

Class of 1960 Sponsored Program University of Cambridge Summer 2018

Through the strategic advice and financial support of the Class of 1960, the Naval Academy sent two rising first class midshipmen to a four-week residential program at Cambridge University's International Security and Intelligence Program during the summer of 2018. The students were selected by a process coordinated by the Class of 1960 Distinguished Visiting Professor of National Security.

The academic program was rigorous, with daily lectures, seminars and small group meetings between the faculty and students. The program engages leading practitioners and academics from the security and intelligence communities. One of the unique features of this program is that each student researched an individual security/intelligence/strategy topic under the tutelage of a faculty adviser culminating in the writing of a 3000-word essay. The program hosted approximately 65 students from 16 countries, providing an ideal opportunity to hear perspectives from students from very different backgrounds around the world.

The two midshipmen from the Class of 2019 who participated were Midn 1/c Tim Ireland and Midn Erik Jorde, both political science majors. Midn Ireland's research essay was titled: "The Way We See Spies: How America's Political Culture Impacts Domestic Perceptions of its Intelligence Agencies. Midn Jorde's essay topic was: "How Has American Short-Termism Impacted Its Ability to Combat Al-Shabaab?". The Class of 1960 Professor of National Security found both essays to be thoroughly researched and well written, reflecting a rigorous academic experience benefitting significantly from the international environment in which it was developed.

Excerpts from the midshipmen after actions reports include:

"This has been a substantive and consequential training for me-easily the best I have done in my time here." Midn 1/c Ireland

"I cannot say with more conviction that this was a valuable month in not only the study of security studies, but in making friends around the world and listening to fresh ideas and perspectives." Midn 1/c Jorde

On September 27, Hank Chiles, Pete Chabot, and myself joined Midshipmen Ireland and Jorde along with Professor Howard Ernst (Political Science Department Chair) and our Class of 1960 Professor Bill Ostendorff for lunch and discussion on the Cambridge Program at the Academy Club. A picture at Cambridge is below (left) and of our classmates with the two midshipmen is below (right).

