

**OFFICER EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2010-2011**

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 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* 1.02.-1.03.).

The combined programs receive more than \$4.3 million each 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 2010-11 budget (101) contribution of \$203,886 includes funding for secretarial support for each of the services and for the Officer Education Program (directed by Professor James Johannes, School of Business), 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 Program 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 their 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 work on campus. Kris Ackerbauer is the assistant director of the Physical Plant, and John Bechtol is the assistant dean of student affairs for veteran services. Both serve as advisors to the OEC and the ROTC programs. Also, retired Army officer, Professor John Hall, is the Ambrose-Hesseltine Professor in U.S. Military History and serves as an advisor to the committee.

Navy-Marine Corps: The Department of Naval Sciences (NROTC) operates under the command of Captain Ken Auten and is located at 1610 University Avenue. The UW NROTC Unit benefits from many unique educational opportunities at UW-Madison while bringing leadership and diversity to the campus:

- The Battalion began the 2010-11 academic year with 71 students, including 16 new students, enrolled in the Navy and Marine Corps programs. It expects to graduate and commission 14 students this academic year.
- The Battalion hosted 14 NROTC units from across the Midwest at the annual Badger Invitational Competition. Our teams also participated in a competition hosted by the University of Colorado, and battalion members attended a leadership conference hosted by the University of Notre Dame.
- Midshipmen are active in the UW community, participating in efforts such as the Relay for Life, campus blood-drives, and intramural athletics. The NROTC sailing program has an excellent relationship with the Hoofers Sailing Club.

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- During the previous academic year, the battalion maintained a 3.18 GPA and commissioned nine new officers in the Navy and Marine Corps. Scholarships and tuition support payments to the university for the NROTC students exceeded \$885,000. In addition to midshipman and active-duty students, over 12 non-NROTC students enrolled in Naval Science courses during AY 09-10.
- In June 2011, Captain Ken Auten will be departing UW-Madison after a three-year tour. He has served the university as a member of the Faculty Senate representing District 108 for the past three academic years. His relief for the NROTC unit command has been named by the Navy and confirmed by the OEC; Captain Russ Haas will arrive in Madison during the summer.
- The unit's aging facility is a renovated 1930s-era garage that NROTC has occupied since 1947. With assistance from Facilities, Planning and Management (FPM), it has been adequate to support the unit's mission despite increasing maintenance costs. However, it will be demolished in the second phase of a two-phase redevelopment project involving the Breese Terrace Union and the NROTC building. The first phase began with the demolition of the old Student Health Center. Phase 2 will begin when funding is secured and will require the relocation of the NROTC Unit. We are working with FPM regarding alternatives that are available for the relocation.

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. The Badger Battalion is the largest of the three ROTC units, and staffing is currently set at five officers, three enlisted personnel and three civilians.

- As of Spring 2011, there are 304 students enrolled in AROTC classes: 190 at UW-Madison, 78 at UW-Whitewater, 9 at Edgewood College, and 27 at Maranatha Baptist Bible College in Watertown. Of these, 149 are cadets actively pursuing a commission. The remaining students are "participating students" who take military science classes but are not formally enlisted in the program. AROTC expects to commission 44 cadets this academic year.
- Scholarship (140 students) and tuition assistance (35 students) for UW-Madison amounts to approximately \$1,400,000 this year.
- The AROTC cadets were recognized this year for exceeding all of the national Cadet Command Leadership and Assessment Camp averages for Physical Fitness, Land Navigation, overall "Excellent" ratings for cadets, "Top 5" in 50-person platoon, and RECONDO overall skills. The UW-Madison cadets led the nation in RECONDO qualifications. Cadets also participated in the Bataan Memorial Death March located in White Sands Proving Grounds, New Mexico in March 2011.
- AROTC continues to lead in the "We Make A Difference" volunteer campaign and has been recognized by the city of Madison and the UW athletic department for its contributions. The Badger Battalion uses the Lakeshore Nature Preserve for training and performs trail maintenance in the fall.

Air Force: The Department of Aerospace Studies (Air Force ROTC) operates under the supervision of Lt Col Todd Berge at 1433 Monroe Street across from Camp Randall Sports Center. The unit consists of three officers, two non-commissioned officers (NCO), and one civilian (secretary). Lt Col Berge, UW-Madison '93, assumed command of the unit in the summer of 2010.

- As of fall 2010, the total cadet enrollment was 75 students, including 14 UW-Whitewater and eight Maranatha Baptist Bible College cadets who commute to participate in the UW-Madison program.
- The graduation projection for academic year 2010-11 is 13 cadets. Funding, including scholarships and a stipend, is currently being provided to 46 cadets and totals about \$557,000 annually.
- This past year, the AFROTC cadets organized a 5K charity run. They also participated in multiple leadership and physical training events, and the UW unit ranked in the top 10% of all Air Force ROTC in physical fitness test scores. The detachment also shined in a limited notice inspection conducted by HQ ROTC. The inspection team lauded UW's detachment as one of the best it had ever seen.

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- The unit achieved a recruiting record of 26 new students this year. A renewed emphasis in recruiting should help the unit reach the Air Force's expected graduation rate of 15 per year despite budget pressures limiting the number of AFROTC scholarship awards.

Concerns and Recommendations: There are two primary concerns for the ROTC detachments at UW-Madison. The first is facilities. Short-term space and facilities issues have been addressed for the Army and Air Force programs. However, the Naval program will need to relocate as the redevelopment of the former Student Health Center area continues. Moreover, there are longer-term concerns as current facilities age and the programs grow. A dedicated 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. The services and the OEC have been encouraged by the university leadership's planning and support for a new, combined services building.

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 prospective students toward universities with a subsidy and away from UW-Madison. For example, the AFROTC.com shows a special list of schools that provide incentives, <http://afrotc.com/scholarships/high-school/subsidy-list/>, and UW-Madison is absent from the list for Wisconsin.

#### OFFICER EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP – 2010-11

Professor John Andrews (sem. I), Plant Pathology  
Professor Mark Etzel, Food Science  
Professor Jane Hutchison, Art History  
Professor James Johannes (director of Officer Education Programs), Business  
Professor Terrence Millar, Mathematics  
Assistant Professor Kim Schairer, Communicative Disorders  
Professor John Sharpless, History  
Professor Carl Sovinec (chair), Engineering Physics

#### *Ex officio*

Capt Kenneth Auten (Navy)  
Provost Paul DeLuca  
Lt Col Christopher Eichorst (Air Force)  
Lt Col Jay Pitz (Army)

#### *Consultants*

Kris Ackerbauer (US Navy Ret)  
John Bechtol (US Army Ret)  
John Hall (US Army Ret)