



THE JOINT MILITARY LEADERSHIP CENTER NEWSLETTER



2012

New Ground Broken: ROTC Living Learning Community Inaugural Year

LEARN IT
LIVE IT
JOINT.

It's hard to believe that another academic year is in the history books! This year has been face paced throughout as everyone can now express a sigh of relief as we watch over fifty newly commissioned officers of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force depart to start their selfless service to our country.

This academic year, the Joint Military Leadership Center (JMLC) has broken new ground with the stand-up of the ROTC Living Learning Community (LLC) in partnership with the university's department of Housing and Residential Education. An LLC is designed to provide students in a particular academic discipline or theme with unique ways to connect with other students, faculty and professional staff in the residential community. The personal benefits for belonging to the ROTC LLC is for ROTC students to live and interact with students of all ROTC programs; participate in a built in network of peer support that encourages excellence and service; develop a "joint" mindset that values the unique cultures of each military service; and, allows each student to observe and learn from each other while pursuing a common goal and purpose as a future military officer.

In its first year, the ROTC LLC consisted of 24 residents representing all ROTC programs. The vast majority of the residents were freshmen. The Residence Advisor (RA) was **Midshipman First Class, Michael Stelma**, a Marine option. Midshipman Stelma did an outstanding job in leading the LLC in its first year. Throughout the year, the Housing and Residential Education staff frequently praised Midshipman Stelma and LLC residents for their camaraderie, sense of community and exemplary behavior. In addition to the many varied activities provided for all housing residents, the ROTC LLC featured a program called "House Calls". House Calls typically took place on a weekday evening for one to one and a half hours where one of the ROTC instructors or other visiting military guests sat down in the common area of the LLC to talk informally with the LLC residents about their military careers and experiences. A majority of the scheduled time was devoted to general Q & A. The sessions were typically very interactive and also included pizza and refreshments for everyone's enjoyment.



ROTC LLC residents take a break at Brandon's "Boing" during final exams.

The LLC also participated in two field trips to MacDill AFB. In the fall, residents of the LLC visited the U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) headquarters for a command brief, tour of the command's Rigger Shed facilities and lunch at the base dining facility. In the spring, residents visited the U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM) headquarters for a command brief, tour of the Joint Operations Center, and participated in a Q & A session with several mid-grade officers assigned to USCENTCOM. On both visits, the students were able to visit the Special Ops Memorial.

Overall, the LLC's success in its first year exceeded our expectations. For the 2012-2-13 academic year, the LLC will double in size to two residence hall floors with 15 students returning from this past year. The success of the LLC is reflected by a comment made by one student, "It's great to be living in an environment with people who have similar schedules. We all really function as a team and help each other excel in our different branches."

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Friendly Competition

USF's ROTC branches compete in Commander's Cup to help develop partnerships between branches.

By **Daylina Miller**

USF News

TAMPA, Fla. (Feb. 23, 2012) - All branches of the University of South Florida ROTC program recently traded their 6 a.m. workout for some friendly competition.

About 300 cadets met Feb. 17 at the USF Track & Field Stadium to play flag football, and tug o' war and run various track races in the 8th Annual Commander's Cup.

Michael Eads, battalion commander for USF's Army branch of the ROTC, is a criminal justice student who helped organize the competition. What was originally a flat football tournament has expanded to various activities to make the competition more well-rounded, he said.

"Integration of the branches is extremely important," Eads said. "You work in the professional military world along with sister branches so it's good for them to know how the other branches work in a fun and competitive event."

Anna Douglas, a business major and Navy ROTC student, said the best part of the competition is all the branches coming together.



"We're taking advantage of the fact that we do have all the branches here at USF where other universities might only have a branch," Douglas said.

Teams of representatives from each branch were paired up for the activities. The winner of each was given points and at the end of the competition, the points were tallied up and an overall winner determined.

This year, the Army won and the Commander's Cup Trophy, which is engraved each year with the winner and year, was awarded by Maj. Gen. Luis Visot, executive director of the Joint Military Leadership Center at USF.

Daylina Miller can be reached at 813-500-8754.



