

Strategic Studies Honor Dr. Don Snider

Strategic Studies Honors Dr. Don Snider

Oct. 13, 2016 – the Army War College staff and community celebrated Dr. Don Snider's retirement from the Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College, in Bliss Hall Auditorium at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

SSI hosted the ceremony for Don Snider's exceptional service as a prominent standard bearer of military professional stewardship, and to recognize his enduring contributions to fostering a climate of professionalism and ethical behavior in the Army.

During the ceremony Maj. Gen. William Rapp, Commandant USAWC, read letters sent to him to congratulate Mr. Snider. One of these letters from Prof. Dick Cone, UNC Chapel Hill, he wrote "you have made a real difference, with a combination of practical military experience and informed scholarship in convincing entire generation of Army leaders of the need to address their normal, address their values, their teachings to women and men of the next cohort," Cone wrote. "You have always been and will always be value added in the very best since that work," he finished.



In the Winter 2015 edition of Parameters the US Army War College Journal, Snider wrote,

The Department of the Army is, in fact, an institution of dual character. It is at the same time both a governmental bureaucracy and a military profession. Thus there is a powerful, internal tension raging between the competing cultures of bureaucracy and profession. Only one can dominate institution-wide and at the levels of subordinate organizations and units. Presently, and after fifteen years of war, there are indicators the culture of profession dominates that of bureaucracy, but only weakly so

[The Army's Stewards] alone have the moral responsibility and accountability to keep the Army a military profession, and thus an effective national instrument of land-power. And they will only do so by urgently and forthrightly addressing, among many others,



the issues outlined in this essay. –‘Will Army 2025 be a Military Profession?’

Dr. Snider holds a Doctorate in Public Policy from the University of Maryland. He helped lead a two-year effort to produce the first-ever doctrine on the U.S. Army as a military profession (ADRP-1, *The Army Profession*, 2013). Subsequently, he assisted another such effort in 2015 that refined the Army’s Professional Ethic. A partial list of Snider’s professional publications includes –

- *The National Security Strategy: Documenting Strategic Vision*, 2013
- *Once Again, the Challenge to the U.S. Army During a Defense Reduction: To Remain a Military Profession*, 2012
- *American Civil-Military Relations: The Soldier and the State in a New Era*, 2009
- *The Army’s Professional Military Ethic in an Era of Persistent Conflict*, 2009.
- *Dissent and Strategic Leadership of the Military Professions*, 2008

This celebratory event will mark Snider’s third retirement -- first from active duty as an Army colonel, then from the Center for the Army Profession and Ethic at West Point, and now from his position as Professor of the Military Profession and Ethic, with the Strategic Studies Institute.

U.S. Army War College Archives - News Article - 14 October 2016