



DANIEL K. INOUE ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES

CURRENTS



EMPOWERING

THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

Connect

Empower



DKI APCSS Director Peter Gumataotao and KDU Vice-Chancellor Maj. Gen. Milinda Peiris.
Director Gumataotao interacting with students at General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University.
Director Gumataotao meeting with U.S. Ambassador to Sri Lanka Julie Chung.

Aloha and Hafa Adai to our Alumni and friends of DKI APCSS,

I hope all is well with you, your Ohana, and your team. Your DKI APCSS Ohana is pleased to share our latest edition of Currents magazine, aptly themed “Empowering through Partnerships.” This edition of Currents reflects many courses, workshops, dialogues, and partnerships our Center has accomplished from January - June 2023.

As always, our Center firmly believes in the importance of working collaboratively to foster relationships built on transparency, mutual respect, and inclusion. In an increasingly interconnected world, where challenges and opportunities transcend borders and disciplines, leveraging partnerships built on trust and shared understanding has become an imperative. It is through these genuine partnerships that mutual solutions are built to address complex issues. These solutions are derived from empowered leaders who understand that no issue can be resolved entirely by an individual, an organization, or one country. An innovative, comprehensive, and collaborative mindset must become a habit to ensure we foster a free and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

We have done numerous engagements in the region at alumni events attended by many senior officials, including Prime Ministers and Ambassadors. We continue to partner with security institutions and think tanks abroad to foster networking and shared understanding. One example was with Thailand, where we signed a memorandum of understanding with the Thai Defense Studies Institute, agreeing to future partnerships.

In collaboration with the United Nations Command and the RoK-US Combined Forces

Command, DKI APCSS hosted a mobile Indo-Pacific Orientation Course (MIPOC), the first in over 5 years! The RoK MIPOC was a smashing success and demonstrated the flexibility of the DKI APCSS team in executing an existing course overseas. Based on the success of this MIPOC, we will be looking for more opportunities to conduct others in the region.

New workshops like Partners in the Blue Pacific, Adapting Alliances, and Whole of Society Resilience brought together leaders from the Indo-Pacific region and beyond. Through collaborative dialogue and the sharing of best practices, participants from diverse backgrounds and nations strengthened our collective security posture. They have set a precedent for sustained engagement and partnership-building on the global stage.

As you read through this issue, I encourage you to consider the power of partnerships and the incredible impact they can have on the Indo-Pacific region. Through these collaborations, we not only enhance our own capabilities but also contribute meaningfully to the peace and stability of the region.

To our Alumni, I hope you find inspiration and motivation in the stories presented within these pages. May they remind you of the boundless opportunities that await when we come together to empower ourselves and others through partnerships. I look forward to the continued impact, growth, and success that our partnerships will undoubtedly bring in the future.

Malama Pono and mahalo for your kokua!



Peter A. Gumataotao,
Rear Admiral (Ret.), U.S. Navy
Director, DKI APCSS

CURRENTS

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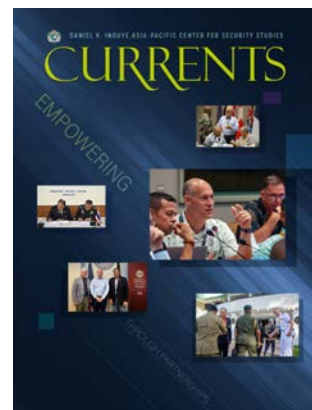
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THE COVER OF THIS EDITION FEATURES A DIVERSITY OF FELLOWS WHOM THE CENTER HAS EMPOWERED THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS.

Currents magazine is the unofficial publication produced biannually by the Public Affairs Office. This publication is for DKI APCSS employees, alumni, Fellows, future Fellows, and friends of the Center. It is available online at www.dkiapcss.edu. We use the Associated Press Style Guide when abbreviating ranks, regardless of individual service style.

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING *Signing*



Dr. Al Oehlers and Director Pete Gumataotao meet with Air Marshall Poomjai Leksuntarakorn, Chief of Staff, National Defence Studies Institute and Maj. Gen. Taksin Sirisingha, Director, Strategic Studies Center, prior to signing the MOU.



Director Gumataotao and Maj. Gen. Sirisingha pose together following the MOU signing.

"I am very pleased to welcome Director Gumataotao here in Thailand to celebrate this milestone in our alliance. SSC enjoys a special and long partnership with APCSS, where we teach leaders strategic thought. This MOU empowers us to continue our important work for future generations," said Maj. Gen. Taksin.

On January 19, 2023, Maj. Gen. Taksin Sirisingha, Director of the Thai Strategic Studies Center (SSC) and Rear Adm. (Ret.) Pete Gumataotao, Director of the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (DKI APCSS), signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation (MOU) at the Royal Thai Armed Forces National Defence Studies Institute in Bangkok.

The MOU provides a framework to advance cooperation in education and strengthen bonds of friendship. The MOU allows leaders from each institution to conduct exchange visits that will enhance cooperation on regional security issues. In addition, faculty and researchers will participate in exchanges to deliver lectures and conduct research cooperation.

The Strategic Studies Center is a Royal Thai Armed Forces institution within the National Defence Studies Institute that teaches strategic thought to the Thai military and government officials. It is tasked with

enhancing strategies to help resolve national security problems and other related threats.

"It is an honor to travel from Hawaii to be here today, in person, to expand our institutional partnership in the field of security practitioner education. I am excited about what the signing of this MOU signifies for the future of our alliance. This document will certainly enable new energy and potential to contribute to a safer, more prosperous, and secure Indo-Pacific region," said Director Gumataotao.

This year marks the 190th anniversary of formal diplomatic relations between the United States and Thailand and seven decades of our security alliance. The MOU is an excellent example of how our countries can work together to ensure we are prepared to address the Indo-Pacific security challenges of the future. In addition, DKI APCSS proudly counts more than 454 Thai security sector professionals as part of its alumni network.

DIRECTOR GUMATAOTAO VISITS NAURU GOVERNMENT'S AMBASSADOR'S RETREAT

Peter Gumataotao, director of the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, was invited as a special guest speaker for the Nauru government's ambassadors' retreat held in Cairns, Australia from June 28-30.

During the retreat, Nauru's ambassadors, who work in foreign affairs, trade and diplomacy, discussed potential considerations for a future bilateral security agreement between Nauru and the United States.

"I am very pleased that the leadership in Nauru are asking some exceptional questions regarding what it means to establish relationships with other countries," said Gumataotao. "[They are] looking at



overlapping priorities and areas of mutual interest and concern on how both countries can work collaboratively together to make Nauru a better place."

Director Gumataotao opened the event with a discussion on the emerging security

situation in the Indo-Pacific Region, focusing on regional and transnational threats and security issues affecting Nauru and other Pacific nations. The participants appreciated the presentation for highlighting the geopolitical, informational, transnational, and climate change challenges that Nauru is currently facing.

Director Gumataotao's invitation was extended by the Hon. Rennier Gadabu, Minister Special Envoy for the U.S.-Nauru Security Agreement, who acknowledged the valuable insights previously shared by Director Gumataotao during a Nauru delegation's visit to Hawaii.

WADE TURVOLD PARTICIPATES IN DSCA/REGIONAL CENTERS PANEL AT SEA AIR SPACE CONFERENCE

Washington, D.C., April 5, 2023 — Wade Turvold, Dean of Admissions and Business Operations at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, took part in a Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA)/Regional Centers panel during the Navy League's 2023 Sea-Air-Space Conference and Exposition in Washington.

The DSCA serves as an executive agent for six regional centers for security studies central to national security. The panel focused on the crucial role that these centers play in intellectual security cooperation, fostering relationships with allies and partners, and building future leaders.

Turvold highlighted the center's unique mission to maintain relationships with allies, partners, and friends in the Indo-Pacific region and advance U.S. interests through soft power. The Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies addresses regional and global security issues and invites military and civilian representatives



Wade Turvold (far right) participates in a DSCA Regional Centers panel.

of the United States and Asia-Pacific nations to participate in executive education and workshops. He emphasized the importance of relationship-building and partner capacity development, noting that most regional partners see the world through the lens of partnership rather than threat.