ROTC Commander's Lead Joint Run

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This academic year's Joint Run was held on Tuesday, October 25. Commencing at 0600 under the lights at the USF Track & Field Stadium, the combined ROTC units assembled in their unit formations for stretching and callisthenic exercises led alternately by each of the service ROTCs Physical Training Officers. Upon completion, the ROTC units then re-assembled as three companies with ROTC students of each service within each company for the 2 mile run around campus. The running formation was led by LTC Padraig Clark, Army ROTC; CAPT Scott Pollpeter, Naval ROTC; and, Col Kyle Garland, Air Force ROTC. The "joint" companies ran in formation with students from each service taking turns leading the cadence and motivational songs. Upon completion of the Joint Run, the units reassembled in the stadium to honor the Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Robert Sullins. Each battalion/wing commander presented him with their unit's coin. He took a few minutes to thank the ROTC students for their service and stated how proud he was of them for their dedication.



Captain Holbrook Award Recipients Participate in Leadership Conferences

Through the USF Foundation, Mr. John Harper, USF Alumni Association Executive Director, and his wife, Cindy, established the CPT Jason Ellis Holbrook Memorial Leadership Award, in honor of their daughter's (Heather) husband, U.S. Army Captain Jason Holbrook, who was killed in the line of duty at Tsayay, Afghanistan in July of 2010. The scholarship provides funds for ROTC students to attend a nationally recognized leadership conference. This year, thanks to continuing donations to this scholarship award, the number of student recipients was doubled to six, two from each service ROTC program. **Cadet Michael Sardinias** (Army) and **Midshipman Adam Taylor** attended West Point's annual National Conference for Ethics in America (NCEA); **Cadet Lee Ashlock** (Army) attended the annual U.S. Naval Academy Leadership Conference; **Cadets Elizabeth Stevens and Matthew Trep-tau** (Air Force) attended the U.S. Air Force Academy's National Character and Leadership Symposium; and, **Midshipman Benjamin Bontrager** attended the Notre Dame Navy Leadership Weekend. This was a once in a lifetime experience for these students as they heard from many prominent leaders in the military, civilian government, business, sports and academic fields while interacting with fellow college students from all over the country.

Coalition Senior National Representatives Share Their Perspectives

Our strong partnership with U. S. Central Command's Coalition Partners continued throughout the year. Once again, Senior National Representatives (SNR) from a variety of countries made presentations to the Air Force ROTC's AS 400 (senior) class as they studied the various regions of the world. This provided a unique opportunity for the cadets to hear about a particular region from a distinguished representative of the area. The SNR is a senior level officer who has direct access to his country's Chief of Defense and joint/service Chief of Staff. In addition, the French SNR, RDML Patrick Martin, gave a presentation to the Naval ROTC Leadership Lab on Counter-piracy Operations in the Indian Ocean.

USF Seeking New Project GO Grant

To further promote the study of foreign languages and cross-cultural communication skills among ROTC students, the World Languages Department and Study Abroad, with full support of the JMLC and the all the service ROTC programs, is pursuing a grant with the Department of Defense's Project Global Officer (GO). This grant will provide additional funding and opportunities for ROTC students studying Arabic, Chinese and Russian to study abroad and participate in a unique language and cross-cultural communication program commencing their freshman year. Dr. Victor Peppard, World Languages Department and COL Rocky Tyler, USAR, a doctoral student in second language acquisition have the lead for this project.

JMA NEWS

After a rather rocky start, the Joint Military Association (JMA) has achieved official status as a USF student organization thanks to the persistence of Army Cadets **Shanna Bookal** and **Cedric Street** over the past year and a half. The purpose of the Joint Military Association (JMA) is to provide the university and ROTC students alike with opportunities to interact with other ROTC students and provide leadership opportunities while gaining a basic understanding and appreciation of each military services' capabilities, limitations and customs. The JMA also hopes to promote greater awareness in the university community about ROTC and the military services. The JMA will promote esprit de corps and fellowship by participating in various university and community service events. The acting President is Cadet Shanna Bookal and we look forward to the organization growing and being very active in the 2012-2013 academic year.

