

DEPARTMENT: Department of Foreign Languages

POC Name: CPT Balazs Peszeki

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DATE: September 18, 2019

Top 3-5 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings UPCOMING in the next 30 days.

1. On September 22, Cadets studying abroad in Germany this semester will travel from the German Army Officer School in Dresden to their universities in Hamburg and Munich, respectively. The Cadets will have a week of in-processing, after which they will begin academic classes.
2. The Persian Forum will celebrate *Mehregan*, an ancient Iranian festival of kindness and friendship, at the residence of Dr. Amir Irani-Tehrani on September 29. Cadets will help prepare Persian food and will meet other Persian-speaking members of the West Point community.
3. COL Eugene Gregory and CPT Jeremy Gardinier will lead Chinese Semester Abroad Program (SAP) 20-1 Cadets to China for intensive language and cultural immersion from September 29 to October 19.
4. On October 3 - 4, Dr. John Benjamin will attend the German Studies Association annual conference in Portland, OR. Dr. Benjamin will present for a “German Comics” panel series. His research concerns “Intermediality”—how comics are used in German *Popliteratur*.
5. On October 8 - 12, the Spanish section and three Cadets, in support of the USMA Superintendent, will travel to Buenos Aires, Argentina to participate in the 150th Anniversary of the “*Colegio Militar de la Nacion*” (the Argentina Military Academy). Cadets will engage in cultural activities while visiting Argentine defense institutions.

Top 3 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings FROM THE PREVIOUS 7 days.

1. The Chinese Section supported the Chinese Language Forum in celebrating the Chinese Moon Festival on Tuesday, September 10. Over one hundred Cadets participated in the festivities including a critical discussion of Chinese state media denouncing a director of Hong Kong-based Taipan Bread and Cake for supporting the ongoing protests in Hong Kong, and the shocking resignation of Cathay Pacific CEO. Also, within the Chinese section, COL Eugene Gregory co-authored an article, “*A Sino-Russian Alliance? Don’t Bet On It*”, published by the *Wall Street Journal* September 15, 2019 and CPT James Daniel published an article in *Military Review*: “*China’s One Belt, One Road Initiative and its International Arms Sales: An Overlooked Aspect of Connectivity and Cooperation?*”

2. On September 12, the President of Helmut Schmidt University, Dr. Klaus Beckmann, visited West Point. Helmut Schmidt University is a German Armed Forces University located in Hamburg that has a strong partnership with West Point, including an exchange program that dates back more than 10 years. Dr. Beckmann met with the Superintendent and the Dean. The Commandant of the university, COL Bjarne Krause, met with the USMA Commandant, Brigade Tactical Officer, and Head of the Department of Military Instruction.
3. LTC Ricardo Fregoso, the DFL Executive Officer, and MAJ George Gurrola served as escorts officers during the Annual Colombian Air Force Academy Superintendent and Cadet visit. Colombian Air Force Brigadier General Alfonso Lonzano Ariza met with BG Jebb while 90 First-Class Cadets joined USMA courses. The international Cadet presence at USMA provided an unprecedented opportunity to enhance and enrich the Cadet classroom experience.

DEPARTMENT: G&EnE

POC Name: CPT(P) Nathaniel Sheehan

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DATE: 19 September 2019

Top 3-5 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings UPCOMING in the next 30 days.

1. From 18-20 September, members of G&EnE are participating in the Diversity & Inclusion Conference hosted here at USMA.
2. On 22 September LTC Mindy Kimball will present an oral presentation at the Geological Society of America (GSA) annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. The work uses ground penetrating radar on a very large scale to identify glacial geomorphology buried on the level of the plain at West Point. The work took a lot of effort from Cadets, student volunteers, and faculty. Co-authors on the research presentation are CPT Nathaniel Sheehan, CDT Yasheika Beckaroo, CDT Nick Dabbelt, LTC Ben Wallen, LTC Chris Fuhriman, Cornwall High School student Avery Morrell, and ROTC CDT Abigail Carter.
3. On 23 September Cadet Yasheika Beckaroo will present a poster at the Geological Society of America (GSA) annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. Her research from a summer AIAD revealed new results that are quite conclusive about the location of the Coastal Artillery Mortars (12-inch diameter cannon) buried under the Plain. The hunt for the firing battery and the mortars spans three decades, and CDT Beckaroo seems to have closed the case by using a new approach, big data, and 3-dimensional depth-slice modeling. Her poster, co-authored by CDT Nick Dabbelt, ROTC Cadet Abigail Carter, CPT Nathaniel Sheehan, LTC Ben Wallen, and LTC Mindy Kimball, is titled "Once More into the Breach: Using GPR (Again) to find an Easy Target Hidden in Plain Sight at

West Point, New York.” Look for her poster to be highlighted as excellence in student research on GSA’s social media pages!

