

Army War College students talked directly with the Army's leader about Army priorities

By Carol Kerr 28 October 2021



Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. James McConville, Army War College Class of a 2002 ARMY War College graduate, spoke to students about his "People First" philosophy as part of Army Leader Day, Oct. 27.



As part of Army War College's Army leader Day, Lt. Gen. Stuart Risch, Judge Advocate General (left) was one of the many Army Staff Principals who engaged in a small group discussion with students, Oct. 27.



Thanks to Army Senior Leaders & Staff Principals: so many #USAWC grads sharing insights, lessons with class of 2022, as part of Army Leader Day, Oct. 27.

Army War College students talked directly with the Army's leader about how the Army's "People First" priority is connected to its readiness and modernization priorities.

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. James McConville, Army War College Class of a 2002 Army War College graduate, spoke to a hybrid audience in Bliss Hall, as part of Army Leader Day, Oct. 27.

For McConville, "People First" is a philosophy centered on getting the right people in the right jobs at the right time and building organizations with cohesive units where members are cared for and respected so we can have a better Army. He included good and bad examples and lessons learned from his career.

Multiple times, McConville emphasized that readiness and modernization

endure as crucial components to U.S. Army success; it is what sets our Army apart from all others, he said.

He highlighted several leadership imperatives at the strategic level, enriched with anecdotes and observations: character, understanding interests, unity of effort, relationships with media and Congress, talent management & mentoring, and situational awareness of how things get done in the complex environment of the Pentagon.

Following his comments, McConville spent time taking students' questions, ranging his thoughts on how to care for those you lead to his opinion on Afghanistan and his perspective on the strategic objectives in the Arctic region.

The remainder of the day, students spent in small group discussions with the following Army Staff Principals, many of them Army War College alumni.

- Mr. Mark Averill, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army
 - Mr. Jack Surash, Deputy asa (Installations, Energy, & Environment)
 - Mr. Mark Lewis, Soptdo Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower & Reserve Affairs)
 - Mr. Vance F. Stewart III, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Management & Budget), 2011 graduate
 - Mr. Craig Schmauder, Senior Official Performing Duties as General Counsel
 - Ms. Laura Jankovich, Vice Director of the Army Staff
 - Lt. Gen. Scott Dingle, Surgeon General/Commanding General U.S. Army Medical Command
 - Lt. Gen. Jason T. Evans, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-9
 - Lt. Gen. Robert Marion, Principal Deputy asa (Acquisition Logistics & Technology)
 - Lt. Gen. Paul Chamberlain, Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management & Comptroller)
 - Lt. Gen. Gary Brito, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1
 - Ms. Randon, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2
 - Mg Sean Swindell, Deputy Director, Strategy, Plans and Policy, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff G-3/5/7, 2009 graduate
 - Lt. Gen. John B. Morrison, Chief Information Officer/G-6
 - Lt. Gen. Erik Peterson, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-8
 - Mg Mitchell Kilgo, The Inspector General
 - Lt. Gen. Jon A. Jensen, Director, Army National Guard, 2009 graduate
 - Lt. Gen. Jody Daniels, Chief of Army Reserve, 2006 graduate
 - Lt. Gen. Scott Spellmon, Chief of Engineers, Commanding General, USACE, 2007 graduate
 - Maj. Gen. Duane Miller, Provost Marshal General/Commanding General U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, 2007 graduate
 - Brig. Gen. Trevor Bredenkamp, Chief, Legislative Liaison
 - Mr. Michael Brady, Chief, Public Affairs
 - Lt. Gen. Stuart Risch, Judge Advocate General
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