

MINUTES
BOARD OF VISITORS SPRING MEETING
MARCH 28, 2023
Library of Congress - Washington, DC
In Person

1. DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER'S REMARKS. Colonel (COL) Brian Novoselich, United States Military Academy (USMA) Chief of Staff, stated for the record that the USMA Board of Visitors (BoV or Board) operates under the authority of US Code Title 10, Section 7455. The Board is an Advisory Board subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act. He further stated the meeting was open to the public, however members of the public attending the meeting may not present questions from the floor or speak to any issue under discussion. Members of the public can file a written statement with the BoV.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS. Congressman Steve Womack called the meeting to order and welcomed the members. He thanked them for taking the time out of their busy schedules to attend the meeting. He reminded the members that the BoV has an advisory role and is not in USMA's chain of command, and that meetings are a way for members to gather information in an official capacity.

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS. Lieutenant General (LTG) Steven Gilland thanked the Chair and the other Board members for their attendance at the meeting, and their continued support to the United States Military Academy and the Corps of Cadets. He acknowledged and welcomed new BoV member Senator Joni Ernst. He also acknowledged the outgoing and incoming USMA Command Sergeant Majors (CSM), Michael Coffey and Phil Barretto, respectively. Lastly, he acknowledged Ms. Dede Ghostlaw for her years of service as the BoV's Designated Federal Officer, as well as Ms. Lori Doughty, the BoV's ethics counselor, upon their retirements from government service.

4. SECRETARY OF THE ARMY REPRESENTATIVE'S REMARKS: The Honorable Dr. Agnes Schaefer, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs thanked the Board members for their attendance and expressed the appreciation of Army senior leadership for their continued support and service to USMA, the Army and the Nation. She also acknowledged and congratulated Senator Ernst on her appointment to the BoV. She emphasized the importance of USMA in developing the leaders of character necessary to fight and win in the Army of 2030.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS. COL Novoselich noted the last BoV meeting was October 21, 2022 at West Point, with a quorum present. He stated the following documents provided to each member for the meeting:

- a. Minutes from the October 21, 2022 BoV meeting
- b. Draft rules for the USMA BoV
- c. Slides for today's meeting
- d. Statements from members of the public received since the last meeting

6. ROLL CALL. For the record, a quorum of the Board was present.

a. The following members were in attendance: Congressman Steve Womack, Congressman Warren Davidson, Congressman Mark Green, Senator Joni Ernst, Secretary Chuck Hagel, LTG (retired) Nadja West, Ms. Susan Irons, LTC (retired) Roderick Alvendia, Dr. Leslie Fenwick, and Mr. Juan Sabater.

b. The following members were absent: Senator Jerry Moran, Senator Tammy Duckworth, and Senator Joe Manchin.

c. For the record, Dr. Schaefer, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (ASA(M&RA)) was noted as present, as the Secretary of the Army's representative.

d. USMA command and staff members, and members of the public in attendance were reminded to sign in, and that the sign-in sheet would become a matter of record.

7. BOARD BUSINESS:

a. With a quorum present, Congressman Womack presented as the first order of business the swearing in of the BoV's Presidential appointees. Mr. Alvendia administered the oath of office.

b. Congressman Womack next presented as the second order of business the election of a chair and vice chair for 2023. He noted that any member of the Board was eligible for either position.

(1) Mr. Alvendia nominated Congressman Womack to serve again as Board Chair. The nomination was seconded and voted upon. The "ayes" prevailed, and Congressman Womack was reelected as Board Chair.

(2) Congressman Womack opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Sabater nominated LTG(R) West, with no other nominations offered. The nomination was seconded and voted upon. The "ayes" prevailed and LTG (retired) West was elected as the Board's Vice Chair.

c. Congressman Womack presented as the next order of business the approval of the BoV rules. Congressman Green moved to approve the rules, with LTG (retired) West seconding. The Board voted and the rules were approved with the "ayes" prevailing.

d. Congressman Womack presented as the next order of business was the approval of the minutes from the October 2022 meeting. Congressman Davidson moved to approve the minutes with Congressman Green seconding. The Board voted and the motion was carried. With no further discussion, the minutes were approved.

e. Congressman Womack noted that the 2021 Annual Report required two additional signatures, and the initial draft of the 2022 report was complete and being reviewed by USMA leadership, before providing to the Board Chair for approval. He noted that once approved, a final draft would be provided to all Board members for their review and signature.

f. Congressman Womack presented as the final order of business setting a date for the Summer 2023 Board meeting. He noted that USMA recommended July 24, 2023 for the meeting. There were no objections by the Board and the recommended date for the summer meeting was approved.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE: LTG Gilland first congratulated Congressman Womack and LTG(R) West on their election to Chair and Vice Chair and thanked the entire Board for their attendance. He introduced the group of Cadets attending the meeting.

LTG Gilland highlighted some of the major events that took place at USMA since the last meeting, to include Branch Night, the Army-Navy football game, class weekends, and Founders Day.

He reiterated his expectations for the Corps and the USMA Team, highlighting the importance of standards and values.

He highlighted the January visit of an external review team, noting the team provided a thorough and candid assessment of the Academy and recommendations to help improve USMA's leader development efforts. He also highlighted USMA's annual Founders Day engagements as opportunities to thank them for their support as well as to encourage alumni to engage with and inspire young Americans to consider the possibilities available to them at USMA and the Army.

