Minutes for the Class Advisory Senate meeting held 12 January 2015

Dick Sexton called the meeting to order at 1800. The first item on the agenda was to announce the newly elected officers. They are:

- President: Garry Dudley, '68
- Vice President: Larry Bagley, '66
- Secretary: Bob Muldrow, '67

The Executive Committee is made up of the above three newly elected officers and the following members:

- Curtis Cook, '59
- George Larson, '62
- Tom Fleming, '69
- Jason Harris, '01

At that time Dick turned the meeting over to Garry. Garry’s first order of business was to present a memento to Dick, on behalf the entire Class Advisory Senate, for his years of dedicated service as president. You will recognize the USAFA logo on authentic terrazzo.

The guest speaker, BG Andrew Armacost, Dean of Faculty, USAF Academy was introduced and shared very informative comments on the challenges: changes to the curriculum; vision updates; and budget information. Some of his comments have been captured here – but not all! Follow this link for his bio.


Curriculum – under review

- Maintaining the essence of the Academy essence
  - Developing character and leadership
  - Focusing on the AF mission – giving AF context
  - Immersing cadets in a total experience
  - Harmonizing STEM and the liberal arts
- If changes are approved, the Class of 2020 would be affected

Vision

- Offer a broad education serving as a critical foundation for Air Force Officers
- Engage students with the knowledge and skills to serve in the AF’s Air, Space and Cyber forces
- Foster depth of knowledge, diversity of perspective, and interdisciplinary approaches to learning
- Create an Outcome-based Curriculum with flexibility that motivates cadet engagement
• Rebrand the Core Curriculum in a way that all cadets, faculty and staff understand and are engaged partners

Major design constraints
• Reduce total curriculum (not necessarily core) by 9 credit hours
• Minimum 30 semester hours from numerate and literate hemispheres

Note added by author of minutes – using different parts of the brain – that dealing with numerical techniques i.e. mathematics and the other being knowledgeable in more general terms – literate . . .
• Courses must be “outcome intensive” to be in the core
• Common core must include knowledge unique to the profession of arms and the USAF
• Academic minors strongly encouraged, but not required
• Every department plays a meaningful role in the core

Budget – FY17 POM – Money and people for first time
• Major areas
  o Teaching and Scholarship
  o Air Force Immersion
  o Facilities and Infrastructure – Fairchild Hall is nearly 60 years old
    • Now includes RPA and maybe an Air Force Cyber Innovation Center
    • The UMSA and the USNA are ahead of us on establishing a cyber center
  o USAFA is a leading institution for research funds – exploring patents and technology transfers as a funding stream
  o Endowment Academic Excellence Matching Funds

Good news
• A Rhodes Scholar and a Holaday Scholar
• National Survey of Student Engagement
  o Cadets are highly engaged in class
  o Cadets learn from one another
  o Cadets frequently give class presentations, particularly in upper-division courses
  o Cadets report frequently interacting with diversity, both in their academic courses and in their time outside the classroom
  o Cadets report a substantial emphasis on quantitative reasoning
  o Cadets report that they are learning information literacy skills
  o Many cadets participate in research projects
  o Cadets report that USAFA faculty members teach effectively
  o Cadets report very high satisfaction with both faculty and academic advisors
  o Overall, cadets perceive their overall academic experience at USAFA very positively

Five year Program?
• “5th year” is not permitted under Title 10
• However, we have always had a 9th semester as an option
• 9th semester has been granted very judiciously in the past
  o In the last fifteen graduating classes (2000-2014), just 35 cadets have been given an extra semester to finish the Academy program. That’s 0.24% of total graduates
Steve Lorenz gave the Endowment update. He threw out many numbers fairly quickly so I will refer you to the web site! [http://www.usafa.org/UE/Financial_Reports] The official numbers for 2014 will be posted soon. The numbers briefed reflect a good year and a great effort by the team. Steve also asked all to keep the messages flowing and to assist in the fund raising effort for the institution that has done so much for all of us.

