The Doolittle Leadership Center

Concept Outline

The Vision: A world class, state-of-the-art, collaboration and professional and leadership development facility in which U.S. and partner military, government, industry, academic. Civic, and AFA leader professionals can:

- Engage in relevant historical and contemporary discussions of global, regional, and national airpower, space, and cyber doctrine and policy
- Promote closer international cooperation among U.S. and partner-nation government, military, industrial, and academic leaders
- Develop professionally through structured and free-form seminars, symposia, wargames, and similar events in which proven and prospective leaders can explore and discuss growing and improving aerospace and cyber workforces in U.S. and partner nations

The Facility:

- To be constructed in projected available un-leased space at the Air Force Association’s Doolittle Building, 1501 Lee Highway, Arlington, Virginia and will include:
  - The Mitchell Collaboration Suite with 50 tiered fully local- and wide-area networked workstations configured to optimally facilitate real time interactive gaming and dialog as well as a high resolution “jumbo” master display to facilitate engagement with groups at similar facilities in other geographic locations, two electronic whiteboards for local and remote instruction and interaction, high definition multi-point video teleconferencing capabilities, and high definition multimedia theater functionality
  - The Rickenbacker, Arnold, James, Olds, LeMay, and Levitow Collaboration Suites, each with 12 networked workstations, a large multimedia display, and an electronic whiteboard
  - The Yeager Technology Suite, an area in which virtual reality and other state-of-the-art decision-making and collaboration tools can be demonstrated
  - The Bud Day Research and Study Suite configured with 20 sound-isolated research and study stations; capable of hosting wargames up to SECRET classification level
  - The Douhet Hospitality Suite, configured to host small U.S. and international groups for catered breakfasts, luncheons, dinners, etc.
One director and three administrative support offices
A kitchen area
Will be provisioned with broadband connectivity to facilitate research and high quality remote collaboration
Could be designed and constructed with features and characteristics to facilitate later designation of some of all of the Center as a sensitive compartmented information facility

Uses:

- Airman professional and leadership development events
- Airman/industry career progression and transition events
- Industry professional and leadership development events
- Industry recruitment events focused on Airmen
- Industry and government wargaming and simulation exercises
- Facilitated and un-facilitated bilateral industry/government discussions
- Breakfasts and other events hosted by AFA’s Mitchell Institute
- Bilateral and multilateral discussions among U.S. military, U.S. government, and U.S. industry
- Bilateral and multilateral discussions between and among U.S. international partner and U.S. industry and U.S. government and military representatives
- As a highly capable and high-fidelity video teleconferencing facility

AFA Business Case Factors:

- The effort will require substantial startup capital expense, potentially fulfilled through a significant named sponsorship
- Operating expenses can be met or supplemented through sponsorship, selective collection of user fees, VTC rental, sale of sponsorship of events and technology demonstrations, etc.
- Some cost offset may be realized through AFA use of the facility for AFA events which it now hosts (and pays for) at other facilities

Initial Steps:

- Conduct an in-house high-level feasibility assessment with AFA government and industry partners to gauge potential interest in facility use
- Identify potential capitalization models and assess potential donors and sponsors who may be interested in naming rights
- Assess floor area space requirements and identify a target location in the Doolittle Building
- Identify the cost of and working funds required to support a preliminary architectural study to include regulatory and structural considerations