4. On 23 September, from 1235-1350, the Geography program of G&EnE will host GEO’s Desserts with Dirt in WH5300. This is a great opportunity for comradery, mentorship and a little fun with G&EnE faculty and cadets.

Top 3 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings FROM THE PREVIOUS 7 days.

1. On 19 September, the G&EnE Center for the Study of Civil-Military Operations hosted the Africa Symposium. This included a panel discussion among military and civilian representatives with interests in Africa with a discussion on the continent as a whole. The keynote speaker is Ambassador Cameron Hume who served as the US Representative to South Africa from 2001-2004
2. On 16 September, the Environmental Program in G&EnE hosted Dr. Dwight Bowman from Cornell University’s College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Bowman is a world renown professor of parasitology, spending much of his life studying parasites across the globe and analyzing their transmission, methods of treatment, and ultimately their fate in the environment. He presented two lectures for the cadets in EV396 (Environmental Biological Systems) on the biological health issues that exist in our environment, especially our drinking water sources, to help drive home the importance of understanding our environment in order to design effective engineering solutions to mitigate these health issues and protect the population.
3. From 10-12 September, COL Oxendine and LTC Wright attended the Intelligence Community Academic Research Symposium in Washington DC. Additionally, on 10 September Cadets John Erskine and Arelena Shala both attended and presented their research posters at ICARS. On 11 September, LTC Wright, Dr. O’Banion and COL Oxendine presented their research paper.

DEPARTMENT: History

POC Name: MAJ Denis Alfin

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DATE: 19 September 2019

Top 3-5 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings UPCOMING in the next 30 days.

1. September 26th: History Movie Night. During the Dean’s Lecture hour, CPT Kathleen Alfin hosts a viewing of “The Battle for Algiers,” a movie describing the 1950s war in Algeria. The movie complements department courses like HI 108 (History of Africa) and HI 345 (Modern Africa).
2. October 4th-5th: Department 50th Anniversary Reunion Weekend. The department invites former faculty to its 50th Anniversary Reunion. Rick Atkinson, author of *The Long Gray Line* and the upcoming *The British Are Coming*, will give the keynote speech at the banquet and sign

copies of his new book at the Thayer bookstore. Returning faculty will also have the opportunity to enjoy a tour of West Point's fortifications from the Supe's Boat, and enjoy a tailgate following the Army v. Tulane Football game.

3. October 12th: Sleepy Hollow Staff Ride: Department faculty take approximately 12 cadets to Sleepy Hollow, NY to study Colonial American History.

Top 3 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings FROM THE PREVIOUS 7 days.

1. September 18th: Junior Brown Bag. Senior faculty hosted a brown bag luncheon with junior rotators. The discussion focused on the challenges of field grade leadership in operational units.

DEPARTMENT: Mathematical Sciences
POC Name: Yoselin Brice
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DATE: 19 September 2019

Top 3-5 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings UPCOMING in the next 30 days.

1. On Sept 20, 2019; MAJ Walsh in collaboration with the one-on-one, Center for Oral History recounts his war story to be broadcast during lunch mess for Cadets. He recorded the story of how he was wounded in action during hand-to-hand combat on Dec 01, 2013, at a secure airfield in Afghanistan. In the story, he highlights there is no safe place in the battlefield, so always use the "battle buddy" system. If you see something say something, and if no one else is around or able to help, take action! The events made him better appreciate life, take up combatives arms, and boxing training. All to prepare him to better survive future dangerous encounters in seemingly dire situations.
2. On Sept 23, 2019; MAJ Kiser will host the Department Head, Prof. Wei Kang, CDR Thor Martinsen, and Mr. Bard Mansager (USMA class of 1971) from the Department of Applied Mathematics at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) from Monterey, CA. They will present round table discussions on: research collaboration opportunities, network science structure and functions of complex networks, and learning more about NPS.
3. On Sept 25, 2019; COL Boyle will conduct a discussion on balancing personal and professional lives. We live in a fast-paced world and serve in a profession that demands "selfless service". We also have families, loved ones, personal interests and other demands that contradict the concept of selflessness. We will explore the concept of "tactical balance" (how do I get home at a decent hour each day?) and "strategic balance" (how do I achieve balance over the course of a 20-30 year career?) This is a tough problem that has no clean solution.

Top 3 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings FROM THE PREVIOUS 7 days.

