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Army ROTC Annual Program Report, 2015-2016

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1 September 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: Provost, Dr. Ashok Saxena, Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Arkansas

SUBJECT: Army ROTC Annual Program Report 2015-2016

1. The Department of Military Science (Army ROTC) at the University of Arkansas Fayetteville continued a tradition of excellence during SY 15-16. We commissioned 21 officers in mission set 2016, our twelfth consecutive year of commissioning twelve or more second lieutenants and our seventh consecutive year of commissioning 20 or more lieutenants. We were successful in meeting our assigned mission from United States Army Cadet Command. Our growing number over the last decade continues to make the University of Arkansas Army ROTC program one of the top performers in our brigade that includes 8 states (AR, OK, TX, NM, AZ, UT, CO, WY) and 36 host institutions. The outlook for enrollment for SY 16-17 is outstanding and we are on glide path to exceed our increased commission mission in 2017. We are postured to achieve or exceed our mission in 2017 and 2018.
2. Cadre/Staff personnel information for SY 15-16:
 - a. Departures:
 - (1) Our Gold Bar Recruiter, 2LT Joshua Brite moved to Fort Sill, OK, on 04 September to attend the Field Artillery Basic Officer Leader Course.
 - (2) MAJ(R) Walter Hadley left us after 9 years serving as a contractor.
 - (3) SFC Dustin Humphrey moved to Fort Sill, OK, in March 2016 after serving with the Army ROTC program since November of 2012.
 - (4) CPT Jason Blackston left the program in March 2016 in order to take a position with Walmart. He had served with the ROTC program since April of 2013.
 - (5) MSG Greg Thigpen moved to Fort Bliss, TX, in July 2016 in order to attend the United States Army Sergeants' Major Academy.
 - (6) 2LT Liston Barber commissioned as a second lieutenant from the program in June 2016 and served as a Gold Bar Recruiter over the summer to help access new students into the ROTC program. He moved to Fort Sam Houston, TX, to attend

the Medical Service Basic Officer Leader Course in August 2016.

b. Arrivals:

- (1) SFC Anthony Kabat joined the program in March 2016. He primarily teaches the freshman and junior military science classes.
- (2) CPT Jason Hogue joined the program in April 2016. He teaches all levels of military science classes at the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith campus.

c. Other:

- (1) Mrs. Peggy McClellan continues her outstanding service (31 years) to the department.
- (2) Mr. Norm Walker continues volunteering as the marksmanship instructor and advisor to the Pershing Rifles Organization. He has done this at no cost to the University or the ROTC Department for more than 20 years.

3. Cadet Activities for SY 15-16:

- a. 21 August 2015 - The Army ROTC program conducted Freshman Cadet Orientation in order to receive, integrate and orient our new scholarship cadets to the Army ROTC Program. We had a record number of 25 freshmen scholarship cadets. The orientation was the first opportunity to exercise the MS-IV (4th year) Cadet Staff, as they assisted in set-up, teardown, briefings and Q&A. The incoming Cadets received briefings pertaining to scholarships, policy overview, public safety, Army medical careers and the Nursing school. The cadets completed administrative requirements, received supply issue and were introduced to military customs and uniform wear. Parents and family members were invited to familiarize themselves with cadre, other cadets, and the program that their son/daughter has joined.
- b. August 27 - The University of Arkansas Army ROTC program kicked off the year with our annual Welcome Back picnic at Wilson Park. Cadet Commander Miller introduced the event and LTC Quayle made remarks. We took the opportunity to recognize cadets who attended summer training, Airborne School, Air Assault School, and the Army's cultural immersion program. The event allowed for cadets from different classes to get to know each other and to be better acquainted with the program. In attendance at the picnic were Tanner Bone, the ASG President, as well as all the cadets and faculty of the program.
- c. 9-10 October – Several cadets and cadre participated in Outback in the Ozarks - a 199.8 mile relay race that started at Lake Leatherwood in Eureka Springs and ended at the Prairie Grove Battlefield. The team placed second with a time of 26 hours and 53 seconds.