Finally, he provided an update on the USMA 2035 infrastructure modernization efforts. He noted two particular issues that are creating risk and construction delays: the requirement to return all unspent contingency funds for projects, and the need to convert the Thayer Hall project to a military construction project. Mr. Sabater asked what impacts to teaching the construction delays might have. LTG Gilland and COL Greg Boylan, USMA Director of Strategic Resources, noted that the delays could further disrupt the overall modernization plan, as well as the broader Army Facilities Investment Plan, and add additional cost. Congressman Womack asked what effect a continuing resolution might have. COL Boylan replied it would amplify the delays.

Dr. Jerry Kobylski, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, provided an update on USMA's ongoing internal assessments, to include the Honor Code and lines of effort. LTG Gilland added that USMA was considering simplifying the mission statement, so people better understand what the Academy does and reviewing the Honor Code to make it more aspirational in nature.

Congressman Davidson asked about USMA's effort in developing a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Plan, noting the addition of the word "equity." Dr. Kobylski explained that incorporating "equity" better aligned USMA's efforts with accreditation standards.

Mr. Sabater asked whether USMA was considering building its own "data layer." Dr. Kobylski replied that USMA had developed its own data storehouse, which the Academy uses to inform decision making.

Mr. Sabater also asked if USMA had considered incorporating behavioral science into Cadet assessments to better understand strengths and attributes. Dr. Kobylski said he was not familiar with the initiative. Congressman Davidson added that U.S. Special Operations Command used a similar assessment in the past.

Dr. Fenwick commended USMA for the recent Middle States reaccreditation. She also commented on data aggregation and DEI in relation to accreditation.

LTG (retired) West also commended the USMA Team for their efforts. She recounted her recent work with the Secretary of Defense's Suicide Prevention Response Independent Review Committee, emphasizing the importance of leadership in taking care of servicemembers, and USMA's efforts in developing those leaders.

Dr. Corrine Wilsey, acting Sexual Harassment and Assault Response Program (SHARP) manager, provided an overview the findings of the recent Service Academy Gender Relations

(SAGR) survey. Several Board members asked questions or commented about various findings and data points from the report.

Ms. Bethany Stephens, West Point's Community Ready and Resilient Integrator discussed West Point's primary prevention program, that addresses all harmful behaviors.

Brigadier General (BG) Shane Reeves, Dean of the Academic Board, provided an academic program update, highlighting USMA's intellectual themes for the current and upcoming academic years, the graduate scholar program, and various projects and initiatives that enhance USMA's reputation as one of the Army's centers for intellectual capital. He introduced Cadet (CDT) Isabelle Sullivan, who briefly highlighted her Academic Individual Advanced Development experience at the Army War College. BG Reeves then provided an overview of the West Point Press.

Mr. Sabater asked how USMA is creating the environment that allows for the use of tools like ChatGPT without sacrificing the Honor Code. BG Reeves replied that these tools are part of the current reality, and that USMA is looking into integrating their use from both an educational and honor perspective.

LTG (retired) West noted USMA's intellectual capital support to the Army and Department of Defense and asked if any thought had been given to extending that support to the public sector, as applicable. LTG Gilland replied that USMA's efforts could be shared in that space, but that USMA's primary focus was on supporting the Army and DoD. BG Reeves cited the work of the Lieber Institute for Law and Land Warfare as an example of work that has extended into the public sector.

BG Mark Quander, Commandant of Cadets, provided a brief overview of Cadet Summer Training (CST) before introducing a panel of Cadets to discuss their experiences as leaders during CST. Additionally, CDT Analise Callaghan discussed the MX400 capstone leadership course.

Mr. Mike Buddie, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, highlighted the state of collegiate athletics at the national level, noting it has become more of a financial enterprise, particularly with name-image-likeness payments. He emphasized USMA was unique in that these issues do not affect Cadet-athletes, who chose West Point to serve their country as leaders of character. He also expressed gratitude for the policy allowing graduates to compete professionally, noting that, while few Cadets may get that opportunity, it is an opportunity for them to represent USMA and the Army on the national stage.

Congressman Davidson asked if the pro sports policy needed to be addressed in the upcoming National Defense Authorization Act. Congressman Womack replied the policy would be in effect for another year.

COL Debbie McDonald, Director of Admissions, provided an update on the incoming Class of 2027. She noted that USMA was experiencing similar challenges as other colleges and universities regarding decreasing applications due to a smaller population pursuing higher education. However, she cited an increase in offers of admission and that, while facing some of the same admissions challenges as in the past, USMA continues to have positive name recognition nationwide. She also discussed the importance and value of the early acceptance process for both USMA and the candidates.

Congressman Womack asked whether the DoD Medical Examination Review Board (DoDMERB) has improved the admissions process. COL McDonald noted the system works in theory, however, is only as good as the information the applicant inputs.

Secretary Hagel asked how USMA was positioning itself to deal with some of the current challenges in higher education admissions. COL McDonald cited various outreach efforts, including a new candidate admission program in which Cadets engage online with applicants who have been offered admission but have not yet accepted. She added this initiative creates a stronger sense of camaraderie and belonging in candidates.

