

APCSS Dean attends 17th ASEAN Regional Forum Heads of Defense Universities, Colleges and Institutions meeting

The ASEAN Regional Forum, Heads of Defense Universities, Colleges and Institutions Meetings (HDUCIM) is a process enabling regional military leaders to engage in discussion of academic matters associated with the training and professional development of regional militaries. The Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies has been associated with ARF HDUCIM since 2008. This year Dean Carleton Cramer of APCSS' College of Security Studies attended the 17th HDUCIM held Nov. 11-14, in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, Darussalam.

The 17th HDUCIM was co-hosted by Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Korea. The Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces — Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan Bin Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin presided over the opening ceremony. The meeting focused not only on academic and intellectual discussion, but also served to further develop the professional relationships and close cordial ties between the ASEAN and ARF members. A total of 25 country delegations attended the meeting, as well as the European Union. The

U.S. delegation consisted of Brigadier General Tom Consentino, U.S. Army, and Dr. Cynthia Watson of the National Defense University (NDU) and Dean Carleton Cramer, APCSS.

The three-day meeting was structured around a series of plenary sessions. During these sessions a total of 17 presentations were made by selected country delegations and the International Committee of the Red Cross. In addition to the formal plenary presentations, a large number of bilateral meetings were conducted to enable HDUCIM members to discuss specific issues with each other. The Chinese delegation, headed by Major General Tianliang Xiao, People's Liberation Army (PLA), met with Brig. Gen. Tom Consentino and Dean Cramer.

The meeting focused on the Contemporary Operating Environment (COE). Specifically, country delegations reviewed: (a) academic research and curricula relating to the COE; (b) physical and other training modules relevant to COE; and (c) tools and collaboration efforts needed in addressing the COE. The 25 countries in attendance were keenly attuned to the changing nature of a dynamic Asia-Pacific security environment. It became clear



The Heads of Defense Universities, Colleges and Institutions gather to discuss professional development of regional militaries in Brunei Darussalam.

throughout the meeting that the center of gravity has shifted from traditional security challenges to non-traditional security challenges. There was recognition of the intricate relationship between the various actors and security challenges that collectively make up a complex, e.g., "wicked" security environment. The HDUCIM allowed ASEAN and ARF members to assess the new roles of regional militaries in a rapidly evolving security environment. Country delegations were able to discuss how curricula, teaching and research should be adapted to train regional militaries to perform in this new environment.

Many specific security challenges were highlighted as elements of the "new" contemporary operating environment. Two areas identified for multilateral collaboration included the

fight against terrorism and national disasters. The delegation from the Philippines gave a particularly insightful presentation on Humanitarian Assistance – Disaster Relief (HADR), including discussion of Typhoon Haiyan and the unfolding impact on the Philippines. Two other important themes highlighted in a number of presentations were recognition that the cyber domain was growing in importance as a vehicle to facilitate professional development and education, as well as the fact that military universities/colleges train both military and their civilian counterparts to be national leaders. In addition to the formal program, delegates were able to learn more about the history of Brunei and the Royal Brunei military through tours of the historic River Village, the Royal Regalia Museum, and the Royal Brunei military museum.

The HDUCIM presented unique alumni engagement opportunities. APCSS graduates present at this conference event included: Major General Yadmaa Choijamts, Director, Mongolia Defense University; Major General Mony Var, Vice Rector, Cambodia National Defense University; Major General Surasit Thanadtang, Deputy Superintendent, Thailand National Defense Studies Institute; Brigadier General (Ret.) Fermin R. De Leon, President Philippines National Defense College; Mr. Guilherme da Costa de Jesus Soares, Advisor to Director of the Timor-Leste National Defense Institute and Mr. Jolkipli bin Hidop, Senior Academic Advisor, Brunei Defense Academy.

The meeting reminds us that the Asia-Pacific security environment is complex. It requires new roles for our militaries and new ways of training our militaries. In this regard, APCSS is recognized as a leading educational institution with its emphasis on assessment; critical thinking; perspective and framing, applied learning through case studies, exercises and the Fellows project concept. As reflected by their presence and participation at the 17th HDUCIM, APCSS graduates continue to distinguish themselves as they advance regional peace and security through both individual and collective action.

APCSS faculty contribute to joint report on disaster preparedness

Three APCSS faculty members contributed to a report examining the possibilities of and also challenges to trilateral cooperation between the U.S.-Japan-Australia in international disaster relief in the Asia-Pacific region.

