Corporate Initiatives that Aid Transitioning Service Members/Veterans

With the passage of the VOW to Hire Heroes Act, many government programs have been created to assist the service member and families with career transitioning such as the VRAP (Veteran Retraining Assistance Program), TAP (Transition Assistance Program) and the Job Training, Employment Skills Training, Apprenticeships, and Internships (JTEST-AI) for eligible service members. In addition, college, industry, and entrepreneurial skill building initiatives have been developed to enhance job skills of transitioning service members.

There are several initiatives that allow business and corporate entities to partner with the higher education and military education communities to ease the transition from military service to employment in the civilian sector. There are best practices from those who have successfully completed corporate/military/school partnerships to replicate these programs involving military installations, schools that serve the military, and corporate players interested in hiring veterans. SkillBridge is a wonderful example of a successful program for our transitioning service members. Our transitioning Service members need bridges to the civilian work world. The New DoD SkillBridge authority allows Service member participation in civilian training, apprenticeship, and internship programs – starting up to 6 months before separation. Using this authority, there are already a number of SkillBridge employer training programs in various industries. Almost all participating Service members received jobs.

SkillBridge allows participating businesses to gain early access to highly skilled Service members as prospective employees before those Service members become Veterans. Since Service members continue to receive their military pay and benefits while participating, the training provider does not pay the Service member to participate.
Board Member Margaret Reed  Continued

There is now a great opportunity for employers to leverage SkillBridge to recruit talented Service members. Community colleges & universities now have greater opportunities to partner with employers to deliver skill-gap training and education.

Another program to consider when looking to benchmark successful programs for transitioning Service members is the Army Career Skills Program (CSP). The Army CSP is a component of the Soldier Life Cycle that encourages Soldiers to capitalize on training and development opportunities throughout their military careers - both in uniform and as civilians beyond their military service. CSPs provide Soldiers with the opportunity to participate in career and employment skill training opportunities during transition, to improve employment options upon separation from military service. CSP opportunities include: Credentialing, Apprenticeship, Internship, On-the-Job training (OJT), and Job Shadowing. Both these exemplary programs focus on the soldiers who may fall into one or more of the following conditions between 18-24 years old, first time enlistment, involuntarily separating due to force shaping, is undergoing rapid separation from active duty, may have disabilities that result in medical separations. In order for the Service member to be eligible they must be separating within 180 days and have the support of the Battalion Commander. The soldier’s supervisor must give authority for participation and release from daily unit duties, while maintaining accountability for the soldier participating in the CSP program. The military also maintains the right to release the soldier from the program for any military purpose. Funding must be provided at no charge and without any monetary responsibility to the Service member or their families.

Note from Franc Lopez, CCME President: CCME thanks Margaret Reed, Senior Director, Webster University, for her overview of the CCME 2016 Roundtable on Transition Initiatives. For more information about our organization, please visit CCMEonline.org. Note: Call for Proposals and Awards for next year’s Symposium are now open.
CCME Membership Reminder

Have you submitted your individual or institutional membership fees for the 16/17 year? If not, don’t miss out on the benefits of CCME membership and join today.

New benefit coming in 16/17! As a member, you will receive access to a “CCME Members-only” News and Discussion Forum site. This site will be used to exchange timely and relevant information impacting the DoD Voluntary and Veteran Education communities and a venue to seek and provide input to/from your colleagues in the field. We anticipate launching this site in early Fall and all members will be notified at that time.

Other benefits include:

♦ Discounted Annual Symposium Registration and Exhibitors fees
♦ Access to CCME newsletters throughout the year
♦ Eligibility for your students to apply and receive one of our several annual CCME Scholarships
♦ A link from the CCME website to your organization's website
♦ Use of the CCME Member logo on Organization's/Institution’s and ACME Affiliate websites and literature

Membership fees support the CCME Scholarship Endowment Fund. The fund is dedicated to promoting education opportunities for qualified active duty Service members, drilling reservists, National Guard members and their spouses. Contributions to the fund are provided in two ways:

♦ 50% of all CCME membership dues are deposited into the Scholarship Fund.
♦ Organizations and/or individuals, members and non-members, may choose to make a charitable donation to the Scholarship Endowment fund at any time. Donations may be given in honor or in memory of an individual. Donors also have the option to honor an organization through their donation.

The CCME membership year runs from April 1 through March 31. Annual membership categories and rates are as follows:

♦ $50 - Individual
♦ $500 – Organization/Institution (Includes Memberships for 15 Individuals within the Organization/Institution)

Join today and take advantage of your CCME Membership benefits!

