

## Civilian educational leaders talk education and leadership development with Army War College leadership

By Elena Patton 30 October 2022



*More than 100 civilian leaders in education from four different states engaged with Army War College leadership about education and leader development, Oct. 6-7, 2022.*

Civilian leaders in education from four different states gathered to learn about how the Army War College conducts national security policy and leader development, identify similarities across the educational domain, and exchange ideas as part of the 2022 Regional Leadership Forum for state Pennsylvania Education Policy Fellowship Program. More than 100 fellows from Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, and Michigan went on a Gettysburg staff ride and then heard from AWC faculty and staff leaders, Oct. 6-7, 2022.

These fellows make up a diverse group of leaders and influencers who are involved in all levels of education: shaping policy, developing curricula, and teaching. Much of the public has limited exposure to and is disconnected from the military. By inviting these educators and leaders to Carlisle, AWC helps bridge that civil-military divide, said Prof. Charles Allen, USAWC professor of Leadership and Cultural studies.

On the staff ride to Gettysburg, fellows learned about how teams are built, how they function under stress, formulate strategy and plans , and evaluate outcomes, said. Allen. Participants engaged with USAWC Col. Rick Sheffe, USAF Senior Service Representative. He provided a debrief of the battlefield visit, discussing how battlefield principles and leadership concepts apply to current organizations these fellows operate in and influence.

Fellows not only learned how AWC develops its students into strategic leaders, but also how it develops faculty to engage senior leaders in the classroom. Col. Heather Smigowski, Chair of the Distance Education Department, outlined how AWC delivers its resident and distance education programs. Dr. Edward Kaplan, Dean of the School of Strategic Landpower, outlined how he as a senior leader envisions change for professional military education that may be applied to civilian educational institutions.