Virtual Student Chapter Webinar:
Mentoring for Emerging Professionals: Finding Your Path

February 20, 2020 at 1:30pm EST
Click here for details.

Description
As you emerge from your studies into your chosen profession, your mentoring needs will change along with it. What should you look for in a mentor? What should you expect from the relationship? How can you best contribute to your own mentoring experiences? The author of the Guides to Army Mentoring series will answer these questions and more, along with providing concrete suggestions for taking your first steps in this realm.

Participants will understand:
- How is student mentoring different than workplace mentoring?
- Do I need a coach, a counselor, or a mentor?
- How mentoring relationships form, evolve, and end.
- Mechanisms for setting and refining expectations in a mentoring relationship.
- Identifying warning signs of a mentoring relationship gone bad
- Getting started with mentoring

Speaker: Colonel Ray Kimball, Chief of Faculty Learning, Innovation, Collaboration, and Research and Director of the Center for Junior Officers, U.S. Military Academy at West Point

Colonel Raymond A. “Ray” Kimball is a native of Reading, Pennsylvania and was commissioned through the United States Military Academy in 1995. After completing initial officer and flight training, he was assigned to the 1st Battalion (Attack), 10th Aviation Regiment, at Fort Drum, New York in November 1996. While assigned to the 10th Mountain Division, he served as an aeroscout platoon leader and battalion S4 (logistics and support officer). In those positions, he participated in the full range of Army operations, from home station training to counter-drug operations along the Mexican border to peacekeeping in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In May of 2001, after completing further officer training, he reported to the 3rd Infantry Division, where he was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 7th U.S. Cavalry. He took command of F Troop, 3-7 Cavalry in July of 2001. The troop consisted of 88 soldiers and $6 million in equipment and was responsible for all aspects of support and maintenance for the squadron’s sixteen scout helicopters. In January of 2003, the troop deployed as part of 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry, to Kuwait in support of what would become Operation Iraqi Freedom. During the march to Baghdad, the troop supported 870 flight hours over a period of twenty-one days while moving 700 kilometers through enemy territory without the loss of a single soldier.

He gave up command of F Troop in June of 2003, earned a Master's degree in History from Stanford University, and taught courses in the History of Western Civilization and Russian History at the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point from 2005 to 2009. He was recognized for his outstanding teaching with the Department of History Excellence in Teaching Award and the USMA Apgar Award for Excellence in Instruction. During his final eighteen months at USMA, he served concurrently as the first Operations Officer for the Center for the Advancement of Leader Development and Organizational Learning (CALDOL), a small cell dedicated to connecting small-unit leaders in conversation across the Army.

In February of 2009, he joined the Obama Administration as the Executive Assistant and Chief of Staff, European Affairs Directorate, National Security Staff. During his two and a half years of service at the White House, he was fully engaged in all aspects of the President's European policies, including NATO/ISAF, bilateral defense cooperation with Allies and partners, and support to OPERATION UNIFIED PROTECTOR. He then served a year in Afghanistan as part of the Commander, International Security Assistance Force, Initiatives Group advising the four-star commander of NATO and US forces about strategic issues concerning the NATO alliance, bilateral partners, and US policy development. In 2015, he completed a Doctorate of Education in Learning Technologies through Pepperdine University, writing a doctoral dissertation on Army mentoring that was later published as The Army Officer’s Guide to Mentoring. He served for a year as the Military Assistant to the Commanding General and Center for Army Lessons Learned Embedded Liaison Officer for Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa in Djibouti. In June of 2016, he assumed duties as the Director of CALDOL (now renamed as the Center for Junior Officers) and as an Academy Professor (Army Functional Area 47). He also serves as the Chief of Faculty Development at USMA.

His awards include the Combat Action Badge, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), the Bronze Star, the NATO Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal. He is married to the former Mindy Hynds of Vacaville, California, who is also an active duty Army officer; they have one son, Daniel.