



MSEE

MATERIALS SCIENCE IN
EXTREME ENVIRONMENTS
UNIVERSITY RESEARCH ALLIANCE



Professional Development Seminar Series with Randy Manner

Major General, Army (ret.) and former Acting
and Deputy Director of DTRA

June 11, 2024 | 5:00-6:30 PM | at the ATR

We are proud to offer a tremendous opportunity for professional development to the MSEE community. Randy Manner is a retired Army general and former Acting and Deputy Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. Having served in many leadership roles in the Department of Defense, he has a unique perspective on the skills and habits that can contribute to successful careers.

General Manner has agreed to lead a Professional Development Seminar series for MSEE students and post-docs. The series will kick-off with an in-person meeting on the first day of the 2024 Annual Technical Review, and will continue with remote meetings every other month. Some of the topics to be covered include

- Making the transition from being a student to being a team member, and then a leader
- Influencing technical and financial decision-makers through effective communication
- Increasing the impact of your research by learning how to connect it to the mission of the agency
- How to market yourself as your career evolves
- Benefits and challenges of careers in the Department of Defense

Additional topics will be added with student input as the seminar series evolves.

This is a unique opportunity for students and post-docs to interact closely with a talented and experienced leader. We strongly encourage all MSEE students and post-docs to take advantage of it.

Bio: Major General Manner served our nation for over three decades in a variety of roles. Prior to retiring from the Army, he served as the Deputy Commanding General of the U.S. 3rd Army in Kuwait, as the Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and as the Acting and Deputy Director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. He facilitated the withdrawal of US forces from Iraq in 2010, helped neutralize chemical weapons in Russia, oversaw investments in biological prophylactic research on deadly pathogens, and helped coordinate military emergency response support during natural disasters. He also was responsible for red-teaming critical DoD systems and facilities against cyber and physical attacks. General Manner serves on the advisory boards of several companies and non-profit organizations, and is active as a career mentor and coach. He earned his B.S. in Computer Science from Penn State, an M.B.A. from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and post-graduate Certificates in International Security Policy from the Fletcher School of International Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and in Leadership Coaching from Georgetown University.



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