

The Peace Operations Policy Program of the School of Public Policy, George Mason University is proud to present the following in its “Peace and Stability Operations Colloquium Series” of events:

The ACOTA Peacekeeper Training Program in Africa: Past, Present, and Future

Date:

Wednesday, 28 November 2007

Time:

1:00 PM-3:30 PM

Location:

George Mason University
3401 Fairfax Drive, Room 317
Arlington, Virginia 22201
(Virginia Sq/GMU Metro station)
<http://coyote.gmu.edu/map/arling.html>

Speaker:

Chip Beck, U.S. Department of State

Since July 2005, Chip Beck has been the Program and Policy Coordinator for the U.S. Department of State’s Africa Contingency Operations Training & Assistance (ACOTA) program. ACOTA is a \$50 million (FY 2008) peacekeeping training program for African troop contributing countries that support United Nations and African Union operations on the African continent in such places as Darfur, southern Sudan, Somalia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and elsewhere. Since 1997, ACOTA has grown from a small, but determined reaction to assist conflict transformation in the wake of the Rwanda genocide, to a growing and effective program that now includes 22 partner countries and two regional organizations. Beck will explain the trends, vision, strategy, and successes behind the ACOTA program and its plans for an ambitious future with its African partners. He has 40 years combined government and military service spanning the period from the Indochina War to the more recent war in Iraq. Beck has served in approximately 20 conflict zones during that period, including nearly seven years in Africa where he has visited, lived, or worked in 40 of the continent’s countries. He has a master’s degree in Middle Eastern Studies from The George Washington University and is currently working on his doctorate in Organizational Leadership.

Host:

Robert W. “Bill” Farrand, Amb. (Ret.)
Peace Operations Policy Program, GMU

RSVP: Please contact Dr. Allison Frendak at 703.993.4983 or <afrendak@gmu.edu>