Dr. Schaefer expressed her concerns about the decreased applicant pool and that these would be challenges that would extend for several years. LTG Gilland emphasized that while the number of applicants may decrease the better metric to focus upon is qualified applicants.

9. ADJOURNMENT. Prior to adjourning, Congressman Womack again thanked Ms. Ghostlaw for her years of service to the Board as Designated Federal Officer, and both he and Dr. Fenwick thanked the Cadets for participating in the meeting. Congressman Womack asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made and seconded. With no objections, the March 2023 meeting of the USMA Board of Visitors was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Certified by:



21 July 2023

STEVE WOMACK
US Representative
Chair, USMA Board of Visitors



21 July 2023

ANTHONY J. ESPINAL
Designated Federal Officer,
USMA Board of Visitors

Appendix A: Attendance

Congressional Members:

Congressman Steve Womack-Chair
Congressman Warren Davidson
Congressman Mark Green
Congressman Pat Ryan

Presidential Appointees:

SEC Chuck Hagel
LTG (Ret) Nadja West – Vice Chair
LTC (Ret) Roderick Alvendia
Mr. Juan Sabater
Ms. Susan Irons
Dr. Leslie Fenwick

The following members were absent:

Senator Joe Manchin
Senator Jerry Moran
Senator Tammy Duckworth

Based on the BOV attendance, a quorum was present for the meeting.

Other attendees:

Dr. Agnes Schaeffer, ASA(M&RA)
COL Evangeline Rosel, SIG Chief to the ASA(M&RA)
LTC Kurt Cyr, Military Assistant to the ASA(M&RA)
MAJ Jonathan Broderick, OCLL
CPT Tom Dickson, OCLL

USMA Command and Staff Members in Attendance:

LTG Steven W. Gilland, Superintendent of the United States Military Academy
COL Brian Novoselich, USMA Chief of Staff
BG Shane Reeves, Dean of the Academic Board
MAJ Adam Barsuhn, XO-Dean
BG Mark Quander, Commandant of Cadets (USCC)
CSM Robert Craven, USCC Command Sergeant Major
LTC Matthew Dawson, XO-Superintendent
CPT Shawn Robertson, Aide de Camp, Superintendent
CPT Jana Burdick, XO-Commandant of Cadets
Mr. Michael Buddie, Athletic Director
COL Deborah McDonald, Director of Admissions
COL Laura Dawson, Medical Advisor to the Superintendent
COL Gregory Boylan, G5-R (Resources & Facilities)
Ms. Lisa Benitez, Chief Diversity Officer
COL(R), Dr. Gerald Kobylski, Deputy G5
SSG Miguel Lopez, Superintendent Communication NCO
Dr. Jeffrey Peterson, Senior Advisor to the Character Integration Advisory Group (CIAG)
LTC Thomas Dull, XO, CIAG
Dr. Corrine Wilsey, SHARP Program Manager

Ms. Bethany Stephens, Community Readiness and Resiliency Integrators
COL Richard Gash, Dean, Associate Dean of Resources
Mr. Charles "Bo" Thompson (PAO/VI)
Mr. Nicholas Tantillo, (PAO/VI)
Mr. Anthony Espinal, Deputy Director G5E/ Designated Federal Officer (DFO)
Ms. Deadra Ghostlaw, Designated Federal Officer (DFO)/Ass't SGS
Mr. Jeffrey Reynolds, Chief of Protocol/Alternate DFO
Ms. Lori Doughty, BoV/FACA Counsel-Staff Judge Advocate
COL Tiffany Chapman, Staff Judge Advocate

Cadet Attendees:

CDT Analise Callaghan
CDT Lily Schur
CDT Isabella Sullivan
CDT Teryon Lowery
CDT Tyson Welch
CDT Carlos Guitierrez
CDT Jacques Schold

Legislative Assistants:

Mr. Beau Walker (Rep Womack)
Mr. Connor White (SEN Ernst)
Mr. Nick Runkel (Rep Womack)
Mr. Dan Torres (Rep Ryan)
Ms. Margaret Taylor (Rep Ryan)
Mr. Andrew Lapport (Rep Davidson)
CPT Iris Lenner (SEN Moran)
Mr. Nolan Mayhem (SEN Ernst)

Members of the Press/Public:

N/A



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Agenda

- **Opening Statements**
- **Board Business**
 - Swear In Presidential Appointees
 - Elect 2022 Chair and Vice Chair
 - Approve Minutes from Fall 2022 meeting
 - 2023 Rules for the USMA Board of Visitors
 - Set Date for the Summer 2023 meeting
 - Open Discussion
- **Superintendent's Update**
 - Review and Assessment of Mission and Strategy (SUPE's Initial Assessment)
- **Line of Effort 2: Culture of Character Growth**
 - SAGR Overview and Way Forward - Discussion
 - Comprehensive Prevention and Resiliency - Discussion
- **Break**
- **Line of Effort 1: Developing Leaders of Character**
 - Academic Program Highlights
 - Cadet Summer Training 2023 Discussion
 - Athletic Update
- **Line of Effort 3: Build Diverse and Effective Winning Teams**
 - Admissions Discussion
- **Closing Remarks**

