



COUNCIL OF COLLEGE AND MILITARY EDUCATORS

December 2013

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Winter 2013 Newsletter

From the President

The upcoming 2014 CCME Professional Development Symposium may be one of the most important in our 40 year history. We are truly at a Crossroads in Military Education..., which is our theme for this year. The entire Voluntary Military Education community has had to simultaneously deal with three major forces: uncertainty, budgetary constraints, and increasing regulation. How will the varied VolEd players respond to these challenges? As I see it, there are three choices: 1. "Pack it up", 2. Passively sit on the sidelines, or 3. Take control. Taking control involves the mastering the issues, understanding what options are available, and networking with others to see how they are addressing these challenges. Bottom Line: Taking Control is really what our 2014 Symposium is all about.

We have significantly changed the format of the symposium so as to maximize the educational value and professional development opportunities for all attendees. There will be more relevant and timely concurrent sessions in Savannah than we have ever had before, over 25 percent more than last year. There will also be fewer general sessions so as to allow there to be concurrent sessions on every day of the symposium. There will

be 60 distinct sessions and over 80 total sessions. Expect to learn about the President's Executive Order 13607 on Establishing Principles of Excellence, Public Law 112-249 on Comprehensive Veterans Education Information, student outcome measures, complaint systems plus many many other important topics.



Michael Heberling, Ph.D.
CCME President 2013/2014
Lieutenant Colonel, USAF (Ret)
President, Baker College Center
for Graduate Studies



Savannah International Trade and Convention Center
on the banks of the Savannah River

(Continued on page 2)

2014 CCME Professional Development Symposium Information

Register at:
http://www.ccmeonline.org

- Member: \$400 (early bird) // \$450 (regular) // \$175 (1-day) // \$350 (2-day)
Nonmember: \$450 (early bird) // \$500 (regular) // \$200 (1-day) // \$400 (2-day)
President's Reception Guest: \$50 // \$25 for ages 5-12 // under age 5 free
Awards Banquet Guest: \$50 // \$25 for ages 5-12 // under age 5 free
Early Bird pricing through 15 Jan 2014
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 7 Feb 14, unless cancelled beforehand

To Register for Conference Hotel Rooms:

www.ccmeonline.org/2014hotels

2014 Professional Development Exhibitor and Sponsorship Packages Still Available!

ccmeonline.org/annualsymposium

President's Message (continued from page 1)

Besides stand-alone presentations, this year we will have three special interest tracks: 1. Introduction to Voluntary Education, 2. Career Options: Transitioning from the Military, and 3. Military and Veteran Focused College Initiatives. As a bonus, we will be providing **Certificates of Completion** for each track. For the first time, we will also be presenting a number of "burning issue" roundtables throughout the week. These roundtables will provide an opportunity for a detailed discussion and interaction on timely topics.

So, while we all have to deal with the *Crossroads in Military Education*, the 2014 CCME Professional Development Symposium will help to provide you with the necessary tools and knowledge to successfully meet the challenge.

I am very proud to announce that CCME will be sponsoring a "Hiring Our Heroes Job Fair" in conjunction with our symposium on Wednesday February 12. Veterans, Active Duty, members of Guard and Reserve Components, plus military spouses are invited. This event will be free to both employers and job seekers.

I look forward to seeing you in Savannah, February 10 – 13 for what I believe will be the most important and the most informative CCME Symposium to date. The Early Bird Registration deadline is 15 January. We still have sponsorships and exhibition booth space available. Links for these items plus hotel reservation information is provided on our website.

CCME relies extensively on volunteers throughout the year and especially in the planning and execution of the annual professional development symposium. For more information about volunteer opportunities, please visit <http://www.ccmeonline.org/volunteers> or email volunteer@ccmeonline.org.

CCME Annual Banquet

The Awards Banquet will take place on Wednesday Evening at the Westin Hotel. In keeping with our recognition of the 70th anniversary of the passing of the GI Bill, there will be a World War II theme. You are encouraged to dress the part such as Rosie the Riveter and Winston Churchill. Be creative, but you can't be General Dwight Eisenhower because he will actually be in attendance. The musical group "Letters from Home" will provide music from that era. Be ready for a Swing/Jitterbug dance contest.



"Letters from Home"

Charity Golf Outing/Fun Run

The Charity Golf Outing will be on Monday morning and the 3-mile Fun Run/Walk will be on Tuesday after the afternoon sessions. Both events will be held directly behind the Westin Hotel.

All proceeds from these events will be given to the Nightstalker Hero Memorial of Savannah Foundation.

About the NSHMoSF:

In June 2011, the Night Stalker Hero Memorial of Savannah Foundation, Inc was founded to honor the fallen Night Stalkers of 3rd Battalion 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), who died in combat or training since its activation at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia in 1989. These brave men selflessly paid the ultimate price for our freedom, lest we never forget.

As a 501c(3) Non Profit Organization, the NSHMoSF receives no Federal or State Funding, but relies solely on the kind donations of friends, neighbors, individuals, and organizations such as yourself.

CCME looks forward to supporting this very worthy organization.



