



## UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
West Point, New York 10996

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

January 1, 2005

Department of Social Sciences

Dear Friends,

Greetings from West Point, where the new semester is about to begin. Thanks to the help of brilliant lawyers, this is a Happy New Year's winter letter, not to be confused with any of the Christmas, Hannukah, or Kwanza cards you received in the past couple of weeks.

The semester begins after a one-week "Reorganization Week." As you may have heard, since military science is now taught throughout the academic year, the two week intersession has been replaced with one week for cadets to get organized for the new semester, and the "extra week" has been folded back into the cadet schedule by eliminating the remaining Saturday classes, lengthening Winter Break, Spring Break, and President's weekend by a day, and adding a "reading day" just before the Spring Final exams! All previous faculty and students who endured the old system can sound a collective groan!

Teaching in Sosh remains not only our number one priority but a top draw for cadets, as demonstrated recently by those who again chose to major in our department in large numbers. Thanks to the continued great work of all our faculty and staff, and in particular our counselors, Majors Tina Schweiss, Larry Dillard, Len Lira, and Matt Abbruzzese, Econ and IR remain the two most popular majors at the Academy. Sosh edged out two other departments to retain the recruiting title with 166 cadets in the Class of 2007. And, almost one in five cadets of the upper three classes is a Sosh major! We are also experiencing an influx of cadets from other departments who choose to take Sosh classes as either electives or as a recognized part of an inter-disciplinary program. We are averaging over 2,600 cadets in the seats of Sosh classrooms each semester!

As always, we spare no effort to make sure we get the best instructors. This year, we not only recruited another fine cohort of officers, but we also worked closely with Human Resources Command to continue our support in the War on Terrorism. We had over 200 officers apply to teach in Sosh. Nearly doubling our ROTC applicants and quadrupling our OCS candidates, due primarily to the great work of last and this year's personnel team, Majors Sean Morgan, Joseph Kopsler, Sam Calkins, and Bruce Terry and Lia Ashford the personnel secretary. Of these 200 applicants, we will select approximately ten future instructors. Most of our latest selectees are veterans of Iraq or Afghanistan; some have multiple tours. We have even mobilized reservists to help us. CPT Jessica Lovejoy (daughter of Sosh Alum Doug Lovejoy) has been activated for a 179-day teaching tour to fill vacancies due to faculty departures and deployments.

There are numerous ongoing changes to the curriculum at the Academy, and in the Department. We now teach more than sixty courses. The newest course addition this year will be SS464 – Homeland Security. We continue to use our seminar courses to teach relevant

offerings such as Intelligence and Policy; Philosophy, Religion, and Terror; Advanced Terrorism; and Winning the Peace. The Academy is evolving its academic programs by eliminating the Field of Study effective with the Class of 2007, and changing our majors to be more similar to those of other leading undergraduate colleges and universities. These changes include options for recognizing on the transcript the optional completion of a Senior Thesis (e.g. "International Relations with Thesis"), as well as an honors program designation for cadets who complete additional requirements and meet high GPA standards. Beginning with the Class of 2008, a minors program is being proposed. If approved, cadets will be able to choose an academic minor in addition to their major, and Sosh is leading the way by piloting the first Minor in Terrorism Studies.

USMA is having another tremendously successful year in scholarship competition, with cadets winning two Rhodes Scholarships and three Marshall Scholarships. The scholarship team of COL Jay Parker, MAJ Scott Rhind, Dr. Meena Bose, MAJ Craig Cummings, MAJ Jin Pak, MAJ John Gallagher, Mr. Jeff Couch, and Ms. Michelle Alley superbly coordinated the Academy's efforts to select and advise over thirty candidates from across a range of academic departments. Twenty-five of the department's faculty worked one-on-one with our candidates throughout the semester, and Sosh Alums CJ Juhasz, Bob McClure, Kevin Sheehan, and Jack Jacobs provided invaluable support. Individual mentoring remains the cornerstone of the Scholarship Program. The Academy's newest Rhodes Scholars are Mike April and Jin Wang, and the Academy's newest Marshall Scholars are Anne Hammerstrom, Jay Choi, and Matt Powers. Mike, a Chemistry major, will pursue an MPhil in Medical Anthropology at Oxford prior to medical school. Jin, a Civil Engineering major and Singapore exchange cadet, will study Philosophy, Politics, and Economics at Oxford before returning to his country to serve in the 1<sup>st</sup> Commando Battalion of the Singapore Armed Forces. Anne, a Physics major, will study for an MPhil in Science and Technology Policy at Cambridge and will conduct masters work in the History of Philosophy of Science and Medicine. Jay, a Life Sciences major, will earn an MSc in Public Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and an MSc in Infectious Disease from Imperial College London prior to medical school. Matt, an International Relations major, will earn two masters degrees at the School of Oriental and African Studies, one in Chinese Studies and one in International Politics of Asia. Cadets remain in competition for the Gates, Fulbright, East-West, Truman, and National Science Foundation scholarships, with results due in the spring.

