Letter from the Editor

Introductions and Transitions
Laura Massey

Despite the etiquette class my mother forced me to take in middle school, I’ve never been good at introductions. My poor fiancé had to introduce himself to my sister because I got caught up in the conversation and forgot that they didn’t know each other. And as for introducing myself, I am, if possible, more awkward. So, let’s skip the introduction and just pretend we already know each other, shall we?

After joining the university system a few short weeks ago, I find myself with the somewhat daunting task of filling the very large shoes of your previous editor, Jaimi Luckett (only metaphorically large; I’m sure her actual shoes are perfectly dainty and not clown-like at all). She has moved onward and upward, working now with our marketing team.

As summer fades into fall, we all seem to be in a state of transition. Many of you transitioned from student to professional following our commencement ceremony (our highest attendance rate to date!),...
and others are finding their niche in their career of choice, maybe with a little help from our Virtual Career Fairs. Everyone will be transitioning to a new, easier way to get your refunds – a change we can all get excited about!

As On The Frontline transitions under my leadership, I hope you will give me some feedback on what you like, what you might change, or even brand-new initiatives you’d like to see in future editions.

I wish you all the best in the coming weeks: smooth sailing, good grades, and all that jazz!

Class of 2012
William T. Coxe
(Master’s in Criminal Justice) has been promoted to Patrol Sergeant for the Christopher Newport University Police Department […]

Faculty and Staff
Larry Flegle
(Professor, Sports Management), was nominated as internet Radio Personality of the Year by the 2012 AMG Heritage Awards. […]
Congratulations to the Class of 2012!

Commencement 2012 was a phenomenal success and officially marked the greatest number of participants to date! The Office of Student and Alumni Affairs along with over 100 staff, faculty, volunteers, and alumni contributed to the ceremony preparation and execution. This year, commencement was divided into two ceremonies, undergraduate and graduate levels, due to the tremendous growth in the number of participants. Graduates and their guests made the trip to the National Harbor, in Maryland, on Friday, June 15, 2012 to be a part of this tradition. The graduate ceremony included approximately 400 graduates and their 2,500 guests and the undergraduate ceremony included approximately 420 graduates and their 3,000 guests!

Our provost, Dr. Karan Powell, presided as master of ceremonies for the second year in a row. The ceremonies included riveting and thoughtful speeches from student honors speakers, Michael Collett and Karisa Taylor, as well as our 2012 commencement speaker, Lieutenant General (Ret.) Kenneth Hunzeker.

Graduates from all over the world participated in this event, representing countries such as Turkey, Germany, the Netherlands, Iraq, and the United Kingdom, just to name a few. Every branch of our Armed Forces was represented, and George Mason University’s Police Department Honor Guard attended to present the colors. Those unable to attend this year’s events were able to stream the event live via our live streaming video feed. Additionally, a touching compilation video of commencement greetings recorded by graduates living around the world played during the ceremony. The streams of the undergraduate and graduate ceremonies, as well as the commencement greetings video, are now available to view online. The official DVD recordings of the ceremonies are also available for purchase from GradMemory.

Prior to the ceremony, on June 14, 2012, graduates and their families, along with members of the Golden Key International Honour Society, were invited to join our second annual commencement service project at Crescent Ridge Adult Day Health Center. Sponsored by Golden Key, this event gave participants the opportunity to give back to the local community through landscaping, vehicle detailing, and a few fun games of bingo!

Following the service event, members of various student organizations held their annual meetings and, later that evening, joined fellow graduates at the 2012 Networking Reception. This gathering of over 900 guests provided members of the student organizations, graduates and their guests, faculty, and staff the opportunity to meet-and-greet with one another. Guests participated in a
thrilling new networking game and took fun photos in a prop-filled photo booth!

Our final pre-commencement event, the Academic Awards Breakfast, took place the morning of Friday, June 15, 2012, prior to the start of our first ceremony. This momentous breakfast was held to honor the recipients of our Academic Scholar, Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Alumni, and Faculty Anniversary Awards.

We had so much fun at the Class of 2012 Commencement and we hope to see you at a future event! If you are interested in obtaining more information regarding the 2012 Commencement, or have questions regarding future ceremonies, please contact commencement@apus.edu.

Contributed by Tracee Figueiredo

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**Your New Tuition Refund Access Card**

The university has engaged Higher One, a financial services company focused solely on higher education, to provide a faster, more convenient way to get financial aid refunds to students through a refund access card! Your card will be mailed in an envelope that looks like the sample provided below. Please do not throw away this important card since it is your ticket to a faster refund.

Simply put, your new card is designed to provide you with increased choices when it comes to receiving your refunds. Beginning in September 2012, students will be able to select between using their refund access card either as a debit card linked to a Higher One account or to have their refund deposited directly into their existing bank account.

Please activate your card and select your refund preference as soon as you receive the card. Remember, even if you are not currently expecting a refund, we may have a refund for you in the future, so keep the card in a safe place.

If you're not sure that we have your current mailing address, please take a moment to visit your e-campus, and on the left navigation bar, choose "Change Contact Information" to update your address today. Your new refund access card will be mailed to your current address on file with the university. Therefore, it is critical that you verify your mailing address as soon as possible.

We are excited about this new way of delivering refunds and look forward to assisting you with this in any way we can. To learn more, visit the Higher One website or contact the student support team at studentservices@apus.edu or 877-755-2787.

