

*Unique career experiences available*

# Fellowships and scholarships



*By CPT Crystal D. Ernst*

Signal Branch leaders encourage officers to seek diverse and broadening opportunities in order to gain a more thorough understanding of how the Army works

and to create a deeper breadth of experience within the regiment as a whole. The knowledge gained from broadening assignments better prepares officers for future opportunities and challenges. As has been widely communicated,

the Army has cut funding for the traditional advanced education degrees: Tuition Assistance and Advanced Civil Schooling. Despite budgetary constraints, there are still available several fellowships and scholarships which provide valuable skills and knowledge to Signal officers.

This article describes opportunities available to all branches of the Army.

Please visit the HRC website at <https://www.hrc.army.mil/Officer/Officer%20Advanced%20Education%20Programs> for additional information.

## *Opportunities in brief*

I want to get the word out to junior and mid-level officers about broadening opportunities.

All Branch 25, Functional Area 24, and FA 53 officers and warrant officers who have successfully completed at least one key developmental assignment are encouraged to seek out broadening assignment opportunities. These include the: Arroyo Center Fellowship, Chief of Staff-Strategic Studies Group, Army Congressional Fellowship, Cooperative Degree Program, Army Cyber Command Scholarship Program, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and Service Chiefs' Fellows Program, General Wayne A. Downing Scholarship, Information Assurance Scholarship Program, Joint Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Department of Army Staff Intern Program, Olmsted Scholars Program, Regional Fellowship Program - lieutenant colonel level, HQDA, Harvard Strategist Program, Training With Industry Program, and White House Fellowship. Other opportunities include Advanced Civilian Schooling for MS/PhD degrees in information technology/cyber related disciplines at civilian institutions and the Air Force Institute of Technology.

Interested officers and warrant officers should contact their branch representative and can obtain more information about these programs at the following web link: <https://www.hrc.army.mil/Officer/Officer%20Advanced%20Education%20Programs>.

Phil Sines  
Officer Branch Chief

## *Congressional Fellowship*

Educates Officers on the importance of the strategic relationship between the Army and Congress. Fellows pursue a master's degree in legislative affairs at George Washington University and serve on the staff of a congressperson.

Once they complete the one-year degree program and one-year staff program, fellows serve two years on the Army or joint staff in a legislative liaison duty position. Sixteen AC, three USAR-AGR, three Army Reserve National Guard and one Department of the Army civilian are selected each year. This fellowship is open to senior captains and junior majors.

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### **Federal Communications Commission Fellowship**

This program will expose recipients to wireless policy and technology development. The FCC Fellowship will produce the unique skills required by Signal leaders serving in key positions where they will have to plan and coordinate spectrum management.

Fellows will acquire an in-depth working knowledge of the FCC organizational culture, leadership, and competencies. It is a one-year fellowship at the FCC headquarters in Washington, D.C., followed by a utilization assignment at the Army/ACOM level working with spectrum management. The FCC Fellowship is open to AC officers in the grade of chief warrant officer three-chief warrant officer four, captain-major.

### **Information Assurance Scholarship Program**

Established to bring in and retain highly skilled Information Assurance/Information Technology professionals. Scholars pursue a two-year master's or three-year PhD degree in an IA/IT discipline through the Air Force Institute of Technology.

When funding permits, scholars are also able to pursue degrees at the Naval Postgraduate School and the National Intelligence University. AFIT is open to Soldiers E6-E9, warrant officer one-four, and captain/ lieutenant colonel. HRC submits a slate of qualified candidates to the Army CIO/G6 for selection.

