

#ProjectNext

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JOINT TRAINING AND EXERCISE
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COHORT 3 TEAM: COLLABORATIVE TISSUE

Strategic Innovation and Incubation Cell

How can the Air Force's strategic headquarters more effectively utilize the AF-wide innovation ecosystem in helping to accelerate the resolution of their identified problem sets? The Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force accepted our proposal to create a Headquarters Air Force Innovation Consultancy in what was the newly established Strategic Innovation and Incubation Cell.



Personal AHA Moment:

Project Mercury helped me to realize that everyone can be an innovator and there are many different ways to innovate. I have utilized the knowledge gained through participating in a Cohort, and coaching after that, in my current position and in programs I have participated in since.

Team AHA Moment:

That a simple solution can often be elegant and very impactful.

What's Next After Project Mercury:

June of 2023, **I completed the American University Key Executive Leadership Certificate Program.** During one of the courses, I was able to share information about "gaining buy-in," specifically identification of stakeholders and determining if they can help "make it happen" or "hinder it."

How do you use the skills learned in Project Mercury today?

I regularly use skills about gaining buy-in, considering what's important to the people I am working with and how I can best communicate with them. When writing policy that affects a large portion of the Joint Force, I have worked to enlist deep & diverse domain expertise. Including people that have expertise in the field, but also have other skills and valuable input helps to make the product I am writing the most useful for the user.

Dream Job:

I am not sure about a specific dream job, but I do know the qualities that I desire in a job: **the ability to continually learn, being able to support people, making a positive impact on the mission.**