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Board Business

1. Swear In Presidential Appointees
2. Elect 2023 Chair & Vice Chair
3. Approve Rules of Board of Visitors
4. Approve Minutes – OCT 2022 Meeting
5. Next Board Meeting – 24 July 2023

| Year | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| First Meeting | Mar (Virtual) | MAR (DC) | 28 MAR (DC) |
| Second Meeting | July (WP) CST | July (WP) CST | 24 July (WP) |
| Third Meeting | Nov (WP) UMASS | OCT (WP) | (T) Fall (WP) |

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SUPE 61 EXPECTATIONS

Creeds:

- Soldier
- NCO
- Civilian
- Ranger
- Cadet

Oaths

- R-Day
- A-Day
- Officer
- Civilian

STANDARDS

KNOW ADHERE ENFORCE


DUTY • HONOR • COUNTRY

EDUCATE • TRAIN • *INSPIRE*

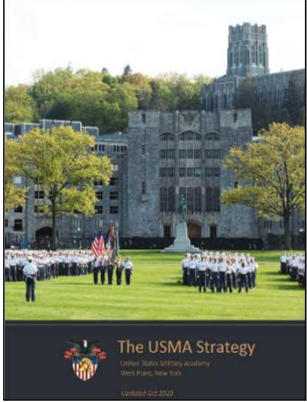
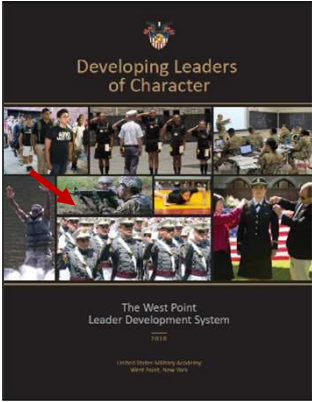
LIVE HONORABLY LEAD HONORABLY DEMONSTRATE EXCELLENCE

BE POSITIVE DO YOUR BEST BE A GOOD TEAMMATE

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**Review and Assessment of Mission and Strategy (SUPE's Initial Assessment) –
Contributing to the Army of 2040**

Dr. Jerry Kobylski

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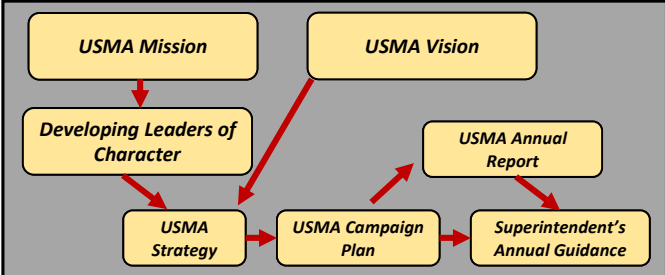
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**Superintendent's External Review Team
(23 – 27 Jan 2023)**

- **Critical Components:**
 - Superintendent's initial assessment
 - USMA's Institutional Effectiveness processes

- **USMA level focus**
 - Mission and Lines of Effort
 - Cadet Honor Code and Honor System
 - Cadet Character Development
 - Cadet Time

- **Composition of Team**
 - Diverse talents
 - Leveraging of alumni




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graph TD
    A[USMA Mission] --> B[Developing Leaders of Character]
    A --> C[USMA Strategy]
    B --> C
    D[USMA Vision] --> C
    D --> E[USMA Campaign Plan]
    D --> F[USMA Annual Report]
    C --> E
    E --> F
    F --> G[Superintendent's Annual Guidance]
    
