

Dean's Weekly
15 June 2011
English and Philosophy

Past Events

1. On Thursday, 19 May, the Department of English and Philosophy hosted an award ceremony for the graduating cadets of the Art, Philosophy, and Literature (APL) major along with family members and friends. The ceremony involved three levels of recognition: the general achievement of the nineteen May graduates; the particular accomplishment of the four APL majors who completed senior-thesis projects, especially the three who graduated with Honors; and the most notable distinction of winning the BG Carroll E. Adams Award for best senior thesis. That award, which honors the memory of a 1945 West Point graduate who died in Vietnam, was presented to CDT Amanda Rowell by Ms. Lauren Adams, granddaughter of BG Adams.



Ms. Lauren Adams presents CDT Amanda Rowell the BG Carroll E. Adams Award for best senior thesis.

2. COL John Nelson and LTC Justin Gage taught 108 high-school students during the Summer Leaders Seminar from 30 May until 8 June. LTC Gage's morning session, "War, Words, and West Point," examined World War I "trench" poetry; COL Nelson's afternoon session, titled "War and Remembrance," covered the ways in which our society has remembered armed conflict from the Korean War until the present.

3. During the period 2-3 June 2011, the Department of English and Philosophy's senior faculty participated in the department's annual off-site, meeting at the Bear Mountain Inn on 2 June and Jefferson Hall on 3 June. This year's focus was assessment of student learning within the Art,

Philosophy, and Literature (APL) Major. The off-site began with a plenary session that featured information on assessment of learning, with presentations on learning communities and kinds of assessment measures. Following these sessions, participants separated into moderated disciplinary discussion groups, in which they created rubrics and determined which courses would provide the most appropriate student work for assessment of the APL supporting objectives. The work completed during the off-site is essential to faculty execution of the department's assessment plan for Academic Year 2011-2012.



LTC Justin Gage leads discussion within the Literature working group on the first day of the off-site meeting.



LTC Chris Mayer facilitates planning within the Philosophy group