

## DEAN'S SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES REPORT



DEPARTMENT: Chemistry & Life Science  
POC Name: MAJ Jeremy Hershfield  
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DATE: 28 Mar 19

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

1. 29 MAR: CLS will hold a promotion ceremony for CPT(P) Trevor Corrigan.
2. 02 APR: There will be a CLS seminar featuring a guest speaker, Dr. Carlos Garcia, from Clemson University.
3. 07 – 10 APR: MAJ Armand Balboni, OIC for the West Point Premedical Society, will accompany 40 cadets as they shadow physicians at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and tour Uniformed Services University and Georgetown University medical schools. This event was rescheduled from February due to snow.
4. 08 – 09 APR: Professor Michael Labare will accompany several of his research cadets to present two posters at the American Society for Microbiology Regional Meeting in Portsmouth, NH.
5. 18 – 19 APR: CLS will host the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Inter-Academy Chemistry Symposium (IACS), featuring a research poster session for students and meetings among the faculty from USMA, USNA, USAFA, and USCGA.

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

1. The CLS Multi-Functional Materials Lab published “Noble Metal Composite Porous Silk Fibroin Aerogel Fibers” in the journal, Materials. The authors were Alexander Mitropoulos (CLS/Math), COL John Burpo (CLS), LTC(P) Chi Nguyen (CLS), Dr. Enoch Nagelli (CLS), CDT Madeline Ryu (Life Science, 2019), CDT Jenny Wang (Life Science, 2020), CDT Kenneth Sims (Mechanical Engineering, 2019), Kamil Woronowicz (CLS), and Dr. Ken Wickiser (CLS). The work details the synthesis of silk fibroin composite aerogel fibers up to 2 cm in length and a diameter of ~300  $\mu\text{m}$  decorated with noble metal nanoparticles. <https://www.mdpi.com/1996-1944/12/6/894/html>
2. MAJ Armand Balboni (Co-PI) and his industry collaborator, Dr. Sridar Narayan (Appili Therapeutics) were recently awarded a multi year/multi-million dollar grant from the DoD's Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP) for their research project titled, "A Novel Negamycin Analogue for the Treatment of Multidrug-Resistant Gram-Negative Bacterial Infection." The combination of analytical chemistry (Dr. Sridar) and experience conducting IND enabling studies (MAJ Balboni) will advance these negamycin analogues towards first-in-man clinical studies and the advanced development

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of a novel therapeutic class of antimicrobial agents. The grant activities are expected to begin in September 2019.

3. 19 MAR: CPT Cameron Marlow was promoted to the rank of Major in a ceremony held in Bartlett Hall. As an Armor Officer, he wanted to celebrate in Cavalry fashion wearing his Stetson and spurs. His family had the opportunity to participate in the promotion ceremony as well.

DEPARTMENT: Department of Foreign Languages

POC Name: CPT Balazs Peszeki

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DATE: March 27, 2019

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

1. COL Eugene Gregory will lead an immersion trip section for Cadets on Semester Abroad Program (SAP) in Taiwan to the People's Republic of China (PRC) from March 29 to April 7.
2. The Model Arab League will participate in National University Model Arab League (NUMAL) as part of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relation's annual culminating event on April 4-7, 2019. The USMA Model Arab League team will represent Libya on a range of councils addressing the vital issues facing the Arab world.
3. From April 5-7, the Spanish Forum will travel to Washington D.C. and visit the Chilean and Mexican Embassies as well as the Inter-American Defense Board's Cultural Day. Cadets will speak with native speakers and gain a shared understanding from different Spanish-speaking countries and their military missions in the U.S.
4. From April 7-20, Cadets studying abroad in Munich and Hamburg will attend a seminar with Würth, a highly successful German corporation headquartered in a small village in southern Germany. Cadets will discuss leadership with members of the Würth Akademie training program, visit cultural sites in southern Germany, and participate in team-building activities.
5. Dr. Finkelstein of the Center for Naval Analysis will visit the Chinese Section from April 8-9 and will lecture on the military capabilities of the PRC.

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1. Cadets currently on Semester Abroad Program (SAP) in Morocco were able to conduct regional travel while on a break during their semester studies. Nine Cadets traveled to Southern Spain, where they learned about the Moorish occupation of the Iberian Peninsula and how elements of Arabic culture still influence the region today. Two Cadets traveled to Egypt, where they visited historical and cultural sites in Alexandria, Cairo, and Luxor.
2. From March 17-21, CPT Sessions led a LN490 capstone group to Manchuria in the PRC, where they conducted site visits and interviews to further their research into Sino-Russian military relations.
3. On March 23, faculty and Cadets from the Chinese Section, at the gracious invitation of BS&L, met and interacted with Jack Ma, founder of the e-commerce giant Ali-Baba.