To read the full article on the panel discussion, visit: <https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/3352121/regional-centers-central-to-security-cooperation-agency-director-says/>

THE 67TH ANNUAL



EXCELLENCE

IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AWARDS PROGRAM



The Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (DKI APCSS) celebrated five individuals and a team at the 2023 Honolulu Pacific Federal Executive Awards ceremony on May 5, 2023, as part of the 67th Annual Excellence in Federal Government Awards Program and EXPO. The DKI APCSS honorees represented various departments, including the College of Security Studies, Admissions & Business Operations, and front office staff.

"I'm humbled and honored to receive this award," said Merrick Lambaco, DKI APCSS Federal Employee of the Year and budget analyst in the Resource Management Office. "I'm grateful for the recognition and thankful to my team and leadership."

Catrina Manabe from Human Resources also received recognition. "It is a great honor to be named Federal Employee of the Year in the Clerical and Assistant category," Manabe said. "I derive great pleasure from assisting people and value the positive feedback for resolving issues."

Doris Dyogi, who coordinated a high-stress program involving more than 2,000 annual visitors to the center, was named Federal Supervisor of the Year. Dyogi advised others to "trust and help each other to succeed. Stay positive and always learn from your mistakes."

Mentor of the Year went to Dr. Richard Vuylsteke, who highlighted the importance of "paying it forward" as a mentor.

DKI APCSS AWARDEES:

- Federal Employee of the Year (Leader, Supervisor, Manager):
Doris Dyogi – Regional Engagement Operations Coordinator
- Federal Employee of the Year (Professional, Administrative, Technical):
Merrick Lambaco – Budget Analyst
- Federal Employee of the Year (Clerical and Assistant):
Catrina Manabe – Lead, Human Resources Specialist
- Mentor of the Year:
Richard Vuylsteke – Professor
- Exceptional Community Service:
Ethan Allen – Professor

TEAM EXCELLENCE: PAO

- Ms. Mary Markovinic – Chief, Public Affairs Officer
- Mr. Eric Bartolome – Public Affairs Specialist
- Mr. Allan Criss – Digital Communication Specialist
- Mr. Douglas Carroll – Photographer/Videographer
- Ms. Dena Austria – Portal Manager

"Over the years, many excellent mentors have made a significant impact on my life and career," Vuylsteke said.

Dr. Ethan Allen emphasized the importance of community service. "I donate blood regularly and participate in Rotary International to build better communities," Allen said. "When we all contribute, the world works better."

The Public Affairs Office (PAO) received the Team Excellence Award for its diverse programs, from general public affairs to podcasting. "I'm fortunate to have such a talented and dedicated team," said Mary Markovinic, Chief of Public Affairs.



Lastly, Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Jim Hirai, who is pictured on the right, was honored for his service of 10 years as he stepped down from the Honolulu Federal Executive Board.



EXPERTS FROM EUROPE AND INDO-PACIFIC

COLLABORATE TO STRENGTHEN WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY RESILIENCE

Two Department of Defense regional centers joined their efforts to host the Building Whole-of-Society Resilience workshop. In collaboration with the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies (GCMC), the Daniel K. Inouye Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies held the Building Whole-of-Society Resilience workshop from June 12-15 in Garmisch, Germany. The event brought together 26 security practitioners from the European and Indo-Pacific theaters to discuss building whole-of-society resilience to hybrid threats in the two regions.

Dr. Michael Chase, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for China, Taiwan, and

Mongolia, participated in the workshop and provided opening remarks.

Said Chase, “We are here to exchange some lessons learned both from Europe and the Indo-Pacific and to talk about what we can do to build greater resilience and, more importantly, to identify some areas of cooperation going forward.”

On the first day, the participants arrived with varied understandings of the term “resilience.” Peter Gumataotao, director for DKI APCSS, began the discussion by referencing NATO’s definition of resilience as “the capacity, at the national and collective level, to prepare for, resist, respond to, and quickly recover from strategic shocks and

disruptions, across the full spectrum of threats.”

Following a strict policy of non-attribution, the participants engaged in candid discussions on how their countries could improve resilience. The dialogue emphasized a whole-of-society approach that incorporates the government sector and all members of society. Throughout the workshop, the ongoing Ukraine-Russia conflict presented a case study for the participants to learn how their countries can build resilience to respond to coercion and aggression by a malign actor.

Various other topics included:

- Countering economic influence or coercion.
- Improving humanitarian aid and disaster relief.
- Countering misinformation and disinformation.

In break-out working groups, the participants brainstormed practical applications for how they could improve good governance, build economic resilience, and strengthen civil society.

Jose Victor Chan-Gonzaga is the assistant secretary for the Philippine Office of American Affairs. Through the workshop, Chan-Gonzaga gained insight into how Europeans have been dealing with the problem of hybrid threats and non-kinetic warfare more than most countries in the Indo-Pacific. Returning to the Philippines, he sees his country's National Security Council need to integrate a whole-of-society



Katherine Harper, counselor at the Australian Department of Home Affairs shares insight on Day 2 of the workshop.

approach when addressing critical issues like national infrastructure and economic coercion.

Ivar Ekman, a defense analyst for the Sweden Defense Research Agency, saw similarities in the conflicts and potential conflict in the two regions. Said Ekman, "Europe has a role to play even with smaller countries in the [Indo-Pacific]."

Yoichi Kato, a special fellow at the Waseda

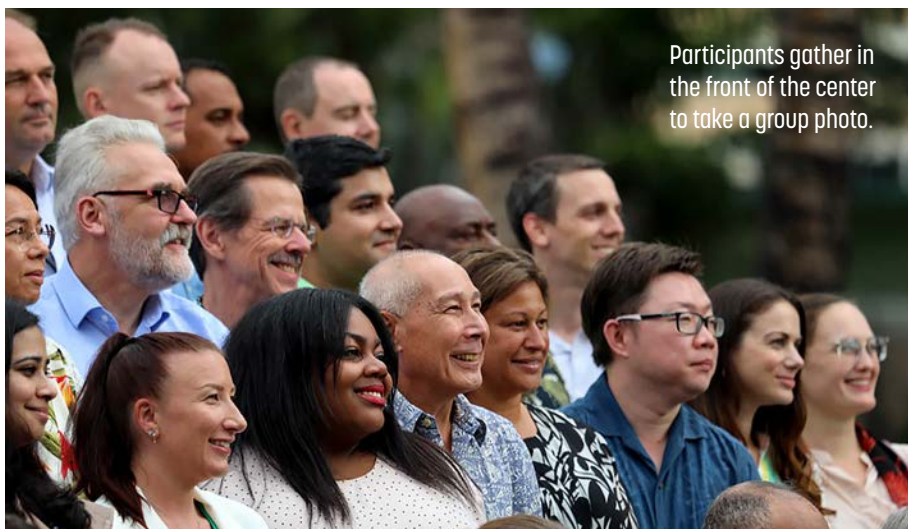
Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies in Japan, benefited from the workshop. Said Kato, "It was a great opportunity to understand the differences, focal points, and sub-elements for whole-of-society resilience in Europe and the Indo-Pacific regions."

"It was enlightening, and I will bring the outcome of our discussions back to Japan and try to disseminate it."

The Building Whole-of-Society Resilience workshop is intended to be the first of a series of events cosponsored by DKI APCSS and GCMC. While the two regional centers have partnered for alumni events and publications, the event represented the first in-person workshop cosponsored by the two institutions. While there are four other regional centers, DKI APCSS and GCMC are the two largest regional centers, with campuses in Honolulu and Garmisch, respectively.

STRENGTHENING SHARED UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE PARTNERS IN THE BLUE PACIFIC AND PACIFIC ISLANDS:

ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING (IUUF) AND MARITIME DOMAIN AWARENESS (MDA)



Participants gather in the front of the center to take a group photo.

The text of this statement was released by Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

A workshop on "Strengthening Shared Understanding Among Partners in the Blue Pacific and Pacific Islands: Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and

Maritime Domain Awareness" was held Jan. 24-26, 2023, at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu, Hawaii.

The workshop brought together officials and experts from the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Forum Fisheries Agency, Pacific Fusion Centre, and Pacific Islands countries, as well as PBP members Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States. PBP observers from the European Union, France, and India also attended.

Participants discussed the challenges around IUUF and MDA in the Pacific through a series of plenary sessions led by regional subject matter experts. The workshop culminated in discussions about regional priorities and opportunities for deepening cooperation on MDA. The workshop strengthened a shared understanding of IUUF and MDA challenges facing the Pacific, including capacity and capability gaps, and identified areas for further action.