Contributed by Terry Grant
Got Fall Plans? Add the Virtual Career Fair to Your Calendar

The next Virtual Career Fair (VCF) is right around the corner, scheduled for Oct. 9-11, 2012. You can gain the optimum advantage as a potential candidate if you begin your preparations for this event now. At the last VCF in May, 57 employers posted more than 400 jobs for which students and alumni could apply. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to connect with employers in an online setting! Check out our tips on the best ways to maximize this event.

Ready, Set, Research
Researching careers in your field of study and exploring what interests you in a workplace environment will make you better able to determine what type of jobs you would like to pursue. Use the resources on the career services website to explore options for your degree, your talents, and your interests.

Career coaches are available to help you plan job-search strategies, answer quick questions, review online presence, and explain how to talk to recruiters. Email careerservices@apus.edu to connect with a career coach.

As employers register for the VCF, we will post their logos on the login page for NACElink. Take time to research participating organizations, get familiar with job opportunities within the organizations, and create a list of informed questions to ask recruiters when they are online during the VCF. Closer to the event, we will post the schedule of when the employers will be available for chat.

Get Your Resume Ready
One of the most important facets of the VCF is the candidate resume. Employers are looking for candidates like you! Help them find you by writing a clear and cohesive resume. We give employers access to the resumes of students who post their resume in time for the event. If you need assistance with your resume or if you just want another set of eyes to review your resume, email your resume in Word document format to resumehelp@apus.edu.

Once your resume is ready to be presented to recruiters, log into or create a NACElink account. Complete as much of the profile as possible, upload your resume, and R.S.V.P. for the Virtual Career Fair. A student guide for the VCF will be available on the landing page, and help is always available at naceink@apus.edu.

Employer Invitations
The employer relations team works to connect high quality employers of interest with our talented body of students and alumni. If you are also an employer and would be interested in participating in this event, you may register on our VCF website. Questions regarding this event or requests for employer invitations may be submitted by email to employers@apus.edu.

In the next newsletter, we will share some tips on what to do after a VCF. Meanwhile, we wish you the best in your career search and beyond!

Contributed by Sonia Ferraro

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Military Ceremonies: What Is a Joint Recognition Ceremony and Is It For You?

While a majority of our 7,000 Class of 2012 graduates can’t attend our commencement ceremony, many attend recognition ceremonies in their area. A number of military installations across the country and abroad hold joint recognition ceremonies each year to recognize the achievements of graduates who work on and around their facility. They include any university with a presence on the base, and can have as many universities represented as graduates in attendance! In many cases, university education coordinators assigned to the region also attend the events to support our amazing graduates.

On June 1, 2012, Camp Lejeune in North Carolina held its annual ceremony at the base center, where more than 20 of our graduates participated with fellow graduates from numerous universities to celebrate their accomplishments. Education Coordinator Lori Popp and Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Karen Powell were in attendance to support our graduates and treated them to a celebratory dinner the night before the event.

Each year, Fort Hood and Fort Bliss, located in Texas, also host recognition ceremonies. Education Coordinator Willie Cruz is always in attendance to support graduates and hand out our ceremonial diplomas. Fort Hood holds their annual ceremony in November, and Fort Bliss holds their ceremony in June.

These are just a few examples, and in many cases, community members, including active-duty and retired military personnel as well as civilians are invited to attend. Each and every ceremony is different, and the host sets the requirements to attend. The Office of Student and Alumni Affairs and APUS do not host these joint recognition ceremonies and have no involvement in planning them, but we do support your involvement in these events. If you can’t attend our commencement, we hope you will take advantage of a ceremony near you. It feels great to put on that regalia, walk across the stage, and celebrate your accomplishments!

If you would like more information on events in your area, please contact an education coordinator in your region.

Contributed by April Airhart
Volunteer Warriors Relay into Top Fundraising Spot

Our faculty and staff are passionate about supporting community events and the people that make up their community. This year our staff created a Relay for Life team, the Volunteer Warriors, to participate in the Relay for Life of Jefferson County (WV). The team consisted of 54 members, including employees, friends, and family members.

Each of the members of the Volunteer Warriors had a personal reason to be part of the relay team that is unique and special to them. This event provided an opportunity to not only honor cancer survivors and remember loved ones we have lost, but to also raise funds and awareness to help save lives. The Volunteer Warriors decided to decorate the team campsite with a happy birthday theme. True to the American Cancer Society’s motto, the team is dedicated to stopping cancer from claiming another year of someone's life, proclaiming, “We wanted to help create a world with less cancer and more birthdays!”

The Volunteer Warriors organized several exciting fundraising events in only three short months hoping to reach a fundraising goal of $10,000. In little time, the team exceeded the original goal and was able to raise $15,529 to help support the American Cancer Society. With this amount raised, the Volunteer Warriors assisted other participating teams throughout the county of Jefferson by raising over $110,000, exceeding the county goal of $100,000! Additionally, the team is proud to be recognized as the top fundraising team in Jefferson County for the 2012 Relay for Life! All of the hard work in collecting donations was rewarding as the funds will be used to raise awareness and aid researchers striving to combat all forms of cancer.

Contributed by Abbie Darr
Alumni, Be Recognized!

As a university, we are firm believers in celebrating our outstanding student and alumni body. One of the ways we do that is through the alumni award program, which is currently accepting nominations for 2013. The alumni award program is comprised of four awards that recognize excellence in academic achievement or exceptional service to our nation, community, or university. Anyone in the university community can submit a nomination; alumni may also self-nominate. If you are interested in applying or nominating an AMU alumni, please visit the Office of Alumni Affairs for details today!

Contributed by Tracee Figueiredo

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You Could Graduate Sooner than Expected! Take Advantage of COLL 200!

