

DEPARTMENT: Department of Foreign Languages  
POC Name: CPT Balazs Peszeki  
POC Email: balazs.peszeki@westpoint.edu  
DATE: December 18, 2019

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 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.

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

1. Nine Semester Abroad Program (SAP) Cadets in France and Belgium joined MAJ Lou Cascino from the French Section at the 75th Commemoration of the Battle of the Bulge in Bastogne, Belgium as the guests of the Belgian Royal Military Academy (RMA) from December 12-15. On December 14, SAP Cadets marched alongside RMA Cadets for the afternoon parade and wreath laying ceremonies which were attended by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and GEN Tod Wolters, Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR). The Cadets remained disciplined as they marched and rendered honors at two different ceremonies.

DEPARTMENT: G&EnE  
POC Name: MAJ John Boyle  
POC Email: john.boyle2@westpoint.edu  
DATE: 19 December 2019

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

1. On 09 January 2019, LTC Wallen (G&EnE) along with COL Hill (CME) will initiate and lead a project management professional (PMP) review course in WH5326 from 1630-1730. The 15-session course will meet every Tuesday and Thursday in January and February and already has 30 staff, faculty, and other professionals across West Point signed up to take the course. More are welcome to join in the pursuit of their certification as a PMP.

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

1. On 17 December, GEnE published its 31 AIAD opportunities that include partnerships with DoD Humanitarian Assistance Projects, NATO, US Institute of Peace, ARCENT, Marshall Center for European Security Studies and others. Destinations include Iceland, Germany, Israel, Hawaii, Italy, and Jordan, with many local and CONUS locations as well.
2. On 14 December, the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering (G&EnE) celebrated the holidays and viewed the 2019 Army / Navy game with a holiday/watch party at the Firstie Club with friends, family, and a visit from Santa Claus.

DEPARTMENT: Mathematical Sciences  
POC Name: Yoselin Brice  
POC Email: [yoselin.brice@westpoint.edu](mailto:yoselin.brice@westpoint.edu)  
DATE: 19 December 2019

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

On 13 December, the Center for Leadership and Diversity in STEM supported the Leadership, Ethics and Diversity in STEM (LEADS) event in Philadelphia, with a workshop on programming electrical circuits. Dr. Pratheek Manjunath of EECS and Dr. Kayla Blyman of Math administered the six-hour workshop to high school students on the Temple University campus.

On 14 December, CLD STEM, in collaboration with the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) organization, put on a robotics workshop for 22 grade school and middle school students at a local recreation center in Philadelphia. Dr. Blyman and Dr. Manjunath administered the workshop with the assistance of four cadets: Cadet Hope Hack '20, Cadet Parker Petersen '20, Cadet Kaliste Schauer '21, and Cadet Jordan Soper-Johnson '21.

DEPARTMENT: Physics and Nuclear Engineering  
POC Name: Kim M. Lee  
POC Email: [kim.lee@westpoint.edu](mailto:kim.lee@westpoint.edu)  
DATE: 12 December 2019

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

1. The Advanced Physics, Space Science, and Nuclear Engineering programs hosted a PaNE Fall Research Symposium for engagement with research conducted in AY20-1 by collaborative efforts between cadets and their research sponsors, advised by faculty in the House of PaNE. Twenty-one research projects by 33 cadets were on display sponsored internally by PaNE, EECS, CME and CLS, and externally by Army Research Laboratories, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (through the Nuclear Science and Engineering Research Center), the

Photonics Research Center and Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) (through the SMDC-Research & Analysis Center). Cadets Jarrod Broussard, Jacob Bohnemann, Anthony Dinallo, John Boyle, Nathaniel Beck, Nathan Schubring were recognized as Best in Advanced Physics for their presentation titled “Establishing Drop Time as an Object Measurement of Laser Effectiveness”; Cadet Thomas Williams as Best in Nuclear Engineering for his presentation titled “System Generated EMP Modeling Comparing LSP Fluid and Kinetic Model Simulations”; and Cadet Easton Bolin as Best in Space Science for his presentation titled “Development of Inter-Stage Separation for Solid State Rocket”. Cadets Vincent Gasparri, Cameron Hudson, Alexander Dang, Andrew Obrzut, Luke Sanders received the distinction of Best Overall for their presentation titled “Applying Machine Learning to Particle Type Identification Methodologies”.

