

## **Robert H. Foglesong**

Robert H. Foglesong is the President and Executive Director of the Appalachian Leadership and Education Foundation (ALEF), a non-profit operating to identify our next generation of leaders in Appalachia and to support their journey toward academic, leadership, and character excellence. To accomplish this mission, ALEF has operating arrangements with several universities to help sponsor leadership honors programs and sponsors needs based fellowships for extraordinary young men and women across a spectrum of academic majors.

Foglesong has been designated by the President of the United States to be Co-Chairman of the Joint US – Russia Commission on POWs/MIAs, an agency whose purpose is to determine what happened to missing American service members who were taken into former Soviet Union countries. He's a Director on the Board of Massey Energy, a Director on the Board of the Michael Baker Corporation, a Director on the Board of Stark Aerospace Inc., a Director on the Board of CDEX Inc., and serves on the Advisory Board of IAI North America. He also serves on the National Advisory Board of Trustees for 4-H.

Previously, Foglesong served as the 18<sup>th</sup> President of Mississippi State University (MSU) during a period of unprecedented growth in student enrollment, research and development contracts, and economic development across the state of Mississippi. During his tenure, MSU moved forward in every major measure of university success. His tenure was marked by the introduction of numerous innovative concepts to include leadership development programs, distance learning initiatives, and renewed success in national academic and athletic competitions.

Prior to serving as President of MSU, he was nominated by the President, confirmed by the US Senate, and served as a four star general in the US Air Force. In addition to operational assignments around the globe, many of his duties required almost daily interface with members of Congress, the White House, and many governmental interagency offices. Foglesong had CEO responsibilities for field units with budgets up to \$3B per year which would have ranked 110<sup>th</sup> and 430<sup>th</sup> on the Fortune 500 List.

Foglesong was most often asked to lead and manage large organizations in establishing a sense of relevancy given a constantly changing national and international environment. A significant amount of his time was spent as a national security advisor at Cabinet and Presidential levels.

As a practical matter, Foglesong has spent 35 years in public service with a clear understanding of the role leadership plays in establishing a sense of integrity/ethics, encouraging service above self, and fostering an attitude of excellence. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, his 65 publications cover a range of subjects including technical and leadership topics. A graduate of West Virginia University (BS, MS, PhD), he was a member of Tau Beta Pi and numerous academic and leadership honoraries.

He has accumulated 30 military awards for leadership and technical skills. He has an honorary Doctorate of Strategic Intelligence. He has been honored as a Distinguished Alumni of West Virginia University, selected by the West Virginia Education Alliance as a Graduate of Distinction, and was selected by the West Virginia Executive Magazine as the Patriot of the Year for 2005. He was selected as the Tau Beta Pi distinguished alumni of the year for 2007. He is married to Mary Thrasher Foglesong and has two children – David and Mark. Hobbies include running marathons, collecting slide rules, collecting potato mashers, and public speaking.

## **Expanded Resume – Robert H. Foglesong**

### **President and Executive Director of the Appalachian Leadership and Education Foundation**

**(ALEF)** -- a non-profit organization executing a mission to offer college educations to men and women from Appalachia who would not be able to otherwise afford to continue their pursuit of academic and leadership excellence. ALEF will focus on individual mentoring of these men and women on character, ethics, and leadership to prepare them to enter our work force.

**Co-Chairman of the Joint US – Russia Commission on POW's/MIAs** – designated by the President to work with Russia on activities involving American POWs/MIAs.

**Director** on the Board of Massey Energy and on the Board of Michael Baker Corporation.

**Previous Positions: President of Mississippi State University (MSU)** – a land grant school of over 17K students. The university was committed to excellence in teaching, research, and service. With an annual budget of over a half a billion dollars per year and over 5000 employees, MSU performed research and development involving federal, state, and corporate contracts worth more than \$185M.

**Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe; Commander, Allied Air Component Command; Air Component Commander, U.S. European Command (NATO)** (Equivalent to the responsibilities of a CEO for a company ranked as #110 on the Fortune 500 List)—responsible for organizing, training and equipping resources across a wide spectrum of business and operational tasks. Provides direction to execute a \$3B annual budget and to ensure community/educational services and quality of living standards are maintained for 87K personnel and dependents. Provides operational direction for humanitarian and kinetic air and space operations through an area encompassing 91 countries.

**Vice Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force (CSAF)** (Equivalent to the responsibilities of a COO for a company ranked as #9 on the Fortune 500 List)—day to day, the Vice CSAF duties involved direction for an organization of 358K military members and 158K civilian employees and an annual budget of \$90B per year. The Air Force managed and budgeted for operations involving \$140B in assets. The Vice CSAF had responsibility for formulation of policy recommendations and implementation of said policy to include personnel force development, recruitment, retention, equal- opportunity programs, operations, infrastructure planning/programming, and interagency governmental affairs. The Vice CSAF acted in the absence of the Chief of Staff of the Air Force as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to recommend policy for operational matters to the Secretary of Defense and the President of the United States.

**Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff**—extensive international military-political responsibilities involving national security issues. Acted as primary military adviser to the Secretary of State and the President on international trips. Travel included over 100 countries and required expertise in any area involving national security to include treaties, economics of warfare, personal diplomacy relative to deterring/conducting combat activities, and numerous military-political topics.

**Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations, Headquarters Air Force**—responsible for all operations, air and space, combat and peacetime, involving Air Force assets. Functional responsibility for organizing, training, and equipping all security forces, weather personnel, intelligence personnel, and communication/command and control personnel. Responsible for planning and programming for future operational air and space requirements involving conventional or nuclear forces. He was also responsible for all studies, analysis, modeling, and simulation for air and space operations.

**Commander, Southern Air Forces and 12<sup>th</sup> Air Force** (Equivalent to the responsibilities of a CEO for a company ranked as #430 on the Fortune 500 List)—responsible for forces operating with an annual budget of approximately \$1B and personnel and training for approximately 30,000 employees. Responsible for readiness of forces and quality of living issues to include housing, medical needs, education, and spiritual needs of the work force and family members. Job required extensive travel and political-military engagement on a variety of subjects throughout Central and South America.

**Commander, 51<sup>st</sup> Fighter Wing**—responsible for an operating and maintenance budget of approximately \$350M, managing assets worth \$3.1B, and the readiness, training, housing, medical services, legal services, personnel services, and education services for over 6K military employees and 1.5K civilian employees. The base, located in a foreign country, was involved with extensive liaison with the foreign government as well as unions, businesses, and other institutions offering various services to United States personnel.

**Commander, 14<sup>th</sup> Flying Training Wing**—responsible for managing an operating and maintenance budget of approximately \$120M, managing assets worth \$740 M and for the education and training of all undergraduate student pilots assigned to Columbus Air Force Base. Also responsible for all civil services to include housing, medical services, legal services, educational services, personnel services, and financial services for the base population of 1.5K military employees and their families and 500 civilian employees.

**Professor of Joint and Combined Warfare at the National War College**—responsible for course development and teaching graduate-level courses on national security topics. Responsible for advising all Air Force students and preparing for and leading numerous overseas trips that engaged international leaders up to the Presidential level.

**Director of the Chief of Staff of the Air Force Planning Group**—responsible for Air Force strategy and force planning/programming. Involved realignment/restructuring personnel force development, facility/base infrastructure, and resource management to ensure future viability of the institution.

