Mentoring Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury: 
Terms and Acronyms

- **ELeVATE**: Experiential Learning for Veterans in Assistive Technology & Engineering
- **TBI**: Traumatic Brain Injury
- **PTSD**: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- **OEF**: Operation Enduring Freedom
- **OIF**: Operation Iraqi Freedom
- **DoD**: Department of Defense
- **Praxis**: Practicing or enacting a learned skill or lesson
- **Aphasia**: Loss of ability to understand speech
- **Diffuse Axonal Injury**: TBI where damage occurs over a more widespread area
- **CDC**: Center for Disease Control
- **Paraphasic speech**: Individual has fluent speech but it is error-prone; will substitute one word for another, ultimately altering words and sentences
- **Dysphagia**: Condition in which swallowing is difficult and painful
- **Dysarthria**: Speech that is slowed, slurred, and difficult to understand due to damage/defects in the peripheral motor nerves
- **VLPWPA**: Veteran Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania
- **NMRL**: University of Pittsburgh Neuromuscular Research Laboratory