2. CPT Joseph Fasone and CDT Dylan LaPore (‘20) travelled to Sunnyvale, CA, 11-12 Dec, where CDT LaPore briefed executives from Lockheed Martin on his research project entitled “An Analysis of Using “Eye Safer” Track Illuminator Lasers on High Energy Laser Weapon Systems.” The audience included the chief of the Directed Energy Division of Lockheed Martin Space Systems. D/PNE intends to send additional cadets to Lockheed Martin this summer to continue research and live-fire testing of next-generation high energy laser weapons.

DEPARTMENT: Social Sciences  
POC Name: LTC Josh Richardson  
POC Email: [joshua.richardson@westpoint.edu](mailto:joshua.richardson@westpoint.edu)  
DATE: Week of 16 December 2019

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

1. 6 January. The **SOSH Research Lab** will host a book conference intended to strengthen 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**. Directed largely toward an academic audience, the book explores how the Islamic State, an insurgent movement originating in Iraq and Syria, found adherent followers and formed cells across the African continent. The book takes a comparative look at Islamic State cells across Africa and ultimately takes on questions pertaining to the future of these cells in Africa, and the future of the Islamic State as a whole.
2. 13 January. **Dr. Julie Chernov Hwang**, an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Goucher College, will guest lecture with SS466: Combating Terrorism, on “Why Terrorists Quit? The Disengagement of Indonesian Jihadists.” Dr. Hwang’s research focuses on how social networks facilitate entry into and exit from jihadist groups in Southeast Asia. She is the author of *Why Terrorists Quit: The Disengagement of Indonesian Jihadists* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2018) and *Peaceful Islamist Mobilization in the Muslim World: What Went Right*

(New York: Palgrave, 2009) and co-editor of *Islamist Parties and Political Normalization in the Muslim World*, (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014 w/ Quinn Meham).

3. 17 January. The **International Affairs program** will host future members of faculty that are currently in grad school for a day of orientation. The day's events include group sessions, class observation, and one-on-one sessions with program leadership. The events are designed to make sure that these leaders are maximizing the grad school years and ready to hit the ground running upon arrival to USMA and SOSH.

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

1. 12 December. **MAJ Daniel Flynn**, International Affairs program DAC and XO, attended the first annual FA59/CP60 conference at the Pentagon Library and Conference Center. **MG Bradley Gericke** (DA G-3/5/7) hosted the event which brought together over 100 US Army Strategists from around the world. Participants discussed the current state of the functional area, pending updates to AR 600-3, talent management trends, diversity and inclusion initiatives, and future possibilities to strengthen formal and informal networks around the force.
2. 12 December. SOSH conducted Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT) train-the-trainer and department-wide familiarization at USMAPS. **MAJ George Fust** first led a small session with faculty members who have attended ACFT training with DPE. Then these leaders hosted a familiarization session – led by **MAJ Joe Lapointe** – for all military members of faculty designed to progressively prepare for the diagnostic ACFT in March, 2020.
3. 12 December. SOSH hosted its annual **Kids Holiday Party** in the department conference room. Once again it was a great opportunity to get together and share in the joy of the season with faculty, family, and even Santa with elf and reindeer!

DEPARTMENT: Social Sciences  
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6. 12 December. SOSH faculty from the **Economics program** executed financial readiness training with the junior enlisted Soldiers at West Point’s Keller Army Community Hospital. Primary topics included principles of personal finance and introducing Soldiers

to the Blended Retirement System and Thrift Savings Plan. Soldiers also displayed a strong appetite for increased training on personal budgeting and financial triage.

DEPARTMENT: WPWP

POC Name: Wynn Klosky

POC Email: Wynn.Klosky@westpoint.edu

DATE: 12/19/2019

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

1. The West Point Writing Program's Mounger Writing Center experienced an increase in usage again this semester. With 45 Cadet Writing Fellows and 4 Postgraduate Writing Fellows, the MWC served 782 regular appointments for 438 clients during 20-1. This represents a nearly 32% increase in appointments and a 29% increase in clientele over this same time period last year. Additionally, a greater percentage of the appointments were with Firsties and Yuks than in previous semesters. The customer satisfaction numbers remain high, with 99% of all clients reporting that their appointment was helpful or very helpful.