

DANTES INFORMATION BULLETIN

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

WWW.DANTES.DODED.MIL



Fond farewell to Nell Mock, DANTES Director's Secretary

Nell Mock, long-time DANTES employee and Director's Secretary, retired in April after 35+ years of Civil Service, seeing firsthand the many changes in office technology as well as at DANTES.

Nell started her office career in 1960 in Pensacola, Fla., as a switchboard operator and learned to use her first [Dictaphone](#). For those unfamiliar with that particular technology, see the link.

In 1964, Nell married and she and her U.S. Air Force (USAF) spouse moved to Biloxi, Miss. She and her family moved often over the years, and she held a variety of civilian



and Civil Service office jobs, learning the latest technological gadget, such as the "innovative" [Magnetic Tape Selectric Typewriter](#).

While at Holloman Air Force Base, N. M., Nell was the head teller for Otero Federal Credit Union. She was tasked with demonstrating their very first ATM for the base commander and was featured in an article for the base paper. Ever on the edge of technological advancement!



Nell returned to Pensacola in 1981 and accepted an editorial clerk position in the Electronics Division at NETPMSA (now NETPDTC) on Saufley Field. She later moved up to a secretary/steno position with the Naval Training Systems Command.

She joined DANTES as the Director's Secretary in 1988, where she was a key player in helping to shape the future of DANTES. She worked for three DANTES Directors, witnessed numerous departmental "restructures," flowed with upgrades from typewriters to computers, and took part in the changing mission of DANTES in voluntary education.



When asked what she will remember most about DANTES, Nell responded, "The people. So many special people." As for herself, she said, "I hope I will be remembered as someone who was knowledgeable, helpful, tolerant, and respectful; a value to the organization; and someone who made a difference."

There is no doubt that Nell made a difference, and will be sorely missed by DANTES and the voluntary education field. Fair Winds and Following Seas, Nell!

DANTES' Kirstin Savage honored at CCME symposium

The Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) presented Military Education Awards during the February 2013 CCME symposium recognizing outstanding contributions and accomplishments of its members.

Kirstin Savage, DANTES Exam Programs Operations Technician, received the William E. Kennedy Award in recognition of her superior efforts to provide leadership and guidance in support of test control officers at military installations for the DANTES Examinations Program.

Kirstin is a shining example of the dedication and support DANTES team members provide to the voluntary education community worldwide.

Way to go, Kirstin!

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EXAMINATIONS NEWS

Attention to detail all CONUS DANTES test sites

CONUS stocking and non-stockung DANTES test sites are advised to submit the Application for Test Materials for DSSTs prior to June 28, 2013. Requests for DSST exams received on or after this date will not be processed by Prometric.

CONUS non-stockung DANTES test sites are reminded to adhere to the DEPH; exams must be returned within 45 days of the postmark. Plan accordingly for the cease administration date. All DANTES sponsored test sites CONUS should cease administration of paper-based DSSTs NLT Aug. 31, 2013, and follow the below CONUS deadlines for DSST paper-based testing calendar.

June 28	Last date to order DSST paper exams (stocking and non-stockung)
August 31	Last date to administer DSST paper exams
September 6	All DSST paper exams must be postmarked for return to Prometric (administered and unused)
September 30	Final date for Prometric to score completed exams (exams received after 9/30/2013 will not be scored)

Reference Publications CORNER

Financial Aid for Veterans, Military Personnel and Their Families

STOCK #2464

Military Education Centers
Order your copies now
5 per 6 months
Email: dlist@navy.mil
Provide your DANTES ID#, Stock #2464, and quantity

Financial Aid for Veterans, Military Personnel and Their Families
2012 - 2014

COUNSELING NEWS

You asked and here it is - Kuder admin training account

DANTES established the Kuder® Journey training account as a training tool for ESOs and counselors to gain access to the same customized Kuder Journey program as Service members. The Kuder Journey administrator's training account will help familiarize you with the program in preparation for counseling sessions, education briefs, and transition classes.

Also, training slideshows have been added to the DANTES Counselor Support Web page. The slideshows are hard copy versions of the "How to Take the Assessments" and "Job Search Tools" tutorials. These tools can be used for individual or group counseling sessions and to prepare for transition classes.