In the meantime, the Valor Movement at USF, or *Valor*, is seeking recognition as a USF student organization and should attain official status in the Fall 2012 semester. The purpose of Valor is to develop opportunities for leadership development and promote spiritual discussion among its members. Valor is affiliated with the Military Ministry of Cru (formerly known as Campus Crusade for Christ). Retired Navy Chaplain Rick Hamme, currently in service with the Military Ministry of Cru, has been assisting the organization at its weekly gatherings led by Air Force **Cadet Cass Sisto** and **Midshipman Adam Taylor**. Midshipman Taylor will serve as the organization's President during the 2012-2013 academic year.



JMLC Sponsors AROTC Cadet at Foreign Affairs Conference

In April, Army **Cadet Alexander Golenko**, represented USF as one of two USF delegates to the Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference (NAFAC) 2012 held in Annapolis, Maryland. The JMLC Associate Director, John Sarao, also attended the conference as a Special Observer and is the university's . The JMLC sponsored Cadet Golenko's trip and registration fee. This year's conference theme was "Eclipse of the West?" and investigated such issues as the changing distribution of global power from the West to East; if America's and other western countries status was waning; and, if China would be the next global power to rise. Cadet Golenko prepared a 3,000 word policy paper prior to the conference and participated in the roundtable titled *Threats to the West*. The conference featured a number of prominent leaders and experts including Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and former Ambassador to China and Governor of Utah, Jon Huntsman.



JMLC Awards Selfless Service Awards



The 2011-2012 JMLC Selfless Service Award was presented to **Cadet Shannon Voss Rodriguez** (Army ROTC), **Midshipman Michelle Indiano** (Naval ROTC) and **Cadet April Ostoski** (Air Force ROTC) in separate ceremonies at the end of the Spring 2012 semester. This award recognizes one ROTC student

from each service ROTC program for demonstrating outstanding leadership. Each successful recipient has demonstrated a positive attitude towards their respective service ROTC program and The Joint Military Leadership Center and possesses outstanding officer potential by exemplifying self to the highest standards of conduct and the respective service's core values.



Cadet April Ostoski

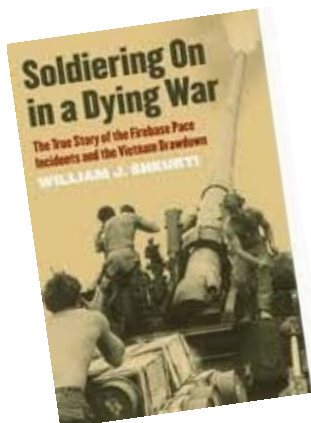


Midshipman Michelle Indiano



Cadet Shannon Voss Rodriguez

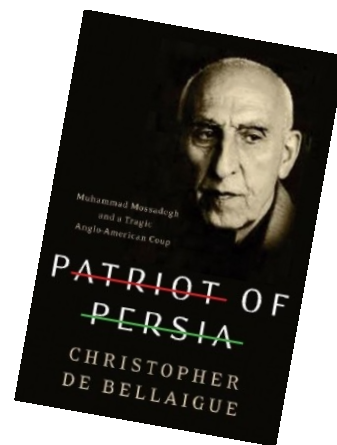
JMLC Hosts Events with Topics of International Relevance



Throughout the year, the JMLC has hosted a number of campus wide events in C.W. Bill Young Hall (CWY) which relate to leadership, national security, geopolitics and other issues of global concern. Mr. Bill Shkurti, a former Army officer, Vietnam War veteran and successful Ohio State University vice president, spoke about his book "Soldiering On in a Dying War: The True Story of the Firebase Pace Incidents and the Vietnam Drawdown" (Modern War Studies), which examines issues faced by American ground troops during America's withdrawal from Vietnam and drew lessons from those events. Dr. Tom Mason, USF College of

Public Health, held an annual conference he sponsors in CWY, the Conference on Water: The Key to Regional Stability Through Sustainable Partnerships, held in early May. This conference explored efforts to bring security to Afghanistan and the larger region through water, health and economic development partnerships.

Also in May, USF's new Center for Strategic and Diplomatic Studies, led by Dr. Moshen Milani, hosted their inaugural event in CWY with journalist Christopher de Bellaigue, author of the newly released *Patriot of Persia*, a biography of Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh. The British and American-led coup against Mosaddegh is considered one of the rally points that fueled the eventual Iranian Revolution and continues to shape Iran's modern-day interaction with the West. The event was well attended with over 120 people including USF faculty, staff, students and visitors from the local Council of Foreign Affairs and U.S. Central Command. The Center plans to hold future events in partnership with the JMLC which will include many topics of mutual interest to our ROTC students in the area of national security, geopolitics and policy making.