APUS recognizes that not all learning happens in a traditional classroom setting. We know students come to us with a vast array of experiences. Those experiences may have resulted in learning that could be applied toward a degree. APUS students have earned over 190 credits via portfolio assessment since 2011.

Earlier this summer, the prior learning assessment (PLA) non-credit workshop was converted to a credit bearing course – COLL 200 Prior Learning Assessment Seminar. This course will allow students to earn three credits towards their general elective requirements and develop a PLA portfolio for a specific course within their academic plans. That portfolio is developed in the course and is then evaluated by a discipline specific faculty evaluator to make a credit recommendation. Students are able to earn credit for an additional course within this eight-week course.

COLL 200 is a three credit undergraduate level course. Credit for COLL 200 counts toward general elective requirements. Tuition for COLL 200 is the normal tuition rate of $750.00. The first PLA portfolio evaluation fee is included in the COLL 200 tuition. That is potentially six credits for the cost of three! Students can earn credit for what they learned through past experience and save money!

The first step in getting started within the PLA program is visiting our website and taking the self-assessment. Students who submit the self-assessment as instructed on our website will be contacted by a member of the PLA team regarding the next steps. You must be accepted to the PLA program before you can register for COLL 200.

So, why wait? Visit the PLA website or email pla@apus.edu to learn more! We are also on Facebook!

Contributed by Liz Jackson

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Let a Scholarship Program Take You Places

Working with our distinguished, award-winning faculty has inspired the Office of Career Services to assist in the introduction of new – as well as expand existing – programmatic opportunities to enhance the academic experience of students. This year, we are happy to announce that you now have on-campus support for three highly prestigious programs, each of which can play a fundamental role in shaping the future of participants.

Boren Scholarship and Fellowship
Shaped around the object of providing students with an on-the-ground understanding of issues critical to the security of the United States, both the Boren Fellowship and the Boren Scholarship provide graduate and undergraduate scholars, respectively, with the opportunity to engage in rigorous language training abroad. Boren recruits students from some of the nation’s top language institutes and academic programs. After graduating from the program, Boren alumni are required to pursue positions in public service, and the unique skill set and background they developed during the program enables them to help define the U.S. public and foreign policy decisions of tomorrow. For additional information, please visit Boren’s website or contact careerservices@apus.edu.

Fulbright
Named for Sen. J. William Fulbright and sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, the Fulbright U.S. Student Program recruits top talent from U.S. universities, and is designed to promote “mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.” Although there are multiple types of Fulbright grants, Fulbright’s flagship academic grant offers alumni of U.S. institutions with a bachelor’s degree another forum in which to more rigorously explore their field of study through overseas graduate study and engaging in advanced research abroad. For additional information, please visit Fulbright’s U.S. Student Program website or contact careerservices@apus.edu.

Truman Scholarship
Helping to ease the financial burden for students interested in pursuing graduate degrees with a public service orientation, the Truman Scholarship seeks to bring to fruition Harry S. Truman’s vision for a “program for students that would encourage educated citizenship and political responsibility.” By providing students with the financial wherewithal to seek a graduate education, the scholarship fulfills Truman’s vision, creating a network of alumni of which all members are committed to promoting the public good and making a lasting, profound impact through service in the U.S. government. Intensely competitive, highly prestigious, and only open to juniors and third-year seniors, the Truman Scholarship provides participants with intensive, rigorous professional development opportunities, and requires that alumni spend three out of the seven years immediately following graduation in public service. For additional information, please visit the Harry S. Truman website or contact careerservices@apus.edu.

Contributed by Ryan Harding

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The Stream Launches

University webcast and podcast archives are now available on their own blog – The Stream! The Stream is your virtual hub for recordings on current news and events from industry and academic experts. Choose from over 100 webcasts and podcasts focused on over 20 topics of streamed content ranging from homeland security to career advice and more. Come visit the new blog and enjoy this free flow of expert knowledge at your fingertips!

Contributed by Jessica Stasiw

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What’s Trending on The Quad?

It is hard not to get excited in the university’s new virtual involvement system, The Quad! There are so many new, exciting, and dynamic ways to connect and unite with the university community!

Now celebrating its fourth month, we’d like to share the wonderful things that are trending on The Quad!

**The Global Mentor Network**: Our official mentoring program offers one-to-one mentoring and degree-specific group networking. Through the use of The Quad’s online directory feature and group networks, users can connect in mentoring for the purpose of professional development and networking.

**General Interest and Regional Groups**: There are several active and exciting general and regional interest groups for students to participate in and connect with fellow peers with similar interests. The most popular groups out-of-the-gate are: “A Good Book,” “Cooks in the Kitchen,” “Southeast Region,” and the “Northeast Region.” Join in the fun, share your favorite book, recipe, or shout out your hometown hotspots today!

**Student Organization Groups**: Recognized honor societies, professional organizations, and clubs pages give their members chances to connect in new and different ways. Through the use of The Quad’s new features—such as real time chat, interactive member maps, event announcements, and private polls—organizations have been able to run elections, see where members are located, post group-specific events, and gather together for chapter meetings in real time.

**Blogging**: People have taken quickly to The Quad’s blogging feature by searching and commenting on the thoughts of others and creating new blogs of their own. From silly to down-right thought provoking, users continue to impress and captivate members of the community through the blog feature. Jump into The Quad and blog with the best of them!

**Spotlight Submissions**: University members are already sharing their personal success stories using the spotlight submission form on The Quad. Interested in being featured in this newsletter? Submit a student, alumni, staff, or faculty spotlight today and let us highlight you!

