

## From the Editor

**W**elcome to the second edition of /luce.nt/, the Naval War College's online, student run, peer-reviewed, Journal of National Security Studies.

A new and evolving venture, you will notice two new categories in this edition of /luce.nt/: "Personal Narratives" and "International Perspective". Our vision at /luce.nt/, however, has not changed. In the spirit of ADM Luce, we are dedicated to promoting dialogue and exchanging ideas "on all questions relating to war and to statesmanship connected with war, or the prevention of war." To this end, we have selected works that creatively present new ideas. This issue takes us around the globe, addressing concerns both specific to an area and concerns that affect organizations as a whole.

In this edition, we start by considering the relationship between time and the desire for change. In COL Mark Maxwell's "Mexico's Judicial Reforms of 2008: Building a Legal Causeway, But from the Past or to the Future?" we get to enjoy an unusual and clever discussion that can be related to all change. Is reform needed or just better adherence to current policy? Do the changes being made go far enough to make the struggle worthwhile?

Changing hemispheres, we have the opportunity to consider a regional power and its importance in the global arena. Captain Sameer Saxena, Indian Navy, provides his thoughts on the relationships and importance of the Indian Navy in and around the Indian Ocean in his piece, "One Ocean, Two Shades: Perceptions about the Indian Ocean."

Moving from regional concerns to organizational behavior, CDR William Hines' "The Phalanx Drifts to the Right" invites you to think about the importance of reading and leadership. A leader would be wise to consider the past before establishing new guidance, new policy, or new strategy. Most academics agree that the study of history provides an opportunity to learn, and that good leaders can avoid mistakes by considering those who came before them. Some in the military, however, believe that you can't learn unless you do, that no two cases are identical and therefore, historical reading is limited in its usefulness to the modern military leader.

Leadership is the theme of the first article in our new category "Personal Narratives," which offers an opportunity to share our varied experiences. Our hope is that these experiences may offer lessons, provide an opportunity for thought, or just remind us of who we are and why we do what we do. CDR Jorge Garcia, in "A Leadership Problem," shares an experience from battle and challenges us as leaders to examine our actions not just in the obvious light of right and wrong but as they relate to truth.

Consideration of right and wrong, in regards to the U.S. reactions to the 9/11 attacks, has been plentiful. This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11. All of us have been affected by this event: through service overseas, loss of a loved one, or even just trying to get through airport security. We will leave the discussion of facts and figures, troops deployed, lives lost and dollars spent to the evening news and invite you to recall the events through the eyes of someone who almost did not make it out of the twin towers. Vadim Thomas, a Supervisory Special Agent with the FBI, shares his experience and recollections of 9/11.