

**OFFICER EDUCATION COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009-2010**

The University of Wisconsin-Madison is one of a few universities that offer a student the opportunity to earn a commission in any of the three armed services. Military education on this campus dates back to the Civil War and the Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862. Our status as a land grant university includes an obligation to teach "military tactics," a duty now fulfilled by the Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) programs established by the National Defense Act of 1916. We host three departments: Military Science, Naval Science and Aerospace Studies. The regents' contracts with the services provide that each program holds departmental status and enjoys privileges comparable to those of other departments on campus. These laws and our policies give faculty status to the officers accepted to instruct in the programs (*Faculty Policies and Procedures* (FPP) 1.02.-1.03.).

The combined programs receive in excess of \$4.3 million a year in federal funds, which are used for student scholarships, salaries of officers, enlisted personnel and civilian support staff, and for supplies. The University of Wisconsin's 2009-10 budget (101) contribution of \$203,886 includes funding for secretarial support for each of the services and for the program director (Professor John Andrews, Plant Pathology), miscellaneous support, and for use of an off-campus rifle range. All courses offered in the three departments are open to all students, even those not seeking commissions. The military services establish standards for commissioning, but all classes conform to university and campus rules. All of the academic programs are available without regard to sexual orientation. As a result, a number of non-ROTC students interested in courses such as navigation or military history, or who are considering the possibility of seeking a commission, also take courses in all three programs. Some ultimately enroll in the commissioning program while others do not. All students who choose to pursue commissions sign contracts before entering the final two years of the program. They receive monthly stipends with the amount depending on their year in college. Commissioned officer graduates are obligated to serve various periods of time on active duty, or in the reserves. The academic components of the officer education programs operate under the supervision of the Officer Education Committee (OEC). Members of the committee are chosen from a wide range of departments and disciplines. In addition to its other functions, the OEC examines, for approval, the qualifications of all officers nominated for service on campus. The committee personally interviews and recommends action on nominations of persons to serve as unit commanders, each of whom holds the title professor of military science (FPP 1.03.B.1.). Two former professors of military science who now work on campus in different areas (Facilities Planning and Management and the Office of the Dean of Students), Kris Ackerbauer and John Bechtol, serve as advisors to the OEC and the programs. Professor John Hall, the Ambrose-Hesseltine Professor in U.S. Military History, has been invited to OEC meetings.

Navy: The Department of Naval Sciences (NROTC) operates under the command of Captain Ken Auten. The department has occupied space since 1947 in the renovated 1930s-era garage at 1610 University Avenue. The aging facility remains adequate to support the unit's mission but is increasingly expensive to maintain. Despite the costs, Facilities Planning and Management (FPM) provides excellent support. A two-phase redevelopment project involving the Breese Terrace Union and the NROTC building will see the first phase of construction begin in the spring. Phase 2, which will involve the relocation of the NROTC Unit, will begin when funding is secured. We are working with FPM regarding the alternatives available in the relocation of the NROTC unit. The UW NROTC Unit continues to flourish during the 2009-2010 academic year (AY), bringing leadership and enhanced diversity to the UW campus. The battalion sustained a 3.13 GPA for the academic year ending in May 2009. Our midshipmen were active in the community by participating in efforts such as The Relay for Life, a campus blood-drive, and intramural sports. Our officer training program continues to leverage the unique educational opportunities afforded at UW-Madison. In addition to our midshipman and active duty students, over ten non-NROTC students

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enrolled in naval science courses during AY 09-10. The battalion began the 2009-10 academic year with 70 students enrolled in the Navy and Marine Corps programs, with scholarships and tuition support payments to the university exceeding \$880,000. NROTC expects to graduate and commission nine students this academic year.

Army: The Department of Military Science (AROTC) operates under the supervision of Lt Col Jay G. Pitz from a renovated building at 1910 Linden Drive. Staffing is set currently at five officers, three enlisted personnel and three civilians. As of fall 2009, there are 230 students enrolled in AROTC classes: 135 at UW-Madison, 73 at UW-Whitewater, and 22 at Maranatha Baptist Bible College in Watertown. Of these, 131 are cadets actively pursuing a commission. The remaining students are “participating students” who take the classes but have not formally enlisted in the program. Scholarship (104 students) and tuition assistance (27 students) for UW-Madison approximates \$1,383,000 this year. AROTC expects to commission 28 cadets this school year.

Air Force: The Department of Aerospace Studies (Air Force ROTC) operates under the supervision of Lt Col Christopher Eichorst at 1433 Monroe Street, across from Camp Randall Sports Center. The unit consists of four officers, two non-commissioned officers (NCO), and one civilian (secretary). Two officers and one NCO will be reassigned this upcoming year. Lt Col Eichorst, Lt Meissen, and TSgt Segerstrom will be reassigned. The Air Force has designated Lt Col Todd Berge, a B-2 pilot from Whiteman AFB, MO as Lt Col Eichorst’s replacement, and the OEC will interview Lt Col Berge this spring. As of fall 2009, the total cadet enrollment was 73 students (including three Maranatha Baptist Bible College, 19 UW-Whitewater cadets and two Edgewood College cadets who commute to participate in the UW-Madison program). Graduation projections for 2009-10 are 13 cadets. Funding, to include scholarships and a stipend, is currently being provided to 42 cadets totaling about \$667,000 annually.

Concerns and Recommendations: There are two concerns going forward. The first is facilities. None of the ROTC departments have significant immediate facility concerns. Short term space and facilities issues have been addressed for the most part. However, there are longer term concerns about facilities as current facilities age and the programs grow. The services and the OEC are both encouraged by the chancellor’s planning and support for a new combined services building. A new building would enhance the competitiveness of the UW-Madison ROTC program and provide for more efficient use of space that could be shared by the three units.

A second significant concern is that UW-Madison may be losing highly qualified ROTC students to other universities. Many universities offer monetary incentives, such as room and board, to ROTC scholarship winners. These incentives steer a prospective student toward a university with a subsidy and away from UW-Madison. For example UW-Madison is not listed on the ARFROTC.com link, <http://afrotc.com/scholarships/hsschol/subsidyList.php>, which lists schools with some sort of incentive for ROTC students.

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OFFICER EDUCATION COMMITTEE for 2009-10

Chair of Officer Education Committee

Professor James Johannes, School of Business

Director of Officer Education Programs

Professor John Andrews, Department of Plant Pathology

Committee Members

Professor Mark Etzel, Department of Food Science

Professor Jane Hutchison, Department of Art History

Professor Terrence Millar, Department of Mathematics

Assistant Professor Kim Schairer, Department of Communicative Disorders

Professor John Sharpless, Department of History

Professor Carl Sovinec, Department of Engineering Physics

Ex-officio

Provost Paul DeLuca

Capt Kenneth Auten, Naval Science

Lt Col Christopher Eichorst, Air Force Aerospace

LTC Jay G. Pitz, Military Science (Army)

Consultants

Mr. Kris Ackerbauer (US Navy Ret), Facilities Planning and Management

Mr. John Bechtol (US Army Ret), Office of the Dean of Students