THE ERIK S. KRISTENSEN MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2017

ANGELO CODEVILLA, PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY, FORMER U.S. NAVY OFFICER, FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, AND STAFF MEMBER OF THE SENTATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE TO DELIVER THE 2017 ERIK S. KRISTENSEN MEMORIAL LECTURE.

Angelo Codevilla will deliver a lecture entitled, *On the Natural Law of War and Peace* on Wednesday, April 19th 2017 at 8pm in the Francis Scott Key Auditorium at St. John's College, Annapolis, MD. The lecture is free and open to the public. Codevilla is professor emeritus of international relations at Boston University. He studied philosophy and received a Ph.D. under Leo Strauss and Harry Jaffa at Claremont. He served as a naval officer and as a US Foreign Service officer. Between 1977 and 1985 he was on the staff of the Senate Intelligence Committee, was instrumental in developing programs for missile defense, and served on President Reagan's transition teams for the State Department and the Intelligence Community. He was a senior research fellow at Stanford's Hoover Institution, and is the author of thirteen books. Codevilla's books and articles are about the nature of regimes, as well as of war and peace. *The Character of Nations* shows how peoples shape their character by how they govern themselves. *War Ends and Means* is about just that. Ad*vice to War Presidents* explains the instruments of power. *Informing Statecraft* defines the functions of intelligence and examines its role in statecraft. *The Ruling Class* is about today's American regime. *Machiavelli's Prince* translates the classic of linguistic manipulation. His newest book, *To Make and Keep Peace*, shows how American statecraft's loss of focus on our peace engenders dysfunction at home and abroad. His articles have appeared in journals from *Foreign Affairs* and *The National Interest* to *The Claremont Review of Books*, and his op-eds in the *Times* and *Journal*, abroad, and on line.

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THE ERIK S. KRISTENSEN MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES

The Erik S. Kristensen Lecture Series has been held once a year at St. John's College, Annapolis MD since 2013 to honor the memory of this alumnus of St. Johns & the Naval Academy. The lectures deal with one or more of the following subjects: civil-military relations, great works of military or naval history or literary works depicting military or naval figures and events, the vital importance of naval and military power for our nation in peacetime and in war and the role of the liberal arts in professional military education.

Lieutenant Commander Erik S. Kristensen, USN, was born 15 March 1972. He attended Gonzaga College High School and Phillips Andover Academy and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1995. He served as a Surface Warfare Officer and as an English Instructor at the Academy while attending the Graduate Institute at St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland. He completed Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training in Coronado, California, where he graduated with BUD/S class 233. He served with SEAL Team EIGHT and then deployed as a Task Unit Commander with SEAL Team TEN to Afghanistan to support the Naval Special Warfare community's prosecution of the Global War on Terrorism. On June 28, 2005, LCDR Kristensen led a daring mission to rescue a four-man SEAL reconnaissance squad engaged in a fierce firefight with overwhelming Taliban forces in the rugged mountains of Afghanistan. LCDR Kristensen, seven other SEALs, and eight Army aviators died when their helicopter was shot down by a rocket-propelled grenade. LT Michael Murphy, Petty Officers Matthew Axelson, Danny Dietz and Marcus Luttrell fought on courageously, against overwhelming Taliban forces. Only Petty Officer Luttrell survived. The 2007 book and 2013 film *Lone Survivor* tell their story.

He had a great love of the arts and literature. He spoke French, and planned to study at the Institute of Political Studies in Paris after his tour in Afghanistan as an Olmstead Scholar. He is survived by his father Edward K. Kristensen, RADM, USN (Ret.) and his mother Suzanne Kristensen.

The lecture series was founded by LT Michael A. Zampella USN, a Navy Reserve officer and a 1992 graduate of St. John's College, Annapolis, MD. All inquiries concerning the lecture should be directed to him at mzampella@mac.com

KRISTENSEN MEMORIAL LECTURES AVAILABLE ON ST. JOHN'S LIBRARY WEBSITE

A recording of prior lectures can be listened to at:
http://www.sjc.edu/academic-programs/libraries/greenfield-library/

2016 Seth Cropsey, *Patriotism in the 21st Century*
2015 Jonathan Shay, *Homer on Military Leadership*
2014 Bing West, *Lessons from a Decade of Frustrating War*
2013 Ralph Peters, *The Price of Historical Illiteracy: Wishful Thinking and the Death of Strategy*

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ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE AND THE MILITARY

St. John's has a long tradition of involvement with the military. It was founded with a general program of study in the liberal arts, but St. John's was a military school for much of the late 19th century and early 20th century. It ended compulsory military training with St. John's alumnus Major Enoch Garey's accession as president in 1923, so students could concentrate on getting a bachelor's degree. He replaced the cadet corps with a voluntary ROTC program established to supply officers with a broader range of experience than was in those days available at military colleges. In September 1924 Garey brought the nation's first Naval Reserve program to St. John's as a pilot program to test the scheme for the Navy, (The US Naval Academy in Annapolis would not begin issuing bachelor's degrees until 1933). Program graduates were appointed as ensigns in the Naval Reserve. This initial program's success was enough to convince the Navy to establish six full-scale NROTC programs at Northwestern, Harvard, Yale, UC Berkeley, the University of Washington and Georgia Institute of Technology in 1926. But despite St. John's successfully pioneering the entire NROTC movement, student interest waned, the voluntary ROTC disappeared in 1926 with Garey's departure, and the Naval Reserve unit followed by 1929.

A good number of St. John's students are among the veterans of the wars of the past century and over the years, some Johnnies have persued military careers after graduation. The College has always welcomed Active Duty members and veterans as students, both in its undergraduate program and in the Graduate Institute. Today, St. John's provides the maximum financial support possible under the Yellow Ribbon Program, a federal educational assistance program available to post-9/11 active duty veterans and their dependents. Between funding from the Veterans Administration and grants from St. John's, all tuition and fees are covered for these students. Several students are enrolled under this program, and its financial commitment to this program over the last few years is among the highest in the state of Maryland, despite its small size.

The Great Books program which forms the core of the education at the College developed during World War One. Many scholars and politicians believed that the horrors of the war had threatened the West's core beliefs and made urgent the task of educating Americans about the ideals on which Western Civilization had been constructed. The federal government encouraged colleges and universities to begin "war-issues courses" for the student soldiers headed overseas. John Erskine, a brilliant Columbia professor used this course to advance his own inter-disciplinary approach to education using classic texts from the Western Canon. The end of the hostilities found him at the American University in Beaune, France organizing Great Books courses for soldiers waiting to return stateside. Erskine's experiences seeing how these soldiers read these books so directly and enthusiastically, confirmed for him his belief in this way of teaching learning. He returned to Columbia and established a variation on the Great Books program that still exists today. It was imitated and refined at University of Chicago and the University of Virginia, before being established as the sole curriculum by Scott Buchanan and Stringfellow Barr at St. John's in 1937.

10th ANNUAL ERIK S. KRISTENSEN EYE STREET KLASSIC GOLF OUTING, MAY 5th 2016

The Erik S. Kristensen Eye Street Klassic was organized by family and friends of Gonzaga alumnus LCDR Kristensen. They invite golfers, volunteers, sponsors, family and friends to celebrate Erik's life and assist the sons of active duty military personnel to afford a Gonzaga education. More information can be found at:

http://kristensenklassic.com/

Only the dead have seen the end of war

GEORGE SANTAYANA

To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace

GEORGE WASHINGTON