```

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Strengths

USMA Strategy

LOE 1 Develop Leaders of Character

LOE 2 Cultivate a Culture of Character Growth

LOE 3 Build Diverse and Effective Winning Teams

LOE 4 Modernize, Sustain and Secure


LOE 5 Strengthen Partnerships

Army Lines of Effort

- 1. People**
 - Talent of Cadets, Staff, and Faculty
 - Comprehensive Prevention
 - Improvements in Holistic Health
- 2. Readiness**
 - Mission Achievement
 - Force Protection (effective plans and measures)
- 3. Modernization**
 - Stewardship and upgrades of installation grounds and facilities
 - Technology (transition to Microsoft Office 365 and Mission Command)
 - Robust capacity for data literacy, storage, sharing, use, and analytics

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Focus Areas

USMA Strategy (considerations)

LOE 1 Develop Leaders of Character

- Cadet Application to Affirmation Ceremony (Expectations & Culture)
- Affirmation Ceremony to Commissioning (Emphasize accountability)
- Develop West Point staff and faculty (e.g., "second graduating class")

LOE 2 Cultivate a Culture of Character Growth (Positive Command Climate)

- Better incorporate primary prevention and health and holistic fitness

LOE 3 Build (and retain) a Diverse and Talented Team

- Corps of Cadets; Staff and Faculty; West Point Community

LOE 4 Modernize, Sustain and Secure

LOE 5 Strengthen Partnerships

Army Lines of Effort

- 1. People**
 - Improvement of USMA's culture of character growth
 - Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault
 - Honor Review Follow Up
 - Development and Implementation of a DEI Plan informed by the current D&I Plan (Middle States Accreditation)
 - Talent acquisition
- 2. Readiness**
 - Developing Leaders of Character
 - Character (and honor) education, integration, and assessment
 - Cadet Committee roles for education
 - Evolving curriculum
 - Refinement of opportunities to support the Army Campaign Plan 2023-2030
- 3. Modernization**
 - Continued emphasis and support for USMA 2035 (facilities)
 - Improved data literacy, use, and analytics

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SAGR Overview & Way Forward



**SHARP Program Manager
Prevention Specialist
Dr. Corrine Wilsey**

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Service Academy Gender Relations Background

- Military Service Academy Sexual Harassment & Violence Report (MSA SH&V)
 - Conducted Annually
 - Program Compliance/Focus Groups
 - Reports of SH&V
- Service Academy Gender Relations (SAGR)
 - Every 2 years
 - Last SAGR in 2018 due to COVID
 - Prevalence of SH&V
- Released March 2023
- SAGR prevalence data helps to inform current prevention programs

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Conditions Check

- Unwanted Sexual Contact (USC) increased across all three service academies
 - USC includes three categories: unwanted touching; attempted penetration; completed penetration
- At USMA, unwanted touching is the only category to show a statistically significant increase
 - Most who disclosed unwanted touching indicated that it was not serious enough to report
- Main risk factor for being a sexual assault victim is being a prior victim and not seeking help
 - Survey indicated that more Cadets entered USMA with a prior USC experience
- This is an issue across higher education, not limited to MSAs
 - Prevalence rates higher overall at civilian colleges/universities

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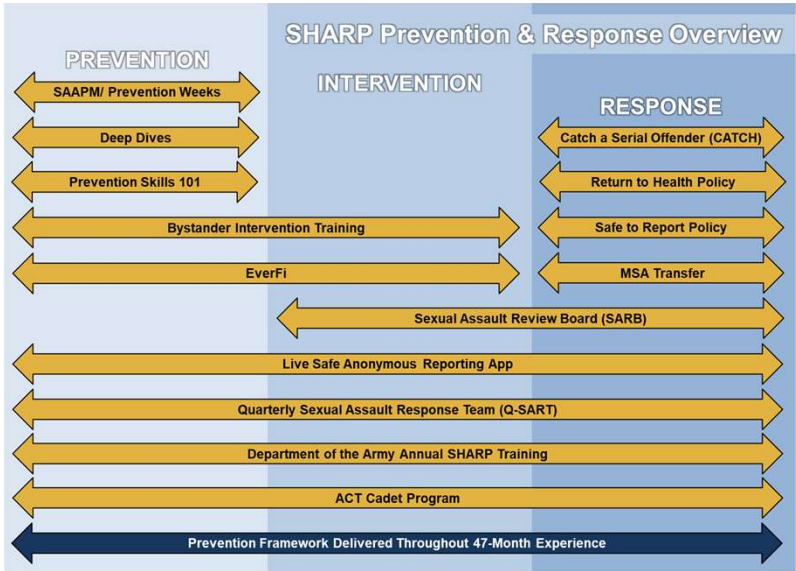
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Current Efforts In SHARP

- Prevention foundation begins prior to R-Day
- Available resources
- Collaborative approach
- Tailored to leadership and peer influencer identified needs
- Ongoing assessments conducted



The diagram illustrates the SHARP framework across three phases: PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, and RESPONSE. It features various programs and policies represented by horizontal arrows of different colors and directions.

| Phase | Program/Policy | Direction |
|---|---|---------------|
| PREVENTION | SAAPM/ Prevention Weeks | Left to Right |
| | Deep Dives | Left to Right |
| | Prevention Skills 101 | Left to Right |
| INTERVENTION | Bystander Intervention Training | Left to Right |
| | EverFi | Left to Right |
| | Sexual Assault Review Board (SARB) | Right to Left |
| | Live Safe Anonymous Reporting App | Left to Right |
| | Quarterly Sexual Assault Response Team (Q-SART) | Left to Right |
| RESPONSE | Catch a Serial Offender (CATCH) | Left to Right |
| | Return to Health Policy | Left to Right |
| | Safe to Report Policy | Left to Right |
| | MSA Transfer | Left to Right |
| Department of the Army Annual SHARP Training | | |
| ACT Cadet Program | | |