Joycelyn Groot Membership Chair, CCME  jgroot@coastline.edu

http://www.ccmeonline.org/membership
**CCME Professional Development Annual Symposium Registration**

**Registration:**
Registration for the 2017 Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) Professional Development Symposium occurring at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, GA from 6-9 March 2017 is OPEN. Early Bird pricing expires November 30, 2016, after which normal full registration fees apply (and increase by $50).

CCME Members receive a reduced registration rate regardless. Complimentary registration codes for eligible Exhibitors and Sponsors will be distributed by Registration Headquarters. Please visit www.ccmeonline.org to register for the symposium.

Member: $450 (early bird) // $500(regular) // $225 (1-day) // $400 (2-day)
Non member: $550 (early bird) // $600 (regular) // $275 (1-day) // $450(2-day)
On-site registration: $700 (full) // $375 (1-day) // $550 (2-day)
Reception/Lunches for Guest: $75 // $25 for ages 5-12 // under age 5 free

Early Bird pricing through November 2016. Eligible for Early Bird pricing (check or credit card) only if payment is received by Early Bird Deadline

EXCEPTION: those paying with US Government Travel Card will owe amount based on registration date; payment will be automatically charged on 1 Mar 17 unless cancelled beforehand.

**Hotel:**
Hotel reservations can be made at the following link from the CCME website: http://www.ccmeonline.org/2017hotels. Please note, the Government Rate is valid for government ID cardholders ONLY, for approximately 30% of total rooms at the Marriott, please make reservations asap. CCME or its agent will NOT contact you to solicit credit card information and/or setting up room reservations; if you receive messages of this sort, it is a SCAM. The only way to make symposium hotel room reservations is through our web-link or Marriott reservation line.

**Exhibitors and Sponsors:**
Exhibitors and Sponsors play an integral role in the success of our annual Professional Development Symposium. Without our exhibitors and sponsors, we would not be able to continue this annual event. We offer reduced Exhibition fees to our Organization Members and for early bird applicants. Additionally, Exhibitors receive one full complimentary symposium registration. Sponsors can receive up to two complimentary symposium registrations! Please consider showcasing your organization with an exhibition booth and/or one of our many value added sponsorship opportunities.

Exhibit space and Sponsorships for the symposium are available. Please visit www.ccmeonline.org to download the Exhibition/Sponsorship application. We look forward to seeing and collaborating with you in Atlanta.

**Newcomers Breakfast**
Are you new to CCME? First time attending? Be sure to attend the “Newcomers Breakfast” on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, from 7am to 8am. The cost of the breakfast is included in your CCME registration and it will be a great chance for you to learn about CCME before the conference begins. During the breakfast we will have members of the CCME Board discuss the organization as well as give you an overview of the DoD Voluntary Education program. It will also be an opportunity for you to network and perhaps get some of your questions answered. Be sure to attend.
**CCME Annual Awards**

Do you know a key person or organization that has made a difference in the voluntary education community? Nominations for the following awards will be taken from May 16, 2016 through October 3, 2016. Awards will be chosen from nominations by the CCME Awards Committee and presented at the annual awards luncheon at the 2017 Symposium in Atlanta, GA on March 7, 2017.

**CATEGORIES INCLUDE:**
- **John Brian Service and Leadership Award**
  Presented to a government employee in recognition of their outstanding service to the voluntary education community.
- **William E. Kennedy Award**
  Recognizes outstanding dedication and leadership in the delivery of quality programs to military installations and/or individuals.
- **CCME Corporate Award**
  Presented to an organization in recognition of its significant contributions to the cause of military education.
- **CCME Institution Award**
  Presented to a higher education institution in recognition of its significant contributions to the cause of military education.
- **Barry Cobb Government Organization Award**
  Recognizes the outstanding contributions that government entities make to military education.

**INTRODUCING OUR NEW AWARD**
- **CCME Advisory Council on Military Education (ACME) Award**
  Recognizes an ACME for its significant contributions to the cause of military and/or veteran education.

More information will be posted during the nomination period at [http://www.ccmeonline.org/awards](http://www.ccmeonline.org/awards). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Desiree Butts, CCME Awards Chair, [dbutts@nu.edu](mailto:dbutts@nu.edu).