The great tradition of the Student Conference on United States Affairs (SCUSA) continued this year with 231 students from around the United States and twenty-one foreign countries coming to West Point to discuss the theme, "Beyond Hegemony: The Goals and Consequences of American Action at Home and Abroad." Now in its 56th year, SCUSA continues to be the premier undergraduate student conference in the nation. This year we had an exceptionally dynamic opening panel which was moderated by our own McDermott Professor of Humanities and Public Affairs, COL (R) Jack Jacobs, and included Dr. Jane Holl Lute, Assistant Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations at the United Nations, LTG Franklin (Buster) Hagenbeck, Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1; Dr. Azza Karam, a scholar of political Islam, and Chad Boettcher, Director of Strategic Partnerships and Public Affairs for MTV. The keynote address was delivered by Rohan Gunaratna, who is a Senior Fellow at our Combating Terrorism Center and one of the world's leading expert on al Qaeda. Congratulations for a great conference go to an excellent cadet staff who worked under the supervision of COL Cindy Jebb, MAJ Jason Dempsey (OIC), MAJ Rob Kaderavek (facilities), MAJ Steve Carroll (transportation),

MAJ Chris McGowan (budget), and the ever-watchful eye of Jo May. We greatly appreciate the continued support of the USMA Class of 1971 and the Olmsted Foundation for their support.

The Combating Terrorism Center (CTC) continues to grow. Under the leadership and continued efforts of GEN (R) Wayne Downing, COL Russ Howard, and MAJ Reid Sawyer, the CTC education, outreach and policy analysis missions continue to support programs at the Academy as well as multiple executive agencies and the combatant commands. Examples include studies related to al Qaeda tradecraft and counterterrorism policies in democratic regimes. Over the past two years, the Center has increasingly become involved with the Fire Department of New York and the New York Police Department. The 3<sup>rd</sup> book published by the Combating Terrorism Center, *Homeland Security and Terrorism*, which was co-edited by COL Howard, MAJ Joanne Moore, and Dr. James Forrest, will be available later this winter. In November, we formally dedicated the Terrorism Studies Program within the Center to GEN (R) Downing. The ceremony was truly a special event with special operations legends in attendance and Mr. Ross Perot addressing the graduating class of 2005 in an evening lecture. As always, we are tremendously in debt to Mr. Vinnie Viola for his unceasing support.

The Office of Economic and Manpower Analysis (OEMA), under the leadership of COL Casey Wardynski and through the efforts of the entire OEMA team, continues to provide timely and policy-relevant analytic support to the Army. OEMA has been working several major projects this fall, including support of the Army's review of the Officer Personnel Management System and ongoing analysis of the impact of Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) operations on soldier retention. OEMA's personnel system analysis (of OPMS 3, for those of you still affected by it!) is focusing on developing effective, efficient, and feasible Army-level policy options to improve junior officer retention in support of Army Transformation efforts to build a bench of high potential, high performance leaders. OEMA analysis of GWOT operations provided the foundation upon which the Army established deployment reenlistment bonuses that reduced war-related separation by some 10,000 soldier this year. OEMA also closed the first ever Army exclusive trademark license with the license of America's Army to Ubisoft, a game publisher who will be bringing America's Army to the Xbox and PlayStation consoles during summer 2005. America's Army is now the basis of multiple intra-governmental applications involving scenarios such as future weapons testing and mission rehearsal training. The PC version of the game ([www.americasarmy.com](http://www.americasarmy.com)) continues to rank as one of the top five most played PC online action games in the world.

The Sosh faculty continues to publish in support of everything from Army and Joint policy to key academic work used around the country at our nation's universities. Books recently published include Dr. Ruth Beitler's, *The Path to Mass Rebellion: An Analysis of Two Intifadas and Tactical Deception and Strategic Surprise in Al-Qai'da's Operations*, written with Richard Shultz; COL Cindy Jebb's, *Bridging the Gap: Ethnicity, Legitimacy and State Alignment in the International System*; and Dr. Scott Silverstone's upcoming work, *The Preventive War Taboo: American Democracy and the Normative Dimensions of Strategic Choice*. Sosh faculty at large are prolific when it comes to publishing journal articles on a variety of topics related to our primary disciplines, and Dr. Don Snider continues to mentor rotating and senior faculty alike through his work on the Army profession and developing Army doctrine for officership. The new edition of the *Future of the Army Profession*, based on last year's senior conference, should be published later this year.

In addition to the wonderful work done by all our faculty members, our front office is at full strength with a great new team. Ms. Michelle Alley did such an amazing job as our TDY clerk that she has been promoted into our scholarship position. Ms. Lia Ashford, our personnel assistant, has transitioned our personnel systems to a new web-based application process for prospective instructors. Mr. Jeff Couch moved to the Combating Terrorism Center, where he now works with Ms. Janice King. Ms. Amanda Rittenhouse continues to play a critical role supporting the Bradley Seminar in International Security Studies. Computer guru, Mr. Nick Pollarine, continues his tireless efforts to keep Sosh at the forefront of technology, and Ms. Cheryl Bloomer keeps the front office running amidst all these personnel changes, a feat in itself. Finally, Ms. Brenda Conklin, the new admin assistant for COL Meese and me, has managed (so far) to keep us out of trouble.

We invite you to come catch up with old Sosh friends and meet new ones at the Department's 2005 Spring Reunion at the Army-Navy Country Club ([www.ancc.org](http://www.ancc.org)) in Arlington, Virginia on Friday, April 15, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This year, we'll have a diverse assortment of hors d'oeuvres, wine, and beer. We will post details on the Department website and provide a formal invitation with the Department's Spring Newsletter. If you have questions about the event or want to RSVP early, please contact MAJ Rob Kaderavek at [jr2975@usma.edu](mailto:jr2975@usma.edu).

Wishing you all the best for the New Year and best regards from West Point!

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