Mr. Jed Royal, Principal Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Strategy Affairs, provides opening remarks

Maluhia 2023

PROMOTING A COLLABORATIVE POLICY ENVIRONMENT

The recent Maluhia 2023 workshop focused on building a better understanding of strategic policy in the region. Thirty-seven senior officials from countries within and outside the Indo-Pacific region gathered in Honolulu, Hawaii, from April 25-27 to achieve this goal.



Lori Forman

According to workshop lead Lori Forman, the Maluhia workshop is the highest-ranking recurring event held at DKI APCSS. The workshop builds on the successes and experiences of the Indo-Pacific Strategy Workshops held by DKI APCSS since 2018.

Said Forman, “[For Maluhia] we invite participants at the rank equivalent of a U.S. assistant secretary or higher to engage in policy-oriented discussions.”

The theme for Maluhia 2023 was “Promoting a Collaborative Policy

Environment.” Participants discussed the major enablers and inhibitors of international collaboration in the current security environment. According to Forman, some of these enablers and inhibitors have existed for years, but the current security environment has made them more pronounced and acute.

During the two-and-a-half days, participants shared their perspectives on the prioritization of regional issues, challenges, and trends reflected in their countries’ current Indo-Pacific strategies. They sought ways to preserve strategic cooperation elements in a new security paradigm.

Named after the Hawaiian word for “peace” and “security,” the Maluhia workshops provide an annual forum for exploring opportunities and challenges to enhance regional security in the Indo-Pacific.

Forman expressed gratitude for the close collaboration with colleagues in the U.S. Office of the Secretary of Defense Indo-Pacific Security Affairs office at the close of the workshop. The inaugural event laid a solid foundation for future workshops, and DKI APCSS looks forward to welcoming senior officials back to the center next year.



Professors Srinivasan and Alex Vuving lead a breakout session on foreign affairs and partnering with other agencies



Dr. Peter Sawczak, First Assistant Secretary at the Australian Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade, discusses regional collaboration



DKI APCSS alums from previous courses pose for a photo with Director Gumataotao.

A NEW WORKSHOP AIMS TO

MODERNIZE

THE INDO-PACIFIC'S SECURITY ARCHITECTURE

The Center debuted a new workshop aimed to modernize the security architecture in the Indo-Pacific. From February 6-10, 24 mid-level officials from 13 nations and three regional organizations participated in the Adapting Alliances, Partnerships, and Regional Security Architecture workshop held in Honolulu.



Fellow shares her point of view

The event has been two years in the making for Dr. Ginnie Watson, academic lead. In 2021, the Center's College of Security Studies saw a need to modernize a regional security architecture constructed after World War II. According to Watson, the Indo-Pacific's security architecture must modernize to reflect new realities and the legitimate shared interests of partners and allies to deter conflict. Watson hopes that the workshop will become an annual event, with future workshops taking place in the region.

The participants included representatives from the United States, Australia, Japan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, and Vietnam. The participants were primarily mid-level officials whose responsibilities included alliance management, regional affairs, defense policy and plans, and foreign affairs.

At the program's start, a survey revealed that almost two-thirds of the participants believed that the Indo-Pacific security environment was getting worse. The participants attributed the declining security environment to climate change, new technologies, rising regional tensions, and increased economic competition. Throughout the week, the participants identified various security threats in the region and assessed their collective ability to coordinate a response during a crisis.

The workshop's key insight was summarized in an aide memoire drafted by DKI APCSS professors. The participants agreed that a shared vision of the future and respect for the sovereignty of all nations is the most important principle for building the region's security architecture. They also determined that pursuing the rules-based international order should be based on values over national or regional interests. Additionally, the participants emphasized the need to create more ad hoc caucuses of like-minded countries or "mini-laterals."

The participants proposed the concept of "collective resilience" as a means to respond to new challenges and threats. According to



Workshop leads Dr. Alexander Vuving and Dr. Ginnie Watson.

Professor Victor Cha of Georgetown University, collective resilience is a multilateral approach to increase like-minded countries' economic and political resilience against Chinese economic coercion. In following the concept of collective resilience, like-minded countries build a coalition, develop a shared response, and strengthen resilience.

The event aligned with the U.S. Indo-Pacific Strategy priority to "modernize our long-standing alliances, strengthen emerging partnerships, and invest in regional organizations." It also supported the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command's priority to increase mini and multilateral events with allies and partners. The program included an address from Jed Royal, Principal Deputy Assistance Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Affairs.

Fellows break out into groups for a discussion



IPOC GOES MOBILE



MIPOC group photo



U.S. Army Foreign Area Officer Maj. Karen Deloria asks a question of Gen. LaCamera during this commencement address.

In collaboration with United Nations Command, ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea, the Center held the Mobile Indo-Pacific Orientation Course (MIPOC) from January 30-February 3. The Daniel K. Inouye Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies returned to South Korea for the first time since 2017 to host the course. According to course manager Dr. Tim Buehrer, the mobile version of the course presented a number of benefits to Fellows. With most participants coming from South Korea, the Fellows had a unique opportunity to create deeper networks to directly support their work on the peninsula.

Eighty-six Fellows gathered at the Lt. Gen. Thomas S. Vandal Training Complex in Camp Humphreys, South Korea. The Fellows came from 11 locations around the world

to attend the program, with representatives from Australia, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, France, Italy, New Zealand, Switzerland, and the United States.

In addition to the networking opportunities, Fellows reported that they gained a greater understanding of the complex security dynamics in the region at large. Maj. Shan Hoejgaard, Royal Danish Army, saw MIPOC as an essential training opportunity.

"I got here two months ago, and I had no former knowledge of the Indo-Pacific," said Hoejgaard. "This course has helped me tremendously. I've gotten information and knowledge that I can take straight out and use in the coming months that I'm here."

"I think the greatest value was what we've been calling 'zooming out,'" said Lt. Cmdr. Jason Olson, Defense Policy Officer, U.S. Forces Korea. "We've been focused so much



“[MIPOC] highlighted the importance of creating a community of security practitioners within a country or even a single military command,” said Buehrer. “People tend to work within silos, and breaking down those silos is critical.”

here on what’s going on in the peninsula, and there is a lot to focus on. To be able to zoom out and look at the whole region and see how what we’re doing on the peninsula fits and has ramifications throughout the rest of the region is really, really helpful.”

U.S. Army Foreign Area Officer Maj. Karen Deloria stated that “the value to me in this course is really getting to understand all of the nations in this region....and what is important to themunderstanding our relationships with themand understanding the challenges that are, not only important to the U.S. , but to our allies and our partners.”

The instruction centered around three themes: regional overviews, strategic approaches to the Indo-Pacific, and cross-cutting challenges and opportunities. Throughout the week, Center faculty presented information on factors contributing to the Indo-Pacific’s dynamic security environment. The lectures on cross-cutting challenges and opportunities covered good governance, economic security, cyber security, climate change, maritime security, and the impact of disinformation. The Fellows also had opportunities to attend electives to provided deeper dives on the issues.



Gen. Paul J. LaCamera addresses MIPOC Fellows during the commencement ceremony.

Lt. Gen. Andrew Harrison, British Army, Deputy Commander, United Nations Command, addressed the Fellows and emphasized the importance of coalitions and the value of information sharing. Gen. Paul J. LaCamera, Commander, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and United States Forces Korea, provided closing remarks to end the week.

“Within the Foreign Affairs Officer Community, this course has a great reputation. I think it’s well deserved,” said Lt. Col. Alexander Cole, a liaison officer with U.S. Marine Corps Forces Korea. “I think one of the best aspects of having this course out here in Korea, as opposed to the resident course, is the ability to bring so many like-minded individuals together. As graduates of this program, [we] walk away with a very experienced, impressive network that we can call upon to work through these various challenges that we see daily.”

The Lt. Gen. Thomas S. Vandal Training Complex was named after the former Eighth Army Commander and Chief of Staff for United Nations Command, ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command, and U.S. Forces Korea. He was instrumental in bringing the first mobile IPOC to Korea years ago.



1. Shortly after speaking at the MIPOC Lt. Gen. Harrison paid a visit to DKI APCSS. 2. During the course, Lt. Gen. Andrew Harrison, British Army, Deputy Commander, United Nations Command, addressed the Fellows and emphasized the importance of coalitions and the value of information sharing.



Fellows engaged in group exercise.



Fellows participate in a debate exercise on current issues affecting their regions.

