

DFL Weekly SITREP (30 MAR 11)

Current Week **HIGHLIGHTS:**

1. Faculty News:

On March 26, Dr. Martha Gallagher, from DFL's Chinese Section, gave a seminar on Chinese Language curriculum design at the Confucius Institute at the University of South Carolina. The seminar was the first of a series of four-weekend programs in training Chinese language teachers.

2. Cadet Events and Academic Trips:

- a. From 12-20 March, Lieutenant Colonel Brady Crosier conducted a semester abroad site maintenance visit at both Jilin and Beijing Universities in China. At the invitation of the US Embassy's Defense Attaché Office and the West Point Alumni Association in Beijing, Lieutenant Colonel Crosier, the five semester abroad cadets studying at Beijing University, and the ten China spring immersion trip cadets attended the 2011 West Point Founder's Day Dinner on 19 March.



Attending the 2011 West Point Founder's Day dinner at Tim's Texas Barbeque restaurant in Beijing, China on 19 March are: Lieutenant Colonel Brady Crosier, the five semester abroad cadets studying at Beijing University (Cadet Sean Flynn, Cadet Sarah Jeon, Cadet Louisa Anchondo, Cadet Briana Bailey, and Cadet Neil Kanneberg), the ten China Spring Immersion Trip cadets (Apphia Kim, Charles Llewellyn, Sang Won Kim, Matthew Rohrback, Tessa Shakon, Lee Ann Schade, Julius Kim, Robert Melvin, Kaoru Song, and William Killinger, US Embassy Army Attaché Colonel Mike Janser and Lieutenant Colonel Dave Menser, and many West Point graduates from various classes)

- b. From 12-20 March, Major David Ashcraft visited DFL's exchange programs at the French military academy at St-Cyr, the prestigious "Grandes Écoles," the Ecole des Mines and Sciences-Po, and the Catholic Universities of both Lille and Lyon. Program directors universally stated that they were proud of the progress and comportment of the West Point Cadets. Major Ashcraft's visit culminated in his representing West Point at the Founders' Day Dinner at the Ecole Militaire in Paris, which was also attended by all of the French Semester Abroad Cadets as well as the French Spring Cultural Immersion Trip.
 - c. From 12-20 March, Col (r) Francois Yves led 10 cadets on the French section's Spring Cultural Immersion Trip, permitting cadets to undertake the "crawl" phase of their language and cultural development. They visited several sites and museums in Marseilles and Paris. The cadets' visit culminated with the Founders' Day dinner in Paris with the West Point Society of Paris.
3. Upcoming Key Events:
- a. On 30 March, DFL's French section is hosting COL Xavier Collignon, the French military representative of the National Defense University's Africa Center for Strategic Studies. He will discuss capstone research projects with cadets enrolled in LN 490 capstone (Integrative Experience) classes, as well as serve as a guest lecturer for the French military readings course.
 - b. From 31 March - 3 April, the Foreign Language Clubs will travel to Washington DC to participate in the annual Language Club trip. The Portuguese club will visit with the Brazilian Army Commission and meet the Brazilian Army General who is the attaché assigned to that mission. MAJ Annmarie Ruppert, the French club adviser, will take a group from West Point's French club to various DC think tanks as well as lunch and a briefing at the French Embassy. The Chinese Club will visit the Pentagon, the Department of State, Chinatown, the National Mall, and Arlington National Cemetery. Major Richard Chen has also arranged for multiple briefings at the Pentagon for the participating Chinese Club cadets.
 - c. From 1 - 3 April, DFL's Model Arab League delegation of 13 cadets will compete in the National Model Arab League finals at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. The squad earned two consecutive "outstanding delegation" honors at the Northeast and Ohio Valley regional competitions earlier in the year and is postured for success and excited to compete against the best 21 delegations from universities across the United States and abroad. Sponsored by the National Council for US-Arab Relations, the Model Arab League provides a forum where students learn about the politics and history of the Arab world and practice the arts of diplomacy and public speech. The delegation will represent the Kingdom of Morocco and take part in debates concerning current, pressing issues of the Arab world.

- d. On 2 April, four cadets will compete in the 2nd “Chinese Bridge” East America Chinese Proficiency Competition for foreign college students, at the New York Service Center for Chinese Study Fellows. The competition aims to provide a well-established stage for American college students to show their talent in Chinese language and to learn Chinese culture. In order to encourage the participation of more students who are enthusiastic in Chinese culture, a junior group and a senior group have been set up for contestants who differ in their level of Chinese proficiency. All finalists will be awarded a scholarship for studying in China.
- e. On 4 April, The President of Beijing University, ZHOU, Qifeng, and his delegation will officially visit West Point and conduct office calls with the Superintendent, Dean, and the Acting Department Head for Foreign Languages.
- f. On 9 April, the Chinese Literature class will travel to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City to experience the exhibition on “The Emperor’s Private Paradise: Treasures from the Forbidden City” and the “Tibetan Arms and Armor from the Permanent Collection.”