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Army University, CGSC welcome new leader

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Brig. Gen. Scott Efflandt assumed responsibilities as the second provost of Army University and the deputy commandant of the Command and General Staff College in a ceremony Sept. 7 at Abrams Loop in front of the Lewis and Clark Center.

Efflandt follows Maj. Gen. John Kem, who departed in July to become commandant of the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

“What makes today’s ceremony special is not my appointment to duties as deputy commandant and provost — although I am very flattered by that honor,” Efflandt said. “No, what makes this event significant is what it demonstrates.”

“The work that goes on here (impacts) our nation,” Efflandt said. “I’m proud to have this day to mark the beginning of my role ... it’s very humbling.”

Kirby Brown, deputy to the Combined Arms Center commanding general, said Efflandt was the right officer for the job and arrived at the right time for Army University and CGSC.

“The Army University system has been developed in a relatively short period. It has been an interesting journey as we have taken on the mantle of a university as our primary way to train soldiers,” Brown said. “You (Efflandt) have about 800 Army professionals dedicated to making this the best university educational experience as you take the responsibility of transitioning both civilians and (soldiers) from a tactical focus into the operational and enterprise level.”

Brown said Army University was established in 2015 and will move under Efflandt’s leadership to develop military and civilian professionals to meet contemporary mission requirements. He said increasing the rigor of the Army’s educational programs through broader accreditation, promoting greater collaboration with the nation’s premier universities and colleges, and improving integration among Army schools was vital.

“General Kem had the distinction of establishing the start-up of the institution,” Brown said. “We are now in the middle stages of maturity.”

Brown said Efflandt will drive the university to maturity and is an excellent fit to lead the organization to accomplish its next mission phase. He said it was also unique to observe specific characteristics of the general officers selected to lead the major units and organizations at Fort Leavenworth.

“We get General (David) Perkins when we need to rewrite doctrine. We get General (Robert) Brown when we need to move into an understanding of human psychology. We get General (Michael) Lundy when we need to think about large-scale combat operations. Those are the macro things CAC pushes toward,” Brown said. “I just want to assure you that, once again, the Army has delivered to us another uniquely situated leader who is perfect for this job.”

Efflandt received an Army commission in 1985 from Marion Military Institute as a distinguished military graduate. For the next two years, he served as an infantry platoon leader with the 3rd Battalion, 130th Infantry in the Illinois Army National Guard. Upon receipt of a Regular Army commission in 1987, he assessed to active duty as an armor officer.

Efflandt’s operational assignments began with the 5th Battalion, 77th Armor (Steel Tigers) of the 8th Infantry Division in Mannheim, Germany, with occasional duty on the inter-German border. He served as tank platoon leader, support platoon leader, company executive officer and battalion maintenance officer.

Efflandt’s next operational assignment was with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment (Brave Rifles) at Fort Bliss, Texas. During this tour, he served in three squadrons as either an assistant S3, S3 and as the commander of B Troop (Bandit) 1st Squadron until he relinquished command at Fort Carson, Colo., in 1996.

As a field grade officer at Fort Hood, Texas, he completed three operational deployments to Iraq. While assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division, Efflandt worked as the executive officer of the 2-12 Cavalry (Thunderhorse), then the 2nd Brigade (Black Jack) serving as S3, XO and deputy brigade commander. He subsequently commanded 2-8 Cavalry (Stallions) and from 2010-12 commanded the 1st Brigade (Ironhorse).

Efflandt’s institutional and enterprise assignments include serving on the faculty of the U.S. Military Academy in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership, and faculty of Joint Operations at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I.



PHOTO/ PRUDENCE SIEBERT, FORT LEAVENWORTH LAMP

Incoming Army University Provost Brig. Gen. Scott Efflandt delivers remarks at his assumption of responsibility ceremony Sept. 7 on Abrams Loop. Efflandt is the second provost of Army University since its 2015 establishment. He replaces Maj. Gen. John Kem, who became the commandant of the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle Barracks, Pa., in July. Photo by Prudence Siebert/Fort Leavenworth Lamp

He served in the Army's Congressional Liaison Office in Washington D.C., and as the executive officer to the commanders of Training and Doctrine Command and Forces Command.

Efflandt's education consists of an associate's degree from Marion Military Institute, a bachelor of science in administration of justice from Southern Illinois University, master's in sociology from Texas A&M University, a master's of science in strategic studies from the Army War College, and continued graduate study at Salve Regina University.

Efflandt said he was excited to be back in the Fort Leavenworth community. He said his family anticipated the assignment would be rewarding.

"I can not think of a better place to be a soldier and a member of the Army team," Efflandt said. "For Ann and I, Fort Leavenworth has always held a special place in our lives."

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