CSC 23-1

ENHANCING SECURITY COOPERATION

The Comprehensive Security Cooperation (CSC) course 23-1 offered Fellows the opportunity to network while gaining insight into critical security issues in the Indo-Pacific region. Fellows explored topics such as Maritime Security in the South China Sea, the effects of climate change, Irregular Warfare and Counterterrorism, Cybersecurity, Misinformation and Disinformation, and Economic Security.

This iteration of CSC featured an increased emphasis on building critical thinking skills. The course management team, led by Professor Sam Mullins, reviewed the previous course, and found a need to dedicate more time to critical thinking skills. They revamped the critical thinking lecture and placed it at the top of the schedule, added a tabletop exercise, and included an entire set of electives on critical thinking. According to Mullins, the goal was to improve the analytical skills of security practitioners throughout the region.

Said Mullins, “Ultimately, we are helping Fellows to objectively and systematically think about really complex problems. While we won’t always be able to find solutions to all these issues, we hope they will be more

effective security practitioners who can better analyze the complex problems they are dealing with in their jobs.”

The course ran from Feb. 15 to March 22, and 81 Fellows from over 30 nations participated, representing every sub-region in the Indo-Pacific, as well as Europe, Africa, and the Americas. The course allowed Fellows to select one of three concentration areas: Maritime Security, Cybersecurity, and Economic Security. In an end-of-course survey, Fellows reported that CSC significantly improved their critical thinking skills and their understanding of the geo-strategic environment of the region.

“As a security practitioner for almost 20 years and a Coast Guard officer, I thought I knew enough about maritime security,” said Eduardo De Luna from the Philippines. “But when I came to the Center, I was overwhelmed. [My experience] changed my awareness and understanding of the whole world. It makes me a better officer when I return to my country.”

As part of their participation, each Fellow developed a Fellow Project, which they will implement upon returning to their home country. The projects covered a variety

of topics, from “Combatting Terrorism in Malaysia” to “Raising Awareness of Cybersecurity in Thailand’s Government” to “Addressing Drug Trafficking in Fiji.”

The course dedicated multiple events to “Women, Peace, and Security” in alignment with International Women’s Day and during Women’s History Month. A panel of female Fellows discussed women’s progress in their respective regions. During small group seminars, Fellows discussed women’s participation in security.

The Foundations of Fellowship program provided several opportunities for Fellows to participate in outings and team building events. They included a class trip to Bellows Beach, visits to Kualoa Ranch, the Polynesian Cultural Center, and the USS Arizona Memorial. In the final week of the course, the Taste of the World event celebrated the many cultures represented in the class with music, food, and dance.

“We met people from different backgrounds and cultures. That was the best experience for me,” said Ganngge Gamaethige from Sri Lanka. “We not only understood their experiences but their culture.”

CSC 23-2 GLOBAL SECURITY PERSPECTIVES

Fellows from over 35 nations graduated from the Comprehensive Security Cooperation (CSC) 23-2 course. The program ran from May 24 to June 29, attracting mid-level military, government, and non-government professionals.

Under the guidance of U.S. Navy Commander Liam Connel, who assumed the role of course manager, 104 Fellows embarked on an educational journey designed to expand their knowledge and foster meaningful connections among the participants from diverse backgrounds.

Commander Connel reflected on the course's achievements: "Our aim was to educate, connect, and empower, and I firmly believe we succeeded on all fronts."

The Fellows received lectures by DKI APCSS professors, which delved into a wide range of pressing topics affecting the Indo-Pacific region. The curriculum covered issues from economics, the complex U.S.-China relationship, to environmental security, irregular warfare, and climate change.

The small group seminars presented the best learning opportunity for most of the Fellows. Under the Center's educational model for shared learning, Fellows from different nations exchanged insights and experiences, offering unique perspectives on their respective countries security challenges. Claret Chungum, a foreign service officer from the Marshall Islands, praised the seminars as a valuable platform for understanding others and broadening one's horizons.

"The seminar emphasized the importance of expanding your mind to learn about other people, other cultures, and the issues unfolding around the world," Chungum remarked, highlighting the significance of cross-cultural knowledge exchange.



Fellows engaged in group exercise.

Connel underscored the importance of seminar groups, not only for fostering understanding but also for nurturing strong bonds among Fellows. Regardless of rank or position, the Center's core values of transparency, mutual respect, and inclusion ensured that every participant had an equal voice. Connel hopes these lasting connections will facilitate future collaborations in resolving security issues in their respective countries.

In an end-of-course survey, the Fellows identified climate change as the most pressing security issue affecting the Indo-Pacific region. Col. Mohan Chandra Gurung from Nepal gained insight during his seminar on the challenges faced by countries like Vanuatu whose people are dealing with climate change. Gurung acknowledged the need for a united effort in tackling this global crisis, stating, "If we neglect our environment and climate in Nepal, it will adversely affect those living in the sea."

For U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Cesar Hernandez his experience in the course put a face on issues he once thought were abstract.

"Now when I think about climate change, I think about my friend Dave from Tonga who is losing part of his city," said Hernandez. "I think about my friend Aki from Thailand, who just got flooded in Bangkok. It has become personal to me as a practitioner that I need to do better."



Fellows take a selfie before the course group photo

To provide a practical application to the lectures, the Fellows engaged in table-top exercises that simulated real-world crises. They also participated in a debate on "Whether the security environment in the Indo-Pacific is getting better or worse" and a panel discussion on "Women, Peace, and Security."

The course offered Fellows the opportunity to specialize in one of three concentrations: Counter Terrorism and Irregular Warfare, Information and Security, and Crisis Management. The Information and Security Track is a new concentration that equipped Fellows with media training and emphasized the importance of media literacy in an information environment fraught with misinformation and disinformation.

Guest speakers included French Adm. Pierre Vandier, Chief of the French Navy, U.S. Indo-Pacific deputy commander Lt. Gen. Stephen Sklenka, and former President David Panuelo of the Federated States of Micronesia.

The flags in the DKI APCSS lobby are a popular photo spot for Fellows





ALUMNI



The Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies hosted alumni events in several international locations including Mongolia, Cook Islands, Thailand, Fiji, Germany, Sri Lanka, India, Tonga, the Republic of Korea, and Hawaii. These events have fostered connections among attendees and facilitated discussions on regional security issues. Here are some highlighted events:



The event in the Republic of Korea was remarkably well-attended, drawing nearly 60 participants. This event was an extension of the Mobile Indo-Pacific Orientation Course (MIPOC), with about a third of MIPOC attendees staying on to attend the DKI APCSS alumni gathering in Seoul.



In Fiji, the alumni event supported the visit of Admiral Aqualino from the Indo-Pacific Command. The gathering connected him with our alumni network to gain nuanced insights into the security challenges facing Fiji and other Pacific Island nations.



In Mongolia, our alumni network helped lay the groundwork for a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mongolia Institute for Strategic Studies, which led to the development of a security seminar in partnership with Mongolia's National Security Council.



In India, the event was especially noteworthy. DKI APCSS Director Pete Gumataotao and Professor Shyam Tekwani met with Smita Sharma, a foreign policy journalist who also serves as a visiting faculty member

at the Kautilya School of Public Policy. Sharma was the valedictorian speaker for the ASC 16-1 course.



The alumni event in Thailand was hosted by JUSMAGTHAI and attracted over 30 attendees. The gathering featured a presentation on the successful completion of a Fellows Project. Distinguished alumni present included retired General Nothapol Boonngam, who serves as the Alumni Association President; Air Marshall Poomjai Leksuntarakorn; retired Vice Admiral Goson Triyakun; and the current Thai SSC Director, Major General Taksin Sirisingha.



In June, the team from DKI APCSS visited the Cook Islands. There, they met with 12 of the 22 total alumni from the Cook Islands. The group was led by Tepaeru Herrmann, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, John Hosking, the Secretary of Transportation, and Garth Henderson, the Secretary of Finance. Mr. Sears, the Deputy Director of DKI APCSS, gave letters of congratulations to alumni who were promoted to higher levels of responsibility.

These alumni events served as an excellent forum for security professionals and policymakers to reconnect, exchange ideas, and discuss pressing issues relevant to their regions. The events enabled meaningful networking and significantly contributed to strengthening international partnerships for future collaboration.

ALUMNI AND FELLOW'S SPOTLIGHT



ERICH MEIER JR.

