

APCSS professors teach at Mongolia conference

Dr. Jeffrey Reeves and Dr. Alfred Oehlers supported the Pacific Area Security Sector Working Group in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Sept. 17 to 26.

The two traveled at the request of U.S. Special Operations Command Pacific. They conducted lectures and assisted in facilitating discussions among 85 participants from nine nations on countering violent extremism, proliferation, disaster response, peacekeeping operations, and security sector development.

Among other U.S. government attendees were representatives of the U.S. Department of Energy and Joint Special Operations University.

Prof. Nankivell supports Indonesia maritime course

Professor Kerry Lynn Nankivell attended the Course on Maritime Violence at the Indonesia National Defence University Dec. 9-10. The course was conducted by the Center for Civil-Military Relations, a sub-agency of the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School.

Nankivell provided a lecture on the South China Sea to 25 international students and served on a three-person panel along with representatives of the CCMR and Defense Institute of International Legal Studies.

Faculty members attend U.S.-Japan relations event

A team of Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies faculty members joined their Japanese peers for the Oct. 21 to 31 U.S.-Japan Relations and Maritime Security in the East and South China Seas workshop in Tokyo.

Drs. David Fouse, Virginia Bacay-Watson, Alex Vuving, and U.S. Navy Cmdr. Alan Chace took part in a dialogue to determine how the two nations can best work together to ensure security in the maritime domain of the Western Pacific. Fouse conducted research while in Tokyo to gain a deeper understanding of Japan's evolving defense and political environment.



APCSS Director Lt. Gen. (Ret) Dan Leaf takes questions as part of the “Smart Power: The Military and Inclusive Security” panel at Georgetown University.

Inclusion focused: Director Leaf fields questions as ‘Smart Power’ panel member in D.C. symposium

“If you leave anyone in the organization on the sidelines, if you don’t leverage what they can contribute, your unit is less effective,” said Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies Director Lt. Gen. (Ret) Dan Leaf to an audience of students, officials, NGOs and diplomats at Georgetown University.

Leaf spoke at the symposium “Smart Power: The Military and Inclusive Security” in Washington, D.C., in December. The event was hosted by former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and The Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (GIWPS).

Leaf was part of an international panel moderated by Ambassador Melanne Verveer, GIWPS director, and featuring Ambassador Mariët Schuurman, special representative to the NATO Secretary General for Women, Peace and Security; Maj. Gen. Adrian Foster, deputy military adviser for the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations; and Dr. Akihiko Tanaka, president of the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

When asked how a person with his background as a fighter pilot became such a strong advocate of inclusion, Leaf

explained his commitment to security sector inclusion “is not in spite of my background, it is *because of my background*.”

“As a fighter pilot, what doesn’t work or doesn’t work well isn’t merely uninteresting, it will kill you. Naturally, I gravitate to what works, and inclusion works.”

The director related how upon assuming his role at APCSS, he looked at improving the Center’s responsiveness to its mission to promote stability, security and cooperation throughout the Asia-Pacific region. “The single best investment I could make...is to promote an inclusive approach to security and to promote women, peace and security.”

In response to a question on data supporting the value of inclusion, Leaf stated, “That’s one of our next strategic challenges at APCSS in women, peace and security. We’ve increased the participation; nearly doubled it. We’ve added subject matter to the curriculum.

“While the data exists,” he said, “It has not been synthesized in a way that is relevant, meaningful and compelling. Therefore, building the intellectual underpinnings of substantive instruction on WPS is a key task for the Center.”

Former RP armed forces chief talks security plan

APCSS alumnus spotlights country's 'whole-of-nation' approach

Gen. Emmanuel Bautista, former Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff, discussed his nation's internal peace and security plan Dec. 10 at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies.

The general is an alumnus of the Center's Security Sector Development (SSD 10-2) course. He used his APCSS experience to aid the Philippines military in developing a six-year plan to defeat terrorism. He laid out some of the plan's principle elements in a keynote speech before 28 Fellows attending the Transnational Security Cooperation Course (TSC 14-2).



Gen. Emmanuel Batista, former Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff and APCSS alumni, discusses his nation's security plan with Transnational Security Cooperation Fellows Dec. 10 at the Center.

Calling the plan “Bayanihan,” a Filipino term for community aid to one in distress, Bautista said the initiative moves the armed forces from a strictly combat strategy to a “whole-of-nation,” cross-sectoral approach.

“There is a need for complementary and concerted efforts (from) all our

stakeholders,” said Bautista. “While this is a military campaign plan, from the planning to the implementation phase, we involved other government agencies, non-government agencies, academia, religious (groups), and civil society agencies.”

The effects-based plan

has six objectives: contribute to a successful peace process; maintain a professional armed force; defeat terrorist groups; contribute to the resolution of conflict; help establish conditions enabling civil authorities to take responsibility for the population's safety; and support development initiatives.

Thus far, Bautista said the plan has resulted in the ongoing peace negotiations with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. The military has also “normalized” 48 of 75 provinces impacted by the Communist New People's Army, allowing civil authorities to take a lead security role.

The general related these effects may have contributed to the Philippines' unprecedented economic growth over the last three years.

Center supports ASEAN Regional Forum on maritime issues

The Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies played host to the Association of Southeast Nations annual maritime intersessional security meeting March 30 to April 1.

APCSS partnered with the ASEAN Regional Forum to facilitate discussions on pressing regional security issues, such as navigation safety, search and rescue,

maritime law enforcement, and domain awareness. They also conducted discussions on regional cooperation to resolve international tensions in the East and South China Seas.

The event was co-hosted by the U.S. State Department, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Philippines Department of Foreign Affairs.

Established in 2008, this annual ARF event provides a venue for “more focused dialogues” on maritime security issues impacting Southeast Asia.

The Forum is comprised of all ASEAN member states and other maritime nations, such as the United States and China.

Pictured at left, conference attendees take part in one of several workshop group breakout sessions.



Climate subject of Webinar

Climate change was the subject of the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies' latest Webinar conducted April 14.

Dr. Scott Hauger led a discussion on current and future global impacts as well as proposed tactics to mediate climate change's ill effects. Some of these effects, stated Hauger, are higher ocean, air and ground temperatures, leading to rising sea levels, ice melt and desertification. Hauger shared global response initiatives under consideration in the areas of mitigation, adaptation and response. APCSS Webinars are designed to maintain connections with alumni through discussions on key security-related topics. Those interested in future sessions, should watch for APCSS announcements.