

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



MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

Issue #11
August 16, 2024

1.) Letter from the President

Dear SDSS Membership,

I hope this message finds you all well as it has been a while since our last newsletter. However, we plan on doing a series of newsletter and announcement updates within the next few months as there's quite a bit going on within SDSS that brief periodic communiques can effectively cover. These are interesting times for both the country and the world in this current geopolitical, political, and national security environment we live and operate in. How we live and function in these times play an important role in how we handle future periods of greater adversity and tensions. SDSS has been busy with a string of ongoing projects that have continuously helped our membership in various ways.

SDSS is Awarded the AMU/APUS 2023 Chapter of the Year Award at the May 2024 Commencement Ceremony!

But first, I'm excited to officially announce that SDSS recently won the 2023 Chapter of the Year award that was presented at this year's May 2024 commencement ceremonies by AMU/APUS. This is a big honor for SDSS as the year before, we were second in the running for the award. Since 2019, SDSS has gone from being a previously deactivated collegiate organization that was on the verge of being disbanded and without any advisor, to growing into a top-rated organization at AMU/APUS. This means that SDSS consistently achieved both gold and platinum medal ratings for multiple years now and we gained a great advisor along the way.

The key to this success was simple. APUS Student Affairs provided basic guidelines that helped us determine the overall health of a student organization and we used it for self-reflection as an organization as well as for points purposes that led to both medal statuses and various levels of funding for the SDSS annual budget, which was tied to our growing organizational operations. It also required building up digital infrastructure, professional and educational programs, and projects via our Fulcrum Global website/digital media platform being our first SDSS flagship brand. The Professional Development Program (PDP) that started two

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years ago has become our second flagship brand and our Professional Development Officer, Nabil Rahman, has done an excellent job coordinating this program. With that said, SDSS is a digital collegiate-based organization, which is not an easy endeavor to pull off consistently or effectively. This means that the ultimate success of the organization is through its membership and its involvement both during and after their degrees are finished. For that reason, the SDSS Leadership Team thanks you for your support and we look forward to your continued involvement!

The Continuation of Our Professional Development Program – 2nd Season (PDP 2.0)

For the past year, we have been conducting the second season of the SDSS Professional Development Program (PDP 2.0). It briefly went on hiatus for a few months in March 2024 due to school and scheduling constraints for everyone involved. However, it has recently returned with an extension of several additional webinar sessions that will add to the twelve we've produced throughout this season alone.

It is important to note that the webinar sessions have continued the work we started with the first season of the SDSS Professional Development Program (PDP) that deals with intelligence practitioner education and skills building (writing and analysis) for our participants. Webinar sessions have featured a wide range of topics and presenters who were both professional practitioners, professors, and SDSS members. Like the first season, this second season of PDP will eventually be added to the Fulcrum Global website (and eventually the YouTube channel) once it officially ends and will be made available to all SDSS members. In the meantime, feel free to check out the first season PDP webinar sessions [here \[click link\]](#).

Be on the Lookout for Future Activities and Opportunities for Involvement with SDSS!

With that said, there are other exciting things going on with SDSS and Fulcrum Global in terms of new written content in the form of intelligence briefs, featured articles, podcast episodes, and guest speakers. Also, we plan on having more meetings with our members as well as doing some "meet and greets" and collaborations with other organizations via a fundraiser for combatting human trafficking with the Newman Center Working Group on Human Trafficking. We're also looking at doing another OSINT war room scenario which has been done off and on over the years in the SDSS Facebook Group forum. Also, we're looking to having members take on desks that cover regions and various thematic issues in the form of Intel Briefs and SitReps that have focuses on national security, defense, intelligence, and foreign affairs. More to come on that!

