Worth Noting

Compiled by Elizabeth Hill

Fort Lee Professor Wins
2013 CGSC Faculty Interagency Writing Competition

The Arthur D. Simons Center for Interagency Cooperation would like to congratulate Dr. William J. Davis, Jr., associate professor in the Department of Joint, Interagency, and Multinational Operations at the Fort Lee, Va., satellite campus of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, for winning the 2013 CGSC Faculty Interagency Writing Competition sponsored by the CGSC Foundation's Simons Center for Interagency Cooperation.

Dr. Davis is a 24-year veteran of the U.S. Navy and has been a professor at CGSC since 2006. He was previously an associate professor and director of curriculum at Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Va. Davis was presented his award during the College's Golden Pen Award ceremony in January 2014. His manuscript, "Why We Can't All Just Get Along: Overcoming Personal Barriers to Inter-organizational Effectiveness" can be found on page 25 of this edition of the *InterAgency Journal*.

The "Call for Papers" for the 2014 CGSC Faculty Writing Competition will be made in September 2014. **IAJ**

DISA Releases 2014-2019 Strategic Plan

In May, the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) released its strategic plan for 2014-2019. The strategic plan outlines DISA's focus areas, guiding principles, and strategic goals for the future.

In his introduction to the DISA strategic plan, DISA director Lt. Gen. Ronnie D. Hawkins, Jr. (USAF) discusses DISA's shifting priorities in a post-conflict and financially constrained era. Hawkins also explains DISA's focus on cyberspace sovereignty, agility, and innovation, and says that DISA is the premier IT and Cyber Combat Support Agency for DoD, the nation, and U.S. coalition partners

Among DISA's guiding principles is its commitment to support the Department of Defense and DoD's joint, interagency, and international mission partners. DISA's strategic plan includes four strategic goals, and two of these four goals involve increased and more efficient information sharing. For instance, the first goal calls for a consolidated, collaborative, and secure joint information environment that would enable information sharing and interdependent enterprise services across DoD that are seamless, interoperable, efficient, and responsive to joint and coalition requirements. The second goal of the strategy is to engineer, provide, and enhance information sharing capabilities to enable decision makers to exercise authority and direction over forces and resources.

The DISA strategic plan also outlines objectives for the DISA Information Enterprise and makes suggestions for optimizing the department's investments. **IAJ**

Report Proposes New Civil Service Framework

In April, the Partnership for Public Service and Booz Allen Hamilton released a report calling for major reforms to the federal government's decades-old civil service system. According to the report, while the type of work and skills needed to carry out civil service work have changed, the current civil service system remains "a relic of a bygone era," and is not conducive to addressing today's complex, interagency challenges.

Planning for and supporting the future federal workforce will require adapting to change, and the Partnership report suggests six ways to overhaul the current civil service framework, including unifying the civil service and investing in leadership.

A unified civil service system would enable the federal government to act as an integrated enterprise. The unified service would be joined together by core civil service principles based on lessons learned across multiple agencies that can be used to address issues in 21st century government. The report also suggests creating a single senior federal executive service to foster interagency mobility and the development and deployment of that cadre of elite enterprise executives who can handle multi-agency missions and functions.

The suggested framework also includes a four-tier senior executive service leadership structure, with the top tier reserved for a small number of enterprise executives who have demonstrated the skills necessary to take on government-wide responsibilities and lead cross-agency initiatives. Among their qualifications, these executives would need strong collaborative skills and the ability to lead across organizational boundaries and utilize inter-organizational networks. They would also need to facilitate interagency collaboration through a shared sense of mission. *IAJ*

Interagency Task Force Reports on Human Trafficking

On April 8, Secretary of State John Kerry chaired the annual meeting of the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (PITF). During the meeting, the PITF discussed progress made by the task force, including the implementation of a whole-of-government approach and incorporating survivors' input and expertise in combating human trafficking. The annual cabinet-level meeting also provided an opportunity to coordinate government-wide efforts and discuss new initiatives in the struggle to end modern slavery. PITF member agencies were also encouraged to pursue innovation in their agency's response to human trafficking.

The PITF also released their progress report on combating trafficking in persons earlier this month. The report reviews PITF's ten strategic objectives and addresses efforts made to combat modern slavery and the trafficking of persons—including sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and the unlawful recruitment or use of child soldiers—by PITF and its operational arm, the Senior Policy Operating Group (SPOG).

The report also highlights PITF strengthening the SPOG as well as accomplishments of the individual agencies in combating human trafficking. Among these accomplishments is the Departments of Justice, Labor, and Homeland Security's collaboration in developing high-impact human trafficking investigations through six pilot Anti-Trafficking Coordination Teams (ACTeams). These departments also developed regional strategic plans, implemented coordinated