FSU's VBOC Wins $245,000 in Two SBA Grants to Facilitate Veterans Entrepreneurial Training Programs

The Fayetteville State University’s (FSU) Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) at the School of Business and Economics (SBE) has been awarded $245,000 in two grants from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to offer continued entrepreneurial services and training to veterans in SBA Region IV. The VBOC mission is to maximize the availability, applicability, and usability of small business programs for veterans, service-disabled veterans, reserve component members, and their dependents or survivors. VBOC, with its parent Office of Veterans Business Development, is SBA’s liaison with the veterans business community providing policy analysis, reporting, and training programs for veteran entrepreneurs. VBOC has a number of programs and services to assist aspiring and existing veteran entrepreneurs such as training, counseling, mentorship, and capital access through SBA loan programs to veteran-owned and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.

According to Robert Rehder, Director of the VBOC, current veteran entrepreneurship training opportunities for 2014/15 at FSU Include:

- Collaborative, hands-on, interactive learning opportunities for veterans, disabled veterans, spouses, National Guard and reserve component members
- Continued training at area military bases through Operation Boots to Business: From Service to Startup
- VBOC’s Entrepreneur Boot Camp for Veterans with Disabilities
- Ongoing one-on-one business counseling and training programs, courses and seminars
- Building a community of interactive veteran resource partners locally and across SBA Region IV
- Workshops to include QuickBooks, How to Write a Business Plan, Credit Counseling, and SBA Loan Programs: the Veterans Advantage