

## DFL Weekly SITREP (7 March 12)

### Completed Events

#### Faculty Participation in Conferences:

On 1, 2, and 5 March, DFL hosted the 8<sup>th</sup> 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 presentations included:

- CPT Chris Harrison, *Menino de Engenho* (The Sugar Mill Boy): An Anthropological Novel
- Dr. Larry Mansour, Who was John Galt? Ayn Rand and the Birth of Capitalist Realism
- Mr. John Pendergast, Belinsky's Debt to the German Romantic Nationalism of Zhukovsky
- MAJ Dave Fagergren & Dr. Christine Giacalone, Implicit vs Explicit Instruction: The Teaching of Intervocalic [s] to Non-Native Portuguese Speakers
- Dr. Martha Gallagher & Ms Can Wang, Renovating West Point's Intermediate Chinese Courses to Develop All Four Language Skills
- Dr. Jeffrey Watson, Self-regulation as a Predictor of Success in Foreign Language Learning
- COL Greg Ebner, Language Learning Strategies and their Application to Study of Arabic as a Foreign Language at the University Level
- Dr. Xenia S Harwell, A Corner of their Own: Staging Nostalgia in New York's Russian Émigré Community of the 1950s
- MAJ Doug Willig, War of Icons: The Use of Propaganda in Berlin by the National Socialists of Germany

#### Faculty Participation in hosting Visitors:

Currently, the German Section is host BG Weigt, the Commander of the German Officers School in Dresden, Germany. BG Weigt is visiting the Academy for the first time, and is receiving briefings from multiple departments and centers of excellence. BG Weigt will brief the German language courses after lunch on Wednesday, 7 March. He will address the changes and challenges in Germany's officer development and recruitment. Afterwards, the LN490G cadets will have a Q&A session with BG Weigt to have questions regarding their capstone projects answered.

## Faculty Publication

Drs. Rebecca Jones-Kellogg, Joshua Enslin, and Christine Giacalone had a chapter published in a book entitled *Ensino de Português nos Estados Unidos* edited by José Marcelo Freitas Luna. The chapter is titled, "The teaching of Portuguese at West Point." The book is about the Teaching of Portuguese in the United States and their particular article is focused on the nearly 67-year tradition of teaching Portuguese at West Point.

## **Future Events**

From 8-17 March, COL Baskerville will travel with 9 cadets on a cultural immersion trip to Washington, DC and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The primary purpose of the trip is language, cultural, and policy exposure and interaction for select members of the Model Arab League (MAL) and select Arabic majors. The trip will start with pre-departure briefs at the National Council on US-Arab Relations and the UAE Embassy in Washington, DC on 9 March. The group will then depart for the UAE on the evening of 9 March. In the UAE, trips to and exchanges at the Emirates' premiere strategic thinktank (Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research), the Emirati Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Emirati MOD will provide an opportunity for important exchanges on real-world policy issues with Emirati scholars, diplomats, and soldiers that work the issues on a daily basis. The trip will be of great benefit to all of the participants, especially to the MAL participants who are preparing for national-level competition in April 2012.

From 9 to 21 March, MAJ Matthew Radik and Dr. Martha Gallagher will conduct a site visit to both China and Taiwan. During the visit they will visit cadets who are currently studying at Peking University, Beijing, China, and at Fujen University, Taipei, Taiwan. They will also work on improving our current semester abroad and summer immersion programs as well as work on establishing new ones.

From 10 to 17 March, MAJ Doug Willig and CAPT Nick Moller will escort 10 USMA cadets on a cultural immersion trip to Germany. The group will spend time at the German Army Officer School in Dresden, multiple sites in Berlin, and Hamburg—home of the German military's Helmut Schmidt University. The German Spring Immersion group will additionally host the FAEP cadets in their travel to and from the Officer's School in Dresden for International Week with the German military and other international guests

From 10 to 17 March, MAJ Fagergren and CPT Harrison will escort 12 USMA cadets on a cultural immersion trip to Brazil. Stops will include the Brazilian Military Academy, the Military Engineering Institute, and many tourist attractions including the famous Christ Statue in Rio, O Corcovado, and Sugar Loaf Mountain.

The Spanish section will conduct four Spring Immersion trips with 5 cadets and 1 OIC participating in each. The Spain immersion will visit Madrid and Granada. The Dominican Republic trip will visit Santo Domingo (including the military academy) and Samaná. The Costa Rica trip will experience Central American ecology and visit the capital city of San José. The Puerto Rico trip will cover the entire island with a wide range of cultural activities from the capital city to jungle areas.

For Spring break, MAJ Annmarie Ruppert is leading a group of 9 cadets to visit Paris and Normandy in France and Brugge and Brussels in Belgium. In addition to visiting important cultural sites in Brussels, Paris, and Normandy, the group will enjoy lunch with executives of the Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP), whose generous annual donation of \$30,000 makes the Spring Break trip possible.