Dear Member of the Class of 2015:

Congratulations on your selection to attend the National War College. We are an integral part of the nation’s flagship platform for strategic-level joint professional military education, the National Defense University. Since its founding in 1946, NWC’s core mission has been to conduct a senior-level course in National Security Strategy. Throughout the academic year, we will put you in the shoes of national security decision-makers, and focus relentlessly on helping you to hone your strategy-making skills and to wield the various instruments of national power. It is a rigorous program with weekly reading requirements augmented with a number of writing assignments. Upon completion you will be prepared to serve at the most senior levels of our military and government and capable of dealing with the most challenging joint and interagency environments. The curriculum leads to a fully accredited Master of Science Degree in National Security Strategy. I encourage you to visit www.ndu.edu/nwc to learn more about our program.

Our educational philosophy is centered on developing those critical thinking skills that lead to strategic analysis and synthesis. I want to underscore that we do not provide “school solutions.” Our objective is to graduate students who are exceptionally able to:

- Critically analyze strategic problems and issues;
- Communicate clearly and concisely;
- Assess issues creatively and imaginatively;
- Adapt to ambiguity and uncertainty;
- Operate with a joint, interagency, and multi-national perspective; and
- Embrace an abiding structure of continuous learning about a dynamic and ever-changing global environment.

Our student body is unsurpassed in quality and represents potential leadership of our armed forces and government agencies. Historically, over one-third of our graduates have gone on to flag/general officer rank or the civilian equivalent in their careers. You and your classmates are a national asset – among the finest officers and civil servants of our nation. The demographics of our student body include about 55% military officers, 30% DoD and non-DoD civilian agencies, and 15% international fellows. Our non-DoD students represent the State Department, the intelligence community, law enforcement, homeland security and many other government agencies.

Among your classmates will be International Fellows, military officers from up to 32 countries, who will participate as full members of your class. Historically, our International Fellows are extremely successful in their promotion rates to flag/general officer. Many of our NWC Alumni are Chiefs of Defense, Chiefs of Services, and senior ranking officers on
general/joint/multi-national staffs. You will find that interaction with your inter-national colleagues will significantly enhance your educational experience. If you are interested in serving as a co-sponsor in tandem with our assigned faculty members, please let us know promptly. Co-sponsoring an International Fellow can be an enriching experience for you and your entire family.

Our faculty will add another unique dimension to your educational experience. They are an outstanding group of civilian and military scholars. We have civilian academics, officers from all military services, State Department and USAID Foreign Service officers, and senior officials from DHS, FBI, CIA, NSA, and DIA. Combined, they give us a true joint and interagency perspective. Members of the faculty bring a broad range of policy and command experience to the classroom, in addition to strong academic credentials. They have built their outstanding reputations on their excellence as teachers, practitioners and mentors.

Your attendance in the 10-month program is an opportunity not only to enrich your mind but to improve your physical conditioning and general health. To that end, we offer a wide variety of physical training and exercise opportunities. You will be afforded some optional medical assessments offered by the Health and Fitness Department of the National Defense University. I encourage each and every one of you to take full advantage of these services. More information will be provided during your orientation.

This year can also be a great year for your family and spouse. Enclosed is a short spouse’s note from our events coordinator regarding NWC spousal participation. Please ask your spouse to consider participating in the Spouses’ Club. The size and scope of the program is determined by the level of interest. As you are all peers in class and come from diverse backgrounds, the Spouse Program is special. It can add a great deal to what should be a banner year for the entire family. Your spouse should be aware that a number of our academic elective courses are open to them, on a space available basis. And, there is a specific spouse elective called National Security Strategy Overview which is designed especially for all spouses. The course enjoys great reviews and I encourage your spouse to think about taking it as well as to participate in our diverse electives program.

Finally, please mark your calendars for the NWC Class of 2015 Commandant’s Reception for you and your spouses on the evening of Friday, 8 August. This is the first of several formal social events held during the academic year. We look forward to welcoming each of you to the National War College and what will be a very special and enriching year.

Sincerely,

Guy T. Cosentino
Brigadier General, USA
Commandant
Office of the Dean of Students

Dear Member of the Class of 2015:

Welcome and congratulations on your selection to the National War College.

In this packet you will find a welcoming letter from the Commandant of the National War College and a letter from the Commandant’s wife about the Spouses’ Club. Additionally, you will find a biographical form which I would like you to fill out and send back by 13 June 2014 so we can prepare for your arrival. (This form is needed to develop your name tags, desk plates and other identification devices prior to your arrival.) In addition, please find in your NDU welcome package a link with instructions on how to register. This is very important. It is from this data base that we work selections for committee organizations, student leadership roles, and other vital data needed in the administration of the school year.

The faculty and staff look forward to your arrival on 4 August 2014 at Roosevelt Hall. Please arrange to arrive at the National War College, Bldg 61, in the Rotunda, NLT 0700 hours. From there you will be directed to your committee room where a Committee Faculty Sponsor will welcome you, introduce you to your fellow students, and brief you on the day’s activities to include in-processing. In-processing is scheduled for Monday, 4 August 2014. All in-processing will be completed on that day by the University.

We are eager to share with you what we hope will be a unique, rewarding, challenging, and rich experience. You should not report to the War College prior to 24 July 2014. However, if you do plan to arrive in the D.C. area prior to 4 August 2014, please sign-in at the National Defense University, Marshall Hall, Bldg 62 with your respective service representative. Please refer to the NDU welcome package enrollment instructions, paragraph 1b for additional guidance. I encourage you to take advantage of your leave time to settle your housing and other personal affairs so that you will be able to attend all academic and college social activities beginning 4 August. There are a few important things to know about the first week of school:

1. **Non-Common Access Card (CAC) Card holders:** CAC card processing will be available prior to the first day of school. Please refer to the NDU welcome package enrollment instructions, paragraph 1c for additional guidance.

