

THE SOCIETY FOR DEFENSE AND STRATEGIC STUDIES
FULCRUM GLOBAL
AMU/APUS
www.fulcrumglobal.us



MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

Issue #7
January 2022

1.) Letter from the President

Dear SDSS Membership,

It has been three months since we held SDSS elections and the leadership team has been working behind the scenes to figure out our objectives and projects to help define the successes of this upcoming year. This year's leadership team has a combination of both familiar and new faces in it. This means there's an opportunity for implementing a healthy combination of new ideas, experiences, perspectives, angles, and initiatives toward managing and maintaining the momentum of a growing and thriving digital organization that caters to the interests of students, alumni, faculty, and professionals in the national security, defense, intelligence, and foreign affairs related fields.

With that said, we've been busy and I am excited to now bring these items into the light. First, [Fulcrum Global](#) as a digital media platform is still going strong with the periodic submission of thoughtful and insightful articles, think pieces, and analytical based products that deal with timely issues as well as impacting readers from various related disciplines. The [Fulcrum Global Podcast](#) is still building up steam with our fourth episode recently recorded last month with Carl (C.J.) Unis of U.S. Space Force. More to come as we plan future episodes and coordinate with guests to discuss a wide range of related issues and concerns impacting related fields.

Strategic Purchases: Worldview by Stratfor, SPYMEDIA by the CiCentre, and 6 Udemmy Courses

In December, the SDSS leadership team and advisory board made several key strategic purchases to make good use of the funds we had left from our 2021 fiscal budget. The first two purchases were annual membership subscriptions for [Worldview Professional by Stratfor](#) and [SPYMEDIA by the CiCentre](#). The other purchases were six virtual courses from the [Udemmy website](#).

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Information about each purchase is listed below:

- **Info About Worldview Professional Subscription by [Stratfor](#):**
 - Comprehensive geopolitical news, analysis & intelligence for business decision-makers;
 - High quality, unbiased analysis of global events;
 - In-depth quarterly, yearly and decade forecasts;
 - Comprehensive web & mobile access;
 - Digital newsletters, podcasts and alerts featuring latest content;
 - Content broken down by topics, themes, regions and even by country;
 - Real-time updates on events + daily email alerts;
 - Media: Maps, charts and graphs;
 - Unlimited digital access including custom notifications, bookmarks and alerts;
 - Downloadable content in PDF format and Text-to-Audio;
 - Invitation to attend select industry webinars and network with experts across RANE Network; and
 - Special bonus content - RANE Network Intelligence Report (\$149 value) and \$100 credit for the Stratfor Store.

- **Info About SPYMEDIA Subscription by the [CiCentre](#):**
 - The Centre for Counterintelligence and Security Studies® (CI CENTRE) is the nation's leading counterintelligence training, education and knowledge company;
 - Provides over 50 commercial, off-the-shelf training courses and briefings for government and corporate clients on:
 - Counterintelligence Strategy, Tactics & Skills;
 - Security Awareness Training & Briefings;
 - Interviewing & Investigations;
 - Counterterrorism Strategy, Tactics & Skills;
 - Area/Country Studies; Foreign Intelligence Services.
 - **CI Centre MISSION:** Training is designed to enhance your organization's mission and to protect your information, facilities and personnel from foreign intelligence collectors, global terrorists and competitor threats.
 - Membership site, **SPYPEDIA®**, is an open source database that provides a rich source of counterintelligence, counterterrorism, and security-related information for counterintelligence and security professionals. A former chief of counterintelligence for a government agency called our website a "national asset."

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- **About CiCentre LEADERSHIP:** Our passion for counterintelligence begins with the founder of the company, David G. Major. Major is a retired senior FBI Supervisory Special Agent whose career in the Bureau was specialized in counterintelligence work. He was the first FBI agent to be appointed to the National Security Council, advising the President of the United States on counterintelligence policy and issues. Major spent his government career dedicated to counterintelligence and is considered one of the nation's leading experts on CI. Students quickly pick up on his passion for the counterintelligence discipline and soon catch his enthusiasm for the subject. He has trained generations government and corporate employees who in turn use the knowledge they received to protect their organizations and our country against threats.

