

DEAN'S SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES REPORT



DEPARTMENT: Department of Foreign Languages

POC Name: CPT Balazs Peszeki

POC Email: balazs.peszeki@westpoint.edu

DATE: January 15, 2020

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

1. The Spanish section is planning to conduct a visit to United States Army South Headquarters in San Antonio, TX as part of preparation for Projects Day 2020. The purpose of the trip is to continue coordination between LN490 Cadets and the ARSOUTH G5 team. Tentatively, BG Alcides V. Faria, Jr, the Deputy Commanding General of Interoperability ARSOUTH, will visit West Point and receive a thorough brief on the LN490 Cadets project. Currently, the LN490 Cadet team is utilizing their linguistic and regional knowledge to analyze Ecuador's and Argentina's media responses to Chinese influence in the region.
2. Dr. Olivier Tonnerre and Cadets Hannah Buechner, Madeline Miller, and Jaeden Watson will visit Paris France from January 15-19 as a part of their LN490 Language and Culture Capstone course. They will meet with French Army Staff Leadership as well as the US Defense Attaché to Paris as they conduct research on the consequences of the French Domestic counter-terrorism operation SENTINELLE.
3. LTC Annmarie Ruppert and 17 Cadets will travel to Quebec City, Canada from February 14-17 for a Francophone cultural trip with the French Forum.

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

1. CPT Jeremy Gardinier led seven Cadets from December 22 to January 6 for culture and language immersion held in Hsinchu, Taiwan. Cadets' classes were specifically tailored to improve their individual including classes in structure and grammar, formal writing, newspaper comprehension, and listening transcription. CPT Gardinier also led seven capstone Cadets from January 8 to January 13 in Taipei, Taiwan to conduct research and media analysis on Taiwan's Presidential election held on January 11, 2020. Cadets observed two mainstream party rallies, held meetings with several Foreign Area Officers, local populace, scholars and businessmen, as well as political analysts. This trip serves as the foundation for the LN490 capstone project to be presented in Chinese this spring.

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DEPARTMENT: Department of Foreign Languages

POC Name: CPT Balazs Peszeki

POC Email: balazs.peszeki@westpoint.edu

DATE: January 22, 2020

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

1. The Spanish section and Cadets Alex Bayer, Cadet John Provost, and Cadet Michael King will conduct a visit to United States Army South Headquarters in San Antonio, TX from January 22-24. The purpose of the trip is to continue coordination between LN490 Cadets and the ARSOUTH G5 team. Tentatively, BG Alcides V. Faria, Jr, the Deputy Commanding General of Interoperability ARSOUTH, will visit West Point and receive a thorough brief on the LN490 Cadets project. Currently, the LN490 Cadet team is utilizing their linguistic and regional knowledge to analyze Ecuador's and Argentina's media responses to Chinese influence in the region.
2. Cadets and officers in the German section will attend the annual Quadrille Ball in New York City on February 1 to maintain the long-standing relationship between the Academy and the greater German-American community. Cadets Jason Brodeur and Andrew Clegg will join the German Liaison Officer, LTC Christian Klein, and his wife, as well as CPT Casey Moyer and Mrs. Moyer.
3. LTC Annmarie Ruppert and 17 Cadets will travel to Quebec City, Canada from February 14-17 for a Francophone cultural trip with the French Forum.

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

1. Dr. Olivier Tonnerre and Cadets Hannah Buechner, Madeline Miller, and Jaeden Watson visited Paris, France from January 15-19 as a part of their LN490 Language and Culture Capstone course. They met with French Army Staff Leadership as well as the US Defense Attaché to Paris as they conducted research on the consequences of the French Domestic counter-terrorism operation SENTINELLE.

