

DFL Weekly SITREP (18 MAY 11)

Current Week **HIGHLIGHTS:**

1. Hosting Visitors:
 - a. The Department of Foreign Language's Award Ceremony takes place on 19 May 2011. During the ceremony, the Chinese section will host and escort many distinguished visitors and award presenters from the Wen Family, including Mr. Alred Wen and his wife. Both will present the Lieutenant General Ying-Hsing Wen Award for Excellence in East Asian Studies, and C. C. Tung and Mrs. Harriet Wen Tung will present the newly established Lieutenant General Ying-Hsing Wen Cadet Travel award. In addition, the Chinese section will also host and escort Dr. Bernardo Fernando and his wife as he will present the MG Loeffke, US Army, retired, Friendship award.
 - b. The Spanish section will host several distinguished visitors for the Award Ceremony. LTC Jesus Aguirre will escort Major General Hugo Cornejo Valdivia, Military Attaché, who will present The Peruvian Army Award for the Highest Class Standing. Major Alissa Yike will escort Colonel Gustavo Formento, Military Attaché, who will present The Uruguayan Army Award for the Highest Class Standing. Dr. Laura Vidler will escort Mrs. Nancy Harrison from the Daughter's of American Colonists Award at the Awards Convocation on Friday, 20 May 2011.
 - c. The German section will host several distinguished visitors for the Award Ceremony. BG (Ret) Tony Smith will present two awards for excellence abroad to Semester Abroad Program and Academic Individual Advanced Development participants. Ms. Carol Ann Fischer and her husband Eberhart from the Poughkeepsie Chapter of the Steuben Society will present the Steuben Award at the graduation convocation on Friday, 20 May 2011.
 - d. The French section will host Mr. Ernest Larrat for the Awards Convocation on Friday, 20 May 2011.
 - e. The Portuguese section will host Ms. Melinda McTaggart for the Awards Convocation on Friday, 20 May 2011.
2. International Cadet Participation in Cadet Summer Training:
 - a. From 17 May – 12 June the first groups of International cadets will arrive to participate in West Point's Cadet Leader Development Training during the academy's summer military training at Camp Buckner. The Department of Foreign Languages plays an integral role in preparing cadets prior to their arrival for their training both here and Army Schools such as Airborne and Air Assault. The nineteen visiting cadets represent Taiwan, Spain, and Kazakhstan. Due to the enormous efforts of the Taiwan Military Academy, the Washington DC attaché offices and the Chinese section, this is the first year that Taiwan has been able to expand its participation in

West Point's cadet summer military training to include Cadet Leader Development Training.

3. Faculty participation in language and cultural immersion trips:
 - a. From 23 May to 9 June, LTC John Baskerville and the Arabic section will lead a group of four cadets on a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Morocco. The cadets will spend 4 days/week in intensive Arabic and Spoken Moroccan coursework at the Al Alamia Language Institute in Marrakech and will participate in cultural and language immersion trips for the remaining 3 days/week.
 - b. From 22 May to 11 June, LTC Brady Crosier from the Chinese section will lead a group of fifteen cadets on a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Taiwan. The cadets will spend one week at the Taiwan Military Academy in Kaohsiung and then two weeks of intensive Chinese language and culture study at Fu Jen University in Taipei, Taiwan. During their free time, LTC Brady Crosier will introduce the cadets to Chinese culture and famous cultural sites in and around Kaohsiung and Taipei.
 - c. From 24 May to 14 June, CPT Gallardo from the Spanish section will lead a group of five cadets on a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Peru. Cadets will visit significant military command, as well as study national politics, economics, history and geography in an immersion setting as they travel to various cities and regions. Cadets will speak Spanish at all times during this AIAD.
 - d. From 21 May to 18 June, the French section will lead a group of cadets on a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Djibouti. Cadets will spend three and a half weeks with the 13eme DBLE, Djibouti. Cadets will be integrated into their host units and thereby become completely immersed in the language and culture of the French Foreign Legion in Djibouti. Cadets will gain significant exposure to the Sub-Saharan Africa.
 - e. From 22 May to 11 June, the Russian section will lead a group of cadets on a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Russia. Cadets will spend three weeks of intensive language programs at Voronezh State University designed to increase Russian language proficiency and enhance their regional expertise and promote cultural awareness. Cadets will tour historically and culturally significant sites in the Voronezh area as well as in Moscow and St. Petersburg, interacting with the local population in day-to-day situations.
 - f. From 23 May to 17 June, the French section will lead a group of cadets on a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Gabon. Cadets will be integrated into their host units and thereby becoming completely immersed in the language and culture of the French Army in Gabon. Cadets will gain a significant exposure to the Sub-Saharan Africa. Tactical military training will be included.

4. Major milestones in research or scholarly work:
 - a. Dr. May George, a member of our Arabic faculty, graduated this past week from the University of Arizona, earning a Doctorate in Education. Her doctoral dissertation was titled, *Oral Arabic Language Production and Teacher's Scaffolding*.
 - b. Dr. Farkhondeh Shayesth, a member of our Persian faculty, graduated this past week from the University of Texas at Austin earning a Doctorate in Persian Studies. Her doctoral dissertation was titled, "In Search of Identity: Hushang Golshiri's *Ayeneha-ye Dardar* and Other Works of Fiction."
5. Upcoming key events:
 - a. From 13 June to 1 July, MAJ Mark Whiteman and the Arabic section will lead a group of seven cadets on a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Morocco. The cadets will spend 4 days/week in intensive Arabic and Spoken Moroccan coursework at the Al Alamia Language Institute in Marrakech and will participate in cultural and language immersion trips for the remaining 3 days/week
 - b. From 13 June to 2 July, Dr. Hongyu Huang will lead a group of 5 cadets to China on a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Changchun, China. The cadets will spend two and a half weeks of intensive Chinese language and culture study at Jilin University in Changchun, China. During their free time in the last half week of the trip, Dr. Hongyu Huang will introduce the cadets to Chinese culture and famous cultural sites in and around Changchun and Beijing, China.
 - c. From 6 June to 9 August, the Persian section will lead a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Tajikistan. The cadets will be in an eight week intensive study of the Persian language and culture in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The program is offered by the American Councils for International Education.
 - d. From 13 June to 2 July, the Russian section will lead a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Kazakhstan. The cadets will be in a three week intensive language and cultural program designed to increase proficiency and confidence in the Russian language, enhance regional expertise and promote cultural awareness. Cadets will spend two weeks in the Kazakh military academy.
 - e. From 16 June to 7 July, the Spanish section will lead a summer academic individual advanced development trip to Chile. Cadets will spend three weeks in Chile as guests of the Chilean Armed Forces and the Chilean Military Academy. Cadets will visit significant military commands, as well as study national politics, economics, history, and geography in an immersion setting as they travel for at least two weeks to various cities and regions in Chile.