Welcome Back Cadets!

I hope all of you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year with family and friends. I hope you all worked out over your Christmas break. Congratulations to 2LT Jordan Smith, the newest 2LT from SDSU Army ROTC. On behalf of the West Point of the Plains, we wish you the best and hope their military career is successful.

We have many events planned for the spring semester. Our major events include APFT, LABs, Battle Analysis (TBD), JFTX at Camp Grafton, ND (with USD, SDM&T, NDSU, UND) Military Appreciation Day, Commission, Awards Banquet, and Graduation. As always feel free to invite your families to any of our training events.

All cadets going to Fort Knox this summer should be mentally and physical prepared as if you are going on a deployment to Atropia (this is the fictional country Cadet Command uses for leadership development) Continue to focus on academics and a high level of fitness.

Recruiting is a must; everyone in our program is a recruiter. There will be ample opportunities to support on and off campus recruiting events. Be proud of our program, so go out and find some top notch personnel to enhance the future of this great battalion.

Your first day back all cadets will take the APFT at the Sanford Jackrabbit Athletic Complex. Report at 0545 on January 12th, 2015, Army PT uniform.

Mark your calendar for January 23rd to attend for Garnet’s Thank You Celebration. Thanks for her many years to SDSU Army ROTC!

Thanks to the fall leadership team, you did a fantastic job leading the battalion. Let’s support the spring leadership and always live by the Army values on and off campus. My door is always open and feel free to contact me.

LTC Aaron C. Schultz
Welcome to the New Year!

The holidays are over and we are ready to get started on the spring semester. We have a lot to accomplish in preparation for the new CST exercise held at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

This semester is starting off with an APFT at 0545 on Monday the 12th followed by regular classes at 0800. This event will determine who will be attending Tuesday and Thursday fitness training. The Battalion policy is Mon/Wed/Fri for all and remedial PT for those scoring less than 70% in each event of the APFT. All personnel should strive for 80% or more in each event.

January begins with Cadet Leadership Change of Command and a lead lab at the Armory. The Combat Water Survival test will be held in February. April holds the Ranger Buddy Competition and we hope to field competitive teams. The Joint Force Training Exercise at Camp Grafton, ND is our semester capstone and the last chance to gain the valuable experiences needed to succeed at CST. Also, Airborne and Air Assault School will be announced as slots become available. While we currently have none, please take note that there is a short window of availability when that time comes and candidates must be able to react immediately.

Remember your academic achievement is a priority, followed by your participation in ROTC events. With all the activities you are engaged in, don’t forget that you must take care of yourself physically, mentally and spiritually. The Army focuses on the whole Soldier and you must see yourself in the same light. Just remember that the attitude for the spring is “hard work beats talent when talent doesn’t work hard” in an effort to accomplish all that we have scheduled. If you need help, ask for it. That’s what the Cadre are here for and I have no doubt that if we act as a team, you will all succeed.

In closing I sincerely hope that you all had a fantastic time with your families and are ready to get to work..

West Point of the Plains!

MSG Staddie
I hope you all have/had an enjoyable break! These breaks are always welcomed, and much needed between the busy semesters.

The spring semester will endure a few changes. The biggest change will be the Cadre trying to complete the many tasks Garnet has done over the years. I would like to personally thank Garnet for her work ethic, experience, knowledge and above all friendship. Good luck in your future journey!!

The Spring semester will be filled with recruiting events. You (Cadets) are the best recruiting representatives we have for this Battalion. Always keep in mind the recruiting incentives and that our mission is to recruit, retain, develop and commission future Lieutenants. Each and every cadet in our program has special skills and leadership potential that can be used to increase the number of cadets in the program and make the SDSU Army ROTC an even better!!

A couple of recruiting points that need to be remembered as the new semester unfolds:
- Tell Your Friends!
- Fill up the 102 and 202 classes for the spring
- Be ready and willing to help out at the recruiting table, job fairs, nursing, and wellness fairs
- There are various scholarships available!!