Following the Endowment update, Roger Carleton, AOG Board Chairman, brought three items to our attention. He mentioned the bylaws – linked here - [http://www.usafa.org/Documents/AOG/Governance/AOGBylaws.pdf] are up for review. He does not expect much to change. Dick Sexton requested the class senators review the bylaws and bring any thoughts to the next meeting. Roger also mentioned the elections for board directors will begin in Feb. The candidates and requirements can be reviewed here. [http://www.usafa.org/election]

Roger also talked about the dedication of the SEA Pavilion POW memorial. There will be a series of events starting 22 Apr. There were 35 USAFA POWs and with 22 still living. We will share more information as it becomes available.

T Thompson was out of town, so Gary Howe, AOG EVP, gave an update. The reflection on part of the history of the AOG is attached for you to read. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED! His remarks are included at the end of this document.

Garry recommended the discussion of the Moving Forward be deferred to the CAS Executive Committee.

Other Business- Garry mentioned he has established two temporary committees and working on a third.
  1. CAS OI review – Bob Muldrow and Garry Dudley
2. Class participation; accuracy of the roster and Wx recall procedures – Larry Bagley plus others he may recruit!
3. Social media and technology – TBD

Attendance

The following people were in attendance in person or by telephone.

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Additional Attendees

BG Andy Armacost, Dean of Faculty, USAFA
Gen (Ret) Steve Lorenz ‘73
BG (Ret) Roger Carleton ‘67
Gary Howe ‘69
Jack Mueller ‘70
Roy Miller ‘67
I WANT TO START THIS UPDATE OF UPCOMING EVENTS, PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES BY LOOKING BACK.

THE FIRST CLASS ENTERED, AS WE ALL KNOW, IN 1955. SUPERINTENDENT, LT GEN THOMAS MOORMAN, STOOD UP THE AOG IN 1965, SAYING “A COLLEGE HAS TO HAVE AN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION. CAPTAIN DICK MATHEWS, ‘60, WAS THE FIRST EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WAS PART OF HIS STAFF – THERE WERE FEWER THAN 2500 GRADUATES AT THAT TIME.

THE AOG INCORPORATED IN 1968. THERE WERE FEWER THAN 4100 GRADUATES.

BYLAWS REQUIRED DIRECTORS TO LIVE IN THE COLORADO SPRINGS AREA BECAUSE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MET MONTHLY...TO STUFF ENVELOPES. THAT WAS HOW WE COMMUNICATED. THE STAFF WERE ALL ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AND CIVILIANS.

OUR FIRST EMPLOYEE WAS HIRED IN 1971. - 6200 GRADS

OUR FIRST NON-ACTIVE DUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Dick Coppock ‘61) WAS HIRED IN 1983. - 16,000 GRADS

DOOLITTLE HALL WAS OPENED IN 1992 - 25,600 GRADS

IN 1997 WE HIRED OUR 14TH EMPLOYEE, ME.

TODAY, WE HAVE ABOUT 40 EMPLOYEES - 45,200 LIVING GRADUATES

FROM THE BEGINNING, WE TRIED TO KEEP UP WITH WEST POINT AND ANNAPOLIS BUT LARGELY FAILED SIMPLY BECAUSE WE DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH GRADS OF THE RIGHT AGES (OLD) LIVING IN THE RIGHT PLACES AND TO MAKE A LOT OF THINGS HAPPEN.

TODAY, ALL THAT HAS CHANGED AND TO BORROW A LINE FROM AN OLD CAR AD “IT AIN’T YOUR FATHER’S AOG.”

TODAY WE HAVE THE MOST TALENTED, DEDICATED STAFF WE’VE EVER HAD AND WE HAVE ENOUGH GRADUATES.

AS A RESULT, WE OFFER MORE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAN WEST POINT OR ANNAPOLIS AND WE DO IT WITH A SMALLER STAFF AND A LOWER BUDGET.
WE HAVE THE MOST CHAPTERS THAN WE’VE EVER HAD (83) WITH MORE ENERGY THAN EVER BEFORE AND THINGS ARE CLICKING.

