



# DETERRENCE AND ASSURANCE

## Academic Alliance Newsletter

April 2019

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### Notes from the Director

Greetings Alliance Members,

On behalf of General John Hyten, Commander, U.S. Strategic Command, thank you to the University of Nebraska – Omaha (UNO) for sponsoring the 4th Annual Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Conference and Workshop on 7-8 March 2019. Over 200 participants representing 46 different universities and organizations from around the country and Europe participated this year. It was my pleasure meeting many of you during the occasion.

The event was a fantastic success thanks to Dr. Jody Neathery-Castro, Dr. Lana Obradovic, and Dr. Michelle Black of UNO's Department of Political Science, all of whom were instrumental in organizing this memorable conference. In addition to convening ten panels and four workshops at the UNO campus, the event included a USSTRATCOM hosted Tabletop Exercise (TTX) held at

Offutt Air Force Base. Over 100 participants engaged in a challenging experiential learning opportunity designed to apply their knowledge of U.S. instruments of national power as they drafted solutions to a challenging regional crisis strategic decision-making scenario.

A special note of thanks to Ms. Rebecca Hersman, Director of the Project on Nuclear Issues (PONI), and Dr. Chris Ford, Assistant Secretary for International Security and Nonproliferation, U.S. State Department for traveling to Omaha to support the conference. Ms. Hersman's portrayal as the exercise president during the TTX, her keynote address that evening, and Dr. Ford's luncheon keynote the next day, were profound and thought provoking.

Not least, my great appreciation to those who devoted time and effort for preparing research to present during the conference. Photos can be viewed at:



RADM Richard A. Correll

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/usstratcom/sets/72157707501456484/>

Finally, please mark 11-12 March 2020 on your calendars to attend next year's conference at Iowa State University. See you next year in Ames!

Sincerely,

*Rich Correll*

RADM, USN  
Director, Plans and Policy

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## 2019 DAAA Conference & Workshops



US Strategic Command  
@US\_Stratcom

Follow

Last week, defense & academic experts came together to promote cooperation, collaboration & #innovation during the 2019 #Deterrence & #Assurance Academic Alliance workshop & conference @UNOmaha #KnowTheO #DAAA



(7-8 Mar) 4th Annual Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Conference, Workshop, and Tabletop Exercise, Omaha NE

### "Collaborative Approaches to Deterrence"

At the tabletop exercise on 7 March, General Hyten spent over one hour speaking with students and faculty on 21st century strategic deterrence. He conveyed the importance of broadening critical thinking to not only the technical side, but also policy and strategy.

General Hyten highlighted the need to revive the conversation on strategic deterrence and assurance while challenging participants to expand their understanding. He encouraged participants to make a difference and concluded with a question and answer session.

## 2019 DAAA Tabletop Exercise



Gen John Hyten, USAF, Commander, U.S. Strategic Command, VADM David Kriete, USN, Deputy Commander, U.S. Strategic Command, Brig Gen Chris Coffelt, USAF, Deputy Director, Global Operations and RDML Ryan Scholl, USN, Deputy Director, Plans and Policy with TTX participants.



### Acknowledgement

Thank you to Joe Williams, Chief of the War Games and Research Branch for his team's development and execution of the tabletop exercise. We also greatly appreciate Brent Backman for facilitating this event. For further information on Academic Alliance tabletop exercises, contact: [joseph.h.williams40.civ@mail.mil](mailto:joseph.h.williams40.civ@mail.mil).

### Tabletop Exercise Scenario

Participants were presented with a notional pre-crisis scenario set in the 2020 timeframe. This academic session provided participants an opportunity to assume the different government roles and apply the instruments of power when developing an integrated course of action. A student from each of the five groups presented a recommendation along with supporting rationale and risk assessment to the exercise President and National Security Advisor. The event concluded with a Red Cell session addressing the selected course of action.





## 2019 DAAA Evening Reception



At the evening reception, Senior Vice Chancellor BJ Reed, Office of Academic Affairs, University of Nebraska at Omaha provided the welcome remarks. VADM Kriete provided the military keynote followed by Ms. Rebecca Hersman's academic keynote comments.



