Grounded Curiosity

Challenge the accepted

Award

Grounded *Challenge the accepted*

Grounded Curiosity Award

The Grounded Curiosity Award recognises significant contribution to learning and adaptation as a warfighting foundation, as demonstrated through a submission to Grounded Curiosity.

Eligibility

The competition is open to members of the Australian Army.

Submission Guidelines

- Format may include essays, posts, aide memoires, videos, podcasts, and vignettes.

- See suggested topic list for inspiration noting any topic will be accepted.

- Written work is not to exceed 1500 words and audio-visual work is not to exceed 15 minutes.

- Submissions must be original work, and include a title and short author biography.

- Previously or pending published work is ineligible.

- Submissions will be checked against editorial standards for quality / value, and security and public comment prior to publication.

How to enter

- Submissions are open now and close **20 Aug 18**.

- Early submissions are strongly encouraged as posts will be published when received throughout the year.

- Submit your entry to groundedcuriosity@gmail.com

Award

Two winners will be announced on **10 Sep 18**.

Winners will receive a grant up to the value of $2,500 each to be used for professional development. The location and timings of this opportunity will be decided in consultation with the winner and the winner's chain of command (before public announcement) but must be used in 2018.

Award Criteria

The judging panel will identify the award winners using the following criteria:

- **Relevance.** Relevance to the profession of arms. Develops and enhances professional understanding of the topic in question.

- **Insight.** Offers unique and / or fresh insight on the topic presented. Demonstrates innovative and creative thinking.

- **Reach.** Promotes wider discussion in the Defence and security community.

- **Potential.** The author demonstrates potential to independently attend a professional development opportunity, critically analyse the material, and present their lessons/conclusions to a wider audience.

Context

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Where the Australian Army might fight?

In the future, I can say with very high degrees of confidence, the American Army is probably going to be fighting in urban areas. We need to man, organize, train and equip the force for operations in urban areas, highly dense urban areas, and that's a different construct. We're not organized like that right now.
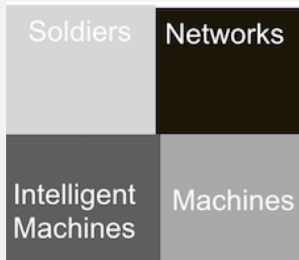
  - *Gen. Mark A. Milley, Chief of Staff of the US Army*

Urban	Littoral
Other Domains	Rural

Who and what is in our team?

Soldiers	Networks
Intelligent Machines	Machines

Teaming with our soldiers will, in time, be these three technology areas - robotics, autonomous systems and Artificial Intelligence. They are part of a wave of technological development that will change the world. As with any approaching wave, there are choices in how we handle it. We can ignore it, pursuing 'more of the same' and risk being tossed around and left floundering in the wake. We can take a breath, dive under it and hope to come out on the other side, seeking time to assess which technologies we will acquire. Or we could start paddling now, riding the wave to secure an innovative and technological future.

  - *LtGen Angus Campbell, Chief of Army*

What form will land warfare take?

The focus of applied methods of conflict has altered in the direction of the broad use of political, economic, informational, humanitarian, and other nonmilitary measures — applied in coordination with the protest potential of the population. All this is supplemented by military means of a concealed character, including carrying out actions of informational conflict and the actions of special-operations forces. The open use of forces — often under the guise of peacekeeping and crisis regulation — is resorted to only at a certain stage, primarily for the achievement of final success in the conflict.

- *General Valery Gerasimov, Chief of the Russian General Staff*

Control	Influence
Joint Land Combat	Stability Operations

Stuck for a topic?

Questions

What can the Australian Army do quickly?
- The capability that my Platoon/Troop needs by 2025 is?
- The skills that that my Platoon/Troop needs by 2025 is?
- What does Combat Team 2025 look like?
- Army needs an X (micro drone, urban ops, human/machine centre), and it should look like…..
- If my unit was given an additional $5M annually it should be spent on …
- Army should stop doing …

What I have learned that has enduring value?
- My tactics lesson is?
- My joint interoperability lesson is?
- My leadership lesson is?

Themes

- Pervasive surveillance and electronic warfare
- Long range precision weapons
- Drones
- Changing character of war and warfare
- Fighting in our region
- International engagement

- Value of automatically collected training data
- Training - individual and collective
- Live fire range doctrine
- Simulation
- Fleet management
- 3D printing

Don't let these topics stifle your creativity – all topics will be considered

NEED HELP?

We really just want to help writers and spread ideas. We have a team of **Associate Editors** who can direct you to subject matter experts and resources. Just ask. groundedcuriosity@gmail.com

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