Elevating Veterans’ Voices

Creating public education opportunities for veterans to share their experiences in higher education

After Action Report

Tyson Manker

July 5, 2018
Army Veteran Jonathan Ngowaki spoke on a Lumina Foundation panel about being defrauded by DeVry University, including the school taking out fraudulent loans without his consent.
Army Veteran Travis Craig visited Washington, DC to share his story of attending ITT Technical Institute, and having loans taken out in his name without his permission. (Social media HERE)

Office of Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD)  
Monday, Feb. 12 – Washington, D.C.

Social media HERE

Office of Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD)  
Monday, Feb. 12 – Washington, D.C.

Social media HERE
Congressman Mark Takano (D-CA)
Monday, Feb. 12 – Washington, D.C.

Social media HERE and HERE

Office of Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)
Monday, Feb. 12 – Washington, D.C.

Social media HERE
Senator Dean Heller (R-NV)
Monday, Feb. 12 – Washington, D.C.

Social media [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)

Social media [HERE](#), [HERE](#), [HERE](#), and [HERE](#)
Army Veteran Travis Craig testified at the Education Department about attending ITT Tech.

#Veteran Travis Craig speaks at @usedgov about how #ITTtech defrauded him and other #student #veterans. He maintained a 3.97 GPA but learned nothing. "We were taught by substitutes who did not even know the coursework and had to read from the textbook" #DefendStudents

"Why were we getting outdated materials? How could I know more than my course instructors? Veterans are the ones taking the biggest hit." - #ITTTech #veteran Travis Craig speaks out @usedgov #DefendStudents

Social media HERE and HERE
VES hosted a panel discussion of student veterans in the House Veterans Affairs Committee before a packed room of Congressional staff. VES Policy Director Tanya Ang moderated the panel, eliciting the students’ stories of what is and is not working in higher education for military veterans. (Social media HERE, HERE, HERE and HERE)

Jamie Huebert, Navy, Kaplan

Omar Andrews, Marine Corps, U of Southern Maine

Wesley Hughes, Army, Georgetown

Rachael Milam, Air Force, NOVA Community College

Francheska Salazar, Army, Anne Arundel College

Social media HERE, HERE and HERE

Social media HERE, HERE and HERE

Social media HERE, HERE and HERE

Social media HERE, HERE and HERE

Social media HERE, HERE and HERE

Social media HERE, HERE and HERE
Office of Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA)  
Thursday, Feb. 22 – Washington, D.C.

Jamie Huebert told Sen. Kaine’s staff about being defrauded by Kaplan. (HERE)

Office of Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME)  
Friday, Feb. 23 – Washington, D.C.

Omar Andrews told Sen. Collins staff about his experiences as a student veteran. (HERE)
Sen. Richard Burr met with 4 current and former North Carolina student veterans and VES staff.

April McDonald, Army National Guard, U of Phoenix
Jason Christian, Navy, American Intercontinental University
Charles Calamese, Army, Winston-Salem University
Roby Lovett, Navy, Forsythe Technical Community College

Social media HERE, HERE, HERE, and HERE
“FAIL STATE” documentary screening
Thursday, May 17 – Nashville, TN

Marine Corps Veteran Will Walker told the audience about being defrauded by ITT Tech.

Social media HERE, HERE, HERE, HERE, HERE and HERE
“FAIL STATE” documentary screening
Monday, June 4 – Brooklyn, NY

Army Veterans Milo Jones (L) and John Andrew (R) spoke with a reporter and told the audience about their bad experiences at ITT Technical Institute and U of Phoenix, respectively.

News media HERE
Army Veteran Andrea Carlton shared her story of being defrauded by Brown Mackie college.

Social media [HERE](#) and [HERE](#) and [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)
“We The Action” Video
Tuesday, June 5 – Washington, D.C.

Andrea Carlton taped a video with “We The Action” and met with Rep. Ted Lieu’s staff.

Social media HERE

Office of Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA)
Tuesday, June 5 – Washington, D.C.

Social media HERE
VES co-hosted a screening of the “Fail State” documentary with Rep. Seth Moulton, where Marine Corps Veteran Zach Hastie, who is featured in the film, told Congressional staffers about being defrauded by ITT Technical Institute.
The New York Times – Featuring VES Student Veterans
Sunday, Dec. 17 – Nationwide

Through VES, Army Veterans Jarrod Thoma and Kip Malone spoke with the New York Times about their for-profit college experience and the fraudulent behavior they encountered. (HERE)

Bloomberg – Featuring VES Student Veteran
Monday, May 22 – Nationwide

Through VES, Army Veteran Jonathan Ngowaki spoke with Bloomberg about his unfortunate experience at DeVry University, and the fraudulent behavior he encountered. (HERE)

The Denver Post – VES Student Veteran Op-Ed
Monday, June 25 – Denver, CO

Through VES, Army Veteran Jarrod Thoma published an op-ed in the Denver Post about his time at DeVry University, the false promises he encountered, and hewing to the rules of non-lobbying education, why a proposed bill would hurt, not help, students in higher ed. (HERE)