

For Immediate Release  
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## **5th Annual Federal Consortium for Virtual Worlds Conference: Inspire the Future at National Defense University, May 16-18, 2012**

(Washington, DC) Would you like to discover how to connect with people in virtual world environments using 3-D immersive technologies; collaborate and share best practices, and communicate via avatars globally? Attend the 5th Annual Federal Consortium for Virtual Worlds (FCVW) conference held on May 17-18, 2011, with pre-conference workshops on May 16, at the National Defense University (NDU iCollege), Fort Lesley J. McNair, in Washington, D.C. The FCVW was created in 2007 to explore multi-agency and intra-agency communication and collaboration, and to reduce costs. With more than 2,300 consortium members, the 2011 FCVW conference attracted more than 3,000 virtual participants and 350 in-person participants.

Registration for the conference is now open. To participate, either in person or online, visit: <http://www.ndu.edu/icollege/fcvw/>. The event will be streamed to the Web and to multiple virtual worlds. If you have questions about the conference, please send an email to FCVW at: [FederalConsortium/VW@ndu.edu](mailto:FederalConsortium/VW@ndu.edu).

This year's workshops and two-day conference is jam packed! Experts from academia, the medical community, gaming and design, government, industry, and more, will take the stage to speak on virtual-technologies, future directions, gaming, cutting edge training practices, crisis intervention, global communications and a lot more.

**May 16 Workshops** - This one day of workshops allows participants the opportunity to explore and interact with virtual world building, gaming, instructional design, data visualization, and share lessons learned from government projects.

**May 17-18 Conference** – The conference agenda includes internationally recognized keynote speakers, interactive panel discussions led by leading experts, government project poster sessions, a vendor fair, and an evening reception. At the end of the conference, awards will be given to the best government project poster sessions.

The keynote speakers include:

- Randy Hinrichs, Author and University of Washington iSchool professor who oversees the schools' certificate program in virtual worlds.
- James Bascovich, Co-founder and director of the Research Center for Virtual Environments at the University of California, Santa Barbara.
- Michelle Fox, Chief Strategist for Education and Workforce Development at the Department of Energy.

- Charles Wankel, Author and serves on the Rotterdam School of Management as a dissertation committee member. Honorary posts include Vice Rector of the Poznań University of Business.
- Jesse Schell, Game designer and researcher at the Carnegie Mellon University Entertainment Technology Center.

Our diverse panel facilitators include:

- Health Panel: Kevin Holloway, Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD) expert and winner of the 2011 DoD Technology Award for PTSD Island in Second Life.
- Second Life to OpenSim Panel: Douglas Maxwell, MSME, Science and Technology Manager, Virtual World Strategic Applications, U.S. Army Simulation & Training Technology Center (STTC), project lead of the MOSES Virtual World Open Simulator Project.
- Cybersecurity Panel: Barbara Endicott-Popovsky, Director for the Center for Information Assurance and Cybersecurity and Academic Director for the Master of Infrastructure Planning and Management, at the University of Washington.

Please check the FCVW website for speaker bios and the conference agenda:

<http://www.ndu.edu/icollege/fcvw/>.

About the College - The NDU iCollege, a U.S. Department of Defense educational institution, prepares leaders to direct the information component of national power by leveraging information and information technology for strategic advantage. Although most students come from DoD (military and civilians), the school also accepts Federal Agency, private sector, and international students into its certificate and masters degree graduate programs. Education is focused around CIO, CFO, Information Assurance/Cyber, Enterprise Architecture, IT Project Management, and other information leadership competencies. For more information about the NDU iCollege's programs, please contact: Jolly Sienda at [jolly.sienda.ctr@ndu.edu](mailto:jolly.sienda.ctr@ndu.edu); or for general information about the college, visit: [www.ndu.edu/icollege](http://www.ndu.edu/icollege).

About the National Defense University - NDU is the nation's premier center for joint professional military education. The university is an accredited graduate-level institution that provides an educational and research environment to prepare future leaders of the armed forces and other civilian agencies for high-level policy, command, and staff responsibilities. For more information about the National Defense University, please contact: Dave Thomas, Public Affairs Officer, at 202-685-3140 or [ThomasD2@ndu.edu](mailto:ThomasD2@ndu.edu); or visit [www.ndu.edu](http://www.ndu.edu).

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