VADM Kriete with Dr. Ellen Pirro, CAPT Scott Curtis and their students from Iowa State University.



RADM Correll with Dr. Jody Neathery-Castro, Dr. Michelle Black, Dr. Lana Obradovic and students from University of Nebraska at Omaha.

## 2019 DAAA Conference Keynote Speaker and Panels



On 8 March, Dr. Chris Ford, Assistant Secretary for International Security and Nonproliferation, U.S. State Department provided "Perspectives on Deterrence" to the conference participants. Throughout the day, participants presented their deterrence and assurance related research.

***"We noticed that young people were not talking about deterrence... From our perspective, this is one of the most important topics in our nation and our world, because we don't want nuclear war to happen."***



**General John Hyten, USAF**  
**7 March 2019**



### **Panel #1** **"Deterring Non State Actors"**

Chair: Dr. Gina Ligon, Associate Professor in the College of Business Administration and Director of Radicalization and Violent Extremism (RAVE), University of Nebraska at Omaha

#### Panelists:

Ms. Keely Algysa, Ms. Amanda Urick, and Ms. Lauren Zimmerman

Title: Iran's "Gray Zone" Tactics  
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Ms. Aya Yousuf, Ms. Jordan Kuiper, and Mr. Noah Kingston  
Title: Deterring VEOs: Strategic Non-kinetic Approach  
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Ms. Diane Sherwin, Ms. Allison Black, Ms. Katie Anderson, and Ms. Jenna Vigal  
Title: The Threat of Terrorism to Nuclear Escalation in South Asia: U.S. Policy Options to Promote Deterrence between Strategic Partners  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Mr. Jacob Harberts  
Title: Deterring Fourth Generation Warfare in the Twenty-First Century through Military, Private and Public Collaboration  
University of Northern Iowa

## Panel #2

### “Deterrence Challenges in Southeast Asia”

Chair: Mr. Paul Bernstein, Distinguished Research Fellow, National Defense University

Panelists:

Ms. Audrey Simpson

Title: The Potential for Nuclear Conflict in South Asia: The Imbalance of Conventional Military Power and the Problem of Geography

University of Northern Iowa

Ms. Madeline Meijering, Ms. Shannon Beacom, Mr. John Ellis, Mr. Alex Christensen

Title: India and Pakistan: A Comparative Study of Nuclear Deterrence

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Mr. Geoffrey Brown

Title: Collaborative Approaches to Deterrence: The US and India



## Panel #3

### “New Technologies in Deterrence”

Chair: Mr. Robert Taylor, SES, Deputy Director, Plans and Policy, U.S. Strategic Command

Panelists:

CDT Alexander Dolan

Title: A Strategic Mirage: The false promise of American revolutions in military affairs in Operation Desert Storm and their misapplication in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq

West Point

Ms. Jennifer Hohenberger, Ms. Sami Klower, Ms. Kaitlyn Melnick, Mr. Brett Hoxie, and Lt. Tasia Reed-Rawson

Title: A Modernizing Russian Force: Integrating Electronic Warfare into the Space Domain

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Ms. Blaire Mills, Mr. Alex Schroeck, Ms. Katharyn Kost, Mr. Andrew Neill, and Ms. Shannon Moore

Title: Authoritarian AI and the Chinese Dream: How AI Will Shape US-Sino Relations

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Ms. Julia Ciocca

Title: Conflict on the Final Frontier: The Weaponization of Space and American Doctrinal, Strategic, and Organizational Policy

University of Pennsylvania







## **Panel #4**

### **“Competition with China”**

Chair: Ms. Jennifer Bradley, Deterrence Analyst, National Institute for Public Policy

Panelists:

Mr. Jacob Moore and Mr. Michael Gross  
Title: China in the Arctic: Security and Economic Implications  
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Mr. Eric Winter  
Title: Technology and deterrence: How China’s ascendant technology sector impacts the perception of US strategic power  
Coastal Carolina University