| Prevention Framework Delivered Throughout 47-Month Experience | | |

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Comprehensive Prevention & Resiliency

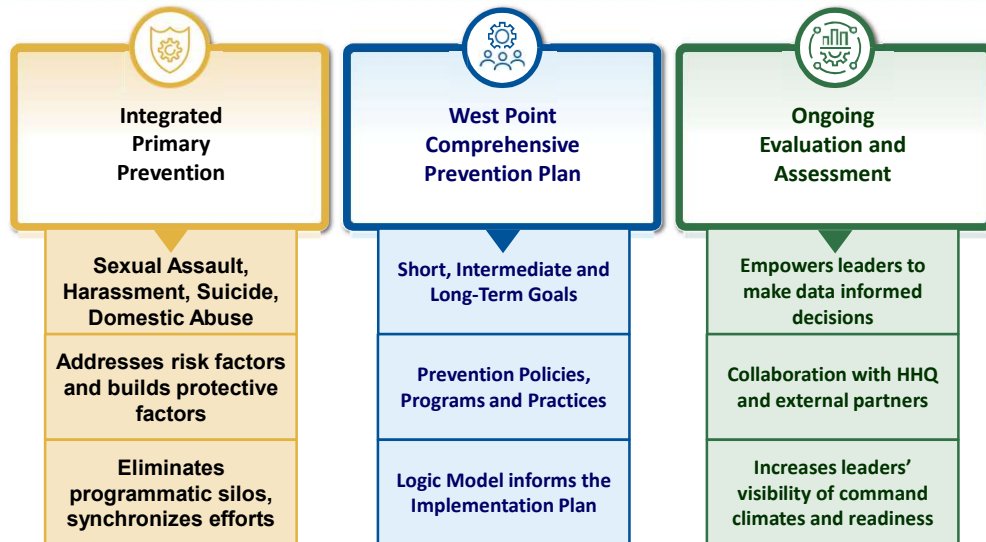


Community Ready & Resilient Integrator
Violence Prevention Program Integrator
Ms. Beth Stephens

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West Point Comprehensive Primary Prevention



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West Point Ready & Resilient (R2) Components



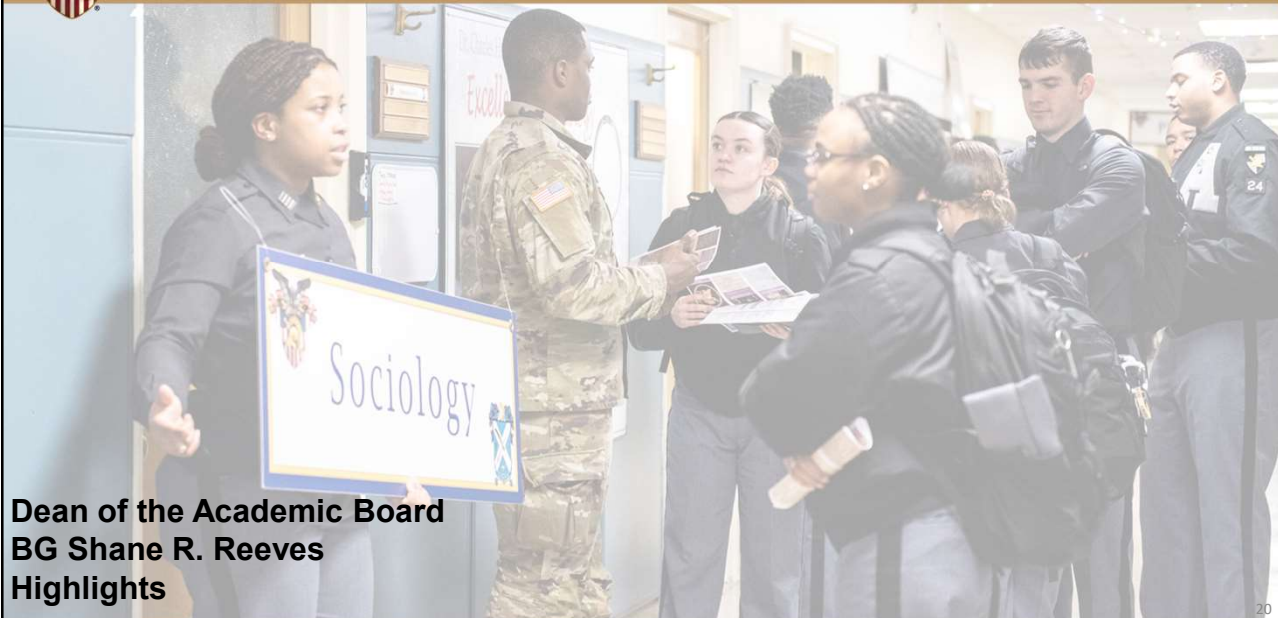
-  **Comprehensive Primary Prevention**
-  **Mental Resiliency & Spiritual Integration**
-  **Community Resiliency**
-  **Holistic Health & Fitness**

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**Dean of the Academic Board
BG Shane R. Reeves
Highlights**

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Academic Year Theme

Called to Serve: Military Leadership in a Democratic Republic

Next Academic Year Theme
Innovation, Technology, and the Future of National Defense

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Intellectual Capital

Cadet Alicyn Grete at the Mars Desert Research Station in Hanksville, Utah


Cadets Margaret Williams and Kai Youngren
2023 Rhodes Scholarship Winners

CTC and CLS teamed up to help answer an Army special mission unit's urgent questions on biotreats and bioterrorism

Cadet Skye Williams
2023 Anna Sobol Levy Winner


LTC Andrew Pfluger's interdisciplinary team won an \$925k grant to continue their research on energy security and resilience at West Point²²

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West Point Press


- West Point Press is the publishing arm of the United States Military Academy at West Point – helping maintain our position as the intellectual center of the Army
- Ensure West Point remains a top-tier institution that attracts and retains the best students and faculty




Monographs




eTextbooks




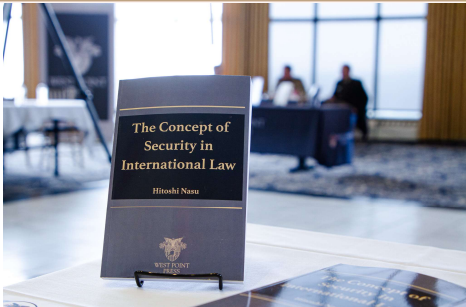

Podcasts



Articles



Open Access Journals

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**Commandant
BG Mark Quander
Cadet Summer Training (CST) 2023 Discussion**

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Cadet Summer Training


First Year
→ Second Year
→ Third Year
→ Fourth Year




Cadet Basic Training
The Long Gray Line Starts Here



Cadet Field Training
Inspire Passion for the Profession




West Point Leader Detail
Character, Confidence and Commitment

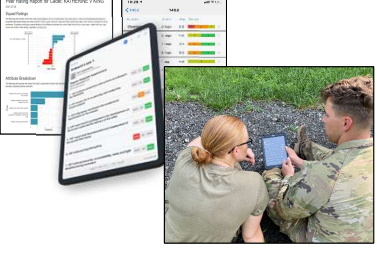


Cadet Leader Development Training
Endure the Crucible of Leadership


Team Building Approach & Methodology



Leveraging Technology for Leader Development



Partnerships with Cadet Command & Forces Command



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MX400 Overview (Video)



MX400

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Director of Athletics
Mr. Mike Buddie
Future of Collegiate Athletics

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This slide features a collage of various West Point athletes in action and celebrating with trophies. The top left corner contains the West Point logo. The main image shows a large group of athletes, some in football jerseys (one with number 11), some in soccer uniforms, and others in basketball or tennis gear, all holding and celebrating with trophies. The bottom left corner contains the text 'Director of Athletics Mr. Mike Buddie Future of Collegiate Athletics' and the number '27' in the bottom right corner.

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This slide features the NCAA logo centered on a white background. The top left corner contains the West Point logo. The NCAA logo is a blue circle with the letters 'NCAA' in white, bold, sans-serif font, and a registered trademark symbol (®) to the right. The number '28' is in the bottom right corner.

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**Director of Admissions
COL Deborah J. McDonald
Admissions**

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Class of 2027 Trends



- **Decreased Applicant Pool**
 - Similar trends across higher ed
- **Medical evaluations delaying qualification**
- **Increased declinations**
 - Top choices: Navy, Air Force, Other College, ROTC Scholarship
 - 67% accept Navy
- **Increased offers**

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Ghostlaw, Deadra CIV

From: Janet Rockey <rockeyjanet@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 12:26 PM
To: Espinal, Anthony J CIV
Cc: Board of Visitors
Subject: REMOVAL OF THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY RECONCILIATION MEMORIAL
Attachments: Arlington Cemetery Letter Monument Removal 03-13-23.doc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mr. Espinal,

Please find attached a Word document of the letter below regarding the Removal of a treasured monument.

NAME: Janet Ramsdell Rockey