DEPARTMENT: History

POC Name: MAJ Ben Flores

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DATE: 28 March 2019

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

1. SAT 6 APR: New Majors NYC Trip
2. SAT 6 APR: History Movie Night – La Pirogue
3. SAT 20 APR: Historic Weapons Shoot
4. THU 25 APR: HI108R Guest Lecture

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

1. On 26 March, Dr. Stephen Morillo, the incoming Charles Boal Ewing Chair in Military History, delivered a lecture on the 1119 Battle of Bremule to the Department of History staff and faculty. Dr. Morillo's lecture challenged the faculty to think about the role of emotion in strategic decision-making. The Department is excited to see how Dr. Morillo's unique perspectives on military history shape our intellectual culture.

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DEPARTMENT: Mathematical Sciences  
POC Name: Yoselin Brice  
POC Email: yoselin.brice@westpoint.edu  
DATE: 26 Mar 2019

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

1. On 28 March 2019, CFD Seminar Speaker Series presents, Dr. Robert Rogers, Distinguished Teaching Professor of Mathematics in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at SUNY Fredonia, will give a talk titled "Teaching Calculus with Differentials Instead of Derivatives." In this talk, Dr. Rogers will discuss the fact that the concepts of differentials in calculus historically precedes those of limits and derivatives, but in most calculus courses, limits and derivatives are addressed before differentials. Dr. Rogers proposes that teaching differentials first may be more beneficial to students in such courses.

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

1. On 19 March 2019, Dr. Samuel J. Ivy, along with CLD STEM conducted a STEM workshop to support the Directorate of Admissions (DAD) NYC Engagement. Over 40 Air Force JROTC students from Dickinson High School participated in CLD STEM's Bridge design challenge workshop. Students were challenged to build a bridge that spanned a certain distance, supports a weight and is as light as possible.
2. On 21 March 2019, Dr. Samuel J. Ivy and Lori Sheetz, along with CLD STEM conducted two STEM workshops for over 60 West Point Middle School (WPMS) students. The WPMS students visited the Math department as a "Cadet for a Day" field trip and participated in CLD STEM's Sphero and Drones workshops.

DEPARTMENT: Systems Engineering  
POC Name: CPT Clay Woody  
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DATE: 20190328

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

1. The Society of Women Engineers will visit Comcast Headquarters in Philadelphia, PA on 29MAR. Ms. Laura Lee, USMA'93 & VP for Operations and Transformation, has organized a half day event for cadets to tour the facility, meet with practicing engineers, and learn from industry leaders.
2. LTC Pegues will be part of the Women In Engineering Mentorship Panel at the Lower Hudson Valley Engineering Expo on 31MAR19. The event will be held at

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- the White Plains High School, White Plains, NY. The event seeks to inspire middle and high school students to pursue a career in engineering.
3. The DSE and Society of Women Engineers will host Dr. Ries, the Dean of Research, AFIT, for a lunch seminar on 5APR. Dr. Ries will talk about the challenges of technical leadership within the Department of Defense.
  4. Representatives from DSE's Operations Research Center (ORCEN) will conduct a site visit with leadership from the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE) at Fort Rucker, AL 16-19APR. The purpose of this visit is to identify potential collaborative opportunities between USAACE and the ORCEN concerning the PILOT Training Next (PTN) program. PTN intends to leverage the developments in virtual and augmented reality technology to modernize the new pilot training that takes place at Fort Rucker.

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

1. DSE and the Society of Women Engineers sponsored 10 cadets to attend the Women Builder's Council's Women's Leadership Forum in NYC on 22MAR. The event was a one-day forum that enabled women at all levels of leadership (CEO to student) to engage in a practical series of workshops and action-generating conversations.
2. LTC Pegues participated as a guest panel member in a discussion for women engineers on 27MAR. The event was hosted by IEEE at Stevens Institute of Technology.
3. SE400 Professional Engineering Seminar hosted Mr. Ryan Yarnell from Army Community Service (ACS) to give cadets a Resume Writing Workshop. Mr. Yarnell provided valuable and practical guidance on how cadets can start their resume now and then continue to build and grow their resume as they serve in the Army.

DEPARTMENT: Social Sciences  
POC Name: MAJ Elizabeth S. Verardo  
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DATE: week of 25 March 2019

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

1. 3-4 April: COL Kevin McAninch, Director of the Army Strategic Education Program at the U.S. Army War College, will guest lecture in SS483: National Security Seminar on the military's role in policymaking.
2. 7-9 April: Senior Conference 55, featuring keynote addresses from AMB Wendy Sherman, GEN Robert Brown, and Prime Minister Kevin Rudd.

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3. 9 April: Class of 1952 Lecture with LTG (Ret) H.R. McMaster.
4. 16 April: Heidi Crebo-Rediker, Adjunct Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, will guest lecture to cadets enrolled in SS473: American Foreign Policy. Prior to her tenure at CFR, Ms. Crebo-Rediker served as the State Department's first chief economist. Appointed to this assistant secretary-level position by then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton as a centerpiece of her "economic statecraft" initiative, Crebo-Rediker provided advice and analysis to the secretary on foreign policy issues with a significant economic or financial component. Her remarks at West Point will focus on American foreign policy and trade.
5. 18-19 April: Greg Mankiw, Robert M. Beren Professor of Economics at Harvard University, will guest lecture to cadets enrolled in SS201 on Thursday evening. The following day, Dr. Mankiw will attend economics classes, eat lunch at the West Point Club with select faculty, and host a faculty professional development session before concluding his visit.