Mr. Jacob Anderson  
Title: Chinese Techno-Strategic and Political Advances: Beijing’s Militaristic Challenges and the U.S. Response  
Western Carolina University

Ms. Elsa Kania  
Title: The Implications of Emerging Technologies for U.S.-China Strategic Stability  
Harvard University

Mr. Obrien Chin, Mr. Nicholas Petro, Capt James To and Ms. Michelle Wietbrock  
Title: China 2049: Implications of US Interests  
University of Nebraska at Omaha



## **Panel #5**

### **“Modeling and Game Theory Approaches to Deterrence”**

Chair: Mr. Pat Mckenna, Division Chief, Plans Evaluation and Research, U.S. Strategic Command

Panelists:

Dr. Damon Coletta  
Title: Modeling Collaborative Approaches to Deterrence  
U.S. Air Force Academy

LTC Nick Duncan and Dr. Mark Deinert  
Title: The Transmission of Ideas on Social Media  
Colorado School of Mines

Dr. Brooke Mitchell  
Title: Scenario Planning: A How-To Guide in Fostering Deterrence Collaboration  
Louisiana Tech Research Institute

Dr. Amy Schweikert  
Title: Vulnerabilities of Critical Infrastructure  
Colorado School of Mines

Dr. Morgan Bazilian  
Title: Developing an Energy and Conflict Tracker  
Colorado School of Mines

## **Panel #6**

### **“Examining Deterrence Alliances and Agreements”**

#### **(faculty panel)**

Chair: Dr. Jody Neathery-Castro, Department Chair and Associate Professor, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Panelists:

Dr. Rafał Kopeć and Dr. Przemysław Mazur  
Title: The Three Seas Initiative – American bastion in Central Europe?  
Pedagogical University in Krakow, Poland

Dr. Patricia Shamai and Dr. Carlotta Minnella  
Title: Ripple effects on Deterrence? Lessons from the unravelling of the CW taboo  
University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom and Duke University

Mr. Oleksandr Shykov  
Title: North Korea’s Wedge Strategies  
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory



## **Panel #7**

### **“Examining Deterrence Alliance and Agreements”**

Chair: Mr. Nicholas Taylor, Senior Principal, Defense and Security Analysis Division, DSTL, Ministry of Defense, United Kingdom

Panelists:

Mr. Robert Wimberly  
Title: Free Trade Agreements and the Credibility of Extended Deterrence  
Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies

Ms. Emma Bates  
Title: Deterrence and Reassurance in the Indo-Pacific Trilaterals  
Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies

Ms. Sooyeon Kang  
Title: Securing Economic Ties: Assessing the Extent of Extended Nuclear Deterrence  
Josef Korbel School, University of Denver

Ms. Noelle Troutman  
Title: Cold War Breakups: An Alliance Not Made in Heaven? An Assessment of US-South Korean Alliance Cohesion





Mr. Aaron Richards

Title: Supporting the U.S. Strategic Deterrent through Nuclear Forensics and Attribution  
SAIC

Ms. Ariel Petrovics and Ms. Alexa Wehsener

Title: Perverse Consequences of Emerging ISR Technology: When Less is More in Crisis Stability  
UC Davis and UC Berkeley



King's College London, United Kingdom

Lt Col Raymond Ruscoe

Title: Strategic Stability; A Partial Decoupling from Nuclear Capabilities  
AFIT/CIP at University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

Col Todd Schmidt

Title: Silent Coup of the Guardians: Military influence on National Security Policy  
(University of Kansas, Department of Political Science and U.S. Army, School of Advanced Military Studies)

MAJ Andrew Webb

Title: Rethinking Strategy: A History of the Ends, Ways, Means Model  
Johns Hopkins SAIS/ U.S. Army Command and Staff College, Art of War Program

## **Panel #8**

### **“Intelligence and New Technology”**

Chair: Dr. Tyler White, Assistant Professor, University of Nebraska at Lincoln

#### Panelists:

Dr. Unmil Karadkar

Title: Enhancing Situational Awareness for Deterrence in Space  
The University of Texas at Austin

