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St. Bonaventure joins Yellow Ribbon Program to assist veterans

St. Bonaventure University has teamed up with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to help post-9/11 veterans attend SBU tuition free through the new Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program.

St. Bonaventure is among a sizeable number of private colleges and universities in New York state participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program, designed to help students pay for education programs not covered by the Post-9/11 GI Bill tuition benefit.

The Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act, for veterans who were considered active duty during or after Sept. 11, 2001, caps educational benefits at the highest public in-state college or university undergraduate tuition rate. Under the Yellow Ribbon Program, the difference between that in-state rate and the tuition cost at a private college or university is split between the school and the VA.

If, for instance, the tuition bill at a participating university is \$20,000 and the Post-9/11 GI Bill can pay only \$15,000, the university and the VA will split the \$5,000 difference.

Jim DiRisio, director of Admissions at St. Bonaventure, lauded the new program and the opportunity it affords post-9/11 veterans.

“As a U.S. Army veteran and a graduate of St. Bonaventure University, I am proud that my university is among the colleges whose leaders have recognized the value that veterans provide to any organization. I am excited that veterans are now able to choose St. Bonaventure without regard to cost, and I am certain their experiences in our classrooms, and among our community, will be valuable,” said DiRisio.

Nearly 750 private, nonprofit colleges and universities in the U.S. have signed Yellow Ribbon participation agreements with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. More than 10 percent of the schools are from New York’s independent sector, where there is “a long history of service to veterans and non-traditional students,” said Laura L. Anglin, president of the Albany-based

Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities.

“I applaud our congressional leaders for developing the Yellow Ribbon program, an idea that will ensure our returning veterans have necessary resources and choice in higher education today,” said Anglin.

Jim McDonough, director of the New York State Division of Veterans’ Affairs, commended the private institutions of higher learning in New York that are participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program. “By providing our nation’s returning veterans with an enhanced opportunity to attend some of the best institutions in the country, these schools are rewarding service to our nation with a greater educational opportunity,” he said.

For information about academic programs and enrolling at St. Bonaventure University, contact DiRisio at (716) 375-2400 or jdirisio@sbu.edu. To learn more about the benefits of St. Bonaventure’s Yellow Ribbon program, contact Wendy Fleming, associate director of financial aid, at (716) 375-2529 or w Fleming@sbu.edu.

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Information day for high school students interested in health care careers slated for Aug. 16

High school students interested in a career in health care are invited to a special Pre-Health Care Information Day on Sunday, Aug. 16, at St. Bonaventure University.

Each year, exceptional high school seniors seeking careers in health care enter joint programs between St. Bonaventure and one of several prestigious institutions: George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine and Pharmacy, SUNY Upstate College of Medicine, Daemen College Department of Physical Therapy and the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine.

Students are invited to campus to learn more about these programs and other health care opportunities. Visitors will get a firsthand look into all of the programs that St. Bonaventure offers, learn of the qualifications and admissions requirements and hear from current combined degree students who are enrolled in these distinguished programs. Students will also hear from St. Bonaventure professors and admissions representatives about the shadowing and internship opportunities specifically reserved for St. Bonaventure’s pre-health students.

Registration will be held from 9:45 to 10 a.m. in the William F. Walsh Science Center, a brand new 46,000-square-foot facility on the west end of campus. The program will begin in the Walsh amphitheater at 10 a.m. A tour of the science center, including biology, general chemistry and organic chemistry laboratories, will be available, as well as a complimentary lunch and a full tour of St. Bonaventure’s campus.

To attend the Pre-Health Care Information Day, contact Peggy Masters in the Admissions Office at (716) 375-4095 by Aug. 10. Space is limited.

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Newsmakers

This summer, the Franciscan Institute is pleased to welcome a number of international scholars who have come to campus to do research or teach at the institute. Two scholars, Dr. Letizia Pellegrini, from the Università di Macerata, and Dr. Filippo Sedda, from the Università di Roma (La Sapienza) have both come from Italy to use the Ottokar Bonnmann Archives of Giovanni da Capistrano, which are housed here at the Franciscan Institute. Dr. Pellegrini is beginning a major project to publish, for the first time, a critical edition of the vast correspondence of Capistrano (more than 700 letters). Dr. Sedda is examining a manuscript from the Holy Name Collection in the Rare Books Wing as well as doing work in the Capistrano Archives as well.

In addition, two other Italian scholars known to the SBU campus community already, Drs. Maria Pia Alberzoni and Fr. Luigi Pellegrini, O.F.M. Cap., have returned to the institute for several weeks this summer. Dr. Alberzoni is delivering a series of presentations to the Poor Clare Sisters in the context of their Poor Clare Enrichment Summer Program. Fr. Pellegrini is working on a variety of Franciscan manuscripts in the Rare Books Wing of the Friedsam Library. Both were previously on campus as Fr. Joseph A. Doino Visiting Professors of Franciscan Studies: Alberzoni (Fall 2007) and Pellegrini (Spring 2008).

Dr. Jacques Dalarun, former Doino Visiting Professor and colleague of the faculty of the institute, has returned once again to teach in the institute's Summer Session. He is giving a course on Franciscan Hagiography this summer. He will be returning next summer as well to teach a companion course to the current class.

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