I MENTIONED EARLIER THAT WE COMMUNICATED BY POSTAL SYSTEM, LET’S LOOK AT NOW:

**COMMUNICATIONS**

OUR FIRST *CHECKPOINTS* WAS PUBLISHED IN 1971. CAPTAIN TOM KROBOTH BECAME PART OF THE SUPT/AOG STAFF IN LATE-1971. HE WAS HIRED AS A GIFTS AND MEMORIALS OFFICER AND LATER WAS EDITOR. HE RETIRED FROM ACTIVE DUTY IN 1980 AND WAS HIRED BY THE AOG TO CONTINUE WORKING ON CHECKPOINTS. HE IS STILL WITH US TODAY AND IS IN CHARGE OF CLASS NOTES.

*CHECKPOINTS* WAS A 2-COLOR MAGAZINE THAT WAS ASSEMBLED WITH A GLUE POT AND EXACTO KNIFE. MUCH HAS CHANGED. TODAY (LITERALLY TODAY AS WE SPEAK) OUR STAFF IS IN DENVER COLLECTING THE COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS WE HAVE WON FROM THE COUNCIL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT AND SUPPORT OF EDUCATION (CASE). IN 2014, FROM A POOL OF 190 COLLEGES IN DISTRICT VI, THE AOG HAS WON 17 AWARDS (8 GOLD, 4 SILVER, 5 BRONZE) INCLUDING BEST MAGAZINE, BEST WRITING, BEST DESIGN BEST ARTICLES AND PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR.

IF, AS SOME MEMBERS TELL US, YOU ONLY READ “DEAD GUYS” AND CLASS NOTES, YOU ARE REALLY MISSING A GREAT DEAL OF TERRIFIC INFORMATION.

WE ALSO PRODUCE AN ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER EVERY WEEK – *ZOOMIENEWS* ALTERNATES WITH 7258’. BOTH NEWSLETTERS WON AWARDS

THREE VIDEOS WE PRODUCED WON AWARDS INCLUDING OUR FOUNDERS DAY VIDEO.

AND WE ARE #1 IN USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA. BETTER THAN WEST POINT AND ANNAPOLES AND BETTER THAN THE LARGEST COLLEGES IN OUR DISTRICT.

COMING SOON:
- Alumni Guide 1st ever
- Redesign of the website,
- Redesign of Checkpoints
- Founders Day

OUR JOB IS TO FAN THE FLAMES OF ENTHUSIASM AMONG THE GRADUATE AND WE HAVE INITIATED PROGRAMS TO DO JUST THAT. HERE IN COLORADO SPRINGS WE WILL HAVE:

