

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORLDWIDE EDUCATION SUPPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

APRIL 2014 NUMBER 443

WWW.DANTES.DODED.MIL

1974 - 2014: Celebrating 40 years of service!

Evolving through collaboration and innovation

By Taheesha Quarells, DANTES Special Project Manager, and Teresa Daniels, TTT Assistant Chief

Troops to Teachers (TTT) held their annual State/Regional Managers meeting March 18 - 20 in Pensacola, Fla. This meeting brings together leaders from across the country who are dedicated to helping military veterans continue service to their country in the classroom.

The conference began with the National Anthem, sung by Holly Shelton who is not only a TTT National Office Education Advisor, but also a professional singer and the founder and co-organizer of the veterans organization Pearl Harbor Initiative (www.PearlHarborInitiative.com). Her patriotic tribute set the tone for a three-day journey of brainstorming, knowledge sharing, collaborative planning, and professional development.

For the first time, TTT had the privilege to receive a brief by Joey Strickland, Director of Indian Affairs, regarding the Troops to Teachers Native American Strategic Initiative. Strickland provided valuable information that highlighted the need for highly qualified teachers in Native American schools and ways to recruit new Native American TTT program participants. Being Native American himself, he provided first-hand knowledge of the benefits of having Native American veterans serving in the classroom, especially on reservations and in remote locations.

Best TTT Managers meeting ever!
William McAleer
Chief
Troops to Teachers Program

The group also heard from education innovators like:
» Troy Gipps, TTT Coordinator in the New England region, who discussed how official TTT Mentorship Programs can provide veterans one-on-one support throughout their teacher preparation journey

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Dr. Carol Berry (seated, center), DANTES Director; Mike Stahl (standing, back row right), DANTES Deputy Director; and the Troops to Teachers State and Regional managers.

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Collaboration and innovation

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- » Mike Siegrist, Career and Technical Education Placement Director from the Mountain Pacific TTT region, explained how military veterans can translate their technical knowledge and skills into filling critical vocational education teacher shortages
- » Meghan Stidd, Assistant Regional Director, Mountain-Pacific TTT, shared best practices in supporting the job placement of qualified veterans.

As a part of TTT's strategic direction to increase awareness of the program, John Turner, DANTES Innovation and Engagement Manager, unveiled the development of a new TTT Web site. Also, Taheesha Quarells, DANTES Special Project Manager, provided an overview of DANTES programs and facilitated a discussion on meaningful ways to partner with the military education community.

Participants touted this year's meeting "as the best one yet." As TTT prepares to celebrate its 20th anniversary, this event serves as a launching pad for ideas and practices aimed at improving support to veterans as they transition from military Service into America's classrooms.

I am so proud to be part of an organization that helps veterans continue to serve.

Teresa Daniels
Assistant Chief
Troops to Teachers program



(above) The Troops to Teachers National Office team members put on a great meeting!



Providing insight into their programs:
(above) Emily Siefken, Indiana/Illinois State Director.

(right) Joey Strickland, Director of Indian Affairs.



(left) Dr. Berry welcomes participants.
(below) TTT Assistant Chief Teresa Daniels lays out ground rules for the meeting.



(far left) TTT National Office members and State/Regional Managers get set for three days of intense collaboration.
(left) Le Gaub, Lewis & Clark Regional Director, asks Dr. Berry a question.

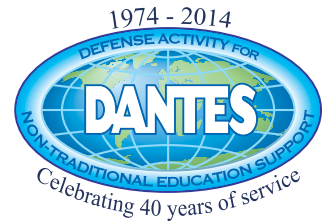
DANTES 40th Anniversary Special DIB Edition - April

12 months of celebrating and reminiscing as we look...

back to our beginnings,

at where we are today,

and forward to future success



Celebrating VoEd's 40th anniversary: #NavyVoEd #My5Words campaign

DANTES isn't the only 40th Anniversary this year – Navy Voluntary Education (VoEd) will reach their 40th milestone in May. The Center for Personal and Professional Development (CPPD) is reaching out to current and former sailors to share their success stories using Navy VoEd programs. The social media campaign is called “#NavyVoEd #My5Words” with the goal of celebrating 40 years of VoEd accomplishments.

