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# Director's Message

Aloha from APCSS! We have just finished a number of APCSS program concept papers, which in sum, help us understand our prioritized next steps forward.

Whether in our evolving courses here in Hawaii, or in some shortened courses we will begin to offer in various Asia-Pacific national capitals probably once a year; or whether in our outreach activities, from full-up workshops addressing tough security challenges to consultancy work with organizations just needing APCSS help in organizing their analyses, we are trying to help alumni add new and necessary security capacity wherever it's needed.

Further, with 41 APCSS alumni associations now energized and doing their own internal continuing education, and with expanding internet connectivity from the APCSS public website, to embedded information portals, to APCSS*Link* which now supports over 1,200 subscribers and will soon have continuing-education information, chat, and video-teleconferencing capability, APCSS is investing in its alumni.

At APCSS, new educational technology in all seminar rooms is also enabling better focused analyses and more timely application of real-time information to real-world security case discussions. Less conjecture, and more facts, upon which to debate issues of the day, which impact all of us. And the menu of possible APCSS virtual learning activities will increase on the internet.

Additionally, the areas of shared learning are ever-more responsive to the most complex and challenging security issues of the day, as well as those most likely ahead. Whether it be civil-military relations as enabler and inhibitor, or water scarcity in South Asia as a conflict stimulant, or police and military mission interfacing, or ways and means to economic competitiveness, or security-sector development, or international organization preparedness to contribute to timely disaster relief management, or identifying ways to marginalize extremist elements and impacts, APCSS is contributing to tabling the right security issues for the right leaders to work together.



**Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Ed Smith, U.S. Army**  
*Director,*  
*Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies*

The physical plant at APCSS, moreover, is getting a “face-lift.” The roof will be renovated, energy-consumption will be “greener,” and a new wing will be added, funding permitting. This wing will house a new learning laboratory designed to help security practitioners better identify, aggregate, and apply critical, time-sensitive information during times of crisis, or routinely in anticipation of events, natural and man-made, which change the security situation within the region. The intent is to help these leaders know what they need to succeed.

As always, our alumni are our credentials at APCSS, and we continue to prioritize introducing valuable and proven ways, means and ends to help them help themselves.

And our APCSS alumni keep demonstrating how they are contributing to the betterment of their countrymen all over the region.

Keep up your superb work, alumni. We're proud of you and your accomplishments! Aloha from Honolulu!