

DFL Weekly SITREP (1 MAR 11)

Current Week **HIGHLIGHTS:**

1. Faculty News:

- a. On Thursday, 3 March, at 1015, Dr Guedri Giacalone will be interviewed on Rotary Radio in Beacon about her experience as a Rotary Teaching Fellow in Jordan this last summer. Those interested can tune in to the stations below. Her interview will be broadcast to a potential audience of 40,000. WGHQ 920 AM, WBNR 1260 AM, WLNA 1420 AM.
- b. From 22-25 February, DFL hosted the 7th Annual Saldívar/Ackerlin Mentorship Colloquium. The Saldívar/Ackerlin mentorship colloquium was instituted in 2004 to provide a forum for new scholarship in the Department of Foreign Languages. The colloquium pairs new scholars with more experienced researchers in the Department as an integral part of DFL's robust Faculty Development program. The success of the Colloquium has been demonstrated by the many rotating faculty members who have taken their papers on to national and international symposia. This year's colloquium featured presentations from faculty representing several languages on topics ranging from foreign language pedagogy to linguistic and cultural analysis of literary texts.



MAJ David Fagergren and Dr. Giacalone DFL-Portuguese Section present on Implicit vs: Explicit Instruction: The Teaching of Intervocalic /s/ to Non-Native Portuguese Speakers, at DFL's 7th Annual Saldívar/Ackerlin Mentorship Colloquium.

2. Cadet Events and Academic Trips:

The Department's National Council for US-Arab Relations Model Arab League team continued its preparations for the National competition in Washington, DC this spring with a strong performance at the Ohio Valley regional contest at Miami (Ohio) University this past weekend. The 9 cadet squad, under the leadership of Cadet Kyle Carberry '12 and faculty advisor MAJ Mark Whiteman, took home **"Best Delegation"** honors. Our cadets displayed great skill in the art of diplomacy and displayed a keen sense of the current unrest facing many regimes in the Middle East today as they outperformed delegations from 16 other universities. In a "clean sweep", all 9 cadets were recognized as "Best Delegates" in the Joint Defense, Palestinian Affairs, Political/Economic, Social, and Environmental affairs councils.



Pictured from left to right: Advisor MAJ Whiteman, CDTs Hamid Nasir '12, Seth Harbol '14, Kyle Carberry '12, Joseph Iadonisi '14, Daniel Moriarty '13, Manuel Prieto '12, Charles Yu '14, Wesley Wood '14, Andrew Oswald '14.

3. Hosting Visitors:

From 28 February through 3 March, Brigadier General Franz Xaver Pfrengle, the Commander of the German Army Officer School in Dresden, Germany is visiting West Point. The purpose of his visit is to gain a renewed perspective on West Point's officer training systems, especially the military leadership, tactical instruction and the physical fitness education as aspects of the cadet experience.

4. Upcoming Key Events:

- a. On 3 March, during Dean's hour, DFL's LN380 course (The Nature of Modern Languages) will sponsor a panel discussion on language and the Army in the DFL Auditorium, WH5006. The topic for the panel is "Working with Translators and Interpreters." LTC Mark Gagnon, CPT Donna Hess, and CW4 James Hess (G2) will draw on their experience in managing and working with translators to lead a discussion on some of the challenges and lessons learned from the field.
- b. From 12-20 March, MAJ Douglas Willig will lead a group of five cadets on a cultural immersion trip to Berlin, Dresden, and Hamburg Germany. The cadets will experience not only the German culture and language, but also get a snapshot of the political, military, and higher education systems of our ally. Highlights of the trip will include an insider tour of the Reichstag (German Capitol Hill), a tour and briefings from the administration of the German Officer School in Dresden, and a culture program hosted by the international office of the Helmut-Schmidt University in Hamburg.
- c. From 12-20 March, Lieutenant Colonel Brady Crosier will lead a group of 10 cadets on a Chinese spring immersion trip to Changchun and Beijing, China. They will visit our current West Point semester abroad cadets studying in both cities as well as many cultural sites while practicing their Chinese language skills.
- d. From 10-20 March, Dr. Guedri Giacalone and MAJ Fagergren will lead a group of ten cadets to visit Rio de Janeiro, Resende, and Paraty Brazil as part of the spring immersion trip. Cadets will visit the Brazilian Military Academy and the Military Engineering Institute.