- d. 23-25 October - ROTC Ranger Challenge at Camp Gruber, OK. The two University of Arkansas teams placed first and second in the region.
- e. 14 November - The ROTC program supported the Veteran's Day 5k run to benefit the Fayetteville National Cemetery. The money raised in this 5k is to support the upkeep of the Fayetteville National Cemetery.
- f. 12 December - The University of Arkansas Army and Air Force ROTC Detachments participated in the Wreaths Across America Event at the Fayetteville National Cemetery (FNC), which has 7,100 Deceased Veterans interred here. The cadets unloaded the semitrailers, assisted in placing the boxes, stood in the ceremony, the Air Force ROTC rendered honors at the POW-MIA Table Ceremony, and all assisted in placing wreaths/rendering honors by many of the Deceased Veterans' Gravesites after the initial ceremony was completed. CPT Jason Blackston, Army ROTC, and LTC Buster McCall, Commander of Air Force ROTC, both spoke at the ceremony.
- g. 18 December - The Army ROTC commissioned 5 cadets in a joint ceremony with the Air Force ROTC at UAF. They are as follows:
 - a. Walton Drew Davis – Degree: Supply Chain Management; Branch: Arkansas National Guard, Ordnance Corps
 - b. Abigail Z. Witty – Degree: International Relations, Middle East Studies, with a minor in Arabic; Branch: Active Duty, Signal Corps
 - c. Chase E. Richards – Degree: Recreation and Sport Management; Branch: Colorado Army National Guard, Infantry Branch
 - d. James Colin Simpson – Degree: Finance, with a minor in Marketing; Branch: Louisiana Army National Guard, Finance Corps
 - e. Rachel E. Wilson – Degree: Nursing; Branch: Active Duty, Nurse Corps

We also had cadets commission from UAFS & NSU:

- a. Daniel Wilson – Degree: Mechanical Engineering; Branch: Active Duty, Corps of Engineers
- b. Travis Williams – Degree: Criminal Justice; Branch: Arkansas National Guard, Ordnance Corps
- c. Jordan Kastl – Degree: Criminal Justice; Branch: US Army Reserve, Military Police

The speaker at the ceremony was COL(R) Jeffery A. Vinger, Director of Residential Facilities University Housing. COL Vinger had commissioned through the Air Force ROTC 30 years ago to the date of the commissioning ceremony. He served in the Air Force for many years.

- h. 12 January – Major General Peggy Combs, Commanding General for the United States Army Cadet Command, visited the University of Arkansas and spent time with the Chancellor, Provost, ROTC faculty, and cadets. Instructors from all of the Army ROTC

programs in the state came to Fayetteville for the visit and briefed her on their respective programs. The instructors shared ideas and best practices to improve all of the programs.

- i. 29-30 January – The senior cadets of the Army ROTC programs from UAF, UCA, Arkansas State, and UAPB participated in collaborative leader development session at Army University, Ft. Leavenworth, KS for their Military Science Capstone Event. The purpose was to provide the senior cadets with an experiential learning event that challenged them to apply multiple facets of their education to different situations/problems in preparation for their future careers as Army officers. The cadets participated in an ethics discussion/ scenario exercise with the primary ethics instructor from the Army's Command and General Staff College. The command historian provided the cadets an overview of World War I and led a discussion that addressed the societal and technological changes inherent in that conflict. On Saturday, the group visited the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Missouri.
- j. 18 February - Cadets Seth Richards, Gabriel Bogdanoff, Erik Alejandre, Adam Martin and Elena Chavez took the Oath of Enlistment with LTC Chad Quayle. This is a major milestone in the journey to becoming a commissioned officer and each of these cadets have worked very hard to get here. Since this ceremony there has been another contracted, Cadet Hunter Reynolds, who took the Oath of Enlistment on 29 February. The UA Army ROTC is very proud of each of these cadets and the commitment they have made to serve our country.
- k. 20 February - The University of Arkansas Army ROTC, along with the subordinate programs at University of Arkansas-Fort Smith and Northeastern State Univ.-Tahlequah (OK), held their annual Military Ball at the Embassy Suites in Rogers. 105 people attended the event, which consisted of a receiving line, senior class presentation, Fallen Soldier Table Presentation, ceremonial toasts, and a guest speaker. The keynote speaker was SGM Gregorio Tarancon, who has more than 30 years of service including duty with Special Forces, the Department of Defense and as an advisor to infantry units in Africa, Afghanistan, and Iraq. SMG Tarancon shared his experiences and lessons of leadership he learned in his long and distinguished career with the Army Special Forces.
- l. 3 March - Vietnam War veterans Lieutenant Colonel Michael Slonicker and Lieutenant Colonel William R. Schwertfeger spoke to a joint meeting of University of Arkansas Army and Air Force ROTC cadets Thursday March 3, in Giffels Auditorium. Both men are graduates of ROTC programs. Both men served as aviators in Vietnam. LtCol Schwertfeger flew combat missions in Vietnam. In February 1972, his aircraft was shot down in enemy territory. He and his weapon systems officer surrendered and served as POWs for 407 days. He talked about his experiences as a POW and the difficulties involved in adjusting to his release and homecoming. LTC Slonicker told the cadets about missions he was part of in Vietnam, particularly rescue missions, and about the core military values of always placing the mission first, never leaving a fallen comrade and showing courage in the face of adversity.

