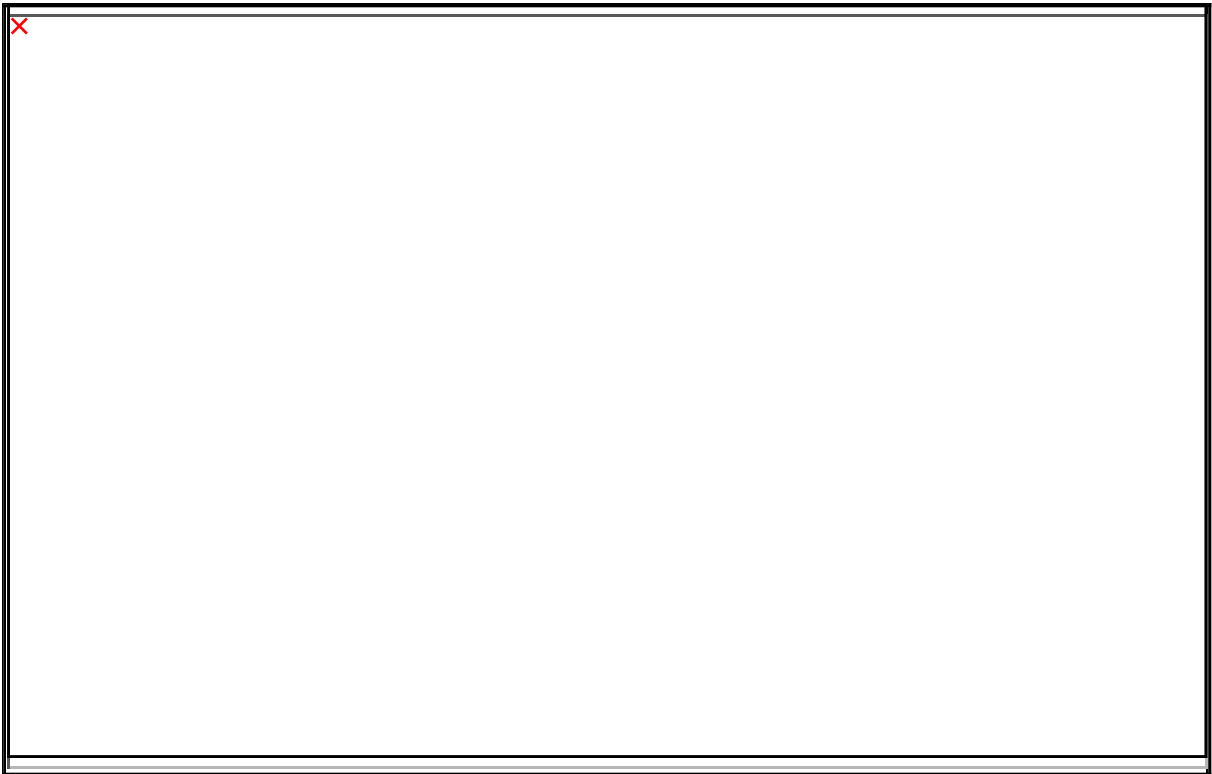


Army War College selects three candidates for Professor, USAWC Program

Candidates selected for Professor, USAWC

May 18, 2015 -- "If I were to build my whole life toward a job, this is what I would have done," said Lt. Col. **Chris Hickey**, reflecting on the career path to a unique opportunity with the Army War College faculty. He, Col. **Silas Martinez**, and Lt. Col. **Jerad Harper** have been selected for the Professor USAWC program, through which they will pursue a PhD and join the Army War College faculty. Two years of study at educational institutions will be sponsored by the Army War College, and they'll



complete dissertations during their utilization tours here.

All three shared the sense that this selection represents an ideal career development for the officer. In turn, the School of Strategic Landpower uses the program to build a faculty with desired academic

credentials and extensive practitioner experience.

Three Army officers in the USAWC resident class of 2015 are selected for PhD study and follow-on assignment as Army War College faculty: (from left) Lt. Col. Christopher Hickey, Col. Silas Martinez, and Lt. Col. Jerad Harper.