State Authorization Reciprocity

In the fall of 2010, the Department of Education issued a series of regulations including one specifically relating to “State Authorization”. The guidance stated that any institution of higher education delivering programs to students in other states must secure authorization to do so from each state in which it has students residing. While this federal regulation was overturned on a technicality in 2011, the Department recently announced a rulemaking process that will overcome the technicality and reinstate the rule. Meanwhile, states still expect institutions to follow their regulations, which pre-dated the federal rule.

More importantly for those of us involved with voluntary education, the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 1322.25 that was recently posted on the federal register for comment cites the vacated federal regulation. In other words, if the Department of Education reinstates the State Authorization regulation, institutions providing post-secondary education through the federal tuition assistance program, must adhere to all state requirements where the services are rendered. Institutions serving students on military bases, even at a distance, will not be exempted from the requirement. Those of us that have been working on securing authorization from 49 other states, not to mention the territories and the District of Columbia, for the past few years have come to realize what a difficult and expensive task this has evolved into. 49 states with 49 policies and 70+ (some have two!) different departments providing administrative oversight are what we’ve been asked to navigate. This is especially cumbersome for small schools with limited budgets (many states require a fee to comply) and limited legal resources as the legal jargon in some cases can be overwhelming.

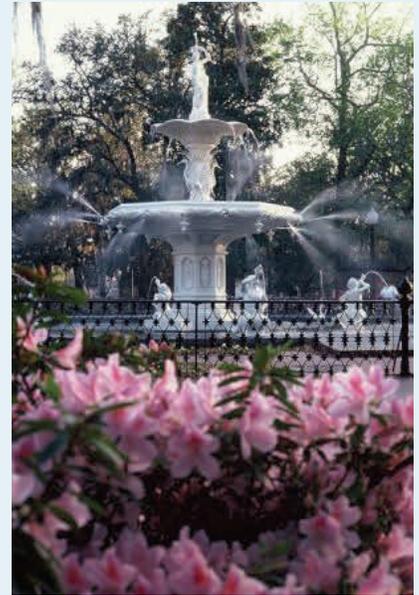
While this is extremely burdensome for many institutions, a glimmer of light has been cast on the subject. Over the past few years, the four regional higher education compacts, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE); Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC); New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE); and Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), have proposed a remedy that should assist schools in satisfying individual state requirements regarding the delivery of online courses across state lines.

The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement, or SARA, is built on trust and cooperation among states. Rather than having each individual state regulate all institutions that provide distance education to students in their state, participating states would agree to regulate institutions in its own state instead using a common set of criteria. They would also agree to “accept” institutions from other member states, as long as these institutions have already met the criteria in their own state.

It is important to understand that participation by states, and institutions, is completely optional. Institutions may only participate if they have completed the authorization process in their home state, provided that state is a member of SARA. If a state opts out, however, no institutions located in that state may participate in SARA, and they would have to continue to satisfy the requirements of all individual states, as they do now.

The National Commission for SARA has hired Marshall Hill, former executive director of the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, to lead the implementation of the agreement. Over the next few months, the regional compacts will be finalizing details and holding several information sessions. They also will be assisting interested states in aligning their laws to allow them to participate in SARA (requiring legislative action in some states) and in creating procedures for reviewing and approving institutions. The new SARA website (<http://www.nc-sara.org>) includes FAQs and updates on next steps that states and institutions should be taking. For military-serving institutions, SARA will enable them to meet their state authorization requirements in participating states by obtaining approval in their home state.

Join us in Savannah at the 2014 CCME Professional Development Symposium for concurrent sessions and roundtable discussions from leaders in the field of state authorization and reciprocity, including Russ Poulin, Deputy Director, Research and Analysis for WCET, who contributed to this article.



Did you know...?

Our 2014 Professional Development Symposium will be held in beautiful Savannah, Georgia.

The city of **Savannah, Georgia**, the largest city and the county seat of Chatham County, Georgia, was established in 1733 and was the first colonial and state capital of Georgia. It is known as America's first planned city and attracts millions of visitors, who enjoy the city's architecture and historic structures such as the birthplace of Juliette Gordon Low (founder of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America), the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences (one of the South's first public museums), the First African Baptist Church (one of the oldest black Baptist congregations in the United States), Temple Mickve Israel (the third-oldest synagogue in America), and the Central of Georgia Railway roundhouse complex (the oldest standing antebellum rail facility in America). Today, Savannah's downtown area is one of the largest National Historic Landmark Districts in the United States (designated in 1966).

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Savannah,_Georgia)

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.

CCME Announces Jessica Lynch as Keynote



Jessica Lynch

Jessica Lynch will provide the keynote for this year's CCME Professional Development Symposium. She will speak on Tuesday, February 11th, on overcoming difficult circumstances and going on to successfully accomplish one's goals. Lynch is a former Private First Class (PFC) in the United States Army who was injured and captured by Iraqi soldiers after her unit was ambushed on March 23, 2003. After nine days in captivity she was rescued by U.S. special operations forces. It was the first successful POW rescue since World War II and the first ever of a female soldier.

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