

APG fellows head south to visit CENTCOM, SOCOM

Senior Service College Fellowship Program

APG fellows in the Senior Service College Fellowship Program recently gained greater awareness about organizations tasked with protecting the nation's interests. Led by Jim Oman, SSCFP director, the fellows visited the U.S. Central Command, USCENTCOM, and the U.S. Special Operations Command, USSOCOM, in Tampa, Florida and the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation, PEO-STRI, in Orlando, Florida, Jan. 26-28.

USCENTCOM is responsible for U.S. security interests in 20 nations; the USSOCOM is the unified command for the worldwide use of Special Operations elements of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines; and PEO-STRI provides the Army with training devices, simulations, simulators and instrumentation for training and testing.

APG fellows Shauna Dover, Willie Jackson, Melanie Loncarich, Patrick Morse, Ben Pryor, Nick Saacks, Dan Schwartz, and Wing Young were joined by fellows from the SSCFP in Warren, Michigan.

At USSOCOM, the fellows were greeted by and received a command overview briefing, Jan. 26, from Army Col. Timothy Baxter, who provided a snapshot of the roles, missions, and responsibilities associated with the USSOCOM. They also heard from Mark Peterson, a member of the Senior Executive Service and director of USSOCOM Special Operations Financial Management, who shared his insights and perspectives on the past, current, and projected USSOCOM budget.

Later that afternoon, a series of classified presentations provided a detailed explanation of the roles and missions being executed by the USCENTCOM. They included a Theater Campaign Plans brief from the J5 Plans Branch Chief, a Current Operations Overview brief from a J3 plans officer, a Logistics Overview briefing from the J4 Chief of Staff, and a Science & Technology brief from the Chief of Concepts & Transformation, J8.

The fellows arrived at Orlando Jan. 27 for the PEO-STRI and the Team Orlando portion of the visit. This consisted of numerous stops and briefings



Photo by Anthony Maneri, USCENTCOM

APG fellows, from left, Willie Jackson, Ben Pryor, Wing Young, Patrick Morse, Melanie Loncarich, Daniel Schwartz, Shauna Dover; Jim Oman, director, APG SSCFP; and Nick Saacks pose together in front of the U.S. Central Command headquarters in Tampa, Florida, in January 2016.

from several PEO-STRI personnel as well as from leaders from the U.S. Air Force Agency for Modeling and Simulations, and the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division. The fellows heard from members of academia and visited the Institute for Simulation and Training/University of Central Florida, and the Advanced Distributed Learning Co-Laboratory.

This onsite, interactive trip created a greater understanding of how combat-

ant commands protect national interests. As well, it afforded an opportunity to examine and learn about some of the latest modeling, simulations, and gaming capabilities available to warfighters.

The SSCFP is a nationally-recognized, Army-sponsored program designed to develop strong, effective senior leaders for the Department of Defense acquisition community. The SSCFP announcement calling for applications for the class of 2016-17, which starts July 25,

is currently open and will run through March 23.

Program announcement information is found at: <http://asc.army.mil/web/career-development/programs/defense-acquisition-university-senior-service-college/>. For more information, visit the DAU website at www.dau.mil/sscf/Pages/apg.aspx or contact Jim Oman at 410-272-9470 or email james.oman@dau.mil.