**Milestones**: Achievements and accomplishments, both big and small, are being posted daily as milestones in the Quad. Milestones thus far include: weddings, births, certifications, promotions, professional achievements, awards, and much, much more! Share your good news or read through the ever-growing list—it will brighten your day and make you proud to belong!

These are just some of the amazing things happening on The Quad. To see more and join the fun, login to your student or alumni campus and click on “The Quad” link located on the right navigation bar under Student Services. If you have any questions or would like more information about the activities and features taking place on The Quad, please email us at studentaffairs@apus.edu.

We look forward to seeing you create the next big trends on The Quad!

Contributed by Amanda Wilson
That noise you hear is not the beat of a drum nor is it a stampede of elephants in the distance. The loud deafening sound is only audible to you, and it's the beat of your heart. The reason? You are nervous about your upcoming interview. Will you succeed or will you falter?

You can rewrite your resume and proofread your cover letter many times over, but in the world of competitive job seeking, most people get only one shot to make the right impression, the interview.

For this reason, many job seekers find the interview process daunting because a mistake during an interview can be costly.

So how does one prepare for the unknown? Is there an art behind a good interview? Yes! Preparation for the interview is more important than the interview itself. Here are five guidelines to help you succeed in the interview process:

1. **Get your mind right.** It may sound blunt, but your psyche can either bring negative or positive energy that may be recognized by the interviewer. Avoid additional stressors and anxiety provoking situations when possible around the time of your interview. Practice relaxation techniques like meditation, deep breathing, tai chi, yoga, massages, and warm baths. Follow these up with other positive coping methods such as exercising, getting enough restful sleep, and talking with friends or family about your interview worries and fears.

2. **Research the company and read in between the lines.** Out of 2,000 bosses surveyed, 47% stated the most common mistakes job seekers make during interviews is having little or no knowledge of the company. Along with factual information, get a feel for the corporate culture, the interview process, and how their values and mission fit your personal ones. This will also help you formulate smart questions discussed later. LinkedIn and Glassdoor are great sources for insider information.

3. **From head to toe, appearance matters.** This is more than just the clothes you wear! This is the time to sweat the small stuff. 70% of employers claim that they don’t want applicants to be fashionable or trendy. Be neat and simple. Avoid any potential distractions (i.e., cover your tattoos, skip heavily scented perfumes, colognes, and body products) because before you have a chance to say a word, your appearance (or odor, whether nice or not) will certainly be observed.

4. **Practice your responses, but do not sound rehearsed.** Avoid clichés at all cost. You want not only to sound original, but also genuine in your responses. Even if you have prepared a good answer to tough common interview questions, pause before responding as if giving thought to your response.

5. **Ask smart questions.** Many of us may prepare for questions that might be asked of us, but fail to think about what questions to ask your interviewer. Smart questions demonstrate your interest and knowledge in the position and company. For example you may ask, “I understand that the company has a mission to decrease its carbon footprint, but what role does this position play in that initiative?” Normally you are given the opportunity to ask questions toward the end of an interview so this is your moment to make a lasting final impression.

Thankfully, you do not have to prepare for your interview on your own. The Office of Career
Services is here to support you with this process through mock interviews, individualized career coaching, and more. Email careerservices@apus.edu to get more tips, tricks, tools, and career advice today!

Contributed by Cathy Francois

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Careers in Public Service: Is this Opportunity for You?

Do you have a passion for and are committed to a career in public service? Do you want to work for a federal agency but haven’t found a way in? The Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) program may be for you! Recently conferred graduate students, or current graduate students nearing their conferral date, with a history of academic and professional excellence as well as a commitment to public service, have a unique opportunity each year to apply to the PMF program.

Established in 1977, the PMF program is a leadership training ground for the federal government and provides the selected PMF finalists with a full salary, benefits, changing assignments, rotations, and feedback on their work. While PMF finalists are pre-qualified at the GS-9 level, participating agencies may also initially appoint at the GS-11 or GS-12 levels. Upon being selected as a PMF finalist, individuals are given one year to apply for fellows positions within the government. Once the fellowship is complete, fellows are afforded the opportunity to transition non-competitively into a permanent and full-time position within the federal government.

While the dates and timeline for this upcoming PMF cycle have not yet been made available, you may review the PMF website for additional information regarding this opportunity. In addition, the Office of Career Services can provide you with information regarding this program and keep you informed of information as it becomes available. The Office of Career Services may be contacted at careerservices@apus.edu.

Contributed by Ronald Kling
Honor Societies Grow and Kick Off a New Year

With spring membership behind us, the Office of Student and Alumni Affairs would like to congratulate the hundreds of new members to the university’s seven recognized honor societies: Alpha Phi Sigma, Delta Mu Delta, Epsilon Pi Phi, Golden Key, the National Society for Collegiate Scholars, Pi Gamma Mu, and Sigma Iota Rho!

Updates and Membership Drive Information:

Alpha Phi Sigma – The spring membership drive officially came to an end on May 30 with approximately 160 new applicants! All payments have been verified and the package is in route to headquarters for processing. Membership packets will be shipped back to APUS for distribution in 4-6 weeks. The fall membership drive will begin in early October 2012.

Delta Mu Delta – Delta Mu Delta’s first membership drive is complete with nearly 110 new members! The fall membership drive will begin in early October 2012.

Epsilon Pi Phi – The spring membership drive is complete with members receiving their electronic certificates directly from Epsilon Pi Phi headquarters. The fall membership drive will begin in early September 2012.

Golden Key – The spring membership drive is complete with around 550 new members! The fall membership drive will begin in August 2012.

The National Society for Collegiate Scholars – The spring membership drive is complete with close to 450 new members! The fall membership drive will begin in early August 2012.