Now we have two requests for you:

1. Once you receive your Kuder Journey implementation and training account emails, activate both accounts within 72 hours of receipt.
2. Most importantly, link the DANTES Counselor Support Web page for Kuder Journey (www.dantes.doded.mil/Programs/CounselorSupport.html) in all of your social media so our active duty, Guard, and Reserve military personnel will have the tools necessary to self-register for their free, lifetime Journey account. Remember, it takes less than 30 minutes to self-register and take all three assessments.

Kudos to Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune for the office with most Journey registrations (so far) - 1,000!

For assistance with Journey registration or for further information contact DANTES Counseling Support at counseling@navy.mil.

Kuder® Journey webinar

Site administrators, ESOs, counselors, and Service members are invited to attend upcoming Kuder Journey webinars which will present an overview of the tools and benefits of the DANTES College and Career Planning Counseling Services.

No advance registration is required; simply click on the below link just before the broadcast begins.

- » May 15, 11 am (CST): <https://meetings.webex.com/collabs/meetings/join?uid=MDSA0YINKA03OE7FVW1977MHNA-7LHB>
- » May 16, 1 pm (CST): <https://meetings.webex.com/collabs/meetings/join?uid=M0ACDVPRQMNEFBTCEBCSIJ2U9X-7LHB>

At the end of the sessions, additional links will be provided for more detailed online tutorials.

HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS NEWS

JST webinars a great success!

American Council on Education (ACE), in coordination with DANTES, Army, Coast Guard, and the JST Program Operations Division, recently hosted four webinars on the new Joint Services Transcript (JST) program. These agencies worked together to combine the Navy/Marine Corps ACE Registry Transcript (SMART), Army ACE Registry Transcript System (AARTS), and the Coast Guard Institute Transcript (launch date to be determined) into ONE recognized official transcript program, which officially launched in February 2013.

The webinars introduced participants (which included institutions of higher learning, Service members, veterans, and military/VA educators) to the new JST and provided key transcript personnel and points-of-contact. Over 1,300 people attended the JST webinars, entitled “Joint Services Transcript (JST): To Help Build a Bridge to Success.”

Webinar panelists explained the great benefits of the JST in detail, including what Service members and veterans gain. The panelists also addressed how the JST affects present and future education opportunities for military members, and will ultimately become the Service members’ and veterans’ documented record of employability skills for tomorrow.

For additional information and to participate in an online survey, go to www.jointservicetranscript.com/.

SOC videos to help military students select a home college that’s right for them

Service members Opportunity Colleges (SOC) partnered with Columbia College to develop a series of short videos to help military students understand the key factors central to selecting a home college that meets their educational goals and instructional needs.

The videos are designed from a student perspective to present basic college choice information and factors to consider, steps in the decision-making process, and tools students can use as they consider their long-term academic and career goals and prepare for their postsecondary education. The videos were created specifically for military student populations — active and reserve components, veterans, spouses, and dependents.

Envisioned as a counseling resource for Education Services personnel, these videos can be viewed by Service members and their family members to increase their knowledge and understanding of the decision process in the early stages of choosing a college degree program and an academic institution.

To view the videos and other SOC resources, visit the SOC Web site at www.soc.aascu.org/soconsortium/WhyAttend.html.

TRAINING NEWS

Be encouraged—everything changes!

From good to bad to better to worse to best, our Service men and women have experienced all manner of changes concerning uniform regulations, pay allowances, ratings, and education incentives. The key to success amidst uncertainty is often attributed to one’s ability to gain perspective and maintain a positive attitude despite the buffeting winds and tumultuous seas of unforeseen change.

As sequestration loomed, many of our Service members were disheartened concerning the changes and/or deletion of federal programs and services to which they had become accustomed; however, it is not enough to offer speculations and historical insight to keep them from being discouraged and derailed in their endeavors. Rather, we must seek to strengthen

their resolve — their commitment and investment in their futures by asking them: “What does [insert goal here] mean to you?”

As the Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps restore their Tuition Assistance programs in keeping with recent legislation, Service members most affected by potential delays in funding should resist becoming derailed from their academic goals. Moreover, they should be encouraged to consider what each dream or goal is worth and reaffirm their commitment to success despite the challenges.

There is always an investment, a cost associated with any journey — and most times, the quality of the outcome, the reward, is proportional to one’s sacrifice and perseverance.

Troops to Teachers marches on!

