

## DEAN'S SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES REPORT



DEPARTMENT: BS&L

POC Name: Evelyn Lovo-Blanco

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DATE: 4/30/2019

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

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

1. On 24 & 26 April, BS&L's West Point Negotiation Project conducted the final simulation exercise for the course MG390, Negotiations for Leaders. In this exercise, 67 cadets negotiated with simulated Afghan villagers and security forces as well as partners from a NATO military unit. The cadets needed to draw upon concepts and frameworks to negotiate in both bilateral and multi-party settings across cultures. The exercise utilized professional role players from the US Army Culture Center as well as volunteers from USMA staff, faculty, family, and friends. The event took place on Constitution Island and depends upon the generous support from the USMA Harbormaster and harbor craft crew and the Constitution Island custodian, Mr. Roddy MacLeod. The West Point Negotiation Project is a USMA faculty effort to improve the ability of military leaders to negotiate and is an activity within BS&L's West Point Leadership Center
2. On Friday, 26 April, the Corbin Forum hosted its annual leadership conference in the West Point Club Ballroom. This year's conference theme was "Lasting Impression- New Perspectives". The day consisted of three diverse panels with a robust list of speakers-- Panel 1, Appreciating Legacy- Developing the Next Generation of Women; panel 2, Current Climate- The Role of Women in Combat; and panel 3, New Perspectives-The Role of Men in Gender Diversity. The conference opened with key note speaker, RADM Ann Burkhardt, the Director for the Sexual Assault and Prevention Response Office, who shared thoughts on feminism, the effects of personal biases, expectations within a *people-centered* profession, and the importance of intervention to change culture. After each panel, conference participants engaged in small group discussions led by table facilitators to foster thought-provoking conversations regarding relevant issues for gender diversity and integration. Themes from the day included the responsibility everyone has to change the conversation and the need to take action to develop diverse and inclusive leaders.

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DEPARTMENT: Chemistry & Life Science

POC Name: MAJ Jeremy Hershfield

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DATE: 02 May 19

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

1. 2 MAY: CLS will hold its annual softball game at the fields by the PX, featuring a team of staff & faculty vs. a Class of 2019 team of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, and Life Science majors.
2. 24 MAY: CLS will hold the Department Awards Ceremony for the Class of 2019 Graduates @ 1400 in the Class of 1985 Auditorium.

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

1. 24 APR: CLS faculty along with their research Cadets participated in the Mid-Hudson American Chemical Society Undergraduate Research Symposium at Vassar College in record numbers, with 17 Cadets presenting 14 research posters. In addition to the poster presentations, we had several Cadets recognized for excellence in the discipline and for their scholarly work. Cadet Daniel Schell (Chemistry '19) was presented with the College Recognition Award for excellence in the discipline, and Cadets Grant Hall (Chemistry '19), Ross Poulin (Interdisciplinary Science, '19), and Mark Jaskot (Chemical Engineer, '21) each received research awards.
2. 25 – 26 APR: LTC Melissa Eslinger (biomedical science and life science) and MAJ Jeremy Hershfield (biomedical science) served as judges for poster and oral presentations during the 57th National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS) in Albuquerque, NM. The goal of JSHS, which is a tri-service (Army, Navy, & Air Force) collaborative research program between the Department of Defense and nationwide colleges and universities, is to encourage high school students to conduct original research in STEM fields. Within each of eight categories, judges evaluated students from greater than 230 high school students (selected from the 8,000 who entered across 47 JSHS regional symposia) to award monetary scholarships for best poster presentation and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes for oral presentations.
3. Cadets Jenny Wang (Life Science '20) and Matthew DiBiase (Chemical Engineering '20) won the Goldwater Scholarship, which is the oldest and most prestigious national (undergraduate) scholarship in the natural sciences, engineering and mathematics. Cadets

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who win the Goldwater receive the recognition of being among the nation's most capable and prolific undergraduate researchers; of note, Goldwater Scholars have been awarded 92 Rhodes Scholarships, 137 Marshall Awards, 159 Churchill Scholarships, 104 Hertz Fellowships, and numerous other distinguished awards like the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships. This is the second year that West Point cadets have competed for the Goldwater, with CLS cadets winning 4 of the awarded 6 scholarships.