If you are a current or former sailor who agrees to your photo being used in social media for this campaign, here's what Navy VoEd is asking for:

1. What five words state how your participation in VoEd has helped you succeed?
2. Write those words clearly on a piece of paper (at least 8x10).
3. Take a photo of you holding the sign with your five words (face and sign in focus with no CACs/badges showing).
4. Email it to susan.henson@navy.mil along with the following info:
 - » name:
 - » former/current rating:
 - » number of years in the Navy:
 - » degree/USMAP certificate achieved: (AA, MS in Ed., PhD in ...)
 - » current job title:
 - » any other information you'd like to include:

Submissions will be collected until April 25. During the month of May, they will be posted on CPPD social media sites, along with the hashtags #NavyVoEd #My5Words.

So get started on your own “five words” and share your personal Navy VoEd story! And don't forget to include the hashtags #NavyVoEd #My5Words.

From the DIB Archive...

Some DANTES programs have come and gone over the years, but one that has stayed viable throughout, is the Troops to Teachers (TTT) program. Since 1994, TTT's mission has been to assist transitioning Service members to become employed as teachers. Here is an excerpt from the June 1996 DIB, when TTT reached a major milestone:

JUNE 1996 DIB:

Over 1,000 teachers placed through Troops to Teachers Program

March 1996 was a milestone month for the DANTES Troops to Teachers (TTT) program. Schools across the country have employed over 1,000 teachers or teachers' aides through the TTT program. School districts continue to contact DANTES with request for TTT referrals. Our veterans and former DoD employees are now employed at over 400 school districts in 43 states. TTT participants have proven to be strong, positive role models. They are especially attractive to the superintendents and school boards in districts serving a large percentage of students from one-parent families. TTT participants are valued for their strong academic background, leadership skill, personal confidence, maturity, and professionalism.

TTT participants have a reputation as excellent and highly effective teachers. An Oklahoma superintendent said, “I wish I had a school house full of them.” TTT generates more and more interest within public education.

Transitioning DoD persons interested in teaching should submit an application to DANTES.

Compare that number to today — TTT has helped over 10,000 separating Service members “proudly serve again” in our nation's public schools. Find TTT information at www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/troops-to-teachers-faq/index.html or www.proudtoserveagain.com/.

EXAMINATIONS NEWS

DSSTs — continued course credit approval from ACE

The American Council on Education (ACE) is the national leader in the evaluation process for education and training obtained outside the classroom. ACE provides a rigorous review process of examination content to ensure consistency with college courses. ACE reviewers, who are both recognized subject matter experts and college faculty members, carefully examine each course outline and test questions. During 2013, Prometric worked closely with ACE to have 30 of the existing 38 DSST exam titles reviewed and evaluated for lower and upper division college credits. DANTES and Prometric are proud to announce that all of these DSST exams will continue to be eligible for credit, with three exams, previously eligible for lower-division level credit, now eligible for upper-division level credits.

The three exams now recommended for upper division credits are:

- » A History of the Vietnam War
- » Introduction to Law Enforcement
- » The Civil War and Reconstruction

The updated exam content outlines will be released in spring 2014 and will then be available at www.getcollegedcredit.com. The current exam outlines will be utilized until the new exams are ready, which will be communicated prior to release.

DANTES is also excited about Prometric's new exam – Fundamentals of Cybersecurity – to be launched nationwide this spring. Cybersecurity is one of the fastest growing fields in IT, and the new exam will meet the needs of learners entering this field with a fast, affordable way to earn college credits in this area of study. This new exam has also been reviewed by ACE and recommended for credit.

Prometric is interested in adding new titles and encourages feedback on suggested new exam topics. To suggest a new exam, e-mail mydsst@prometric.com.

CLEP/DSST-A-Thon held at Ramstein Airbase

During the week of Valentine's Day, Ramstein Airbase in Ramstein, Germany, held a CLEP/DSST-A-Thon they called "For the love of education." From Feb. 10-14, Service members took advantage of unlimited CLEP and DSST exams, on a walk-in basis all day each day, taking 577 DANTES-funded exams. A total of 339 CLEP exams and 238 DSST exams were administered throughout the week. The average pass rate was 66.2 percent, with more participants scoring higher with DSST exams than CLEPs.

