

# 2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Visitors for the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation

Report Run Date: 08/02/2025 08:01:32 AM

<b>1. Department or Agency</b>		<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>	
Department of Defense		2025	
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>		<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>	
Board of Visitors for the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation		12170	
<b>4. Is this New Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	07/31/2023	07/31/2025	
<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>		<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
No			
<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>	
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
<b>11. Establishment Authority</b> Statutory (Congress Created)			
<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
10 U.S.C. 343	01/20/2017	Continuing	No
<b>15. Description of Committee</b> Non Scientific Program Advisory Board			
<b>16a. Total Number of Reports</b>	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
<b>17a. Open</b>	<b>17b. Closed</b>	<b>17c. Partially Closed</b>	<b>17d. Total</b>
0	0	0	0
<b>Meetings and Dates</b>			
No Meetings			

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18e. Total Costs</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The Board provides the Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Defense, through the Secretary of the Army, with independent advice and recommendations on matters pertaining to the operations and management of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (“the Institute”). The Board shall: a. Inquire into the

curriculum, instruction, physical equipment, fiscal affairs, and academic methods of the Institute; other matters relating to the Institute that the Board decides to consider; and any other matter that the Secretary of Defense determines appropriate (10 U.S.C. § 343(e)(4)(A)); b. Review the curriculum to determine whether it complies with applicable U.S. laws and regulations, is consistent with U.S. policy goals toward Latin America and the Caribbean, and adheres to current U.S. doctrine (10 U.S.C. §§ 343(e)(4)(B)(i)-(iii)); and c. Determine whether the instruction under the curriculum of the Institute appropriately emphasizes human rights, the rule of law, due process, civilian control of the military, and the role of the military in a democratic society (10 U.S.C. §§ 343 (d)(1) and (e)(4)(B)(iv)). The Board will, not later than 60 days after its annual meeting, submit to the Secretary of Defense a written report of its activities, views, and recommendations pertaining to the Institute (10 U.S.C. § 343(e)(5)).

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

Membership is prescribed in the statute, but for those appointed by the Secretary of Defense, academics and representatives from the religious and human rights communities will be represented, to the extent practicable. The Board will be composed of 14 members, 6 of whom are designated by the Secretary of Defense including, to the extent practicable, persons from academia, religious, and human rights communities. The Secretary of Defense will also affirm the appointments, designated in statute, of the senior military officer responsible for training and doctrine in the U.S. Army (or designee) and the Commanders of the Combatant Commands with

geographic responsibility for the Western Hemisphere (U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command) (or the designees of those officers). The Board will also be composed of: a. Two Members of the Senate (the Chair and Ranking Member of the Armed Services Committee or a designee of either of them); b. Two Members of the House of Representatives (the Chair and Ranking Member of the Armed Services Committee or a designee of either of them); and c. One person designated by the Secretary of State. (10 U.S.C. § 343(e)(1)(D))

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The estimated number of Board meetings is at least one per year pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 343 (e)(3).

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

Committee is mandated by law under 10 U.S.C. 343.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

Meetings are not closed to the public unless the Department of Defense determines that items on the planned agenda meet the closed meeting provisions of 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c). Pursuant to DoD Policy, closed meetings can only be authorized by the DoD Sponsor, the Secretary of the Army or designee, and only after consultation with the Office of the Secretary of the Army General Counsel.

**21. Remarks**

This Committee was established pursuant to PL 106-398, section 911 of the National Defense

Authorization Act for FY 2001. Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 343(e)(4)(A), the BoV WHINSEC shall inquire into curriculum, instruction, physical equipment, fiscal affairs, and academic methods of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (“the Institute”), other matters relating to the Institute that the BoV WHINSEC decides to consider, and any other matters that the Secretary of Defense determines appropriate. NLT 60 days following its Annual meeting, the Committee submits a report to the Secretary of Defense concerning its activities, views and recommendations pertaining to the Institute. The Board's meeting minutes and Report are the same.

## Designated Federal Officer

Thomas M. Cooke DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Austin, Jean-Philippe	01/11/2023	03/10/2025	Miami Veterans Affairs Medical Center	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Ayalde, Liliana	01/11/2023	04/24/2025	Former U.S. Ambassador to Brazil	Member
Brito, Gary	09/22/2022		Commander, United States Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC)	Ex Officio Member
Brooks, Rosa	03/11/2024	04/24/2025	Law Professor, Georgetown University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Carlson, Steven	01/11/2023	04/24/2025	Retired from active priestly ministry	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cervone, Johanna	01/11/2023	04/24/2025	Chief of Staff to Mayor, Miami-Dade County	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Hannan, Kerri	09/22/2022		Designee for the Department of State, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy, Policy, Planning, and Coordination for the Bureau Western Hemisphere Affairs	Ex Officio Member
Pforzheimer, Annie	01/11/2023	04/24/2025	Center for Strategic and International Studies	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Reed, Jack	09/22/2022		Chair of the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate or designee	Ex Officio Member
Richardson, Laura	09/22/2022		Commander, U.S. Southern Command	Ex Officio Member
Scott, Austin	09/22/2022		Chair of the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives or designee Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives or designee	Ex Officio Member
Smith, Adam	09/22/2022		Commander, U.S. Northern Command	Ex Officio Member
VanHerck, Glen	09/22/2022		Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate or designee	Ex Officio Member
Wicker, Roger	09/22/2022			

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 14**

### **Narrative Description**

The Board focuses on the Institute's operations and activities including its programs of instruction, acts as a sounding board for the Department of Defense leadership, and serves as a link between the faculty and staff of the Institute and external public policy experts.

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Outcome Comments**

The Board reviews the curriculum, instruction, physical equipment, fiscal affairs, and academic methods of the Institute in order to recommend improvements and ensure compliance with the legislation.

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Cost Savings Comments**

N/A

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

**Number of Recommendations Comments**

Approximately 6-10 recommendations per year are made by the committee. In FY24, the Board made seven recommendations.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

90%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

While all are being considered, some require a continual effort to achieve greater efficiencies. (For example - Metrics)

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

10%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

N/A

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

**Agency Feedback Comments**

Feedback is provided to the Board through the Executive Secretary. Feedback is in the form of update letters from the Commandant; Information Papers; Update Briefings from the Commandant; Face to Face visits with Board members during the year; Invitations for Board member visits outside of the annual meeting; Normal telephonic, electronic communications. The public can obtain information regarding agency responses to committee recommendations by accessing the meeting minutes and annual reports in the FACA Database or by contacting the Designated Federal Officer.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities



Reallocated resources





Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Action Comments**

Based on the expertise and recommendations of the Board, the Agency has reviewed and modified curriculum to better address the needs of partner nation security forces and assist with new regional challenges.

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

NA

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Access Comments**

Minutes from the annual committee meetings are posted in the FACA Database.  
Congress is provided with an annual report (publication). Contact details for the DFO and Exec Secretary are provided in the FACA Database.