

A great day for Space education Graduate Credits for Master's Degree in Space Systems Operations Management for SOOQC Graduates

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Over the past 18 months, representatives from the Force Development and Integration Center, or FDIC, and Webster University have worked closely to fashion a program that will provide 15 graduate credit hours to graduates of the Army's Space Operations Officer Qualification Course given at the U.S. Space and Missile Defense Command, or SMDC, in Colorado Springs. The memorandum of agreement ensuring the awarding of those credits was signed on Feb. 18, 2004 at the FDIC-West facility in Colorado Springs.

"It all began about a year and a half ago, right here in our training shop," said Tom Coleman, chief of Training Development at FDIC. "We sent out our curriculum, program of instruction, and other associated education and training documents to six institutions. The colleges and universities conducted a thorough review of the curriculum to determine the appropriate number of graduate credits to award graduates of the course that wish to apply for entry into a master's degree program at a particular college or university," said Coleman.

Following several months of curriculum review, along with meetings between FDIC and local colleges, Webster University announced that they were willing to offer 15 graduate credit hours toward their Master of Science Degree in Space Operations Management.

How The Program Works

The agreement establishes a cooperative degree program between the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and Webster University. Graduates of the Space Operations Officer Qualification Course will have an opportunity to obtain a MS degree in Space Systems Operations Management with emphasis in either engineering and technical management, or in acquisition and program management through shared academic credits between Webster University

and SMDC. Details of specific course requirements needed to complete the degree are outlined in the memorandum of agreement posted on the FDIC training division Web site at www.smdc.army.mil/FDIC/training/training.html.

Requirements for admission to this degree program for Space Operations Officer Qualification Course graduates are a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university, submission of an official transcript reflecting conferral of the degree, and completion and submission of the Webster University graduate school application form.

Participants in this program will not be required to complete separate graduate entrance exams such as the Graduate Entrance Exam, Graduate Management Admission Test, or the Millers Analogy Test. Additionally, letters of recommendation will not be required.

"This agreement between SMDC and Webster University provides an additional avenue for the Space Officer's Course graduates to obtain a master's degree in Space right here in Colorado Springs. I am delighted in what has happened and I anticipate the popularity of this important partnership with Webster University will grow rapidly in the future," said Marjorie Doyle, the senior director of Webster University Colorado Springs Campus.

The Space Operations Officer Qualification Course lays a foundation for Space training. It provides a variety of subjects ranging from coordinating Space asset tasking and utilizing Space analysis tools to participating in the joint operations planning process and analyzing course of action from a Space perspective.

"This degree program will serve as a next step in professional Space education and training for those who wish to take advantage of it," stated Larry Mize, chief of Space education and training at FDIC. "We have worked hard to make this agreement happen for

Randy Wright (left), Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Director of Military Campuses, Webster University, and COL James Pierson, director Force Development and Integration Center, sign their respective portions of the memorandum of agreement between Webster University and SMDC on the degree program that allows graduates of the FA40 course an opportunity to complete a Master of Science degree through shared academic credits. *Photo by D.J. Montoya*



our current and future graduates.”

“The FDIC training team continues to expand and enhance Space education and training for our Army. Space education will move forward with this and any other new initiatives that promise to provide quality Space training to the Space cadre. We are pleased and honored to have reached this milestone with Webster University, an institution with a long history of partnering with the U.S. military community in many locations around the globe,” said COL James Pierson, director of FDIC.

To find out more about the program, go to the FDIC training division Web site at www.smdc.army.mil/FDIC/training/training.html. For questions about the program, contact Mr. Tom Coleman at (719) 554-4541, thomas.coleman@arspace.army.mil, or Ms. Marjorie Doyle at (719) 590-7340, doylemc@webster.edu.

FA40 Training Conference in Long Beach

The FA40 Space Operations Officers have a unique training opportunity from June 1 to June 4 as an adjunct to the Association of the U.S. Army, or AUSA, Symposium.

The Greater Los Angeles Chapter Space Symposium in Long Beach, Calif., in cooperation with the U.S. Army Space and Missile

Defense Command will host the 2004 FA40 Training Conference. The purpose for this training conference is to provide updates on Space support to military operations. It will give FA40 professionals an opportunity to get together and discuss the future direction of the Army initiatives and missions in Space.

As the Space cadre for the Army’s future force, you are the leaders in this arena and will not want to miss this symposium. The theme for the Space Symposium and the FA40 Training Conference is “Space Support and Global Operations.”

Combine the FA40 Training with the AUSA Space Symposium. A detailed agenda will be sent via e-mail to all participants and will be posted on the Space Officer Network, or SONENT, and the FA40 Web site.

Special events, which are optional and may be built into the schedule, include industry tours, a baseball game, and a formal Army Ball.

This event is planned to support the Space Operations Officer’s continued development. The command highly encourages all uniformed FA40’s to attend. Therefore, the primary priority for attendance is to these officers and space available for all other participants. All participants must have a Top Secret, Sensitive Compartmented Information clearance.

This will be a grand event, so don’t miss out ...