**Call for Concurrent Session Proposals**

Our 2017 symposium in Atlanta, GA will host another full day devoted to small group forums called Concurrent Sessions. These sessions are designed to facilitate the exchange of information on educational programs, strategies and innovation that assist service members and veterans to achieve academic and career success.

Share your best practices, engage in dynamic conversation and promote community interests for all attendees with a proposal related to this year’s theme, "Collaboration: Strengthen Ourselves For Those We Serve". In addition to the conference theme, the Concurrent Sessions will provide four concentrated tracks to allow attendees to work toward a Professional Development Certificate. This year’s track titles include:

- **Best Practices in Voluntary Education**
- **Newcomers to Voluntary Education**
- **Career Pathways for Transitioning Service members**
- **Military and Veteran Student Services**


All presentations will be held on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 and will be 60 minute sessions.

**PLEASE NOTE:** all presenters are expected to pay the CCME conference registration fee if attending the entire conference. One day registrations will also be available.

CCME values sessions that focus on current and best practices in the voluntary military education arena, new ways to ensure successful transition for military members, innovative ways of using technology in the classroom, military and veteran-specific student services, college and university initiatives, and any topics pertaining to military education services in general. Each year, a committee of CCME members reviews proposal submissions and selects approximately 60 for presentation.

The deadline for submission of concurrent session proposals is September 1, 2016. The Committee will evaluate all proposals and make their final selections by the end of October.

For additional information regarding Concurrent Sessions, please contact committee chair, Kelly Wilmeth at [Kelly.Wilmeth@umuc.edu](mailto:Kelly.Wilmeth@umuc.edu). We look forward to another year of engaging dialogue and active participation at the CCME 2017 Annual Symposium.
Welcome to the Advisory Council on Military Education (ACME) Corner

Virginia Advisory Council on Military Education

The Virginia Advisory Council on Military Education (VA-ACME) was established a decade ago to promote, support and deliver meaningful education within all branches of the Armed Services by encouraging educational institutions to be innovative and flexible in meeting educational needs. VA-ACME provides a forum for the discussion of current issues and planning for future programming. They encourage cooperative and coordinated efforts for efficient and effective educational services for Armed Services personnel and their family members. Learn more about our organization at: www.vaacme.org

Save the Date The 11th annual Virginia Advisory Council on Military Education (VA-ACME) Symposium will be held April 11-13, 2017 at the Westin Virginia Beach Town Center. We appreciate the overwhelming support of our members and sponsors as we celebrated our Diamond Anniversary in 2016 and look forward to exciting things to come. Details regarding sponsorships, scholarships, lodging, etc. will be forthcoming soon. Also, watch for the 2016 photos to be uploaded to www.vaacme.org very soon. To stay up to date, Like us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/VAACME/

Meanwhile, I’d like to introduce the 2016-17 VA-ACME Board, an awesome team that is dedicated to military education in Virginia and beyond, in the attached photo from left to right:

Florence Hayes-Addison, University of Maryland University College, Historian/Website; Michelle Ventura Thomas, Coastline Community College, Secretary; Nora Graves, University of Maryland University College, 1st Past President; Carla Bell-Thompson, Tidewater Community College, At-Large; Michael Camden, Troy University, President; Ellen Coleman, Thomas Edison State University, Treasurer; Melinda Gainer, Southern Illinois University, Vice President; Linda Isaac, Saint Leo University, At-Large
FLORIDA-ACME
FL ACME Annual meeting of the members - Apr 4-6, 2017 at Patrick AFB, FL. Patrick AFB, FL Education Fair - Apr 3, 2017.

MID-SOUTH ACME
In April Mid-South ACME held its 3rd Annual Symposium. Our theme for this year was Educating our Forces for Life. This was our largest symposium yet, with approximately 60 attendees. Speakers included many Veteran owned businesses, local mayors, Workforce Essentials, Troops to Teachers, ACES Counselors discussing GoArmyEd and VIA, and a Veteran and ESO panel. This year’s hot topics focused on experiential learning and the importance of certifications to create a direct link to quick employment. The event kicked off with an evening reception which included food and beverages from two Veteran owned businesses; and exceptional networking opportunities.

