Appendix A - Student Veteran Interview Guide

Ice breaker
1. Please tell me a little bit about yourself.

School-related experiences before GCU (Great City University-Pseudonym)
1. Tell me about your educational experiences prior to being admitted to GCU.
2. Any college-level courses taken before, during or after your years of service?
3. Tell me what factors motivated you to pursue the degree of your choice after leaving the military?
4. What factor(s) influenced you to choose GCU to pursue this degree?
5. As a whole, do you think your initial expectations have been met in your program? In what ways?
6. Now that you look back, do you feel GCU was a good decision for you? In what way?

Overall transition experience on campus and in the program
1. From your perspective, what do you think are the common experiences that student veterans face as they transition from military life to student life?
2. Tell me about your transition from life as a soldier in the military to life as a student in the (Name of Program).
   (If participant is from a racial/ethnic minority group) Do you believe your race and/or gender impacted your transition from the military to higher education? If so, how?
3. What are (were) the biggest challenges you face (or have faced) as a student veteran on campus?
4. How do you deal with the challenges (mentioned above)?
5. As a student veteran, what has been most helpful to your transition process at GCU? Your program?
6. What has your overall experience been like in your classes?

Satisfaction level (projection questions)
7. Would you encourage another veteran student to come to your program? Why or why not?
8. Knowing what you know now, would you choose your major again? Why or why not?

Suggestions for improvement
9. What strategies or extra support would you recommend to better support student veterans on campus? (Retention and Graduation)
10. What suggestions or advice would you give a new student veteran preparing to attend higher education at GCU?

Wrap up
11. Is there anything you want to add or share with me today?
Appendix B - Faculty/Staff Interview Guide

Warming-up questions
1. Please tell me a little bit about yourself, including your professional background.
2. Please tell me about your job current title/position and major responsibilities (in relation to veteran students).

Work with veteran students
3. Tell me about your daily or regular work with veteran students.
4. What is your major role or responsibility in working with veteran students?
5. How do you work with veteran students? (a typical work pattern or typical interaction with a veteran student)
6. Tell me about a few veteran students you worked with in the past (or are still working with you). How has your overall experience been with veteran students?
7. Tell me about the kind of support you think is essential to your successful work with veteran students but is not available to you so far.

Identifying characteristics of veteran students
8. How do you describe the overall characteristics of veteran students as a whole?
9. Are there any particular characteristics of veteran students? If so, please explain what you think those characteristics are.
10. What do you think are the hardest challenges or problems that many veteran students are facing?
11. How do you think the identified problem/challenges should be properly addressed?

Institutional support
12. What programs and services does your office (or your department/college) offer to support veteran students?
13. Do you know any programs and services on campus that support veteran students? If so, please explain them.
14. How do you evaluate the effectiveness of those programs/services/departmental or college initiatives?

Suggestions
15. What would be an ideal situation for veteran students when they come to Great City University (GCU-Pseudonym) for their degree?
16. How can the department, college, and university, including all of its employees, better support veteran students?
17. What kinds of recommendations would you give to a new veteran student on campus?
18. Anything to add?