As mentioned earlier, this is going to be the first of several communiques that go out to our membership to let you all know what we've been up to as well as to encourage you to get involved! Also, I'd like to remind folks that SDSS is an organization that is made up of both

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students and alumni as well as professionals and faculty members. In other words, we try to blend both professional and academic elements in our organizational structures and mission to help our members have the best edge and mindset needed, for when working and operating in the real world once they've professionally moved on from AMU academic life. After all, SDSS is a network of friends and peers in the national security, defense, intelligence, and foreign affairs fields, and our members will always be a part of the SDSS family, so feel free to reach out even if it's been a while.

Sincerely,

Sam Kessler
SDSS President / Chief Editor, Fulcrum Global

SDSS Leadership Team

Sam Kessler – President / Fulcrum Global Chief and Managing Editor

Brian Moody – Vice President

Alyssa LeVasseur – Treasurer and Organizational Standards Officer

Toni Scott – Technology and Digital Network Officer

Dustin Oaks – Social Media Officer

Nabil Rahman – Professional Development Officer

Dan Opstal – Advisor (Faculty)

Ron Brooks – Advisor (Membership)



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2.) Save the Date!

- **SDSS Chapter Meeting**
 - **Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 8:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST)**
 - **Latest SDSS stuff, projects, fundraiser, and opportunities for involvement.**
 - **Connect with fellow SDSS members.**
 - **Discussions about school, job search, national security and international security issues and events, and more!**

 - **SDSS Meet and Greet Hangout**
 - **Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 8:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST)**
-

- **Upcoming AMU/APUS Career Services Events (registration requires login on APUS site)**
 - **How to Tailor Your Federal Resume – August 20, 2024 – 11:00 - 11:30 AM ET**
 - **Networking Like a Pro – August 21, 2024 – 11:00 - 11:30 AM ET**
 - **Navigating a Career Fair – August 21, 2024 – 1:00 - 2:00 PM ET**
 - **Launching Your Space Career – August 22, 2024 – 2:00 - 2:30 PM ET**
 - **Direct Networking Event for Active Duty, Reserve Guard, Veterans, Spouses, and Military Affiliated Students – August 22, 2024 – 3:00 - 4:40 PM ET**
 - **Mastering Asynchronous/Solo Interviews - August 27, 2024 – 11:30 - 12:00 PM ET**
 - **Getting Started in IT/Cyber – August 29, 2024 - 2:00 – 2:30 PM ET**
 - **Building Resilience Webinar – September 5, 2024 – 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET**
 - **Unlocking the Power of Internships – September 10, 2024 – 1:00 – 2:00 PM ET**
 - **Direct Networking Event for Active Duty, Reserve Guard, Veterans, Spouses, and Military Affiliated Students – September 12, 2024 – 3:00 - 4:40 PM ET**
 - **Fall Internship Fair – September 18, 2024 – 1:00 – 3:00 PM ET**
 - **Direct Networking Event for Active Duty, Reserve Guard, Veterans, Spouses, and Military Affiliated Students – October 3, 2024 – 3:00 - 4:40 PM ET**
 - **Nationwide Virtual Career Fair – October 16, 2024 – 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM ET**
 - **Direct Networking Event for Active Duty, Reserve Guard, Veterans, Spouses, and Military Affiliated Students – October 24, 2024 – 3:00 - 4:40 PM ET**
 - **Direct Networking Event for Active Duty, Reserve Guard, Veterans, Spouses, and Military Affiliated Students – November 14, 2024 – 3:00 - 4:40 PM ET**
 - **Direct Networking Event for Active Duty, Reserve Guard, Veterans, Spouses, and Military Affiliated Students – December 12, 2024 – 3:00 - 4:40 PM ET**

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3.)Check out our Fulcrum Global website!

