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GET INVOLVED

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A Message from Ms. Heidi H. Grant

Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force, International Affairs

I am pleased to welcome you to the Spring/Summer 2012 International Affairs (IA) newsletter. This edition highlights the 2011 USAF International Affairs Excellence Award recipient, provides updates on the International Affairs Career Field, and acknowledges individuals who recently achieved IA certification.

As many of you know, we continue to operate in a challenging fiscal environment. However, it is important we continue to focus on professional development of our workforce to meet increased partner demands and ensure we have skilled, knowledgeable, and experienced international affairs professionals. Secretary Donley has emphasized that “readiness is essential because if we’re going to be smaller, we must be prepared.” So, I thank you for your continued support and service as we remain focused on maintaining and building trust with existing and new partners for our mutual security interest while strengthening US and global security.

I encourage you to read this newsletter and take advantage of available career development opportunities. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mr. Gordon-Michael Cox, at (202) 404-3960 (DSN 754) or email: gordon.cox.1@us.af.mil.

2011 USAF International Affairs Excellence Award

Congratulations to the 2011 USAF IA Excellence Award recipient Col (Dr.) Lee H. Harvis, Commander, 374th Medical Group, United States Forces Japan and Fifth Air Force Surgeon, Yokota Air Base, Japan. Col Harvis led a multinational medical emergency response coalition for information sharing and personnel exchange during Japan’s worst natural disaster in recorded history. He was instrumental in rebuilding Japan’s aeromedical evacuation system, and orchestrated the first United States Air Force medical liaison to the Japanese Ministry of Defense for critical coordination of future Air Force and Department of Defense medical assets. The Under Secretary of the Air Force Erin C. Conaton, on behalf of the Secretary of the Air Force, presented Col Harvis a trophy and citation at an award ceremony at the Pentagon on 23 May 2012.



USAF International Affairs Excellence Award Nominees

All 2011 USAF International Affairs Excellence Award nominees have significantly contributed to the USAF ability to build global partnerships, international relationships, and partnership capacity.

- Maj Nora Ashby, Chief TRICARE Operations and Patient Administration North Region Branch, Air Force Medical Operations Agency
- TSgt Adam Baker, 216 OSS/CC LAUNCH PROTECTION DUTY TECHNICIAN Combat Operations Flight
- Lt Col David Dunklee, Chief, AFSPC Foreign Disclosure Office
- Col Timothy Evans, Commander, 175th Network Warfare Squadron
- Col Yves Fuhrmann, Chief, Operations Branch, A5XX Regional Plans and Issues Division
- Maj Monica Gramling, Political Military Affairs Strategist, Directorate of Plans, Programs and Analyses, Headquarters, United States Air Forces in Europe
- Lt Col Tim Harbor, Chief, Host Nation Support, Logistics and Installations Directorate
- Mr. George Ifland, Director of Operations, Air Force Security Assistance Training Squadron, Air Education and Training Command
- Maj Timothy O'Sullivan, CENTCOM Qatar and Oman Desk Officer
- Mr. John Petersen, Political Advisor to the Commander, Allied Air Command Izmir, Turkey & Combined Forces Air Component, Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR
- Lt Col Raul Reyes, Jr., Deputy Director, Plans and Programs, Headquarters Twelfth Air Force (Air Forces Southern)
- Mr. Niels Sorensen, Strategic Planner, HQ Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency
- Mr. David Steare, International Relations Specialist, Space and Cyberspace Division
- Lt Col Cornelia Weiss, Assistant Staff Judge Advocate, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
- Ms. Kimberly Whitney, Chief, International Airborne Warning and Control System financial Management Branch
- Lt Col Jason Wollard, Detachment Commander, 438th Air Expeditionary Advisory Group

SAF/IA will issue an Air Force-wide call for IA Excellence Award nominations in October 2012. The time period for the award is 1 January – 31 December 2012. For details on eligibility requirements, submitting a nomination package and the selection process, please visit

<http://www.safia.hq.af.mil/workforceinitiatives/>.

International Affairs Career Field (IACF) Updates

Global Master of Arts Program (GMAP II)

GMAP II is a part-time Graduate-level degree program sponsored by the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) in partnership with Tufts University's The Fletcher School. The program is available to team members serving in the international affairs/Security Cooperation workforce.

Changes for the upcoming application cycle:

- DSCA has made available O&M funding for Security Cooperation personnel serving in O&M billets (previously funding was available to only those serving in FMS admin and case funded billets).
- The number of AF program participants has increased from two (2) to three (3) for the upcoming 2014 class.
- DISAM is providing participants two class options: March or July (participant will select date when completing the application).

Applications for the GMAP II Class of 2014 are due in October 2012. For additional information, please contact Ms. Johanna Porras, at (202) 404-3833 or e-mail: arly.porras@pentagon.af.mil.

Congratulations to the GMAP II Class of 2012 Graduates!

- Ms. Rebecca Valerin, SAF/IARA
- Capt Saul A. Ramos, ASC/WWMU

Announcing the GMAP II Class of 2013:

- Ms. Tina Konjic, AFSAC/XPO

Pathways Programs

In January 2011, the President signed Executive Order 13562 ending the Federal Career Intern Program (FCIP), and established three pathways for students and recent graduates to enter the federal workplace. The new streamlined, transparent, and more uniform hiring process for students and recent graduates replaces the current system and provides the government a competitive advantage in attracting and hiring talented students and recent graduates. OPM recently issued the final rule implementing the Pathways Programs. The programs include: 1) The Internship Program for current students replaces the Student Experience Career Program (SCEP). 2) The Recent Graduates Program for people who have recently graduated from qualifying educational institutions or programs (2 years from the date the graduate completed an academic course of study). 3) Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) Program for people who obtained an advanced degree (e.g., graduate or professional degree) within the preceding two years.

