



Indo-Pacific VANTAGE POINT

Educating, Connecting, and Empowering US, Allies and Partners

DKI APCSS Monthly Newsletter | **June 2025**



Allies and Partners



Engaging Allies and Partners

Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (DKI APCSS) Director Suzanne P. Vares-Lum recently completed her first official trip to the Indo-Pacific region since assuming leadership of the Center. She accompanied Adm. Samuel J. Paparo, commander of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, on visits to Malaysia and Singapore before traveling on to Japan to continue engagements aimed at strengthening U.S. alliances and partnerships [Read more...](#)

Readiness



CSC 25-2: Understanding as the First Step

One hundred Fellows from around the world recently completed DKI APCSS's Comprehensive Security Cooperation Course (CSC25-2). The course gave Fellows a better understanding of the complexities of the Indo-Pacific and an opportunity to do a deep dive into topics such as China, Cognitive Warfare, and Defense Industrial Base.

[Read more](#)

Allies and Partners



Faculty support USARPAC Chaplain's conference

Two DKI APCSS faculty contributed to Strategic Religious Partnership Training-25, presenting on the role of religion in Indo-Pacific security and strategic competition. Their insights supported U.S. Army Chaplain Corps efforts to strengthen regional partnerships and values-based leadership.

[Read more](#)



Spirit of the Warrior Award

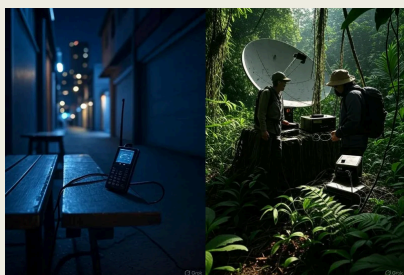
DKI APCSS Director Suzanne Puanani Vares-Lum received the Mana O Ke Koa "Spirit of the Warrior" Recognition Award from U.S. Army Pacific. The annual award honors individuals who demonstrate unwavering support for Soldiers and their families. [Read more](#)

Faculty Media and Publication



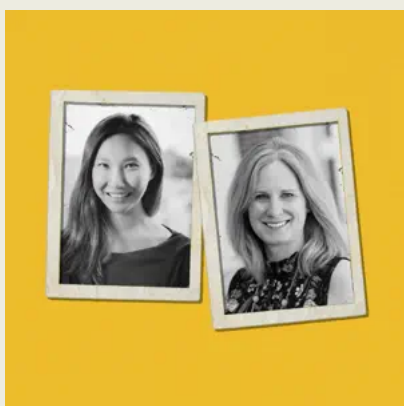
[War in South Asia Is a Wake-Up Call: Achieving Peace Through Strength in an Age of Industrial Deterrence](#)

A new Security Nexus paper by Shyam Tekwani examines how a brief India-Pakistan conflict revealed key strengths and weaknesses in South Asia's defense-industrial systems, highlighting the critical role of performance, supply chains, and reliability in modern deterrence.



[Imagining the Near-Future of American Irregular Warfare in the Indo-Pacific](#)

A new *Small Wars Journal* paper by Jeremiah "Lumpy" Lumbaca proposes a future-focused Irregular Warfare strategy for the Indo-Pacific to counter the 4+1 threat through decentralized networks, tech, and human-domain operations.



Counterpoint Foreign Policy Podcast

This episode explores whether South Korea should develop nuclear weapons amid shifting U.S. defense commitments. Featuring expert debate between Jennifer Lind of Dartmouth and Lami Kim of DKI APCSS, the discussion weighs security, sovereignty, and regional stability.

[Listen to this episode](#)

Key Leader Engagement



Brigadier General Randy Lau, Nevada National Guard

- Dr. Dennis Walters, Director, Irregular Warfare Center
- Arman R. Talbo, Consul General, Philippines
- Consul General Roundtable-
 - Uchel Raley Naito, Consul General, Palau
 - Annie Kaneshiro, Honorary Consul, Tonga
 - Glansay Enos, Consul General, Marshall Islands
 - Henry Shrew, Consul General, FSM (Virtual)
- Midori Akamine, Honorary Consul, UK
- Deputy Chief of Mission Gregory D'Alesandro, U.S. Embassy Majuro

Upcoming Events

- **Transnational Security Cooperation**
(TSC 25-1) - Jul. 13 – 18, 2025
(TSC 25-2) - Dec. 7 – 12, 2025
 - **Comprehensive Security Cooperation**
(CSC 25-3) - Aug. 13 – Sep. 17, 2025
 - **Indo-Pacific Orientation Course**
(IPOC 25-1) - Oct. 20-24, 2025
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Dialogue



The image shows the cover for episode #45 of the 'Dialogue' podcast. On the left is a graphic with a world map background, the 'DKI APCSS SECURITY NEXUS' logo, the word 'Dialogue' in a stylized font, the subtitle 'Conversations Shaping Security', and the title 'Eric Olander: China and the Indo-Pacific South'. Below the title is the episode number and date: '#45 | MAY 30, 2025'. At the bottom of the graphic, it lists 'ERIC OLANDER, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, CHINA GLOBAL SOUTH PROJECT', 'JAMES MINNICH, HOST', and 'DANIEL K. INOUE ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES'. On the right is a photograph of two men: Eric Olander, wearing a blue and white checkered shirt, and James Minnich, wearing a dark suit and a blue shirt with a yellow pin.

Watch the latest episode of *Dialogue*: "A Conversation with Eric Olander on China and the Indo-Pacific Global South."

Upcoming: "Dialogue 47 | China's Military Bet on the Future" with Elsa Kania — July 16 at 3 p.m. HST. Register at: dkiapcss.edu/47

Visit the Dialogue website to explore recent and upcoming episodes and learn more about the series.

Dialogue Website

Alumni news: Japan alumni event



DKI APCSS, in collaboration with the U.S. Embassy in Japan and Capt. Dan Fillion, Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché, hosted an enriching alumni event in June. More than 30 distinguished alumni participated, including 10 flag officers and civilian equivalents. Adm. Akira Saito, chief of staff of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force, led the group. The gathering strengthened U.S.-Japan relations and supported interagency collaboration and networking in Japan. Thank you to all who attended and contributed to its success.



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