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

1. Cadets of the **Domestic Affairs Forum** traveled to Washington, D.C. this week to learn about the American policymaking process and civil-military relations from staffers on Capitol Hill and the Pentagon. During their visit, cadets met with Sean O'Keefe, a Professional Staff Member for the **Senate Armed Services Committee**, and Will Goodwin (USMA '15), **Military Legislative Assistant for Senator Kirsten Gillibrand**, to discuss the authorizations process, the NDAA, life as a congressional staffer, and their career paths. Cadets also traveled to the Pentagon for engagements with former SOSH faculty members now serving in the Office of the Secretary of the Army, the Under Secretary of the Army, the Director of the Army Staff, the G3/5/7, the G8, and the J7. Discussions included civil military relations, the Army budgeting process, and Secretary Esper's vision for the "Army Renaissance."
2. **Mr. Tom Brokaw**, NBC News special correspondent and author, visited West Point on 20 March. He ate lunch with faculty and cadets from the **SS370 Mass Media and American Politics** course and the Domestic Affairs Forum cadet group. Afterward, Mr. Brokaw delivered a **guest lecture to cadets of the SS202 American Politics** course. Mr. Brokaw spoke about the general state of international affairs, the intersection of media and American politics, challenges with civic discourse, and the changes in news media spanning from his start in the news business in the 1960s to today.
3. On 19 March, CTC Senior Fellow **Chief (Ret.) Joseph Pfeifer** met with cadets in SS464 Homeland Security and Defense to discuss the "Art of Crisis Leadership." Pfeifer is a retired FDNY Chief and the founding director of the **FDNY's Center for Terrorism and Disaster Preparedness**; he's also a senior fellow at **Harvard Kennedy School** and

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the **Director for Crisis Leadership at Columbia University's National Center for Disaster Preparedness**. Drawing on his 37-year career with the FDNY and his experience as the first Chief at the World Trade Center during the attacks on 9/11, Mr. Pfeifer discussed with cadets the challenges of responding to crises and making decisions in ambiguous and high-stress environments.

4. From 17 to 22 March, cadets from the United States Military Academy **Model United Nations** team traveled to Madrid, Spain to participate in **Harvard World Model United Nations Conference** (WorldMUN), hosted by Harvard University and Universidad Rey Juan Carlos. Of the 12 West Point cadets that attended, five earned individual awards at this "Olympics of Model UN." This is especially impressive, given the size and scope of the conference: 2,200 student competitors from more than 130 countries. The smallest committee in which our cadets competed was a 100-person committee, while the largest was a 360 person committee. Being recognized for excellence in such large groups over the course of a one week competition is a true testament to our cadets' preparation, leadership, and negotiation skills.

DEPARTMENT: WPWP

POC Name: Wynn Klosky

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DATE: 03/28/2019

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

1. Upcoming weekly Faculty Writing Group sessions: Tuesday, 2APR, Wednesday 10APR, Tuesday, 16APR, Wednesday, 24APR, and TUES, 30APR. The open-door sessions hosted by Dr. Colleen Eils (Associate Director, WPWP) run from 1200-1350 in JH301. All faculty members who are interested in having a dedicated time and space to work on their writing projects are encouraged to come in and write. Collaboration? Privacy? Both options are available! POC: Dr. Eils ([colleen.eils@westpoint.edu](mailto:colleen.eils@westpoint.edu))
2. On Monday, 08APR19, from 2000-2050 in JH129, the WPWP will present a workshop and conversation, "Life and Analytic Communication in the Intelligence Community" with retired career CIA officer Mary O'Sullivan. The event is free and open to all. POC: Ms. Wynn Klosky (x0466, [wynn.klosky@westpoint.edu](mailto:wynn.klosky@westpoint.edu))
3. The WPWP invites submissions from all Cadets to the Semester of Grant Essay Contest. Essays may focus on any aspect of Ulysses S. Grant's life, career, or legacy, should be

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1000-1500 words, and adhere to discipline-appropriate documentation styles. Essays are due NLT 1600 on **11APR19** to WPWP Associate Director Dr. Colleen Eils ([colleen.eils@westpoint.edu](mailto:colleen.eils@westpoint.edu)). Please direct any questions to Dr. Eils.

4. Departments may now schedule their Incoming Faculty Writing Pedagogy workshops via the Semi-Centralized Scheduler for any free block during the given WPWP availability blocks (WPWP availability: 3-10JUN19 and 24JUN-2Aug, M-F, 0700-1700; Scheduler found [here](#)). Questions: Ms. Wynn Klosky (x0466, [wynn.klosky@westpoint.edu](mailto:wynn.klosky@westpoint.edu)).

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1. To-date, Writing Fellows in the Mounger Writing Center (a subcomponent of the WPWP) have served 313 separate consultations, marking a 21% increase over this same time last year. Customer satisfaction remains high, with 98.6% of MWC clients reporting that they found the support they received from the MWC to be helpful or very helpful.