- **Website** - www.fulcrumglobal.us
- **About US (Fulcrum Global-SDSS)** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/about-us/>
- **Our Staff** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/our-staff/>
- **Announcements** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/announcements/>
- **Contact US** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/contact-us-2/>
- **Write for Us** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/write-for-us/>
- **Resource Library** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/resource-library/>

- **Featured Articles and Essays** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/category/featured-articles-essays/>
- **OSINT – SITREP** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/category/osint-sitrep/>
- **Intelligence Briefs** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/category/intelligence-briefs/>
- **Background Reports** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/category/background-reports/>
- **Video Presentations** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/category/video-presentations/>
- **Podcast** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/category/podcast/>
- **Contributors** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/contributors/>
- **Professional Development Program (PDP)** - <https://fulcrumglobal.us/professional-development-program/>

The screenshot shows the Fulcrum Global website homepage. At the top is a navigation menu with links: HOME, ABOUT US, OUR STAFF, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONTACT US, WRITE FOR US, and RESOURCE LIBRARY. Below the menu is the Fulcrum Global logo, which includes the text "By The Society for Defense and Strategic Studies" and "American Military University | American Public University System (APUS)" next to a globe icon. A secondary navigation bar lists categories: FEATURED ARTICLES & ESSAYS, OSINT-SITREP, INTELLIGENCE BRIEFS, BACKGROUND REPORTS, VIDEO PRESENTATIONS, PODCAST, CONTRIBUTORS, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, and RESOURCE LIBRARY. The main content area features a "FEATURED" section with a large image of two boxing gloves, one with the American flag and one with the Chinese flag, positioned around a globe of the Earth. A date stamp "June 20, 2024" is visible in the bottom right corner of the image. Below the image is the title "China Space Threat to U.S. Assets – Intelligence Brief #9". To the right of the featured article is an "E-MAIL UPDATES" form with input fields for "Enter Your First and Last Name" and "Enter Your E-mail Address", and a "SUBSCRIBE" button. Below the form is a "FOLLOW US" section with social media icons for email, Facebook, LinkedIn, RSS, X, and YouTube. At the bottom right is a "MORE TO SEE" section.

RECENT FULCRUM GLOBAL INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

Intelligence Brief #9

China Space Threat to U.S. Assets

Date of Analysis and Submission: June 20, 2024

Primary Analyst: James W. Weichold

BACKGROUND OF SUBJECT:

In 1996, former Premier of the People's Republic of China (PRC), Li Peng declared space to be critical for the PRC's national defense and economic growth. This new initiative began the process of putting China onto a road leading to communication and navigation independence from foreign assets. This initiative also set the path for other space assets to enhance national defense and open the way for China to enter the space marketplace. Since the time of the Peng era, the Chinese space program has exploded and is now in competition with the United States in space stations, as well as missions to the Moon and Mars. In a recent announcement the PRC government designated aerospace a top priority and military leaders hope to secure full use of outer space for China and deny the United States (U.S.) access to their orbital and ground space assets.

CUSTOMER QUESTIONS:

1. Does China present a threat to United States space assets and dominance?
2. When did China become a threat to United States space assets and dominance?
3. What is the threat to United States space assets and dominance?
4. How can those threats affect United states space assets and dominance?

[Click Here to access link](#)

<https://fulcrumglobal.us/china-space-threat-to-u-s-assets-intelligence-brief-9/>



4.) PDP 2.0 Webinar Sessions
(Continuation of Season 2 – 2023 to 2024)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 1 – Orientation

By Nabil Rahman and Sam Kessler – (August 5, 2023)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 2 - Structured Analytics Concepts Applied to Writing

By Nabil Rahman – (August 19, 2023)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 3 - Managing and Digesting Information in the OSINT Battlefield

By Sam Kessler – (September 2, 2023)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 4 - OSINT - Practical Considerations

By Dr. Keith Ludwick – (September 23, 2023)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 5 - Big Data - OSINT

By Dr. Keith Ludwick – (September 30, 2023)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 6 - Structured Analytic Techniques in Action

By Nabil Rahman – (October 14, 2023)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 7 - OSINT - Open-Source Intelligence Tools and Resources

By Nabil Rahman – (November 4, 2023)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 8 - Counterintelligence - Things to be Aware of in the Public and Private Sector

