

# Worth Noting

## Simons Center publishes 2021 Progress Report

The Simons Center has published its 2021 Progress Report to highlight its programs and activities accomplished in calendar year 2021.

Included in the 2021 Progress Report: the Arter-Rowland National Security Forum, the Bull Simons Ops Center Podcast, the InterAgency Brown-Bag Lecture Series, the Cold War Symposium, and the Distinguished Lecture Series.

The 2021 Progress Report can be found on the Simons Center's website – [thesimonscenter.org/news/simons-center-2021-progress-report](http://thesimonscenter.org/news/simons-center-2021-progress-report).

- **Simons Center**

## Fall 2021 Foundation News magazine available online

The CGSC Foundation published the fall 2021 edition of the *Foundation News* magazine in November. This edition of the *Foundation News* highlights the visit from Lt. Gen. (Ret.) H.R. McMaster who delivered the Foundation's Powell Lecture for academic year 2022 and also spoke at the Simons Center's Distinguished Lecture Series. This edition also includes updates from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College commandant and deputy commandant, as well as school directors, and for the first time, an update from the dean of academics. Along with all these updates from the College, the CGSC Foundation is also proud to showcase some of its other activities since the spring edition. Last, the "In Memoriam" section is a weighty one. The CGSC Foundation honors the memories of the four great individuals included in this section. Read the *Foundation News* magazine online at [www.cgsfoundation.org/no-29-fall-2021](http://www.cgsfoundation.org/no-29-fall-2021).

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## 'General and the Ambassador' discuss U.S. Diplomats in Russia

In a recent episode of "The General and the Ambassador: A Conversation" podcast host Ambassador (Ret.) Deborah McCarthy discussed diplomacy in Russia with Ambassador Jon Huntsman and Admiral David Manero. McCarthy's guests examine the effects of the large expulsion of U.S. diplomats from Russia during a period of heightened tensions, their ground game to advance U.S. interests in a hostile environment, Russia's toolbox and offensive tactics, and U.S. actions to counter those tools and tactics.

Ambassador Jon Huntsman currently serves as Vice Chair of Ford Motor Company. Huntsman began his career in public service as a staff assistant to President Ronald Reagan, and has served each of the five U.S. presidents since then in critical roles around the world. Huntsman is the only American in history to have served as Chief of Mission in both China and Russia.

Retired Rear Admiral David Manero currently serves as the Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché London. Manero was diplomatically expelled from the Russian Federation on his first flag assignment as Senior Defense Official/Defense Attaché Moscow. Previous assignments and overseas tours include the U.S. Naval Attaché Moscow.

Podcast producer and host Ambassador (retired) Deborah McCarthy was the 2018 DACOR Visiting Professor of Diplomacy for the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. “The General and the Ambassador: A Conversation” podcast promotes interagency cooperation and is produced by the American Academy of Diplomacy.

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## **Retired General, author, scholar presents at event in KC**

The CGSC Foundation hosted a Simons Center Distinguished Lecture Series event on Sept. 7, 2021, at the Carriage Club in Kansas City, Mo. The special guest for the evening was retired Lieutenant General H.R. McMaster who served as the 26th assistant to the President for National Security Affairs.

“Thanks to Col. Rod Cox for the opportunity to see so many great old friends, meet some new friends, and to be in really distinguished company,” said McMaster. “It’s distinguished company because all of you care about our nation and you care about those who are serving in uniform and supporting the CGSC Foundation.”

McMaster began his remarks commenting on his eagerness to serve the commander-in-chief as the national security advisor, but spent the bulk of his time speaking to what he called the “catastrophe” in Afghanistan and how it has its roots in misunderstanding, self-delusion and strategic incompetence and narcissism. He also spoke about its effects on Afghan and U.S citizens from a political and security perspective and what we all can do to begin to recover from this catastrophe and try to improve our competence and regain our confidence in who we are as a people.

After his comments describing the catastrophe in Afghanistan, McMaster shifted to talking about what we could all do to restore our confidence. He said the traumas of today are not unprecedented, citing events in the 1970s – the U.S. effort to leave and then recover from Vietnam, our civil rights struggles, the Iranian hostage crisis, and the oil crisis, economic struggles, so on. Pessimism pervaded the 70s and the United States appeared weak and in contrast, the Soviet Union appeared strong. Similarly, after recent traumas with a pandemic, a recession, social divisions laid bare by George Floyd’s murder and the violent aftermath, vitriolic partisan political divisions have all added to a narrative of American decline.

“I believe that restoring confidence in America’s democratic institutions and processes requires empathy,” said McMaster. “Lack of empathy for one another is rooted in ignorance...Ignorance of history, compounded by the abuse of history undermines our ability to work together to improve our nation and our society.”

