Director’s Note

By: Stéfanie von Hlatky
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Dear CIDP colleagues,

As 2015 comes to an end, we can reflect back on a vibrant international and defence policy speaker series, with events ranging from resource conflicts in Africa to a special panel on the Paris attacks. The November 13th workshop on gender and the armed forces also gathered experts from academia, government and the military, leading to specific recommendations for Operation Honour. Planning for the Kingston Conference on International Security (KCIS) is also well under way. The 2016 edition of KCIS will take place from June 13-15, 2015 and will be on the theme of Engagement between Peace and War: How Soldiers and Military Institutions Adapt. Please help us get the word out! Finally, I am very pleased to announce that Dr. Andrew Grant will be the CIDP’s Acting Director from January through to the end of May. I will be spending the winter term in Los Angeles at the University of Southern California, as a Fulbright Visiting Research Chair. I look forward to reconnecting with all of you when I return in June.

Happy holidays!

Sincerely,

Stéfanie von Hlatky
Director
Centre For International and Defence Policy

New Releases


Visiting Defence Fellow Spotlight:
Lieutenant Colonel Jan von der Felsen

German Armed Forces Visiting Defence Fellow, 2013-2016.

Research Focus: Cultural aspects and their impact on military operations; missile defence.

On being a VDF: “In a year that not only marks CIDP’s 40th anniversary but also the 60th anniversary of the Bundeswehr (the German Armed Forces), I can only speak positively of the opportunities that present themselves by including military expertise in security and defense studies. The awareness of the “known unknown” in this field has proven invaluable to students, faculty and VDFs alike, and has – by extending into German and US expertise almost from the CIDP’s get-go – fostered international and allied understanding for generations of Political Studies students at Queen’s University.”
40th Anniversary

Originally established as the Queen’s Centre for International Relations, 2015 marks the 40th anniversary of the Centre for International and Defence Policy. While quite a bit has changed since then, the focus of the Centre remains on conducting research in matters of national and international security and other aspects of international relations.

The fall semester was marked by a number of exciting and insightful speaker events: the Kingston International Lecture with former Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Louise Fréchette, as well as several workshops. ‘The Future Canadian Soldier and Enhancement of Human Performance: Research meets Policy’ and ‘Gender Mainstreaming in the Canadian Armed Forces’ workshops were highly successful, and we look forward to the conferences and events that the new year brings. Keep an eye on our website for updates. You can also follow us on Twitter @QueensCIDP and ‘like us’ on Facebook!

Upcoming Events

**International and Defence Policy Speaker Series**: Throughout the new term, the CIDP will be hosting experts from a variety of fields pertinent to international affairs. Upcoming talks include David Hornsby on “Canadian Foreign Policy in Africa: A New Government, A New Era?” and Shermain Lai on "China and Regional Security in a Historical Perspective”. See [http://www.queensu.ca/cidp/events/idps](http://www.queensu.ca/cidp/events/idps) for these events and more information.


**Women in International Security 2016 (WIIS)**: Save the date for WIIS 2016! This year, the conference will take place in Halifax, Nova Scotia at Mount Saint Vincent University from June 17th-19th. The theme of the workshop is ‘Women in Security across Military and Civilian Lines’