

DFL Weekly SITREP (23 FEB 11)

Current Week **HIGHLIGHTS:**

1. Faculty News:
 - a. Dr. Christine Guedri Giacalone is the keynote speaker for the Rotary International All County Meeting in Rockland County on 23 February. Her speech, based upon her research over the summer in Amman, Jordan, is titled, "From AMAN to Amman." AMAN is the acronym for the Brazilian Military Academy.
 - b. From 23-25 February, COL DiMeo, acting DFL Department Head, is attending the Defense Language Steering Committee Annual Program Review at the Defense Language Institute English Language Center at Lackland AFB, Texas.
2. Cadet Events and Academic Trips:
 - a. From 19-21 February, the French Club took its annual cultural immersion trip to the Quebec City (Canada) winter carnival. OIC Major Jeff Van Sickle and Cadet in Charge Michael Ibanez led a group of 11 cadets to Quebec City to experience the French language and Canadian-French culture. In addition to seeing the old colonial city, cadets partook in a cultural immersion dinner of authentic cuisine at the "Cochon Dingue" (Crazy Pig) restaurant. While participating in the festivities to include dining on the same wild game meats (such as boar and moose) available to 1750-era French colonists, the cadets reinforced and applied their language and cultural knowledge (from the classroom) in real-life contexts.
 - b. On 22 February, five cadets on semester abroad in Voronezh, Russia participated in the National Army Day ceremonies and the anniversary of the ROTC program at Voronezh State University. This event highlighted the superb five years of broadening cultural and intellectual exchanges between our two institutions.
 - c. From 18-22 February, DFL's Chinese language and culture club participated in the East Coast Asian American Student Union Conference in Amherst, Massachusetts. The conference aims to inspire, educate, and empower those interested in Asian American issues. Cadets practiced creative problem solving while working with other students on ways to strengthen Asian American student organizations through intercollegiate communication, with the aim of better serving the social and educational needs of Asian American students.



West Point cadets from the Chinese Language and Culture Club take a photo after their presentation about the Asian-American Experience at West Point at the 2011 East Coast Asian American Student Union Conference in Amherst, Massachusetts.



Dr. Huang West Point's officer representative, Chinese Language and Culture Club President Cadet Andrew Wei, Firstie Cadet Uzkar Ibrahim, and other West Point Cadets pause during their dinner banquet to take a photo with some of the other university participants at the 2011 East Coast Asian American Student Union Conference in Amherst, Massachusetts.

3. Upcoming Key Events:

- a. From 22-25 February, DFL will host 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.
- b. The DFL sponsored Model Arab League team will travel to Miami (Ohio) University from 24-26 February to participate in the Midwestern Regional Model Arab League Competition. This competition, which takes place during 100th Night Weekend, will prepare our underclassmen for the National Model League that will take place in Washington, DC, in April. The team is coming off of a strong Northeastern Regional competition where it garnered an "outstanding delegation" recognition. Sponsored by the National Council for US-Arab Relations, the Model Arab League provides a forum for students to learn about the politics and history of the Arab world along with the arts of diplomacy and public speech. The delegation will debate current, pressing issues of the Arab world with students from all over the United States.