The Lint Center for National Security Studies is “dedicated to fostering the educational development of the next generation of America’s Counterintelligence and National Security Workers”.\textsuperscript{1} Achieving this mission begins with comprehending the differences between our global village’s peculiar neighborhoods.

Understanding the US is the indispensable prerequisite for the next generation to deal with issues of national security and counterintelligence. Necessarily, the way future practitioners deal with cross-cultural studies and global understanding, follows from how they comprehend what America itself is about, and generally their convictions regarding how the country ought to relate to the rest of the world. The way in which professors and books present international relations not only reflects their understanding of our country implicitly, but it also perpetuates a lens through which students comprehend the same as well. But because no curriculum teaches American history or institutions explicitly, it is prudent for individuals to read about and to understand the US independently; this type of methodology is historically known as \textit{ad fontes}.

The wisdom imbibed from the fount of history will teach ancient lessons of cratered civilizations -- Athens and Rome for instance -- and underscore the incorrigible imperfection of human nature which leads to tyranny and terror like unto that of Alexander or Alcibiadian, Caesar and Cromwell. Retrogressing, or moving back towards the origin, ideally makes looking at the present situation exceedingly more clear.

The Lint Center stimulates an \textit{ad fontes} orientation to the education of the next generation because it promotes original research and writing on Counterintelligence, International Relations, National Security and related topics. Moreover, the Lint Center seeks to incent original scholarship from up-and-coming national security students and budding professionals. Originality is creativity inspired by immersion in the literature. Through awarding scholarships, the Lint Center encourages the manufacture of novel theses built in a rigorous, precise way; such manuscripts are expected to lead to an immediate and fundamental paradigm shift in the field. The Lint Center motivates the creation of new knowledge in the discipline, as well as in interdisciplinary areas, which serves to develop groundbreaking solutions to our society’s most pressing emerging and indigenous national security problems. Noteworthy original manuscripts submitted by contributors to the Lint Center emerge from small gaps within saturated research areas or as fresh interpretations and applications of classic ideas. In short, Lint Center scholar’s ideas become “the fountains” to which future students and workers in the field will go to find solutions and base yet additional scholarship on.

The Lint Center’s mission to award merit-based scholarships serves as a platform to build current strengths and achieve additional areas of targeted academic excellence. Moreover the Lint Center seeks to invest in the precious next generation promoting vitally important careers in

intelligence through awarding funds for continued studies. This rewarding selective spheres of research, demonstrates the initiative and high potential of the Lint Center to encourage solutions to critical national security conundrums. In this way, the Lint Center is operating to develop a promising operational in-house Think-Tank.

The Lint Center’s extramural research program is vital to support scholar training in Intelligence and creates new directions for academic engagement. Through the commitment to interdisciplinary research and scholarship, the Lint Center aims to foster exciting intellectual endeavors and creative problem solving on issues of defense, policy and other foreign affairs matters. By being keenly aware of the need to be careful stewards of resources, the Lint Center helps budding scholars to reach hearts and minds, challenge preconceived notions, and generate new ideas to address issues of critical importance in our nation and around the globe.

In addition to promoting original contributions to the existing body of knowledge and helping to fund the education of matriculating Intelligence-oriented students, the Lint Center also works to “ensure the next generation has the tools to better the field”. By actively establishing partnership with other organizations bent on working to elevate the National Security studies discipline, the Lint Center engages and transfers institutional knowledge from the “old guard” to advance the careers of the next generation of Intelligence workers. The breadth of the Lint Center community undoubtedly affords unprecedented openings for scholarship winners to learn and to grow in the direction of their professional interests.

For example, the Lint Center provides experienced mentors in the Intelligence field to scholarship winners. This service connects emerging leaders to active professionals and unites incipient talent with established leaders to offer mentorship opportunities to applicants. Such collaboration allows opportunities for scholarship recipients to network within their respective fields and learn from hundreds of skillful specialists. The mentor program can provide passionate individuals with the feedback, context, and contacts to expedite their development as well as streamline their learning curve.

The Lint Center should be proud that their highest-ranked areas of strategic investment highlight exciting and bold disciplinary research initiatives and the burgeoning young scholars who are preparing to take on the vitally important work of National Security. The importance of such an endeavor will only increase as the challenges this nation faces become more complex.

---