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Michael Fischerkeller

[November](#)[December](#)

"The Science Behind COIN: Iraq and Afghanistan as Doctrinal Testbeds"

[January](#)[February](#)

Thursday, October 7, 2010

Noon

Mershon Center for International Security Studies

1501 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43201

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To sign up for this event, please contact Beth Russell at russell.16@osu.edu by Tuesday, October 5, 2010.



Michael Fischerkeller
Director
Joint Advanced
Warfighting Division
Institute for Defense
Analyses

Michael Fischerkeller serves as director of the Joint Advanced Warfighting Division (JAWD) at the Institute for Defense Analyses. JAWD was established at IDA in 1998 to serve as a catalyst for stimulating innovation and breakthrough improvements in joint military capabilities. The team's core work includes advanced concept development, operations analysis, and joint experimentation in support of the Joint Staff, Joint Forces Command, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

After earning a B.S. (with honors) in International Relations/Middle East Politics from the University of Pittsburgh, Fischerkeller earned a Ph.D. in International Relations/Research Methods from The Ohio State University. After graduation, he was awarded a National Science Foundation Fellowship followed by a Post-Doctoral Fellowship from the Mershon Center for International Security Studies.

In 1998, Fischerkeller began working as a research staff member at the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA). In this position, he has contributed to scholarship in the fields of regional strategy, asymmetric warfare, force transformation, deterrence, the balance of skill, technology, and operational concept, and the Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution System process. His published articles appear in *Joint Forces Quarterly*, *Security Studies*,

International Organization, and The Military Operations Research Journal. In 2000, the importance of his work was recognized by peers with the awarding of the MORS David Rist prize.

In July 2004, Fischerkeller was selected by IDA's president, Adm. Dennis Blair (ret.), to deploy to U.S. Pacific Command as the first field representative of IDA's Combatant Command Pilot Program. He served as a special assistant to the commander of U.S. Pacific Command from September 2004 to September 2006, focusing on improving operations in the command and relationships with other commands, and developing efficient and effective planning, resourcing, and assessment processes for and between the commands and the Secretary of Defense and Joint Staff.

In recognition of his contributions, Fischerkeller was nominated to receive the Joint Civilian Service Commendation Award. In October 2006, Fischerkeller was appointed director of the Combatant Command Program at IDA. He has directed on-site representatives at U.S. Pacific Command, European Command, Central Command, Northern Command, and Southern Command, while personally assisting Special Operations Command, the Joint Staff and Functional Capability Boards.

In March 2008, Fischerkeller volunteered to serve for four months as a special assistant to the director of Strategy, Plans and Assessments at the Multinational Force headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq. In this capacity he developed for Gen. David Petraeus a strategic framework for characterizing and assessing success in Iraq in order to inform decisions regarding mission, strength, roles, and resource allocation. This framework informed similar discussions in the Department of State and the National Security Council for use in Afghanistan. Fischerkeller continues to support the Multinational Force-Iraq headquarters in a reachback capacity.

Upon returning from Iraq, Fischerkeller participated as a member of the U.S. Central Command Assessment Team's Iraq subregional group. In support of Gen. Petraeus, this group traveled to Iraq to conduct an assessment of the situation, reviewed existing theater strategies and plans, and developed a draft strategy and plan to secure and advance US interests in Iraq and the greater region.

In November 2009, Fischerkeller deployed to Afghanistan to perform a force optimization and partnership assessment for Gen. Stanley McChrystal. He continues to support brigade commanders through a reachback capacity.

In this presentation, Fischerkeller will summarize recent and ongoing efforts to develop an evidence-based approach for assessing to what degree operations and capabilities designed for and applied through the Clear, Hold, and Build framework are generating intended (or unintended) effects.

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