- m. 11 March – The Army ROTC program conducted a field training exercise (FTX) at Lake Weddington.
- n. 31 March – The University of Arkansas Army ROTC senior cadets, along with the senior cadets from the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith and Northeastern State University, traveled to the Pea Ridge National Military Park in Northwest Arkansas on March 31 to conduct a staff ride focused on the Civil War's Battle of Pea Ridge. The senior cadets prepared lessons for specific parts of the battle and presented their findings on the battle during the battlefield tour. This event allowed the Army ROTC cadets to see first-hand, both the terrain and soldier perspectives across the battlefield, provided a unique opportunity to learn about strategic movements and decisions made that ultimately won and lost the battle for each side. It also served as an opportunity for cadets to learn more about military history. Staff rides constitute an integral part of leader development and unit cohesion as these cadets will soon begin their careers as new officers.
- o. 1 April – Mr. Charles Kinslow, a Navy Veteran and First Vice President of Investments at Raymond James in Little Rock, provided lunch for all of our senior cadets at Whole Hog Café. Mr. Kinslow volunteers to do this annually for all senior cadets participating in Army or Air Force ROTC throughout the state of Arkansas. Randy Massanelli, Vice Chancellor for Government Relations (and former ROTC cadet) joined us, as did Stephen Raborn, VP of Investments at Raymond James, and Erika Gamboa, Director of the Veteran's Resource and Information Center at the UA and veteran.
- p. 11-15 April – Cadet Olympics – The Army and Air Force ROTC programs compete against each other in an annual Cadet Olympics that includes various sporting events. This year the Army ROTC program won seven out of eight events and won the overall competition. This year's events included Basketball, Power-lifting, Pushups, Sit-ups, "Pump and Run" (bench press, deadlift and a one mile run), and dodge ball. This year, The Army ROTC won every event except dodge ball.
- q. 28 April - The Army and Air Force ROTC departments conducted the Annual Joint Awards Ceremony in Giffels Auditorium, Old Main. There were 50 awards given to very worthy cadets. The presenters of many of the awards were veterans representing various organizations.
- r. 13 May – The Army ROTC program commissioned 12 lieutenants from the University of Arkansas. The individuals commissioned include:
 - a. Eric Babcock: Degree: French and International Relations; Branched: Active Duty Military Intelligence Corps with a branch detail of Armor
 - b. Liston Barber: Degree: Environmental Soil and Water Science; Branched: Active Duty Medical Service Corps