JMLC Leader Selected Deputy Commanding General U.S. Army Reserve Command

From USF News

TAMPA, Fla. (May 3, 2012) – Maj. Gen. Luis R. Visot, who oversees the Joint Military Leadership Center at the University of South Florida, has been named to a top post in the U.S. Army Reserve operations at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Visot, who has been executive director of the Leadership Center since May 2004, will become one of two Deputy Commanding Generals in charge of all facets of the 205,000-member Army Reserves. He will oversee units dealing with intelligence, engineering, logistics, civil affairs and the military police, among others.

The appointment was announced this week, but Visot is awaiting orders specifying the date he will assume his new role.

"I'm deeply humbled that the Army has asked me to serve in this role," Visot said Thursday in an interview at his office in the C.W. Young building on campus. "To me, it's all about service to our nation and to our soldiers and families."

Visot said he will most likely request a military leave of absence from USF. The Fort Bragg assignment is a two-year post.

Visot has been with USF since 1981, first as a resident instructor in the Housing and Food Service Department. He has held numerous positions at the university, including director of the Marshall Student Center, director of academic support services and director of advancement and alumni affairs.

During his long-time military career, Visot has served on active duty in Iraq three times and in Bosnia in the mid-1990s.

"I would not have been able to have done what I have in my military career without the support I have received from the State of Florida and the University of South Florida, and I am grateful for the stellar leadership of President Judy Genshaft," Visot said.





Suncoast Battalion

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
ARMY RESERVE OFFICER
TRAINING CORPS



"WE CAN, WE WILL!"



The 2011-2012 academic year proved to be one of the best and finest year for the USF Army ROTC Program, home of the Suncoast Battalion. The excellence of the Battalion cannot be understated as pride within the organization is at an all-time high and why wouldn't it be? The achievements of our cadets are too great to count!

At the beginning of the school year, the Suncoast Battalion began with a strong and vast array of leadership styles from the senior cadets that returned from the Army's Leadership Development and Assessment Course (LDAC), where new MSIVs (seniors) enhanced and proved their leadership skills with cadets from other colleges and universities around the country and surrounding territories. Setting the bar high with 13 cadets earning an overall excellent evaluation and 6 cadets earning the difficult and coveted RECONDO badge, overall, we surpassed all measurable Cadet Command standards, further cementing our program's reputation.

Throughout the 2011-2012 academic year, the Suncoast Battalion cadets, all ranging from freshmen to seniors (MS Is – MS IVs), exceeded the standard in their performances at training exercises such as the Fall Joint Field Training Exercise (JFTX) in Withlacoochee River State Forest, where the junior cadets trained in Day and Night Land Navigation and Squad Situation Training Exercises (STX) and our yearly Adventure Training held at the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Training Center, where the freshmen and sophomore cadets gained a better understanding through training on an obstacle course, repel tower and familiarization with shooting an M16 rifle.

The Spring 2012 semester marked an unprecedented level of motivation and success for the Suncoast Battalion as all the USF ROTC programs came together to battle for the Commander's Cup. The Battalion achieved a sweeping victory over the Air Force and Navy ROTC programs, taking home the Commander's Cup trophy by placing first in almost every event! The Battalion also set a higher standard for their predecessors by establishing a one team, one fight average score of 270 out of 300 in the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) and by demonstrating an outstanding performance in March at the Spring JFTX at Camp Blanding, Florida, where the Suncoast Battalion took home best overall male and female cadet, best male and female APFT score, best female Land Navigation score and best Battalion overall in the 6th Reserve Officers' Training Corps Brigade – home to 42 Battalions in the Southeast region of the U.S.