Dr. Benjamin Zala

Title: Stable Deterrence and the Global Spread of Advanced Conventional Weapons  
Belfer Center, Harvard University

## **Panel #9**

### **“Strategy and Policy for Deterrence”**

Chair: COL Barry Stentiford, USA, Ph.D., Professor of History, Director of Advanced Strategic Leadership Studies, US Army School of Advanced Military Studies, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

#### Panelists:

Mr. Paul Bernstein

Title: Deterrence and Competition: Framing the Issues  
Distinguished Research Fellow, National Defense University

Dr. Andrew Corbett

Title: Considering the Ethics of Nuclear Deterrence in the 21st Century



## Panel #10

### “Strategy with New Technology”

Chair: RDML Ryan Scholl, Deputy Director, Plans and Policy, U.S. Strategic Command

#### Panelists:

Mr. Collin Boone

Title: Deterrence in the Baltic States: Russia Hybrid Warfare  
Iowa State University

Mr. Christopher Wesseln

Title: Is Deterrence the Correct Strategic Framework in the Cyber Domain?  
Iowa State University

Mr. Isaak Espersen

Title: Addressing the Challenges of Rising Revisionist States: Changing Relations between the United States, Russia, and China  
University of Northern Iowa

Mr. Joseph Cain

Title: A Proactive Approach to the US Gray Zone Threat: The Dirty Bomb  
Coastal Carolina University



## Recent Events

 **United States Strategic Command**  
3,110 followers  
1mo

US Navy VADM David Kriete, deputy commander of **United States Strategic Command**, discussed the organization's mission of strategic deterrence, and their latest endeavors to advance that mission through education, during the latest NPS Secretary of the Navy Guest Lecture at **Naval Postgraduate School** Monterey, Calif. ... <https://lnkd.in/gubjiQT>



Deputy USSTRATCOM shares latest in strategic deterrence  
[my.nps.edu](http://my.nps.edu)

 **US Strategic Command** @US\_Stratcom

#ICYMI: During @USNavy VADM Kriete's visit of @NPS\_Monterey, he engaged with students and professors of the CubeSat laboratory who are working on solutions to unique problem sets. #STEM #innovation



6:54 PM - 20 Mar 2019

(5 Mar) **Naval Postgraduate School (NPS)** – VADM Kriete spent the day at NPS meeting with students, met with new president VADM Ann Rondeau, USN, Retired, and presented at the Secretary of the Navy Guest Lecture series.

## Recent Events (continued)



Ms. Heather Kearney at King's College London.



Dr. David DeCenzo, President CCU with RDML Scholl.



RDML Scholl with the student leaders of the CCU International Security Club.

**(17-18 Jan) King's College London** - Ms. Heather Kearney, USSTRATCOM Asia Pacific Strategic Planner/Analyst Lead and Fellow, and Dr. Michelle Black, Assistant Professor, University of Nebraska – Omaha, Political Science Department, presented their research into adversary intent during the "Deterrence & Assurance within an Alliance Framework," a NATO System Analysis and Studies research symposium. The analysis titled, "Adversary Intent: A Case Study of North Korea," breaks from traditional capabilities based threat assessment to employ a social science framework to understand specific adversary beliefs, goals, and needs as a deeper measure of adversary threat behavior. Conducted in the North Korea context, Kearney and Black's preliminary findings indicate nuanced adversary speech coding patterns offer insight into intentions, even of reclusive adversaries. Examination of these patterns presents objective markers to assess adversary "will" to use a threatening capability. Such analysis, they argued, can aid both planners and policymakers better understand adversary "intent" when planning tailored deterrence courses of action.

**(22 Jan) Stanford University** - Commander, U.S. Strategic Command, General John Hyten, USAF, participated at the Nuclear Command, Control and Communications Workshop hosted by the Hoover Institute.



