

College or bust

By: Tom Conning

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With college costs soaring, student debt ballooning and graduates facing a tough job market, it may be time to start thinking about your child's education in a strategic manner.

The Army War College's Military Family Program sponsored a lecture in Bliss Hall on Oct. 1 as part of its two-part College Planning Process series that featured Lloyd Scott, the Director of Admissions for Appalachian State University.

Scott shared his experiences as an admissions counselor and a father who has helped three of his children plan for college. "Remind yourself that the decision they make, like my son, is not necessarily the decision I would have made, but for him it's a really good decision" he said.

"College is about exploration."

Scott encouraged parents to plan ahead, something that Christine Yuengert, Director of the Military Family Program reiterated. "Approach the application process as a job and start early" she said. "Some students actually start their freshman year. They look at their goals and then do their backwards planning to make sure they have met the academic requirements to meet those goals."

Backwards planning, strategic thinking and the second part of the College Planning Process series on college finances should help prepare you and your student for a successful college experience.

Click on <http://youtu.be/AoujiVaNDc0> to view the first College Planning Process lecture.

The next three Military Family Program events are:

Caring For Aging Parents

Monday, Oct 29, 11:45 a.m. – 12:55 p.m.

Dr Linda Rhodes, former State of PA Secretary of Aging, will discuss the legal, financial and medical concerns of this readiness issue to our military members. Dr Rhodes is credited for initiating Pennsylvania's Family Caregiver Support Program which is often cited as the national model. Bring your lunch and your questions.

Location: Wil Washcoe Auditorium

FLAGS Facilitator Training #2

29 Oct – 9 Nov, 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., M-F

This second FLAGS session, Train-the-Trainer will focus on the One Week Workshop as Facilitator/Trainers. Skills training includes Facilitator Roles and Skills, Common Problems faced as a Facilitator, and how to Manage Stress and Conflict.

Location: Collins Hall

Financial Readiness Series #1

Monday, 19 Nov, 11:45 a.m. – 12:55 p.m.

First session in the five-part financial readiness series; the first session will focus on the Military Advantage and your benefits as a service member preparing to retire.

Location - Wil Washcoe Auditorium

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