



Deterrence and Assurance

Academic Alliance Newsletter

"DA3"

<http://www.stratcom.mil/Academic-Alliance/>

This Issue

Notes from the Director:
USSTRATCOM, Director Plans and Policy
Major General Nina M. Armagno

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Greetings Alliance Members,

It has been a very productive semester. I truly enjoyed meeting many of you at the 2018 Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Conference hosted by the University of Nebraska at Lincoln College of Law.

This conference was a valuable opportunity for me to share with students and faculty in attendance an overview of USSTRATCOM's missions and how they relate to several recently released national level guidance documents for defense. It was also an opportunity to hear many of the interesting research papers presented by the panelists. I remain impressed with the dedication and rigor that was evident in student research, and I look forward to next year's conference.

I am thankful to all of you for being active in our community of interest in deterrence and assurance research. As we finish up the academic year, I hope to see many of you again at USSTRATCOM's Deterrence Symposium on the 1st and 2nd of August 2018 at the LaVista Convention Center.

Nina M. Armagno

Recent Events



Australian National University Visit (8-10 Jan).

Dr. Nina Silove, Harvard Fellow and Assistant Professor at Australian National University, visited USSTRATCOM to conduct research and give a talk on grand strategy. The focus of her visit was interviewing command leadership and others regarding the degree to which planning conventional and nuclear strategies and force postures are coordinated. This research is to inform a forthcoming book exploring the degree to which the U.S. undertakes long-term, comprehensive planning that integrates strategies across all spheres of statecraft.

Pictured: Dr. Nina Silove (Australian National University & Harvard Fellow) and General John Hyten (Commander, USSTRATCOM)

USSTRATCOM/SMA Academic Alliance Speaker Series:

(17 Jan) Dr. Erik Gartzke of the University of California - San Diego and **Dr. Rupal Mehta** of the University of Nebraska - Lincoln presented their research titled "*The Determinants of Nuclear Force Structure*". Nuclear weapons are said to deter through the threat of a punishing retaliatory "second strike." To do so, a sufficient portion of a nation's nuclear capabilities must survive initial enemy attack. Diversifying a nation's arsenal of nuclear delivery platforms is "deterrence dominant" in that it increases the survivability of nuclear forces without adding to the destructiveness of a first strike. By contrast, increasing the number of warheads per delivery platform augments the offense without improving deterrence.

Other attributes of nuclear force structure, such as the presence of ballistic missile submarines or the nuclear "triad," have weaker or varying effects on deterrence, since they benefit both the first and second strike. Dr. Gartzke and Dr. Mehta tested their core arguments using data on nuclear force structures and conventional disputes between nuclear states. Their findings suggest several ways to improve future nuclear stability, with important implications for ongoing policy debates on nuclear modernization, disarmament, and arms control more broadly."



Dr. Erik Gartzke (UCSD)



Dr. Rupal Mehta (UNL)

2018 United Kingdom Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Conference (16 Feb). Our partner, UK Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (dstl), hosted its inaugural conference at King's College London with the theme "*Overcoming the Challenges of Coherent Deterrence*". Panels included "*Deterrence in Asia*", "*Modern Deterrence*", "*21st Century Nuclear Deterrence*", and "*Understanding Deterrence*".

Yale University Grand Strategy (26 Feb). Gen. John Hyten visited Yale University, one of USSTRATCOM's 44 Academic Alliance partners and spent the day visiting the Grand Strategy Program. He met with Ambassador-at-Large Charles Wilson, Dr. Patrick Kennedy, Dr. Nuno Monteiro, and Dr. Paul Bracken, and discussed the program's curriculum, the Nuclear Posture Review (NPR), adversary nuclear aspirations, the U.S.'s need for a grand strategy, and Dr. Kennedy's lead role in getting ROTC back on campus in 2012 after a 30 year hiatus. Gen. Hyten also met with the Air Force and Navy ROTC units and had a great discussion with future military officers. The day concluded with a Grand Strategy-hosted dinner at the Quinnipiak Club with Q&As from the students and ROTC cadets.