Make sure to talk up your great ROTC experiences and all our program has to offer. Remember: YOU are our most effective recruiting asset! As always: RECRUIT, RECRUIT, RECRUIT!!!

Mr. Ness

COMPLETE THE SDSU ONLINE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE ROTC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NEXT YEAR. THESE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE PRESENTED AT THE AWARDS BANQUET IN MAY!
Please review this information to clarify Army ROTC Scholarship benefits:

1) Cadets on ROTC Scholarship benefits must be enrolled full-time with **75% of the curriculum in the traditional classroom setting.** While internet classes are very popular, too many internet courses will not meet the requirement for payment under Cadet Command scholarship regulatory guidance. Please plan accordingly.

2) **Scholarships pay for a class one time.** If a class is dropped after the date that tuition and fees are assessed, scholarship funds will pay for the class, but if the class is taken a second time, the Cadet is responsible for payment of tuition and fees for that class. Likewise, if a class is failed that has been paid for by a scholarship, the Cadet is responsible to pay for that class when it is repeated.

3) At the beginning of each school year, each scholarship Cadet elects how to use your scholarship benefits for the entire school year — payment of tuition and fees or payment towards room and board. Room and board payments are capped at the average cost of housing on campus.

If you elect tuition and fee payment, ROTC scholarships pay for tuition and for all fees assessed to all students in your major. ROTC scholarships do not pay for flight fees or a few other fees such as field trip fees. Nurses on scholarship, please note that ROTC Scholarships will pay a flat rate towards incidental costs associated with beginning the nursing curriculum/first semester of the nursing program. Please let the HRA know when you begin the nursing curriculum.

**Cadets that are receiving room and board payment** for their Army ROTC Scholarship are required to provide a tuition and fee invoice each semester. The form that is submitted to request payment of room and board benefits **includes the cost of your tuition and fees;** the form cannot be submitted for payment until the invoice is received and the tuition cost is annotated on the request form. Room and board payments are requested for all Cadets at one time each semester. Please be responsive and provide a copy of your tuition invoice.

Scholarship payment requests for the fall term cannot be submitted until after 45 days into the term; spring term R&B can be submitted when all info is received.

Army ROTC Scholarships provide excellent benefits; maintain your grade point average to ensure continued benefits.
Interested in Additional Funding?

The Department of Military Science offers several local scholarship opportunities for all contracted Cadets enrolled in Military Science classes. Scholarship award amounts vary depending on the scholarship, the donor, and interest rates. Amounts vary from $300 to $1500. These scholarships are managed by the SDSU Foundation and are for SDSU students only. You must complete the online application for SDSU Campus Scholarships to be eligible for these scholarships. Some of the scholarships have particular restrictions for MSL level and financial need while others have fewer restrictions. If you completed an application, you will be considered for any scholarship that you are eligible to compete for in this scholarship cycle. Most scholarships will be awarded at our annual awards banquet in May although some are not awarded until fall. This scholarship competition is for SY15-16.

The **Colonel and Mrs. Martin G. Kloster Scholarship** was established after COL Kloster retired from an illustrious career in the US Army. Preference is to a Cadet interested in active duty.

The **Harms Army ROTC Scholarship** was established in 2006 by an alumnus, Duane Harms, Harms Oil Company, Brookings, SD. Recipients are enrolled freshman, sophomores or juniors with scholar, athlete and leader characteristics.

The **General Omar Bradley Scholarship** is awarded yearly to a Cadet that has a keen interest in the military and plans a military career.

The **COL Dwight Adams Scholarship** honors the legacy of COL Adam’s distinguished Army career including 2 tours as PMS at SDSU. Based on ROTC performance, potential and financial need.

The **Milton & Beverly Jensen ROTC Scholarship** is available to both Army and Air Force cadets with preference to students that have a good work ethic and may have a financial need.

The **Richard and Kathryn Howard Family Scholarship** is awarded to a junior or senior Arts and Sciences major. Award alternates between Army and Air Force.

