

SSCFs Visit Edgewood Chemical Biological Center

Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) Senior Service College Fellows (SSCF) Matt Lee, Bill Leonard, Gary Lichvar, Ayo Omololu, Lisa Sanders, Oral Walker, Randy Wheeler and Jennifer Worton, led by APG SSCF Program Director Jim Oman and Coordinator Ben Metcalfe, visited Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) Jan. 14. ECBC is a local, member-unique organization. It is the leading military laboratory for chemical and biological defense technology. Col. Debra Daniels, ECBC military deputy, accompanied the fellows throughout the visit and was an invaluable resource as she shared her thoughts and perspectives.

The day kicked off with an extensive overview briefing on the ECBC. The overview described the organizational history beginning with its inception in 1917 and later moved into the organization's evolution during the interwar years through World War II, with an emphasis on smoke, pyrotechnics and incendiaries. Protective measures, such as bio-detection systems and chemical and biological defensive equipment produced and deployed during the Cold and Gulf wars, were also discussed. Most recently, after the events of September 11, the key role played by ECBC in responding to threats posed by non-state actors was also shared in the overview.

Later in the morning, the fellows were briefed about the ongoing efforts and progress made by the ECBC's scientists in the detection and the subsequent defeat of improvised explosive devices (home made explosives).



Col. Debra Daniels, ECBC military deputy, provided her insights to the APG fellows.

The fellows toured the level-three laboratories located in the McNamara Life Sciences facility, which houses the biosciences and toxicology labs.

Afterwards, the fellows visited the Advanced Chemistry Laboratory facility, which contains more than 20 individual labs specializing in the research of physical properties, decontamination sciences, filtration, mid-spectrum agents, synthesis and nuclear magnetic resonance. The Advanced Chemistry Lab is one of ECBC's newest buildings, dedicated in 2005. Throughout the tour of the Advanced Chemistry Laboratory, the fellows learned about the unique construction of the laboratory, its equipment and safety precautions and ongoing activities.

The final stop of the day was made at the Advanced Design & Manufacturing/Prototype Integration Facility (ADM/PIF). The visit to the ADM/PIF provided the fellows with insights on how the department rapidly developed engineering designs, drawings, functional prototypes and deployable items in support of the warfighter, all of which were routinely produced and delivered on short notice.

The visit to ECBC is an integral element in the SSCFP curriculum. The interaction with numerous leaders at the ECBC added to the experience and development of each fellow as well as provided an increased understanding and awareness of the different organizations found at APG.

Years of Federal Service

Congratulations to the following individuals with 25 or more years of federal service.

25 Years

Jill Saldana, MWT
Gregory Walker, STH

Tim Shannon, LCIC

30 Years

Mike Blevins OPS
Amy Halbig, WST
Sheli Moses, MWT

Cheryl Clark, OPS
Karen Mattingly, MAT
Randy Weekes, OPS

35 Years

Michelle Currier, MAT

Travis Stewart, MWT

Latest Arrival

The 4th Estate is pleased to announce that colleague **Jonathan Higgins** and his wife Beth just welcomed their newest family member, Jackson Reed Higgins. Jackson arrived Jan. 21 weighing 7 pounds, 6 ounces.

Both Mommy and baby Jackson are doing well and are settling in at home. Nathan is very much excited to be a big brother, as you can see in the picture below.