Pi Gamma Mu – The spring membership drive is nearing completion. Pi Gamma Mu headquarters is processing applications and preparing to ship membership packets. New members should expect their packages in the next few weeks! The fall membership drive will begin in early August 2012.

Sigma Iota Rho – The Sigma Iota Rho membership drive is complete with six new members. The next membership drive will begin in early September 2012.

Looking forward to joining an organization this fall? Please note: All membership drives will take approximately 30-60 days after the application deadline for memberships to be completely processed through our office and the organization’s national headquarters. We will then disseminate any membership materials as soon as they are available.

Have questions regarding student organizations or membership drives? Contact the Office of Student and Alumni Affairs at studentaffairs@apus.edu.

Submitted by Amanda Wilson
2012 Graduates Make News in Nation's Capital

The university celebrated the achievements of more than 7,000 graduates at its recent 16th annual commencement in Washington, DC. The ceremonies on June 15 drew students and families representing 29 countries and all branches of the U.S. military, further expanding our global network of nearly 26,000 undergraduate and graduate alumni worldwide.

The academic accomplishments of our graduates have always been noteworthy. This year, a wide variety of both print and broadcast media covering news in our nation’s capital also took notice. Five different students were featured by local and national magazines, newspapers, TV, and radio stations covering our 2012 graduating class and commencement festivities:

WPGC 95.5 FM Radio interviewed graduate Colt Tallent and student Victoria Whitecotton highlighting the service project sponsored by Golden Key International Honour Society on June 14. The interview was taped and aired the Sunday after commencement.

Graduate Gregory Proctor, who arrived from Afghanistan just 72 hours before receiving his degree, caught the attention of CBS TV affiliate WUSA 9. He was interviewed at commencement just as he was joined by several of his fellow firefighters arriving by fire truck. The segment ran during that evening’s local news broadcast.


The Falls Church Patch profiled military history graduate and university ambassador Al Tyas, a local resident.

The Gazette featured the annual community service project at the Crescent Ridge Adult Day Center in Oxon Hill, MD, on June 14.

The Martinsburg Journal published a photo of the commencement processional and a news brief recapping highlights of the graduating class of 2012.

Several other noteworthy commencement moments featuring university members also took place: University President and CEO, Dr. Wallace E. Boston and keynote speaker, Lt. General (Ret.) Kenneth W. Hunzeker, President of ITT Exelis Mission Systems, commended the 2012 graduates for their accomplishment given the diverse challenges faced by working adults in completing their studies. Dr. Boston recognized two students with a President’s Award for outstanding academic achievement, including graduates SSA Michael J. Collett and Ms. Karisa Taylor. In addition, The James P. Etter Award for Outstanding Creativity and Innovation was presented to faculty member Daniel Hahn, and board of trustees member Lt. General (Ret.) Julius Becton, Jr. received an honorary doctorate.

Even though the news coverage of commencement has come to an end, the legacy of the outstanding class of 2012 is just beginning. Many noteworthy acts and amazing achievements are surely yet to come from these remarkable graduates!

Contributed by Isabelle de Vooght

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Announcing the Class of 2012 University Ambassadors

We are delighted to announce that this year, 27 individuals were invited and have joined the University Ambassador Program, a voluntary organization of vocal supporters of the university and its overall mission to provide access to quality education for working adults. Their dedication to higher education and to upholding the values of the university is what exemplifies these individuals as leaders.

New members are located around the world - from the D.C. Metro area to California, from Afghanistan to Japan. They’re representative of the diverse groups that comprise our outstanding community of learners. They include active-duty military, veterans, military spouses, teachers, sustainability advocates, business owners, public service professionals, honor society members, student and alumni award winners, and more.

University faculty and staff are pleased to congratulate and welcome the following Class of 2012 University Ambassadors:

- Lou Brown
- Brent Danberry
- Rachel Day
- Ruben DelValle
- Eric Castellanos
- Michael Collett
- Nnamdi Emenogu
- Dennis Hazelwood
- Robert Hooker
- Ashley Jennings
- Scott Manning
- Yvonne Mays
- Sarah Myers McNair
- John Minahan
- Biborka Prindle
- Gregory Proctor
- Spring Rosati
- Neverley Shoemake
- Chris Solomon
- Marc Steenbergen
- Gregory Strong
- Karisa Taylor
- Michale Thomas
- Phillip Vandenberg
- Lindsay Vani
- Victoria Whitecotton
- Paul Zeranski

Established in 2008, the University Ambassador Program is a close-knit group comprised of current and former students who demonstrate leadership and scholarship. New members are considered on an ongoing basis, and students and alumni are encouraged to visit the University Ambassador Program webpage or email ambassadors@apus.edu for more information.

Contributed by Nadya Garcia-Batiz

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Credit Where Credit is Due: A New Guide to Transfer Credit

Will credit I earned at my previous school transfer? Is there a maximum amount of transfer credit I can receive? Why didn’t I get credit for a science course I took previously? We know transfer credit award can be confusing! To help you through the maze, we recently launched the Transfer Credit Results Resource to tell you why credit might be awarded, what our policies are, and how military credits may transfer. It also details the most common reasons that a course might not have transferred to your degree with our university.

Simply select your academic level (undergraduate or graduate) to begin! On the right side of the page, you can choose from topics such as how credit transfers into the general education, core, major, or elective sections of your degree.

Another great feature in this resource is the "What Am I Looking At?” section. Here you can see a sample academic plan and get general information about what typically transfers to a certain area of a degree. For example, did you know that transfer credit is never awarded for the final program requirement? Or that omnibus credit is only awarded in the major or concentration section of a degree? Browse through this feature to get a better understanding of how the transfer credit evaluation process works and why your credit transferred in the way that it did.

