

**OFFICER EDUCATION COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2012-2013**

Military education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison dates from 1866 when the university became a land-grant institution under the Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862. The act required the teaching of “military science;” however, for many years it involved little more than a required drilling exercise for all male students. The National Defense Act of 1916 established the Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC), and a formal program of instruction augmented practice on the field. In 1923, military training became optional at the university.

During World War II, the University of Wisconsin continued its commitment to providing well-trained servicemen and women for the America’s Armed Forces. In 1942, Regent President A. J. Glover, in his annual message to the university alumni, bragged that twelve hundred sailors were enrolled in the radio code and communications school; 480 “Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service” (WAVES) were being trained as radio operators. An institute of correspondence education for Army and Navy personnel was in operation, and 2,600 students were enrolled in ROTC. Although for many decades the aging Old Red Gym had served as the campus training facility, during the war the Army and Navy were assured that they would soon have a new permanent headquarters.

Since that time, the University of Wisconsin-Madison has continued to meet its land-grant obligation. Indeed, this one of a few universities that offers students the opportunity to earn a commission in any of the three armed services. We host three departments: Military Science; Naval Science, which includes the Marines; and Aerospace Studies. The regents’ contracts with the services provide that each program has full departmental status and enjoys privileges comparable to those of other academic departments on campus. Faculty status is granted to the commanding officers in the programs [*Faculty Policies and Procedures (FPP)* 1.02.-1.03.].

The Officer Education Committee (*FPP* 6.47.) consists of the following members: the provost; eight faculty members, one of whom serves as the director of the Officer Education Program (OEP); and the commandants of each of the ROTC units, who are ex officio and nonvoting.

Its primary charge is to recommend policy relating to the Officer Education Program. 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. The Committee on Committees is delegated to make the faculty appointments to the OEC. In addition to their other functions, the OEC examines, for approval, the qualifications of all commanding 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 are currently on university staff. Kris Ackerbauer is the assistant director of the Physical Plant, and John Bechtol is the assistant dean of students for veterans affairs. Both serve as advisors to the OEC and the ROTC programs.

The combined programs receive more than \$3.3 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 2012-2013 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 classes offered in the three departments conform to university and campus rules, including the laws, policies, and regulations for equity and diversity. Courses offered by the ROTC programs are open to all UW-Madison students. 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, take courses in the three programs. Some ultimately enroll in the commissioning program, while others do not.

The military services have established standards for commissioning, and all students who choose to pursue commissions sign contracts before entering the final two years of the program. They receive monthly stipends, the amount depending on their year in college. Subsequent to graduation, commissioned officer graduates are obligated to serve various periods of time on active duty or in the reserves.

Navy-Marine Corps: The Department of Naval Science (NROTC) operates under the command of Captain Russell Haas and is located at 1610 University Avenue. The UW NROTC Unit continues to focus its students and resources on technical programs but is pursuing emerging opportunities for advanced language and cultural/regional diversity degree programs as well. The unit consists of five active duty naval officers, one senior non-commissioned officer, two federal civilian employees, and one University of Wisconsin classified employee.

- The Badger Battalion began the 2012-2013 academic year with 63 students, including 17 new students in its freshman class. In May 2013, it expects to commission nine new ensigns in the U.S. Navy and four new second lieutenants in the U.S. Marine Corps. At present, 15% of NROTC students are women and 5% are minorities.
- Midshipmen remain active in the UW community, participating in efforts such as the Million Pound Challenge, campus blood-drives, and intramural athletics. During the fall 2012 term, the midshipmen inaugurated a semi-annual tri-service blood donation challenge, helping the American Red Cross collect over 150 units of whole blood.
- During the previous academic year, the battalion maintained a 3.16 GPA and commissioned 17 new officers in the Navy and Marine Corps. Scholarships and tuition support payments to the university for NROTC students exceeded \$900,000.
- The NROTC staff continued to pursue innovative ways to integrate better naval science courses into mainstream university academic majors. Specifically:
 - The Naval Engineering course will soon be accepted by the College of Engineering as meeting their requirement for an entry-level basic engineering course thus, resulting in a three-credit reduction in course load for a typical midshipman in an engineering program.
 - The history department has agreed to add specific naval history topics to its two-semester military history series. NROTC midshipmen will now complete this series in lieu of the Naval Science Sea Power and Maritime Affairs curriculum. Although this will not result in a reduction in course load, it will broaden the scope of military history taught to our students.
- In cooperation with the other ROTC units and a university facilities planning team, the NROTC staff is actively engaged in developing the next proposal for a combined ROTC facility.

Army: The Department of Military Science (AROTC) operates under the supervision of LTC W. Allen Henderson, professor of military science. Their headquarters is located at 1910 Linden Drive. The Badger Battalion is the largest of the three ROTC entities, with current staffing set at two officers, three noncommissioned officers, three Department of Army civilians, four contractors, and one university secretary. It receives supplementary support from the Wisconsin National Guard with an additional officer and three noncommissioned officers.