While all of the participants came away winners, one in particular took this opportunity "to heart" and held a marathon of his own. Airman 1st Class Arius Gray, 83rd Network Operating Squadron Det 4 server technician, was the most successful tester to take part in the CLEP/DSST-a-thon. Out of the 12 exams he completed, Gray passed nine, earning 36 credits toward his Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) degree. The credits he earned enabled him to satisfy almost all his remaining degree requirements in the span of a few days. If Gray passes his final DSST test, a speech exam, he will have successfully earned a degree in computer sciences.

Gray's success stems from his motivation to pursue higher education throughout his life. "My plan is to keep my education going," Gray said. "I don't really want to stop at any point or let myself grow stagnant. From finishing up my CCAF, I've given myself an earlier start to a higher education." Gray plans on immediately pursuing a bachelor's degree in computer sciences and eventually hopes to obtain a doctorate, possibly in computer programming.

To read the full article by Sara Pavich, 86th Airlift Wing Public Affairs, on Gray's story, go to www.kaiserslauternamerican.com/clep-a-thon-tester-wins-the-race/.

Other
VoEd
news
in the
world...

Kadena ACE holds CLEP-a-thon

www.dvidshub.net/news/121860/kadena-ace-holds-clep-thon#.UzMSOfldWSO

Tuition Assistance Program Funds Awaiting Sailors' Use

www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=79452

The career technical training track: What's in it for you?

www.army.mil/article/121392/The_career_technical_training_track_What_s_in_it_for_you

What Isn't Broken in American Higher Education?

www.huffingtonpost.com/bill-destler/what-isnt-broken-higher-education_b_4967227.html

DANTES PARTNERSHIPS NEWS

DANTES survey identified potential JST enhancements

DANTES conducted a survey in January to identify recommended enhancements for the Joint Services Transcript (JST). Results were unveiled at the JST Forum pre-conference session prior to the opening of

the 2014 Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) Symposium. The table below shows what information college and university personnel who evaluate transcripts want to see in the JST.

Joint Services Transcript Enhancements		
Questions	Percentages	Indicator
1. What is your profession or title?	32.6% Registrars 7.6 % Educators 10.6% Counselors 53.0% Others (Evaluators, Financial Aid, Veterans Reps, Admin & Mgrs.)	The targeted audience: college and university personnel responsible for evaluating transcripts were reached
2. Where do you work?	94.4% College and University Personnel Responded	1,021 out of 1081 work at colleges or universities
3. Do you want to see learning outcomes added to the JST?	27.2% (Never) 12.6% (Almost Never) 39.8% Total N/AN	No, learning outcomes should not be added to the JST
4. Do you want to see military course competencies on the JST?	23.8% (Never) 11.6 (Almost Never) 35.4% Total N/AN	No, military course competencies should not be added to the JST
5. Do you want to see the method of instruction on the JST?	37.7% (Never) 15.4% (Almost Never) 43.1% Total N/AN	No, method of instruction should not be added to the JST
6. Do you want to see the military rank on the JST Summary Page?	49.1% No 48.4% Yes (Near a split)	Each Service decides if the military rank is placed on the JST
7. Do you want to see the ACE credit exhibits for training and occupations in descending order in the JST?	45.1% Always	JST Operations plans to make this enhancement in the current fiscal year. The JSTs will be in descending (current to less) order
8. Do you want to see line separations between each exhibit on the JST?	34.2% (Never) 12.5 % (Almost Never) 46.5% Total N/AN	No, line separations will not be added to the JST
9. What other changes do you recommend for the JST?	48.4% (491) Nothing	Nearly 50% of all responses indicate that the JST currently meets their needs

The JST Enhancement survey provided direction for JST Operations in the future and may offer the opportunity for other entities to join the transcript,

where the possibilities are endless. Direct questions on the survey to DANTES_ace@navy.mil or 850-452-1111 ext. 3213.

