JCCC partners with U.S. Army

Lt. Col. Mike Sinclair,

S6 - Training Directorate, Human Terrain System, Fort Leavenworth, already has a bachelor's degree in polysciences and a master's degree in computer science. But when the Army Vocational/Technical Soldier Program became available, he completed a *SQL Fundamentals* class at JCCC.

JCCC was one of two Kansas community colleges selected to participate in the AVOTEC program, a short-term pilot to provide training in high-demand career fields to help soldiers find employment after they exit the service. The Army partnered with technical and community colleges throughout the United States for the program, which pays all costs for instruction, certification or licensure through Sept. 30, 2009, for approved classes.

Sinclair read about AVOTEC in the Battle Command Knowledge System newsletter, Connected. He contacted the Army Education Center at the post, and JCCC AVOTEC point of contact Teresa Schmitz, lead registration assistant, Workforce, Community and Economic Development, to enroll.

Sinclair heads the post's Information Technology area in support of the Human Terrain System, a system that uses the expertise of social scientists to improve the military's understanding of local populations and cultures in areas where they are deployed. The lieutenant colonel is no stranger to JCCC. He completed JCCC classes to become an Access 2007 Microsoft Office Specialist in 2008.

"I encourage all the people under my command to take advantage of the military and take extra classes when they can, especially in my field. Studying takes up a lot of free time, but in the IT business you definitely have to keep up with ever-changing technology," Sinclair said.

Sinclair was eligible for AVOTEC because his 24 years of military service make him eligible for retirement in another two years. He has served with both active and reserve status.

"My goal is to be a database administrator when I retire from the Army, and the courses at JCCC will definitely help me with that," Sinclair said.

The AVOTEC program is different from regular GoArmyED degree-based academic program, which already gives tuition assistance. AVOTEC is for vocational classes, not based on credit hours, that lead toward licensure or certification. This program is for active duty soliders only and there is no additional service obligation for AVOTEC participants.

JCCC Workforce, Community and Economic Development classes that qualified are:

Computer Systems Design and Related Services
- A+ Certification
- Network+ Certification
- CCNA Certification
- Oracle 10g DBA Certified Associate Certification
- Oracle 10g DBA Certified Professional Certification
- MCTS: SQL Server 2005 Implementation and Maintenance
- Adobe ACE
- Project Management Certificate and PMP Test Prep
- Access 2003 and 2007 Microsoft Office Specialist

Lt. Col. Mike Sinclair took part in the AVOTEC program with a computer class at JCCC.

- Excel 2003 and 2007 Microsoft Office Specialist
- Word 2003 and 2007 Microsoft Office Specialist
- PowerPoint 2003 and 2007 Microsoft Office Specialist

Health Care and Social Assistance
- Certified National Pharmaceutical Sales Representative
- Medical Billing and Coding (online and onground)
- Administrative Dental Assistant Certificate
- Medical Transcription Certificate
- Pharmacy Technician Certificate
- ICD10 Medical Coding
- Administrative Veterinary Certificate

Construction
- Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Certification
- Refrigerant Transition and Recovery Review and Exam

Financial Activities
- Real Estate Certification **Im**