FY 2012			
MOS	RANK	INDUSTRY	LOCATION
25A	LTC	Lincoln Laboratory	Research Triangle Park, NC
25A	MAJ	Lockheed Martin	Gaithersburg, MD
25A	MAJ	Cisco Systems	Research Triangle Park, NC
25A	CPT	General Dynamics	Taunton, MA
53A	LTC	Microsoft	Redmond, WA
53A	LTC	Raytheon	Melbourne, FL
53A	MAJ	Hewlett Packard	Plano, TX
53A	MAJ	AT&T	Middleton, NJ
24A	MAJ	Northrop Corp	Annapolis, MD
24A	MAJ	Cisco Systems	Research Triangle Park, NC
250N	CW4	Cisco Systems	Research Triangle Park, NC
251/4	CW3	Microsoft	Redmond, WA
251/4	CW3	Microsoft	Redmond, WA
250N	CW2	General Dynamics	Taunton, MA
250N	CW2	INTELSAT	Ellenwood, GA

### **JCS/OSD/ARSTAF Internship**

This is a three-year program. During the first year, interns pursue a master of policy management degree at Georgetown University. The second year, interns are assigned to either a position within the joint staff or Office of the Secretary of Defense to broaden their perspective of operations within the military and our government. The third and final year, interns are assigned to demanding roles as lead action officers within the Army staff using the experience they've obtained during the first two years. HRC convenes a selection board, which selects up to twenty interns. This internship is open to AC captains and junior majors.

### **George & Carol Olmstead Scholarship**

This scholarship immerses officers and their families in a foreign culture of choice while

the officer pursues a master's degree in a liberal arts discipline. Scholars are expected to become familiar with the institutions, characteristics, customs, history, culture and people of the host nation. They are expected to travel extensively and acquire a familiarity with the host country and region. This is open to AC captains and junior majors with no less than three years of active federal commissioned service and no more than 11 years of active federal service. Officers will receive an operational assignment following the completion of this program.

### **Arroyo Center Fellowship**

This is a research and study fellowship at the Rand Arroyo Center. Fellows research issues that are important to the Army. This Fellowship is open to majors and lieutenant colonels. Three Active Component and one U. S. Army - Active Guard Reserve officers are selected by

the G8 annually. Following the one-year program, officers will serve a three-year utilization tour within the Army G8.

### *G3/5/7 Regional Fellowship*

Includes three distinct opportunities, the Asia-Pacific Center, the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, and the Department of State Strategic Policy Planning. This fellowship is open to AC majors and lieutenant colonels. The programs will take up to a year to complete and are followed by a two-year utilization tour within the Army G3. One Fellow is selected annually for each program.

### *Asia-Pacific Center*

Provides a focal point where leaders can gather to exchange ideas, explore pressing issues, and achieve greater understanding of the challenges that shape the regional security environment. Officers attend the APC College of Security Studies 12-week study program, and then are assigned to the research divi-

sion to develop and coordinate a program for the remainder of the year.

### *George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies*

Supports newly democratic nations transitioning into free market economies by providing defense education for Eastern and Central Europe's senior policy makers and sponsoring activities that promote defense cooperation. It lays the groundwork for closer military ties and greater openness between the armed forces of NATO and its cooperation partners. Fellows attend a 15-week defense and security studies program with the remainder of the year spent as faculty members conducting research or participating in other activities related to the Center's mission.

*Great odds of selection! Nine officers applied to IASP in 2013; seven were selected.*

### *DoS Strategic Policy Planning*

Designed to expand the officer's executive level skills in preparation for senior military positions across Army, Joint, and Interagency assignments. The Fellow serves as an ambassador of the Chief of Staff of the Army in order to obtain views and perspectives on prominent national and international issues not normally dealt with within the Department of the Army. Fellows conduct research, information gathering and other liaison activities in order to ensure the Army's position is understood and appropriately factored within the DoS policy development and decision-making.

### *HQDA Harvard Strategist Program*

Selected Officers will pursue a one-year master's degree in public administration at Harvard, followed by a mandatory two-year utilization assignment within the Deputy Chief of Staff, G3/5; USAR Officers will serve within the Strategy & Integration Directorate, Office Chief Army Reserve followed by an assignment within the DCS, G3/5. Scholars will regularly interact at the general officer level within the Army, joint staff, and OSD. Officers who successfully complete this program will be awarded a skill identifier of 6Z, which

