

**Texas Coordinating Council for Veterans Services
Higher Education Workgroup
Minutes of Meeting, September 21, 2015**

1. The TCCVS, Higher Education Workgroup, meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm on September 21, 2015 by Workgroup Chair, Rufus Coburn.

Attendees:

2. Chair Coburn opened the meeting by reviewing the Veterans Needs identified by the Higher Education Workgroup in the prior TCCVS Report to the 84th Legislative Session. None of the Needs were acted on by the Session. The workgroup agreed to form subcommittees to address potential subjects for consideration/discussion in preparation for the TCCVS Report to be provided to the 85th Legislative Session. The following topics were discussed:
 - a. Priority Registration: The Workgroup determined that this was an internal school issue and not appropriate for Workgroup action.
 - b. Excess Hours: The Workgroup determined that excess hours was not an issue which could be supported.
 - c. Choice Card acceptance at Campus Health Care centers: The Workgroup determined that most schools have adequate emergency healthcare available and that veterans students have relatively easy access to VA facilities.
 - d. Prior Credit for military training and previously attended schools: A subcommittee of Louis Jimenez, Texas State, and Apu Naik, TWC, will assess this issue.
 - e. College Credit for Heroes: Apu Naik, TWC, will report on the current status of this program and its future focus.
 - f. Statewide Higher Education Issues: Dr. Katherine Selber, Texas State, and Rod Davis, TAMU System will examine this topic.
 - g. Hazlewood: Steven Hall, Bridgett Ingram, Celine Dugas and Joe Saxon will provide a report on the Hazlewood exemption and its affordability.
 - h. Student Veterans' Associations: Bob Gear, TWC, and Jerry Smith, TAMU-College Station will provide a report on the impact/effectiveness of student veterans' associations.
3. The next meeting of the Higher Education Workgroup is scheduled for October 19, 2015, in room 170 of the Stephen F. Austin Building, Austin, Texas. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.