**Education:**

- West Virginia Public Schools, 1963
- West Virginia University, BS, Chemical Engineering, 1968
- West Virginia University, MS, Chemical Engineering, 1970
- West Virginia University, PhD, 1971
- The National War College, 1989
- Mass. Institute of Technology Seminar 21 Program for Senior Leaders, 1997

### **Honors and Special Recognition:**

- Honorary Doctorate of Strategic Intelligence, Joint Intelligence College (1999)
- Selected to Academy of Distinguished Alumni at West Virginia University (1998)
- Selected to Academy of Chemical Engineering Distinguished Graduates (1996)
- Named a Distinguished West Virginian by the Governor of West Virginia (1996)
- Selected for President's Distinguished Service Award, West Virginia University (2001)
- Recipient of 10 foreign decorations for leadership and valor (throughout career)
- Unit awards for Air Force Outstanding Unit and Organizational Excellence Awards
- Instructor Pilot of the Year Award for the United States Air Force (1975)
- Selected for Tau Beta Pi (President), national engineering honorary
- Selected for Mountain, ranking honorary at West Virginia University
- Selected for membership to numerous campus leadership and technical honoraria
- Selected as recipient of the West Virginia Education Alliance Award for 2002
- Qualified for and finished the Boston Marathon six times
- Selected for 2005 Patriot Award by the West Virginia Magazine
- Received the 2005 Air Force Order of the Sword, U.S. Air Forces in Europe
- Received the Congressman G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery Award of Merit (2005)
- Selected as Tau Beta Pi Distinguished Alumni of the Year for 2007
- Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, Pikeville College (2008)

### **Memberships and Professional Activities:**

- American Institute of Chemical Engineers (Past)
- Korean Institute of Chemical Engineers (Past)
- Air Force Association (Present)
- Order of Daedalians (Professional Aviation) (Past)
- Board of Governors for the Civil Air Patrol (Past)
- Council on Foreign Relations (Present)
- West Virginia University Alumni Association (Present)

### **Publications:**

- Ten publications on engineering and science topics
- Sixteen publications on leadership, ethics, and management topics
- Two publications on education and training topics
- Thirty-seven publications on strategy, operations, and acquisition topics

### **Most Recent Publications:**

- "As the World Turns," West Virginia Executive Magazine, Summer 2007, pp. 53-55.
- "National Security – We Need an Energy Strategy," West Virginia Executive Magazine, Special Energy Issue, Spring 2006, pp. 113-114.
- "Leadership -- Maintaining Relevancy Without Sacrificing Character," West Virginia Executive Magazine, Jan./Feb. 2006, pp. 37-38.
- "Intelligent Identity Management," West Virginia Executive Magazine, Identity Management Report, Nov-Dec 2005, pp. 114-115.
- "Space: A User's Perspective," High Frontier Journal: The Journal for Space and Missile Professionals, Winter 2005, pp. 6-7.
- "Leading for Success," Financial Executive International. Online publication posted at [http://www.fei.org/mag/Exclusives/2-6\\_06.cfm](http://www.fei.org/mag/Exclusives/2-6_06.cfm).
- "Character: the Link Between Intentions and Execution," Today's Officer Magazine, Oct 05. Online publication posted Oct 1 at <http://www.moaa.org/todaysofficer/military/character.asp>
- "Leveraging Situational Awareness: Net-centric Operations are Essential to Remaining Relevant Now and in Future Conflicts," Military Information Technology, Volume 9, No. 6/2005, p. 18.

- “Investing in Leaders for the Future: West Virginia Needs to Nurture its Trailblazers,” Charleston Daily Mail Newspaper, July 2, 2005, p. 5A.
- “Leadership: Fingerprints and Targeting Pods,” Leader Guide Magazine, April 05. Online publication posted April 2 at [http://www.leadershipdevelopment.com/main/html/magazine\\_results.html?article\\_id=185](http://www.leadershipdevelopment.com/main/html/magazine_results.html?article_id=185)
- “Leadership from Flight Level 390,” Air and Space Power Journal, Fall 2004, pp. 5-10. Also published in the Portuguese and Arabic version of the same publication, First Qtr 2005.
- “People, Ideas & Action - Translating Strategies into Results," West Virginia Executive Magazine, Fall 2004, pp. 66-69.
- “The High Road: Successful Leadership Hinges on Good Ethics, Moral Clarity,” American Legion Magazine, December 2004, pp. 28-31.

**Personal Information:**

- Married to Mary Thrasher Foglesong (West Virginia Univ., BA, MA) for 39 years. They have two children, David (Air Force) and Mark (Communications).