

# 90 senior officers begin Army War College Fellows program

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*Gen. Ray Odierno, Chief of Staff of the Army, spoke to the Army War College Fellows of the Class of 2013 in Collins Hall. “This is a time to think about your experience and how it relates to the future and how it can help your Army,” he said to the group.*

Aug. 9, 2012 -- 90 Army War College Fellows and members of The War College Class of 2013 began their experience with a new

orientation program that includes more integration with the members of the resident class July 30.

After an internal review of the Fellows program, several enhancements were made to leverage the Fellows' talents and experience in addressing strategic issues relative to the Army, according to **Dr. Lance Betros**, the War College Dean.

“The revamped, two-week program includes many guest speakers and presentations designed to advance the Fellows' understanding of how the Army operates in the context of the federal government,” said Betros. “Additionally, it will help the Fellows transition quickly to the intellectual demands of graduate-level education and orient them to the strategic issues facing the Army and Nation.”

Each year the Department of the Army selects a limited number of officers as Senior Service College Fellows. The selected officers to take part in a unique 10-month program that partners the Army and various universities, allied service schools, civilian “think tanks”, corporations, and government agencies, in lieu of residence at a senior service college.

“The program serves as an opportunity for the officer to obtain an educational experience equivalent in quality to the resident course program based at a civilian institution where there are different goals and

objectives,” said **Kevin Connelly**, senior service college program deputy director. “They are able to see how the corporate and civilian worlds work strategically.”

Officers from the active component, National Guard and Reserve are assigned to the USAWC to study and conduct research in this capacity during a given academic year. This year, 90 Fellows are taking part 46 different fellowship programs. The 90 fellows are the largest in the programs history.

Organizations and universities that are hosting fellows this year include Harvard University, the Central Intelligence Agency, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, iRobot and U.S. Institute of Peace.

“This is a unique experience interacting with academia and the general public, hopefully diversifying myself in the process and contributing to the needs of the Army,” said Lt. Col. Dean Franks, who will study at the University of North Carolina.

“This is a great opportunity to see how the defense industry comes together from the non-military perspective,” said **Lt. Col. Nathan Hunsinger**, a Secretary of Defense Corporate Fellow whose fellowship will be at iRobot. “We often have a DoD perspective on how this relationship works, but we don’t see the other side – deadlines, costs of overhead, issues like that. With sequestration looming over not just us but these companies as well, this is a great opportunity to see how we can realize some costs savings from both perspectives.”

**Col. Wayne Green**, also a Secretary of Defense Corporate Fellow, will work with the Merck Corporate Headquarters.



“I’m

looking for shared solutions for shared problems,’ he said. “The Army is similar in many ways to a Fortune 500 company in scope and size. We both have to look at ways to control costs and increase efficiencies with our stakeholders. The only difference is that our stakeholders are the taxpayers, not shareholders. I can’t wait to see how they solves these problems and bring those solutions back to the Army.”

**Lt. Col. Steven Nicolucci** will head to the Center for Strategic and International Studies for his fellowship.

“I’m hoping to gain a high level exposure to Department of Defense policy influences,” he said.

The fellowship aren’t just held at American institutions as **Col. Nick Lovelace** with study alongside French military officers, industry partners elected officials and journalists at the Institut des hautes études de défense nationale in France.

“This will provide me an excellent opportunity to strengthen my relationship with the French Army,” said the Sub-Saharan Africa Foreign Area Officer. “This fellowship will allow me to better understand the expertise of one of our key NATO allies and will help me greatly in the future.”

This year also sees a further enhancement of prior years efforts to more fully integrate the Fellows into the USAWC. Each of the fellows is assigned to a USAWC resident program seminar and integrated into the first week of social and academic activities for the resident class.

“The intent is to enable the Fellows and the resident students to share perspectives and benefit from each other's educational experiences,” said Betros. “We are committed to maintaining the relationship between the Fellows and the College throughout the academic year, to include the potential for the Fellows' participation in NSS Week and the resident graduation ceremony. I am confident that the Fellows and their resident-course classmates will benefit equally from the interaction.”

The program dates back to 1972 and in 1987, under the direction of the Chief of Staff of the Army, the USAWC established a direct affiliation with the fellows and created the current program.