In addition to the new transfer credit results resource, you also have two other great resources at your disposal: our main transfer credit pages, which cover both general and detailed information about the transfer process, as well as a whole team of folks standing by to answer your questions. Simply email them at creditaward@apus.edu or call 877-755-2787 to speak with a student support specialist.

Contributed by Sarah McNair

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Student Spotlight on James Welch: Taking that Educational Leap!

Life mission: 1) travel the world, 2) learn as many languages as possible, 3) serve our nation, and 4) jump out of helicopters!

AMU student James Welch doesn't take the phrase "living life to the fullest" lightly. Not only is he a "seasoned individual" who still finds the time and energy to commit to daily tasks, such as jumping from helicopters and firing weapons, he is also a consummate world traveler.

Born in Boston and raised in New York, James wasted no time hitting the road with dreams of experiencing the world. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and immediately began a life of traveling. He’s traveled Europe extensively and has visited countries near and far such as, India, Turkey, Israel, Sweden, Thailand, and Cambodia—just to name a few! He has also deployed on tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan.

While traveling, James witnessed the birth of his children and became a sworn interpreter for the Belgian Federal Court. Wherever he went he immersed himself in his surroundings to learn the culture, communicate, and teach others. He has learned to speak and comprehend over nine different languages and has taught language courses at the Communal School of Neupre Belgium, Aywaille École Fondamentale, and the Academy of Languages.

While instructing a multitude of courses across the globe, James realized that he would have to continuously expand his own personal knowledge as well. After finishing his bachelor's degree early in 2012, he enrolled in two different master’s degree programs at different universities: one in international relations at Oklahoma University and another in intelligence and security management here at AMU. While engaged in scholastic endeavors, James still holds on to his passion for the Marine Corps and works hard to transfer that passion into his own classrooms. Now on his seventh course and with a 4.0 GPA in both programs, James strides forward at a truly remarkable pace.

So what's next? James has future plans working with Lockheed Martin and hopes of obtaining his J.D. and Ph.D. to teach at the university level. While there are certainly still many new travel adventures and great things to come from James, he can still proudly say, life mission accomplished!

Contributed by Stephanie Matro

Alumni Spotlight on Fabian Consbruck: The Success of Discipline and Commitment

Focus, determination, discipline, and commitment are words that neatly encompass Fabian Consbruck’s life journey up to this point. Fabian (Bachelor's of Arts in Psychology ‘10) has overcome many obstacles to get where he is today. He was born in Bolivia and moved to South Florida at the age of four where he lived in relative poverty unsure of the direction his life would take him. The stresses of poverty took its toll on Fabian who admits he “was a trouble maker and did not really have much direction as an adolescent.” This all changed once he began to look
forward and consider his future.

After graduating from high school, 18-year-old Fabian spontaneously enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, married his girlfriend, and began assuming adult responsibilities as a freshly minted high school graduate. He was fatefully assigned to the occupation of Mental Health Technician which, unknown to him at that time, would influence the rest of his life.

By enlisting in the U.S. Air Force, Fabian learned an enormous amount about himself and found the direction he was lacking as a youth. Perhaps most fundamentally, he "discovered that discipline and commitment would lead [him] to success." This realization led him to pursue his degree at AMU, and through sheer determination and focus, he was able to satisfy his degree requirements in just over two years! This amazing accomplishment was no small feat; during these two years he served on his base’s Honor Guard, was deployed to South America as a medic, and witnessed the birth of his first child, a son.

After leaving the U.S. Air Force, Fabian began to explore other higher education opportunities, looking specifically at doctoral programs en route to his dream career, Clinical Psychologist. Now one step closer to this dream, Fabian has completed the first year of his Doctor in Psychology (Psy.D.) with an emerging concentration in Forensic Psychology at the Florida Institute of Technology. He has also recently welcomed a second healthy baby boy to his family! After finishing this degree Fabian will seek a commission in the U.S. Air Force as a Clinical Psychologist, and in so doing, will connect two of the major threads running through his adult life and bring to fruition his initial realization that "discipline and commitment would lead [him] to success."

Contributed by Courtney Bousquet

Staff Spotlight on Michelle Maldonado: Passionate Inspiration

Look no further for inspiration! Find it in Michelle Maldonado. Her passion, resilience, and mastery of energy through the Japanese art of Reiki are only some of the outstanding qualities that make up our truly remarkable Associate Vice President (AVP) of Corporate & Strategic Initiatives.

Wherever she goes she exudes an elegant poise and a commanding, effervescent personality that immediately grabs your attention and makes you yearn to hear every word she utters. This -- a result of a finely tuned "Ki" or "chi," along with tempered business acumen and a profound knowledge base -- is undoubtedly what makes her so very good at her job.

"My goal is to help people to become the best versions of themselves," Michelle says. "To help inspire and motivate them because everything else flows from that."

Michelle's career path to AVP of Corporate & Strategic Initiatives came circuitously after several different career changes. A graduate of Barnard College at Columbia University, and later, George Washington Law School, she began her career path in law, first as a corporate lawyer specializing in mergers and acquisitions at two high-profile D.C. law firms: McKenna Long & Aldridge LLC, and Reed Smith LLP (Formerly Hazel & Thomas, LLP). She later transitioned to a position as senior legal counsel and business development director at AOL, LLC (Formerly America Online, Inc.), where she accrued additional experience developing partnerships and forging corporate developments.

