

DEOMI



CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

Colonel Michelle I. Nash, USAF Commandant

Colonel Michelle I. Nash assumed responsibilities as the 19th Commandant of the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI), the Department of Defense (DoD) Center of Excellence for human relations, on December 1, 2023.



Since its inception in 1971, DEOMI has built a reputation for optimizing total force readiness and fostering cultures of excellence through learning, research, and integrated knowledge management. As Commandant, Colonel Nash leads 135 joint military and civilian faculty members, and oversees the development and implementation of over 20 Military Equal Opportunity and Equal Employment Opportunity courses for nearly 1,300 students annually across the Armed Forces (Active, Reserve, and National Guard) and the United States Coast Guard. She also oversees quarterly Leadership Training Awareness Seminars, designed to complement DEOMI's educational curriculum and provide the opportunity to explore important ever-evolving Human Relations topics with the potential to impact future policy, for leadership teams in the DoD and the Department of Homeland Security.

Colonel Nash is a native of Farr West, Utah. She enlisted in the Air Force in 1998 and started basic military training in 1999. She served in the Aerospace Control and Warning Systems career field until she received her commission through Officer Training School in 2001 and became a Behavioral Scientist. In 2016, she became an Information Operations officer.

She earned a doctoral degree in Psychology from Brigham Young University (BYU) in 2015, a Master of Science in Psychology from BYU in 2009, and Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Weber State University in 1998. She is also a graduate of both the Air Command and Staff and the Air War Colleges (by correspondence).

Her assignments include: Director of Operations, Deputy Department Head, Assistant Professor, Executive Officer, and Advisor-in-Charge for the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership at the USAFA; Continuous Learning and Performance Assessment Branch Chief in the Warfighter Readiness Research Division at the 711th Human Performance Wing; Aircrew Performance Measurement Program Manager and Warfighter Training Research Branch Deputy Branch Chief at the Warfighter Readiness Research Division, Air Force Research Laboratory; and Test Psychologist and Test Construction Team Chief at the Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron. She also deployed for six months as Commander, Detachment 4, 602nd Training Group. Her most recent assignment was as the Director of Culture and Climate for the Dean of Faculty at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA).

Colonel Nash's major awards and decorations include the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Air Force Commendation Medal (two awards), and the Air Force Achievement Medal, along with various other personal, unit and campaign decorations.