2. **Commandant’s Reception:** In the first week of school you will attend the Commandant’s Reception currently scheduled for Friday, 8 August from 1800-2100. The uniform for the reception will be Dress Blue for USA; Service Dress for USAF and USCG; Service Dress White for USN; and Blue-White Dress "B" for the USMC. Appropriate civilian...
attire is a business suit for gentlemen and appropriate equivalent for ladies. Because of the various functions throughout the school year, students are required to bring all service uniforms.

3. **Notebook Computer**: NWC makes use of information technology to communicate with students, deliver curriculum content and provide mechanisms to create/deliver and share student-developed materials. To access these capabilities, you need access to the Internet from home and a device capable of web-browsing and running web-based applications. Please refer to the NDU welcome package enrollment instructions, paragraph 2 for important guidance.

4. **Official Passports**: All U.S. students should acquire an official passport prior to arrival. This is a critical requirement for our regional studies practicum.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Department of Operations at (202) 685-3674/3713/3714 or DSN 325-3674/3713/3714 or E-mail nwc-Operations@ndu.edu.

Best wishes on a successful and rewarding year as a National War College student.

Sincerely,

Mark B. Pizzo
Colonel, USMC (Ret)
Chief of Staff and
Dean of Students

Enclosure
Male: __________  Female: __________

Last Name: ___________________________  Suffix: ___________________________

First Name: ___________________________

Middle Name: _________________________

Title/Rank: (please abbreviate) ___________________________

Service/Agency: _______________________

How would you prefer your name be displayed on any nameplate/tag that NDU might issue to you? (i.e. William D. Jones = Bill Jones or Teresa J. Smith = T.J. Smith)

Nametag should read: ___________________________

Email address: ___________________________

Cell phone number: ______________________

Spouse information: (Note: It is important we have your spouse’s full name and how he/she would prefer it to appear on his/her nametag.)

Last Name: ___________________________  Suffix: ___________________________

First Name: ___________________________

Title/Rank: (please abbreviate) ___________________________

How would you prefer your name be displayed on any nameplate/tag that NDU might issue to you? (i.e. William D. Jones = Bill Jones or Teresa J. Smith = T.J. Smith)

Nametag should read: ___________________________

NOTE: You will recognize the information requested above (plus more) is required by the National Defense University during online student registration. By filling out this bio-sheet and either faxing (202) 685-6461 or emailing david.haycs@ndu.edu, you will allow us to order the appropriate student and spouse nametags (if applicable). This will also ensure they are available by the first day of class.
March 14, 2014

Dear Student Spouse:

Welcome to the National War College! I know that you will enjoy the coming year, and the Spouses’ Club could be a big part of that enjoyment. I invite you to join in when your personal schedule will allow.

The policy at the National War College is to treat the spouses as partners in this year’s experience, so we include you in a number of interesting events throughout the year. Spouses are offered the opportunity to audit certain advanced studies classes and lectures on a space available basis. The College provides generous support and encouragement for all spouse activities.

The NWC Spouses’ Club does not have an election of officers. Our board is made up of volunteers, and board members meet monthly. Please don’t hesitate to offer to serve in one of many areas we have to fill. With the size of the college student body, our membership is small, friendly, and informal. The main objective of the club is to allow spouses to get to know one another and to enjoy some of the wonderful activities the Washington, DC area has to offer.

Attached is a Survey Form. Please fill it out if you would be willing to fill a position, or would at least consider filling or sharing a position with another spouse. Our NWC Spouses’ Club does not consume a lot of time and is so much more relaxed than other clubs you may have previously experienced. We especially try and make our get-togethers interesting and fun, with an event about once a month. Also, several of the members will be International Spouses, as invitations have been sent to thirty-two countries requesting senior military members to be students in this year’s class. The club is all about you and what you want to do. I’m here as an advisor to assist you throughout the year. I look forward to meeting you in August.

Most sincerely,

Barbara Cosentino

Attachment
NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE SPOUSE CLUB SURVEY FORM 2014-2015
Please fill out form and return to the address below

NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE
ATTN: NWCSC
300 D STREET
FORT LESLEY J. MCNAIR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20319-5078
E-mail: proctord@ndu.edu

SPOUSE NAME: ________________________________________________

NWC STUDENT’S NAME/BRANCH OF SERVICE/AGENCY: ____________________________

ADDRESS: ______________________________________________________________________

PHONE NUMBER: __________________________________________________________________

EMAIL ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________

Please indicate position(s) you would be willing to accept:

___ PRESIDENT: Supervises and manages Club and conducts Executive Board meetings.

___ VICE PRESIDENT: Assumes the duties of President when necessary. Arranges monthly meeting place and notifies members of meetings.

___ SECRETARY: Keeps minutes of Board/Club meetings and handles any Club correspondence.

___ TREASURER: Maintains financial records and carries out any required financial transactions.

___ TOURS: Contacts sources and makes arrangements for Club tours.

___ RESERVATIONS: Takes reservations and collects monies for all tours.

___ HOSPITALITY: Acknowledges significant events in lives of students, faculty, and staff.

___ MEMBERSHIP: Collects membership funds and forms. Maintains a current list of names and addresses of members.

___ NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Serves as editor of monthly newsletter.

___ WAYS AND MEANS: Sells cookbooks if the class wants to do one, coordinates sale of White House Christmas Ornaments, NWC throws or whatever is decided on