



CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT and Call for Papers



20-23 April 2015
Lewis and Clark Center
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

Organizers: The United States Army Command and General Staff College, Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas and the CGSC Foundation, Inc., will co-host a symposium entitled, *“The Professional Ethic and the State.”* The symposium will include a variety of guest speakers, panel sessions, and general discussions.

This year’s symposium will explore the responsibilities and obligations between the United States and its military. We are on the brink of a new era following more than a decade of war. Many factors indicate this era will be characterized by difficult choices for the services and our civilian leadership. At the heart of these challenges lie the Army’s emerging doctrine and ethic of the military profession and the contract between the soldier to the state. What does the soldier owe the state; and, what are the state’s responsibilities to the soldier in return for his or her service and sacrifice to the nation?

Proposed Program: With this in mind, we are issuing a call for unpublished papers for the conference. Selected papers will be presented with audience discussion. Additionally, the symposium will feature a reception on arrival day and a dinner with keynote speaker during the week. As you develop abstracts for submission you may consider, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- **Soldiers and Politics**
 - Should soldiers be apolitical? What does this mean; what are the limits?
 - How might soldiers appropriately express dissent?
 - Justice Post-Bellum: Should the military conduct nation building?
 - What is the appropriate public role for retired soldiers?
- **Breach of Trust**
 - What does “Stewardship of the Profession mean?”
 - Does military justice unfairly favor rank?
 - What should be done to restore public trust in the wake of sexual assault scandals?
- **Caring for Service Members and Veterans**
 - Moral injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, are they related and how so?
 - Is compliance with the ROE sufficient to prevent moral injury?
 - What steps might the Army take to reduce moral injury?
 - What is wrong with the Veteran’s Administration and how can it be fixed?
 - Are there limits to medical care for the military and its veterans?

- The Profession of Arms and the political state
 - What are the tensions between the profession of arms and politics?
 - Is the US military a profession? Why or why not? Should it be?
 - Are there moral limits to what the military profession can provide the state?
- Citizen Soldiers
 - What does it mean to be a citizen-soldier?
 - What is the status of the civilian-military divide? Does it really exist? Is it growing?
 - How does the military ethic relate to American values?
 - What are the foundations of selfless service?
- The Army or other Military Service Ethics
 - What is it? What are its foundations? What should it be?
 - Is an ethical code necessary for the different branches of service?
 - Is there a moral divide between combat and support troops? Should there be?
- Preparing Soldiers
 - How well are soldiers prepared mentally and emotionally for combat?
 - What can we do differently to prevent or minimize traumatic stress?
 - Are Soldiers adequately pre-screened?

Send abstracts (approximately 300-500 words) for individual unpublished papers to the conference coordinator, Chaplain (Major) Sean Wead, sean.s.wead.mil@mail.mil.

Deadline for abstracts: 5 December 2014

Notification of abstract selection: 19 December 2014

Deadline for papers for presentation: 1 April 2015

The Command and General Staff College and CGSC Foundation, Inc. will publish the proceedings of the conference and selected papers on line.

For additional information on the symposium please contact Chaplain Sean Wead at 913-684-3270; or Mr. Ted Ihrke at 913-684-4115.