

## Students engage with FBI, WSJ and FEMA leaders during staff ride

By Elena Patton, Public Affairs Office 09 April 2021



*Students talked with top NYPD leaders during their National Security Staff Ride. Thank you for your experience and insights about organizational complexities and what the future holds.*

*Today, leaders from the FBI virtually engaged with students during the NYC National Security Staff Ride.*

During the annual NYC National Security Staff Ride, students engage directly with leaders, ambassadors, CEOs, directors from media and financial services corporations, UN missions and major NYC government organizations. Through these interactions, students tap into more than 100 years of strategic leaders' experience.

This year, students are participating virtually in small group sessions with leaders of large corporations and agencies representing the nation's Diplomatic, Informational and Economic and Law Enforcement interests. The FBI, South Sudan's UN Mission, NYPD, FEMA, Deloitte, NBC Universal, and Goldman Sachs are among the many large-scale organizations whose representatives took time to interact with USAWC students, April 6-9.

The NSSR creates diverse educational experiences for students, providing access to senior leaders who can give examples of managing complexity, develop policy and strategy, how they lead large organizations, envision the future, and manage organizational culture and talent—all major themes of the core USAWC curriculum, said Robert Mundell, NYC Event Coordinator.

Student Col. Lynn Lee participated in the session with FEMA leaders who discussed the agency's planning process. "They have lines of objectives very similar to the ones we learn here in the Military Strategy and Campaigning course," said Lee.

"Interesting were the similarities with the military on issues of retention, diversity, recruitment, suicide, and psychological—PTSD—that law enforcement officers, and their departments are challenged with," said student Col. Michael Lewis, referring to the NYPD small group session.

Leaders from the Wall Street Journal, FBI, and FEMA virtually engaged with students. The presenters addressed a variety of broad topics: how journalism affects business, economics and politics, what leadership challenges FBI Field Officers face when prioritizing and resourcing competing missions, and what strategic planning tools FEMA utilizes for all hazard responses.

Col. Andrew Flor talked with WSJ representatives. "The value of the presentation came from listening to WSJ employees, from the Editor-in-Chief on down, who explained the structure of the news, how they vet their stories, and how they make them fit with the WSJ tone and style," said Flor.

Col. Mark Andres saw comparison between the FBI and DoD. "FBI leaders face similar strategic leadership challenges to those of DoD leaders: translating policy to strategy, efficiently managing processes and resources to meet assigned missions, and leading personnel across direct, organizational, and enterprise roles simultaneously," said Andres.

"FEMA did exceptionally well in connecting the importance of strategic planning, given their requirement to coordinate and manage resources," said Col. Robert Horvath.

The organizations for the NYC Staff Ride are carefully selected. USAWC looks for large organizations that influence the economic elements of national power, impact and inform audiences on key elements of national security and integrate and synchronize their resources with other departments to achieve the desired effects, said Mundell.

During the staff ride, students also network with these leaders. "It is always important for senior leaders that are entering into the strategic level to better connect with the society that they serve, and the NSSR allows for that interaction to occur," said Mundell.

In addition to UN Missions, students met, in small groups, with representatives from the following organizations:

#### New York

- Kings County Court
- NYC Government
- New York City Stock Exchange
- New York Life
- Fire Department of NY
- NYNJ Port Authority
- Saltzman Institute

#### Federal

- U.S. Attorney Southern District
- Federal Reserve
- Code of Federal Regulations
- Drug Enforcement Administration
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Corps of Engineers
- Immigration/Customs Enforcement
- Council of Foreign Relations

#### Financial Services/Consulting Firms

- Deutsche Bank
- US Bank
- Bank of America
- CITI-Bank
- US Bank
- Goldman Sachs
- Morgan Stanley
- Atairos
- Ernst & Young
- Prudential
- Warburg Pincus
-

- ENTIRE LIST

- Barclays
- Fisher Bothers
- Interpublic Group
- Peppercomm
- Young and Rubicam
- Guidehouse
- DDB Advertising
- Davis Polk
- National Association of Corporate Directors

National Media

- ABC News
- CNN
- Associated Press
- Media Executives Jim Moroney
- LinkedIn
- Audible

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