



ADMINISTRATION AND
MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1950 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1950

DEC 30 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DEPUTY CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR, PROGRAM ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Nominations for the CY 2009 National Security Studies Program (NSSP)

The NSSP provides the senior leadership of the Department of Defense with a rigorous, comprehensive, user-friendly framework for understanding the full range of actors, processes and issues that affect U.S. defense policy-making. Employing a "concentric circles" framework, the program examines the governmental realm, the wider policy community, the international environment, and assesses how each affects U.S. national security choices. Each course will involve high-level policy-makers and practitioners who will brief participants about the "circle" in which they operate. The three courses that make up the NSSP are: Defense Policy Seminar, Senior Manager Course in National Security, and the Executive Course in National & International Security. A summary is provided at Tab 1.

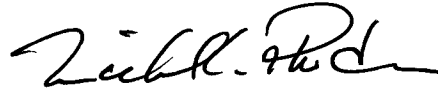
The courses are centrally funded and the only expense for the employing organization is the travel cost to and from George Washington University. The attached course schedule (Tab 2) provides nomination due dates and a nomination form is at Tab 3.

OSD 15964-08



Submit your nominations through component channels. Submissions are due according to the suspense date included on the schedule for each course.

Questions concerning the nomination procedure or registration process can be directed to Alfred Bell at (703) 604-6854 or via e-mail at alfred.bell@whs.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Rhodes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "R".

Michael L. Rhodes
Acting Director

Attachments:
As stated

TAB 1

National Security Studies Program (NSSP)

CY 2009 Schedule

Course Name	Dates	Location	Notification Due Date
Senior Manager Course in National Security	March 9 to April 3, 2009	George Washington University	February 23, 2009
Defense Policy Seminar	June 9-11, 2009	George Washington University	May 26, 2009
Executive Course in National & International Security	August 17-28, 2009	George Washington University	August 3, 2009
Defense Policy Seminar	November 3-5, 2009	George Washington University	October 20, 2009

TAB 2

National Security Studies Program (NSSP)

Program Summary

Purpose:

The National Security Studies Program (NSSP) provides a premier professional development and training option each year for about 150 senior civilian and military leaders of the Defense Department.

Programs:

Senior Manager Course in National Security: Provides participants a systematic examination of the forces that influence U.S. defense decision-making: the interagency process, the wider policy community, and threats in the international arena. The course will instill defense management skills, foundational knowledge, and understanding of key issues. It will include site visits, briefings from policy-makers and a field trip. The course will culminate in a simulation exercise where participants practice their newly acquired skills and knowledge.

ELIGIBILITY: YA-3, YC-3 (or equivalent) & O-6 and above

Defense Policy Seminar: Provides participants a simulation exercise based on a real world scenario that will strengthen the twenty-five participants' knowledge of and capacity for crisis management and decision-making in a complex and fast-paced environment. The Seminar will be conducted in real time, will demand situational decision-making, and will incorporate appropriate levels of urgency.

ELIGIBILITY: Senior Executive Service & General Officers (O-8 and above)

Executive Course on National and International Security: Provides participants with a systematic, rigorous examination of the three 'concentric circles' that make up the U.S. defense environment; the inner circle (the executive branch, interagency cooperation), the next circle of the wider policy community (Congress, the media, public opinion etc.), and the final circle of the international community. The course includes an appropriate field trip. The foundational knowledge about the total defense environment will then be embedded through a simulation exercise that brings all these factors into play.

ELIGIBILITY: Senior Executive Service & General Officers (O-7 and above)

TAB 3