DEPARTMENT: Civil and Mechanical Engineering

POC Name: MAJ Samuel Greulich

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DATE: 26 April 2019

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

1. The ARDEC Projects Day will occur on 29 April at Picatinny Arsenal.
2. The MIT SDC finals and NSRDEC Projects Day will both occur on 30 April.
3. On 2 May the department will conduct Projects Day at the Kimsey Center.

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

1. Semi-finals for the MIT Soldier Design Competition, including a Facebook Live event, took place on 24 April. 6 teams were selected to compete in the finals next week.
2. COL Michael J. Benson and COL Bret P. Van Poppel, Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering, published a peer-reviewed journal article in the ASME Journal of Turbomachinery, entitled *Three-Dimensional Velocity and Temperature Field Measurements of Internal and External Turbine Blade Features Using Magnetic Resonance Thermometry*, [DOI: 10.1115/1.4043151]. This work was part of a cadet capstone project and performed in conjunction with collaborators from the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), Florida Turbine Technologies (FTT), Stanford University and Montana State University.
3. On 25 April, BG Jebb presented Dean's coins to Mech and EECS cadets who outsmarted AF and Navy to win the Service Academy Design Challenge.

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DEPARTMENT: Department of Foreign Languages

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DATE: May 1, 2019

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

1. Dr. James Millward of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service will join the Chinese section and Department on Projects Day and give an evening lecture entitled "The PRC Re-education Gulag: Repression, Assimilation and Islamophobia in the Name of 'Stability' and 'Chineseness'". As an academic with decades of experience travelling to and researching China - with a focus on the Silk Road and Xinjiang - he will bring valuable regional knowledge and expertise for the Cadets to consider.
2. BG Steve Michael, USARPAC Deputy Chief of Staff, G3/5/7 and USMA graduate of 1988, will attend Projects Day on May 2 to observe Chinese-language Cadets presentations and to provide input into a Department roundtable discussion on values-based competition and upholding the integrity of liberal democracy.

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

1. As part of a three-week long immersion program with various Bundeswehr units, Cadets studying abroad in Munich and Hamburg traveled last week to different locations throughout Germany.
2. On April 19, 16 Lieutenants of the German Armed Forces visited West Point. The highlight of their visit was a historical tour, provided by Cadets in LTC Michael Breuer's LG476 (Speaking and Reading in a Military Context) course.

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DEPARTMENT: Mathematical Sciences

POC Name: Yoselin Brice

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DATE: 01 May 2019

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

1. On 1 May, CLD STEM will host over 60 students from James O'Neal High School for the annual Raider Black Knight STEMinar. This daylong event provides an opportunity for students to experience hands-on STEM activities facilitated by Math and USMAPS faculty.

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

1. On 10 April, LTC Nick Clark spoke at the DataWORKS conference hosted by the National Defense and Security of the American Statistical Association. LTC Clark was asked to speak about the new Applied Statistics and Data Science major offered at West Point and participated on a panel with professors from the Naval Academy and the Air Force Academy; discussing challenges in educating statistically literate Cadets and Midshipmen.
2. On 24 April, Dr. Sam Ivy served as the keynote speaker for Highland Falls Intermediate School (HFIS) during their "Start Now" STEM week. He spoke to HFIS students and parents on the importance of pursuing STEM pathways while motivating students to consider STEM college programs. Preceding the talk, West Point National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) cadets facilitated a Bridge design challenge workshop for HFIS students.
3. On 25 April, CLD STEM supported the cadet group, Cadets4Kids, as they continue their outreach with Highland Falls Intermediate School (HFIS). HFIS students participated in CLD STEM's Sphero robotics workshop where they were challenged to program their Sphero to perform several tasks.
4. On 25 April, Dr. Christa Jackson from the School of Education at Iowa State University gave a talk titled, "Access and Equity: Exploring Our Conceptions." Dr. Jackson stated that although many mathematics educators contend issues of equity are not relevant factors in the mathematics classroom because mathematics is a universal, culture-free subject; there is a growing body of mathematics education researchers who understand mathematics and mathematical knowledge are neither universal nor culturally neutral but are situated in a sociocultural framework. In this session, she helped us to examine our

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own conceptions of access and equity and discuss its relevance to mathematics teaching and learning. It was well received by Department of Math Faculty.