By Nabil Rahman and Sam Kessler – (December 2, 2023)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 9 - Geospatial Intelligence - Leveraging the Triple Junction: Working with Open Geospatial Technologies in a New Golden Era of Geography and Remote Sensing

By Professor Dan Opstal (AMU/APUS) – (December 18, 2023)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 10 - HUMINT Techniques: Lessons Learned From Social Engineering

By Nabil Rahman and Sam Kessler – (January 20, 2024)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 11 – Human Intelligence

By Dr. Steven K. Lindstrom, PhD – (February 24, 2024)

SDSS PDP 2.0 - Session 12 - HUMINT 2

By Nabil Rahman and Sam Kessler – (July 20, 2024)

SDSS PDP 2.0 – Session 13 – Signals Intelligence

By Nabil Rahman – (August 10, 2024)

SDSS PDP 2.0 – Session 14 – Cognitive and Information Operations in Intelligence and Warfare

By Sam Kessler – (August 24, 2024)

SDSS PDP 2.0 – Session 15 – Propaganda History and Use

By Nabil Rahman and Sam Kessler (September 7, 2024)

SDSS PDP 2.0 – Session 16 – HUMINT Part 3

By Nabil Rahman and Sam Kessler (September 21, 2024)

SDSS PDP 2.0 – Session 17 – Topic – TBD

Presenter and Date – TBD

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5.)Conferrals List

Congratulations and best of luck to the following SDSS members that recently conferred their degrees on June 1, 2024 and August 1, 2024!

Conferred June 1, 2024

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Nancy Cech | Arthur Beauchamp |
| Joshua Ford | Kyle Paxton |
| Matthew Davidson | Reginald Smith |
| Robert Sutton | Mario Heard |
| Kelly Sovems | Gilles Nanfang |
| Christopher Toledo | Eva Georgieva |
| Meghan Victory | Kesari Rowe |
| Joanie Daniels | Israel Charles |
| Devin Cline | Kolton Landreth |
| Louie McDade | Kylie Maxwell |
| William Tavares | Elihu El |
| Otis Hutcherson | Gabriel Johnson |
| Ernesto Padilla III | Albert Arthur |
| Max Mohamed | Anne Wurtenberger |
| Lauren Smith | Jarrett Martin |
| Michael Whisenant | Maverick Harding |
| Molly Jeffords | Andrew Mote |
| Caree Bell | |

Conferred August 1, 2024

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| James Mills | Daniel Yun |
| Cedric Foster | Dushant Smith |
| Ryan Hanson | Arthur Blanco |
| Caelin Colgrove | |
| Alexanna Williams | |
| Ryan Caouette | |
| Manuel Lopez | |
| Christopher Lovdahl | |
| Cruz Garza | |
| Kalynn Byrd | |

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6.)Dean’s List and President’s List

Congratulations on this great achievement! It shows you worked hard and stuck with it while going above and beyond expectations. You deserve this great honor!

Dean’s List

Published: July 1, 2024

(December 1 to May 31st time period)

Aubrey Adams
Wayne Adoglo
Kevin Armbrester
Joshua Bark
James Barnes
James Becker
Caree Beel
Jon Bilbatua
Arthur Blanco
Brennan Bredl
Lori Cassell
Rajuan Chrisophe
Zachery Clark
Adam Cook
Krystal Craig
Cailey Dalton
Andrew Dobbe
Thomas Douglas
Noah Dunlap
Alexis Earp
Thomas Farr
Eva Georgieva
Kenneth Heckman
Caren Herring
Otis Hutcherson
Daniel Jenkins
Carlos Lakignange

President’s List

Published: July 1, 2024

(December 1 to May 31st time period)

Arthur Beauchamp
Michelle Davis
William Ferguson
Robert Filozof
Jann Latayan
Kirk Lundby
Gina Madonna
Stephanie Maus
Bonita Norton
Daniel Sellers
Adam Sippel
Kelly Soverns
Tarren Thornton