DEPARTMENT: Department of English and Philosophy

POC Name: CPT Steven Modugno

POC Email: steven.modugno@westpoint.edu

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DATE: 16 JAN 20

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

1. On 21 JAN, the Philosophy Forum will host Professor Lonneke Peperkamp of Radboud University who will give a talk titled, "Space Wars: Regulating Military Activities in Space." The event will take place in the Haig Room at 1930.
2. On 8 FEB, the DEP's own faculty will be competing in a Powerlifting competition in Lexington, KY. MAJ Justin Cunningham and CPT (P) Steven Thomas have been training to represent the department and themselves in this event.

Top 3-5 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings FROM THE PREVIOUS 7 days.

1. This past weekend, the West Point Speech and Parliamentary Debate team traveled to Chicago to compete at the prestigious University of Chicago tournament. The team of CDT Kalista Schauer ('21) and CDT Nathan Frederickson ('21) competed at the varsity level and won three out of five rounds, nearly advancing to the final bracket of the competition. The team competed against prestigious schools including Harvard, Yale, and Princeton, and debated topics such as social activism, child labor, World War One, and the regulation of the pornography industry. By competing at this tournament, the team successfully created networks with teams outside of the East Coast, increasing the likelihood that those teams will compete at the West Point Invitational.

DEPARTMENT: G&EnE

POC Name: MAJ John Boyle

POC Email: john.boyle2@westpoint.edu

DATE: 16 January 2020

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

1. On 24 January, G&EnE will recognize and celebrate LTC(P) Mindy Kimball as she is promoted to COL at Ike's Riverside Café at 1615 hrs.

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

1. On 09 January, LTC Wallen (G&EnE) along with COL Hill (CME) led a project management professional (PMP) review course in Washington Hall. The 15-session

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course will meet every Tuesday and Thursday in January and February and has 33 staff, faculty, and other professionals across West Point in attendance.

2. On 14 January, LTC Wallen and CPT Sheehan (G&EnE) published a paper in TME (The Military Engineer) focusing on the diverse undergraduate research opportunities available through the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering. (See the article [here](#) or reference: The Military Engineer – Society of American Military Engineers Volume 112 Number 725 Page 64).

DEPARTMENT: History

POC Name: MAJ Denis Alfin

POC Email: denis.alfin@westpoint.edu

DATE: 16 January 2020

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

1. January 17-18: Washington D.C. Holocaust Museum Trip: The Department of History, in collaboration with the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies will take approximately 70 cadets to visit Washington D.C. Cadets will visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as part of a specially arranged tour in order to better understand atrocities in history.

2. January 22: Declaration Day: In support of the O/Dean Majors Declaration Day, Department faculty and staff will support our DAC team as they explain the benefits of studying the discipline of history to the Class of 2023.

3. January 25-26: Philadelphia Trip: The Department of History will take approximately 70 cadets to visit Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The trip focuses on colonial American history and includes visits to the Liberty Bell, the Constitution Center, and the Museum of the American Revolution.

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

1. January 8: Department Faculty Call: Colonel Yoshitani, History Department Head, welcomed back the faculty and staff. Department leadership gave an overview of a variety of topics and updated faculty on changes both within the department and throughout the academy.

DEPARTMENT: Social Sciences

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POC Name: LTC Josh Richardson
POC Email: joshua.richardson@westpoint.edu
DATE: Week of 13 January 2020

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

1. 24 January. SOSH is delighted to host **Dr. Casey Wardynski**, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, as the guest speaker at the department's annual Winter Formal at Falkirk Estates and Country Club. In addition to the evening event, **Dr. Wardynski** will guest lecture with SS477: Economics of National Security earlier in the day. We are grateful to have this distinguished SOSH alum back for such an occasion.
2. 30 January. **Dr. Joana Cook**, a Senior Research Fellow at the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation, and a Research Associate in the Department of War Studies, will visit SS466: *Combating Terrorism* to deliver a guest lecture titled: "Safeguarding and Securing Cyberspace." Dr. Cook's research more broadly focuses on women in violent extremism, countering violent extremism, and counter-terrorism practices. Her PhD examined women in relation to post-9/11 U.S. counterterrorism responses in Yemen and the wider MENA region.
3. 3 February. **Ms. Leigh Angres**, head of legislative affairs at the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) will guest lecture on "Multiple Traditions in American Political Development" in SS480: The Public Policymaking Process. **Ms. Angres** joined the CBO in 2007 and worked in a variety of positions before becoming head of legislative affairs in 2015. She earned her M.P.P. from the University of California at Berkeley and her A.B. from Duke University.

