

Dean's Weekly 15 October 2010

English and Philosophy

Past Events

1. On 7 October 2010, Lieutenant General Keith Huber, the Acting Commander and Deputy Commander of US Joint Forces Command, spoke to over 200 cadets enrolled in EN302, Advanced Composition. He discussed the critical importance of cultural understanding, language proficiency, and effective communication for today's Army officer. The former commander of US Army South also shared with the cadets and faculty his experiences leading soldiers in Latin America and the Caribbean region. LTG Huber then joined EN302 faculty for a lunchtime discussion at the West Point Club.



LTC Huber speaks to cadets.

2. On 6 October 2010, MAJ Chris Case and MAJ Bob Underwood conducted a workshop with Oxford's center for Ethics and Law of Armed Conflict (ELAC) as representatives of the Center for the Army Profession and Ethic (CAPE). Following the workshop, MAJ Case and MAJ Underwood presented their work on an Army Chief of Staff White Paper, "The Army Profession of Arms, Its Culture, and Ethic," at a public seminar hosted by Dr. David Rodin, a co-director of ELAC. On 7 and 8 October, MAJ Case and MAJ Underwood participated in a conference hosted by the ELAC Oxford War Group, "Why We Fight," at Nuffield College, Oxford. While there, they met with 2LT Anthony Lupo. 2LT Lupo is a former APL major (Class of 2010) and currently attending the University of St. Andrews on a Rotary Scholarship. MAJ Case and MAJ Underwood are philosophy instructors in the Department of English and Philosophy and Research Fellows with CAPE.

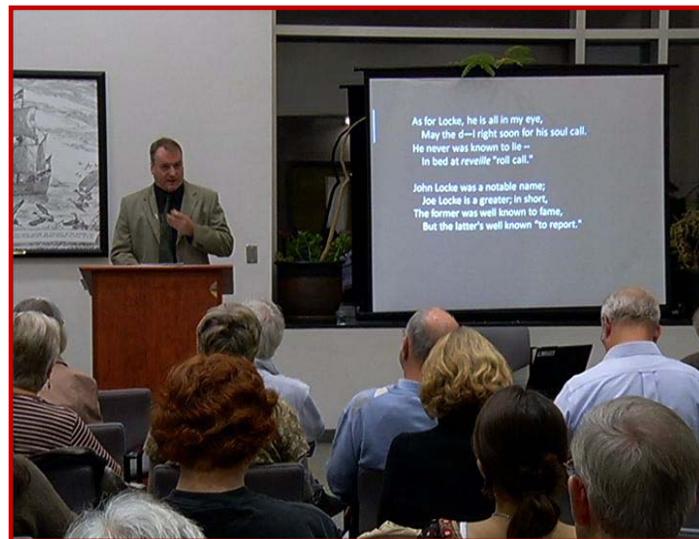


MAJ Underwood and MAJ Case with Dr. David Rodin.



MAJ Underwood and MAJ Case with 2LT Lupo.

3. On 5 October 2010, Dr. Tony McGowan took part in The Poughkeepsie Big Read, a month-long program of events dedicated to exploring the tales and poems of Edgar Allan Poe. The Big Read is a literacy initiative sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. McGowan discussed the influence of the military and the Hudson Valley in Poe's life and writing.



Dr. McGowan discussing a poetry fragment thought to be written by Poe about his USMA tactical officer.

4. On 7-8 October, MAJ Paul Johnston participated in the 13th annual Great Plains Alliance for Computers and Writing (Writing in Digital Environments) conference in Fargo, North Dakota. MAJ Johnston presented a paper titled "Dynamic Feedback: Enhancing Student and Instructor Learning through Regular Meta-Cognitive Reflection." He discussed classroom assessment and demonstrated a new system of obtaining student feedback. This new system allows teachers and instructors to rate each class meeting and compare their assessments with students' assessments of the same class meetings. Such assessments allow teachers to better understand student perception as well as classroom environments; furthermore, course-end feedback shows that daily assessment creates meta-cognitive reflection in students.
5. The African American Arts Forum will host its flagship "Jazz and Poetry Night" event on Friday, 15 October 2010 at 1830 in the Haig Room of Jefferson Hall. This event is the second in as many months this semester. Jazz and Poetry Night events continue to gain popularity among cadets by allowing them to showcase their talents in both the written and spoken word. The AAAF encourages all interested cadets to sign up or just come out and present their work during the "open mic" portion of the evening.



Cadets enjoy food and conversation following an AAAF event.

Future Events

LTC Chris Mayer will attend the 2010 Assessment Institute in Indianapolis from 24-26 October 2010. The theme of the conference is learning-outcome assessment related to areas such as core-curriculum requirements, academic majors, capstone experiences, and electronic portfolios. LTC Mayer will attend conference sessions that address all these areas and will also participate in a one-day workshop focused on using electronic portfolios for assessment of student learning.

Additional information on the conference can be found at:

<http://www.planning.iupui.edu/institute>.