

The Institute for National Strategic Studies (INSS)

Fact Sheet

Role and Mission

Leading-edge research is fundamental to NDU's overall mission. The Institute for National Strategic Studies (INSS) is the University's research component¹ dedicated to:

- conducting research to support academic and leader development programs at NDU²
- providing strategic support to the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS), the Services, and combatant commands (CCMDs)
- engaging with the broader national security community in the service of the common defense.³

Our guiding principle is to ensure that INSS is and remains the national security professionals' intellectual organization of choice across the federal government. We do so by providing NDU faculty and students with organic access to leading-edge research most relevant to U.S. national security; as well as insight into how senior DoD leaders are thinking about these topics

This principle is reflected in who and how we hire, how we manage and develop our faculty, what we produce, and the impact of our work. Our research faculty are required to publish 2 peer-reviewed research papers annually that have verifiable impact at senior levels within the national security community. Our policy faculty must have a demonstrated and substantial record of high quality and impactful analysis related to Defense and national security policy, strategy, or planning. INSS faculty also produce an annual research plan that is coordinated through DOD stakeholders and an annual research review that documents INSS output for the year. To ensure their work is relevant and impactful, INSS faculty are expected to continuously engage with senior DoD leaders and their international counterparts. In addition, INSS faculty are required to substantively support NDU academics through teaching, curriculum contributions, substantive guest lectures, and other experiential learning activities.

Organization

INSS' 47 people comprise the 3 research centers and the NDU Press.

- ***Center for Strategic Research (CSR)***: CSR has both regional and functional experts. Beyond producing rigorous scholarly publications, they frequently conduct both Track 1.5

¹ INSS is one of the 5 named University components listed in 10 U.S. Code § 2165 (b).

² The Middle States Commission on Higher Education requires that institutions offering graduate and professional education provide "opportunities for the development of research, scholarship, and independent thinking, provided by faculty and/or other professionals with credentials appropriate to graduate-level curricula." See Middle States Commission on Higher Education, "Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation," available at <<https://www.msche.org/standards/>>.

³ CJCSI 1801.01E, Enclosure A (NDU Components).

and Track 2 dialogs, as well as studies at the direction of the CJCS and the Secretary of Defense. (*Size: 13 Title 10 direct-funded personnel, 2 military officers*)

- **Center for the Study of Chinese Military Affairs (CSCMA):** The China Center produces an impressive amount of scholarly papers and books as well as red teaming support and assistance to the Department leadership on how to “upskill” DOD on matters relating to China. (*Size: 2 Title 10, direct-funded personnel*)⁴
- **Center for the Study of Weapons of Mass Destruction (CSWMD):** CSWMD addresses the full spectrum of issues related to WMD including strategic deterrence, disruptive technology, and strategies to prevent and respond to WMD threats. Beyond scholarly research, red teaming, and experiential learning activities, they support policy development through direct contributions to senior leadership, including the Nuclear Posture Review and the Biodefense Posture Review. (*Size: 23 Title 10, reimbursably-funded personnel*).
- The **NDU Press** publishes INSS research monographs and policy briefs. The Press also publishes *Joint Force Quarterly* for the CJCS, *PRISM*, and other educational material by and for college faculty and students. (*Size: 6 Title 5 personnel*)

Expenditures

INSS’s costs are almost entirely labor. The direct-funded Title 5 and Title 10 faculty cost about \$4M each year. The reimbursable Title 10 faculty in CSWMD cost about \$3.2M each year and those costs are reimbursed through sponsors that include DTRA, OSD Policy, SOCOM, DOS, and DHS.

Other expense categories are listed below:

INSS	\$ in 1000s
Research and Engagement Travel	113
NDU Press Publication	150
Scholar One Peer Review Software	9
Honorariums/Service Agreements	20
Supplies/Chinese Newspapers	22
Professional Development	6

Publications

Since publications are required for the majority of our faculty, the list of books and peer-reviewed papers is extensive. Last year’s Research Review accompanies this overview. We are currently drafting this year’s review; it will be available in September 2022.

⁴ CSCMA typically contracts for two additional researchers each year in order to execute their mission.