“We can all do our part now to overcome our differences, reinforce the worn fabric of our society, and work together to strengthen our nation and the free world,” McMaster said. “To realize the vision of the motto that appears on the Great Seal of the republic — *E pluribus unum* – Out of many, one. As the patriot and civil rights activist Rosa Parks observed, ‘We will fail only if we fail to try.’”

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## **'Lessons Unlearned' topic of Distinguished Lecture Series Event**

The CGSC Foundation and its Simons Center hosted a Simons Center Distinguished Lecture Series dinner event on Nov. 18, 2021, at June's Northland in Leavenworth, Kansas. The guest speaker for the evening was retired Col. Pat Proctor, a U.S. Army veteran of both the Afghanistan and the Iraq wars, with more than 25 years of service. Proctor provided the evening's guests with a look into the message of his recent book, *Lessons Unlearned: The U.S. Army's Role in Creating the Forever Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq*.

Proctor walked the audience through low-intensity conflicts which began occurring after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the demise of the Soviet Union and the conclusion of the Cold War. Through the lens of Army doctrine and despite the success of the Army in the first Gulf War, Proctor outlined the Army's resistance to low-intensity conflict and what he termed as the Army's refusal to institutionalize lessons learned in the 1990s in places like Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia and Kosovo.

During his presentation Proctor was quick to point out that he was a part of the same institution he criticized in the book. He further explained during his brief and in the foreword of *Lessons Unlearned* that while he was critical of the Army's senior leaders, he also well-understood and appreciated they always had the best interests of the Army and the nation at heart and that their service and dedication is beyond reproach. But, by understanding why and how the Army of the 1990s refused to prepare to fight low-intensity conflicts on the eve of the war on terror, it might be possible to halt the ever-accelerating march of today's U.S. Army toward intentionally forgetting the hard-fought lessons of Afghanistan and Iraq.

- **Simons Center**

## **Foundation Celebrates Opening of Frontier Army Museum Gift Shop operations with ribbon cutting ceremony**

The Leavenworth/Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce and the CGSC Foundation conducted a ribbon cutting ceremony at Fort Leavenworth's Frontier Army Museum on Dec. 8, 2021, signifying the CGSC Foundation's opening of operations of the museum's gift shop.

Brandon Johannes, president/CEO of the Leavenworth/Lansing Area Chamber of Commerce, led the ceremony along with the CGSC Foundation President/CEO Roderick M. Cox, Frontier Army Museum Curator Russell Ronspies and the Foundation's Director of Operations Lora Morgan.

The CGSC Foundation actually began operating the gift shop Sept. 1, 2021. The Fort Leavenworth Historical Society previously managed the gift shop for several decades, but in 2021 made the business decision to cease operations.

"The Fort Leavenworth Historical Society and the museum leadership approached the Foundation to see if we might have interest in operating the museum's gift shop," said Cox. "After looking into the issues involved we felt it would be a great way to serve the community. We already operate a gift shop in the Lewis and Clark Center, so we have experience with the business."

"A gift shop is part of the whole museum experience," said Ronspies, the Frontier Army Museum Curator. "I know that when I visit a museum, I expect to stop in the store after my visit and purchase something that is a memory of that visit. I look forward to creating a whole new experience with the CGSC Foundation and hopefully one that will last many years."

"I've known Frontier Army Museum Curator Russell Ronspies for several years," Cox said. "We share the mutual goal of maintaining and improving the museum as a great place for Soldiers,

families and the public to come and learn about Fort Leavenworth's place in the nation's history. Our operation of the gift shop will be focused on that idea."

The Frontier Army Museum and the Museum Gift Shop hours are Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Persons interested in visiting the museum who do not possess a DoD-issued ID card or other approved gate pass should allow extra time to check-in at the Fort Leavenworth visitor center. Online shopping is also available on the CGSC Foundation's online gift shop - [giftshop.cgscfoundation.org](http://giftshop.cgscfoundation.org).

- **CGSC Foundation**

## **Deputy to the Commanding General presents Interagency Brown-Bag Lecture**

The fourth presentation of the InterAgency Brown-Bag Lecture Series for CGSC academic year 2022 was conducted Jan. 20, in the Arnold Conference Room of the Lewis and Clark Center on Fort Leavenworth.

Mr. Michael D. Formica, deputy to the commanding general, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth, began his presentation with a discussion about Army Civilians as members of the Army Profession and a critical component of the Army's People Strategy. After laying the background for the purpose of the Army Civilian Corps, he then shifted to explaining the origins, roles and responsibilities, as well as the selection process for members of the Senior Executive Service.

Formica was selected to the Senior Executive Service in 2010 and has served as the deputy to the commanding general, Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth since 2019. Previously he served as the director, U.S. Army Installation Management Command, Europe from 2015-2019, and as the assistant deputy chief of staff G-3/5/7 and deputy G-3 for training, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Eustis, from 2010-2015. Formica retired from the U.S. Army in 2009 as a colonel after 27 years of service with duties that included service as the chief of staff and director, Joint Training and Operations Directorate, Joint Forces Command, and as the commander 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, during Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

The InterAgency Brown-Bag Lecture Series is co-hosted by the U.S. Army Command and General Staff School and the CGSC Foundation's Arthur D. Simons Center for the Study of Ethical Leadership and Interagency Cooperation. The CGSC Foundation has received support for all brown-bag lectures in academic year 2022 from First Command Financial Services in Leavenworth, Kansas.

