David Petraeus Appointed Visiting Professor at Macaulay Honors College at CUNY

New York, NY - (April 23, 2013). David Petraeus, the highly decorated four-star general who commanded coalition forces during the “surge” in Iraq and later in Afghanistan, and who subsequently served as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, has been named Visiting Professor of Public Policy at Macaulay Honors College at The City University of New York, effective August 1, 2013.

Dr. Petraeus earned a B.S. with honors from the United States Military Academy and M.P.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Dr. Petraeus has written and spoken widely on international relations, U.S. national security issues, and military strategy and tactics. His current research interests include examination of the ongoing energy, manufacturing, life sciences, and information technology revolutions and their implications for the United States.

“CUNY is profoundly honored to welcome Dr. Petraeus to our academic community,” said Dr. Matthew Goldstein, Chancellor of The City University of New York. “With his appointment, our students will have a unique opportunity to learn about public policy firsthand from a distinguished leader with extraordinary experience and expertise in international security issues, intelligence matters, and nation-building.”

“We are delighted that Dr. Petraeus has chosen Macaulay Honors College as his first undergraduate institution,” said Dr. Ann Kirschner, University Dean of Macaulay Honors College. “His extensive knowledge and experience will be great resources for our remarkable group of academically gifted students who represent the sparkling diversity of New York.”

On accepting the appointment at Macaulay, Dr. Petraeus noted: “I am very pleased to have an opportunity to work with the talented students at Macaulay Honors College. Sixty-percent of Macaulay students are the children of
immigrants or immigrants themselves, and as the son of an immigrant who settled north of New York City, I identify with them and applaud their achievements in earning a place in CUNY’s honors college. Beyond that, I look forward to leading a seminar at Macaulay that examines the developments that could position the United States – and our North American partners – to lead the world out of the current global economic slowdown.”

During his 37 years in uniform, General Petraeus served in Cold War Europe, Haiti, Bosnia, Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan, as well as in numerous locations in the United States. During his final decade in the military, he held six straight commands, with five of them in or overseeing combat operations. His four-star positions were: Commander of the International Security Assistance Force and U.S. Forces in Afghanistan; Commander, U.S. Central Command; and Commander, Multi-National Force, Iraq.

Dr. Petraeus earned numerous U.S. military, State Department, United Nations, and NATO decorations during his time in uniform, as well as medals from 12 foreign countries. Among many other awards, he was the recipient of Princeton University’s Madison Medal, the American Political Science Association’s Hubert Humphrey Award, and the National Committee on American Foreign Policy’s George F. Kennan Award. He was also named one of America’s 25 best leaders by U.S. News and World Report in 2005, one of four runners-up for Time person of the year in 2007, and number 8 on Foreign Policy’s list of the Top 100 Global Thinkers for 2011.

General Petraeus was widely recognized for his groundbreaking work in Iraq. One of the first to recognize the full scope of challenges that soldiers faced there, Petraeus pursued a dynamic approach to counterinsurgency and oversaw the drafting of the Army and Marine Corps manual on counterinsurgency. It advocated a comprehensive civil-military approach to secure the population, develop host nation security forces, precisely target key insurgent leaders, promote reintegration of “reconcilable” insurgents, enable restoration of basic services, revive local economies, support establishment of the rule of law, and encourage resolution of problems through political processes rather than violence.

General Petraeus pioneered many of these components of a comprehensive approach as commander of the 101st Airborne Division in the first year in Iraq. He later oversaw their implementation throughout Iraq, in conjunction with Iraqi security forces and leaders, as the commander of the “surge” from early 2007 until the fall of 2008, during which violence in Iraq was dramatically reduced.

In Afghanistan, Petraeus also oversaw a substantial increase in U.S. and coalition forces. During his year in command, from July 2010 to July 2011, international and Afghan forces halted the momentum of the Taliban, accelerated development of Afghan security forces, commenced transition of tasks to the Afghans, and prevented Al Qaeda from re-establishing the kind of
sanctuaries in Afghanistan that it had when the 9/11 attacks were planned there.

Following his retirement from the military, Dr. Petraeus became the Director of the CIA, a position in which he served for 14 months before resigning in November 2012. As Director, Dr. Petraeus oversaw the CIA’s initiative to expand global coverage, the Agency’s contribution to U.S. counter-terrorist operations, and an effort to develop the Agency’s first comprehensive strategic plan, which included significant focus on investing in the Agency’s “human capital,” including by inauguration of the Director’s Scholars program.

Dr. Petraeus earned a B.S. from the United States Military Academy in 1974, graduating as a distinguished cadet in the top five percent of his class. He was the General George C. Marshall Award winner as the top graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College class of 1983. He then earned an M.P.A. and doctorate from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University. He was an Assistant Professor of International Relations at the U.S. Military Academy from 1985-87. He completed a fellowship at Georgetown University’s Institute for the Study of Diplomacy during the academic year that ended in 1995.

**About Macaulay Honors College**

Macaulay Honors College at The City University of New York offers exceptional students a uniquely personalized education with access to the vast resources of the nation’s largest urban university and New York City itself. Selected for their academic and leadership potential, Macaulay students receive a full-tuition scholarship, a laptop and technology support, and an Opportunities Fund to pursue global learning and service opportunities. A Cultural Passport provides access to museums, libraries, and other treasures around New York City. Macaulay students enroll in one of eight CUNY senior colleges (Baruch, Brooklyn, City, Hunter, John Jay, Lehman, Queens and the College of Staten Island). For more information, see macaulay.cuny.edu.

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