**(9 Feb) Coastal Carolina University (CCU)** - Deputy Director, Plans and Policy, Rear Admiral Ryan Scholl, USN, conducted an Academic Alliance engagement at the Conway, SC campus. Dr. Christopher Ferrero hosted the visit, which included meetings with university leadership and faculty during which RDML Scholl learned of CCU's curricular emphasis on "experiential learning," an initiative conceived to better prepare students for the rigors of post-graduation career placement by "linking theory with practice." Academic Alliance efforts to foster national security student career development through strategic decision-making analytic exercises, deterrence research, and conference presentation opportunities, among other activities, complement well CCU's "experiential learning" goals. Two weeks following this visit, Dr. Ferrero and CCU students Joseph Cain, Hannah Griggs, and Eric Winter traveled to Omaha to participate in the 2019 Academic Alliance Conference.

**(4 Mar) Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)** - U.S. Strategic Command Deputy Commander VADM David Kriete met with the staff at LLNL as part of his Academic Alliance engagements.



VADM Kriete with Dr. William Goldstein, Director, LLNL.





Dr. Carol Burton, WCU Acting Provost



Dr. David Dorondo, WCU, Associate Professor



RDML Scholl at the WCU "On War" class.

(27 Mar) **Western Carolina University (WCU)** - RDML Scholl visited the WCU campus located in Cullowhee, NC to meet with students and faculty. Dr. David Dorondo hosted the visit, which included an office call with WCU Acting Provost, Dr. Carol Burton and Dr. Richard Starnes, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. RDML Scholl also met with students of Dr. Niall Michelsen's "The Nuclear Age" freshman seminar and Dr. Charles Fagan's "On War" during which he provided informational sessions on USSTRATCOM's mission, and met with WCU's History Club. Three weeks prior to this visit WCU's Jacob Anderson attended the 2019 Academic Alliance Conference during which he presented his research as an invited speaker.

## Shout Out!



Academic Alliance members Dr. David Dorondo from Western Carolina University and Dr. Maorong Jiang from Creighton University gave presentations to the Strategic Multilayer Assessment's (SMA) community of interest as a part of their joint speaker series. Due to positive engagement with the SMA team and two successful briefs, they were also invited to participate in SMA's ongoing *Future of Global Competition & Conflict* effort.

Please contact the Academic Alliance if you would like to be a presenter for the Speaker Series.

### Recent Academic Alliance Speaker Series Presentations

(9 JAN) Dr. Maorong Jiang, associate professor of Political Science and International Relations at Creighton University, Omaha, NE, "A Win-Win Strategy to Transform North Korea."

SMA hosted a speaker session presented by Dr. Maorong Jiang (Creighton University) as a part of its SMA STRATCOM Academic Alliance Speaker Series. Dr. Jiang elaborated on his contributions to the NSI Virtual Think Tank (ViTTa®) report entitled "Is There a Win-Win Scenario for the Key Actors Concerned with the DPRK?", in which he sought to "provide both a realistic and an optimistic projection to achieve the goal of approaching a win-win scenario for all of the key actors (North Korea, South Korea, Japan, US, China, and Russia)." He argued that the US should acknowledge North Korea's ability to maintain a carefully-monitored nuclear program and accept that the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula is highly unlikely. He stated that the US should focus its efforts on stabilizing the Korean Peninsula, which would consequently draw North Korea back into the international community and contain Russia's and China's regional influence. Dr. Jiang explained that in order for North Korea's relations with other key actors to be normalized and for stability to be achieved, North Korea would need to "commit to abiding by international norms and conventions adhered to by other nuclear states under the Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, and to the verifiable abandonment of its long-range missile program." If North Korea cannot adhere to these conditions, Dr. Jiang stated that the US should reject North Korea's nuclear program and "re-implement the strongest of international sanctions." He also explained how allowing a carefully limited North Korean nuclear program could benefit each of the key regional actors and offered a potential strategic plan for US policymakers' consideration. To conclude his presentation, Dr. Jiang explained what short-term, medium-term, and long-term projections for US strategies could look like. For slides and audio of this presentation visit: <https://nsiteam.com/a-win-win-strategy-to-transform-north-korea/>.





## Recent Academic Alliance Speaker Series Presentations (continued)

(5 Mar) Dr. Krista Langeland, Dr. Bonnie Triezenberg, Mr. Ben Goirigolzarri, RAND Corporation, “Exploring Space Deterrence: A Game Theoretical Model to Inform Future Strategies.”