1. On 30 April, the Department hosted the annual First-Class Cadet Farewell Dinner and Recognition Ceremony in the Haig Room. Mathletes of the Class of 2019 who majored in Mathematics or Operations Research and who minored in Statistics or Network Science were recognized as they prepare for new journeys after graduation. All 66 departing cadets received a personalized desktop name plaque with their branch insignia.

DEPARTMENT: Social Sciences

POC Name: LTC Josh Richardson

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DATE: week of 29 April 2019

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

1. 6 May: The Combating Terrorism Center will brief 220 cadet candidates at USMAPS on violent extremist organizations. The briefing will be held at the UNCLASS level and is designed to give the cadet candidates a better understanding of current threats as well as appreciation for what the CTC has to offer.
2. 9 May: The Department of Social Sciences will host its third **Field Grade Brown Bag Lunch** of the semester. This three-part series is hosted by three of SOSH's senior military rotating faculty and geared towards preparing our second graduating class for service in the operational force as field grade officers. The final session for AY19 is hosted by MAJ(P) Dan Hurd – a former brigade S3 – and focuses on the role of operations officers at battalion and brigade levels.
3. 2-10 May: It's farewell season, and over the course of the next couple of weeks the Department of Social Sciences will honor our graduates from the Class of 2019 as well as our departing faculty. As part of the program's farewell social at the First-Class Club on 2 May, International Affairs welcomes back **Ms. Katie Ganguli ('03 and SOSH alumnus), Vice President of Insight Partners**. Finally, the department will hold our annual farewell to departing faculty ("SCOF") at the 49er Lodge on 10 May.

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

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1. From 19-21 April, four cadets from the Army Debate Team participated in the **Lafayette Debates at George Washington University and the French Embassy in Washington, D.C.** Along with teams from 28 universities throughout the country and military teams from the USNA and the French War College, Ecole de Guerre, the debated the topic: “Democracy is the best hope for peace.” **Cadets Travis Afuso ('22) and Tommy Hall ('22)** performed extremely well earning a 2-2 record, with their two losses coming against the USNA team that won the military championship and the GWU team that won the overall tournament championship.
2. On 23 April, the Department of Social Sciences, with assistance from the Department of Civil & Mechanical Engineering and GENE, hosted the **2<sup>nd</sup> annual Urban Affairs Conference.** Including over 100 attendees from **Columbia University (SIPA), Bard College, MIT, NYU, and Manhattan College,** the conference was designed to facilitate interaction between the West Point community and their civilian counterparts in order to better understand current urban issues. The highlight of the conference was keynote speaker, the **Hon Matt Collier ('75),** as he discussed his experience as mayor of Flint, MI and connected it to the concepts of leadership and service that he learned while at West Point.
3. On 23 April, Combating Terrorism Center leadership and cadets enrolled in **SS464: Homeland Security and Defense traveled to the FDNY Academy** to take part in their team challenge. Cadets swapped their ACUs for firefighter gear and participated in a series of physically challenging exercises, which featured the FDNY's state-of-the-art training simulators. This developmental exercise enabled cadets to experience up-close the life of first responders and enabled them to test, challenge, and build upon the teamwork, leadership, adaptive decision making, and communication skills they have been honing at West Point.

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DEPARTMENT: WPWP

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DATE: 05/02/2019

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

1. Thus far in 19-2, Writing Fellows have conducted more than 600 one-on-one consultations in the Mounger Writing Center, a 34% increase over last year for this same time period. Clients remain highly satisfied with their MWC experience: more than 98% of the clients found their consultations to be helpful or very helpful and also indicated that they agreed or strongly agreed that they felt more confident about their writing as a result of their MWC session.