Share your VoEd story!
Send it to pubs@navy.mil.



To receive email notification when the DIB is posted to the Web site, send an email to pubs@navy.mil.

Click [HERE](#) to view archived DIBs.

DANTES PARTNERSHIPS NEWS (CON'T)

SOC online resources

Did you know that Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) has multiple resources for a variety of constituents on its Web site?

- » electronic copies of SOC publications such as the Military Student Bill of Rights, the Pocket Guide for College Outreach to Students, and Educational Attainment: Tracking the Academic Success of Service members and Veterans
- » past copies of "Opportunity", a biyearly publication that includes management information for college and military educators who use the SOC system
- » Service-specific Web Sites for each of the Services in the Degree Network System (DNS), including a list of participating colleges, FAQs, and information for family members
- » an online tools section for DNS members
- » DNS publications including the DNS-2 and -4 Handbooks, the Credit Evaluation Supplement, the Dispatch quarterly newsletter, and more
- » lists of future SOC Consortium and DNS workshops and handouts/slides from past workshops
- » audio and visual records of past webinars

Visit the site at www.soc.aascu.org/. And don't forget to visit and "like" the SOC Facebook page at www.facebook.com/servicemembersopportunitycolleges.

New POCs for Navy MEP

Roland Perez, the former Service Program Manager (SPM) for the Navy's Military Evaluation Program (MEP), retired in December 2013. Perez worked diligently to remain engaged with the Navy's schoolhouse/learning center POCs and in their preparation for military course reviews completed by the American Council on Education (ACE). The SPM position has been shifted to Norfolk, Va., under Naval Education Training Command (NETC) N74 Learning Standards Branch.

Currently, oversight of the Navy MEP process is shared by Michael Mosley, Willie Jones and Wilbert Harrison.

According to Mosley, Branch Head, NETC plans to hire a new SPM to handle all MEP responsibilities.

ACE military programs webinar dates

The American Council on Education (ACE) announced 2014 dates for two informative webinars:

- » Demystifying Military Evaluations
Fridays, 2 pm EST (April 18, July 11, Sept. 5)
Register online: www.acenet.edu/events/Pages/Demystifying-Military-Evaluations.aspx
- » Using the Joint Services Transcript (JST) and the Military Guide
Fridays, 2 pm EST (May 9, Aug. 8)
Register online: www.acenet.edu/events/Pages/Using-the-JST-and-the-Military-Guide.aspx

These webinars are offered by ACE free of charge but do require registration. A link to the online event will be provided after registration.

April in U.S. history:

2, 1513: Spanish explorer Ponce De Leon sighted Florida and claimed it for Spain

4, 1968: Civil Rights leader Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King shot and killed by a sniper

6, 1917: Congress approved U.S. to enter into WWI

9, 1865: Civil War ended as General Lee surrendered to General Grant in Appomattox

9, 1866: Civil Rights Bill of 1866 passed by Congress

11, 1968: Civil Rights Act of 1968 signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson

11, 1970: Apollo 13 began 5 day ordeal after an oxygen tank exploded, cutting moon mission short; Astronaut John L. Swigert uttered famous words: "Houston, we've had a problem here"

12, 1861: Civil War began as Confederate troops opened fire on Fort Sumter, S.C.

12, 1945: President Franklin D. Roosevelt died suddenly at Warm Springs, Georgia

13, 1743: Thomas Jefferson, 3rd U.S. President, born

14, 1865: President Abraham Lincoln shot and mortally wounded at Ford's Theater

18, 1906: San Francisco Earthquake struck at 5:13 a.m.