- c. Tyler Brandt: Degree: Industrial Engineering with minors in Mathematics and Transportation Logistics; Branched: Active Duty Corps of Engineers
- d. Tyler Casey: Degree: Geography; Branched: Colorado National Guard Infantry Branch
- e. Kevin Dunavan: Degree: Criminal Justice, Political Science and Sociology; Branched: Active Duty Transportation Corps
- f. Lance Lanier: Degree: Nursing; Branched: Active Duty Army Nursing Corps
- g. Jacob Miller: Degree: International Relations with a minor in Political Science; Branched: Active Duty Military Intelligence Corps with a branch detail of Armor
- h. Jack Powell: Degree: Agricultural Business; Branched: Active Duty Chaplain Corps - Christian Faith (after attending seminary)
- i. Josh Pultro: Degree: Management; Branched: Active Duty Armor Branch
- j. Ryan Rogers: Degree: Spanish, Sociology and Criminal Justice; Branched: Active Duty Infantry Branch
- k. Lysa Walterhouse: Degree: International Relations with an emphasis in Asian Studies and a minor in Japanese; Branched: Active Duty Transportation Corps
- l. Tyler Woolbright: Degree: Criminal Justice; Branched: Arkansas National Guard Infantry Branch

Six of the new second lieutenants were given the Distinguished Graduate Award from Cadet Command, signed by Major Gen. Peggy Combs, commander of Cadet Command at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Second Lieutenant Jacob Miller was this year's George C. Marshall award winner, given to one cadet in the U of A battalion of about 100 cadets who demonstrates "leadership and scholastic qualities that epitomized the career of General Marshall." The guest speaker at the event was Brig. Gen. Keith Klemmer, deputy adjutant general of the Arkansas National Guard. Chancellor Joseph Steinmetz presented the Chancellor's Challenge coin to each of the newly commissioned officers. This coin is given to all graduates who serve or formerly served in the military. The University of Arkansas Army ROTC is very proud of our newly commissioned officers.

- s. The Army ROTC Color Guard performed at several events during the year for veterans, community and university functions.
- t. Over the summer, we commissioned one (1) 2LT. Here is his information:

- a. Ian Lindeman - Commissioned July 10; Degree: Kinesiology; Branch: Arkansas National Guard, Medical Corps
- u. Between our Fayetteville campus, NSU, JBU, and UAFS, we commissioned 22 officers over the last year.
- v. Eighteen (18) cadets represented the University of Arkansas Army ROTC program at Advanced Camp, which the Army conducts each summer at Fort Knox, Kentucky. They performed very well. Three (3) cadets performed in the top 10%. Ten (10) cadets attended CIET at Fort Knox, Kentucky this summer. Two (2) of the 18 did not complete the course. One (1) will return next year.
- w. We had one (1) cadet attend Airborne School and one (1) cadet attend Air Assault School. Four (4) of our cadets participated in the Army's cultural immersion program in Thailand, Senegal, Comoros, and the Republic of Georgia. One (1) cadet attended the Nursing Summer Training Program at the Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Six (6) cadets participated in Cadet Troop Leading Training at Ft. Bliss & Ft. Hood, Texas, Ft. Jackson, South Carolina, Ft. Sill, Oklahoma and Ft. Riley, Kansas. All training and internships that our cadets attend is at no expense to the University.

4. Curriculum and Training:

- a. The department is fully automated on the Blackboard system for all academic classes. The curriculum is focused on leadership, ethics, counseling, communications, and decision-making.
- b. The department continues teaching marksmanship and survival skills courses, and these courses are open to the university population at large. This past year over 100 students from the university population took these classes at no cost to the university. These "open enrollment" classes garner approximately \$40,000 in tuition to the university and when coupled with our mandated classes for our cadets, the total gain is over \$250,000.00 in tuition for the university, all at no cost to the University.
- c. The Pershing Rifles marksmanship organization continues to represent the school and department in a distinguished manner. This year the organization received positive local and state media attention. The marksmanship is coached by volunteer Mr. Norm Walker, who has taught the class for the last 13 years and coached the team in a gratis manner.

5. Inspections:

- a. The department did not undergo inspection this year due to budget constraints at the Department of the Army level.

