PROGRAMMING FOR VETERAN AND MILITARY STUDENTS:
Meeting the Trend of Library Contributions to Student Success

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Gumberg Library | Duquesne University
Background

- Duquesne is a private Catholic university in Pittsburgh, PA
- 9400 students total in Fall 2016
  - 6000 undergrads / 3300 grads
- About 300 military students
- Gumberg Library always looking to increase student engagement with the library and with Duquesne
Strategies

- Partnerships
- Resources
- Programming
- Outreach
Campus Partners

- School of Nursing – VBSN program
- Office of Military and Veteran Services
- DU Dog Tags
- And more...
Resources: Veterans to BSN grant

- School of Nursing received HRSA Grant* to create Veterans to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (VBSN) program
- Funds given to library – for one time purchases only
- Set up included developing special accounting procedures
- Book plates, MARC records
- Library purchased approx. 170 books, e-books, streaming videos, and DVDs

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Requests

• Reached out to faculty, staff, students for recommendations
• Created web-based form; emailed out as well as hosted on a research guide
• Received 87 total requests
• Themes included:
  • moral injury
  • narratives by health care personnel
  • post-deployment transition
  • vets in higher ed
  • women veterans
Library Purchases

• Looked for titles matching themes of requests

• Purchased titles related to health/nursing:
  • Military sexual trauma
  • Burns
  • Amputation
  • Leadership in nursing

• Additionally, purchased fiction, poetry, and memoir

• Utilized book reviews from journals like *Choice* & *Library Journal*

• Used consumer book reviews – Goodreads, Amazon, Powell’s
New Materials Support the School of Nursing’s Veterans to BSN Program

You may have noticed the new display on the 4th floor featuring books that highlight many of the challenges veterans face. We recently purchased these new materials in support of the School of Nursing’s grant-funded Veterans to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) initiative. Working with the School of Nursing, in particular Dr. Mark Chider, Dr. Melissa Kalarchian, and Lee Wagner, as well as the Office of Military and Veteran Students Director Don Accamando, we purchased materials that support the initiative’s goal of ensuring Duquesne meets the needs of veteran students as well as those working with and caring for them.

Here is a small sampling of our purchases. Check out the display for more!

- **The Body Keeps the Score** by Van Der Kolk
  - Nonfiction
  - Usage: 31 title requests

- **Trauma and Recovery** by Herman
  - Nonfiction
  - Usage: 3 title requests

- **Sand Queen** by Benedict
  - Fiction
  - Usage: 14 title requests

- **Between Flesh and Steel** by Gabriel
  - Nonfiction
  - Usage: 3 title requests

- **Run, Don’t Walk** by Levine
  - Memoir
  - Usage: 3 title requests

- **Soul Repair** by Brock et al
  - Nonfiction
  - Usage: 3 title requests

- *Project 22* (DVD)
  - Documentary
  - 5 checkouts

- *Afterwar* by Sherman
  - Nonfiction
  - 2 checkouts

- *Adaptive Disclosure* by Litz et al
  - Nonfiction
  - 3 checkouts

- *The Practice of Dream Healing* by Tick
  - Nonfiction
  - 2 checkouts

- *Redeployment* by Klay
  - Fiction
  - 2 checkouts

- *The Untold War* by Sherman
  - Nonfiction
  - 2 checkouts
Programming: FUBAR

- Exhibit featuring the book opposite the library circulation desk
- DU alum JC Todd and Maryann L. Miller, the book’s poet and artist respectively, participated in various events
FUBAR

Author Events:

• Exhibit Opening
  • Readings and reception at Gumberg

• Coffee House Reading Series
  • Poetry reading held in Gumberg’s Phenomenology Center

• Discussion
  • At a local public library

• Five Class Presentations

Beyond All Repair: Language and Vision

featuring the limited edition artist book FUBAR—a sonnet on the experience of combat as shared between an Air Force Medic and her patient.

