

# Military Experience for Academic Credit Workshop

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

## Presenter Bios

### **American Counsel of Education: ACE Representatives**

#### **Presentation Title: Mapping Credit for Prior Learning: Using ACE Tools to Develop Institutional Strategies**

Dr. Christopher A. Johnson

Dr. Christopher Johnson (Chris to peers and colleagues) is an active practitioner with 22 years in higher education serving both on the administrative and academic sides, including roles as department chair and academic dean, and coordinator of faculty development. As a curriculum developer has developed courses and programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Chris has spent the past eight years as a subject matter expert assisting with the development and enhancement of credit for prior learning policies and practices with institutions such as; the California State University system, Colorado Department of Higher Education, North Texas Community College Consortium, North Carolina Community College and University of North Carolina systems, Dallas Community College system, and Virginia Community College system. He holds a Ph.D. in Education with a concentration in Higher Education Leadership from Capella University and an Ed.M. with a focus in Instructional Leadership from Temple University. He has a bachelor's degree in both History and Political Science if from Western Carolina University. He is a nine-year veteran with the U.S. Army Reserve.

Dr. George Boulware (pronounced Bowler)

George has recently retired after a 49 year career as a college professor and administrator. He taught in the fields of marketing and finance. He served as professor and Dean of the College of Business during his 35 years at Lipscomb University. He also served as Dean of the College of Business at Golden Gate University in San Francisco. Since 1990 he has served as an evaluator for the American Council on Education serving both the CREDIT or corporate side as well as Military evaluations. He is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) and has been helping individuals and small businesses since 1983 in his private practice. He now spends most of his time in that endeavor. He also enjoys travelling, boating, and RVing with his wife, Jeanna. They have two children and four grandchildren who live in the Nashville area.

## **Tennessee Higher Education Commission: THEC Representatives**

### **Presentation Title: State Veterans PLA Initiative**

Mitch Currey

Mitch Currey is currently the Veteran Education Coordinator at the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. He is responsible for monitoring institutions that are approved to offer veteran's education and training programs and assisting with various veteran education initiatives across Tennessee. He also serves as the Vice Chairman on the National Association of State Approving Agencies' Legislative Committee. Before working at THEC, he served as a legislative intern with the Tennessee General Assembly in Senate Majority Leader Mark Norris' office. Mitch also served as an Infantryman with the United States Army's 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. During his time in the Army, Mitch led infantry teams in combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Ken Hanson

Ken Hanson is the Assistant Director for Adult Learner Initiatives at the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. In this role he coordinates and oversees Veteran Reconnect efforts that support institutions, he leads the state's prior learning assessment task force, and manages budgeting and contracting procedures for all of the team's efforts related to adult learners. He also serves as a strategy lead for enhancing institutional capacity to serve adult learners. Previously he served as the Manager of Veterans Affairs and Adult Learners at Volunteer State Community College where he worked with students as an academic advisor, certifying veterans GI Bill benefits, and networking with local community agencies to find resources for students to be successful in college. Ken is retired from the US Air Force and some of his assignments included serving as a helicopter flight engineer instructor and training program manager and later served as a Professional Military Education instructor and Leadership Department Chair.