Joe Peters spent three years on active duty in the Army from 1975-1978 where he completed his GED. He subsequently attended Mercyhurst College where he graduated summa cum laude with a B.A. in elementary education in 1982. He taught grades K-8 physical education and grades 5-8 science before returning to graduate in 1984 with his dual master’s degree in both natural sciences and environmental education at Gannon University. He then taught high school science in the Erie, Pennsylvania Public School District until 1987 when he began teaching assistant and research associate positions at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Peters graduated with a Ph.D in science education in 1990 and joined the University of West Florida faculty as a professor of science education. At UWF, he was the Chair of Teacher Education, Associate Dean for Educator Preparation, and Coordinator of the University’s Doctoral Program. During the 2007/2008 academic year, he was mentored by The University of Florida President Bernie Machen as an American Council on Education Fellow. Prior to Georgia College, he spent time at Northern Marianas College in Saipan and as Dean of Education at Chaminade University. He joined Georgia College as Dean on January 1, 2015.

Dr. Peters was direct commissioned in the Army Reserve as a First Lieutenant in 1988 and promoted to Captain in 1992. His military service includes assignments as an Environmental Science Officer, MASH Company Commander, and Civil Affairs Public Education Officer.

Dr. Peters past community service includes participation as executive director representative to the Council of Scientific Society Presidents, North American representative to the International Council of Associations for Science Education, Executive Director of the Association for Science Teacher Education, the Public Relations representative and President of the East-West Toastmasters in Hawaii, participation with the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce *Leadership Pensacola* program, assistant scoutmaster, numerous Teacher of the Year Committees, serving on the Massage Therapy Advisory Council for Pensacola State College, and many other education boards and committees. He currently is a member of the Macon Toastmasters and Milledgeville GA rotary.