

Class Advisory Senate (CAS) Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 14, 2014
6:00 p.m.
Doolittle Hall

Call to Order: Garry Dudley '68, Vice President of the CAS, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at Doolittle Hall.

Approval of Minutes: Previous minutes were not read

Members in Attendance: See Attachment. Major General (Select) Lengyel, Commandant of Cadets was our featured speaker.

Others in Attendance: "T" Thompson '73, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Association of Graduates (AOG), Gary Howe '69, Executive Vice President of the AOG; Jack Mueller '70, Director of Information Technology for the AOG.

Major General (Select) Gregory Lengyel Update:

General Lengyel began his talk by answering four questions put forth by Garry Dudley:

- Although there have been some rumors that Coach Calhoun would like to see a five-year program at the Academy. There is no truth to the rumor that this idea is receiving any official consideration. However, the Academy is considering approaching the National Collegiate Athletic Association for some relief from the prohibition that keeps the Prep School candidates from practicing with the cadets on the hill. The general is not too optimistic about relief being granted as one of our sister academies probably will be against it. The Naval Academy's prep school is not co-located with their Academy.
- The major impact that the budget cuts had on the Commandant's shop is in the area of the Academy Military Training Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs). There are positions for two of these NCOs in each cadet squadron. Half of those positions will be given up via attrition. In actuality, it has been difficult to fill these slots as it is, so the cuts will not be that drastic on Wing operations.

Some summer training programs will be eliminated: no cadets will be sent to Lackland Air Force Base to work with their Training Instructors. (If any moneys become available, this is the program the general would fund first). About 20 cadets in the past have gone to Fort Benning for jump training, to summer training with the Navy, and to the Marine's Bulldog program. These programs will not be funded.

The Superintendent has been able to convince the Air Staff that the Academy can handle the budget cuts as the "essence" of what the Academy provides the cadets has remained untouched—so far. She fought the hard battle to keep funding Operation Air Force. There was also some mention of reducing the number of squadrons to 36 in 3 groups. The Superintendent won the day by convincing the Air Staff that squadrons and groups provide cadets with invaluable leadership opportunities.

- Fifty-nine Doolies were accused of cheating on a minor chemistry lab report. Of these 59, 15 were cleared by an informal clarification process. Of the remaining 44 that went through the

formal clarification process, 9 quit, 14 are under further review, 6 cases were dropped, and 8 admitted. Seven went to an honor board so far.

The general relayed that the Academy explained the history of honor scandals to the new Secretary of the Air Force. He briefly went over the numbers for us from the 1965, 1967, 1972, 1982, 2004, 2007, and 2012 scandals. The 109 cadets who were dismissed in 1965 were part of the rationale for doing the squadron shuffle starting with the class of 1968.

He noted that candidates who come to the Academy nowadays come from an environment significantly different from the ones candidates came from in the early years of the Academy. As a result, he has observed that most of our honor cases involved Doolies. As a result, it may take some cadets longer to adjust to our honor system today compared to the experiences displayed by cadets from the earlier classes. He also observed that for those who commit honor violations, but are allowed to remain under the probation process, there are very few repeat offenders.

- The Legacy Program will not be eliminated in the near term, but it is getting progressively harder to implement, especially since the Academy tries very hard to make each squadron competitive. In other words, it is a challenging balancing act to man the squadrons with comparable numbers of athletes, equal demographics, cadets with some disciplinary issues, academic credentials, etc.

Currently 10-15 percent of every class has someone entering who has a lineal family member who is a graduate. Those percentages are growing, and there tends to be more requests to be in the lower numbered squadrons, which skews the manning process. Also, the next class shuffle will happen after the 3-degree year.

General Lengyel covered several other topics:

- The Superintendent is working on having the cadets adapt a “Culture of Commitment” and a “Climate of Respect.” The staff had noted that over the years several cadets had adopted a culture of non-compliance. In other words, these individuals decided which regulations they would obey and which ones they would ignore. There also tended to be greater loyalty to friends and classmates that often would override loyalties to command. The problem was how to reverse this perceived culture. The solution was to give the cadets more responsibility. They readily took to their new responsibilities. The general gave several examples of this acceptance:
 - Some cadets felt that throwing cheese after touchdowns at our home football games was a Wing tradition. The Mountain West Conference complained to the Academy about this behavior. The Cadet Vice Wing Commander explained the situation to the Wing, and it stopped immediately—with the exception that some graduates seated around the cadet section did not get the word.
 - The cadets were wearing all sorts of uniform combinations at the football games. The Commandant explained to the Cadet Wing Staff that we are a military academy and many only see us on television for a few short seconds. Do our cadets really want to show that lack of standardization and uniformity to the nation? They took to wearing their uniforms properly.
 - The Commandant noticed that Saturday Morning Inspections (SAMIs) were a joke. The average grade was somewhere between 92 and 100 points. The problem with the scoring system was the number of loopholes. It took about three inspections before the new scoring system was fully accepted, but rooms now look much better.

