



It's time again for the Senior Enlisted Leaders Training Conference (SELTC). This year, the conference is being held from March 22-26 2010 at Patrick Air Force Base, FL. The theme for the 2010 SELTC is **"Growing Leaders in a Changing Strategic Environment,"** and we'll be discussing what our senior NCOs must do to help assure the Army's ability to continue to produce "confident, competent, versatile leaders for our 21st Century Army." 1

Over the course of the conference, I expect we'll have meaningful discussions on the U.S. Army's initiatives which are geared toward development of leaders who are:

- Self-directed learners and self-aware
- Able to think and can leverage knowledge management processes and systems to find what they need when they need it
- Learning, adapting, and innovating to keep pace with the strategic environment
- Capable of learning how to operate new systems through information gathering (Web searches or calling manufacturers' help desks to find answers about equipment), self-study and experimentation, informed by understanding of the underlying technological principles

We'll also have the opportunity to talk about the steps that we, the senior NCOs must take to embrace the Army's efforts to grow tomorrow's leaders and to lead by example.

It should come as no surprise that many of our senior NCOs entered the Army prior to the technology explosion of the late 1990s and the first decade of the 21st century. The concept of directing our own intellectual growth, using today's technology tools is a bit foreign to many of us. We're from an era where learning meant memorizing the doctrine and manuals provided and applying this learning to our current position within the Army: the "Be, Know, Do" approach to being the best possible Soldier.

While still relevant, Be, Know, Do, can't meet all of the needs of today's Army, an Army where our NCOs are learning to adapt to a multitude of challenges brought about by the current period of "persistent conflict" we are facing. In today's operating environment, we must routinely ask our NCOs to expand beyond the traditional role of "tactical operations" and step into the arena of "full spectrum operations."

In order to meet the Army's needs for NCOs who are "effective across the spectrum of conflict and effective in operating with and among cultures," the Army has outlined eight leader development imperatives. These imperatives are detailed on pages C-12 through C-24 of Annex C: The Noncommissioned Officer, Jan 15 2010, to A Leader Development Strategy for the 21st Century Army, Nov 25 2009. I recommend each of you take the time to review these documents.

At the SELTC, we'll also be inducting our newest members to the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club (SAMC). They were selected after careful consideration, by the SMDC/ARSTRAT SAMC board on Nov 18 2009, and it is my distinct honor to introduce them to you here. Please join me in "congratulating" the following SAMC inductees:

- Sergeant First Class Charles Robinson- (1st Space Company - Stuttgart)
- Staff Sergeant Douglas Price- (1st Space Company - Stuttgart)
- Staff Sergeant Paul Martin- (4th Space Company – Peterson AFB)
- Sergeant First Class Gregory Tidwell- (HHC 1st Space Bn – Peterson AFB)
- Sergeant First Class Amy Mueller- (4th Space Company – Peterson AFB)

We are extremely proud of their achievements and accomplishments! They will officially be inducted into the SAMC by LTG Kevin T. Campbell, during the SELTC.

My sincere thanks and appreciation to our entire USASMDC/ARSTRAT senior enlisted leadership and many others, who contributed, coordinated and supported this year's SELTC. I'd like to give a special thanks to the 14th Air Force and 45th Space Wing for their generous support and hospitality.

1 A Leader Development Strategy for the 21st Century Army, November 25 2009

2 A Leader Development Strategy for the 21st Century Army, Annex C: The Noncommissioned Officer, January 15 2010