The **Colonel Charles Mateer ROTC Scholarship** is dedicated to a MS II advancing to the MS III level and is awarded in the fall.

The **Diane Goodale Renz and Evan M. Renz Scholarship** is linked to the Jackrabbit Guarantee criteria as is the **Donald O. Bunkers Scholarship** in Army ROTC. The Bunkers Scholarship is for a sophomore, junior or senior. The **Adelaine Scholarship** and the **David and Mary Howard Scholarship** are also awarded to students eligible for the Jackrabbit Guarantee.

The **Bianchi Scholarship** honors the memory of CPT Willibald Bianchi, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient who died in 1945 after surviving the Bataan Death March. This scholarship is awarded to an incoming freshman in the fall each year.

As you can see, there are several opportunities for additional funding. Maintain a solid grade point average and be active in ROTC to be competitive for these scholarships.
Completing an upper level course in Military History is one part of the Professional Military Education (PME) requirements for a commission. At SDSU, the preferred course, American Military History, is generally offered every other fall semester but this year the course is offered in the Spring Semester. HIST 460-S01, 14626, meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1130-1245.

There are three other classes (HIST 352, HIST 355, HIST 455) that also meet the PME requirement. One of those courses is usually offered each school year. Please plan ahead to incorporate the Military History PME into your curriculum.

If none of the courses listed above fit your schedule, an alternate option, HIST 491, Independent Study, may be available.

Other PME requirements are met through your training in ROTC such as one field training event each semester, successful completion of combat water survival, passing the APFT each semester, and a battlefield analysis or staff ride. PMEs are opportunities to expand your knowledge base and make yourself a well-rounded officer.
December 2014 Commissioning

Army ROTC at South Dakota State University commissioned one Second Lieutenant on 5 December 2014. 2LT Jordan A. Smith received his gold bars in a ceremony held in Lincoln Music Hall. 2LT Smith will be an officer in the Texas Army National Guard. He was branched Corps of Engineers and has a BOLC date of 24Aug15.

Congratulations!

Headstart2

Language training is quickly becoming a focus in the training of Army ROTC Cadets. It is an integral part of the culture and language life-long learning (LLL) plan initiated by Cadet Command for students contracting into ROTC since 2011. LLL is a plan of study aimed at increasing cultural awareness, understanding and expertise. Involvement in this program is required and will develop your fundamental knowledge of a country and a culture as well as increase your language proficiency skills. For more information on the LLL initiative, please see your MSL instructor. You can earn an additional 2.5 accession order of merit points if you complete the cultural understanding and language program (CULP) focusing on specific languages. Please ask Garnet for the language list.

Rosetta Stone language training is no longer an option available through AKO; the contract with Rosetta Stone has expired and will not be renewed. Replacing Rosetta Stone is Headstart2. Please check out the Headstart2 website at http://hs2.lingnet.org/ There are sixteen languages listed; the number of languages continues to grow.

Headstart2 consists of two units with ten modules each. One module teaches the basics of the language and the second module contains mission-specific tasks designed to include scenarios covering public safety, medical situations, basic command, cordon and search and gathering intelligence. Other features include animated military scenarios, culture notes, grammar notes, a writing tool, and a resource section. Headstart2 uses key phrases and terms and provides users with communication tools needed in preparation for deployments world-wide. Check it out!

http://hs2.lingnet.org/
Cadet Leader Course Preference Sheets

For those cadets attending the Cadet Leader Course (CLC) in 2015, the Preference Sheets will be distributed early in the spring semester. The preference sheet is your opportunity to request your first and second regiment choices for CLC. If there is a valid reason that affects the timing of your attendance at CLC, please annotate specific reasons and dates on the form.

Please annotate which major airport you prefer to travel from/return to for CLC. Your choices of travel locations are to travel from and return to your home of record or school location. CLC regiments begin in June.

Plan to travel to CLC on your report date. Your return flight home from CLC is scheduled late in the day on your graduation date. Please do not make plans for the next day in case your flight is delayed or changed.