Meryl Kettler, Coordinator, Texas Troops to Teachers

“Dan, Dan, the Science Man,” as Daniel Leija has been dubbed by his San Antonio fifth grade students, knows what it takes to get kids excited about learning. One of 13 children of migrant farm workers, Leija developed an early love of learning and a realization that education is the key to unlock life’s possibilities. During his 22-year Air Force career as a medic, nurse and trainer, Leija also learned to love sharing knowledge with others. After he retired from the Air Force, Leija completed his Texas teacher certification and began a new mission. Now, with over 13 years of teaching experience and such prestigious recognition as the federal “American Star of Teaching Award” and the “Texas 2011 Elementary Teacher of the Year” awards to his credit, he exemplifies traits that make the Troops to Teachers (TTT) program so successful.

Over its 19-year history, TTT has helped school districts address some of their most critical needs. It has provided teachers to fill high demand subject areas like math, science, special education and bilingual/foreign languages. More than 40 percent of TTT teachers represent a minority group, which helps schools achieve ethnic diversity in their teaching staffs, and over 80 percent of hires are men. Once school districts realize the positive influence veterans bring to the classroom, they want more, just like Leija!

Developing veterans into teachers is a process that takes time. Starting with their own education and progressing through a state-approved teacher certification program, TTT participants prepare for teaching careers. Participants must have an academic foundation for their desired teaching field. A content-rich background is critical when the TTT candidate prepares to enter a teacher certification program, and it paves the way for future success in the teacher job market. The TTT program coordinates education and certification partners, enabling the participant to attain teaching credentials and maximize their time and financial resources.

Earlier this year, TTT was reauthorized by Public Law 112-239, Section 541, NDAA 2013. Under the new legislation, TTT was returned to the Department of Defense and will continue to be managed by DANTES. With its mission revised, TTT will partner more closely with transition offices, education centers,



Pictured above: Daniel Leija and Dr. Jill Biden at the Vice President’s home at the Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C. Dr. Biden hosted a reception for the 2011 state teachers of the year.

Photo courtesy of Daniel Leija

and workforce and veterans affairs offices to enhance Service members’ successful transition into K-12 teaching careers at public schools and public charter schools. Most importantly, TTT will continue to assist veterans in becoming teachers who are “Proud to Serve Again.”



Other VoEd news...

Military spouses find thousands of dollars in educational aid

www.dvidshub.net/news/104788/military-spouses-find-thousands-dollars-educational-aid

Through the ranks: Sailor progresses from enlisted to officer

www.dvidshub.net/news/104609/through-ranks-sailor-progresses-enlisted-officer

Veterans Affairs College Navigator Tool now online

www.gibill.va.gov/resources/education_resources/college_navigator.html

Dept. of Education announces new hearings for conversations on higher education rulemaking

www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-announces-new-hearings-conversations-higher-education-ru

For notification when the DIB is posted to the Web site, click **HERE**.
Click **HERE** to view archived DIBs.



HMCM (FMF/SW) David Acuff
Senior Enlisted Advisor

Are you prepared for transition?

One thing is certain in the military ... you can't stay forever. Transition into the civilian sector is going to be your eventual reality and DANTES wants to make sure that you are prepared. Maybe you are transitioning out of the military due to the drawdown, your contract is up, High Year Tenure (HYT), or you've reached retirement eligibility. Whatever the reason, have you taken advantage of the programs that DANTES offers to help reach both your educational and transitional goals? These Q & As may help you realize that there are many DANTES programs available to help you transition successfully from the military to a civilian career:

Have you decided what you want to do after the military? Many Service members find themselves without a plan for transition because they are unsure of what they want as a second career. Take a career interest inventory, a free benefit for Service members. The Kuder® Journey (www.dantes.kuder.com/) provides reliable tools to assess interests and suggest education and career options. Additionally, local or virtual education centers can assist and provide other commercial assessment tools made available free-of-charge to help Service members prepare for transition. Tools include: assessment inventories; career exploration; tentative career direction and educational plans; locating SOC schools; and development of job seeking skills.

Will your new career choice require a college degree? Start out by reviewing your Joint Services Transcript (JST) to find out how much ACE recommended college credit you may qualify for from your military training and experience. The JST is available free online (<https://jst.doded.mil>) for personal use or may be officially sent to accredited colleges and universities at the student's request. (NOTE: Air Force transcripts will still be available through the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) and the Air Force Virtual Education Center.)