SMA hosted a speaker session presented by Dr. Krista Langeland (RAND) as a part of its *SMA STRATCOM Academic Alliance Speaker Series*. To begin, Dr. Langeland discussed her team’s game theoretic model of space security and conflict for decision-making support. This model, she explained, seeks to provide insight into the following strategic questions: “Will large investments in space situational awareness really provide defensive advantage in a space conflict?” and “Can messaging and deception be an effective strategic tool?”

She elaborated that RAND’s model incorporated models of human behavior into a game theoretic representation of space conflict, used multi-objective optimization to represent diversity within and among players, took place over an extended time horizon, and allowed each actor to make multiple moves. After providing an overview of the game’s design and key features, Dr. Langeland outlined how the game was played and presented the game’s results.

She also explained the deterrence and competition implications behind the game’s results. To conclude, Dr. Langeland summarized her team’s key observations and discussed her team’s recent and ongoing analyses.

For slides and audio to this presentation visit: <https://nsiteam.com/exploring-space-deterrence-a-game-theoretic-model-to-inform-future-strategies/>



## Upcoming Academic Alliance Speaker Series Presentations

(29 May, 9:30–10:30am CT) Dr. Joshua Kertzer, Harvard University; “Resolve in International Politics”

(31 May, 9:30–10:30am CT) MAJ Andrew Webb, USA, Johns Hopkins SAIS, “Rethinking Strategy: A History of the Ends, Ways, Means Model”

(19 Jun, 9:00–10:00am CT) Dr. Todd Sechser, University of Virginia, “Nuclear Use and Public Opinion”

## Welcoming New DAAA Members

*Project on Nuclear Issues; American University;  
University of Sydney*





## Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Members and Partners



# Shout Out!



Special thanks to the 55th Wing for their outstanding support of the Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Conference and Workshop on 7 March. The Dougherty Conference Center staff and the Transportation Section went above and beyond ensuring a successful event.

Thank you to Ms. Eva Kennell at USSTRATCOM Protocol for providing her expertise during the planning and execution of the tabletop exercise. We also extend much appreciation to USSTRATCOM Public Affairs for their ongoing media and web support.

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## Save the Dates



**31 July-1 August 2019**

**2019 USSTRATCOM  
Deterrence Symposium**

(La Vista Conference Center,  
La Vista, NE)

Registration:  
[www.stratcomds.com](http://www.stratcomds.com)

Contact Mr. Michael Powell for  
details:

[michael.powell6.cil@mail.mil](mailto:michael.powell6.cil@mail.mil)  
or (402) 232-7758



**2 August 2019**

**2019 USSTRATCOM  
Experience Day**

(Offutt AFB, Omaha, NE)

"An Introduction to the Com-  
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# Don't Miss Out!

## Seeking Submissions for the 2019 General Larry D. Welch Deterrence Writing Award

The Commander, United States Strategic Command is sponsoring a competition for the best research papers on the subject of strategic deterrence. Participating schools and researchers are asked to submit papers to USSTRATCOM by 10 May 2019. Submissions will be judged in one of two categories ("Senior Researcher" and "Junior Researcher").

The winning author in each category will be recognized with an award, as well as an invitation and funding to attend the 2019 Deterrence Symposium in Omaha, Nebraska scheduled for 31 July and 1 August 2019.

Website: <http://www.stratcom.mil/Portals/8/>



## Seeking Poster Submissions for the 2019 Deterrence Symposium

We are pleased to offer students the opportunity to present their deterrence and assurance related research during a poster session at the 2019 United States Strategic Command Deterrence Symposium.

Submit poster proposal, abstract of the research, university affiliation and Alliance Member sponsor to include contact information no later than 21 June 2019 to be considered to Ms. Katie Cooper, USSTRATCOM Academic Alliance, Kathleen.a.cooper8.civ@mail.mil, (402) 232-0766.

For more information: <https://www.stratcom.mil/Academic-Alliance/Research-Topics/>