While she excelled in these positions, the long hours and stresses of legal work began to wear on Michelle’s soul. She decided to take a break and eventually found a new calling here at American Public University System in March 2008. Though she does not have a classical background in education, she does have a "strong genetic background" in academia: Her parents and grandparents have all been educators.

Coupling this genetic academic proclivity with Michelle’s experiences in corporate relationship development was like striking a career chord in perfect harmony. She believes “education helps change lives, and the two together -- corporate relationship development and education -- were just a gift.” As AVP of Corporate & Strategic Relationships she can now “help people become the best they can be.”
This mantra is what drives Michelle and her team to make amazing connections in the corporate world in order to bring affordable educational opportunities to their constituents. “Don’t think about all the tactical steps at first,” Michelle says. “The biggest question is, ‘How do you get inspired to get there? What inspires you?’ This is what we do on our team; we inspire people to become motivated and believe and see options.”

As a result of this kind of thinking, she and her team have had a hand in several fantastic partnerships that have wide reaching impacts. Among these partners are corporations and associations like Walmart (the largest big-box retailer), Tuition Advisory Services (TAS), BAE Systems’ Intelligence & Security Sector, and Sun-Maid Growers of California. Most recently, the team has entered into partnerships with Dollar General (the nation’s largest small-box retailer) and the Airforwarders Association (AFA). As a special project, they have been working with the Hispanic Information and Telecommunications Network, Inc. (HITN) to produce series of weekly episodes highlighting online learning opportunities for Latinos in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Michelle and her husband of 20 years live in Northern Virginia with her 8-year-old son. She really loves “goofy things like roller skating,” being in nature, and amateur photography. She is a Reiki Master Teacher trained in the Usui Shiki Ryoho method. Michelle is also a writer, having penned a children’s story, *Abba’s Heart*, that now has a number in the Library of Congress.

We can certainly look to Michelle to inspire us with her passion, energy, and multiple successes, but you might wonder, “What inspires her?” She draws her inspiration from important figures like the Dalai Lama, Oprah Winfrey, and Facebook CEO Sheryl Sandburg. To Michelle, “[They] all have this sense of self-awareness, self-empowerment, and giving back that runs through each of them” – virtues she strives to embody every day in her life and career.

Contributed by Kate Anderson

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Milestones

Every edition we invite students, alumni, faculty and staff to share their most recent milestones with us, so that we may share their news with you! We hope that you celebrate with them in these moments, as much as we have. If you would like us to celebrate a milestone in your life, please use our online form and submit your milestone today.

Class of 2000

John Deppen (Master's in Military Studies with honors) received three accolades in recent months: the Community Service Award from the Shikelimo Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Lewisburg, PA; the American Legion Americanism Medal from Post #957 in New Berlin, PA; and the American Legion Oratory Medal from Post #25 in Selinsgrove, PA.

Class of 2010

Ryan Desmond (Bachelor's in Sports and Health Sciences) has been accepted into the Doctor of Chiropractic program at Life University and is concurrently pursuing licensure as a registered dietitian.

Class of 2011

Justin Barlow (Bachelor's in Environmental Studies) passed his LEED Green Associate Credential exam, attended Project Wet Program Training with the Maryland DNR, and completed an associate degree and a certificate in Occupational Safety and Health with the Community College of Baltimore County. He has also been selected as a board member for the Commission on the Environment for St. Mary's County and is starting a new GS-13 position with the Department of State as an Environmental Protection Specialist.

Liz DeMarco (Master's in History with honors) was recently accepted into the higher learning Ph.D. program at Northcentral University, in Prescott, AZ. She hopes to teach history on the collegiate level and credits "AMU and the wonderful professors and advisors I had there not only for aiding me in obtaining my Master's in History, a major life accomplishment in its own right, but also for equipping me with the skills and confidence to go on to pursue this highest level of academic scholarship."

Tamara Thiersmann (Bachelor's in Environmental Studies with honors) became engaged to her best friend Andrew on June 23. The couple is planning a Nov. 3, 2012 wedding. She also has started a blog, Looking Forward to Going Backward, and has begun writing a book.

Class of 2012

Rob Ahlers (Master's in Homeland Security with honors) took command of the 1483rd Transportation Company, a medium line haul truck company in the Ohio Army National Guard, on April 15, 2012.

Gloria Balding (Bachelor's in International Relations) recently became the 10 p.m. news anchor at ABC affiliate WHSV in Harrisonburg, VA.

Jonathan Bell (Master's in Homeland Security with honors) was promoted to major
Jonathan currently serves as the Joint Security Forces squadron commander at Soto Cano Air Base in Honduras.

Rachel Day (Master’s in Education with honors) and Colt Tallent (Bachelor’s in Intelligence Studies with honors) were photographed by Military Times EDGE Magazine, along with other graduates, faculty, and staff for its July feature on best military-friendly colleges and universities.

Christopher Callisto (Bachelor’s in Intelligence Studies) has been accepted to the University of Missouri School of Law for the fall of 2012.

William T. Coxe (Master’s in Criminal Justice with honors) has been promoted to Patrol Sergeant for the Christopher Newport University Police Department in Newport News, VA, and achieved his certification in cyber forensics from the National White Collar Crime Center.

Eugenie de Silva (Bachelor’s in Intelligence Studies) recently won two first-place awards for papers presented at a Tennessee Academy of Sciences (TAS) East Region Conference. “The Scientific Method and the Intelligence Community” won best paper in the history of science category, and “The Use of Biometrics to Determine Deception” won the best paper in the psychology category.

Aline Kasliner (Bachelor’s in Intelligence Studies) is celebrating her recent graduation and finding her dream job as a customer reinvestment analyst for Caesars Entertainment.

