DEPARTMENT: Behavioral Sciences and Leadership
POC Name: Desiree Talley
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DATE: 5 December 2019

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

1. 6th December: Annual BS&L Holiday Party to be held at the Spain Family Residence. Visit from Santa, Polar Express viewing, holiday crafts, cookie decorating and much more to celebrate the holiday season.
2. 12th December: Fall Colloquium VII. Department Leadership holds end of semester colloquium to award faculty and staff on APFT excellence and various other achievements.

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

1. 3rd December: The Investiture & Promotion of Colonel Brian Reed, PhD to Professor, United States Military Academy (PUSMA) and Deputy Head, Department of Behavioral Sciences & Leadership. The ceremony took place in Jefferson Hall (Haig Room).

DEPARTMENT: Department of Foreign Languages
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DATE: December 4, 2019

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

1. Semester Abroad Program (SAP) Cadets in France and Belgium will join MAJ Lou Cascino from the French Section at the 75th Commemoration of the Battle of the Bulge in Bastogne, Belgium as guests of the Belgian Royal Military Academy from December 12-15.

2. 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. MAJ Clay Hardwick along with Cadets Anchor Losch, Kasea Losch, and Thomas Sonnie traveled to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from November 23 to December 1 to take part in a service academy study visit organized by the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations (NCUSAR). During the visit, the Cadets visited numerous sites of political, economic, and military importance, all of which aided their understanding of the country and its important role in the region. Highlights of the visit included a trip to state-owned oil giant Saudi ARAMCO, the world’s most profitable company, where they discussed the recent UAV attacks against Abqaiq and its effect on the company’s upcoming IPO. The group has also visited Naval, Air Force, and Army bases to discuss ongoing operations as well as bilateral U.S. military relations with the United States. Finally, they visited numerous private and government-backed companies and public service organizations to discuss ongoing modernization and diversification efforts within the Kingdom as part of Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman’s Vision 2030 initiative.

2. On December 4, Ms. Nakissa Jahanbani of the USMA Center for Combatting Terrorism led a workshop with DFL’s intermediate Persian Cadets. Ms. Jahanbani, who is also a native Persian speaker, presented the preliminary findings of a report for the Combatting Terrorism Center, which compares the strategic communications of the Islamic State and Shiite militias in the Popular Mobilization Forces in Iraq. After a brief background, the class examined pieces of Persian-language propaganda from the Shiite militias, brainstormed translations, and discussed how they can be used to persuade audiences.
Top 3-5 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings UPCOMING in the next 30 days.

1. On 06 December, Mr. Mike Campbell from the Army Geospatial Center will come discuss remote sensing in the force to the 57 cadets presently enrolled in Remote Sensing (EV377).

2. On 10 December (0740-1440hrs), CPT Anees Merzi (G&EnE) will lead the 2nd Annual Cartography map Exhibit. Currently enrolled cartography students will showcase their academic excellence with a display of their final projects on the 5th floor of Washington Hall.

3. On 11 December (E1 hour), Environmental Engineering Cadets enrolled in EV402 led by LTC Andrew Pfluger (G&EnE), will present their culminating laboratory report. Projects include anaerobic co-digestion of organic wastes, improvements to the motor pool wastewater treatment facility, and biological fuel cells for electrical energy generation. All are welcome to attend.

4. On 14 December, the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering (G&EnE) will celebrate the holidays and the 2019 Army Victory over Navy with a watch/holiday party at the Firstie Club with friends, family, and a visit from Santa Claus.

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

1. On 03 December, Dr. Matt O’Banion, COL Chris Oxendine (G&EnE), Cadet Seamus McGettigan, and Cadet Riley Eck presented at the Strategic Environmental Research Development Program Symposium (SERDP) in Washington, DC. Their research “Detection of Thermokarst derived Landscape Change with Small UAS Photogrammetry” is a three-year collaborative research effort with USNA & USCGA. The team also met with leaders from the Army Geospatial Center (AGC) and Geospatial Research Lab (GRL) to discuss future research opportunities for Faculty and Cadets.

2. On 05 + 06 December, cadets in EV203 (Physical Geography) conducted a terrain-walk to apply the principles learned in class to the cultural and physical landscape of West Point. Instructors guided cadets in identifying aspects of West Point’s culture through artifacts (material objects, instruments, & tools of a culture), sociofacts (institutions, organizations, associations & patterns of relations), and mentifacts (ideas, beliefs, & knowledge; the way we communicate). The terrain-walk also provided an opportunity for cadets to see how glaciation and other surface processes have shaped West Point and made it key terrain during the Revolutionary War. Cadets were able to make connections to the physical geography described in Washington’s Crossing by David Hackett Fischer.
Top 3-5 events, activities, and newsworthy happenings UPCOMING in the next 30 days.

1. December 16th: Security Policy and Gender OPD: Junior rotating faculty will attend an OPD session to discuss the history of American security policy as it relates to gender and on the role of gender advisors in the Army. Faculty members will read United States Strategy on Women, Peace, And Security as a read ahead.

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

Nothing Significant to Report.

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

1. From 02-05DEC, Dr. Colleen Eils (Acting Director, WPWP) traveled to Fort Knox, KY, in support of the Battalion Commander Assessment Program (BCAP) rehearsal as the subject matter expert for written assessment. BCAP is the new Army Talent Management initiative for officers on the lieutenant colonel centralized selection list, announced by the Army in November, to commence at Fort Knox in Jan 2020.