The title of the report is “Enhancing Trilateral Disaster Preparedness and Relief Cooperation be-

tween Japan, U.S. and Australia: Approaches from Various Civil-Military Perspectives.” This research project was funded by a grant from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP) as well as supported by the three bodies responsible for the report’s contents: Association for Cooperation between Japan, U.S. and Australia (ACJUA),

the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS), and Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

Three APCSS faculty contributed to the report: Dr. David Fouse, Ms. Jessica Ear and Dr. Jeffrey Horning.

The full report may be downloaded from the APCSS website at www.apcss.org.

APCSS Hosts First Webinar

In August 2013, APCSS hosted 25 participants, including 16 alumni, from across the globe, in the first-ever online webinar entitled “The Impact of an Isolated Regime on Asia-Pacific Security.” It was specifically designed to stimulate constructive dialogue leading to coordinated activities that result from a regional perspective and multilateral approach to minimize the risks and leverage the opportunities presented by the isolated regime in North Korea.

This series is the result of an APCSS initiative that began this spring with a survey of our international alumni on their views of North Korea, and how the U.S. (and more specifically, APCSS) could address the regional tensions caused by the DPRK regime. We received exten-



(above) Webinar screenshot with Dr. Marcus Noland. (right): Director Leaf and Dr. Steven Kim.



sive, thoughtful feedback from many of our alumni, and we are using the webinar series as a beginning step to generate discussion and gather regional perspectives.

Since this first webinar, APCSS has hosted several live-streamed events on topics such as North Korea, Social Media, Counterterrorism, and leadership development.

Advanced Security Cooperation 13-1

One hundred one senior military and civilian government leaders from 38 locations, one international organization and one regional organization graduated in May from the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies “Executive Course: Advanced Security Cooperation.”

Attending the regional security course were participants from: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Laos, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Niue, Pakistan, Palau, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Russia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, the United States, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Western Samoa, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations.

The five-week course is designed to enhance individual



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leader capabilities in critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and decision-making in complex and culturally diverse environments. Created specifically for mid-grade level security practitioners from across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond, the course provides an international setting that seeks to: enhance decision-making capacity in order to capitalize on opportunities for regional collaboration; improve international cooperation and interagency effectiveness

on regional security issues; construct solutions for addressing protracted challenges associated with the global commons; enhance civil-military relations and security sector effectiveness; increase capacity for improving governance and security sector integra-

tion; and develop extensive networks and relationships with a community of mid-career and senior level security practitioners and experts.

See the calendar on page 38 for upcoming ASC course dates.



Building teamwork is an important part of APCSS courses. It's done in seminar and through exercises.



ASC at-a-glance (Since 1999)

- 43 Classes
- 3,010 Fellows
- 59 Countries

Transnational Security Cooperation Course



Fellows from Transnational Security Cooperation course (TSC13-1).



TSC Fellows listening to a presentations on transnational issues.

The Transnational Security Cooperation course is an intensive program for current and future senior regional influencers/leaders; military officers at the one-to-four-star levels, as well as their civilian equivalents from the Asia-Pacific region.

The curriculum highlights emerging security issues in the region, with an emphasis on those requiring regional collaboration. A wide range of topics are covered in plenary presentations and elective sessions, including demographic change, economics, cyber security, transnational crime, climate change, and resource scarcity.

During 2013, two iterations of the course were conducted. The first was in June when 26 senior executives from 25 locations completed the course. The second was held in November when 29 senior executives from 27 locations graduated. Locations included: Afghanistan,

Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, France, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua-New Guinea, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, the United States and Vietnam.

The course includes interactive polling, a scenario development exercise, and discussions with senior officials during a session at the U.S. Pacific Command headquarters. Additionally, in the November course, guest speaker APCSS alumnus Cyril P. Cusi (ASC09-1) from the Philippines presented his perspective on security sector assessments.

"We were honored to have such a lively and engaging group of senior Fellows in the course. Their insights and experiences added depth to the discussions and

created connections which will last long beyond their week together in Hawaii," said course manager Dr. Lori Forman.

Course Fellows shared their appreciation for what they gained in the course in a post course survey. One stated that, "security is the factor somehow relatively connecting with the politics, economy and social life of the country. Before attending this meeting, I thought that security was only the matter of security agencies and organizations such as Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Home Affairs, etc. But now I have gained knowledge that other agencies like health, social welfare, disaster management, information technology are also involved in the security cooperation."

Another said that "[TSC showed us] the high degree of interactivity between all the Pacific regions. The

countries which are located at the Pacific Rim deal with the same risks and national security threats. Natural disasters, for instance, represent a serious threat to the [whole] rim. Fostering cooperation between both sides of the rim is critical. Isolation is no longer a way to respond to security challenges today."

In the end, one Fellow summed up the course by tweeting: "Best learning experience at @APCSS. Studies on Transnational Security Issues with Asia Pacific govt executives."

The next TSC course will be held in June 2014.

TSC at-a-glance

(Since 1999)

- 31 Courses
- 697 Fellows
- 40 Countries and 4 Int'l Organizations

Popularity of APOC continues...



With 148 Fellows attending the APOC 13-2, it was the second largest class in the history of APCSS.

The Asia-Pacific Orientation Course (APOC) was held three times during 2013. The first course was covered in the last issue of Currents. APOC 13-2 held in June and APOC 13-3 held in November graduated 148 and 100 Fellows respectively.

Although the majority of Fellows were from U.S. Pacific Command and other on-island major component commands as well as the U.S. Coast Guard, USAID, and U.S. Strategic Command, the classes also included non-U.S. participants. International Fellows

attending hailed from: Australia, Brunei, Canada, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan.

APOC provides an overview of the Asia-Pacific region, specifically presenting the socio-economic, political, military, cultural influences, and transnational trends and dynamics shaping its security environment, while also examining the increased role and impact of U.S. Rebalance efforts to the area. The instruction methodology is a balance of plenary presentations, small

seminar discussion groups, “brown bag” working lunch sessions, and elective seminars.

One of the many highlights of these courses for Fellows was the unprecedented number of elective seminars that were offered, allowing participants to individually tailor their experience and fields of study to topics and countries that interest them the most. All 20 elective seminars convened, with ample Fellow participation and interest. One participant remarked that they appreci-

APOC at-a-glance (Since 2007)

- 20 Courses
- 1,780 Fellows
- 18 Countries

ated the flexibility in the curriculum to choose various elective topics, making the course more meaningful.

Included in APOC 13-3 was a “brown bag” lunch session that was simultaneously webcasted to APCSS Alumni, “Security Implications of Recent North Korean Behavior,” given by APCSS Director, retired Lt. Gen Dan “Fig” Leaf.

Additionally, this class was organized, implemented and executed in a relatively short time frame. Due to course scheduling adjustments resulting from the temporary government shutdown in October, APOC 13-3 was prepared and seamlessly conducted within a three week period, indicative of extensive staff and faculty collaboration.



APOC 13-3 included 100 Fellows and was pulled together in record time.

73 graduate from Comprehensive Crisis Management course

Military and civilian government Fellows from 35 countries and territories, including a participant from the United Nations, graduated September 17 from the “Comprehensive Crisis Management Course.”

Attending the course were 105 participants from: Afghanistan, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kiribati, Laos, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, the United States and Vietnam.

The four-week CCM course is intended to deepen attendees' abilities to understand and deal with the multi-faceted, interdependent nature of both natural and man-made crises. The course focuses on actions to prevent routine emergencies from deteriorating into crisis, preparing for crises in ways that reduce their near-term impacts, and setting the conditions for cooperation and greater national resilience in future crises. In addition to this conceptual framework, the CCM course addresses national level considerations in crises including economics, social inclusion, governance and legal issues, strategic



APCSS leadership, faculty and Fellows pose for a group photo in front of the Center.

communications and climate change. International considerations in humanitarian assistance, including cooperation with the United Nations, are also discussed. The course culminates with a capstone exercise that enables participants to focus on the critical role of good governance in mitigating fundamental socioeconomic challenges that impact crisis resilience.

According to Dr. James Campbell, CCM Course manager, there was an “exceptionally high level of critical thinking and analysis among the participants in this course, which stimulated strategic level discussion on second and third order effects of crisis leadership decisions.”

CCM at-a-Glance (Since 1996)

11 Courses

650 Fellows

56 countries & 2 Int'l Organizations



Course Coordinator Tom Peterman (left) and Course Manager Dr. James Campbell welcome Fellows on the first day.



CCM Fellows work as a team on one of the exercises of the course.