative Extension offices have initiatives going on, on example being Jefferson County’s outreach to Fort Drum.

2b. Initiative updates – Dedicated veterans representative – the Warrior Scholar program is confirmed for this summer at Cornell, for 18-26 July. Bob reported that Bill Huling and Harry Green were faculty contacts for this effort; Bob is reconnecting with them and also chasing off-campus sources of funding.

2c. Initiative updates – VCNG interest survey – Cassie reports that Qualtrics will be the survey platform, and a link is to be distributed to the mailing list.

2d. Initiative updates – Leadership transition – the terms for the current members of the Executive Committee end in June; anyone who is interested in any of the positions should be preparing. There will be a position review at the April meeting, with elections likely at the May meeting.

2e Initiative updates – Recruitment and Employment Center event is on for March 26th – registration is at http://vcng.cornell.edu/2015/02/06/recruitment-employment-center-signature-lecture-series/.

3a. Committee updates – Community service/TeamRWB – Jase reports there’s a TeamRWB event for March 28th in collaboration with Team Rubicon and The Mission Continues. 3-mile run/walk at Cass Park; more info http://teamrwb.org/get-involved/events/event-listings/run-as-one. The TeamRWB calendar on Facebook is up-to-date; a message is pending to the mailing list. Jessica Waldman of Cornell Hillel has stepped up for TeamRWB’s Social Director position.

3b. Committee updates – Event planning – Bob asked the question as to whether the “Cornell 150” events were to include any veteran recognition; Cassie reports that there is to be a panel on Vietnam around Veterans Day, but she’s not aware of any such events around Charter Day, and the door is probably closed at this late date for official participation. Ben Margolius announced the Veterans Appreciation Day at Tioga Downs on 15 August – a flyer is coming. Ben also announced a Veteran Information Day coming in mid-September.

Some discussion was had regarding
(a) a presence at Alumni Weekend this year,
(b) Memorial Day happenings, including Dryden’s parade on Monday, and a possible WoD event sometime that weekend. ROTC Commissioning is Saturday morning that weekend.
(c) a spring networking event with TeamRWB

3c. Committee updates – Public relations – Cassie reports that the website is coming – work continues on the prototype, although a production date is not yet public. The Warrior Scholar program is shaping up. PawPrint is beginning on an article regarding regulatory changes affecting veterans and the disabled.

4. Update from Kevin Justian – Emily reported for Kevin that the 17th Annual Staff Development Day is Wednesday 22 July from 10-2 in Biotech G10.

Round robin –
Sue Margolius – Ben and Sue are trying to line up farming/menial jobs to which to connect veterans, as such work is becoming harder to find. Some discussing was had; Cassie brought up a new program being designed which operates like EBV for farmers.

Ben Margolius – MOAA is very engaged in lobbying against cuts to veterans benefits; they are to storm Capitol Hill on 15 April. More info at http://www.moaa.org/storming2015/ .

**Action Items:**

(2c. Cassie to distribute survey link to mailing list)