Baltic Defence College Annual Conference on Russia (8-9 Mar). U.S. Strategic Command participated in the Baltic Defence College Annual Conference on Russia in Tartu, Estonia. The conference brought together academics, analysts and military officers to discuss security challenges and analyze potential responses, as well as to discuss deterring Russia. USSTRATCOM provided a panelist for the session on "*Multilateral Deterrence in the 21st Century: Key Aspects and Dilemmas*." Other conference panels explored topics such as Russian escalation patterns, lessons learned from the Zapad Exercise, and NATO responses to Russian actions and ambitions.



Gen Hyten with DA3 TTX Participants and Mentors

Academic Alliance Conference and TTX 2018 (15-16 Mar). The third annual Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Conference was hosted by University of Nebraska at Lincoln College of Law. The first day of the conference, students and faculty from seven countries and over a dozen DA3 member institutions participated in a table top exercise at Offutt Air Force Base. Before the exercise, Gen Hyten, Commander USSTRATCOM, gave an overview of the Command's priorities and the importance of allies and partners to deterrence and assurance. Students engaged on a scenario involving Russian invasion of Latvia to learn about alliance dynamics during a crisis. Nine teams of students, representing various countries within NATO, analyzed their respective country objectives and negotiated with other teams in relation to whether the alliance could reach consensus on declaring Article V. DA3 faculty members and USSTRATCOM staff provided mentorship to the TTX teams.



COL Daluis Polekauskas (Lecturer of Defence Planning & Defence Management at Baltic Defence College) discusses strategy with the student Baltic Team at the TTX

Gen Hyten Addressing DA3 TTX Participants





Academic Alliance Conference (15-16 Mar). Maj Gen Nina Armagno spoke to our conference attendees the first evening of the conference about USSTRATCOM's missions and how it relates to several recently published national level guidance documents, such as the National Defense Strategy and the Nuclear Posture Review. Following her talk, the keynote speaker, Amy Herman, gave a presentation on how to improve observational skills and critical thinking. The audience participated in exercises that demonstrated her techniques through the practice of describing artworks using improved precision of language.

Academic Alliance Conference 2018 (15-16 Mar). The panel presentations portion of the conference spanned a multiple focus areas featuring relevant contemporary issues. Here are the panel topics: *"Perceptions and Decision-Making"*, *"Addressing Cyber & Space Deterrence Challenges"*, *"Collective Security Solutions for Deterrence and Assurance"*, *"Cross-Domain Deterrence Considerations"*, *"Deterrence in the Middle East"*, and *"Deterrence and North Korea"*.

Mr. Nicholas Taylor, Principal Analyst at the Ministry of Defence Science and Technology Laboratory and lead for the UK Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance, gave an overview of his alliance's progress. The UK DA3 grew its membership to 17 universities and hosted its first academic conference in February at King's College.

Academic Alliance Conference

Keynote Speaker: The keynote speaker for day two was Ms. M. Elaine Bunn, a consultant on strategic issues who served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Missile Defense Policy (DASD/NMD) from 2013-2017. Her talk focused on the Nuclear Posture Review, and she spoke about the importance of approaching deterrence not from individual silos or domains, but through an integrated approach encompassing all domains. The Q&A following the talk was robust and involved questions about how to deter the North Korean regime and maintain assurance within alliances when members have competing national interests.



Ms. M. Elaine Bunn, Consultant on Strategic Issues, Speaks on Deterrence and the Nuclear Posture Review

RIGHT: Madi Schwenka and Kiera Welch (UNL) present their paper "Perceptions, Assumptions, and Options in Deterrence Strategy and Response Policy."