TITLE / AFFILIATION: Writer/Author
ADDRESS: 3502 W. Palmira Ave., Tampa, FL 33629 DAY TIME PHONE NUMBER: (813) 417-5505

I, Janet Rockey, submit this statement because I am deeply opposed to the Naming Commission's shameful recommendation to remove the Reconciliation Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I am equally distressed by the lack of public participation throughout this process and the short notice provided to the public, which did not include the mandatory 15-day notice as required by law ahead of the March 15th meeting.

I am a patriot who believes ALL men are created equal and ethnicity and ethnic inequality have no place in the United States of America. Removing memorials to War Between the States dead—North and South—is disrespectful and tantamount to erasing history.

Arlington National Cemetery is unquestionably our Nation's most Sacred Shrine. Arlington's example should be one of inclusion and education, not rejection and destruction of public art. The War Between the States was the most tragic moment in our Nation's history. We owe it to posterity to educate our youth and the future generations why these memorials were erected. Leave the monument where it stands and educate our children why it was erected—as a symbol of eternal reconciliation.

I offer these thoughts to you as a citizen whose sole intent is to make our Nation a great place to live for the current and future generations. I am offended and outraged by the recommendation to remove Moses Ezekiel's Reconciliation Memorial. This is also a trenchant act of anti-Semitism toward the artist, and I ask the Cemetery Advisory Committee to do all in its power to deny all efforts to remove this work of public art.

Very respectfully,
Janet Ramsdell Rockey

Janet Ramsdell Rockey, Award-winning Author / Freelance Writer Discovering God in Everyday Moments, Fear Less - Pray More, The God of Possible, Chicken Soup for the Soul Co-President, Word Weavers, International - Tampa Chapter

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NASB)

To the USMA Board of Visitors:

My name is Brian L. Schiele, SSG (RET), Utah National Guard, United States Army, and I am writing to you about the uniform selection process for the Black Knights football team of the United States Military Academy (USMA), in regards to the Army/Navy game.

As you may know the Army/Navy game is traditionally played on the second Saturday of December, which happens to take place near or on the birthday of the Army National Guard of December 13. The Army National Guard is our military's oldest component and considers December 13, 1636 as its birthday, making it nearly 139 years older than our nation and the Army.

During its season, the Black Knights football team honors some part of Army history or culture at each game with their uniforms, and it is time that they honor the Army National Guard. The Army/Navy game has been played 123 times and it has been played twice on December 13 and will do so again in 2025.

I spent 21 years in the Utah National Guard and knew one Soldier and officer that was a USMA graduate and I am certain that any given time there are several officers serving in any of the 54 states and territories that the Army National Guard is headquartered in. I have also come to learn that it is not uncommon for USMA cadets to enlist in the Army National Guard before enrolling at the USMA to learn about the Army and leadership. I can also point out two notable USMA graduates, GEN Daniel Hokanson, who after serving nearly eight years on active duty came to the Army National Guard in Oregon and is now the General and Chief of the National Guard, there is also Guy R. "Bear" Barattieri, a 1992 USMA graduate and football player that went on to serve in the Washington Army National Guard and was killed in the line of duty in 2006 while serving in Iraq.

I am not much a football fan, but I absolutely love Army football and in particular the Army/Navy game because there is no other game or rivalry like it. Whenever the uniforms are announced on the likes of Facebook and other social media platforms I will comment about how awesome it would be to honor the Army National Guard, simply because the Army National Guard's birthday falls so close to or on occasion the Army/Navy game. I have gone so far as to write letters to various Army officials, leaders and agencies, to include GEN McConville, the former USMA Superintendent GEN Daryl Williams, former Secretary of the Army Ryan McCarthy, as well as Board of Visitor members Congressman Steve Womack and Senator Tammy Duckworth who are both Army National Guard retirees. I have even started a petition on change.org, which you can see here: <https://chnng.it/yL4TLv5KFF>.