COMPLETES FELLOW PROJECT FOCUSING ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Erich Meier Jr. graduated from the Comprehensive Security Cooperation (CSC) course in March 2022. While eager to complete his Fellows Project on maritime security, he soon discovered that his project would have to change. After the course, Bangladesh officials notified him that his planned symposium on maritime security had to be canceled due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Determined not to give up on his Fellows Project, he created a new project to host a symposium on human rights during the early stages of detention. His project was titled "2nd Asia Pacific Police Colloquium." After approval from his faculty mentors, he

began planning for the event in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Philippine National Police. The event took place from November 27 to December 1, 2022, in Manila, Philippines, and brought together senior police officers from 12 different countries to discuss human rights issues during the early stages of police detention.

According to Meier, persons in custody by law enforcement across the Indo-Pacific region face a substantial risk of human rights violations. The symposium emphasized the need to train police on how to protect the human rights of their citizens. During the workshop, the participants developed awareness of preventing excessive force, preventing ill-treatment during interrogations, preventing sexual violence, and ensuring access to medical and legal services.

In February 2023, Meier returned to the Center as a special guest speaker to discuss

his completed project. The Center presented Meier with a certificate of completion and a red-lettered lanyard that commemorates the completion of his Fellows Project. In addressing the Fellows of CSC 23-1, Meier encouraged them to coordinate with others in their organizations and define the milestones for completing their project. He reminded them that they would need perseverance and discipline to complete their tasks.

Said Meier, a former officer in the Brazilian military, "For any police officer or service officer, giving up is not an option. We have to accomplish our mission."

Meier plans to continue hosting events that raise awareness of humanitarian rights in the early stages of detention. He plans to host another event with the ICRC in 2023. Meier currently serves as the regional police and gendarme delegate for the ICRC and is stationed in the Philippines.

 youtube.com/watch?v=Cj6426nLmg0



CLARET CHUNGUM

SHARES HER EXPERIENCE FOLLOWING IN HER GRANDMOTHER'S FOOTSTEPS

With more than 25 years of educating, empowering, and connecting security practitioners around the world, we're now seeing participants whose parents or even grandparents attended a course at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies.

Claret Chongum recently graduated from the Comprehensive Security Cooperation (CSC) course 23-2 on June 29. Hailing from the Marshall Islands, she works as a Foreign Service Officer in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Her grandmother, Rosalie Konou, is also an alumna of the Center, having graduated from the Advanced Security Cooperation course in 2014.

Claret's grandmother attended the course when Claret was in high school. When she was invited to participate in a course at the same institution, she was thrilled to share the news with her retired grandmother, the first female lawyer in the Marshall Islands. "She was so excited," said Claret.

"She couldn't stop talking about her experiences and the friends she made from other countries."

When Claret took the course, she and her grandmother spoke every night, discussing lectures, activities, and critical issues affecting their homeland, such as climate change and illegal, unregulated, and unreported fishing. Claret shared what she was learning from Fellows from various countries like Palau, Pakistan, Indonesia, and Mongolia. Her grandmother helped to focus her

Fellows' Project. Her project aims to enhance the exit strategy for Marshall Islands nationals living in Taiwan in the event of an armed conflict.

Claret's grandmother remained in touch with her friends from the Center even after almost a decade, and Claret plans to do the same. She feels grateful for the shared experience with her grandmother and values the friendships and knowledge gained during the course. For Claret, the connections made during this 5-week experience have enriched her life.

Claret stated that through the course, "I feel fortunate to now have more friends, an even greater network, and even greater knowledge on very important and relevant issues."

 youtube.com/watch?v=Bb5CUDy9kRk&t=8s



Eun Jung Yi, Nurul Hidayah, and Ruri Prabaswari

WIWN LAUNCHES TO EMPOWER AND CONNECT WOMEN ALUMNI OF CSC 22-2

Exciting news! Eun Jung Yi, Nurul Hidayah, and Ruri Prabaswari from the Comprehensive Security Cooperation course (CSC 22-2) initiated the Women Inspiring Women Network (WIWN) and hosted the inaugural gathering online on March 17, 2023.

After completing a course in Hawaii, many of the Fellows expressed their desire to stay connected and continue to build the friendships they had forged during their time together. Responding to this need, three alumni – Eun Jung Yi, Nurul Hidayah, and Prabaswari (Ruri) – have initiated the Women Inspiring Women Network (WIWN). This platform is designed to keep the Fellows connected and inspired by each other while also promoting peer mentoring and providing opportunities for mutual learning and growth.

The WIWN held its inaugural gathering online, with eleven Fellows from different parts of the world, including Southeast Asia,

South Asia, Africa, the Middle East, America, and the Pacific, coming together to stretch their thinking about professional development and leadership. The event was kicked off by DKI APCSS professor Dr. Miemie Byrd who gave celebratory remarks and encouraged the Fellows to keep growing and learning from one another. Dr. Byrd also suggested that the network could be extended to include Fellows from other cohorts.

During the gathering, the participating Fellows engaged in two sessions where they shared news about their professional and personal lives. In the first session, the Fellows discussed the challenges of achieving work-life balance, which was identified as a key topic. Many shared their difficulties over fulfilling multiple responsibilities as women without much sense of strategy. The Fellows also shared their experiences and suggestions to overcome these challenges. Some of the tips shared included the value of communication and partnership with family

members, shifting perspectives to take advantage of both duties and accepting the challenge, and continuing to strive for it.

The second session, titled “I am your inspiration,” saw Col. Siliva Raradoka Vananalagi (Lipa) share her trajectory of becoming a leader in UN peacekeeping operations and Fiji’s military forces in an international environment. Lipa’s key message to the group was, “Own your responsibility and be bold.” The Fellows expressed their appreciation to Lipa for sharing her experience and wisdom.

Eun, Hidayah, and Ruri plan to continue hosting online sessions every quarter and hope to see more Fellows, both men and women, join in the future. The network provides a supportive and inspiring community that fosters growth and learning among its members. Long live DKI APCSS Ohana!

Please see the article on Globalnet or the alumni Facebook group for contact information.



Mr. Sanghoon Kim

CONFLICT SCENARIOS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA AT SEA

Mr. Sanghoon Kim (CSC 22-1) completed his Fellows Project by publishing this volume to the Korea Institute for Maritime Strategy. The volume “Conflict Scenarios Between the United States and China at Sea” was recently published on the KIMS website. It includes a concluding chapter by DKI APCSS’ Dean of Admissions and Business Operations Wade Turvold who wrote this chapter while serving as a faculty member at the Center.



Col. Mendee Jargalsaikhan

BALANCING ECONOMIC SECURITY: INSIGHTS

Col. Mendee Jargalsaikhan, a DKI APCSS alumnus and Deputy Director for Mongolia's Institute for Strategic Studies of the National Security Council, shared his insights from attending the Comprehensive Security Cooperation 23-1 course and the Executive Course 01-2 in a testimonial.

He expressed, "The biggest security challenge for Mongolia is economic security issues. The neighbor in the north is involved in a war in Europe. This has disrupted our trade with European countries. As a result, our reliance on China's economy — for markets, infrastructure, and logistics — has grown. It's essential for Mongolia to contemplate reducing our dependency on both neighbors and focus on enhancing our country's self-sufficiency."

▶ Watch Col. Jagalsikhan testimonial at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7w4nVMhKNxk>



Dr. Lori Forman, a professor and development advisor at DKI APCSS, along with senior diplomatic advisor Seth Bailey, visited Mongolia to participate in the Ulaanbaatar Dialogue Conference and the Third Neighbor Roundtable. During the conference, they reconnected with DKI APCSS alumni: Fig. 01 features Mrs. Soyolgerel Nyamjav (ASC 17-1) and Col. Mendee Jargalsaikhan (CSC 23-1). At the same time, Fig. 02 showcases Colonel Munkh-Ochir Dorjjugder, Chief of Mongolia's National Security Council.

STANDOUT FELLOWS RETURN TO THE CENTER AS 'ALUMNI SEMINAR LEADERS'



Two standout alumni, Purnima Malik “PM” (CSC 22-1) from India and Oliver Nobetau “Ollie” (CSC 22-2) from Papua New Guinea, served as Alumni Seminar Leaders for the Comprehensive Security Cooperation (CSC) 23-1.

According to course manager Dr. Sam Mullins, his team implemented the Alumni Seminar Program after seeing the benefits of a similar program at the George C. Marshall Center for Security Studies in Germany.

Said Mullins, “[The Alumni Seminar Leader program] is an awesome opportunity that I think is beneficial to the Fellows who get to come back here and contribute to the professional development of their peers.”

