

Outthink, outmaneuver with military Space Power

By Robert Martin, USAWC PAO 19 March 2021



Gen. James Dickinson, USSPACECOM Commander, spoke to the class of 2021 resident students, fellows, and staff

Gen. James Dickinson, USSPACECOM Commander, spoke to the class of 2021 resident students, fellows, and staff today during an interactive virtual presentation. Dickinson talked about the many factors that challenge the space environment -- the explosion of commercialization of space and managing that traffic, the cost of space access, and adversarial competitors.

Making a key takeaway of the presentation, Dickinson remarked that competitors are developing counter-space capabilities that can negate the United States assets on orbit. Space is a warfighting domain.

He talked about the competitive, contestant, and congested warfighting domain of space that began in 2007 as our advisories proved that lower orbiting satellites could be shot down from Earth.

He asked students to consider leading questions and issues. Integration into combatant commands: at what level? USSPACECOM's relationships with government agencies such as NASA and the Department of Commerce? The integration of allies' and partners' systems with U.S.

systems and care into their flow to leverage U.S. and allied space capabilities?

Dickinson described his five critical tasks -- know the competition, compete and win, build relationships, integrate commercial and interagency organizations, and maintain superiority.

After his presentation, Dickinson took questions from students and staff, asking about recently declassified adversarial anti-satellite weapons and effects on U.S. national Space Policy ... about USSPACECOM conduct of space control and de-confliction both at domestic and international levels ... and, about USSPACECOM's strategic messaging to create greater public awareness about the impact of China and Russian threats to our satellite system.