It is worth mentioning that in the 386 years that Army National Guard has existed its Soldiers have served honorably and professionally wherever it has been called; In my opinion the Soldiers of the Army National Guard set the standard for what it means to be a Soldier because of what we bring to the table. During the past 20 plus years the Army National Guard has served in places like Iraq, Afghanistan, and at home providing emergency support during natural disasters and during the recent COVID pandemic.

With that, I am asking the Board of Visitors to look into this matter so that Army National Guard can be honored, just like so many other aspects of Army culture and history have, but don't celebrate a birthday or anniversary on or as close to the Army/Navy game does like the Army National Guard does. I know that there is a process for this and I see no reason why the Army National Guard cannot be

honored at the Army/Navy game in 2025. In case you were wondering, December 13, 2036, which will be the Army National Guard's 400th birthday, happens to be the second Saturday of the month.

GO ARMY! BEAT NAVY!

GO GUARD!

Thank you,

Brian L. Schiele
SSG (Retired) UTARNG/USA

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See my photography at:

<http://www.mtbbrian.com>

IG: harleys_and_holgas_forever

"Photography is an act of life" - Maine 2006

"All art is autobiographical; the pearl is the oyster's autobiography." - Federico Fellini

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Walter Heinz (USMA Class 1971)

3 February 2023

Congressman Steve Womack  
Chair, USMA Board of Visitors (BoV)  
2412 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Tammy Duckworth  
USMA BoV Member  
524 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Joe Manchin  
USMA BoV Member  
306 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington D.C. 20510

Senator Jerry Moran  
USMA BoV Member  
521 Dirksen Seante Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Congressmen Warren Davidson  
Vice Chairman USMA BoV  
2113 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Mark Green  
USMA BoV Member  
2446 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Follow-up to USMA Board of Visitors (BoV) & Anti-Racism West Point Policy Proposal Letter of 25 June 2020

Reference: Prior Direct Correspondence to You and the Designated Federal Officer to the BoV

Dear Senators and Congressmen:

I refer to my letter of 9 August 2022 that requested your resignation from the USMA BoV, and my subsequent correspondence to your office. My requests, endorsed by multiple USMA graduates, to include an update from USMA on actions taken resulting from the "Anti-Racist West Point" letter have been ignored. All correspondence to you has been unacknowledged and remains unanswered. None of the published board meeting minutes (through July 2022) has included such an update. I understand

that the October 2022 board meeting (minutes still to be published) also did not include an update. Neither, have you resigned from the BoV.

As the agenda for the next BoV meeting of 28 March is now surely under development, I request once again that you include an agenda item for an update from USMA on their actions in response to the allegations and demands made in the public "Anti-Racist" letter. USMA has demonstrated that it **will not** provide an update.

This "Anti-Racist" letter made serious incendiary accusations against, and demands of, USMA that are troubling to me as a graduate and should be to you as well. The USMA investigation results, and the actions taken, deserve the same public openness that the letter itself received. However, I continue to see:

- a. no release of information from USMA directly
- b. no fulfillment of my outstanding HQ DA IG FOIA request (FOIA #22-003)
- c. no engagement or support from you.

USMA and the Department of the Army **will not** address actions taken. The unwillingness of USMA to openly and willingly release their findings and actions is simply unacceptable, as is HQ DA IG not fulfilling my FOIA request of Sept 2021. You have **not fulfilled** your mission as the BoV to *inquire into the morale and discipline, curriculum, instruction, physical equipment, fiscal affairs, academic methods, and other matters relating to the Academy that the Board decides to consider.*

Therefore, I continue to request that the BoV secure an update from USMA in the upcoming BOV meeting. Barring that, I again firmly, unequivocally, and respectfully request your resignation from the USMA BoV.

Respectfully,

/signed/

Walter Heinz  
USMA Class 1971  
heinzwally@gmail.com

Cc: Secretary of the Army  
LTG Gilland, Superintendent USMA  
Honorable Charles Hagel  
LTG (Ret) Nadja West  
LTC (Ret) Alvendia  
Dr. Leslie Fenwick  
Ms. Susan Irons  
Mr. Juan Sabater  
[BoV@westpoint.edu](mailto:BoV@westpoint.edu)  
Designated Federal Officer to USMA BoV