

Dean's Weekly
22 October 2010
English and Philosophy

Past Events

1. Brigade Tactical Officer Colonel Mark McKearn and Regulations and Discipline Officer Mr. Patrick A. Delroy briefed the department on Thursday 14 October. COL McKearn provided an overview of the BTO's responsibilities and current trends within the Corps of Cadets from his perspective. The presentation was followed by a discussion period with department faculty. Topics ranged from barracks security to "email wars" among cadets.



Brigade Tactical Officer Colonel Mark McKearn and Regs and Discipline Officer Mr. Patrick A. Delroy provide the Department of English and Philosophy an overview of the Corps of Cadets from the BTO perspective.

2. On Monday, 11 October, COL Scott Krawczyk presented a lecture titled "Professional Writing" to an audience of 55 students at Rutgers University's Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy. The students, all Doctor of Pharmacy candidates, are enrolled in the "Leadership for Pharmacy Professionals" course, and COL Krawczyk worked with the course directors to implement writing assignments and assessment measures. This was the sixth year in a row in which COL Krawczyk has been invited to contribute to the Rutgers program. He was recognized for his contributions during this visit by the Chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administration, Dr. Joseph Barone, who requested that his annual lecture become a permanent fixture in the course.
3. On Tuesday, 12 October, EN101 (Composition) faculty visited the classrooms of counterparts on the MA103 (Math Modeling/Intro to Calculus) faculty. The instructor visits were part of a Writing Across the Curriculum project whereby MA103 students will prepare a written response to a mathematical problem derived from an actual military operation. The MA103 writing prompt asks students to write a technical report detailing the mathematical aspects of a complex logistical operation involving the issuance of Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicles (MRAPS) to US forces in eastern Afghanistan. The EN101 faculty participated in presenting the prompt in the MA103 classroom and will monitor their own

students' progress in the completing the assignment. They will also assist their MA103 colleagues in measuring and responding to student writing—and will invite them to join them for an EN101 class. For EN101, students will write a short essay in which they reflect on the experience of applying composition skills and concepts in a mathematics course.

4. Poet Sally Dawidoff taught a seminar on persona poetry for EN102 (Literature) students on Friday, 15 October. Ms. Dawidoff is a New York City-based poet who has published more than forty poems in numerous publications, and whose work recently was included in *Best New Poets 2009*. An NEA fellow and 2009 Artist-in-Residence at the Headlands Center for the Arts, she currently is working on a stage adaptation of Ha Jin's novel *The Crazyed*.

Future Event(s)

Cadets in EP367 (Drama) traveled to New York City on Wednesday, 20 October, to visit the Metropolitan Opera. The cadets took an extended backstage tour of the facility and attended a performance of Puccini's *La Boheme*. This trip is designed to provide cadets with a more thorough understanding of a working theater and thereby better to prepare them for their course-end projects. These group projects include the creation of a virtual West Point Theater, constructed with the help of architectural design software and the generous collaboration of COL Steve Ressler, Professor and Head, Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering. In addition to designing a virtual theater, each group must also articulate the role and purpose of this proposed performance space within the community.