



July 2005

Our Newsletter

Performance Objectives

**Public Relations and Marketing**—To visit the local, state, and national community (military, civic, social, etc.) to reach out, tell them about the JMSLC, network, and develop partnerships. To identify potential human resources to serve as coaches, teachers, and mentors for the cadets and midshipmen.

**Program Development & Curriculum Design**—To fully implement the various program requirements in order to establish relevance with the academic and military community. To communicate with the 3 ROTC Cadet Commands, in order to determine the feasibility of modifying the current pre-commissioning curriculum requirements. To encourage the development of “an international/global leadership studies” degree program.

**Construction Oversight**—To provide oversight with the University’s Facilities Planning and Construction Department during the various phases of construction/remodeling.

**Organizational Development and Oversight**—To assess and develop the organizational structures that would best serve our constituents: the cadets, officer candidates, and midshipmen.

**Resource Acquisitions and Management** – To seek and secure the resources (fiscal, human, facilities, tools, information/knowledge, and environmental) required to set-up, operate, manage, sustain, and grow the Center and program.

Upcoming Event

**“CURRENT JOINT LEADERSHIP PERSPECTIVES FROM THE FIELD” Symposium,**  
sponsored by *The Joint Military Science Leadership Center*  
Friday, October 7, 2005 at the Davis Conference Center,  
MacDill Air Force Base.  
Open to USF students, ROTC students in the State of Florida,  
and local military personnel.

The University of South Florida's Joint Military Science Leadership Center (JMSLC) recently sponsored another outstanding symposium for Florida's Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) community. This event, entitled "Understanding and Valuing Middle Eastern Cultures" spotlighted internationally recognized scholars as well as international students in an intimate dialogue about this historically rich and diverse region of the world and then challenged attendees to understand current world events from a multi-cultural perspective.

During the opening general session Dr Ralph Wilcox, USF's Vice Provost for Campus Relations and Academic Initiatives and a widely published culture scholar, charged those in attendance to "stretch [their] minds to recognize and value difference – to preserve human dignity and respect across all cultures".

This challenge was followed by Farah Khorsandian-Sanchez from USF's International Student and Scholar Services Office and her interactive presentation that highlighted the need to recognize and value cultural differences across the globe in order to improve international relations and promote understanding.

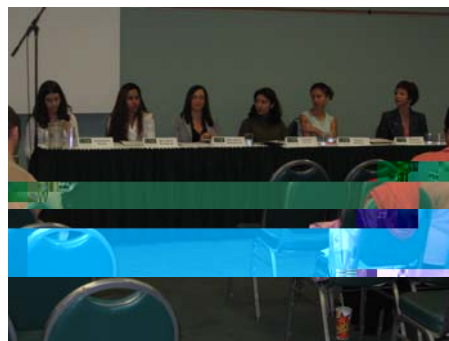
Following the general session, the audience attended successive break out sessions that placed them in small group interactive discussions with distinguished presenters. Dr. Abdelwahab Hechiche, Fulbright Scholar and recognized Middle East expert engaged the audience with his discussion of "Religion and Cultures of the Middle East: Their Intersection in Politics. Dr. Larry Goodson, author and Director of Middle East Studies at the US Army War College provided an intense and interactive presentation that focused on understanding the geographical, ethnic, cultural, historic, political, and economic factors that shape the modern Middle East. Dr. William Olson, widely published narco-terrorism expert and professor of Near East and South Asian Studies at the National Defense University presented a timely update on "Combating Terrorism in the New International Security Environment" that emphasized the need for a steadfast will to succeed as well as the intellectual capacity to understand the region and act wisely. Dr. Charles MacDonald, a specialist in international relations of the Middle East and international law is a professor at Florida International University. He engaged the audience in a discussion entitled "Iraq: What next?" in which he explored Iraq's continuing transition and the resulting internal, regional and global implications of its move to democracy.

The final breakout session was a panel discussion moderated by USF's Associate Director of International Admissions, Marketing and Recruiting Initiatives Ms. Evelyn Levinson. Ms. Levinson is also an Israeli/US student at USF. Her panel consisted of five international students: Ms Dana Masad (Palestine), Ms. Maureen Mansour (Egypt), Ms. Raf Raf Raissan (Iraq), Ms. Joumana Saad (Lebanon) and Ms. Lazha Talat, a Fulbright Scholar (Iraq). The lively and open dialogue between panel and

audience was entitled "USF Student Perspectives – Understanding Middle East Culture as a Foundation of Public Diplomacy" and it proved to be very meaningful to all in attendance.

Half way through this all day event a lunch was provided in which presenters and attendees mixed to continue their dialogue on the implications of globalization, Middle East relations and cultural appreciation.

At the conclusion of the day, all reassembled in the general session's room for some final comments by the event host and Director of the Joint Military Science Leadership Center, Mr. Luis Visot. Mr. Visot thanked all in attendance for their intellectual contributions to the terrific event and asked that everyone continue to internalize the message of understanding and valuing Middle Eastern cultures.



This newsletter will be distributed via U.S. mail and email once each Fall, Spring and Summer semester. If you wish to receive via email, please send your email address to Lori Matthews at [matthews@JMSLC.usf.edu](mailto:matthews@JMSLC.usf.edu) or call 813-974-2025.

The University of South Florida acknowledges The Joint Military Science Leadership Center and Programs are sponsored by the United States Department of Defense, and that the content of this program does not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the US Government, nor an endorsement by the US Government.