LEFT: Mr. Hiroshi Nakatani of University of Reading presents "Revisit Extended Deterrence: Beyond the Cold War Framework of Forward Deployment of Nuclear Weapons on the Ground."

USSTRATCOM/SMA Academic Alliance Speaker Series (30 Mar). Prof. Matt Kroenig of Georgetown University spoke on his recent book "*The Logic of American Nuclear Strategy*" for the fifth session of the DA3 teleconference series. His research in part looked at the balance of stakes in an extended deterrence situation and argued that when that balance favors adversaries, a capabilities surplus can make up for a deficit in stakes. There was discussion regarding how the U.S. requires a different arsenal from its adversaries, because credible extended deterrence requires it. A robust Q&A session followed.

USSTRATCOM/SMA Academic Alliance Speaker Series (17 Apr). Kristin Ven Bruusgaard, a Stanton Nuclear Security Predoctoral Fellow at Stanford University's Center for International Security and Cooperation, delivered an insightful presentation on Russian nuclear strategy and deterrence policy. Kristin is a doctoral candidate at King's College London and currently on leave from the Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies (IFS).

Welcoming New DA3 Members

University of Notre Dame. The DA3 is pleased to announce that the University of Notre Dame's International Security Center (NDISC) is a recent addition to Academic Alliance. We welcome Dr. Michael C. Desch, the Director, and look forward to future engagements.

Western Carolina University. The DA3 also welcomes Western Carolina University to Academic Alliance. Dr. David R. Dorondo is the point of contact, and we look forward to their involvement in our program.

Research Day at USSTRATCOM (TBD). This is the annual event for student paper presentations at USSTRATCOM. It is open to individual students and student teams from across the Academic Alliance. The Research Day offers researchers to present their findings and engage in discussions with military and civilian subject matter experts representing various disciplines (e.g. operations, plans & policy, intelligence, logistics, and military capabilities and resources. Additional information for this event will be forthcoming.

USSTRATCOM 2018 Deterrence Symposium (1-2 Aug): Our 9th Annual Deterrence Symposium is scheduled for 1 & 2 August 2018. It will convene at the La Vista Conference Center, La Vista, NE (a suburb of Omaha). The theme for this year's Deterrence Symposium is **"Operationalizing Deterrence to Match Today's Threat."** The Symposium is a focused forum to increase intellectual capital in deterrence theory and set in motion an information exchange among Department of Defense, United States government, industry, academia and international participants with the goal of exploring the full range of deterrence and assurance thinking. The Symposium is structured around 3 keynote speakers, 6 panels and four concurrent breakout sessions. The audience typically includes 700 participants from the U.S. and 12-15 other nations. During the Symposium we challenge participants to examine deterrence theory, the rationale of old paradigms and their applicability in today's global security environment. We strive to produce provocative and informed dialogue about the future of deterrence and assurance, the challenges we face in the space and cyberspace domains, and how we approach deterrence with a smaller (though every bit as effective) nuclear arsenal. Our website is www.stratcomds.com registration will open 20 April 2018. POC for the Deterrence Symposium is Mr. Michael Powell, J55, michael.w.powell6.civ@mail.mil or (402) 232-7758.