Positions in the Pathways Programs are excepted from the competitive service. Participants in these Programs are appointed under the newly created Schedule D of the excepted service. AFPC is currently developing processes to complete Pathways Programs implementation by 31 July 2012.

For additional information or if you have questions regarding this program, contact Mr. Bob Floyd, Career Field Team Chief, at (210) 565-1758 or e-mail: robert.floyd.1@us.af.mil.

Civilian Strategic Leader Program (CSLP)

CSLP is designed to ensure a highly-qualified leadership pipeline is available to meet future mission requirements. A fundamental aspect of CSLP is ensuring there is a right mix of enterprise positions at varying strategic levels within the AF enterprise. While not a promotion program, CSLP participants are reassigned to experiential positions typically for three years.

There have been significant changes in CSLP for AY 2013.

- CSLP has redefined its talent management strategy to implement a slating process similar to the one used by the Air Force and Department of Defense for its Senior Executive cadre.
- Previously, the Directors Screening Board (DSB) was the process by which CSLP Selects were identified. MAJCOMS used a bid-match process matching individuals to vacant positions using individuals' preference sheets. The name has changed to the CSLP Selection Board to reflect the expansion of the program beyond Director positions to a more deliberate and focused talent management approach.
- The AF developed a more focused process to identify positions that accurately reflect the intent of CSLP by expanding beyond the Director positions in CSLP. CSLP positions now belong to one of three categories: Joint positions, Headquarters Air Force positions and Installation Level positions.
- Mobility agreements are no longer required "up front". At the time of referral, a signed mobility agreement will be required for a specific position and location. Mobility agreements are executed only at the time CSLP Selects confirm they wish to be considered for a specific position and location. Mobility agreements are executed only at the time CSLP Selects confirm they wish to be considered for a specific position.

In July, the IACF Development Team (DT) will conduct the Summer DT meeting to endorse candidates to compete for CSLP and Civilian Developmental Education (CDE) program slots at the CSLP Selection Board and CDE Selection Board in September. The DT will review all GS-14/15 team members and select candidates for CSLP. CSLP candidates will then meet the CSLP Selection Board in September. Note: Team members selected may opt out of CSLP consideration with no penalty if they desire.

If you have questions regarding CSLP please contact AF/DPS at afdps.cslp@pentagon.af.mil.

International Affairs Certification Program

When applying for IA Certification Level I, II, or III on the Personnel Initiatives (PI) website (<https://iacertification.dsca.mil/AFNotice.aspx>), we encourage you to keep the following tips in mind:

5 Common tips to successfully complete your certification application

1. Ensure IA experience for each particular level is clearly outlined in the supporting documents. If it is not, provide a supplemental document on official letterhead signed by a supervisor explaining in detail the IA related duties and dates.
* Applications that do not clearly state IA experience will not be granted certification.
2. Your complete supervisor information, including email address, must be current on the PI website before applying for certification. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that their application is reviewed and approved by their supervisor prior to the Review Board.
* Applications that are not approved by the supervisor will not be considered or approved for certification.
3. Apply for one certification level per Review Board (e.g., If applying for Level II Certification, do not submit a separate Level I application).
4. Applicants must complete 24 hours of leadership/management training for Level II certification, and 40 hours for Level III. Supporting documents with detailed course descriptions are required for all leadership/management courses, except for Professional Military Education (PME) or Office of Personnel Management (OPM) courses.
5. Level III team members must register with the PI website and enter 80 Continuing Learning Points (CLPs), per every two-year period, in order to maintain Level III certification.

A Certification Application checklist is available online for a detailed step-by-step guide to complete an online application: <http://www.safia.hq.af.mil/workforceinitiatives/iacphowtoapply.asp>.

Certification Review Board Results

In February 2012 the IA Certification Review Board met and approved the following applicants: Congratulations to all!

February 2012 IACP Recipients		
Level I	Jaylene Nelson	Roger L. Jennings
Rikki P. Battersby	Maj Karen L. Nuccitelli	Cheryl L. Keggan
Adam Berhanu	Rodgers D. O'Neill	1st Lt Angelina M. Maldonado
John P. Bieniek	Bruce E. Ringstad	1st Lt Luis Maldonado
Christine V. Boyer	Maj Angel A. Santiago	Lt Col Brendan P. Patton
Craig R. Black	1st Lt Claudio V. Santo	Debra Peer
Standish J. Bradford, Jr.	Maj Les A. Schroeder	Keith A. Stephens
Donald J. Chesmer	Melanie V. Temples	Julie A. Stoecker
Lt Col Jeffrey T. Cook	Charles M. Tidwell	Maj Stephen C. Sztan
Lt Col Luke C. Cropsey	Amy D. Tinch	Randy L. Titus
Noble K. Eden	Susan M. Wagner	Kevin M. Torres
Zhaleh T. Freels	Dawn E. Walker	Bayani O. Udasco
1st Lt Timothy C. Haffner	Laurie A. Williams	Shawn E. Witten
John A. Harris	Maj William B. Vaughn	Level III
Shaunna A. Johnson	Level II	James Yarbrough
Julia Kerby	Roni A. Aborn	Devlan R. Islas
Kelly L. Laurent	Tressie C. Easterwood	James G. Elliott
David K. Lawson	Steven S. Gauthier	Anthony R. Munson
John H. LeClair, Jr.	Col James R. Hetherington	Tanesha Barnes
Elisa V. Lyke	Florencia C. Holbrook	JoAnn Smith
Paul K. Matusiak	Robert B. Holdsworth	
Lt Col Christopher J. McCarthy	Richard M. Hubert	