The National Intelligence University 50th

Celebrating Fifty Years
1962 - 2012
Education, Research, Outreach

One Mission. One Team. One Agency.
Committed to Excellence in Defense of the Nation
This special edition of DIA’s Communiqué recognizes the National Intelligence University as it marks its 50th anniversary. This issue provides a snapshot of NIU’s history and achievements, degree and electives offerings, and changes on the horizon. You’ll also meet some of the university’s notable alumni.

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Strong Roots, Bright Future

The National Intelligence University began life 50 years ago when the curricula of the Army Strategic Intelligence School and Naval Intelligence School were merged into the newly created Defense Intelligence School (DIS). The school’s first students began studies in September 1962 in a postgraduate course at the Naval Intelligence School. They became DIS students after formal activation on Jan. 1, 1963, and graduated as the school’s first class in June 1963.

In 2009, Director of National Intelligence James Clapper initiated a comprehensive review of the missions and functions of the DNI. With the goal of determining the best platform to carry them out, he sought ways to promote intelligence integration while improving support for the intelligence community (IC).

“The IC must take better advantage of education as a force multiplier. I have determined that the most efficient and effective way to provide quality education programs of common concern for the IC is to designate the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency as the executive agent for the National Intelligence University.”

~ James Clapper
Director of National Intelligence, Oct. 2010

As we begin our second half century as the National Intelligence University, I believe this university is well poised to assume the greater role as the center of academic life for the intelligence community.”

~ David Ellison
NIU President, Aug. 2011

Today is a milestone event as we celebrate with you the first graduating class of the National Intelligence University.”

~ LTG Michael Flynn
DIA Director, July 2012

For 32 years, the MSSI curriculum has helped provide future national security leaders the edge in decision-making. Students in the MSSI program hone their collection and analytic skills while studying real-world strategic issues in a truly joint setting that includes classmates from every organization in the Intelligence Community, as well as others from non-title 50 organizations, and Capitol Hill. The long term impact of the MSSI program is seen in the quality of its graduates, who currently serve as:

- The Commander, International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and U.S. Forces Afghanistan
- The J-2, Joint Chiefs of Staff
- The Deputy Director of the National Clandestine Service for IC HUMINT
- The Deputy Administrator, Transportation Security Administration
- The Assistant Commandant for Intelligence & Criminal Investigations, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
- President and CEO, ManTech International Corporation.

The Bachelor of Science in Intelligence (BSI) is a 4th-year undergraduate curriculum. It allows intelligence professionals who have collected credits over many years to earn a degree in their chosen career field. The BSI program enrolls approximately twenty-five students each year at the main campus – a modest number compared to the size of NIU graduate programs – but it has a large impact, opening career doors for some and breaking through glass ceilings for others:

A DIA civilian staff assistant who thought she was “maxed out” within her pay grade (GG-9) enrolled in the BSI Class of 1997, 25 years after graduating from high school! After earning a BSI degree, her career took off in exciting new directions and she was a GG-14 budget analyst just six years later.

For the military students in the program the BSI is also a ticket to career success. More than 10% of the NCOs enrolled in the bachelor’s program have subsequently been commissioned. Others, such as MGySgt John Cervantes, USMC, Class of 2003 are among the senior-most enlisted leaders of their branches of service.

The Master of Science and Technology Intelligence (MSTI), NIU’s newest degree, was approved in 2012. While it shares a common core curriculum with the MSSI degree, the elective coursework and thesis allow students to specialize in science and technology intelligence topics.

The importance of the degree program was highlighted in a recent Department of Education report acknowledging that for intelligence officers the highly classified nature of the subject matter limits equivalent study in the nonfederal education community.

“Intelligence professionals must be able to address any threat and avoid surprises. With our adversaries’ increased emphasis on technology, it is imperative that institutions like ours better equip intelligence professionals to deal with these ever-evolving challenges.”

~ Dr. Brian Shaw, Dean of the NIU’s Anthony G. Oettinger School of Science and Technology Intelligence
As the intelligence community’s (IC) accredited school since 1983, the National Intelligence University (NIU) offers an extensive collection of intelligence literature of more than 60 titles published by the National Intelligence Press. While these works are of interest to intelligence practitioners, they are also used in the growing number of intelligence curricula at schools, colleges and in universities around the country.

The National Intelligence Press publishes high quality, valuable and timely products. Books are authored by students, faculty, research fellows, international partners and IC professionals on topics of interest to the community and the U.S. government. Authors enjoy full academic freedom, provided they mark information correctly or in the case of unclassified publications, that they do not disclose classified information, jeopardize operations security or misrepresent official U.S. policy. Such academic freedom empowers authors to offer new and sometimes controversial perspectives in the interest of furthering debates on key issues.

Some of the books deal with difficult issues, such as unauthorized disclosures or “leaks.” In “Who Watches the Watchmen: The Conflict between National Security and Freedom of the Press,” NIU alumnus Gary Ross examines the IC’s concerns about whether classified information should be leaked to the press and the journalist’s right to disclose that information to the public. Ross began writing the book while a part-time student in NIU’s Master of Science of Strategic Intelligence program. Employed as a special agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, he was very familiar with the delicate world within counterintelligence investigations and operations.

