



COUNCIL OF COLLEGE AND MILITARY EDUCATORS

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2018 CCME Professional Development Symposium Information

Information coming soon at:
www.ccmeonline.org

**2018 Professional
Development Exhibitor and
Sponsorship Package Available!**

ccmeonline.org/annualsymposium

GI Bill Expansion Provides Much Needed Opportunity for Vets

In early August 2017, Congress passed a bill to enhance the Post 9-11 GI Bill that will provide improvements that come just as some veterans' benefits expire. The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Education Assistance Act is pending signature by President Trump and will likely be law as you read this.

The bill benefits veterans in several key areas and will allow new service members and those discharged on or after January 1, 2013, to use all 36 months of their GI Bill benefits throughout their lifetime. Under current law, benefits are set to expire 15 years after a veteran's last discharge.

Many veterans struggle in building post-military employment skills, and they may start a career with limited future potential. By allowing access to GI Bill benefits longer, veterans will have an opportunity to prepare for a career change long after their military service ends. In our changing economy, this will provide an educational safety net for vets to retrain or improve their skills for the jobs of the future.

To assist veterans at any stage of their post-military career, colleges must focus on providing career planning tools and resources to help them make informed decisions. At Central Texas College, the "Fast Forward" program not only provides an instant estimated of potential evaluated credit, but also allows active duty personnel and veterans to explore real-time information on job prospects and salary ranges in different career fields.

Another provision of the new legislation will provide additional incentives for veterans to complete study related to high-demand fields in technology and sciences. There are huge opportunities out there for veterans who set their sights on a career in these areas, but the path is not always an easy one. Most veterans exit the military with very strong leadership, management and "soft" skills, but they may leave without even a baseline of knowledge in math, science or technology.

Even for vets who choose programs that don't focus exclusively on technology, there will always be a need for basic technology skills. Most current service members are "digital natives," but a surprising number of students in the 30-40 year-old age range lack the technology skills to make them productive in a technology-enhanced workplace.

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GI Bill Expansion (cont)

Unfortunately, we may not be doing a good job preparing our students. Only 11 percent of employers believe higher education is “very effective” in readying graduates to meet skills needed in their organizations, according to a January 2017 survey done by the Career Advisory Board. The jobs gap is especially pronounced by age—72 percent of respondents agreed that millennials are keeping pace with technology, but only half of baby boomers are, according to the survey.

For community colleges in particular, we must focus our curriculum development efforts in the areas that provide the most potential for long-term employability. In working with business and industry, we can tailor our programs for near-term and long-term employment success.

The challenge for educational institutions doesn’t end with curriculum. We must provide the academic and student support services to guide veterans along their path. The educational institution members of CCME are focused squarely on serving service members and veterans, but we must constantly reinvent our programs, courses, delivery methods and support services to provide sufficient preparation, especially to older veterans. Transition is tough. Let’s work together to provide the best future for our veteran students.

***Note from Lane Huber, CCME President:** CCME thanks Jim Yeonopolus, Scholarship Committee for CCME, for his overview of the GI Bill Expansion. For more information about our organization, please visit CCMEonline.org, and please join us at our 2018 Professional Development Symposium in San Diego, CA, March 26-29, 2017.*



CCME Membership Reminder

Have you submitted your individual or institutional membership fees for the 2017/18 year? If not, don't miss out on the benefits of CCME membership and join today.

New benefit coming in 2017/18! 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
 - www.ccmeonline.org/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

www.ccmeonline.org/membership





CCME Professional Development Annual Symposium Registration

REGISTRATION:

Registration for the 2018 Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) Professional Development Symposium occurring at the San Diego Marriott Marquis, San Diego, CA from March 26-29, 2018 is OPEN. **Early Bird pricing expires November 30, 2017, 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(regular) // \$25(ages 5-12) // 4 and under free

Early Bird pricing runs through January 15, 2018. Early Bird pricing is available (check or credit card) only if payment is received by Early Bird deadline

EXCEPTION: those paying with a US Government Travel Card will owe the amount based on registration date; payment will be automatically charged on March 1, 2018 unless cancelled beforehand.

HOTEL:

Hotel reservations can be made at the following link from the CCME website: www.ccmeonline.org/2018hotels. Please note, the Government Rate is valid for government ID cardholders ONLY, for approximately 30 percent of total rooms at the Marriott. Please make reservations as soon as possible. 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 San Diego!

Did you know?

Our 2018 CCME Professional Development Symposium will take place in San Diego, CA March 26-29, 2018

Local Attractions in San Diego

- Midway Aircraft Carrier Museum
- Historic Gaslamp District
- Sea World®
- San Diego Zoo
- Balboa Park
- Seaport Village
- Petco Park - Home of the San Diego Padres
- Coronado Island
- Del Mar Racetrack
- Liberty Station



Join us for CCME 101: A Pre-Conference Workshop for First Time Attendees

Did you ever want to know more about CCME and how to navigate our Annual Symposium? Do you want to become more involved with CCME? Then join us for our first ever Pre-Conference Workshop focused entirely on the Symposium: CCME 101 as part of CCME 2018.

This workshop will be interactive, exciting and fun! You will learn about our mission, how to design your schedule to get the most out of the symposium and CCME's history. We will make time for networking and building collaborative relationships. You will meet our diverse members ranging from Department of Defense employees to college and university representatives, and others. We'll review important new legislation.

All of us share a vision of serving military members, veterans and their families, and we want to help make this experience meaningful, value-added and enjoyable. This workshop is for newcomers and anyone else who would like to engage more with CCME. Everyone is welcome.

You can register for our CCME 101: A Pre-Conference Workshop at:

<https://secure3.rhq.com/ccme/ccme18/attreg/index.cgi>

2nd Annual Step Forward Challenge

Mark your calendars for CCME 2018, slated for March 26-29, 2018, and help us walk from San Diego to Austin as part of the 2nd Annual *Step Forward* Challenge!

The 87 participants in last year's event walked a total of 1,067 miles and raised more than \$1,300 for the Endowment Fund for student scholarships.

Details and registration information will be posted to the CCME website soon. We may also host a Boot Camp in addition to the *Step Forward* event!



More information on the benefits of walking along with tips can be found at the Mayo Clinic's website at:

www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/fitness/in-depth/walking/art-20046261

Did you know?

According to the Mayo Clinic, walking can be beneficial to:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Prevent or manage various conditions, including heart disease, high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes
- Strengthen your bones and muscles
- Improve your mood
- Improve your balance and coordination

The Mayo Clinic recommends the following when walking:

- Your head is up. You're looking forward, not at the ground.
- Your neck, shoulders and back are relaxed, not stiffly upright.
- You're swinging your arms freely with a slight bend in your elbows. A little pumping with your arms is OK.
- Your stomach muscles are slightly tightened and your back is straight, not arched forward or backward.
- You're walking smoothly, rolling your foot from heel to toe.



NAIMES 2017 Annual Meeting Summary

The NAIMES (National Association of Institutions for Military Education Services) held its annual meeting on September 20-21 in Saint Louis, MO. Representatives from 20 of the 22 NAIMES member institutions attended and engaged in dynamic dialogue on relevant issues pertaining to educational opportunities and services provided to military-affiliated students.

Special guests included Keith Glindemann, President of NAVPA, who talked us through the various components of the new Forever GI Bill and the Colmery Act provisions. Most of these provisions have direct and positive impact on veteran students attending the many educational institutions that have signed the DoD MOU. Glindemann provided his insight and perspective on the scope and breadth of each of these provisions, information that each of the member institution representatives can bring back to their respective leadership and which NAIMES will distribute via its quarterly newsletter and Annual Report.

The other special guest in attendance was Michael Midura, the CCME ACME Liaison. Because the NAIMES mission and vision are very similar to those of the various state ACME organizations, it is important that they have a voice at the table during our membership meetings. Midura provides that collective voice and distributes relevant information from NAIMES to each of the ACME Presidents.

Over the two-day meeting, the NAIMES membership discussed the status of important issues, such as:

- the pending closure of the final Navy College Offices in CONUS and what impact these final hub closures may have on the ability of sailors to access quality counseling services
- upcoming changes to the NCPACE program
- the new USCG TA policy for FY18 and its impact on Coast Guard students
- the Army University initiative to create cooperative degree institutional partnerships for each Army MOS and progress made to date with any NAIMES member institutions
- the possibility of reviving discussion initiated by a SOC White Paper titled “Educational Attainment.” The SOC Advisory Board spearheaded this discussion in 2011 (in partnership with CCME, NAIMES, Transparency by Design, among others) to discuss how the Integrated Post-Secondary Education Data System (IPEDS) traditional definition of graduation rates, which tracks first-time, full-time degree seeking freshmen students, is not necessarily applicable to the majority of military and veteran students enrolled in higher education.

In addition to the above, the NAIMES Nominations and Elections Committee conducted nominations and voted for the treasurer and secretary positions. Alisha Miller (Thomas Edison State University) and Joseph Houghton (Troy University) were re-elected to the secretary and treasurer positions,

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NAIMES 2017 Annual Meeting Summary (cont)

respectively. The Scholarship Committee Chair reported receipt of 66 applications for the NAIMES/MBS Student Spotlight Scholarship Awards, and will announce the recipients in November, who will be recognized at the awards ceremony portion of the CCME 2018 Symposium in San Diego.

On day two of the annual meeting, Dr. Jonathan Woods from the DoD's Voluntary Education Program joined the NAIMES membership via teleconference, and we engaged with him on several topics, to include the status of the new DoD Compliance Program.

Woods reported that the first 250 randomly selected schools had completed their self-studies. DoD is finalizing Iteration I reports to each institution and also narrowing down to 25 those institutions selected for an Iteration II review. DoD will select five institutions in 2017 for an onsite Iteration 3 review, if necessary. While Woods reported they are a bit behind schedule, he said he is confident that his office will disseminate all reports by year-end.

Members also asked Woods for updates on his efforts to host a forum for institutions to provide feedback to pending updates to the DoDI 1322.25 instruction. NAIMES offered to provide a collective voice to assist in these efforts to review the current DoDI language and make adjustments where necessary. Woods stated that DoD is interested in hearing from educational institutions working in the field—on what's working and what's not—and he asked members to consider the following questions: Are the right policies in place? Is the MOU working for institutions? Is oversight working? Is DoD uniform in how it treats institutions?

NAIMES wishes to express its appreciation for this candid conversation with Dr. Woods and the chance to provide feedback to help DoD maximize the success of its off-duty Voluntary Education Program.

Finally, the NAIMES membership spent time finalizing its Strategic Plan that will help guide the organization's activities, goals and objectives over the next five years, as well as its Annual Report that will detail NAIMES efforts in 2017 to advocate for and influence decisions that impact policy, legislation and practices that safeguard the academic success of military-affiliated students. NAIMES will publish and disseminate both documents early next year via the NAIMES website (www.naimes.org) and at CCME 2018.



The Council of Military Educators of Washington State (CMEWS)

The Council of Military Educators of Washington State (CMEWS) is one of the smaller state Advisory Councils of Military Educators (ACMEs) of the Council of College and Military Educators (CCME). CMEWS has approximately 40 member schools and is led by four hard-working board members. Currently, we lack the monetary resources and connections of the larger, multi-state ACMEs who provide outreach to a wider community. However, our smaller presence provides our military-affiliated community with very direct support, while our two foundational strengths will help grow a more expansive CMEWS in the future.

Our first foundational strength is that we operate within a tight-knit military, veteran and education community that is supportive of each other, ensuring Washington state service members and veterans receive the very best educational opportunities. Joint Base Lewis-McChord, our Naval and Coast Guard bases, as well as Fairchild AFB in Spokane, may be miles apart, but more often than not, an organization like CMEWS reduces the distance between email outreach and social media. Our invitation to last year's conference blanketed the state, and, consequently, we were joined by schools that had never previously attended, but wanted to know how they could better serve our military members and veterans attending their schools.