Do you want to expand your general education knowledge and skills? The Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) for Military Success helps build reading comprehension, vocabulary and math skills, and prepares learners for college level courses. There is unlimited and free access 24/7 for

Service members (Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, and Coast Guard) and their families. OASC is available at www.petersons.com/DANTES/.

What about earning college credits through testing? You can earn college credit for what you already know by earning qualifying scores on introductory-level college subject examinations. The DANTES-managed academic testing program provides fully funded exams for active duty, Guard, Reserve, and Coast Guard, including: GED; CLEP and DSST; undergraduate/graduate admission exams; and teacher certification. Successful completion of these tests can save Service members significant time and money, and spare Tuition Assistance (TA) and/or GI benefits. Nearly 118,000 credits were earned last year through CLEP and DSST programs with a cost avoidance of \$25M in TA. Just remember only the first time you take a test is fully funded. If you fail the test, you will have to pay for any re-tests of that subject.

Are you aware that job skills you acquire in the military may translate into civilian credentials needed for your new career choice? Without a professional certification, the job you apply for may be unobtainable. Credentialing (certification or licensure) is a DoD-wide program that can benefit all Service members and documents a level of competency and achievement in a particular career or skill area. Interested? Check out the Service specific resource links at: Army COOL www.cool.army.mil; Navy COOL www.cool.navy.mil; and Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) Credentialing Programs Flight www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/certifications.asp.

Finally, have you thought about serving your country again as a school teacher? The Troops to Teachers (TTT) program, funded by the DoD and managed/operated by DANTES, provides funds to prepare and support former military members as highly qualified teachers in high-needs schools. You may be eligible for a stipend to assist in becoming certified and a bonus once you are hired in a qualifying school. Successful program candidates who earn teacher certification or licensing can become teachers at the elementary, secondary or vocational/technical levels. Learn more at www.proudtoserveagain.com.

Career transition is a reality for all Service members and the sooner you start preparing for the inevitable the more successful transition is sure to be. Good luck and remember to take advantage of the counseling support offered at your education office center.



Lt Col Eurydice Stanley
Reserve Component Advisor

Are you financially prepared for your education?

The repeal and reinstatement of tuition assistance (TA) has been quite the wake-up call... one that warrants a serious financial discussion for Service members scrambling to fund their educations. In the first of many financial management articles, I want to share “lessons learned” from two women who made great

strides to ensure troops and their families were aware of the pitfalls of financial instability, inspiring many during their training presentations. The speakers were Holly Petraeus, Assistant Director for Service Member Affairs and Neal Godfrey, an international financial consultant who has educated Department of Defense (DoD) personnel for more than 15 years.

Petraeus’ division, Service Member Affairs, is within the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). She addressed the 2012 DoD Worldwide Education Symposium last July. Petraeus encouraged leadership to stress the importance of assisting Service members struggling with debt, particularly education debt, and the significance of identifying institutions who engage in predatory practices. She and her colleague, Rohit Chopra, promoted their latest project, “The Next Front? Student Loan Servicing and the Cost to Our Men and Women in Uniform,” which can be found at http://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/201210_cfpb_servicemember-student-loan-servicing.pdf.

Senior leaders are encouraged to discuss the impact of financial pitfalls with junior personnel. As reported in “The Next Front,” according to the National Center for Education Statistics, the average graduating Service member debt in 2008 was \$25,566. The report also outlines Congressional protections and benefits for Service members to help manage student loan debt and challenges that can have long-term financial impact. For example, many Service members adopted less favorable repayment plans, leading to thousands of dollars in excess debt.

Neale Godfrey presented at the Women Veteran Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship (V-Wise) conference, August 2012 (www.whitman.syr.edu/vwise/). Godfrey recommends that Service members be financially aware and set goals. She asked participants to consider basic, but very important, questions that many don’t stop

to think through. “The military understands strategy better any other population-base in the world,” she noted. “What do you want? Where do you want to live? These are the considerations that you must use to build a budget, which is simply a road map. Without one, you will never move forward. You will not be disciplined enough. There has got to be a plan to move forward,” she warned.

The CFPB Office of Service Member Affairs hosted its first virtual Military Financial Educator Forum on military student loans March 20, 2013. There are many more planned for the future. The forum was developed to reach all installation-level personnel providing personal off-duty education counseling, legal counseling and legal assistance to Service members. The session was interactive and provided a video of a Service member struggling to understand financial aid and relief under the Service Member Credit Relief Act (SCRA). Future classes can be identified on the CFPB website www.consumerfinance.gov/servicemembers/ for details.