- **Info about purchase of 6 [Udemy Courses](#):**
 - [How to Manage & Influence Your Virtual Team](#);
 - [Management Skills: New Manager Training in Essential Skills](#);
 - [Management Skills – Team Leadership Skills Masterclass 2022](#);
 - [Writing an Effective Desk Research Paper](#);
 - [Report Writing: Learn to Write an Analytical Business Report](#); and
 - [Ninja Writing: The Four Levels of Writing Mastery](#).

Each of these purchases are going to start being made available to both SDSS leadership and Fulcrum Global staff. Interested SDSS members may be considered on an individual basis as well. An idea being considered is to appoint a member to review content on the Stratfor and CiCentre sites and compress it into a document to be shared to the general membership by email maybe 1-3 times a month. The 6 Udemy courses will be specifically part of an SDSS officer skillset training program as well as writing program for them and Fulcrum Global contributors that have interest in taking the courses. Interested SDSS members may be considered as well but on an individual basis.

New Project Initiatives in the Works

In addition, we are launching two new exciting initiatives that will be implemented by two of our newest officers, Nabil Rahman and Toni Scott. As our first Professional Development Officer, Nabil is going to be launching a comprehensive professional development program centered on OSINT analysis as well writing and structured analytic techniques that are used within the intelligence community and private sector. Toni Scott is our first Technology and Digital Network Officer and she will be helping us with various digital and network security projects, including setting up portals to make digital accessibility more easy and secured. A

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more in-depth description can be found below in each of their letters to SDSS membership explaining what they're currently working on.

President's Conclusion

As you can probably tell, we've got some pretty exciting things happening at SDSS for 2022 that will greatly benefit the organization and its membership as a whole. 2021 was also a successful year for SDSS as the organization was awarded the Platinum medal with APUS and we will continue the tradition of excellence once again this year as well. In addition, we recently discovered that several SDSS members had achieved recognition for excellent academic and scholarly achievements by APUS as **106 members made it on the Deans List and 15 members made it on the Presidents List!** On behalf of the leadership team, we would like to congratulate those members for their outstanding academic accomplishments and we will be sending personalized messages to you all at some point!

With that said, I wish you all well and look forward to seeing you at the **next Chapter meeting (25 January at 8pm EST)**. We are starting a new year that is bound to be interesting and full of challenges, as well as opportunities for growth and enlightenment. Please know that I and others on the leadership team and advisory board are approachable if you have any questions, concerns, or need anything else.

Sincerely,

Sam Kessler
SDSS President

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2.) Letter from the Professional Development Officer (PDO)

Re: Launching of the New SDSS Professional Development Program

Dear fellow SDSS members,

As your new Professional Development Officer (PDO) it is my pleasure to introduce to you the official launching of our new Professional Development Program that is designed to aid and develop students and alumni in their professional goals.

Professional Development Program Launch

The SDSS Professional Development Program has been outlined with the desired goal of training its members to be equipped with essential skills that will prepare them to work in a professional environment. It especially has been tailored for those wishing to find a career in the national security, defense, intelligence, and foreign affairs communities as well as in the private sector. The current programming for this initiative will be expected to launch later this month with attendance being mandatory for members that are interested.

The Program will consist of the following:

1. Resources and training in Open Source Intelligence (OSINT); and
2. A review of the concepts from the book/manual, ***“Structured Analytic Techniques for Intelligence Analysis”*** by Richards J. Heuer Jr. and Randolph H. Pherson.
 - This book is often considered by intelligence professionals to be an essential part of an analyst’s library.
 - **From the book description:**
 - *“Richards J. Heuer Jr. and Randolph H. Pherson turn a lifetime of expertise toward formalizing, adapting, and standardizing a set of 50 of the most robust analytic techniques in use in intelligence analysis today. This ready reference showcases current and cutting-edge best practices and represents a significant leap forward in depth, detail, and utility from existing handbooks.”*

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- *“Logically organized and richly illustrated, Structured Analytic Techniques makes it easy to navigate, reference, and put the tools to use right away. Each technique is clearly and systematically explained: when to use, value added, the method, potential pitfalls, examples of how it can be used, its relationship to other techniques, and its origins.”*

The SDSS Professional Development Program will consist of lessons composed of topics such as the Intelligence Analysis cycle. We will draw upon case studies and in the future connect with professionals and academics as mentors. In the future, there will be technical training in software applications and preparation in being able to write according to the standards and formats used by various government agencies and in the private sector.