Some of the works are award winning. “The Blue Planet: Informal International Police Networks and National Intelligence” recently received the National Award for Academic/News Media Excellence from the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA) and was highlighted in the association’s “1811 Journal”. The author, Special Agent Mike Bayer of the Diplomatic Security Service produced the book while working as a research fellow at the NIU’s Center for Strategic Intelligence Research in 2008-2009.

All of the National Intelligence Press books are available online. Some are protected because of the classification, but the bulk of the press publications can be downloaded from the university’s website at www.ni-u.edu.

A. Denis Clift, President of the National Defense Intelligence College (1993-2009), and founder of the National Intelligence Press.

20 Years of 24/7 Service for DIA

DIA employees and NIU students may use the John T. Hughes Library any time, day or night. That wasn’t always the case: when LTG Charles Cunningham, the College Commandant from 1991-1993, first presented the idea, naysayers worried that the library’s open stack collection would be decimated. Experience has shown a different lesson and today the library serves as a model for the art of the possible.

On-site advantages for the workforce include:

• Robust research services for students and analysts;
• Access to NIU student theses;
• Lecture series featuring current authors.
WALL STREET ANALYST SHARES PRIVATE SECTOR PERSPECTIVE ON ANALYSIS

On Sept. 10, John Fagan, analyst at Discovery Capital Management returned to DIA Headquarters for the second consecutive year to share a commercial perspective on analysis and decision making with NIU students and headquarters analysts. Like intelligence analysts, Wall Street analysts must review and analyze huge quantities of data, information and reports to do their jobs properly. “At the end of the day you have to sit down and make a decision based on the information you have. Models can only take you so far. They help you systematize, but you also need to weigh your own analysis,” Fagan explained. “My analysis has to reflect what [others] are going to do, not what I want them to do.” Fagan’s visit reflects NIU’s ongoing effort to expand its partner engagement with outside organizations including private sector and academe.

FORMER ZAMBIA PRESIDENT HOLDS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WITH NIU STUDENTS

His Excellency Rupiah Banda, President of the Republic of Zambia from 2008-2011, led a roundtable discussion with students and faculty April 18, at NIU at the invitation of faculty member Dr. Cindy Courville, former Ambassador to the African Union. The discussion was of special interest to students enrolled in Africa-related courses, conducting thesis research on issues in Africa, or enrolled in the new NIU graduate certificate in Africa Studies. Rupiah Banda is the 3rd former African president to visit NIU in recent years; former President Festus Mogae from Botswana visited in 2009; and former President Amani Abeid Karume from Zanzibar came in 2010.

NIU’S INTERNATIONAL INTELLIGENCE FELLOWS PROGRAM

In 2012, NIU’s International Intelligence Fellows Program empowered partnerships across the globe, bringing together senior leaders from 86 nations to focus on intelligence support to combating terrorism. On the home front, NIU is working to integrate intelligence into the curriculum of the major intermediate and senior-level schools within the Department of Defense.

NIU HOSTS DISCUSSIONS ON TEACHING INTELLIGENCE AT DOD INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR-LEVEL SCHOOLS

In early July 2012, NIU brought together 25 intelligence community (IC) representatives who serve on the faculties of the Department of Defense intermediate and senior-level schools to discuss how best to incorporate the study of intelligence into their curricula. Organizations represented a wide-swat of IC organizations, including CIA, DIA, FBI, National Security Agency, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, National Reconnaissance Office, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Department of State’s Bureau of Intelligence and Research. DIA Deputy Director David Shedd met with the group for an open discussion about the importance of their role in instilling a culture of integration throughout the IC and encouraged the representatives to expand their outreach to foreign partners. This gathering was the second sponsored by NIU as it continues to assume a greater leadership role as the center of academic life for the intelligence community.
THE NIU AT 50

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!

While NIU’s bricks and mortar structure and physical space may change, the campus beat remains the same. Whether taking a class at a satellite campus or seated at a desk on the main campus, students continue to graduate with a quality, comprehensive education.

Opposite left: From 1962-1980, Anacostia Naval Station, Washington, D.C., was the home of the Defense Intelligence School (DIS). Classes were held in World War II era wooden buildings.

Opposite middle: In 1983, the DIS relocated into the newly-constructed DIA Headquarters, located on Joint Base Anacostia Bolling. Since then, this location has been home to the school’s main campus offices and classrooms. Students are able to participate in full-time, evening and weekend part-time classes. Other NIU locations include the NIU Graduate Center at the Center for Advanced Study of Language (CASL), College Park, Md.; the NIU Graduate Center at National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), Springfield, Va.; and the European Academic Center, Molesworth, U.K. In 2012, the NIU Southern Academic Center opened its doors in Tampa, Fla. These additional locations provide greater access to the unique degree and certificate programs.

Opposite lower: In late 2015, the NIU main campus is expected to relocate to Roberdeau Hall, MacArthur Blvd., in Bethesda, Md. The school’s new space, designed by an academic architect, will be situated in the scenic Palisades, an area along the Potomac River characterized by wooded bluffs and slopes. NIU’s campus will share the Bethesda site with the Defense Intelligence Agency and select personnel from the National Media Exploitation Center. Shown here is an early rendering of one of the initial concepts for the new campus.
NIU Vision

The Center of Academic Life for the Intelligence Community

www.ni-u.edu

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