Once, as an instructor at the U.S. Military Academy, an "academic track" was in his sights but he turned to Army operational focus and command, said Col. Silas Martinez. He spoke of the professional reward in developing military leaders through assignments to include command of the 3rd Battalion (Engineer), 364th Engineer Regiment in the 191st Infantry Brigade at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. And, now, a future with Army War College students will provide the drive to spend 20 months at Wright State University where he'll start his doctorate in Industrial Organizational Management. This will be a return trip for Martinez whose master's degree from Wright State prepared him to teach Introductory Psychology to USMA freshmen and Engineering Psychology to seniors. He'll complete his doctorate after joining the Command, Leadership and Management faculty.

As soon as he applied for the Professor-USAWC program, his perspective changed, he said.

"Everything could have future implications on how you do business teaching peers rather than cadets," said Martinez. "This year, I valued the frank discussions with my seminar mates, wrestling with the ultimately unsolvable problems, and looking at how the students I've come to admire in seminar would dissect the problem. What factors do they consider tackling for these wicked problems?" he asked.

"The learning experience [here] is less about the specific topic and more about how we address the topic," said Martinez. The War College experience is a process, he noted, rather than any set of single moments. "It's doing the reading, talking about the reading, addressing the disagreements around the seminar room on a daily basis."

A strategic intelligence officer in the USAWC Class of 2015, Lt. Col. Jerad Harper will pursue a PhD in Political Science with a focus on International Relations and Comparative Politics at George Mason University.

An Armor officer by training and company-grade experience, his most recent 10 years as a Strategic Intelligence officer proved the importance of understanding of international relations. He said he relished his Army R.O.T.C teaching years, and sees this professor-development program as a great opportunity to mix the two interests. He'll apply his knowledge and experience as a member of the Distance Education faculty.

"For me, one of the best things about The War College has been the seminar experience: everyone comes to it with so much experience and knowledge. As a future Distance Education faculty member, I'm very interested in how we can maximize online collaboration and the resident phases to create

these seminar exchanges,” he said.

"I'm particularly interested in how we do post-conflict state building in counter-insurgencies, peace enforcement and peacekeeping," said Harper, who has first-person experience in Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan. Having studied this topic for his master's paper, "I want to see how we can maintain and apply the lessons we've learned for these situations so that we can work more effectively as an interagency team right from the start of future operations," he said.

Harper's current studies built on five years of experience in the CENTCOM J2's Afghanistan and Iraq Analysis teams. He was one of three students who shaped their Strategy Research Papers to provide research and analysis on behalf of the Office of Security Cooperation-Iraq. Harper used three cases

studies to suggest what works and what lessons and policy prescriptions could be applied to developing a new Iraqi National Guard. He reviewed the British partnership with Oman to train tribal forces from 1967 to '73, the highly effective Saudi Arabian National Guard, and the U.S. Army National Guard's role as part of our Total Army team – all with the view towards, “How can you build an organization that is effective, realistic, and works within the structure of the Iraqi government?”

Lt. Col. Chris Hickey will study International Security and Economic Policy at the University of Maryland, College Park, before joining the Military Strategy, Policy and Operations faculty to teach Theater Strategy and Campaigning in academic 2018 - and that knowledge will drive his dissertation, he said.

"The intellectual portfolio that DMSPO holds is where I've spent my education and most of my professional life," he said. Building on his Infantry years, Hickey became an Army Strategist in 2005 and added planning experience in Europe, Iraq and Afghanistan. Hickey had studied international relations at Johns Hopkins as an undergrad, and focused his studies in international security and political economy during graduate work in Public Policy at Harvard. His doctoral work will be an opportunity to more deeply explore his interest: "Since 1945, liberal capitalist governments have used military forces with a certain expectation of political results. I'll look at the gaps and the cause for those gaps," he said.

In his War College Strategy Research Paper, he applied game theory to military strategy and joint operational planning, "mapping a way to use the logic of interdependent decisions into our processes, and giving us insights different than with the other tools we use," said Hickey, who said he had used game theory in a USMA elective to help the cadets grasp the complexity of military strategy.

Hickey credits several faculty members for guiding his quest to earn a PhD and join the faculty, e.g., **Doug Winton** -- "He's an inspirational figure and if he's done something, it must be worthwhile" and **Al Lord** - "He taught me something new every day in Theater Strategy and Campaigning and kept it

exciting, even though I've been a strategist for 10 years."

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