



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL  
NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON DC 20319-5066

NDU-SAC

5 May 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR NDU BOARD OF VISITORS

Subject: Staff Advisory Council Input

1. The National Defense University (NDU) Staff Advisory Council (SAC) remains grateful to the NDU President for the opportunity to provide feedback on affairs affecting NDU and its mission critical staff enablers. Since the last Board of Visitors (BOV) meeting, we have continued to lean forward in our engagement with both NDU leadership and staff. This relationship enables us to provide critical staff insight concerning the state of NDU.

2. The below items represent the general sense of the SAC as a representative body.

a. COVID-19. Overall, the staff is pleased with the NDU response to the pandemic. In particular, the decisive pivot to continue the educational mission of NDU by remote means has significantly reduced the risk of (potentially deadly) exposure by the NDU workforce (and subsequently their families).

b. Manning. As identified in our input to the summer 2019 BOV meeting, manning remains an issue. In a recent quarterly meeting with the NDU-P (April 13) we emphasized the risk of mission critical vacancies going unfilled.

c. Transformation. The staff is encouraged by the opportunity to assist NDU in accomplishing its mission through the period of transformation. The recent inclusion of the SAC in NDU Transformation meetings is an important and appreciated step in the way ahead and the SAC looks forward to serving as a voice for the staff throughout the process.

3. The contact for this document can be reached at [joshua.d.baughman.civ@ndu.edu](mailto:joshua.d.baughman.civ@ndu.edu).

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JOSHUA D. BAUGHMAN  
Chair

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