You’ve heard me warn that the “Handwriting is on the Wall” for nearly two years... are you currently feeling the squeeze of budget cuts within your organization? Petraeus has a clear message when it comes to finances – look before you leap! She warns Service members to carefully scrutinize loans (or, better yet, attend an institution that will not exceed the current \$4,500 per year TA cap).

While the current DoD financial challenges may seem daunting and a bit overwhelming, maintain a bright outlook by carefully managing your resources and saving a nest egg that can support your educational or personal goals. Remain aware of your financial standing, make a plan, take advantage of the opportunities afforded you and move forward! Godfrey encourages Service members to pursue an education noting, “If your dreams are beyond your immediate life, there is a reason to stay in school and achieve those dreams.” Enroll in a college or credential program to obtain your dreams. Let DANTES programs and services assist you on your journey (www.dantes.doded.mil). As always, I look forward to hearing from you at rca@navy.mil.



Check out Lt. Col. Stanley’s Military Advanced Education article at www.kmimediagroup.com/files/MAE_8-3_FINAL.pdf.

Education Department launches new loan counseling tools to help borrowers manage their debt

The U.S. Department of Education has launched two key features on its StudentLoans.gov Web site: a Complete Counseling page and a new Repayment Estimator that lets borrowers compare what their monthly payment amounts would likely be across all seven repayment plan options. These features come in time for students who are graduating this spring to take advantage of new tools that can help them better understand their loan debt and stay on track in repayment.

Both improvements are part of the Obama Administration's ongoing effort to make college costs more transparent and help students make informed decisions at every step of the process – from selecting a postsecondary institution to financing their education to repaying their loans. For more information, go to www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/education-department-launches-new-loan-counseling-tools-help-borrowers-manage-th.

CCME 2013 annual awards

The following awards were announced at the annual meeting in February of the Council of College and Military Educators (CCME):

CCME President's Award –

Bonnie Orvick, Retired Military Programs Director
Vincennes University

CCME Lifetime Achievement Award –

- (1) Susan McIntosh retired ESO U.S. Marine Corps
- (2) Ramona McAfee, Retired Director of Military Programs Columbia College

CCME John Brian Service and Leadership Award –

Donna Duellberg, Pacific Regional Director U.S. Coast Guard

CCME William E. Kennedy Award –

Kirstin Savage, Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES)

CCME Institution Award –

State University of New York, Empire State College

CCME Barry Cobb Award –

Joint Base Andrews Air Force Base

DANTES Director a speaker at ACE 95th annual meeting

More than 1,700 leaders met at the American Council on Education (ACE) annual meeting, "Leading Change," in March. They addressed critical questions for higher education and discussed technologies, information and news.

Carol Berry, DANTES Director, was a speaker in the "Strategies for the College Completion Agenda" session, which focused on how ACE credit recommendations for military training and occupations and workforce training can be applied to degree programs from the perspective of a university president, DANTES, a university system student affairs office and an employer involved in ACE CREDIT review of corporate training.

For more information on the ACE annual meeting, go to www.aceannualmeeting.org/index.cfm.



Carol Berry, DANTES Director, (center) participates in the ACE panel about prior learning assessment. Also pictured: (left) Steven Frantz, System Director, Student Affairs, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities; and Barbara Gellman-Danley, President, University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande Community College, Ohio.

Photo provided by American Council on Education

Mystery Quote:

"Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom."

If you know who said this, let us know at pubs@navy.mil.

The first correct responder will get his or her name published in the next DIB.

Sue B. Riley, Head, Registrar's Office
U.S. Coast Guard Institute
was the first to identify the author of last month's quote as A. A. Milne.

Great job!

TESTING CALENDAR

June 2013

- 10 LSAT (50 United States, Canada and the Caribbean)
- 11 LSAT (Europe, Middle East, Africa and South America)
- 24 LSAT (Asia, Australia and New Zealand)

No testing scheduled

Notes:

- Overseas test sites send orders six weeks before the test March.
- CONUS test sites send orders four weeks before the test March.
- Contractors ship tests to arrive just before the planned test March.

*Choose only one day to administer. Submit separate Prometric order forms for GRE Subject and Praxis.

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/Programs/Docs/exams_calendar.pdf

DANTES

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PENSACOLA, FL 32509-5243

<http://www.dantes.doded.mil>

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