19, 1995: A massive car-bomb explosion destroyed entire side of a federal building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 persons, including 19 children

23, 1791: James Buchanan, 15th U.S. President, born

24, 1800: The Library of Congress established

27, 1822: Ulysses S. Grant, 18th U.S. President, born

28, 1758: James Monroe, 5th U.S. President, born

30, 1789: George Washington became the first U.S. President

TROOPS TO TEACHERS NEWS

Critical MASS (Midwest Association for Science and Service)

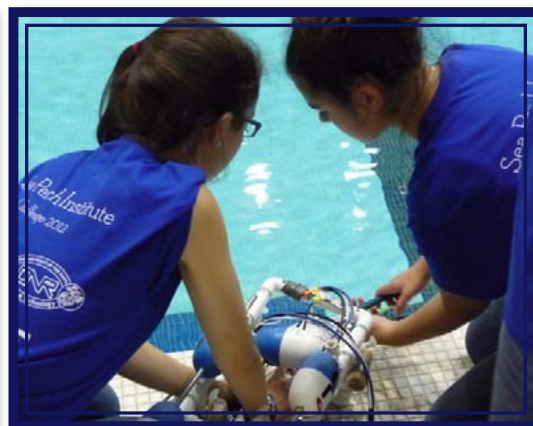
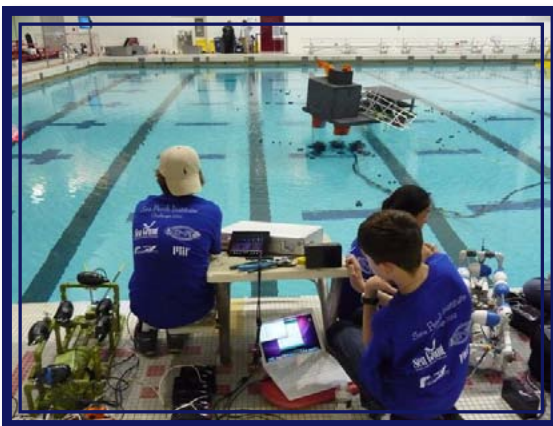
By Emily Siefken, Indiana/Illinois State Director

Transitioning Service men and women whose military occupational specialties involve the use of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) on a daily basis, should consider a second career as a certified STEM Teacher. Many unique programs, like Troops to Teachers (TTT) and the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC), can help put STEM skills to work in the classroom. TTT Illinois State Director Emily Siefken can assist with the certification requirements needed to get these well desired instructors into the classroom.

Critical MASS (Midwest Association for Science and Service) is one program that helps connect middle school and high school children with STEM teachers and industry professionals in Illinois and, more specifically, Chicago.

One of the reasons that Chicago was chosen for this initial program is the fact that the City has the largest number of Military Academies in the country, with six. These Academies serve nearly 2,800 students, with nearly 50 percent African American and 45 percent Hispanic students. 87 percent of Academy students are low-income and 50 percent are female.

For more information about any of these programs, contact Todd Connor, Executive Director of Military Programs at Chicago Public Schools, at tconnor@cps.edu. Contact Illinois TTT State Director Emily Siefken (esiefken@troopstoteachers.net) for information about the Troops to Teachers program and how they can assist you in helping the youth of Chicago in the growing need-based area of STEM.



Middle school students design underwater remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) as part of the Chicago Critical MASS project.

Photo courtesy of SeaPerch
Ron Marsch

Critical MASS is a groundbreaking collaboration in STEM education for the students of Chicago. Centered on project-based learning, made possible by a \$2 million, five-year grant from the Department of the Navy's Office of Naval Research to the City of Chicago. The STEM initiative is part of a larger drive to bring quality school options that equip students with 21st Century skills and prepare students for college and career. NJROTC instructors and science teachers collaborate to deliver Naval programs, such as SeaPerch, Stern 2 Stern and Technovation, alongside Naval-relevant classroom modules and internship opportunities. This allows students to move through a continuum of Naval-relevant programs, exposing them to Naval careers, subject matter, and research opportunities.

For general information on the TTT program::

» Web sites:

www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/troops-to-teachers-faq/index.html

www.proudtoserveagain.com/

» email: ttt@navy.mil

» Toll free: (800) 231-6242

» DSN: 459-1320

» Fax: (850) 452-1096



FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR



HMCN (FMF/SW) David Acuff
Senior Enlisted Advisor

Want to make your Tuition Assistance (TA) and GI Bill dollars go further? Did you know that you can “skip” many core college courses and receive credit for them through college credit examinations that are widely accepted by colleges and universities? Many Service members have used college level examinations to get college credit for what they have learned

through life experience and comprehensive subject knowledge acquired through course work, independent study, military service schools, and professional development. As one of my college professors once said, “It doesn’t matter how you learned what you learned that counts; what really matters is that you learned what you learned that counts.”

