Leadership, Education and Development

LEaD

Colonel Rod Simmons
United States Air Force (Retired)

Director
National Security Emergency Preparedness Directorate (NSEP) for the USAF

The Leadership, Education and Development (LEaD) criminal justice program is designed to bring criminal justice leaders and other professionals working in law enforcement, corrections, courts and other support activities to speak about their careers and professional activities. Our speakers will provide you with an inside glimpse into your future LEaD path required in the criminal justice fields, you are thinking about entering. This is your opportunity to discover the leadership qualities they’ve developed and the education required to create excellence in criminal justice. The same challenges and qualities you will require as future leaders in your chosen profession. Our speakers are graduates of Southeastern and alumni who will speak about their own Southeastern (SLU) educational experience and studies, how they chose criminal justice as a profession, and how they developed their particular interest and specialties.

As the Director for National Security Emergency Preparedness Directorate (NSEP) for the USAF, Col. Simmons develops and oversees implementation of operational policy governing the training, readiness, and employment of USAF aerospace forces, supporting Defense Support of Civilian Authorities DSCA, throughout the 50 states and four Territories. His Directorate develops Air Force operational employment concepts, mission requirements and force structure in support of USAF national security objectives. His organization provides operationally ready forces for employment by COCOM Commanders, through the 1st Air Force Commander and for all hazard disasters. His force of 105 Reserve Colonels and Lt. Colonels are the DSCA SMEs for the 1st AF CC and Governors for Title 10 support during All Hazard Disasters.

Colonel Simmons graduated from SLU in 1979 and entered the Air Force in August of 1979. A career Security Forces senior officer, he has commanded numerous times at the flight, squadron and group level, including three tours on MAJCOM staffs and seven years on the Air Staff. Colonel Simmons retired on 1 Sept 2000, but was recalled to active duty on 1 March 2002 to serve as Chief of the Critical Infrastructure and Force Protection Branch at the Pentagon. He volunteered to command a joint USAF Security Forces/US Army Military Police Group in Southwest Asia, where he also served as the Deputy Provost Marshal for the state of Kuwait. He was deployed for nine months in Southwest Asia, where his unit made new strides for future missions AF Security Forces would become involved in performing. Upon his return, he retired again in March of 2005 and started his civilian career as the Deputy Director of Homeland Operations at the Air Staff, where he was eventually promoted to the Director’s position in 2007. In 2005, he was once again requested to put the uniform on and was reinstated as a reserve officer in the USAF retiree IMA program and served as the IMA to the Director of Security Forces at Air Mobility Command (AMC) for three more years, until he returned to retirement status again in 2008. He took his present position as Director, in May of 2010.

Meet with Colonel Simmons and discover firsthand the LEaD path to become a future leader in the 21st century.

Come join us on Monday, March 9, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. in Fayard Hall, room 207.