

**Dean's Significant Activities Report**  
**29 August – 04 September 2020**

*If you are searching for a particular area of focus or accomplishment across the various departments, these are the hashtags to search by:*

*#teaching  
#cadetdevelopment  
#facultyscholarship  
#facultydevelopment  
#diversityandinclusion  
#leadersofcharacter  
#USCCsupport  
#Armysupport*

DEPARTMENT: G&EnE  
POC Name: MAJ John Boyle  
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DATE: 03 September 2020

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

1. On 16 September 2020, COL Mindy Kimball will present on a panel discussion for the third annual Environmental Security Summit 2020. The theme of this year's summit is "Health of the Planet, Security of its Nations: The nexus of environmental health and national security." The event is virtual this year and is sponsored by the Environmental Security Working Group (ESWG), which is a cross Intelligence Community working group that COL Kimball contributes to. For details or to register for the virtual summit, contact COL Mindy Kimball (the summit is free but registration on a DoD access network is required).
2. On 17 September, Dr. Baker (G&EnE) will present at the 18th Annual Symposium on the Conversation and Biology of Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles. Dr Patrick Baker will be presenting research on attached algal growth in a turtle population at the Cragston Lakes. Due to the ongoing COVID19 pandemic, the conference is being conducted as a virtual experience for a global audience
3. From 27-30 September, Dr. Jon Malinowski (G&EnE and USMA Self Study co-chair) with CPT Chris Gaulin (G&EnE), will prepare for and conduct the Academy's Middle States site visit for Academy accreditation.

Top events, activities, and newsworthy happenings in the last week.

1. On 28 August, Brig. Gen. James Bonner, the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood commanding general, awarded the Army Achievement medal to a former G&EnE major, 2LT Wyatt Espell in recognition of outstanding professionalism

and dedication to intervene and assist a fellow student at risk of suicide. The article can be found here:

[https://www.army.mil/article/238699/fort\\_leonard\\_wood\\_begins\\_september\\_suicide\\_prevention\\_awareness\\_month\\_campaign](https://www.army.mil/article/238699/fort_leonard_wood_begins_september_suicide_prevention_awareness_month_campaign)



DEPARTMENT: Chemical and Mechanical Engineering

POC: MAJ Briana Fisk

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DATE: 04 September 2020

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

N/A

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

1. ME481: Aircraft Performance and Static Stability – Flight Laboratory: On 31 August

2020, students in ME481, Aircraft Performance and Static Stability conducted their first flight lab in the Department's Cessna 182 aircraft. Laboratory pilots assigned to the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering developed and



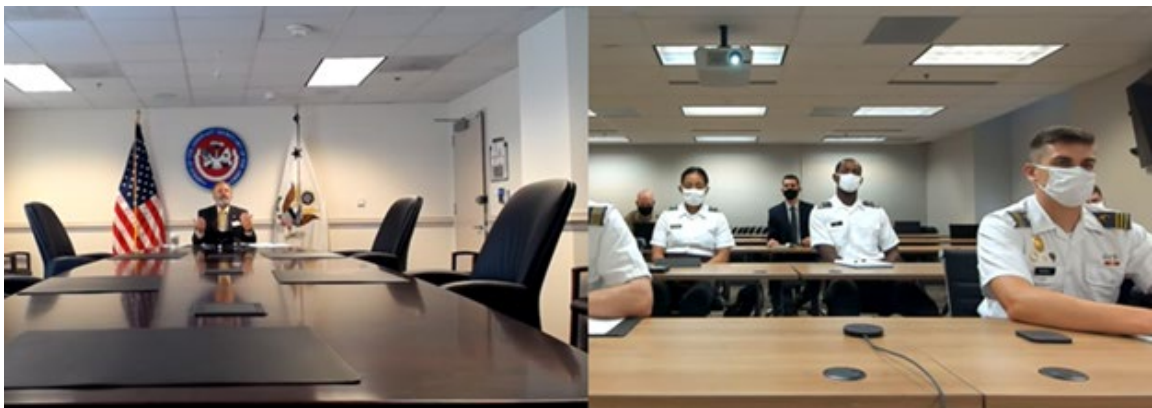
implemented procedures to minimize COVID-19 risks in aircraft. Students were introduced to fundamentals of flight and basic maneuvers including gliding flight, energy

management, effects of load factor, and stalls. They then gathered data to develop aircraft performance curves. Flight labs will continue throughout the semester culminating in analysis of the Cessna 182's flight characteristics and stability. POC is CPT Arthur Murphy at [arthur.murphy@westpoint.edu](mailto:arthur.murphy@westpoint.edu) #teaching



2. CE201: Introduction to Civil Engineering: LTG(R) Grisoli, Class of '53 Distinguished Chair of Civil Engineering, spoke to the students in CE201 about the history of the Army Corps of Engineers, the role engineers played in the development of our Nation, and the important contributions engineers continue to make for the betterment of society. POC is COL Brad Wambeke, [brad.wambeke@westpoint.edu](mailto:brad.wambeke@westpoint.edu) #cadetdevelopment

3. CE493 / ME404 / SE402: Civil / Mechanical / Systems Engineering Capstone Design: On 3 September 2020, engineering cadets from CME and DSE met with Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy and Sustainability [DASA (E&S)], Mr. Jack Surash, during the kickoff meeting of the Army Energy and Water Resilience capstone project. Cadets Neil Blackwell (CME – Mech.), Aubrey Evans (CME – Mech.), Christine Panlasigui (CME – Civil), Phoebe Lee (DSE), Duncan Russel (CME – Civil), and Ke'shaun Wells (DSE) are leading the effort to identify opportunities to improve the energy and water resilience of Army installations. The multi-disciplinary effort is a collaboration between the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering, the Department of Systems Engineering, and DASA E&S in response to elevated requirements to improve resilience, as established by Army Directive 2020-03. As discussed by the directive, "Threats, both man-made and natural, associated with the interdependent electric power grids, natural gas pipelines, and water resources and systems can jeopardize mission capabilities." The interdependent nature of the modern infrastructure presents unique challenges for defending against threats. The mission of the



cadets is to identify engineering solutions that can affordably deliver improved resilience for mission critical infrastructure.

The cadet team project is advised by Dr. F. Todd Davidson (Asst. Prof., CME), LTC Brad McCoy (Asst. Prof., CME), and MAJ Steve McCarthy (Instructor, DSE) in partnership with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment [OASA(IE&E)]. POCs are Dr. F. Todd Davidson & LTC Brad McCoy: todd.davidson@westpoint.edu & brad.mccoy@westpoint.edu Additional details regarding OASA(IE&E) may be found at:

<https://www.asaie.army.mil/Public/ES/policy.html> #armysupport #teaching #scholarship

DEPARTMENT: History

POC Name: MAJ Denis Alfin

POC Email: denis.alfin@westpoint.edu

DATE: 04 September 20

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

1. 10 September D/HIS Faculty Talk: During the Dean's hour, Dr. Greta Bucher, COL Jason Musteen, and MAJ Makonen Campbell will sit on a panel discussing studying history and its use in understanding modern social issues. Hosted in TH144 and virtually in Teams.
2. 12 September D/HIS "History at the Movies" Glory: D/HIS faculty will host a screening of the movie Glory and provide historical analysis of important themes in the movie. This screening coincides with the Civil War portion of HI101/151.
3. 16 September HI101/151 Lyceum on Jennifer Keene's Doughboys: D/HIS Faculty teaching HI101/151 will hold a lyceum to discuss Doughboys. These lyceums allow instructors to share insights on course readings in order to improve future lesson plans.
4. 18 September D/HIS EO Training: Faculty will attend the required annual training in Rob Aud.
5. 23 September (Tentative) HI101/151 Lecture in Rob Aud: Prof. Jen Kiesling will give a lecture about the evolution of American Military Institutions between 1865-1917.

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

1. 31 August/1 September HI101/151 First Writing Requirement Due: The Class of 2024 turned in their first college paper earlier this week. They were tasked with comparing the arguments and methods of David Hackett Fischer's Washington's Crossing and Martin and Lender's A Respectable Army. (Entire class of 2024, ~30 faculty)
2. 31 August: D/HIS ACFT Practice #2: Faculty met at Target Hill Field to practice ACFT events in preparation for the diagnostic test in October. (~10 faculty, no cadets)

3. 28 August: Junior Rotator OPD: Colonel Jason Musteen hosted an officer professional development session for junior rotating faculty. COL Musteen discussed his vision for the OPD program and surveyed the audience to see what topics faculty were interested in discussing. (~20 faculty, no cadets)

DEPARTMENT: Social Sciences

POC: LTC Cole Spitzack

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DATE: 04 September 20

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

1. 9 September: Dr. Anne Bennett, our resident Foreign Service Officer, will host an informational briefing canvassing the State Department's organization, interagency coordination, Embassy work, careers, and much more. The event will be held in the Haig Room on 9 Sep from 1215-1315. It will also be broadcast via MS Teams. It is open to all interested parties, please RSVP with Dr. Bennett. #facultydevelopment
2. 10 September: The Sosh Research Lab will host Dr. Daniel Byman, a prolific researcher and policy advisor on matters concerning National Security. In addition to his roles at the Brookings Institute and Georgetown University, Dr. Byman is the foreign policy editor of Lawfare. During this event, Audrey Alexander will moderate a discussion with Dr. Byman, who will speak about his experiences producing robust academic work while leveraging policy-centric outlets like Lawfare to engage more policymakers and practitioners. After the short, moderated discussion, Dr. Byman will describe the kind of submissions Lawfare considers for publication, explain how members of SOSH may submit articles to Lawfare, and answer questions from the audience. #facultyscholarship #facultydevelopment
3. 16 September: Kevin McAleenan, former Acting Secretary of Homeland Security from April 2019 to November 2019 and former Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection will guest lecture virtually to cadets taking courses in the Counter-Terrorism Center. #teaching

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## Secretary Kevin McAleenan

*“Organization of DHS” 16 Sep 2020 0955-1155; 1240-1440*

*“Countering Violent Extremism” 15 Oct 2020 0955-1155; 1240-1440*

*“Border Security & Immigration” 13 Nov 2020 0955-1155; 1240-1440*

*“Emerging Threats in Homeland Security” 8 Dec 2020 0955-1155; 1240-1440*



Kevin K. McAleenan served as the Acting Secretary of Homeland Security from April 2019 to November 2019. Before this appointment, he served as Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), having been confirmed by the U.S. Senate in March 2018. Previously, he had served as CBP Acting Commissioner since January 2017.

Previously, McAleenan served as Deputy Commissioner from November 2014, until his appointment to Acting Commissioner. In this role, he served as the agency's Chief Operating Officer and senior career official. From 2006 to 2008, McAleenan served as the Area Port Director of Los Angeles International Airport, directing CBP's border security operations at the Los Angeles airport and 17 other airport facilities in one of CBP's largest field commands. In December 2011, he was named acting Assistant Commissioner of CBP's Office of Field Operations.

McAleenan received a 2015 Presidential Rank Award—the nation's highest civil service award. In 2005, he received the Service to America Medal, Call to Service Award, for spearheading efforts to develop and implement a comprehensive antiterrorism strategy in the border security context after Sept. 11, 2001.

McAleenan has been a member of the U.S. Government's Senior Executive Service since 2006. Before his government service, he practiced law in California. He received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Chicago Law School and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Amherst College.

4. 17 September: MAJ Clyde Daines will participate in a virtual meeting with Dr. Alina Polyakova from the Center for European Policy Analysis and hosted by Arizona State University's Alexander Hamilton Society. The event will focus on Russian disinformation in elections (both in the US and elsewhere). #facultyscholarship
5. 24 September: Domestic Affairs Forum (DAF) will host a virtual guest speaker, Dr. Phillip Swagel, Director of the Congressional Budget Office, on 24 Sep from 1945-2045. The topic is "The Future of U.S. Fiscal Policy." For more information contact Cadet Pedro Santiago-Bonilla or MAJ Rex Steele. #cadetdevelopment

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

1. Last week, students from the International Affairs Senior Project held a virtual meeting with a team from US Strategic Command's (STRATCOM) Academic Alliance to discuss the command's strategy for deterrence in today's complex international environment. The meeting included 13 cadets and a team from the Academic Alliance, comprised of the civilian director and an analyst, as well as two former West Point instructors who now work in STRATCOM's J5 section. This semester's course is a 1.0-credit pilot intended to prepare for additional research in the spring semester. Over the course of the academic year, the students will develop research projects, in teams, that answer important questions on competition, deterrence, and allied assurance for STRATCOM's leadership.  
#teaching #Armysupport