Currently on our agenda are plans for a golf outing in conjunction with the Tennessee National Guard for mid-August as a scholarship fundraising event. Both the golf outing and the symposium sponsorships will provide scholarship opportunities for military, veteran, and family members in our area. For more information regarding Mid-South ACME please email, midsouthacme@gmail.com.
Tennessee National Guard/Mid-South ACME
Golf Tournament

will be held Friday, 26 August 2016 at Windtree Golf Course in Mount Juliet, TN
810 Nonaville Rd, Mt Juliet, TN 37122 (615) 754-4653

ShowTime 7:30AM, Shotgun Start 8:30AM (Entry limited to the first 144 Players)

Tournament Benefits: Scholarship Awards to Soldiers and Airmen for tuition and books. Your support and contribution is greatly appreciated

Entry Fee: $80.00 per person
Entry/Entry Fee Deadline: Friday, August 12th (Or when full)

Entry Fee Includes:
1. Tournament Round of Golf with Range
2. Chances to Win:
   a. Golf Clubs
   b. Golf Bags
   c. Many more door prizes
   d. Goodie Bag to each participant
3. On course contest
4. Mulligan’s
5. Lunch Provided (Catered BBQ)
6. Prizes/Money/Flights based on number of participants
   a. 100 or less participants one flight, 2 places
   b. 100 plus two flights, 2 places each flight.

Point of Contact Patti Hunt
Cell (989) 721-0337
SGM Jamie Clark
Office (615) 313-0692
Cell (423) 991-1066

To Enter: Mail Entries to 2019 Allegra Ct, Murfreesboro, TN 37128 or email jamie.m.clark12.mil@mail.mil
TOURNAMENT ENTRY FORM (make checks payable to Mid-South ACME)
Military Community and Family Policy

Military OneSource Confidential Help Digital Campaign

“It’s OK to Seek Help”

June 23, 2016

It’s OK to Seek Help

We all have those times in life when stress manages us more than we manage it: times when military life can put a lot of pressure on your family, when we feel lonely or overwhelmed because the service member we love is deployed, when we need support from those who truly understand the challenges of military life. We’d all like to believe that we can handle any challenge that comes our way, but everyone needs a helping hand now and then — and that’s OK.

That’s when Military OneSource counselors can help. They are independently licensed mental health professionals with a master’s or doctoral degree. You can have a relaxed conversation — in person, on the phone, or on a video call or online chat — about the challenges of military life with someone who gets it. Talking with people who understand the stress you are experiencing, especially if they’ve personally “been there” too, can relieve some of that stress.

Reaching out for support means you’re self-aware and smart to spot where there’s pressure in your life so you can get tips for tackling it head-on. As a service member, military spouse, or military parent, seeking support from the many resources around you helps you care for and strengthen your family.

Military OneSource non-medical counseling is completely confidential. You can expect that all aspects of counseling, including scheduling your appointment and what you say during a counseling session, will be kept private. (The only time that confidentiality does not apply is in situations where you might cause harm to yourself or another person.)

Service members and their immediate family members can get free, confidential counseling and consultations — even from home. Don’t wait. Get connected with Military OneSource today by calling 800-342-9647, or starting a live chat at www.militaryonesource.mil/confidential-help.
Volunteers

CCME relies extensively on volunteers throughout the year and especially in the planning and execution of the annual professional development symposium. Be a CCME Volunteer and join our community and make a difference in the CCME experience. Being a CCME Volunteer is not just volunteering your time, it is your commitment and partnership to embrace networking, enhance professional development and expand professional prosperity to make a greater influence within our military education community.

Volunteer Activities Categories:

- Agenda Conference Planning
- Awards
- Concurrent Sessions
- Entertainment/Conference Activities
- Evaluations
- Legislative
- Membership
- Newcomers/Attendees Orientation
- Outreach/Public Affairs
- Reception
- Registration
- Scholarships
- Volunteerism
- Speakers

Other area of expertise (i.e. Military Spouses, Veterans, ACMEs)

For more information about volunteer opportunities, please visit http://www.ccmeonline.org/volunteers or email: volunteer@ccmeonline.org

CCME and Social Media

Connect with us! Never miss an update from CCME by following us on Twitter and Facebook. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter: @CCMEOnline. We’ll see you online!

Board Nominations due 10/1/16
please visit: www.ccmeonline.org

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARD winners will be announced during the symposium in Atlanta, join us to see who the winners will be.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2017 CCME Annual Symposium
Atlanta Marriot Marquis
265 Peachtree Center Avenue NE
Atlanta, GA 30303

Council of College and Military Educators

CCME is an active proponent for the professional development of those serving in the military education community by providing a forum for the exchange of information on educational programs, strategies and innovation among its members and associated partners.

Website: www.ccmeonline.org
Email: publicaffairs@ccmeonline.org