

For Immediate Release

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**Harris-Stowe Alumnus Colonel Steven T. Liddy to Serve as
Commencement Keynote Speaker**

ST. LOUIS, MO (May 6, 2014) – Harris-Stowe State University alumnus Colonel Steven T. Liddy of the United States Air Force will deliver the keynote address for the university’s 157th Commencement Convocation, Saturday, May 17, 2014, at 11 a.m. This year 130 undergraduate degrees will be awarded in the areas of teacher education, business and arts & sciences and will walk across the stage of the Emerson Performance Center on the campus of HSSU.

Commencement will be especially meaningful for Colonel Liddy because his son Michael is among this year’s graduates, as he receives his bachelor of science degree in business. “While I am humbled and honored to serve as keynote, this is a special opportunity for me to share the stage briefly with my son, who will be graduating with honors,” said Col. Liddy. “I am very proud of my son. He is carrying on a family tradition as both I and his mother are Harris-Stowe alums.”

Col. Liddy, who will receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters during the ceremony, entered the United States Air Force in 1985 as a graduate of the Parks College ROTC program. He cites diversity and adversity as major influences that helped propel him to his current position of the commandant of the Headquarters Reserve National Security Space Institute. This premier center of excellence in space education and training for the National Security Space community reports to the 310th Space Wing at Schriever Air Force Base in Colorado. In this position Col. Liddy oversees subject matter experts in all fields of space education.

Over the years his impressive military career includes success in multiple Air Force Specialty areas from Intelligence, Force Support, Space and Missile Operations, as well as Program Management, and he has served in numerous locations both in the United States and abroad.

“I credit my education as the impetus which has allowed me to achieve success in various career fields within the service,” said Col. Liddy.

Col. Liddy earned his bachelor’s degree in education from Harris-Stowe State College in 1984 and his MBA from the University of Missouri – Columbia in 1989. Amid his many honors and achievements he was named a member of the Harris-Stowe Distinguished Alumni in 1993.

Harris-Stowe State University, located in midtown St. Louis, is a fully accredited four-year institution that offers 14 degree programs in the areas of teacher education, business and arts & sciences. In 2013, HSSU ranked No. 1 in the state in degree production of African-Americans in mathematics (Missouri Department of Higher Education). The university, which has been in

existence for more than 150 years, offers the most affordable bachelor's degree in the state of Missouri.

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