

Educational Initiatives

NDU components include the National War College (NWC), Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF), and Armed Forces Staff College (AFSC). linkage until recently was very loose.

Steps now in progress are intended to forge a "real university" that integrates activities of all three colleges in more meaningful ways. A few of them are particularly pertinent to joint strategic planning:

-- New construction, if approved and when completed, would permit NDU to consolidate physically separate components. The first "capstone" course for flag officers, for example, occupied impromptu facilities in Leesburg, Virginia this year.

-- NWC and ICAF curricula are being intertwined as never before. Graduates of each institution will better appreciate problems the other explores.

-- NWC curriculum is starting to stress joint military matters more than international relations, which were paramount in the past.

-- NWC now has "the strongest faculty assembled since the era of Bernard Brodie and George Kennan" (1946-47), in General Pustay's opinion. He sees some "rising stars" in the field of defense strategy.

-- Pustay has asked permission to include allies in student bodies. That would provide better perspectives concerning collective security and coalition warfare.

-- The new Institute of Higher Defense Studies ("capstone") offers an 11-week "course for officer selectees or recent promotees to the rank of general or [admiral].... Objectives of the course are to develop in students the ability to: