

Dean's Weekly
15 December 2010
English and Philosophy

Past Events

1. Dr. Karin Roffman accompanied the United States Military Academy Cadet Strings in their Winter Concert, held Saturday 4 December in the Haig Room, Jefferson Library. Dr. Roffman plays violin on the far left of the accompanying picture. Dr. Roffman and LTC Pete Molin are serving as Officer Representatives to the Cadet Strings this year. Also featured in the photograph are three members of the West Point Band.



2. Over the last few weeks, cadets in EP367 (Drama) presented their capstone projects, which represented a semester-long engagement with the history and theory of theater and dramatic performance. Generous contributions of time and expertise from COL Steve Ressler (Civil & Mechanical Engineering) and from LTC Mark Gagnon and Professors Geri Smith and Laura Vidler (Foreign Languages) helped cadets to realize interdisciplinary projects. Their presentations included a West Point Virtual Theater created with architectural design software, production design for a particular play, and the performance of selected scenes (pictured below). Projects considered the intellectual, cultural, social, and environmental aspects of their "virtual theaters" on the institution.



3. LTC Chris Mayer attended the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) annual conference from 8-10 December 2010 in Philadelphia. While at the conference, LTC Mayer attended a workshop focused on interpreting and using the results of student learning assessment to inform decisions regarding curricula, pedagogy, and faculty development. After completing the daylong workshop, he attended numerous conference sessions related to MSCHE standards for accreditation, most of which addressed assessment of student learning. Also attending the conference were Dr. Jean Blair, the Vice Dean for Education; COL Daniel Ragsdale, a member of the Dean's staff; and Dr. Jack Picciuto, Deputy Director, G5. The understanding of MSCHE expectations developed by attending this conference will better equip LTC Mayer to assist in the further development of the Department of English and Philosophy's assessment process and in the execution of the Vice-Dean's January 2011 assessment workshop.