Prior to the start of the course, PM and Ollie spent a week in seminar leader training learning how to facilitate discussions among the fellows. When the fellows arrived, PM and Ollie took time to adjust to their new roles as leaders. They built relationships with the Fellows in their seminars and in the discussions modeled the Center’s core values for mutual respect, transparency and inclusion.

“It takes a bit of getting used to,” said Ollie. “Especially reminding yourself that you are not a fellow anymore, but you are actually responsible for the fellows. I remember my first day here, running around and rounding up fellows to make sure no one got lost.”

Said PM, “The fundamental thing to understand is that it is no longer about PM or India. It’s about all the fellows.”

As seminar leaders, PM and Ollie each partnered with a DKI APCSS professor to lead a seminar made up of Fellows from across the Indo-Pacific region. PM and Ollie participated in all of the course activities and faculty planning discussions, gaining a behind-the-scenes view of the level of detail and planning it takes to execute the course. After completing the program, the alums came away with a greater commitment to fostering collaboration in their home countries.

Alumni Seminar Leaders have been included in the past two iterations of CSC. Reviews from the faculty and fellows show that the alums provide invaluable leadership and insights from the region. CSC’s course management team will look to include more Alumni Seminar Leaders in future courses. Candidates who qualify to be an Alumni Seminar Leader will have stellar recommendations from the Center’s faculty. While not a requirement, previous experience in teaching and expertise in topics relevant to a course are desirable. The next iteration of CSC will take place from 24 May – 28 June.

FACULTY ARTICLES PUBLISHED

Article links available at dkiapcss.edu/latest-news/

DR. SUNGMIN CHO



“Does China’s Case Falsify Modernization Theory? Interim Assessment,”
Journal of Contemporary China.

Using the political science theory of modernization,

Dr. Cho revisits the question of whether China’s economic development has brought democratic changes in China or not. While the modernization theory suggests that economic development should lead to democratization, many analysts have claimed that China has not made democratic progress at all, despite its economic growth.

Dr. Cho argues that there has been a certain degree of democratic progress in China, in terms of increasing social aspirations for a more open and free society among the Chinese people. Dr. Cho explains why and how scholars reach different conclusions about democratic progress in China. Dr. Cho

emphasizes the importance of understanding discrepancies between (1) the lack of change in the state’s system, (2) oscillation between liberal and illiberal policies, and (3) progressive changes in society.

“Nationalism versus liberalism: A South Korean view of the Taiwan issues”
Taiwan-U.S. Quarterly Analysis series

At the invitation of Brookings Institution, Dr. Sungmin Cho contributed an essay for its Taiwan-U.S. Quarterly Analysis series.

In this essay, Dr. Cho explains, “The Taiwan issue is often viewed by leaders of the United States and its allies as a contest between democracy and authoritarianism. From a South Korean perspective, however, the Taiwan issue also represents a clash between nationalism and liberalism.” Dr. Cho argues, “While nationalism emphasizes the importance of the group over the individual, liberalism privileges the individual. From a nationalist perspective, individuals are expected to align their preferences with the goals of the nation. However, young South Koreans and Taiwanese view their individual

rights as inalienable, which cannot be violated by state coercion.”

“How South Korea can contribute to the defense of Taiwan” *Washington Quarterly.*

According to Cho, “It remains unclear what South Korea can and should do in a Taiwan contingency. U.S.-China competition is currently fiercest over this issue—it is the most likely potential cause of a great-power war between the two sides. Preventing this outcome through enhanced deterrence depends on the policies of U.S. allies like South Korea. What can South Korea do to support U.S.-led efforts, and what are the major hurdles in attaining deeper bilateral cooperation on Taiwan issues?”

The article provides background on South Korea’s approach to the Taiwan issue to date. It evaluates South Korea’s strategic importance and explores how China and North Korea may respond to increased South Korean cooperation with the U.S. It recommends ways to leverage the U.S.–South Korean alliance to maintain peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

DR. ALEXANDER VUVING

“Is Vietnam Torn Between Land and Sea in Its Defense?” *The Diplomat.*

Vuving says, “The choice between maritime and continental orientations is a key question for Vietnam’s grand strategy, but it is misleading when the question is about Vietnam’s defense strategy.”

In the article, he elaborates on these two orientations and states, “Land and sea define the geography and history of Vietnam, but the land-sea binary does not define real strategic choices in Vietnam’s national defense, nor does it pose a genuine dilemma for Vietnam’s strategists. There is a mutual

relationship between defense strategy and grand strategy, but the connection must not be mechanical.”

“Ukraine shows how China will not get far posing as a peacemaker” *Nikkei Asia.*

According to Vuving: “In offering its Ukraine peace initiative, China is capitalizing on the world’s hopes for bringing the conflict to an end and restoring stability to global food and energy markets. On the surface at least, Chinese President Xi Jinping has more leverage than virtually anyone to bring to bear on Russian President Vladimir Putin to change course.

“Thus, when Xi traveled to Moscow to meet with the Russian leader last week, there were high hopes that he could lay the groundwork for mediation between the belligerents. Xi ultimately did so, but in a way that would skew global discourse and tilt the negotiating table in favor of Russia.”



MAJ. TONY SMITH

“Civil-Military Operations in the Age of Artificial Intelligence” *part of the Ninth Volume of the Civil Affairs Issue Papers.*

The paper argues that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is changing modern warfare and presents both challenges and opportunities for Civil Affairs (CA).

The paper highlights the U.S. Department of Defense's 2018 AI strategy and its limitations, emphasizing the misuse of AI by geopolitical rivals. Civil Affairs has a unique role in countering this through information strategies that weaken an opponent's influence and decision-making in conflict scenarios.

Using the Ukraine War as a case study, the paper explores how AI complicates current Civil-Military Operations (CMO). It argues that CA must adapt by understanding AI's role in the civil environment and by integrating this knowledge into joint military efforts.

Maj. Smith proposes three solution areas: detection, protection, and defense. Detection involves identifying AI technologies affecting the civil environment. Protection focuses on minimizing risks to Civil Affairs forces, while defense aims to counter geopolitical rivals' attempts to destabilize society and institutions.



In conclusion, the paper advocates for a proactive Civil Affairs role in countering the malicious use of AI, emphasizing the need for new strategies that enable winning without fighting.

Women, Peace, and Security



DKI APCSS Faculty Support the WPS Symposium in South Korea

Professors Miemie Byrd and Bill Wieninger were in South Korea June 13-14 to support the Women, Peace and Security Symposium sponsored by the United States Forces Korea, United Nations Command, and the Republic of Korea. Byrd and Wieninger provided an overview of Women, Peace, and Security to an audience of mostly U.S. and South Korean service members.



DKI APCSS Faculty Speak at Naval War College Symposium

Two DKI APCSS faculty made waves at the U.S. Naval War College's 9th Annual Women, Peace, and Security Symposium held April 26-28.

Dr. James Minnich contributed with a book chapter and panel presentation on “Politics of Belonging: Men as Allies in the Meaningful Inclusion of Women in the Security Sector.” During his talk, he discussed how women's inclusion in the security sector is increasingly being seen as a matter of national security as nations struggle to fill ranks.

Meanwhile, Dr. Miemie Winn Byrd spotlighted the unique role of women in Myanmar's uprising. Focusing on their innovative, non-lethal strategies and mastery of strategic communication, she highlighted how these women mobilized local and global Myanmar communities, effectively challenging the junta's dominance.



dkiapcss.edu/dki-apcss-faculty-participate-in-women-peace-security-symposium/



“National Biodefense Strategies in South-east Asian States”

by Deon Canyon and Benjamin Ryan

The paper reviews current strategies, pathogen emergence from South East Asia (SEA) neighbors South Asia and China, and potential roles for the military in anticipating and mitigating infectious disease risks.

The authors argue that SEA states are now at the frontline of fighting emerging infectious disease outbreaks, and there is an urgent need for countries to strengthen national biodefense strategies. This includes developing comprehensive biosurveillance systems, increasing laboratory capacity, and building a skilled workforce to respond to outbreaks quickly.

The paper also highlights the potential role of the military in supporting national biodefense efforts. This includes providing logistical support, conducting research, and deploying medical resources to affected areas. The authors stress the importance of cooperation between civilian and military authorities in responding to infectious disease outbreaks.



