**Testimonial**

While on a dependent restricted tour in Korea I found time to study on a couple professional credentials, those credentials are not only helping me prepare to pass the Architectural Registration Exam (ARE) I am convinced they also helped me get the job I have wanted since I was a young Lieutenant, working with the US Army Corps of Engineers. The last couple months of the Command and General Staff College (CGSC) students have the opportunity to take a variety of electives, one of those I chose was a prep course for the Project Management Professional (PMP). I failed the exhausting 4 hour and 200 question exam on my first attempted. After a couple months in Korea away from my family I found the time to focus and understand the concepts, I found that PMP and operations at a Division headquarters are the same just use different terms to describe those processes. On my second attempt I passed and felt a new sense of empowerment.

After passing, I continued my study and passed the Leadership and Energy and Environmental Design Advanced Professional Building Design and Construction (LEED AP BD+C) and the Construction Specifications Institute Construction Documents Technologist (CDT) exams all preparing me for the Architectural Registration Exam (ARE). This quarterly journal will be assembled by a team of professionals that govern professional credentials, provide training, and improve processes in an effort to help Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Veterans achieve their professional goals. We will share the latest developments as the Army builds a Credentialing Assistance programs that support personal and professional development for the force and the Soldiers that serve.

**Academia**

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**

The Master of Science in Executive Management for Design and Construction (EMDC) program goes beyond book learning and addresses the decision-making challenges encountered in design and construction today. The EMDC program is an online course of study for senior-level personnel with eight or more years of progressive experience in architectural, engineering, or construction firms. The course material transcends the tactical skills required of project managers and emphasizes the strategic competencies and insights needed by aspiring executives. All courses are taught by successful practitioners with typically 20 to 40 years in the profession, including three retired USN officers.
Each course includes ten classes. A typical class consists of a 60-minute video complemented by a 90-minute interactive webinar. The video presents the essential content of the topic to be covered in a particular class and the webinar aims to clarify and expand upon the material, provide a forum for guest speaker presentations, and/or allow students to report on group projects. The videos can be viewed at one’s convenience, but the webinars are scheduled on one evening each week from 6:30 till 8:00 PM Central Time. The webinars are large group conversations as opposed to a single presenter lecturing to the class. These interactive sessions allow students to connect with one another and the professor as if they were in the same room. Below is the link to the EMDC website: www.emdc.northwestern.edu

When are courses taught?
Each quarter, one online core course and two or more elective courses (depending on demand) will be offered. Quarters are ten weeks long and span the following periods: mid-September to early December, early January to mid-March, and late March to early June.

Can these courses be used to satisfy the continuing education requirement for maintaining professional licensure?
Yes, they can. Each full course in this program is equivalent to 30 Professional Development Hours (PDHs) or three Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

Student Body Profile
A typical student has eight or more years of progressive experience in the design and/or construction industries and is eager to enhance his or her career portfolio for advancement into a senior management role. Other appropriate candidates for this program include:
- Those being groomed for the next generation of leadership in a business
- Active military personnel seeking advancement in rank
- Retiring military personnel transitioning to a civilian work environment
- A top talent who needs more insight to move into an executive position
- A targeted successor in a family business

Supplemental Program of Study
For individuals who may not satisfy the work experience requirement, the traditional on-site Master of Project Management (MPM) program is available. Information about the MPM program can be obtained from its web site at: www.mpm.northwestern.edu

Financial Support for Military Personnel
SAME and Northwestern University have established a Strategic Partnership to promote educational opportunities for SAME members in the Executive Management for Design and Construction (EMDC) program. By combining the financial support potentially available through SAME, the Yellow Ribbon program, and the EMDC program, a qualified individual can obtain an MS degree at a greatly reduced personal expense for tuition.

As a strategic partner, Northwestern University exhibits annually at the SAME Joint Engineer Training Conference (JETC) and will be present again at the 2020 JETC in Washington, DC in May.

Additional Program Information
For more information about the Executive Management for Design and Construction (ENDC) program or the Master of Project Management (MPM) program, contact the Program Director, Professor Raymond J. Krizek, at 847-491-4040 or rjkrizek@northwestern.edu.
Webinar
We'd like to invite you to a FREE webinar hosted by the Credentialing Community of Interest entitled: Army Credentialing Assistance (CA) brief. This is a briefing by Nicole Cabral Education Services Specialist from the Hawk Education Center at Joint Base Lewis-McChord and assisted by our new Credentialing Community of Interest Chair, MAJ Kurtis Schaaf, PMP, LEED AP BD+C, CDT Executive Officer of the Warrior Transition Battalion.

Please add June 16, 2020, 1130 EDT to your calendar to participate in this valuable webinar. Those who should be interested include Army personnel, SAME members who assist uniformed personnel with credentialing and transition, anybody who is interested in learning more about the Army COOL site and the Army's Credentialing Assistance Program.

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/213551125

Volunteer opportunities
We are looking to fill the following positions:
Chair of Programs
Chair of Communications
Chair of Veterans Transitions
Enlisted Liaison

If you are interested in serving on the Credentialing Steering Committee, please contact MAJ Kurtis Schaaf, kurtis.j.schaaf.mil@mail.mil or Kathy Off, koff@same.org.