- Varsity athletes no longer eat on ramps during the main meal. They must eat with their squadrons, which has improved squadron morale. There have been no nutritional or hydration problems as a result of this change.
- Section 8—those cadets wearing jeans and tee shirts to athletic events are a thing of the past.
- General Lengyel was upset with some of the shoddy reporting. Not only has much been inaccurate, but some of the errors were the result of irresponsible reporting:
 - The Dr. Rosebush issue was irresponsibly reported.
 - With respect to dismissing Cadet Eric Thomas, the Academy has no reason to dismiss a cadet without cause. They felt this cadet was not the type of individual you would want as an officer or an airman in your Air Force.
 - Pam Zubrek went right to Mikey Weinstein when she saw the “SO HELP ME GOD” attached to the Honor Oath hanging on a wall at the Prep School rather than bringing it to the staff’s attention.
 - The White Board issue is one that has received national attention. One of our Air Officer Commanders received 10,000 emails on this issue.
- With respect to confidential informants, General Lengyel feels that under no circumstances should a cadet be required to commit an honor violation in an effort to catch a wrongdoer. The Superintendent will review every future request to use a cadet as a confidential informant. The Academy wants the use of cadets to be rare occurrence, and that they should be used in a passive versus an active way.
- The Academy has climate surveys every two years. The results from 2013 will be coming out soon.
- The Soaring Program is alive and well. Although Basics no longer get an orientation flight during the summer, Doolies will get four rides. Depending upon how they are doing, the fourth ride will be an acrobatic ride. About 700 cadets get their jump wings. Those who show an interest in a flying career will be prioritized for powered flight.
- In 2013, about 20 to 30 pilot training slots were given to the Reserve Officer Training Corps, but that was an anomaly. Ninety-five percent of those eligible took their Undergraduate Pilot Training assignment. There is a waiting list for 2014.
- In 2015 there will be an All-In option. In other words, if you volunteer for pilot training, you volunteer for the block of rated assignments including combat systems officers, air battle managers, and remotely piloted aircraft pilots. The commitment for pilot training is ten years.
- Some graduates will not have to go through training at Pueblo. Typically those who already have their private license and some soaring instructors will be allowed to go directly to their pilot training base.

T Thompson '73, Remarks:

- Mr. Bruni, '70, gave the AOG \$100,000 in an effort to increase the number of his classmates as life members. He extended that invitation to all classes. As a result the Classes from 2010-13 have 22 new life members, and to the Classes from 1975-77 gained 51 new members.
- USAA will be a premier sponsor for another five years.
- The AOG gave two squadrons \$1,000 for the Special Activity Rooms for winning videos of the Army and Navy football games.
- The scotch tasting event put on by the AOG is growing. Profits from these events have gone to the next of kin of deceased graduates and the Knights of Heroes.
- More and more chapters are conducting Founder Days events. A couple years ago 4 out of the 31 chapters held a Founders Day event. This year 25 of the 79 chapters did so.

Garry Dudley '68, Remarks:

Garry would like to see our remarks in the next 72 hours on the 6 pages he sent out referencing the governing of the AOG Board.

Close/Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Bob Muldrow, '67

Minutes approved by: Garry Dudley, '68

Attachment 1: Members in attendance (in-person or by phone)

Curtis Cook	59
Dick Sexton	60
Richard	61
Patrick	61
Bob Muldrow	67
Garry Dudley	68
Tom Fleming	69
Dave Gaw	70
George Pollard	72
Bush	73
Tom Hayden	74
Harold	75
Joe Niemeyer	77
Randy Helms	79
Scott Laird	81
Scott Lane	81
Rob Ramos	91
Rick Bailey	92
Bush	93
Jason Harris	01
Rich Mickelsen	07