Our History

The Air Force Negotiation Center (AFNC) was established by the Air Force General Counsel and Air University to educate and train Airmen (enlisted, officers, and civilians) concerning Interest-Based Negotiation (IBN) as an enterprise activity. The original objective has evolved based on feedback from Airmen regarding AFNC’s value and positive impact on the force. To accomplish this expanding applied art-and-science mission, the AFNC employs a learner-centric continuum-of-learning, integrating experience, education, and training. AFNC products are delivered face-to-face as well as on-line. Additionally, the AFNC custom designs Conflict Management and Transformation curricula to address specific needs of the audience/customer.

Faculty

Thomas G. Matyók, Ph.D.  
Director, Associate Professor  
Conflict Analysis & Resolution

Mr. Paul J. Firman  
Dispute Resolution Education & Training

Mr. Richard P. Barbour  
Professional Continuing Education

Mr. William F. McClurg  
Training

Leaders...  
in Negotiation, Dispute Resolution & Conflict Transformation  
Educating and Training across the DoD
**MISSION**
Develop negotiation capability as a critical, engaged-leadership competency across the DoD.

**VISION**
Be the premier DoD research and education activity regarding conflict transformation, negotiation, mediation, and dispute resolution.

**OUR GOAL**
Establish the organization as a recognizable name in education and training, theories and practice, outreach, and research as it pertains to Conflict Transformation as an Engaged-Leadership, Force Development activity, while also continuing to provide high quality, contextualized, and relevant courses and seminars.

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**ARENAS OF PRAXIS**

**Professional Military Education (PME)**

PME courses are offered at the Airman Leadership School, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Chief Master Sergeant Leadership Course, Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, Air War College and Army War College.

**Professional Continuing Education (PCE)**

PCE and technical training are critical components preparing tomorrow’s Airmen and DoD personnel to meet the challenges of a volatile and dynamic world. PCE courses are mainly taught in the Eaker Center for Professional Development. It is composed of four primary schools: Commanders’ Professional Development School, USAF Chaplain Corps College, Defense Financial Management and Comptroller School, and the AF Personnel Professional Development School.

**Dispute Resolution (DR)**

Dispute Resolution encompasses many different means to transform conflict. The AFNC is committed to providing training, education and information regarding mediation and facilitation; specifically how these skills may be used in the workplace.

**Consulting/Coaching/Facilitation**

The Air Force Negotiation Center offers advice on facilitative processes for small decision meetings and larger summit discussions. This service includes assistance with setting agendas, organization, introducing facilitation processes, and advice for determining agreement specifics. AFNC personnel will work with key staff members for effective planning as well as involvement in the execution phase.

**Training**

As the Air Force Negotiation Center mission has evolved in the last decade and as additional resources have been made available, the center has been able to respond to the many requests for application-level training beyond the walls of Air University. The training is full spectrum, including Subject Matter Expert support to establish programs, curriculum documentation, faculty development and guest speaker guided discussions with practical exercises.

**Dispute Resolution Systems Design (DRSD)**

The Air Force Negotiation Center can assist your organization with a Dispute Resolution Systems Design. A DRSD will evaluate how conflicts are transformed in your organization and recommend improvement paths, implementation, continuous improvement plans, and a methodology on how to evaluate the new processes.