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2009-08

UAPI Program Adds Deputy Director

Center for Homeland Defense and Security

Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California

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UAPI Program Adds Deputy Director

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The growth of the University and Agency Partnership Initiative may well be evidenced by the recent hiring of Deputy Director Steve Recca.

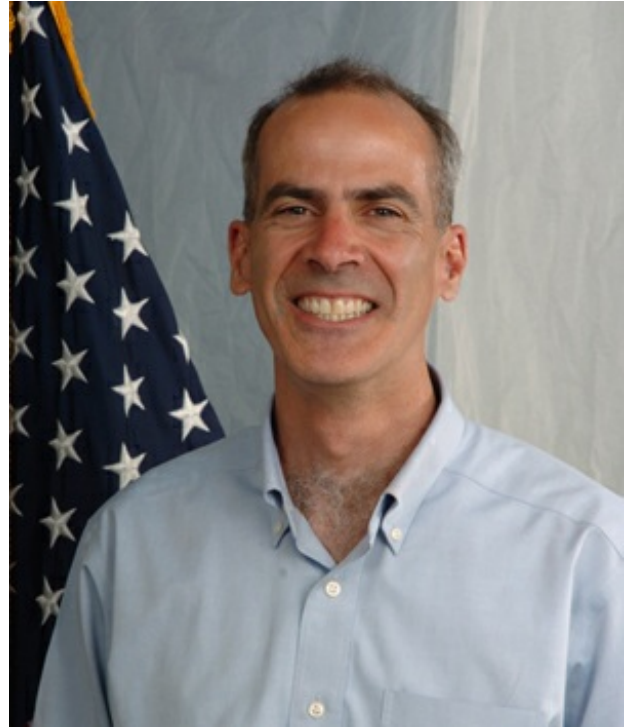
Recca stepped into the new role June 1 and brings years of academic and policy experience, including familiarity with the Naval Postgraduate School where he is a former Inman Intelligence Chair.

Recca joins UAPI Director Stan Supinski in a quest to expand homeland security education, and practitioners, well beyond the halls of the Center for Homeland Defense and Security.

Since the UAPI program began in 2005, more than 200 universities and agencies have joined the program.

"The numbers are continually growing, that's why we need Steve," Supinski said.

The UAPI seeks to link schools and agencies offering security-related education to share their curricula and information as well to allow them draw upon the expertise and resources of the CHDS, thus eliminating redundancies.



"My hope is to continue the expansion of the partnership program," Recca said during a phone interview from Colorado Springs, Colo., where he resides.

That means reaching out to more schools and agencies in an effort to bring them into the UAPI fold and to increase access to course materials through CHDS with a goal of developing more homeland security practitioners.

"My job is to travel to various universities to provide information on sample programs," Recca said. "The purpose of the Initiative is to increase the number of students who have a homeland security and defense education. If we can increase the number of universities offering a homeland defense program, we can increase the number of people in the field."

Along with an extensive government policy background, Recca is familiar with academia and is former director of the Center for Homeland Security at Colorado State University in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"He knows as much as anyone about what is going on in homeland security education," Supinski said. While the number of universities and agencies in the United States participating in UAPI continues to increase, the next challenge is to export homeland defense and security education internationally.

"As the Center becomes more interested in growing relations outside the United States, I see that as a big next step for the Center and for the Partnership," Recca said. "I see that as a huge potential opportunity to expand homeland security education

globally."

A UAPI conference slated here for Sept. 29-30 will include representatives from Carlton University in Ottawa, Canada, Queensland University in Australia as well as The Marshall Center in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, Supinski said.

Recca's homeland security credentials include stints with the Central Intelligence Agency, the State Department and the Department of Defense.

Moreover, Recca has a wealth of international experience. Among his previous jobs are stops overseas – in Oslo, Norway, on an assignment to the U.S. Embassy

there and in Germany as the Department of Defense's Chief Liaison to the German Federal Intelligence Service.

Along with those jobs is service as

Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy and Special Assistant to the Director of Central Intelligence. That well-traveled experience is an asset as he

travels the country talking to people from various regions.

"It has helped me to understand difference perspectives, to see problem solving through different lenses and to approach solutions from different angles," Recca said.

Recca holds a concurrent position as a staff adviser to the Pacific Disaster Center where he works to marry homeland defense and security with natural disaster planning.

When not working, he enjoys reading, cycling – he is a member of the NPS Cycling Club – and taking advantage of the Colorado's topography for running.

"I'm doing a lot of trail running thanks to living in Colorado," he said.

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