

Symposium on the All-Volunteer Force
April 28, 2016

When the United States ended the draft and moved to an all-volunteer military in 1973, most political and military leaders assumed that if the United States again fought a major, long-lasting war the nation would reactivate the draft. But that didn't happen: the U.S. fought the long and costly wars in Iraq and Afghanistan with an all-volunteer force (AVF), even as service members were deployed for three and even four tours of duty. It is now the right time, in the wake of these wars, to evaluate the AVF. How well has it worked? Will it work in the future?

On Thursday, April 28, 2016, CSM will welcome military and policy experts to a day-long symposium on the United States Military and the All-Volunteer Force.

Key national policy makers, former government officials, military officers, and scholars who have drawn different conclusions about the relative successes and failures of the AVF will engage in a frank conversation about a critical piece of our national defense.

The evening panel, a "public conversation" at KU's Alumni Center, will feature Karl Eikenberry, former U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan; Lawrence Korb, former Assistant Secretary of Defense under President Reagan; Bernard Rostker, former director of the Selective Service and Undersecretary of Defense; and Major General (Ret.) Dennis Laich. Prof. Beth Bailey, KU Foundation Distinguished Professor and director of the center, will moderate the panel.

During the day of April 28th, experts will lead four workshops, asking:

- Is the AVF fair?
- Is it efficient and sustainable?
- Does it promote militarism, and how well does it provide for the national defense?
- What are alternatives to the AVF?

Admission to the workshops and the panel is free and the public is welcome. Please register if you plan to attend the daytime sessions. Lunch will be provided.

A full schedule of events follows.

For more information, contact Foundation Professor Beth Bailey at blbailey@ku.edu.

Symposium on the All-Volunteer Force

Sponsored by CSM (Center for the Study of the U.S. Military), University of Kansas

April 28, 2016

All events are free and open to the public. Please register if you wish to attend the daytime sessions; lunch will be provided.

Daytime Sessions, Centennial Room, KU Union

8:30 Coffee

8:45 Welcome and Introductions

9:00 – 10:30

Session 1: Is the AVF fair?

Robert Patrick "Rocky" Bleier, Vietnam draftee,
former halfback for the Pittsburgh Steelers

Leonard Wong, Research Professor of Military Strategy,
Strategic Studies Institute, US Army War College

Jason Dempsey, Adjunct Senior Fellow, Center for a New American Security (CNAS);
author of *Our Army: Soldiers, Politics, and American Civil-Military Relations*

10:45—12:15

Session 2: Is the AVF efficient and sustainable?

Lawrence J. Korb, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress,
former Assistant Secretary for Defense

James M. "Mike" Young, PhD, Command Historian,
Air Force Technical Applications Center

Bruce E. Stanley, School of Advanced Military Studies,
U.S. Army Command and General Staff College; author of *Outsourcing Security*

12:15—13:15

LUNCH (provided for those who register)

13:15—14:45

Session 3: Militarism and National Security

Lawrence B. "Larry" Wilkerson, Distinguished Visiting Professor, College of William
and Mary; former Chief of Staff to Secretary of State Colin Powell; Colonel,
U.S. Army (Ret.)

Adrian Lewis, Professor of History,
University of Kansas; author of *The American Culture of War*

15:00—16:30

Session 4: Alternatives To A Volunteer Force

Dennis Laich, Executive Director, AVF Forum; author of *Skin in the Game: Poor Kids and Patriots*; Major General, US Army Reserve (Ret.)

Timothy "Tim" Kane, Research Fellow, Hoover Institution;
author of *Bleeding Talent*.

Jay Mangone, Executive Director of the Aspen Institute's Franklin Project, soon to be merged with the organization known as "Be The Change" (or other representative from this group).

Public Conversation on the All-Volunteer Force

6 - 7:30 pm

Summerfield Room, University of Kansas Alumni Center

Moderator:

Beth Bailey, KU Foundation Distinguished Professor and Director, CSM

Panelists:

Lawrence J. Korb, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress,
former Assistant Secretary for Defense

Dennis Laich, Executive Director, AVF Forum;
Major General, US Army Reserve (Ret.)

Bernard Rostker, Senior Fellow, RAND Corporation,
former Undersecretary of Defense; former Director of Selective Service

Lawrence B. "Larry" Wilkerson, Distinguished Visiting Professor, College of William
and Mary; former Chief of Staff to Secretary of State Colin Powell; Colonel,
U.S. Army (Ret.)