Assessing the State of China’s Defense Science, Technology, and Innovation Capabilities

Pacific Operational Science & Technology Conference
Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu
March 7, 2013

Agenda

This workshop provides a broad overview of the current state of China’s growing defense technological and innovation transformation in the aftermath of leadership adjustments to the country’s approach to innovation strategy and the 18th Communist Party Congress. This workshop draws upon the expertise of the DOD-funded Minerva Project on the Study of Innovation and Technology in China and bringing together leading China and strategic studies scholars.

Agenda

8:00-8:15 am  Introductory Remarks

8:15-9:45 am  Explaining China’s Defense Science, Technology, and Innovation Capabilities in the Early 2010s: Strengths, Weaknesses, and a Transitional Quagmire? (Tai Ming Cheung)

10:00 – 11:45 am  Sector-by-Sector Analysis of the Current State of the Chinese Defense Industry and Review of Key S&T Projects (Kevin Pollpeter and Hanlu Lu)

11:45 am -1:00 pm  Lunch

1:00-2:30 pm  The Chinese Defense Research, Development, and Acquisition System (Maggie Marcum and Tai Ming Cheung)

2:45-4:00 pm  Panel Discussion on Implications for the U.S. and the Asia-Pacific Region (Tai Ming Cheung, Kevin Pollpeter, Maggie Marcum)
Bios

Tai Ming CHEUNG is director of the UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation (IGCC). He manages IGCC’s Northeast Asia Cooperation Dialogue (NEACD), a Track Two program that brings together senior foreign ministry and defense officials as well as academics from the United States, China, Japan, South Korea, North Korea, and Russia for informed discussions on regional security issues. He also oversees the Institute’s Project on the Study of Innovation and Technology in China (SITC).

Cheung serves as an associate professor in residence at the School of International Relations and Pacific Studies at UC San Diego and is a long-time analyst of Chinese and East Asian defense and national security affairs. He was based in Asia from the mid-1980s to 2002 covering political, economic, and strategic developments in greater China. He was also a journalist and political and business risk consultant in northeast Asia.


Hanlu LU is a research analyst for IGCC’s Project on the Study of Innovation and Technology in China (SITC). She is responsible for conducting research on issues related to the contemporary Chinese science and technology policy, with a special emphasis on national security, trade, and political economy. Lu also manages SITC’s Chinese-language resources and databases and provides work direction to SITC’s graduate student research team. She holds a Master of Pacific and International Affairs (MPIA) degree from the University of California, San Diego.

Maggie MARCUM is recognized as an expert on defense industrial programs, focusing on analytic models to assess research, development, and acquisition (RDA) strategies for weapons development—specializing in China. Marcum served as CIA’s lead all-source analyst on global defense S&T, having developed and led a program of analysis for RDA processes. She has led research efforts with international and national experts, providing a forum for collaboration on S&T advances. Marcum recently retired from the CIA and is preparing long-term studies on foreign innovation and systems that support future technology and weapons programs.
Kevin POLLPETER is deputy director of IGCC’s Project on the Study of Innovation and Technology in China (SITC). Prior to working at IGCC, Pollpeter was the China Program manager at Defense Group Inc. (DGI) and an analyst at RAND. Mr. Pollpeter’s research focuses on China military and Chinese military-related research and development and science and technology issues. In particular, he focuses on the Chinese space program.

Pollpeter has authored or coauthored numerous publications on the Chinese military and national security issues. His space-related publications include a monograph entitled *Building for the Future: China’s Progress in Space Technology During the Tenth Five-year Plan and the U.S. Response* and a book chapter entitled “The Chinese Vision of Space Military Operations.” He has also written frequently for *China Brief*. Pollpeter has also coauthored many works, including *Dangerous Thresholds: Managing Escalation in the 21st Century* and *Entering the Dragon’s Lair: Chinese Anti-access Strategies and Their Implications for the United States*.

Pollpeter received his master’s degree in international policy studies from the Monterey Institute of International Studies and his bachelor’s degree in China studies from Grinnell College.