

Professional Article Release Review: Developing Cogent, Coherent and Constitutional Policies

Dan M. Davis
Univ. of Southern California
Los Angeles, California
dmdavis@acm.org

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Ronald W. Servis
Atty. at Law, CAPT USN, Ret.
Lakewood, Colorado
ronservis@aol.com

Sean A. Brophy
LT USN, PAO, NSTC
Great Lakes, Illinois
sean.brophy@navy.mil

ABSTRACT

This paper identifies and discusses the importance and resolution of issues that arise when members of the military wish to express their professional opinions in publications in technical conferences and professionals journals, with obvious implications for analogous situations in the broadcast media, books, and lectures. Effective prepublication screening has been challenged by a number of contemporary situations: increase in accessibility of publishing opportunities, increased concern with unauthorized release of government information and greater reliance on emerging technology to sustain defense offsets. The authors collectively have extensive experience in both classified and unclassified operations within the Department of the Navy and in academia, including many tens of technical publications in conferences and journals. They will outline opportunities and obligations to publish, adducing examples of paradigm-shifting publications by military personnel of the past. Further, they will characterize obstacles that may face the budding author, both on active duty and in civilian contexts. Having held leadership positions in the Navy, they also will describe and analyze the issues from a commander's viewpoint. This will include a list of specific criteria to be used in any pre-publication review, to further enable the reader to optimize the benefit to the Navy and to reduce possible harm which might outweigh that benefit. As a constitutional republic, the overarching guidance for behavior must be the U. S. Constitution, and similar guidance in other countries, so the paper will devote a significant section to the constitutional and legal aspects of these issues. The paper does not present these issues only as philosophical, theoretical or academic concerns, but also describes their personal experience with them and offers their manifest approach to resolve them optimally. The conclusions of these analyses and suggested resolutions are laid out with an eye toward implementing similar procedures on a wider basis.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Dan M. Davis is a consultant for the University of Southern California, focusing on large-scale distributed DoD simulations. Prior to his retirement, for a decade he was the Director of USC's JESPP Project for JFCOM. In the '90's, as the Assistant Director of Caltech's Center for Advanced Computing Research, he managed Synthetic Forces Express, bringing HPC to DoD simulations. Prior experience includes serving as a Director at the Maui High Performance Computing Center and as a Software Engineer at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Martin Marietta. He has served as the Chairman of the Coalition of Academic Supercomputing Centers and has taught at the undergraduate and graduate levels. As early as 1971, Dan was writing programs in FORTRAN on one of Seymour Cray's CDC 6500's. He saw duty in Vietnam as a USMC Cryptologist and retired as a Commander, Cryptologic Specialty, U.S.N.R. He received B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Colorado in Boulder.

Ronald W. Servis is an Attorney at law in Colorado and a retired Captain, U.S. Navy. On active duty, CAPT Servis served as an Oceanographic Officer and was stationed in Iceland. Upon leaving active duty, he earned a law degree and was admitted to the Bar in Colorado where he practices law in the Denver metropolitan area. In the Naval Reserve, he was a Ready Reservist from 1975 until 2001, serving as a Cryptologic Officer. He commanded several US Naval Reserve Security Group units in the western states. Mr. Servis interest is in the U.S. Constitutional constraints on serving and retired naval personnel. He earned a B.S. degree from SUNY, Brockport and a J.D. degree from the University of Northern Illinois, College of Law, previously the Lewis University College of Law.

Sean A. Brophy is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, currently serving as a Public Affairs Officer at the Naval Systems Training Command at Great Lakes, Illinois. He was commissioned in 2009. He was completed Surface Warfare Officer School and served for four years in that capacity, including tours in Japan and Bahrain. His research interests are primarily public policy and communications management. LT Brophy is currently awaiting admission to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey California, where he will seek an MS degree in Information Strategy and Political Warfare. He received a B.A. in Political Science, from the University of Connecticut.