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25A	MAJ	Lincoln Laboratory	Lexington, MA
25A	MAJ	Lockheed Martin	Gaithersburg, MD
25A	MAJ	General Dynamics	Taunton, MA
53A	LTC	Raytheon Cyber Security	Melbourne, FL
53A	LTC	Microsoft Corp	Redmond, WA
53A	MAJ	Google Inc	Mountain View, CA
53A	MAJ	AT&T	Bedminster, NJ
24A	MAJ	McAfee Inc	Reston, VA
24A	MAJ	Northrop Grumman Corp	Annapolis, MD
24A	MAJ	Cisco Systems	Research Triangle Park, NC
255N	CW4	Cisco Systems	Research Triangle Park, NC
255A	CW4	Microsoft	Redmond, WA
255A	CW4	Microsoft	Redmond, WA
255S	CW4	General Dynamics	Taunton, MA
250N	CW4	INTELSAT	Ellenwood, GA

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may qualify them to transfer from their basic branch to FA59 (Army Strategist). This program is open to AC and USAR-AGR captains and junior majors.

### ***White House Fellowship***

The White House Fellowship offers selected members first-hand experience working at the highest levels of the federal government. Fellows typically spend a year working as a full time staff member to senior White House staff, cabinet secretaries, and other top-ranking government officials. Fellows also participate in an education program consisting of roundtable discussions with renowned leaders from private and public sectors and travel extensively to study U.S. policy in action both domestically and internationally. This fellowship is open to AC and USAR-AGR members of all grades.

### ***Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency***

This opportunity exposes rising military officers to a unique organization whose mission is to rapidly develop imaginative, innovative, and often high-risk research ideas, offering significant technological impact that goes well beyond the normal evolutionary approach. The members will, as a team, plan and execute a project of significance during their tenure at DARPA. The purpose of the internship is to expose the members to the "DARPA method," provide them with insight into a specific cutting-edge technology, and potentially aid in developing a future DARPA technology. Participants will also have the opportunity for self-study in areas of interest to

them and the Army, as well as for an understanding of the breadth of DARPA research across the spectrum of technology development. The program is open to AC and USAR-AGR majors and lieutenant colonels.

### ***Cyber Command Scholarship***

This is a two-year program in which selected officers will pursue a master's degree in Cyber Security at the University of Maryland, followed by a mandatory three-year utilization assignment within the U.S. Army Cyber Command. The program consists of 33 credit hours and a major capstone paper/project. Additional credit hours may be required if the undergraduate degree is in a major other than computer science. Three scholarships are awarded annually. This scholarship is offered to AC captains and majors.

### ***CSA Strategic Studies Group Fellowship***

Fellows are assigned to the CSA's office with duty at the SSG for one year. The SSG's mission is to conduct independent, unconventional, and revolutionary research analysis to generate innovative strategic and operational concepts for land forces in support of a governing theme provided by the CSA. The fellowship is open to AC and USAR-AGR captains through colonel.

### ***Training with Industry Program***

Selected members are placed in Fortune 500 companies for up to 12 months. The main objective is to develop Soldiers who are experienced in higher level managerial techniques and who have

an understanding of the relationship of their assigned commercial company as it relates to specific functions of the Army, improving the Army's ability to interact and conduct business. Participants are exposed to innovative industrial management practices, techniques and procedures which have applicability to the Army. This program is open to AC service members staff sergeant through lieutenant colonel. Specific opportunities open to Signal officers in Fiscal Years 12 and 13 are shown in the charts on the previous pages (See pages 30 and 31).

Each of the scholarships and fellowships described in this article presents a tremendous opportunity for Officers and Warrant Officers whose professional timelines support the programs' requirements. Signal officers who applied for the programs in FY12 were very successful when compared to other branches. In FY12, two Signal officers were selected for the Congressional Fellowship and one officer for the CYBER Command scholarship. Also notable, of the nine officers who applied for the IASP, seven were selected based on their skills and qualifications. These are tremendous opportunities and our Signaleers have a great track record of success.

### ***Good Luck Competing!***

*CPT Crystal D. Ernst served as a platoon leader in the 67th Signal Battalion at Fort Gordon, Ga. and a company commander in the 59th Signal Battalion at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. She is currently working as the future readiness officer at Signal Branch, Human Resources Command, in Fort Knox, Ky.*