

Worth Noting

DNI releases paper on intelligence cooperation

In January the Office of the Director of National Intelligence published a paper describing certain key roles and relationships that characterize efforts by members of the U.S. Intelligence Community and other government entities. The paper does not purport to describe the specific laws, policies, safeguards, or operations relating to each agency's activities, nor does it make recommendations for change. Instead, it serves to further collaborative efforts.

The intelligence community and federal, state, local, tribal and territorial government organizations engage with one another and their partners in the private sector to carry out the shared mission of protecting the homeland. The paper strives to foster an important national dialogue that will promote a better understanding of how the intelligence community engages with key partners in this domestic enterprise and supports the holistic ideals articulated by the Director of National Intelligence.

According to former Director of National Intelligence James R. Clapper, "We need to deal with the realities of globalization – the blurring these days of foreign and domestic matters. Because when threats like terrorism and international organized crime transcend borders, it's critical that we think holistically about intelligence. But we're also a people who – Constitutionally and culturally – attach a high premium to our personal freedoms and our personal privacy."

- Office of the Director of National Intelligence

DHS reviews U.S./Canada border security

On January 19, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) published a fact sheet detailing the accomplishments of Beyond the Border from its release in 2011 through 2016.

Beyond the Border: A Shared Vision for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness is a U.S.-Canada joint declaration that promoted a shared approach to security and created a new framework for the U.S.-Canada relationship in the U.S. interagency that led to enhancing security while facilitating legitimate trade and travel.

The Beyond the Border fact sheet details accomplishments made in addressing threats; facilitating trade, economic growth, and jobs; integrating cross-border law enforcement; critical infrastructure cybersecurity; and transparency.

- Department of Homeland Security

CSIS publishes cyber agenda for President Trump

In January the Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS) published a report that provided a cybersecurity agenda for the incoming president. The CSIS Cyber Policy Task Force began working on the new agenda in late 2014, and provides recommendations on policies, organizational improvements, and resources needed in the cyber realm.

The cybersecurity agenda's policy recommendations include revising the international cybersecurity strategy, taking a new approach to building agreement on international stability,

expanding deterrence and creating consequences, taking a more assertive approach to combat cyber crime, protecting cyber assets and safeguarding personal information, increased transparency for cyber incidents, and active defense, among others.

Suggested organizational improvements involve strengthening the Department of Homeland Security, using the Government Accountability Office to review federal agency cybersecurity, streamlining congressional oversight, and elevating the role of cybersecurity coordinator to assist the president.

The agenda also made several recommendations regarding resources, saying that vulnerabilities should be protected, that funding should be allocated for cybersecurity education and training, and that the use of cloud and shared services should be increased.

The agenda concludes by stating “Cyberspace has become the central global infrastructure... But it is not secure, and the risks we face are unnecessarily great. Our opponents still have the advantage. We can change this if we want—not quickly and not easily—but of necessity if we are to build security for this century...”

- Department of Homeland Security

Simons Center hosts InterAgency Brown-Bag Lectures

The Simons Center established a new lecture series in partnership with the U.S. Army Command and General Staff School (CGSS). The InterAgency Brown-Bag Lecture Series is an extracurricular, interagency topic-focused series that is intended to help enrich the CGSS curriculum, and presentations are open to the public. Since they began in September, the lectures have garnered positive reviews attendees and presenters alike.

The inaugural lecture in the InterAgency Brown-Bag Lecture Series focused on country team operations and featured Ambassador (Ret.) David Lambertson and Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Richard Keller. The October and November lectures featured Special Agent Christopher J. Lamb, Ph.D., FBI, and Dr. John G. Breen, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC) Commandant’s Distinguished Chair for National Intelligence Studies and the Central Intelligence Agency’s (CIA) Representative to the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center, speaking on the roles and missions of the FBI Cyber Task Force and Central Intelligence Agency, respectively. In December and January, Mr. Larry A. Hisle, Executive Director of the Greater Kansas City Federal Executive Board (FEB), and Mr. Ralph Erwin, Senior Geospatial Intelligence Officer and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) liaison to CGSC, briefed participants on the FEB and NGA.

The sixth InterAgency Brown-Bag Lecture is scheduled for March 15 with a presentation on the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). Mr. Gustav A. Otto, the Defense Intelligence Chair at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) Representative to the Combined Arms Center and Army University, will lead the discussion.

Additional lectures are scheduled for April 6 and May 11, with speakers presenting on the topics of the U.S. Agency for International Development and military/law enforcement collaboration.

- Simons Center