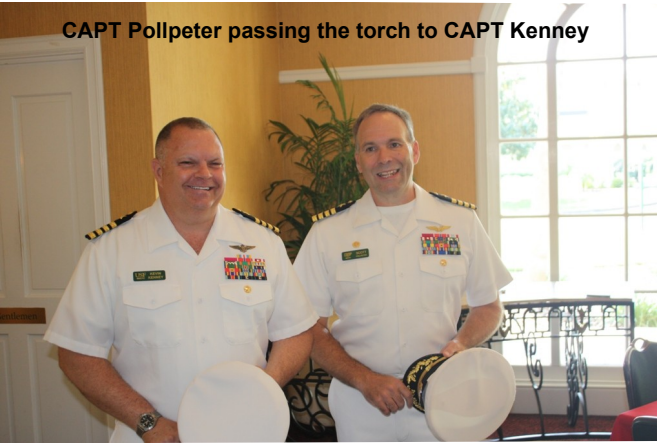
As the school year came to an end, the Suncoast Battalion commissioned 28 exceptional second lieutenants who passed the torch on to their successors - the Class of 2013. There is no doubt that the legacy of the Suncoast Battalion will persevere through the hard work, motivation, and dedication of its creed -- "We Can, We Will!"

by 2LT Maria K. Steen
Class of 2012

ARMY ROTC



CAPT Pollpeter passing the torch to CAPT Kenney



CAPT Kenney on the left and CAPT Pollpeter on the right.



CAPT Pollpeter's Retirement Ceremony At Tampa Palms Country Club

Another year completed and another group of outstanding young officers commissioned into the Navy and Marine Corps. Having celebrated our decennial anniversary, it is with great pride that we look back at a superb year filled with fantastic accomplishments and memories. Our newly commissioned officers should feel confident in the standard that was set throughout their time here with the Buccaneer Battalion.

We welcomed 36 new freshmen (Midshipman 4th Class) students in the fall, the largest input of new battalion members since our inception. The freshmen, the new Officer Candidates (OC) and Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) have all integrated well into the Battalion. There's a lot to be said for the resiliency and adaptability of youth!

Captain Scott Pollpeter retired from the Navy after 29 years of service and Captain Kevin Kenney assumed command in March 2012. We welcomed two new Navy Lieutenant Naval Science Instructors, LT Steven Durst and LT Ian Hayes, at the beginning of the academic year and will say "Fair Winds and Following Seas" to our two Marine Officer Instructors, Capt Jennifer Simpson and MSgt Steve Maynor.

In the fall, the entire Battalion participated in a Joint Field Exercise at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa. The Battalion coordinated an amphibious landing at Pine Key Island in Tampa Bay, simulated air strikes and included students in Medical and Special Operations groups as well.

We finished the year with two awesome events. The Junior/Senior Class Dining out was one to remember. The dinner cruise made for an exceptional atmosphere to share a wonderful evening of camaraderie and laughs. The Pass-In-Review was the perfect end to a great year. The Battalion looked AWESOME and impressed all in attendance with their professionalism.



GySgt Maynor's Promotion To Master Sergeant



Spring 2012 Adopt-a-Highway Road Cleanup On Fowler Avenue



NAVAL ROTC

2012 USF Battle of the Bulls
JROTC Drill Meet



Spring 2012 Pass In Review



USF NROTC Color Guard at a USF baseball game



Marine Option Midshipmen
Participating in the Annual Field Op



Spring 2012 Marine Field Op

SAILING
TEAM



LT Hayes proudly observing his unit's
tremendous effort at the Road Cleanup



Detachment 158 Update



The 2011-12 academic year was exciting for AFROTC Detachment 158. The school year began with cadets representing the University of South Florida and several of our cross-town institutions: University of Tampa, Clearwater Christian College, St. Petersburg College, Embry-Riddle University, Hillsborough Community College. Throughout the year our strength ranged from 90 to 120 cadets. The Detachment also has administrative responsibility for several active duty officer and enlisted members pursuing advanced education at the University of South Florida. Detachment 158 was led by Colonel Kyle Garland and a staff of three military instructors, two noncommissioned officers and the USF staff assistant Mrs. Brenda Faulk. Mrs. Faulk celebrated her 30th year with Air Force ROTC. She has been with the Detachment since the program began at USF.

The Fall 2011 term began with the orientation of approximately 60 new cadets. The challenge of academic Air Force classes, twice weekly physical training at 0600, and the Thursday two hour Leadership Laboratory settled into a routine. The General Military Course cadets learned the essentials of active followership through drill and ceremonies, group leadership projects, and community service projects. The Professional Officer Course cadets continued in their execution of the syllabus objectives polishing their leadership skills in preparation for their commission and active duty assignment.



