

## NPS Hosts International Security Conference in Nation's Capital

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With guidance from the *Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower*, a new maritime strategy that stresses the importance of preventing wars as well as prevailing in them, Department of Defense leaders and international research representatives gathered at the 2008 Globalization and Maritime Security Conference in Washington, D.C., to examine critical globalization issues and international security challenges. Jointly organized by the Temasek Defence Systems Institute (TDSI) Singapore, Lawrence



(From left) NPS Provost Leonard Ferrari and NPS Prof. Karen Guttieri speak with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Gregory Gross just prior to his speech about "DoD and the Future of Security."

Livermore National Laboratories and the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), with participation by the U.S. Army Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute, the three-day workshop provided attendees with the opportunity to not only present their own research interests, but actively discuss collaborative efforts to expand the relationship between the social and hard sciences in security and stabilization research.

"We're recognizing the compelling nature of the challenges we're facing from climate change, pandemic, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, economic inequalities ... one of the objectives of the conference was to create a forum for researchers to build collaborative relationships in order to address the kinds of challenges that no

nation can solve alone," explained NPS Prof. Karen Guttieri, leader for the NPS Security and Global Effects (SAGE) Initiative and the program lead for the workshop. Additionally, the conference aimed to shift crisis awareness from a reactive to proactive mode and identify leadership competencies required of complex environments.

The workshop began each day in plenary, where participants engaged in presentations by policy, military and research program leaders to gain a variety of perspectives on maritime security in the global context. Participants then attended either the globalization discussion track to focus on conflict prevention globalization systems and leadership in complex environments, or the maritime security track, which was chaired by NPS Professors Tom Huynh and Don Brutzman, to discuss global maritime partnership, maritime security technologies and port security for the Straits of Malacca and Singapore. During the workshop's final session, participants assembled into small groups to focus on potential research needs and follow-on activities related to globalization, leadership and maritime security. "We were all very familiar with the literature but what we wanted to do was have an even higher-level opportunity to interact directly and work," Guttieri explained. The structure of the conference was an important tool that enabled the group to move forward in its efforts to identify the most fruitful approaches to the challenges presented, she added.



NPS Prof. Tom Huynh (bottom rt) meets with research representatives and defense leaders from Singapore.



Vice Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Patrick Walsh delivered the conference keynote speech, which focused on new security threats resulting from globalization and the guidance laid out in the New Maritime Strategy for creating stability and preventing future global conflict. Walsh emphasized the importance of developing cultural understandings of the regions in which the military operates, and said that winning hearts and minds is key, “otherwise we are not part of the solution, we are part of the problem itself, and we will alienate locals and create insurgents faster than we can eliminate them.” He also warned against naïve enthusiasm and pressure to deliver quick results, which can inadvertently help the very insurgency the U.S. is trying to defeat. “To win the long war, we must adopt an approach that will build trust,” he said. “Those pay-offs take time and patience.”

NPS President Dan Oliver echoed Walsh’s sentiments by saying that globalization effects are of vital interest to the Navy and NPS, which is why it is so imperative for leaders and researchers to draw their resources and knowledge together to take those new insights and efforts beyond the three-day scope of the conference. NPS Provost Leonard Ferrari, who chaired the conference panel discussion on globalization systems, urged participants to explore ideas that would push globalization and security research forward. He said it was important for them to not only work on solving problems, but work on educating others to help facilitate programs and solve those problems as well.

Additional guest speakers for the conference included the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Gregory Gross, Cynthia Imer of the Department of State, Rear Adm. Lee Metcalf of the Global Maritime Situational Awareness National Office, Maj. Gen. Herbert Altshuler of U.S. Africa Command, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Donald Loren, Senator Gary Hart, Brig. Gen. Tan Yih San of the Singapore Ministry of Defence, TDSI Singapore Director Yeo Tat Soon, NPS Dean of Research Dan Boger, NPS Chief of Staff Col. David Smarsh and Starnes Walker, the Director of Research for the Department of Homeland Security.



As a result of the working groups and presentations, one of the revelations that surfaced for Guttieri was the need to rethink security and its approaches, which NPS Chief of Staff Col. David Smarsh (left center) makes note of research ideas with his team members during a globalization break-out session includes the use of research to inform policy and the integration of social, scientific and technical approaches.



“As a scholar, working across disciplines is really rewarding,” she said. “In terms of problem solving for the challenges the country confronts, it is very rewarding to get to work with system engineers, modelers, operations researchers and people from other disciplines, because when we combine and effectively communicate we really can enhance the global effort.”