“Mainstreaming Zoonotic Spillover Prevention at Source in National Action Planning for Health Security in Line with the Core Focus of One Health”

by Noel Lee J. Miranda and Mary Elizabeth G. Miranda

Zoonotic spillover – diseases that spread from animals to humans – is a major health security concern, as exemplified by the COVID-19 global pandemic. In the paper, the authors propose a One Health approach, in which human, animal, and environmental health are considered together, might be the best way to mitigate the risk posed by emerging infectious disease.



“Strategic Clarity: An Argument for Effective Deterrence”

by Lt. Col. Jeffery C. Higgins

Higgins stresses the urgent need for the United States to clarify its strategy towards the People's Republic of China (PRC), especially in the context of growing global power struggles. Higgins warns that the U.S.'s current policy of "Strategic Ambiguity" is increasingly ineffective and may even be counterproductive, potentially paving the way for military conflict. He points out that this lack of clear communication in American deterrence policy has not only emboldened China but also created uncertainty among U.S. allies in the region. The ambiguity, he argues, has inadvertently escalated tensions and risks leading to an undesirable and costly military conflict.

“Artificial Intelligence for Security Practitioners: A Conversation with ChatGPT”

by Major Brent Feller

In his paper, Maj. Feller demonstrates ChatGPT's ability to provide succinct information on key security-related topics in the Indo-Pacific, such as maritime security and illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. While AI can be a valuable tool for increasing knowledge and providing insights, Major Feller emphasizes that users must verify information from multiple sources. They must also exercise critical thinking in security decision-making.

The article also highlights the limitations of AI tools like ChatGPT in building relationships, a crucial aspect of solving regional security concerns. Major Feller notes that while ChatGPT can facilitate communication and dialogue among stakeholders, personal interactions and context-specific approaches remain vital in fostering cooperation and collaboration.

As AI continues to develop and reshape various professional fields, DKI APCSS is committed to embracing new technologies to enhance its mission. The Center will continue to focus on cultivating relationships among civilian and military practitioners and institutions to advance a free and open Indo-Pacific.

“A Comparative Survey of Security Approaches toward Unexplained Aerial Phenomena across The Indo-Pacific”

by John Reiss

The article details the recent rise in Unexplained Aerial Phenomena (UAP) reports and takes a look at how different countries across the Indo-Pacific region approach the potential threats posed by them. Despite being regional rivals, countries like the United States, China, and Russia all seem to take similar approaches toward addressing individual UAP instances as well as how they analyze and study this intriguing mystery.



Myanmar Economy in Tailspin

2 YEARS AFTER THE MILITARY COUP

By Dr. Miemie Byrd

Myanmar, also known as Burma, has been in an economic freefall since the failed military coup of February 2021. The coup, led by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, has resulted in widespread conflict, unrest, and international condemnation. The military junta's incompetence and mismanagement have led to many economic problems for the country, including a devaluation of the currency and a brain drain of the working-age population. After a decade of steady growth, the economy contracted by 18% in 2021, with little projected improvement in 2023. In addition, international sanctions and the blacklisting of Myanmar by the international Financial Action Task Force have deterred foreign investment.

One of the major issues facing Myanmar's economy is the devaluation of its currency, the kyat. The kyat has lost approximately half its value. This devaluation increased inflation to as much as 16% in 2022, making it more expensive for citizens to purchase goods and services. As a result, purchasing power has been greatly reduced, and many citizens are struggling to afford even basic necessities. The World Food Programme estimates that 14.4 million people, more than 25% of the population, face food insecurity. The devaluation has also hurt businesses, making imported goods and raw materials more expensive and leading to decreased economic activity. Additionally, the depreciation has made it more difficult

for Myanmar to attract foreign investment, as the currency's instability deters investors. The overall economic situation in Myanmar has become increasingly dire due to the devaluation of the kyat, and it will likely take significant time and effort to restore stability to the economy.

Another major problem is the brain drain of the working-age population, with thousands estimated to be leaving the country every month. Since the coup, many young professionals and skilled workers who remained have been jailed and killed. This has resulted in a shortage of skilled labor in Myanmar, further hindering economic growth. Additionally, the ongoing civil unrest has made it difficult for businesses to operate, leading to job losses and decreased economic activity.

Since Myanmar's economy has become dominated by the military and its cronies, international sanctions have made it difficult for it to trade with other countries and have further weakened its economy. International sanctions have been targeted at the military junta and its businesses as well as individuals and companies that support the regime. In addition to the economic sanctions imposed by the international community, the ongoing political and human rights crisis in Myanmar has also led to the departure of many international businesses. Many of the most prominent multinational companies have left the country, including Telenor, Kirin, Woodside Petroleum, Chevron, TotalEnergies, Volitalia, and British American

Tobacco, due to concerns over the military's role in the government, human rights abuses, and the unstable political situation.

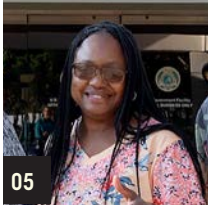
This departure of international businesses has led to a significant loss of jobs and income for the people of Myanmar and a decrease in overall economic activity. It has also further limited the country's access to foreign investment and technology, hindering its ability to develop and modernize its economy. A critical degradation of infrastructure, such as energy and communication, has made it impossible for businesses to operate reliably. Furthermore, the sanctions and business departures have also decreased the country's foreign currency reserves and increased inflation, making it even harder for the country to import goods and services and pay off its debts.

Myanmar's economy has been in a tailspin since the failed military coup in February 2021. The junta's incompetence and mismanagement caused the devaluation of the currency, a brain drain of the working-age population, and economic sanctions. As long as the junta manages the economy, it is unlikely to recover. Therefore, it is crucial for the international community to continue to put pressure on the junta to restore democracy and to allow a qualified civilian government to address the country's economic problems.



Article references:

dkiapcss.edu/myanmar-economy-in-tailspin-2-years-after-the-military-coup/



KEY LEADER ENGAGEMENTS

DKI APCSS hosted over 30 Key Leader engagements from January to June 2023 to discuss relevant national security topics and enhance DKI APCSS collaboration, networks, and outreach in the region. Key leader engagements supported several U.S. mission partners and various leaders from each of the four Indo-Pacific sub-regions.

- 01. **Amb. Marie Damour**
U.S. Embassy Fiji, Kiribati, Tonga, Nauru and Tuvalu
- 02. **Amb. Yohannes Abraham**
U.S. Mission to ASEAN
- 03. **Amb. Brian McFeeters**
U.S. Embassy Malaysia

- 04. **Amb. Robert Godec**
U.S. Embassy Thailand
- 05. **Amb. Bonnie Jenkins**
Undersecretary for Arms Control & International Security, U.S. Dept. of State
- 06. **Amb. Pete Haymond**
U.S. Embassy Laos

- 07. **U.S. Army Pacific Command Spouses**
- 08. **International Fellows**
U.S. National Defense University
- 09. **Reps. Ed Case, D-Hawaii, and Chris Stewart, R-Utah**
- 10. **Chungang University**
- 11. **Gen. Shin, Heehyun**
Commanding General, Republic of Korea Army 2nd Operational Command
- 12. **Maj. Gen. Reginald Neal**
Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Pacific Command

- 13. **Lt. Gen. Jody Daniels**
Chief of Army Reserve and Commanding General, U.S. Army Reserve Command
- 14. **Mr. Sonny, Commissioner, Federal Acquisition Service**
U.S. General Services Administration
- 15. **Fleet Master Chief David Isom**
Command Senior Enlisted Leader, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command
- 16. **Maj. Gen. Chris Smith**
Deputy Commanding General (Australia) for the U.S. Army Pacific
- 17. **Rear Adm. Jo-Ann Burdian**
Assistant Commandant for Response Policy, U.S. Coast Guard



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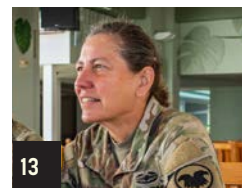
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18. **Kylie Rendina**
Assistant Commissioner at Australian Border Force
19. **Defense Intelligence Agency International Fellows**
- Amb. Julie Chung**
U.S. Embassy Sri Lanka
- Mr. Jedidiah Royal**
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs
- Mr. Thomas Mangold**
Dean of International Programs, U.S. Navy War College
- Ms. Jessica Lewis**
Assistant Secretary Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, U.S. Dept. of State

