

## **Integrated Operations Training Branch (IOTB) Launches *JSOU Press***

The SAIC team supporting Joint Special Operations University at Hurlburt Field, Florida, was recently recognized for their work developing, launching, and maturing the *JSOU Press*. This series of professional publications has become an acknowledged forum for strategic ideas of importance to the international special operations community. The SAIC team has taken the idea and turned it into a proud reality.

SAIC manages three types of authors in support of *JSOU Press*. The first are part-time Senior Fellows, a group of SAIC consulting employees. JSOU's Senior Fellows are recognized experts in the academic and special operations community, with outstanding credentials and a proven track record of research and publication. Each year these Senior Fellows provide their research and publication proposals to JSOU, which are then vetted through United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) to ensure they address the command's priorities. These funded research Fellows provide about half of the *JSOU Press* publications each year.

The second category of authors JSOU supports are the students at military staff colleges and war colleges who have been given a year by their Services to study, think, and write about professional issues. JSOU will sponsor some of these students' research travel and will facilitate the students' research, especially as they research case studies, lessons learned, and senior leader perspectives. When invited by the host staff college or war college, JSOU resident faculty take an active role as study directors or as mentors.

The third class of authors researching and writing for JSOU and USSOCOM are the Associate Fellows. These authors are comprised of individuals who may have a full-time job or have limited time for research and writing, but want to stay connected to special operations and have an issue they wish to raise in an academic setting.

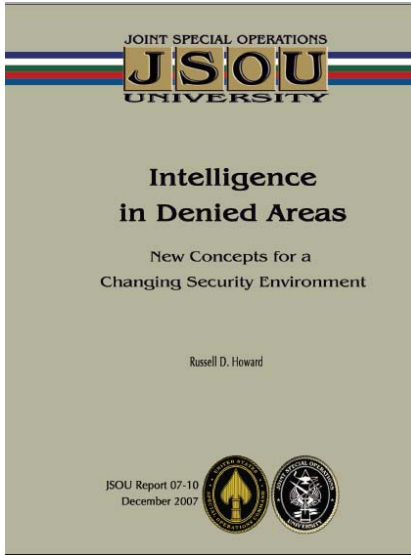
JSOU resident Senior Fellows Bill Mendel, Ken Poole, and Bill Wildrick provide editorial direction over research content. This core group of SAIC *JSOU Press* works with all three categories of prospective authors to ensure their submissions address issues of importance to the command. This group also provides the first check for operational security (OPSEC). Lisa Chandler completes the team as managing editor for JSOU's series of publications. After obtaining the initial review of the resident Senior Fellows and one or two other Editorial Advisory Board members, she coordinates with each



Lisa Chandler and Bill Mendel discussing a *JSOU Press* production

author to acquire photographs/graphics and to finalize her edit, ensures quality layout and coordination with JSOU, and otherwise oversees the publication process that includes USSOCOM Public Affairs approval and receipt of printer copies for distribution. As a whole, all SAIC employees involved with *JSOU Press* are dedicated to maintaining the timely production of scholarly monographs.

An additional member of IOTB's JSOU team, Pete DeTonnancourt, takes every finished and released JSOU publication and posts them to the Joint Special Operations University's public Web site, <https://jsoupublic.socom.mil/publications>. This site is



completely open to the public and allows for the free distribution and discussion of ideas and issues of importance to USSOCOM.

The IOTB team has been working closely with their customer and is on the verge of taking the *JSOU Press* to the next level. Within the next 18 – 24 months, they and their customer are hoping to launch a regular professional journal, going beyond the 10 – 12 monographs each year and providing a forum for more timely discussions and shorter, article-length papers.

*JSOU Press* publications and their authors regularly find themselves in the classrooms supporting JSOU's educational mission. Many of the publications end up being texts for classes taught in the Services' staff colleges and war colleges, and the authors are likewise invited to lead graduate-level seminars related to their work.

Another premier forum for the authors and their publications is the Regional Special Operations Combating Terrorism (SOCbT) Fellowship Program. In this program, the authors support JSOU, the theater commanders, and the Department of State by leading academic seminars aimed at fostering collaboration and idea sharing among regional partners.

In three short years, *JSOU Press* has gone from a good idea to reality. The SAIC team at Joint Special Operations University, made up of full-time and consulting employees,

has exceeded all customer expectations. The future is exciting and SAIC's JSOU team is preparing for the day when they launch the first special operations journal.



IOTB/JSOU part-time Senior Fellow, Russ Howard, discusses collaborative security issues with strategic regional partners during Special Operations Command Europe's West Africa Regional Internal Security Symposium. The symposium was a joint SOCEUR & Kofi Anan International Peacekeeping Training Center event, held in Accra, Ghana, September 2007.