1. On 14-17 Sept 2019; Dr. Hromadka, Matthew Fauerbach (class of 2021), Samuel Humphries (class of 2020), John Lee (class of 2020), and William Nevils (class of 2021) attended and delivered presentations involving Computational Engineering Mathematics at the University of Vermont, Burlington, at the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG), National Conference. The cadets presented their research progress on topics ranging from groundwater mounding to freezing/thawing of soil water in aligid soils.
2. 19 Sept 2019, MAJ Chris Collins, who recently returned from a twelve-month deployment to Afghanistan, was selected this week to receive the Deputy Chief of Staff G-8's Operational Analysis Award for outstanding research and analysis. MAJ Collins and COL Robert Croft, co-authors on the work, "Insider Attack Analysis in Afghanistan: Green on Blue vs. Green on Green," will be presented the award at the annual Army Operations Research Symposium (AORS), Fort Belvoir, in late-October. MAJ Collins, served as the Analysis Branch Chief for the Resolute Support (RS) Headquarters, and in that capacity, this work shaped the policy on Insider Attack response by the RS Commander.

DEPARTMENT: Physics and Nuclear Engineering

POC Name: Kim M. Lee

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DATE: 19 September 2019

Top 3 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings FROM THE PREVIOUS 7 days.

On Friday, September 13th, Dr. Peter Pella (USMA '70) presented three talks on the current status of nuclear nonproliferation efforts to physics and nuclear engineering majors, minors, and sequencers. He highlighted his work on nuclear issues in the early 2000's involving North Korea and Iran while working with the Bureau of Nonproliferation, U.S. Department of State, and issues relating to Iraq in the 1990's with the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Dr. Pella is an emeritus professor of physics from Gettysburg College and has authored several books on the subject of nuclear weapons policy.

Triathlon: Dr. Ken Allen traveled with three members of the triathlon team to Nice, France the first weekend in September. On 15 September Ken finished Ironman 70.3 Atlantic City in 4 hours and 54 minutes. Dr. Allen was 7th out of 221 in his division and qualified for the Ironman 70.3 World Championships on 28 November 2020 in Taupo, New Zealand.

DEPARTMENT: Social Sciences
POC Name: LTC Josh Richardson
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DATE: Week of 16 September 2019

Top 3-5 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings UPCOMING in the next 30 days.

1. 3 October: **COL Pat Howell and LTC Angelica Martinez** will serve as guest speakers in the series “Life After SOSH.” These two SOSH alumni will share their experiences and advice with SOSH faculty focused on how teaching in SOSH prepared them for service as field grade officer in the operational Army, and what faculty can do now to prepare. LTC Martinez will also conduct a separate talk that day with FA59 officers focused on next job opportunities in the field.
2. 4 October: **Dr. Patrick Campbell**, an Assistant Professor at Skidmore College, will join SS376: American Political Development for a guest lecture titled “Liberalism and Republicanism in the American Revolution.” Dr. Campbell received his PhD in 2010 from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst; prior to this, he served in various roles with the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.
3. 9 October: **Michael Singh**, the Lane-Swig Senior Fellow and managing director at The Washington Institute and a former senior director for Middle East affairs at the National Security Council, will join SS473: American Foreign Policy for a lecture titled, “The US-Israel Relationship, Domestic Politics, and America’s Alliances. During his tenure at the White House from 2005 to 2008, Mr. Singh was responsible for devising and coordinating U.S. national security policy toward the region stretching from Morocco to Iran, with a particular emphasis on Iran’s nuclear and regional activities, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Syria, and security cooperation in the broader Middle East. Previously, Mr. Singh served as special assistant to secretaries of state Condoleezza Rice and Colin Powell and at the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv.

Top 3 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings FROM THE PREVIOUS 7 days.

1. 12 September: **The Combating Terrorism Center** was very pleased to host Defense Combating Terrorism Center (DIA) **Director David Caulfield** for a day of engagements, including a command brief, meetings with USMA leadership, and a tour of West Point. Each summer, the CTC sends 2-3 cadets to DCTC as interns, and the visit was an important opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the two organizations.
2. 12 September: The **International Affairs Forum** hosted an evening fire-side chat with **Professor Dan Drezner** of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. The event, held at the West Point Club, was well attended by cadets and faculty, and the conversation moderated by MAJ Kerney Perlik was fast-paced and engaging.

3. 13 September: The **Rupert H. Johnson Grand Strategy Program** hosted a Grand Strategy Workshop for chapter authors of the soon-to-be published Volume 1 of a series on Grand Strategy by Oxford Handbook. The day-long event included four roundtables featuring **Dr. Dan Drezner (Tufts), Dr. Ron Krebs (Univ. Minnesota), Robert Cantelmo (Cornell), Dr. Mark Haas (Duquesne) and Dr. Thierry Balzacq (Sciences Po)**. SOSH faculty served as discussants, and cadets in the Grand Strategy program attended and were able to engage with scholars on areas of their own current research.