- OUR 6TH ANNUAL SCOTCH TASTING ON 6 MARCH AT THE MARRIOTT
  - STARTED WITH 50 ATTENDEES 6 YEARS AGO AND LAST YEAR WE HAD 300 AND A WAITING LIST
- GRADUATE DEPENDENT SCHOLARSHIPS - 20 $500 SCHOLARSHIPS
- 50 YEAR LEGACY CLASS. THE CLASS OF 2019 ENTERS THIS YEAR AND THE CLASS OF 1969 IS THE LEGACY CLASS. STARTING AT IN PROCESSING, ‘69 WILL BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES TO INTERACT WITH 2019 INCLUDING INVITATIONS TO the ACCEPTANCE PARADE, EXEMPLAR DINNER, COMMITMENT DINNER, RING DANCE, 100TH NIGHT, AND OTHERS. YOU OLD GUYS LOOK FOR YOUR CHANCE AND PLAN AHEAD AND PLAN TO ATTEND.
- S. E. ASIA PAVILION, A GIFT FROM THE CLASS OF ’70, IS EXPANDING. ALONG WITH ‘65, ’70 IS ADDING THE PLAZA OF HEROES HONORING THE AF CROSS AND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS FROM VIETNAM.
- ADDITIONALLY, A POW MEMORIAL HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE PAVILION AND, ON 23-24 APRIL, WE HOPE TO HAVE ALL THE LIVING USAFA GRADUATES WHO WERE POWS IN VIETNAM COMING TOGETHER TO DEDICATE THE MEMORIAL, INTERACT WITH CADETS AND, PERHAPS, MEET WITH GRADUATES AT LARGE. PLANS ARE BEING FINALIZED NOW.
- FOUNDERS DAY DINNER – DR. TOM ELLER, ’61 AND GENERAL (RETIRED) KEVIN CHILTON, ’76, ARE THE RECIPIENTS FOR 2014. DR. ELLER CAN TRULY BE SAID TO BE A PIONEER IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ACADEMY AND THE AOG. GENERAL CHILTON CAME TO USAFA, BY HIS WORD, TO BE AN AIRLINE PILOT BUT, INSTEAD, BECAME A TEST PILOT AND SPENT 11 YEARS AS AN ASTRONAUT BEFORE RETURNING TO THE AIR FORCE AND BECOMING THE FIRST ASTRONAUT TO ACHIEVE 4 STARS. THEY WILL BE HONORED AT A DINNER AT THE FALCON CLUB ON APRIL 10th. THE EVENT HAS TRULY BECOME A GALA EVENT LARGELY THANKS TO THE AOG COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT, THE AOG EVENTS DEPARTMENT AND THE MASTER OF CEREMONIES...ME.
- IN FEBRUARY, GRADUATES ARE INVITED TO THE NATIONAL CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM.
- WE WILL HOST TAILGATES AT MICHIGAN STATE, NAVY, BOISE, AND (TENTATIVELY) HAWAII
- THE NEXT SACC (SERVICE ACADEMY CAREER CONFERENCE) WILL BE March 5-6 IN SAVANNAH, GA
  o WE ARE PLANNING RENEWED EMPHASIS ON NETWORKING AND CAREER TRANSITION THIS YEAR
- GOLF TOURNAMENTS ARE PLANNED FOR DAYTON AND DC, WITH OTHERS UNDER CONSIDERATION BUT DATES NOT FINALIZED
- WE GET CRITICISM SOMETIMES BECAUSE OF THE PROGRAMS WE DO LOCALLY BUT NOT NATIONALLY...THAT’S WHERE CHAPTERS COME IN
  o AT LEAST ONE CHAPTER HAS HAD A SCOTCH TASTING EVENT
  o SOME 14 CHAPTERS HAD FOUNDERS DAY EVENTS LAST YEAR
  o 14 CHAPTERS HAVE STEPPED UP AND HAVE BEEN CITED AS A DISTINGUISHED CHAPTER
  o 21 CHAPTERS ATTENDED OUR CHAPTER PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE THIS YEAR
- It takes boots on the ground to put on these events and chapters are stepping up with our assistance. We can advertise, accept registrations, offer door prizes but only the chapters can hold the event.

- We have also been working hard to get the cadet to recognize the value of AOG membership both as a graduate and as a cadet
  
  o At the end of January we will host a “wing leader dinner” here at Doolittle Hall for as many of the cadet wing leadership as we can. We will brief them on what we do and why all cadets should be part of it.

  o We have young staff with young ideas. Megan Nash suggested we connect with the cadets during finals by feeding them hot chocolate. I said “what! hot chocolate during finals. There’s no hot chocolate in finals in a military school!!!! It was, without doubt, the most popular thing we have ever done with cadets. Then we gave them popcorn last spring and this year, apple cider and bacon...350 pounds of bacon. We estimate we served 50% of the cadet wing. And now when you ask a cadet what the AOG is and do you get “hot chocolate, popcorn, and bacon.” It’s a start.

- From communications to events to scholarships for dependents, the AOG continues to lead the way.

- Membership right now is about 58%. It should be higher. The United States Air Force Academy made all of us who we are today. Encourage your classmates to join today.