

The Army War College named Army Lt. Col. Steve Capehart as the top communicator

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Army Col. Mike Baim, Nigerian Fellow COL Haruna Ibrahim, Army Lt. Col. Steve Capehart, Air Force Lt. Col. Daniel Stupinski, Army Lt. Col. Eric McCoy, Army Col. Vylius Leskys at the Public Speaking Competition May 22, 2019.



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Eight students competed in the U.S. Army War College Public Speaking Competition May 22, 2019, judged by Dr. Jacqueline Whitt, Dr. Carol Kerr, and Cmd. Sgt. Major Alan Hummel. The competition foreshadowed post-graduation expectations for concise, clear and persuasive communication in the assignments that await the students, after graduation on June 7.

The competition weighed the value of the ideas, strength of the argument,

and delivery skills.

Capehart faced real competition in both ideas and communication when he made his presentation about the end of NATO as we have known it, and the deep, continued need for NATO. Air Force Lt. Col. Daniel Stupinski, # 2 in the competition, argued for a Space Force; and Army Col. Mike Baim drew on several historic cases to contend that “We the People [can] End Genocide in the 21st Century.”

Each of the contenders presented a strong case: Army Col. Steve Fairbourn about informed American citizens as critical to national security decisions; Air Force Lt. Col. Tim Monroe about finding security strength from weakness; Nigerian Fellow COL Haruna Ibrahim about China’s involvement in Africa and the space for U.S. response; Army Col. Vylius Leskys, made a play on words with, “The Pendulum Must Swing;”and Army Lt. Col. Eric McCoy advocated for leader development that integrates data-driven decision-making with the professional ethic .

Capehart will be honored at graduation with a certificate and a cash award. His name will be engraved on the USAWC Speaking Competition Trophy displayed in the USAWC Library. All participants received a commemorative memento.