By passing college credit examinations, individuals can earn one-third or more of the credits required for a degree. Regardless of the way military members acquire the knowledge, college credit by examination can be an excellent way to accelerate their progress to degree completion, while saving a substantial amount of time and money along the way. These examinations are available in more than 150 subject areas and are similar to final examinations given by colleges and universities. These tests are a no-cost benefit the first time they are taken. DANTES does not pay for retesting on a previously funded College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exam, but Service members may personally fund a retest after waiting six months. Most of the exams cost civilians between \$74 and \$82, with some costing as much as \$240. These examinations are offered at base education offices and national test centers. Need help finding a test center? Find an education counselor who can help locate your nearest test center at www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/contact-a-counselor/index.html.

One of DANTES main objectives is to make college more affordable and less time consuming for active duty and veteran military members. To accomplish this goal, DANTES funds CLEP and DSST tests. The American Council on Education (ACE) recommends college credit for both of these credit-by-examination programs.

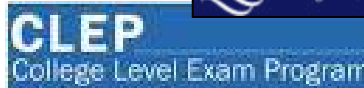
The DSST program started when the Department of Defense (DoD) wanted to offer support for Service members who were working towards earning their degrees. To accomplish this, DANTES developed

a series of standardized tests. There are currently DSST exams available in 38 subjects. While looking at DSST success data for the Services, I noticed that some exams seem better suited for the military than others with respect to pass-rates. For example, military members seemed more inclined to pass: Principals of Supervision (91 percent), Technical Writing (73 percent), and Introduction to Business (72 percent) as opposed to Business Math (1 percent), Physical Geology (10 percent), and Fundamentals of College Algebra (14 percent). Service members should keep their academic strengths in mind when selecting an exam and prepare themselves as best as possible prior to taking a test.

CLEP, developed by College Board, is the most widely accepted credit-by-examination program in the United States today and affords the opportunity to earn up to 12 college credits by passing any of 33 exams. Over 2,900 colleges and universities award credit for satisfactory scores, and CLEP exams help military students save money, time, and achieve their college goals.

As you can see, there are definite advantages to passing DSST and CLEP exams. However, it is important that you adequately prepare yourself to take these tests as there is no free retesting on the same test title. The online DoD MWR Libraries Education Lifelong Learning Resource (www.nelnetsolutions.com/dod/) provides everything you need to successfully plan and prepare for your educational goals. Unlimited and no-cost access is provided to all Service members, DoD civilians and their families. The resource center is available 24/7. Once you access the online resource center you will be able to search for and find the right educational program, prepare for important DSST and CLEP exams, and take advantage of career planning resources to plan for your military or civilian career.

In closing, this column affords a unique opportunity to reach out to my fellow Service members concerning VoEd and DANTES programs. If you have a success story with military VoEd that you would like to share, send it to me and maybe you’ll see it published in this forum. Until next time, keep up with DANTES on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD or contact me at ea@navy.mil. I would enjoy hearing from you.



FROM THE DESK OF THE RESERVE COMPONENT ADVISOR

Until next time...



Lt Col Eurydice Stanley
Reserve Component Advisor

Education Professional Team, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support over the past three years during my tenure as the DANTES Reserve Component Advisor (RCA)! Together, we have accomplished great advancements to achieve my primary responsibility – the promotion of Service member Voluntary Education! My retirement ceremony was April 18, but I hope to continue submitting DIB articles until my actual retirement date of June 30.

Of course, as one prepares to retire, one becomes nostalgic. Looking back, I remember the 1993 drawdown and its impact, which was why I was so vigilant when the current drawdown was announced in 2011. Our Service members are now encouraged to equip themselves for transition from the day of recruitment. Education, via either college degree or credential, will continue to play a significant role in that transition preparation process.

