

42nd Air Base Wing

MEDIA RELEASE

Office of Public Affairs

Maxwell AFB, AL 36112
Contact: Michael Ritz
Michael.Ritz.2@us.af.mil
(334) 953-6328

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Kansas State leader attends National Security Forum

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. – Dr. Peter Dorhout, Vice President for Research at Kansas State University, received a personal invitation from the Secretary of the Air Force and attended the 63rd annual National Security Forum at the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. The purpose of NSF was to expose influential citizens to senior U.S. and international officers and civilian equivalents in order to engage each other's ideas and perspectives on Air Force, national and international security issues.

"It was an honor to be selected as a representative from Kansas and the chemistry profession," said Dorhout. "K-State and Manhattan pride themselves on the relationships with our military and veterans, and attending the NSF at AWC was a testament to how the nation views our relationships."

During the week of May 3-5, approximately 160 civilian leaders in business, education and government from all over the U.S. met with senior military leaders to explore current and future national security issues facing our nation. The NSF provided a great opportunity for an open and candid exchange of ideas among these guests, senior military and civilian leaders, and Air War College students. Dorhout attended lectures, met in seminars for in-depth discussions and participated in networking events.

"The AWC is a critical part of the continuing education of senior military officers – Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard," said Dorhout. "In Kansas, we have Fort Leavenworth and the Command and General Staff College that serves a similar function for rising military leaders. K-State has a very strong relationship with CGSC and our Security Studies and Adult Education degree programs. A relationship with AWC opens new doors for research and academics."

The Air War College is the senior professional development school in the Air Force officer education system as a part of Air University. AWC educates selected senior officers to lead at the strategic level in the employment of air and space forces as well as across the branches of military in combined defense efforts. The AWC curriculum focuses on coalition warfighting and national security issues, with emphasis on the effective employment of aerospace forces in joint and combined combat operations.

"Lectures coupled with breakout group discussions with 20 leader sections combined to create a collaborative environment to discuss topics from recent events in Crimea, the South China Sea, and West Africa," said Dorhout. "We met with first responders to the Ebola outbreak to discuss biosecurity and the challenges with learning how to operate in a culturally different environment than where they trained. These discussions bring to light the need to address

conflict through a holistic approach.”

Air University is a major component of Air Education and Training Command and the intellectual and leadership center of the Air Force. Air University's eight colleges and schools provide the full spectrum of Air Force education, from pre-commissioning to the highest levels of professional military education, including degree granting and professional continuing education for officers, enlisted and civilian personnel throughout their careers.

For more information on Air University and Air War College, visit www.au.af.mil

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