EXHIBIT DATES
September 27 – November 11, 2016
Gumberg Library
Popular Reading Room

duq.edu/BeyondAllRepair
#BeyondAllRepair
Campus Co-Sponsors

- Academic Affairs
- Department of English
- McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts
- Office of Military and Veteran Services
- Program of Art History
- VBSN Program
Programming: Combat Paper NJ

- During FUBAR programming
- Hands-On Workshop
- Lecture
‘Combat Paper’ workshop comes to Duquesne

Megan Garrett | Staff Writer

Paper is often made from recycled materials. This past week, an event at Duquesne made a special kind of paper out of a recycled material you might not expect — old military uniforms.

On Nov. 2nd, the Gumberg Library hosted a Combat Paper Workshop on the library’s patio as a part of its “Beyond All” community outreach program. The aim of the event was to teach participants how to create paper from old military uniforms.

Rich Weaver, a current Duquesne graduate student, heard about the combat paper workshop through his wife, who is a veteran herself.

“It’s pretty cool,” Weaver said, about combat paper. “It is a great tool for recycling uniforms and rehabilitating veterans.”
Heritage Week

• Annual weeklong celebration of Duquesne’s history
• University archivist made a display for Veterans Storytelling Event
• Coincided with launch of Veterans Oral History Project
Outreach: Oral Histories

- Began summer 2016
- 6 vets interviewed so far:
  - 2 WWII
  - 1 Cold War era
  - 3 Vietnam War
- Only requirement: DU alum and vet from any branch
Oral History Project

• Ongoing
• Working on recruiting current students
• Alumni office in touch with over 650 veterans from WWII-present
• Goal is to make these available online as digital exhibits

Mr. Amelio received two Purple Hearts for his service in Vietnam. Photos courtesy of Megan DeFries.
Timeline for Oral History Process

• Invite Interviewee
• Pre-interview research: 4-8 hours
• Interview: 1-2 hours (recorded digitally)
• Interview transcription: 6-8 hours
  • (10 minutes of audio = 1 hour of transcribing)
• Audit & edit transcript: 6-8 hours
• Interviewee reviews transcript/interview: 3 months (approx.)
• Final edits, audit, draft: 8-10 hours

The Ten Hi crew fought in WWII. Photo courtesy of Megan DeFries.
• Mr. Cronin is a 91 year old WWII veteran who served in the US Navy 1943-1946 as a Radioman, Petty Officer 2\textsuperscript{nd} class. He was in the Pacific theater and participated in the Philippine Liberation and Battle of Leyte Gulf. He is a 1950 graduate of Duquesne with a BA in Education.
Other Support

- Veterans Day Breakfast
- Veterans’ Lounge
- Veterans Engagement Consortium
- Veterans Leadership Program Award
FUTURE PLANS
Veterans’ Book Club

• Starting in fall 2017
• Collaboration with School of Nursing’s VBSN, Office of Military and Veteran Services, & DU Dog Tags
• Goal is outlet for students, not more school work
• Will be marketed through VBSN, website, social media, personal outreach
• Library is purchasing inaugural book
More plans...

- Attend Veteran Student Orientation
- Military movie night
- Formalizing a liaison librarian
- Librarian participation in the new Veterans Mentoring Program
- Librarian participation in research with the 3 consortia on campus: Veterans, Pain, Aging
YOUR CAMPUS
Think-Pair-Share

- Take a few minutes to consider a student group on your campus
- How can you reach out to them?
- Who would on-campus partners be?
- Find a partner and share your ideas
- Then we will share our ideas with everyone
OTHER STUDENT GROUPS
Possible Student Groups

- LGBTQIA students
- Transfer students
- Commuter students
- International students
- Nontraditional students
- First generation college students
- Graduate students
Possible Campus Partners

- Office of Residence Life
- Commuter Affairs
- Career Services
- Health Services
- Recreation Services
- Counseling & Wellbeing Center
- International Student Office
- Student groups
Final thoughts...

- Faculty contribute to student success
- Are there faculty you can reach out to who might need additional support?
  - Adjuncts
  - Non tenure track
- You don’t necessarily need funds to reach out, just time and willingness