

DFL Weekly SITREP (28 March 12)

Completed Events

Faculty Participation in Spring Immersion Trips:

From 9 to 21 March Major Matthew Radik and Dr. Martha Gallagher conducted a site visit to both China and Taiwan. During the visit they met with the cadets who are currently studying at Peking University, Beijing, China, and at Fujen University, Taipei, Taiwan. During the visit Major Radik and Dr. Gallagher also met with representatives from Peking University, Beijing Language and Culture University, and Jilin University in China, and with representatives from Fu Jen University, and National Tsing Hua University in Taiwan. During their meetings, they discussed current and possible future semester abroad and summer language immersion programs.



In this photo: Major Matthew Radik and Dr. Martha Gallagher at Jilin University, Changchun, China.

On Thursday, 22 March, Mr. Enrique Gil, a Spanish consular official, was a guest of the Spanish section. Mr. Gil is a counter-terrorism expert and talked to cadets and faculty about a number of topics, including the Basque separatist movement and the March 11 Madrid train attack. He also gave some insight on current approaches to finding and dismantling potential terror threats within Spain.



In this photo: Major Matthew Radik with our cadets studying at Fu Jen University, Taiwan. Every Friday after class they provide service at a local preschool.

Faculty Participation in Academic Trips:

On 23-25 March, COL Baskerville accompanied 11 cadets to Houston for the final regional Model Arab League (MAL) competition before the National competition in Washington, DC on 13-15 April. The team continued its streak of excellence and won the competition, receiving **Overall Outstanding Delegation**. With 14 schools competing across 5 committees (Political, Economic, Defense, Social, Palestinian Affairs), West Point committee members took Outstanding Delegation honors in a very impressive 3 committees: Political (CDTs Andrew Oswald and Matthew Welch (both 2014)); Social (CDTs Theodore Fong and Wesley Wood (both 2014)); and Palestinian Affairs (CDTs Ahmad Nasir and Charles Yu (both 2014)). In the remaining 2 committees, the West Point committee members received Honorable Mention: Defense (CDTs Daniel Moriarty (2013) and Graham Haydon (2015)); Economic (CDTs Alexandra Moore (2015) and Seth Harbol (2014)). The relatively young squad gained a wealth of experience heading into the National competition as they showed great skill in the art of diplomacy and displayed a keen sense of the current unrest facing many regimes in the Middle East today by outperforming delegations from 20 major universities.



In this photo: The Model Arab League team after its victory at the Houston Regional competition held at the Honors College at the University of Houston.

On 23 March, Dr. Huang took seven cadets from LC476 (Military Chinese), LC486 (Chinese Literature) and LN488 (Chinese Independent Study) to conduct an academic trip to New York City, where they attended the exhibition “Chinese Art in the Age of Revolution: Fu Baoshi (1904-1965)” in the Metropolitan Museum of Art and explored the Manhattan Chinatown. This trip allowed the participating cadets to expand their knowledge of Chinese art and history, enjoy Chinese cuisine, and immerse themselves into New York City’s Chinese Culture.



In the photo: Dr. Huang (OIC) and seven cadets from LC476/486 and LN488 visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

On 10 March, MAJ Mike Tobias traveled to Almaty, Kazakhstan on to serve as a guest instructor at the Kazakhstan Ground Forces Institute (GFI). MAJ Tobias is providing various lectures to the Kazakh cadets on the US military and the English language until he returns to USMA on 22 Apr. In exchange for MAJ Tobias, DFL welcomed LT Aida Borambayeva to USMA on 18 March. LT Borambayeva is teaching Russian to cadets in the Beginning Russian course (LR204) and in the Military Readings course (LR476) until she returns to Kazakhstan and her posting at GFI on 22 April. These instructor exchanges are part of CENTCOM's Engagement Plan with Kazakhstan.

On 22 March, 27 cadets studying Russian in DFL visited the Ukrainian and Georgian Missions to the United Nations in New York City. Sixteen cadets spoke with Ukraine's Ambassador to the United Nations, Ambassador Yuriy A. Sergeyev, for over an hour, discussing various current issues of international relations of interest to Ukraine and the cadets. Additionally, 11 cadets spoke with Georgian Counselor Archil Gheghechkori for over two hours on current issues relating to Georgia and its relations with other nations.



In this photo: Cadets in front of the Ukrainian and Georgian Missions to the United Nations in New York City.

Future Events

On Wednesday, 28 March, LTC Mark C. Gagnon, Associate Dean, International Intellectual Development Division will introduce the Swiss Film, *Vitus*, at the Cornwall Library as part of its Foreign Film Night series. All interested participants are welcome to attend at 5:30 pm.

On Saturday, 31 March, The West Point Salsa Team hosts the Army Navy Social, the first ever full scale academy ball, with guests from the Naval Academy, the Coast Guard Academy, Harvard University, Yale University, Columbia University, Fashion Institute of Technology, and other universities to unite the future of the nation under one roof for a night full of dancing, class, and memories to last a lifetime. See the event's website at www.armynavysocial.com

On 12-15 April, the German Language Club will participate in the annual Language Clubs Trip Section to Washington, D.C. The club will receive briefings from various Defense activities as well as visit the Austrian Embassy. The group of 13 cadets will include 4 Austrian cadets on semester exchange. All German Language Club cadets will attend the International Ball at Annapolis on the evening of the 14th after a mid-day guided tour of the Holocaust Museum. Before returning on Sunday, the group will visit Arlington National Cemetery and the 9/11 Memorial at the Pentagon