

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST**



**Network Science Center  
at West Point**



**Advancing the Study of Network Science**

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**WPNP Holds 3rd Annual Negotiation Conference**

West Point Negotiation Project (WPNP) held its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Negotiation Conference, 'A Tactical Asset for Leaders' 29-30 March. More than 100 cadets and invited participants interacted with role-players as they learned negotiation skills, participated in actual exercises applying these new tactics, and then discussed outcomes of each scenario. Attendees broke into small groups and went through 3 exercises in the two day workshop and the results showed that there is more than one correct solution possible to each scenario. Class of 2013 Cadet Luke Hutchison, who was the cadet-in-charge of the conference last year, has attended all three years and said it gets better each year. He said, "I think it is unique in that it is very hands-on and focused on

able insights from BG McMaster, who spoke on "The Critical Importance of Negotiation and Mediation Skills in Contingency Operations: ISAF's Efforts to Address the Threat of Corruption and Organized Crime in Afghanistan"



The WPNP was established in early 2009 in response to feedback from West Point graduates who had taken a class called Negotiation for Leaders. These leaders reported finding the skills developed in the course to be of critical importance in their deployment experiences and requested greater access to resources and training for their units. Since its founding in 2009, the WPNP has conducted actionable research (including research on Negotiation-Motivated Social Network Analysis and Influence to Reduce and Deter Corruption), trained military units, assisted with development of negotiation doctrine and training resources, and hosted an annual conference for undergraduate students.

For more information on the West Point Negotiation Project see their website at: [http://www.dean.usma.edu/departments/bsl/programs/wpnp/about\\_directors.html](http://www.dean.usma.edu/departments/bsl/programs/wpnp/about_directors.html)



making better negotiators. We don't just talk about negotiation, we actually do it."

Former instructor and Co-founder of the WPNP, MAJ Aram Donigian, who is currently deployed in Afghanistan was able to follow the conference through Facebook which was updated throughout the conference by Cadet Doug Taylor, cadet-in-charge of the conference team this year. In addition to the hands on scenarios participants heard valu-

**6th Annual  
Network Science  
Workshop  
22-24 April  
See website for more  
information**

<http://www.netscience.usma.edu/>

**History and Network Science**

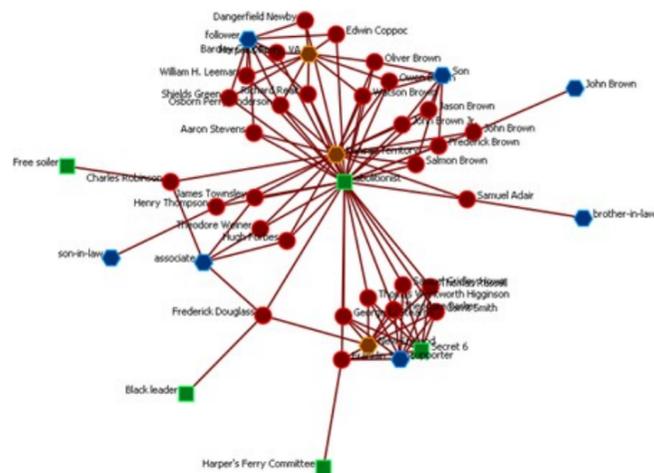
Written by Charles Thomas

Recently Charles Thomas and MAJ John Ringquist have been expanding the use of Network Science in the discipline of History. The two Network Science Center Research Fellows are also instructors in the History Department at West Point and have been using their research experience to bring a network centric point of view to history. Mr. Thomas and MAJ Ringquist have been building expansive networks of the civil-military structures out of archival data gathered within Tanzania. Since the creation of its modern military in 1964, Tanzania has not experienced significant internal turmoil, a major achievement in sub-Saharan Africa. Thomas and Ringquist have used network science to track the evolution of the network of relationships between the military and the government since 1964 until 1992 to explain this stability. The two scholars have been presenting this model which traces the civil-military structures at conferences around the world. They have presented their findings at such diverse locations as the Royal Military College in Canada to Rice University in Houston, TX. Most recently, Charles Thomas has presented their work at the International Network for Social Network Analysis' (INSNA) conference

Sunbelt XXII in Redondo Beach, CA and at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual University of Texas Africa Conference, "Poverty and Empowerment in Africa." The next step in their research is to take the individual networks that have been generated showing the growth in 1965, 1978-79, and 1992-93 and generate a full dynamic network to more fully explore the expansion of civil-military control in Tanzania.

MAJ Ringquist has also been working on a separate historical network project, tracking the associates of notable abolitionist John Brown through their service in the Civil-War. MAJ Ringquist

has pursued this unique project for some time, using archival data gathered from across the United States to construct the social network of Brown and then trace its evolution through the furnace of the Civil War. This construct has allowed us to more fully understand the dynamics at play within the abolitionist cause through the ordeal of Bloody Kansas and on into abolitionism's often overlooked role in prosecuting the war against the South. MAJ Ringquist presented this work at the conference "The Underground Railroad Turned on Its Head: Old Themes, New Directions" in Troy, NY.



**Social Networks:**



[Central Node](#)

**Important Dates:**

- 22-24 April—6th Annual Network Science Workshop
- 25 April—Dr. JoAnne Castagne's writing workshop for researchers
- 3 May—Project's Day

**Current Publications/Presentations:**

- Current articles are on NSC website under Publications or linked below:
- [State Stability and Economic Development in Africa: Historical Analysis of a Social Network](#)
- [Fast and Deterministic Method for Mean Time to Fixation in Evolutionary Graphs](#)