- Ms. Andrea Appell**
Chargé d'affaires, U.S. Embassy Maldives
- Amb. Richard Buangan**
U.S. Embassy Mongolia
- Major General Jennifer Short**
Deputy Director for Strategic Planning and Policy, USINDOPACOM
- Mr. Chuck Prow**
CEO V2X
- Students and Faculty**
Advanced Strategic Leadership Studies Program ASLSP
- Foreign Army Military Attaches**
U.S. Dept. of the Army
- International Affairs Division**
U.S. Pacific Air Force

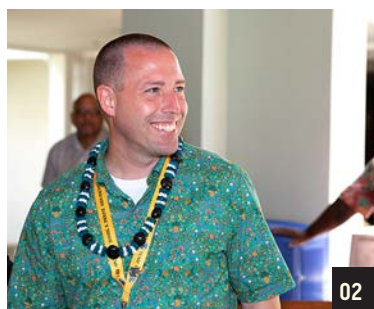
- Air Marshal Richard Pratley**
Assistant Chief of Defence Staff, United Kingdom, Royal Air Force
- Amb. Ashok Kumar Mirpuri**
Singapore's Amb. to the U.S.
- Brig. Gen. Dave Yarker**
Director General, Info Management Operations, Canadian Armed Forces
- International Fellows**
U.S. Army War College
- Gen. Dan Hokanson**
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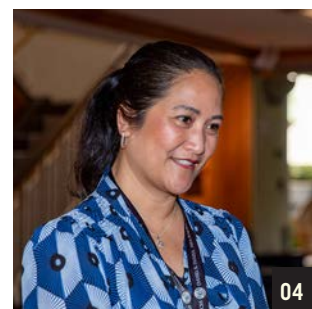
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02



03



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 Matthews (USAF).....CSS
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EOG: Executive Operations Group
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 ISD: Information Services Dept.

PAO: Public Affairs Office
 REO: Regional Engagement Ops.
 RM: Resource Management
 S & A: Strategy & Assessment

01

DANIEL K. INOUE ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES



02



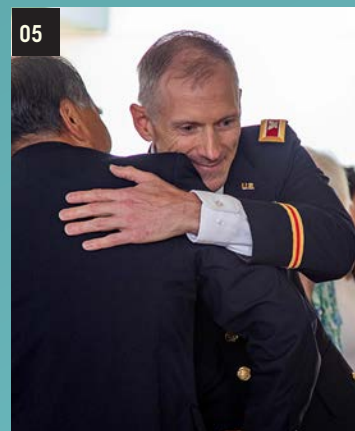
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06

From Senegal to Staff Sergeant: Coulibaly Promoted



On March 30, Ouleye Coulibaly (pronounced oo-lay coo-lee-bal-ee) was promoted to Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army. A photo from the event shows Ouleye during her promotion ceremony at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies. Her promotion was celebrated by more than 50 staff and faculty members, including her husband, Abdou, and her two-year-old son, Muhammad.

Coulibaly's journey started in the westernmost part of Africa. Born in Dakar, Senegal, she spent her childhood going to school twice daily, once in the morning and again in the late afternoon. Throughout the week, she took additional classes to learn the Quran and read Arabic. On weekends, her mother taught her cooking and cleaning skills, which she used to help manage a household of over a dozen family members. Looking back, she fondly recalls living in a home filled with conversation and laughter, where she never needed a screen for entertainment.

"We had each other," recalls Coulibaly. In 2015, at 15, Coulibaly and her brother moved to Irvington, Alabama, to join her father, who had been working there as an engineer. This move was a significant change from the bustling city of Dakar, and she struggled to adapt to the quiet town of only 12,000 people. However, she excelled in her studies at Alma Bryan High School.

She improved her English, earned straight A's, and took Advanced Placement French. After graduating, she wanted to pay for her own college tuition. She spoke with an Army recruiter and decided to enlist as a human resources specialist.

When she told her parents she wanted to join the Army, her mother was skeptical. In Senegal, the military required women and men to shave their heads, and the training conditions were known to be harsh. She assured her mother that serving in the U.S. military would be different. She officially enlisted in August 2016.

Coulibaly completed her basic training at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina. Interacting with soldiers from different cultures and various parts of the country, her confidence grew. When some recruits showed fear when confronted with the ire of their drill sergeants, Coulibaly wasn't afraid. She knew that the drill sergeants were doing their job so when they made her do push-ups, she took it as an opportunity to grow stronger. She credits her Islamic faith for helping her transition to life as a soldier, believing whatever happens in her life is because God wanted it that way.

In her four years stationed in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Coulibaly learned from her leaders. In particular, Capt. Shane Roche, Sergeant First Class Kamika Fenkley, and Sergeant First Class Kevin Brown.

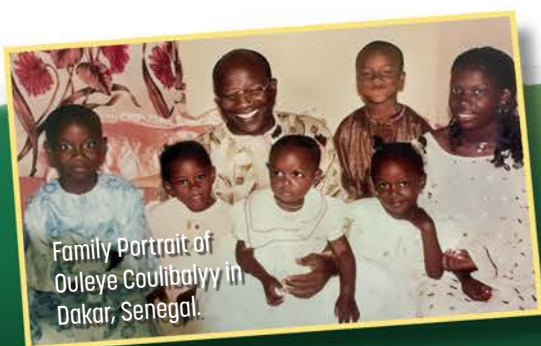
She realized that the best kind of leaders communicate well and put others' interests before their own. In September 2021, she arrived in Honolulu to work in the Center's Administrative Management Office, where she was promoted to staff sergeant.

Reflecting on her promotion, she never thought this day would come. When she first enlisted in the Army, her goal was to complete her college degree and become an officer through the Army's Green-to-Gold program. However, she delayed her studies to give birth to her son. In 2021, she graduated from American Intercontinental University with a degree in health care management. Looking back, she cherishes the extra time she took to become a mother.

"I wouldn't trade the time having my son with anything else," she says.

In her promotion ceremony, she thanked her husband for supporting her military career and her parents for instilling in her faith and the value of doing your best. While she still misses her family in Senegal, she appreciates the lessons she learned from immersing herself in the U.S. culture and its military.

"[Coming from Senegal to the United States] gave me a broader understanding of other people," she says. "You know more than just one way and become open-minded. It taught me how to put myself in others' shoes and have empathy."



Family Portrait of Ouleye Coulibaly in Dakar, Senegal.



Coulibaly and her classmates celebrate graduating from basic training



Coulibaly is congratulated on her promotion to staff sergeant.

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With three generations, DKI APCSS becomes a **FAMILY TRADITION**

One of the ideological bedrocks of the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies is the concept of “ohana,” or family. In the past, the Center has had fathers and sons, fathers and daughters, and spouses as alumni or staff. The Butler family is the first to have three generations to have worked at the Center.

Matriarch Wendy Gibson worked at the Center in the conference division back in 2002. Retired Lt. Gen. “Hank” Stackpole was president at the time.

Years later, in 2020, her daughter-in-law Jen Butler took a job at the Center in the same division. A military spouse, her husband, Col. Rich Butler, was working at the Indo-Pacific Command.

Recently, their daughter, Bridget Butler, served as an intern at the Center supporting both the College and the Public Affairs Office.

Looking back on her time at DKI APCSS, Wendy said, “One of my favorite memories was a recurring thing that happened in this very area (lanai). Every month, Hank Stackpole would celebrate birthdays. He would gather them all in a line and read a horoscope. It was a very good horoscope. And one that was funny and serious at the same time, mostly funny. And, of course, he had a style of reading it that enhanced it as well, and those people were described horoscope-wise to the delight of everyone else. And then

we had cake and goodies. It was just a treat every month for everyone to get together. It was a family environment.”

For Jen Butler, coming to DKI APCSS was a long-term goal. “Unfortunately, only had a year...the needs of the army,” said Jen. “It hurt my heart to leave. It really did. I wanted to work here because of mom having been here. I kept hearing about, you know, just how many things they did. And what a great place it was to work, and I wanted to be a part of that.”

“With my husband’s background, I learned a lot about the Indo-Pacific region. He was involved in planning, strategy, and things like that. The combination of those two really was the clincher for me. And when I got here, I just learned so much more about the big picture. It was such a wonderful place to work. So when Bridget had the opportunity to apply for an internship, I told her she really needed to do that, and she was only here a couple of weeks and called me and said, ‘Oh, I see what you mean, and I really can see the big picture now, too.’”

Will Bridget be sending a future family member to DKI APCSS? “Yes, that’s not even a question,” she laughed. “It doesn’t even have to be a daughter. It really is a family environment, both figuratively and literally, and an eye-opening experience too in every way.”



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