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- On the UW-Madison campus, 160 students are enrolled in AROTC classes (AROTC 100- and 200-level courses); 67 are UW student athletes (football, basketball, men's and women's hockey, rowing, etc.) and 73 are either contracted, non-contracted, or participating in AROTC program classes. AROTC includes students from other nearby colleges: 3 cadets from Edgewood College; 43 cadets from UW-Whitewater; and 30 cadets from Maranatha Baptist Bible College in Watertown. In total from all campuses, 78 cadets are actively pursuing a commission and are currently contracted with the program. The remaining students are "participating students" who complete the military science classes as an academic student but are not formally enlisted or pursuing entrance to the program. AROTC expects to commission 21 cadets this academic year. Currently, 18% of AROTC students are women, and minorities make up 10% of AROTC's contracted population.
- Scholarships (29 students) and tuition assistance (22 students) for UW-Madison students amounts to \$355,522; resident tuition assistance is at \$207,691, and non-resident tuition assistance is \$53,268. For the 2012-13 academic year, the total for scholarships and tuition assistance is \$616,481.
- UW-Madison AROTC cadets have been recognized throughout the previous academic year for exceeding the Cadet Command Leadership Development and Assessment Camp national averages for both physical fitness and RECONDO (a highly specialized infantry training in reconnaissance and commando) or receiving an overall "Excellent" rating and "Top 5" in a 50-person platoon. One cadet assigned to UW-Madison AROTC was assessed as being the top pre-commissionee for all universities in the State of Wisconsin for the entire 2013 class. Additionally, in the coming months, four cadets will complete summer internships abroad for the Cultural and Understanding Language Program in India, Vietnam, Thailand, and Togo. Finally, cadets participated in the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge competition, resulting in ten gold medals.
- The program has made great strides to extend the sphere of influence of the AROTC unit on campus and within the community, improving upon mutually beneficial relationships with both the university athletic and academic departments. Some of the more notable contributions and involvements include the following: establishing a new Badger ROTC website with wisc.edu as the domain to connect ROTC programs with UW search engine criteria; integration and assistance from the OEC for accreditation of military science credits with the College of Letters and Science; assisting in and now having a representative on the Project GO committee with university language academics to incorporate the Department of Defense program on campus to improve academic relations and generate language interest among cadets; assisting in the development and implementation of a U.S. Army Cadet Command Pilot Program for a distance-learning military history course that is coordinated with the Wisconsin Army National Guard State Aviation Officer; and facilitating efforts with university administration for the on-campus landing of two UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters in support of the Spring Combined Field Training Exercise.

Air Force: The Department of Aerospace Studies (AFROTC) – Detachment 925 operates under the supervision of LTC Todd Berge. Its headquarters is located at 1433 Monroe Street across from Camp Randall Sports Center. The Air Force unit consists of three officers, two non-commissioned officers (NCO), and one civilian (secretary).

LTC Berge, UW-Madison '93, assumed command of the unit in summer 2010. He will be completing his term this spring. The OEC interviewed and selected LTC Gregory Goar as LTC Berge's replacement as commander of the AFROTC program. His projected arrival will be sometime in early July. LTC Goar is an alumnus of the University of Wisconsin.

As of fall 2012, the total cadet enrollment was 98 students, including eight from Maranatha Baptist Bible College, twelve from UW-Whitewater, two from Edgewood College, and one from MATC, all of whom commute to participate in the UW-Madison program. This was the highest enrollment in 25 years for AFROTC.

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- The graduation class projected for academic year 2012-2013 is nine cadets. Funding, including scholarships and stipends, is currently being provided to 35 cadets and totals about \$460,000 annually.
- The highlight of the past year was undoubtedly the distinction of being number one in the nation out of 145 AFROTC detachments in the physical fitness assessment average. This is the first time Detachment 925 has won this award. LTC Berge has put an emphasis on the physical training program. We have also been lauded for being one of only three detachments in the Northwest region to be in the top ten of 36 regional detachments for both physical fitness scores and GPA.
- The unit achieved a recruiting record of 50 new students this year. A continued emphasis on recruiting should help the unit reach the Air Force's expected graduation rate of 15 cadets per year despite budget pressures limiting the number of AFROTC scholarship awards. Currently, over 25% of Air cadets are female. While the command places a high emphasis on recruiting for diversity, our unit continues to reflect the demographic makeup of Wisconsin's communities. Every effort is being made to improve recruitment among minority groups.
- Congressional budget uncertainties and sequestration make it impossible to project what next year's federal budgetary component will be. Currently all funds are awaiting headquarters AFROTC approval.

Concerns and Recommendations: The primary concern for the ROTC detachments at UW-Madison is physical space. Short-term space and facilities issues have been addressed for the Army and Air Force programs. However, the Naval program will soon need to relocate as construction of the new Wisconsin Energy Institute building continues. There are also longer-term concerns for the other services as current facilities age and the programs grow. A dedicated new building would enhance the competitiveness of the UW-Madison ROTC program and provide more efficient use of space that could be shared by the three units. A plan for a new joint ROTC facility on Lot 16 is in the concept stage, and next year the OEC and the director of OEP intend to present formally the plan to the Campus Planning Committee for consideration in the 2015-2017 campus biennial budget.

Officer Education Committee Membership

Provost Paul DeLuca

Professor Mark Etzel, Food Science

Assistant Professor John Hall, History

Professor James Johannes (director of Officer Education Program), Business

Associate Professor Helen Kinsella, Political Science

Professor James LaGro, Urban and Regional Planning

Professor Linda Oakley, Nursing

Professor Mark Rickenbach, Forest and Wildlife Ecology

Professor John Sharpless (chair), History

Ex officio

LTC Todd Berge, Air Force

CAPT Russell Haas, Navy

LTC W. Allen Henderson, Army

Consultants

Kris Ackerbauer, U.S. Navy Ret

John Bechtol, U.S. Army Ret