I recently read an interesting article published in the Harvard Business Review titled, “What Military Service Could Teach MBAs” (<http://zite.to/ldpPOei>). The article came from a January National Bureau of Economic Research working paper by Efraim Benmelech and Carola Frydman. The article examines the decline of the number of CEO’s who served in the military, from a high of 60 percent in 1980, to 2006 where only 6.2 percent served. In an interview with Gretchen Gavett, Benmelech and Frydman noted, “Military CEO’s seem to cope better under pressure, which is important for firms that experience distress, or for firms that operate in industries that are in distress. This seems to stem from military training and experience in difficult situations.” An interesting fact arose as the researchers analyzed Service member CEO’s education. It did not matter whether or not they had a MBA. “This suggests that whatever traits or experiences obtained during military Service that shape the actions of CEOs are not being provided in MBA programs,” stated the researchers.

As I have travelled across the country presenting the “Handwriting on the Wall” educational awareness brief, invariably I will run into Service members who say they don’t need an education, they learned it all

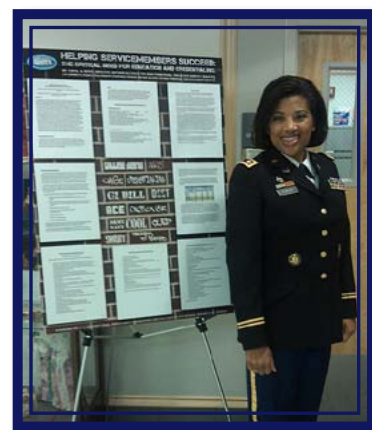
in the military. I have learned not to argue that point. However, regardless of outstanding dedication, tenacity, mission focus and leadership traits, many organizations will not even accept applicants without a degree or credential – it is as simple as that.

But, YOU can rectify that issue simply by meeting with an Education Services

Counselor to determine the best path for you to reach your education goals. Be sure to bring your Joint Services Transcript (JST) to determine how many credits you may already be eligible for to reduce your overall course requirement.

The programs at DANTES were developed with the needs of the Service member in mind. Go to our Web site at www.dantes.doded.mil/index.html and take advantage of our numerous products and services. I believe that over the past three years I have addressed each of our products and services at least once, but I cannot emphasize enough the importance of the JST to maximize your military training. If you have not obtained a copy, stop what you are doing RIGHT NOW and obtain one from <https://jst.doded.mil/>! Or, if you are Air Force, go to www.au.af.mil/au/barnes/ccaf/transcripts.asp to request your transcript.

Service members, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE! As I have served with you, I saw the incredible things that you do on a daily basis and was always proud of the outstanding caliber of people that comprised the Force. Although we are continually tasked with doing more with less, continue to fight the good fight and achieve the mission as only you can. Know that as you Serve, you are developing skills and abilities every day. Take note of them and develop them – not only to be better Service members, but in preparation for your life after the Service. Remember, EVERYONE MUST TRANSITION! It has been my honor to Serve, and I look forward to continued service in one capacity or another in the future. Thank you, and all the best!



Lt. Col. Stanley in front of
her Educational Awareness
Research poster in 2011.

Fair winds and following seas, LTC!

DANTES bids farewell to Lt. Col. Eurydice Stanley, DANTES Reserve Component Advisor (RCA), who retires this month after 20 years Service in the National Guard. As RCA, she was an active spokesperson for voluntary education, presenting educational awareness training at military installations from Alaska to Washington, D.C., assisting DoD Reserve personnel and family members achieve their personal and professional education goals. Considering herself to be a life-long learner, it is no surprise that she also enjoyed presenting relevant training classes to Service members.

She wrote many articles that were published in forums such as Joint Forces Quarterly, Military Advanced Education, and the Stars and Stripes newspaper.



Stanley received an Army ROTC scholarship to attend Florida A & M University (FAMU) where she earned a degree in Public Management. A Distinguished Military Graduate, she was commissioned in 1990, awarded a scholarship to attend the University of Minnesota, receiving a Master's degree in Industrial Relations, and studied International Business in Lyon, France. She graduated summa cum laude from Louisiana Baptist University in 2000 with a doctorate in Christian Counseling and Psychology.

Stanley said, "I take great pride in a career dedicated to human relations training, public affairs and Service member education, and in taking care of Service members." We wish her all the best. Hooah!

