



The Paul H. Nitze School
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Eliot A. Cohen
Robert E. Osgood Professor
Director, Philip Merrill Center for Strategic Studies

Dear Strategic Studies graduate,

We have just received some great news. A Strategic Studies alumnus and good friend of the Program, has issued a generous challenge grant to create an endowment to help fund permanently the Staff Ride program within Strategic Studies. His grant will match 1:1 every dollar given to the staff rides up to \$100,000. Needless to say, we are very excited by this opportunity and would like you to be a part of it.

Students have always told me that the staff rides run by the Program have been one of their most rewarding experiences at SAIS -- a unique opportunity to learn and form friendships that have lasted many years beyond the school. As you know, we now run two domestic staff rides each year, plus one international trip. Even the domestic trips have become more adventurous, to include, this past year, to Fort Ticonderoga, New York. And internationally, we have gone from Jerusalem to Normandy, Monte Cassino to Dublin -- and this year, Sicily. The staff rides are, in fact, a signature feature of the Program.

The costs have mounted too, of course, but we now have, thanks to this generous gift, the opportunity to make these a permanent feature of the program at the school. A generous challenge grant will allow the School to create an endowment, the proceeds of which will go to fund these trips in perpetuity.

If you look back on your staff ride experience fondly, let me ask you to contribute to this fund. It will ensure that other students will have the same kinds of experience that you have had, and that the SAIS Strategic Studies program will remain unique.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E.A. Cohen".

Eliot A. Cohen
Robert E. Osgood Professor
Director, Philip Merrill Center for Strategic Studies