

NORFOLK STATE'S IC SCHOLARS MAKES EXCEPTIONAL PRESENTATION AT PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY (PIPS) ANALYTIC EXERCISE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Norfolk, Virginia – On February 7, 2011 six undergraduate Norfolk State University (NSU) Intelligence Community (IC) scholars participated in a one-day crisis simulation analytic exercise on the campus of William and Mary (Williamsburg, VA). Inclusion into the scenario-driven exercise was by invitation only and eight schools participated in the Project on Peace and International Security (PIPS) simulation competition. The participating universities were Mary Washington, Norfolk State University, Old Dominion, Sweet Briar College, Virginia Tech, Washington College, William and Mary and the University.

The simulation was designed to make students think under pressure and, most importantly, work in teams. Each team was given a CIA analyst as a mentor to help facilitate the team's progress through the problem and keep the teams on schedule. The crisis simulation required that teams write and present an initial briefing to a senior Intelligence officer.

From the initial eight universities, Norfolk State and Virginia Tech impressed the CIA panel and were chosen to present a final briefing to a mock second round briefing session. The simulation concluded with both Virginia Tech and Norfolk State presenting a short briefing to a senior CIA officer playing the role of the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. A panel of faculty and CIA representatives judged the briefings and Norfolk State's team was successful in both their written and oral presentations and was judged as presenting the better effort between the two schools.

The Norfolk State University's Intelligence Community Center for Academic Excellence (IC-CAE) was started by a grant from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in 2006. The undergraduate students who participated in PIPS were members of a special topics class taught by Dr. Camellia Moses Okpodu (Director of the NSU ICCAE). The IC-CAE at NSU works with students who have an interest in working in the intelligence community by offering seminars, symposiums, strategic language classes, and special career development activities.