From the Past President


The symposium theme this year was, "Opening doors. Advancing lives. A military member's and veteran's pathway to education and career success."

The conference attracted about 900 attendees, up almost 30% from 2015, and was one of the most successful CCME Conferences in the last 6 years.

A great deal of the credit for the success goes to the members of the CCME Board and the conference support team from Grantham University.

This year several innovations were used to attract more attendees. For the first time mass e-mailings were sent to all of the 22,600 plus Department of Defense (DoD) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) schools.

Advertisements were also placed in several publications aimed at the higher education community and especially schools interested in serving the military and/or veterans’ education needs.

The net result was an increase in almost 200 registrations over the 2015 symposium in Anaheim, CA. Most significantly this year’s conference attracted many first time attendees. The Tuesday morning Newcomers Breakfast almost double in size to over 200 individuals attending the CCME symposium for the first time. Without a doubt, there is renewed interest in education programs for the military. Additionally with over 60 exhibitors and 40 plus sponsors, CCME received strong support from the higher education community to make the conference a great success!

However, what really made the 2016 CCME Symposium a success was the keynote addresses, the concurrent sessions and the special events throughout the week of 15-19 February. The hotel also provided many opportunities for networking with CCME sponsored receptions along with several receptions sponsored by CCME member institutions.
Past President’s Message Continued

Prior to and during the symposium, the branches of the Armed Services sponsored workshops for their members along with the Service members Opportunity College and the American Council of Education. All of these meetings were well attended and in several cases extra sessions were required to take care of all of the individuals interested in participating.

CCME was extremely fortunate this year to have topnotch speakers from the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense. Representing the DVA were the Honorable Curtis L. Coy, Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Opportunity and Mr. Robert M. Worley II, Director of Education Service. From the Department of Defense we heard from, Brigadier General Robert J. Miller, Director Education and Training, Defense Health Agency and Commandant, Medical Education and Training Campus; Ms. Dawn Bilodeau, Chief, Department of Defense Voluntary Education Programs; Brigadier General John S. Kem, Provost Army University and Deputy Commandant, Command and General Staff College, Mr. J.R. Breeding, Associate Dean of Academic Programs for the Community College of the Air Force; and Sergeant Major of the Army, Daniel A. Dailey. In all cases these outstanding speakers challenged the higher education community to double their efforts to serve our military and veterans. Specifically, they all called for renewed efforts to evaluate military training for appropriate college level credit and to provide programs that will support military members in their service careers and when they return to civilian life. I do not believe any attendee left the symposium without a renewed interest in serving our military and veteran students. So without a doubt, the 2016 CCME Symposium in San Antonio, Texas was an absolute success!

The 2017 Symposium in Atlanta, Georgia at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis March 6-9, 2017, led by our CCME President Franc Lopez promises to be even bigger and better.
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.

Did you know?

Our 2017 CCME Professional Development Symposium will be held in Atlanta, GA March 6-9, 2017

Things of Interest in Atlanta

◆ 11 military installations in Georgia
◆ Atlanta Botanical Garden
◆ Atlanta Aquarium
◆ World of Coca-Cola
◆ Georgia Dome
◆ Georgia State Capital
◆ CNN Studio Tour
◆ Fernbank Museum of Natural History
◆ Center for Civil and Human Rights
◆ Martin Luther King Jr. Historic Site
◆ Centennial Olympic Park
◆ Underground Atlanta
◆ Piedmont Park
**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

SECOME
825 Stone St, Rm 123
Camp Lejeune, NC 28547
www.secome.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SECOME to Host Symposium and Hiring Expo

(SAVANNAH, GA) – April 20, 2016 – The Southeastern Council on Military Education (SECOME) will be hosting its annual symposium October 25 – 27, 2016, at the Hilton Savannah DeSoto in historic downtown Savannah, Georgia.

The 2016 Symposium will have a holistic approach to meet the needs of all military-affiliated students by holding a two-day professional development conference and a hiring and education expo.

Participants will receive relevant resources, trainings and support services to enhance their initiatives in meeting the transitional needs of active duty, veterans and their families into careers or higher educational programs.

“With the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs strict regulations, the instability of our economy, and the uncertainty that the upcoming elections bring, now is the time that we should be expanding support services for our service members and their families as they transition out of the military,” says Ashley Adamovage, SECOME president. “We are very excited to provide not only professional development for our symposium participants, but to offer a hiring and education expo for the area military-affiliated residents.”

The 2016 Symposium will include: Education Service Officers from each branch of the Armed Services; professional leaders from Institutions of Higher Learning, private and non-profit organizations, Department of Defense, and Department of Veterans Affairs; trainings and breakout sessions relating to the current issues and trends within military transition; award ceremony for student scholarship recipients; and a hiring and education expo.

Registration information and hotel recommendations, as well as agenda and event details, are available online at www.secome.org. Interested participants may also contact SECOME via email at info@secome.org.

About SECOME

The Southeastern Council on Military Education, a 501c3 nonprofit organization, is a multi-state Advisory Council on Military Education and is committed to addressing military education and transition issues within North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. SECOME is dedicated to achieving its mission: To promote, support and deliver quality educational and professional opportunities and practices within all branches of the Armed Forces by providing innovative and ethical provisions for higher educational institutions, government and state entities.
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](http://www.ccmeonline.org/volunteers) or email: volunteer@ccmeonline.org

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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 Marriott Marquis
265 Peachtree Center Avenue NE
Atlanta, GA 30303

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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