Everyone in attendance is expected to be able to attend weekly and will be given assignments in which they must complete, in order to assess their progress and assimilation of the lessons taught. Lessons and lectures will be conducted using zoom, and interaction between students and the Professional Development Officer is expected. Members who are able to excel in their assignments and provide high quality content may be qualified to have their work published by the SDSS and have it featured on the [Fulcrum Global website](http://www.fulcrumglobal.us).

I look forward to starting this Professional Development Project with you and making it a valuable legacy asset for SDSS as well as aiding in everyone’s development in reaching their professional goals and aspirations.

Sincerely,

Nabil Rahman
SDSS Professional Development Officer (PDO)

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3.) Letter from Technology and Digital Network Officer (TDNO)

Re: Innovating New Systems Platform for SDSS Subscription Assets

Dear SDSS membership,

As your first Technology and Digital Network Officer (TDNO), I plan to cause a great deal of positive disruption that helps the organization thrive in the software and digital security realm. The first task that has been given to me is to build a platform/portal solution that will bring leadership, members, and processes together, as well as access to the new subscriptions that were purchased. I accepted the challenge to use the software tools I have at my disposal and at no cost, thanks to AMU/APU and Microsoft.

Developing a new system platform/portal that connects officers, staff, and certain members will provide access to subscription accounts as well as streamline and secure access to other specific digital asset functions. Also, this will most likely be a basis for developing future projects as well. Three words that best describe me are positive disruption, security, and digital transformation. This will be a big priority for me when working on projects for SDSS. I will work to ensure that these processes are analyzed properly. Lastly, I will also make it a priority to apply a security and protection lens to all of my projects as well.

If there's anything I can do, please let me know and will be happy to help. I look forward to walking alongside all you incredibly skilled people and being a perpetual learner with you as well!

Sincerely,

Toni Scott
SDSS Technology and Digital Network Officer (TDNO)

4.) Other Important Items

1.) Next Chapter Membership Meeting

- 25 January (Tuesday) at 8:00 PM (Eastern Standard Time)
- Access to Zoom is enclosed in e-mail.

2.) Recent Fulcrum Global Postings

- **Fulcrum Global Podcast – Episode 4 – Systems Thinking in Space Force & National Security Enterprise**
 - (Dec. 17, 2021) – Guest: Carl (C.J.) Unis ; Host: Sam Kessler
 - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/fulcrum-global-podcast-episode-4-systems-thinking-in-space-force-national-security-enterprise/>
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leB_24RtXFg
- **Threat of Full-Scale Russian Aggression on Ukraine - GTBT Video Presentation**
 - (Dec. 7, 2021) - Video Presentation
 - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/threat-of-full-scale-russian-aggression-on-ukraine-video-presentation/>
- **What Does the Taliban’s Return to Power Mean for China’s BRI Strategy in Central Asia?**
 - (Nov. 16, 2021) – By Paul Seibel
 - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/what-does-the-talibans-return-to-power-mean-for-chinas-bri-strategy-in-central-asia/>

3.) Want to contribute to Fulcrum Global?

- **Write for Us:** <https://fulcrumglobal.us/write-for-us/>

4.) Fulcrum Global Resource Library

- <https://fulcrumglobal.us/resource-library/>

Sam Kessler – President / Fulcrum Global Chief and Managing Editor

Dustin Oak – Vice President

Alyssa LeVasseur – Treasurer and Organizational Standards Officer

Toni Scott – Technology and Digital Network Officer

Brian Moody – Social Media Officer

Nabil Rahman – Professional Development Officer

Dan Opstal – Advisor (Faculty)

Ron Brooks – Advisor (Membership)