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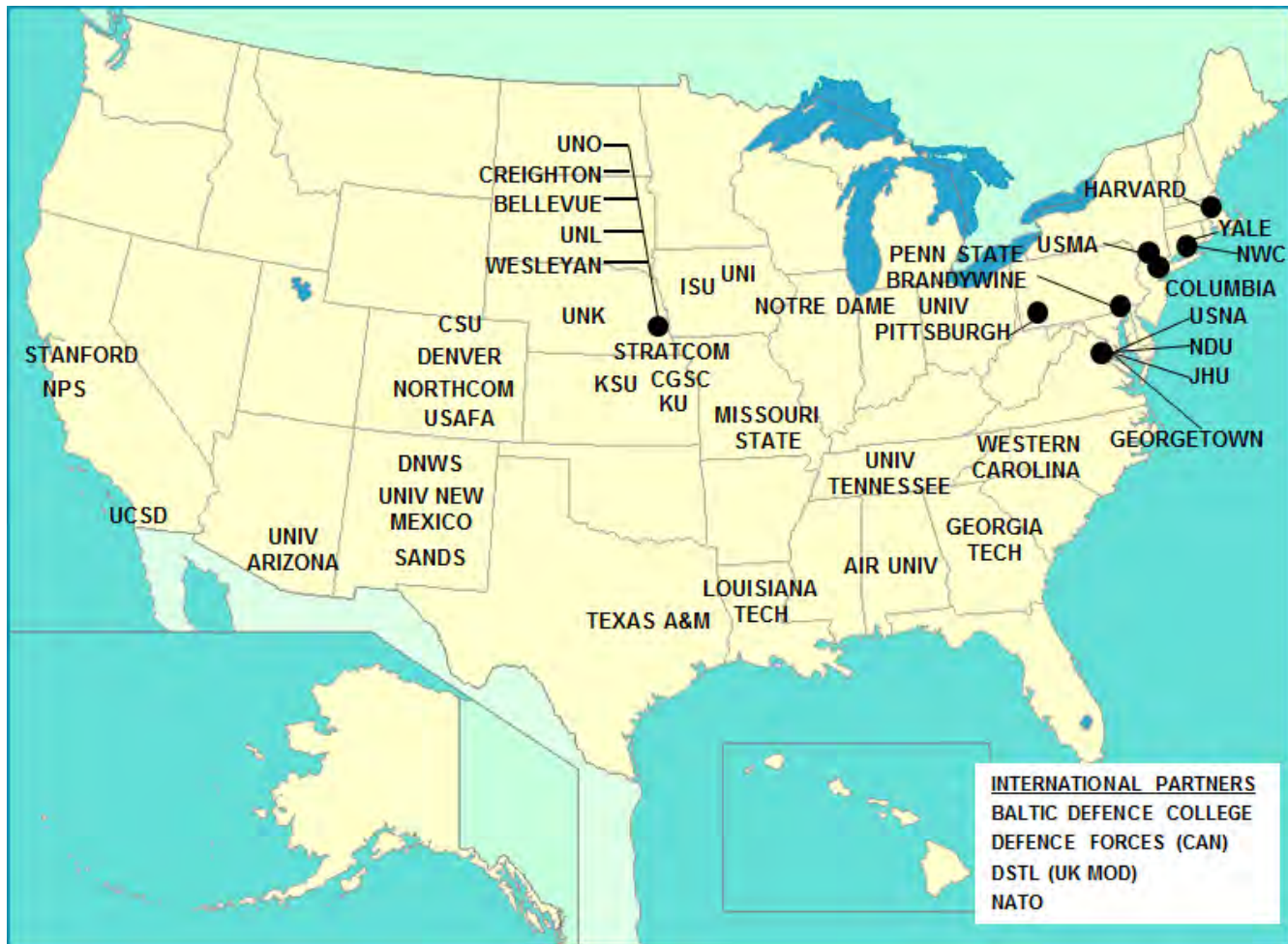
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SAVE-THE-DATE

1 - 2 August 2018

2018 USSTRATCOM Deterrence Symposium (La Vista Convention Center)

Registration Open: www.stratcomds.com

*Contact Mr. Mike Powell for Details:
michael.w.powell6.civ@mail.mil or (402) 232-7758*



SAVE-THE-DATE

3 August 2018

2018 USSTRATCOM Experience Day (Offutt AFB, Omaha, Nebraska)

**"An Introduction to the Command's Missions,
Capabilities & Operations"**

*Contact Mr. Doug Vance for Details:
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REMINDER

Gen Larry D. Welch Deterrence Writing Competition

Submissions Due: 2 May 2018

*Submit to Mr. Mike Powell:
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