AIR FORCE ROTC





Detachment 158 Update



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The Cadet Wing is active throughout the community in community service projects and fund raisers to support cadet activities. Cadets are active with Bulls Heaven throughout the USF Football season. The cadets participated in an orientation flight in a KC-135 Refueling Tanker and visited the Air Force Squadron at MacDill Air Force Base. An additional trip to MacDill was coordinated offering insight to Communications Operations, KC-135 Simulator rides, US Central Command tour, and various additional interesting meetings. The Cadets participated in a flight challenge at the Combat Dining-In celebrating Air Force history and fostering camaraderie. The Spring 2012 term continued at a fast pace. The Cadets mastered the challenge of the USF Ropes Course and group leadership projects. Det 158 hosted 500 cadets and visitors for the Florida High School AFJROTC Drill competition in March 2012. Additionally, they celebrated a successful year by carrying on the Air Force tradition of a Military Ball, hosting General Lloyd "Fig" Newton, USAF Retired, who shared his valuable career insight. Det 158 garnered 24 Field Training slots for the second year cadets to prove their merit. The cadets will participate in an intense one month summer training program at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

The end result of this successful year was the commissioning of thirteen cadets into active duty service to their country as Second Lieutenants. The cadets will serve in various career fields: Pilot, Combat Systems Operator, Remotely Piloted Aircraft Pilot, Contracting, Force Support, Intelligence, and one Lieutenant was selected to continue his education toward a technical master's degree. The year culminated with the retirement of Col Garland and transition of one cadre member to an assignment at MacDill Air Force Base. The inbound commander and replacement cadre will arrive late in the summer of 2012. Air Force ROTC Detachment 158 will continue to fulfill the mission of building Air Force Officers that lead in Air, Space, and Cyberspace.





2012

SPRING



COMMISSIONEES

About Us

The Joint Military Leadership Center (JMLC) is charged to provide the student cadets/ midshipmen and officer candidates with unique (Joint Interagency, Multinational and Multi-component) core competencies and skills in leadership development, global understanding, and security/military/defense strategies. The “end state” will be an academically-structured, research based, and values-driven program that educates, trains and prepares military Officers and Service Leaders for their leadership roles in the continuing transformation of our Armed Forces and in a dynamic and challenging global environment.

Our vision is the establishment of a premier “state of the art” Learning Center and Program that educates, trains, and prepares future Armed Forces Officers to value, operate and conduct successful operations in a joint, multinational, interagency and multi-component, and non-governmental organizations (NGO’s) environment & an Academic Center of Excellence for national and military defense strategies, leadership development, and global understanding and education.

Our Focus

Cultural Awareness and Global Sensitivities

- * To facilitate and encourage ROTC students to study foreign languages and culture with emphasis on the Department of Defense’s Critical Languages as part of their academic curriculum including study abroad.
- * To provide programs and opportunities for ROTC students to learn and have greater awareness about issues of global concern and improve their overall global literacy in a wide variety of topics.
- * To implement programs that will develop a proficiency in the Cross- Cultural Competence of our ROTC students so that they are better prepared to effectively communicate with people of different languages and cultures.
- * To develop partnerships that will enhance greater cultural awareness and global sensitivities of ROTC students both within the university and external.

Program Development & Curriculum Design

- * To provide a robust and relevant speaker and seminar program in leadership development, global understanding, and National Security/military/defense strategies.
- * To develop innovative programs for ROTC students to interact with each other, representatives of each military service, Major Combatant Commands, the Department of Defense, the Interagency as well as other students and professionals from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- * To support and encourage ROTC student participation in various Leadership and National Security related conferences at the service academies and other colleges/universities nationwide.
- * To fully implement the various program requirements in order to establish relevance with the academic and military community.
- * To communicate with the three ROTC Cadet Commands, in order to determine the feasibility of systematically enhancing the current pre-commissioning curriculum requirements.

Organizational Development and Oversight

- * To encourage and provide opportunities for ROTC students to interact and promote esprit de corps amongst the three service ROTC programs at USF so that they are able to gain a basic understanding and appreciation of their sister services’ capabilities, limitations, and cultures
- * To continually assess and develop the organizational structures that would best serve our constituents: the cadets, officer candidates, and midshipmen.