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## **Simons Center conducts 'Cold War Symposium'**

From November 2021 through February 2022, the CGSC Foundation's Simons Center conducted the "Cold War Symposium," a three part series developed to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the end of the Cold War, to promote scholarship, and to recognize the contributions of those who participated in that global struggle, especially the United States and its allies in NATO.

The series kicked-off with a dinner event on Nov. 9, 2021, and was comprised of three virtual events that followed. "Part 1: Setting Stage for the End of the Cold War" was conducted Dec. 14, 2021; "Part 2: The Cold War Ends" was conducted Jan. 11, 2022; and the final presentation, "Part 3: Rebuilding the Alliance," was conducted Feb. 8, 2022.

Now that the symposium is complete, Dr. Mark Wilcox, CGSC associate professor and one of the presenters during the symposium, will edit and publish a book, with chapters written by the panel experts who presented during the symposium.

Photos and video from each presentation of the symposium are available on the Simons Center website. – <https://thesimonscenter.org/arnsf/final-virtual-presentation-of-the-cold-war-symposium-220208>

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## **Global Supply Chain issues subject of recent Arter-Rowland National Security Forum**

The CGSC Foundation's Simons Center hosted an Arter-Rowland National Security Forum (ARNSF) luncheon event on Jan. 27, 2022, at the Carriage Club in downtown Kansas City.

In this presentation of the forum, Mr. Keith Prather, one of the founders and managing directors of Armada Corporate Intelligence, served as a panelist to discuss the impact supply chain vulnerabilities have on the Kansas City metropolitan area. Prather was joined on the panel by retired U.S. Army Col. Matthew Dimmick, former White House Advisor and National Security Professional.

With Kansas City as a key technology center as well as a hub for rail, highway, and intermodal transport, the dynamics of the global supply chain have profound effects on the metropolitan area. Prather and Dimmick discussed the current state of the supply chain, specific vulnerabilities, and its national security implications.

At the end of their presentations they conducted a lively question and answer period moderated by Simons Center Deputy Director John Nelson.

Simons Center Director Bob Ulin closed out the event thanking the panelists and the ARNSF members and their guests and outlining the schedule for future ARNSF events.

For all the news and latest information about the forum visit the Simons Center website. – <https://thesimonscenter.org/arter-rowland-national-security-forum>

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## **Arter-Rowland National Security Forum features presentation on virtual warfare**

The CGSC Foundation's Simons Center hosted an Arter-Rowland National Security Forum luncheon event on Feb. 24, 2022, at the Carriage Club in Kansas City.

Simons Center Director Bob Ulin welcomed the ARNSF members, some of whom also introduced their guests, and then introduced retired Col. Steve Banach who provided the forum with a presentation on virtual warfare.

Banach said that his presentation was focused on framing the problem. With the conduct of warfare and nation-state security transitioning from a tactical physical battle space to a strategic and unending global virtual war paradigm, the world is experiencing a new ubiquitous form of warfare with Russia and China as the United States' greatest competitors. He outlined how the entity that controls the virtual domain and masters virtual war campaigning first, will indirectly achieve social control, and will win every war they engage in, at pennies on the dollar. Banach said the first issue we have is that the "great captains of war" have historically missed identifying new threats and wars. He said we have an opportunity to develop solutions that are favorable to the U.S., but we

must act now.

After his presentation, Banach answered questions from the members who were especially charged up on the day that Russian forces had begun their invasion of Ukraine.

Ulin closed out the event and reviewed the schedule for future ARNSF events. Forum members and their guests gathered for a group photo as the luncheon adjourned.

Col. Steve Banach, U.S. Army, Ret., served 27 years in uniform, retiring in 2010. He is a Distinguished Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment. While commanding the 3rd Ranger Battalion, he led U.S. Army Rangers during a historic night combat parachute assault into Afghanistan on Oct. 19, 2001, as the “spearhead” for the Global War on Terror for the United States of America, after 9/11. Banach subsequently led U.S. Army Rangers in a second combat parachute assault into Al Anbar Province in western Iraq in 2003. He earned a Bronze Star Medal for valor in combat, and a Bronze Star Medal for service to the nation. He also earned two Bronze Combat Jumps Stars.

Banach later led the Information Warfare Design Planning Team for the U.S. Army Management Office – Cyber (DAMO–Cyber) in the Pentagon, and has produced numerous innovative virtual war publications, presentations and podcasts.

For all the news and latest information about the forum visit the Simons Center website. – <https://thesimonscenter.org/arter-rowland-national-security-forum>

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