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

1. 11 January. As part of **Chief of Staff of the Army GEN McConville's** visit, **MAJ Michael Wright** and **Cadet Josh Couch** briefed the CSA on the Student Conference on United States Affairs (SCUSA). **Cadet Couch** highlighted the conference's role in forming lasting connections across military and civilian sectors, as well the international aspects of SCUSA. The briefing was well-received by the CSA and Academy leadership present.
2. 8-11 January. Three members of the CTC team, **Drs. Richard Yon, Rachel Yon, and Daniel Milton**, traveled to the Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science

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Association in San Juan, Puerto Rico. **Dr. Richard Yon**, CTC Director of Cadet Development, presented research on the influence of the vice presidency; CTC Executive Officer **Dr. Rachel Yon** presented research on gender disparities in the juvenile justice system; and CTC Director of Research **Dr. Milton and Dr. Rachel Yon** presented research on the factors associated with lenient outcomes in U.S. terrorism investigations and prosecutions.

3. 6 January. **The SOSH Research Lab** hosted a book conference focused on strengthening a near complete manuscript titled *The Islamic State in Africa: Emergence, Evolution, and Future of the Next Jihadist Battlefield*, co-authored by **Dr. Jason Warner of the CTC**. The conference featured experts in the field of Africa and terrorism studies; many joined in person with some participating via web conference. The sessions were extremely constructive as discussions based on chapter critiques offered the authors new insights toward completion of the project.

DEPARTMENT: WPWP
POC Name: Wynn Klosky
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DATE: 01/16/2020

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

1. The Mounger Writing Center (MWC) re-opens for face-to-face consultations on Tuesday, 21 JAN. Faculty and staff may set appointments with the MWC's Postgraduate Writing Fellows for help with any writing project in any stage. Cadets may see both Cadet Writing Fellows and PGWFs. Hours are Mon-Fri afternoons, 1230-1600, and Sun-Thurs evenings, 1930-2200. Dedicated walk-in times are 1230-1255 and 1930-1955 within those open hours. Appointments may be made on the MWC [scheduling website](http://usma.mywconline.com) (usma.mywconline.com). POC Ms. Wynn Klosky (wynn.klosky@westpoint.edu)
2. Upcoming Faculty Writing Group sessions will be held Thurs, 23 JAN and 6 FEB, from 1200-1350 in JH401. The informal open-door sessions hosted by Dr. Colleen Eils (Associate Director, WPWP) give faculty members a dedicated time and space to work on their writing projects; all are welcome to join the group for as much or as little time as

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their schedules allow. The full schedule may be downloaded at the bottom of this [webpage](https://www.westpoint.edu/academics/curriculum/west-point-writing-program/writing-fellows-program/faculty-support) (<https://www.westpoint.edu/academics/curriculum/west-point-writing-program/writing-fellows-program/faculty-support>). POC: Ms. Wynn Klosky (wynn.klosky@westpoint.edu)

3. In coordination with the Army Talent Management Task Force (ATMTF), Dr. Jason Hoppe (Director, WPWP) and Dr. Colleen Eils (Associate Director, WPWP) have begun conducting writing assessment for the Battalion Commander Assessment Program (BCAP) at Fort Knox. Writing assessment is one part of the new process for evaluating Army officers for battalion command. POC: Dr. Colleen Eils (colleen.eils@westpoint.edu)