Cadet Leadership for the Spring Semester

The West Point of the Plains Cadet Battalion leadership for Spring 2015:

Battalion Commander: C/LTC Jacob Kruse
Battalion CSM: C/CSM Joshua Nyquist
Battalion Executive Officer: C/MAJ Elizabeth Kolar
Battalion S-1: C/CPT Alexander Vos
Battalion S-3: C/MAJ Dacey Beck
Battalion S-4: C/CPT Mathew Martin
Battalion S-5: C/CPT Elizabeth Luczak
Battalion S-6: C/CPT Cody Leins
The AFCEA Educational Foundation is offering the opportunity for high quality Cadets to apply for a scholarship. Eight scholarships of $2,000 each are offered each year to sophomore and junior Army ROTC Cadet majoring in hard science and technical majors (engineering, physics, math, computer science and computer technology as well as fields relating to intelligence and homeland security). Established leadership and potential to be an officer are primary factors in determining eligibility to apply. Financial need is also a consideration for application.

Please go to the website at http://www.afcea.org/education/scholarships/rotc/ to apply. Please note, that a recommendation by a faculty member and one from the PMS are required. **Application deadline is 20Feb15.** Please be considerate of the time involved for recommendations by both faculty and the PMS and apply early!

Welcome back cadets! Another semester has come and gone along with one more West Point of the Plains brand new LT.

As for the rest of the BN there is still much work to be done. Though this will be somewhat seamless to most of you, we are moving to a new system called PBUSE for the hand receipt process for cadet clothing and equipment. In the spring it will be very important for you all to know what you are signed for and the sizes. I will be contacting you for this information as soon and we get back to school.

MS-IVs its not too late to think about what and when you need to turn in your equipment. Every semester it sneaks up on you and you may end up paying needless dollars for equipment we can always come up with if we have time. Email me ASAP and I will email you a copy of your clothing records so you can inventory and turn in as soon as possible after the Spring FTX.

Hopefully you all had a Merry and safe Christmas and lets get ready for another great semester!

Smoke
**Garnet’s Gems**

**Welcome To Spring Semester 2015!**

All Cadets, please stop to see me by **22 Jan 2015** to update your records to include your Cadet Enrollment Record, your academic planner and to review your cadet record brief. Please plan to always review these items at the start of every semester.

Cadets, please ensure that you are using your complete correct name on campus for registration, billing, etc. For example, Cadet Command will not pay a bill for a student named Patrick if the tuition bill says Pat.

Any time you **travel** outside the continental United States, you are required to complete a force protection travel packet for our Brigade. Packet includes travel itinerary, etc. Please get your packets started for Spring Break.

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**SDSU Rifle Club**

Welcome back to a new year of opportunity. If you weren’t able to get your deer this year, or want to improve your marksmanship skills, then the rifle and pistol club is for you. This semester the rifle and pistol club is gearing up for its competition season. If you are interested in learning basic marksmanship or competing at the collegiate level, this club is a great opportunity for you. Last school year, several cadets participated in rifle competitions and were eligible to apply for and receive Rifle Marksmanship Scholarships.

The team meets every Monday and Wednesday.

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**Identification (ID) Cards**

Cadet that traveling and training.

Please plan to go to the Army National Guard during February to get your ID card. Please be prepared to take along two forms of photo identification.

Please coordinate with Mr. Chavez by **6 Feb 2015** if you need an ID card.
Hard copy Leave and Earning Statements (LES) will be turned off effective 31Dec14 for anyone who has accessed myPay within the past thirteen months and the process will be repeated every six months. Please go to the DFAS website to monitor your Cadet pay.

Learn the Lingo:
TDY: Temporary Duty Travel
BOLC: Basic Officer Leader Course
LDAC: Leadership Development Assessment Course

Websites of Interest: Pay: https://mypay.dfas.mil
DOD Dictionary: www.dtic.mil/doctrine/jel/doddict/
Army One Source: www.armyonesource.com
GI Bill Benefits: www.gibill.va.gov