Free Sloan-C Webinar Series 2014 now ongoing

The Sloan Consortium (Sloan-C) is sponsoring a free webinar series titled "Veterans, Service Members & Military Family Members Webinar Series 2014." The series includes four webinars focused on increasing online student success and retention for veterans, Service members, and military family members. They will cover federal regulations, resources and services, research, and best practices.

Each panel will share diverse perspectives and recommendations for providing greater educational opportunities and support for veterans, Service members, and military family members in achieving their academic and career goals.

The first session, "Executive Panel: Overview of Current & Pending Federal Regulations for the Post 9/11 GI Bill, DoD Tuition Assistance, Retention/Graduation Rates & Compliance," took place March 19 and included Dr. Carol Berry, DANTES Director, and Dawn Bilodeau, Chief for Department of Defense (DoD) Voluntary Education, as panelists. Berry was very enthused about the experience, saying, "There are two studies that ALL military educators need to read... 'Fueling the Race to Postsecondary Success' and 'The Growing Importance of Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) in the Degree Completion Toolkit.' These two studies outline the value and the potential that PLA offers to adult learners. A new term coined

by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) DIY, or Do it Yourself,

offers opportunities beyond PLA but rather encourages adults to seek learning and then validation beyond the classroom. The SLOAN-C webinar series will help raise your awareness, your understanding and hopefully, engage you to ask more questions and take a deep dive into opportunities for adult learners to accelerate their journey to that degree." To view the FREE recorded webinar, go to www.sloanconsortium.org/institute/webinars/2014/3/executive-panel-overview-current-pending-federal-regulations-post-911-gi-b.

The next session will be April 16, with our own HMCM (FMF/SW) David Acuff, DANTES Senior Enlisted Advisor, as one of the panelists. For more details on webinar topics and to register, go to www.sloanconsortium.org/institute/webinars/increasing-online-student-success-for-veterans.

SVA Million Records Project

A just-released Student Veterans of America (SVA) report measured for the first time how the most recent generation of veterans perform in higher education. Among the study's top findings: Although many take longer than traditional students to graduate, most student veterans complete their initial studies and often earn additional higher level degrees as well.

The full story can be found at www.studentveterans.org/media-news/press-releases/229-sva-releases-findings-from-the-million-records-project.html.



PRINCIPLES OF EXCELLENCE

Helping and protecting students using the GI Bill®

The Principles of Excellence were announced on April 27, 2012 by President Obama in Executive Order 13607, to ensure that student Veterans, Servicemembers, and family members have information, support, and protections while using Federal education benefits. To learn more about the Principles of Excellence, visit benefits.va.gov/gibill/principles_of_excellence.asp. Tools developed to provide more information to students and increase oversight of programs offered by educational institutions are discussed below:

GI BILL® COMPARISON TOOL

This innovative tool makes it easier to research colleges and employers providing training under the GI Bill. It displays median borrowing amounts, graduation rates, and loan-default rates by school and indicates whether or not the school participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program or has agreed to adhere to the Principles of Excellence. Further, the tool allows Veterans, Servicemembers, their spouses, and dependents to estimate the amount of funding they may receive under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Information is available to help them find the best place to use their benefits at benefits.va.gov/gibill/comparison.

GI BILL® FEEDBACK SYSTEM

The GI Bill Feedback System is a centralized online reporting system that allows Veterans, Servicemembers, and eligible dependents to report negative experiences with educational institutions. VA serves as the intermediary to resolve complaints between the student and school. Submitted complaints may be reviewed by state and Federal law enforcement agencies including the Department of Justice. Students may submit feedback on their educational institution by visiting benefits.va.gov/gibill/feedback.asp.

More than 6,000 educational institutions have agreed to the “Principles of Excellence,” which offer guidelines that promote transparency and student success.



DANTES Social Media

Join us for up-to-date information, conversations, or just let us know how your education journey is going!

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DANTES Pulse blog <http://dantespulse.com>

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DANTES Youtube <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAD8yGhGBeDAIPMW7Eu-sA>

TESTING CALENDAR

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/_content/Exams_Calendar.pdf

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