Our second strength is that our relative smallness gives our members the luxury of familiarity, while strengthening professional relationships by creating a safe harbor for open and thoughtful discussion. For example, during last year's conference our Army, Air Force, National Guard, Navy and Coast Guard Education Service Officers discussion panel had a very lively and "uncensored" Q & A on current educational issues, while sharing their hopes for the future of their respective installations. The panel received very positive feedback not only on the issues discussed, but also by seeing ESOs a little removed from their official administrator positions while speaking to other education professionals as peers.

We think both strengths speak to CMEWS' ability to create and maintain meaningful networks, which serve as springboards for our incoming CMEWS president, Dr. Lana Lee. She is currently our President-elect and has plans for addressing the geographical and communication divides that separate CMEWS from the military educators on the east side of the Cascade mountains. She is also strengthening CMEWS political ties within our state and military leadership, while increasing interfaces with CCME.

Our annual conference will take place at the David L. Stone Education Center on Joint Base Lewis-McChord on November 13, 2017. We would like to thank our Education Service Officer, Susan Sine, and her College Coordinator, Teal Hart, both of the JBLM Main Stone Education Center, for their patience and guidance in helping us plan this event! For conference registration please visit www.cmews.org

Mercedes Garrido, President, Council of Military Educators of Washington State

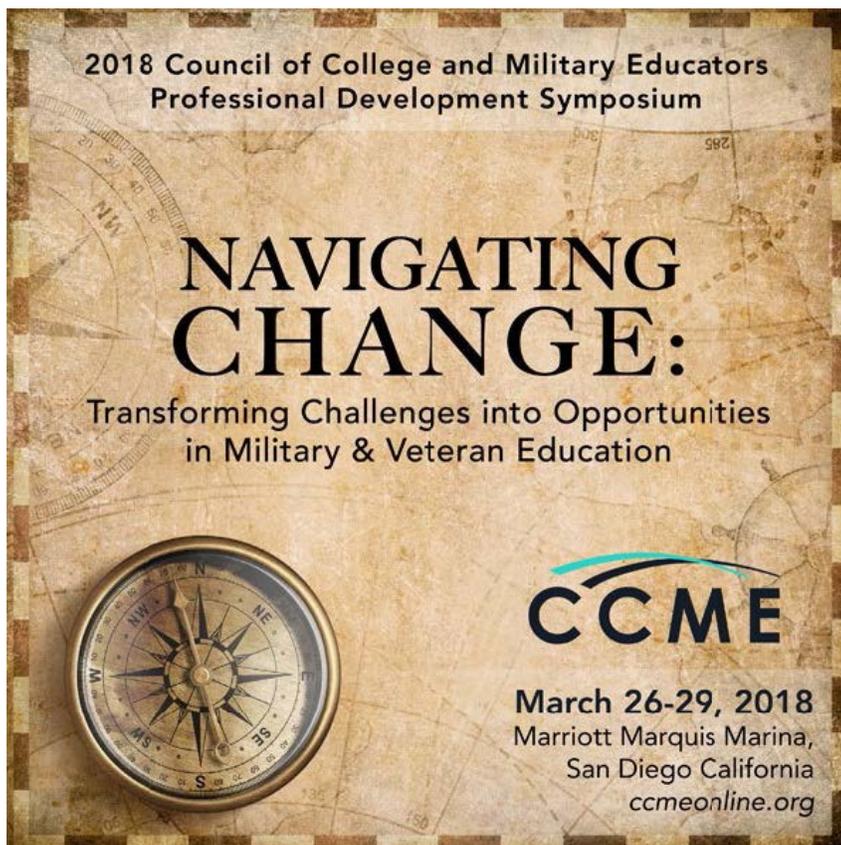
Dr. Lana Lee, President-Elect, Council of Military Educators of Washington State

Volunteers

CCME relies extensively on volunteers throughout the year and especially in the planning and execution of the annual professional development symposium. Join our community by becoming a volunteer at ccmeonline.org/volunteers, where you can 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



CCME & 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!



SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARD

Winners will be announced during the symposium in San Diego. Join us to see who the winners will be.

We look forward to seeing you at the

**2018 CCME Annual Symposium
San Diego Marriott Marquis
333 West Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92101**

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: ccmeonline.org

Email: publicaffairs@ccmeonline.org