

Dr. Cheryl J. Polson



Cheryl J. Polson has administered Kansas State University graduate programs at Fort Leavenworth for over 25 years and has graduated over 600 master's advisees from the Adult Education Masters Degree program offered on post. She was recognized as the university's inaugural Engagement Award winner for her efforts to develop and sustain this long partnership with Ft. Leavenworth. Cheryl has secured more than \$3 million in external funding to develop credit and non-credit programs for faculty, soldiers and military spouses. She created, and administered, the Teaching Scholars Faculty Development program for Fort Leavenworth's Command and General Staff College (CGSC). This program introduced CGSC educators to influential adult education scholars. Cheryl was responsible for the creation and delivery of an ongoing, monthly,

week-long, noncredit course to prepare Brigade Commanders' spouses for their informal command leadership roles. This program earned the AAACE Malcolm Knowles Outstanding Adult Learner Program of the Year Award. Serving adult learners in higher education is Cheryl's primary research and publication focus. Her current research focuses on serving the academic needs of military learners. Cheryl co-edited the New Directions in Adult and Continuing Education book, *Beyond Training: The Rise of Adult Education in the U.S. Military* in 2012. She was also selected to author a chapter, *Military Contributions to Adult Education*, in the 2010 *Handbook of Adult and Continuing Education*. Additionally, Cheryl co-authored the book, *Responding to Adult Learners in Higher Education*, and has published numerous journal articles. She was selected as the William E. Kennedy Award recipient for dedication and leadership in providing quality military education programs presented by the Council of College and Military Educators (CCME). Cheryl received the Excellence in Graduate Faculty Teaching Award given by the College of Education in 2000 and has received numerous outstanding advisor awards nationally and regionally. Cheryl was inducted into the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame the fall of 2015.