6. Enrollment, Scholarships and Incentives (Spring 2016):

Enrolled: 40 Total (24 UAF, 6 UAFS, 2 JBU, 6 NSU, 2 NWACC)

Contracted: 66 Total (51 UAF, 10 UAFS, 1 JBU, 4 NSU)

Scholarship: UAF only = 38 (tuition - \$476,255.88, does not include books and monthly stipend)

Females: (UA only) 11

Minorities: (UA only) 16

- a. We awarded five, 4-year scholarships to incoming freshman and an additional four 3.5 or 3 year Scholarships to incoming freshmen for SY 15-16. This amount of scholarship dollars available has severely decreased in the last 12 months and we have pushed for more scholarship money to be able to recruit quality cadets for the program and quality students for the university.
- b. Campus based 2 and 3-year scholarships, when added to our nationally awarded four year scholarships, brought the total number of Army ROTC scholarships given at the University of Arkansas to forty-three. Including the monthly stipends paid to cadets and payment for fees and books, the total dollar amount brought to the university community by Army ROTC **exceeds \$800,000**. This total does not include our National Guard and Army Reserve cadets who received state and federal tuition assistance and Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits.

7. University Support:

- a. Support from the University continues to be excellent, especially when compared to other programs in our geographic area.
- b. The University's room and board enhancement constitutes an integral part of the programs recruiting effort. It remains a critical incentive to entice students to attend the U of A and participate in the Army ROTC program and allows us to recruit quality students on a regional and national level.
- c. The Army ROTC at UAF would like to take this opportunity to thank Mike Johnson, Associate Vice Chancellor and Executive Manager of Facilities Management, Mary Willis, Program Coordinator from the Academic Scholarship Office, Jacklyn Gentry, Assistant Director of the Eleanor Mann School of Nursing and so many others for their support and assistance to the Army ROTC program.

8. Requests for Support:

- a. Consideration for tuition remission for ROTC classes only, for Arkansas Army National Guard and USAR students would help improve participation in the freshman and sophomore years. Getting these students in the program early and helping them remain in school in the long term will benefit the program, the university, and the state that needs leaders from this institution to lead our Arkansas Army National Guard units. Many students that attended Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training in high school prior to arriving at the university qualify for state tuition assistance. However, they do not take ROTC because they can enter as juniors into the ROTC program based on the fact

they have been to basic training. To take the freshman and sophomore level classes requires tuition payment (from limited state tuition assistance) for a class they technically do not require, but one that will help keep them focused and in school. This would also serve as a tool to recruit ARNG students from other states (which offer tuition remission) to consider the U of A.

Furthermore, I will enlist the support of the Registrar and Director of Admissions to facilitate the out of state tuition waiver in a timelier manner for our scholarship winners. Most, if not all, of our scholarship winners meet the criteria for this award but if not processed in a timely manner this ties up funds which adversely affects the total number of scholarships we can award.

- b. Due to continuing resource constraints, economic and personnel resources for the program continue to diminish. Federal rules and regulations limit the way federal dollars received can be spent. The university could help offset this in a number of ways:
 - (1) Use of university transportation assets at reduced rates to transport our cadets to off campus training sites would benefit the program. Currently, it is cheaper for the program to rent vehicles rather than to use university vehicles.
 - (2) The amount of credits granted for ROTC training and leadership courses vary from college to college within the University. Some colleges grant no credit and others grant up to 12 hours. A standardized policy for granting credit for leadership training would simplify the process for students and benefit the program.

9. Classroom/Building Improvements:

- d. With the registrar's office placing non-ROTC classes in our two remaining useable classrooms, we look to the University for assistance with upgrades in our audio/visual equipment.
- b. This year, our department was able to purchase painting, repairs and equipment for the Army ROTC building.

Summary:

As the oldest organization on the University campus, the proud tradition of the "Razorback Brigade" is alive and strong. Our aggressive marketing and recruiting efforts throughout the state and region, along with the cadets dedicated efforts, have enabled our program to meet the U.S. Army's commissioning goals. The University of Arkansas ROTC program has commissioned twelve or more officers for eleven straight years. Sustained recruiting efforts and continued university support constitute essential ingredients for the continued success of our program going forward. We anticipate an environment of constrained resources for the next several years as the Department of Defense adjusts to shrinking budgets. Nevertheless, the support of the University, the Arkansas National Guard, and the local community will enable the ROTC program to continue to recruit, retain, develop, and commission young Americans of exceptional character

to serve as leaders in all components of our Army in order to meet the requirements of our State and Nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad B. Quayle". The signature is stylized and cursive.

CHAD B. QUAYLE
Lieutenant Colonel, Military Intelligence
Professor of Military Science