Michael McHenry (Master’s in Security Management with honors) was a part of a nationally syndicated, and now Emmy Award-winning, television show Last Shot with Judge Gunn. He joined the show as a probation officer, supervising participants to ensure that they remained clean and sober while moving through the recovery process. Michael was featured on the show conducting home visits, compliance checks, and giving courtroom testimony, as well as supervising drug testing, courtroom security, and background investigations. He would like to “thank the security management faculty for making my education an important part of this journey.”

John E. Pennington (Master’s in Emergency and Disaster Management with honors) was recently accepted and has enrolled in the Executive Leaders Program at the Naval Postgraduate School’s Center for Homeland Defense and Security. He is currently director of the Department of Energy Management in Snohomish County, WA, and is an adjunct faculty member for the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD.

Gregory Proctor (Bachelor’s in Fire Science) was featured by Washington, DC, CBS Affiliate WUSA-TV during Commencement 2012. The local evening news broadcast also highlighted the arrival of members of his Capital Heights, MD fire and rescue division to the ceremony.

Christopher Sheline (Bachelor’s in Military History with honors) is thankful for the inspiration his wife and son provided, propelling him to graduate with honors after many life changes and challenges. He now plans to attend graduate school and hopes to become a professor, saying, “I gained this ambition solely by the impression left on me by the many great instructors here at AMU.”

Albert Tyas (Master’s in Military History) was featured in an article “Falls Church History Buff Made Career of His Interest” by the Falls Church Patch highlighting his career at the Library of Congress and his recent graduation.

David Wise (Bachelor’s in Emergency and Disaster Management with honors) was accepted into the master’s in accounting program at the University of Southern New Hampshire.
Rob Dale (Master’s in Emergency and Disaster Management) published the article “Best Practices for Outdoor Warning Sirens” in *The IAEM Bulletin*. He developed the piece with the Workgroup for Warning Systems, which comprises a team of emergency managers, meteorologists, and social scientists.

Scott Cook (Bachelor’s in International Relations) is proudly celebrating his 20-year anniversary in the U.S. Air Force and his recent promotion to Master Sergeant.

Bryant Jackson (Bachelor’s in Transportation and Logistics Management) was recently hired as a production supervisor for a manufacturer in his hometown after returning from a contract position in Afghanistan. Bryant credits his experience in the U.S. Marine Corps and his education with helping him attain this position. He is now able to spend more time with his wife and daughter and plans to pursue a master’s degree here at AMU.

Joshua Jones (Bachelor’s in Criminal Justice) received news that his essay “Addressing the use of sexual violence as a strategic weapon of war” will be published in the fall issue of *The Dialectics: Journal of Leadership, Politics, and Society*. It is his first publication.

Michael Colver (Master’s in Homeland Security) recently celebrated his 30th wedding anniversary and his retirement after 30 years in law enforcement.

Craig Mercier (Bachelor’s in Homeland Security), after two years of work on the concept and philosophy, published *The Book of Craigisms*.

Gary Ryman (Master’s in History) has published *Fire Men: Stories from Three Generations of a Firefighting Family* through Tribute Books. It is available in paperback and e-book formats.

Victoria Whitecotton (Bachelor’s in Middle Eastern Studies) accepted a nursing assistant job at the Amarillo, VA healthcare facility, had one of her beautiful paintings hung in an art gallery in Amarillo, TX, and helped organize ShimmyMob, a flashmob belly-dancing event for charity.


**Faculty and Staff**

Julie Atwood (Director of Assessment) and Jennifer Stephens Helm (Vice President, Institutional Research and Assessment) presented “How to Ensure Academic Quality and Integrity of Online Courses and Programs While Measuring Digital Learning in the 21st Century” at the *Association for Institutional Research Conference* in New Orleans, LA.

Phylise Banner (Director, Teaching and Curriculum Quality) presented “The Learning Resource Metadata Initiative (LRMI)” at the *Society for Technical Communication Summit 2012*.

James Barney (Professor, Legal Studies) acted as lead organizer for “European Lawyers Milan Event,” an annual conference held in Milan, Italy.

Dr. Bob Barrett (Professor, School of Business) is traveling the world, disseminating new ideas, and practicing what he teaches. He recently presented “The Viability and Movement of Intellectual Capital in Learning Organization” and “Competitive Advantage and Core Competences,” at the 4th Annual European Conference on Intellectual Capital in Finland, and in recent months, he has presented in China, Italy, Spain, and Russia. Soon, Dr. Barrett will be presenting in England, Spain, Australia, and Columbia, after which he will return to his home in Peru.

Jennifer Batchelor (Program Director, Transportation and Logistics Management) was interviewed by the *Military Logistics Forum* for a feature on “educating logisticians.”

Dr. Wally Boston (President and CEO), Dr. Phil Ice (Vice President, Research and
Development), and Melissa Burgess (Director, Research Methodology) were honored at the Distance Learning Administration Conference with the Best Paper Award for their paper "Longitudinal Analysis of Variables Influencing Student Retention in Online Environments."

James Brown (Adjunct Professor) has been selected to present "Best Practices: Teaching Science Online to Military Members and Veterans" at the 18th Annual Sloan Consortium International Conference on Online Learning in Lake Buena Vista, FL, during October.

Melissa Burgess (Director, Research Methodology) co-authored a chapter, "Digital worlds and shifting borders: Popular culture, perception, and pedagogy," for the textbook New Media Literacies and Participatory Popular Culture Across Borders.


Anna Ciampa (Assessment Associate, Analysis), Jessica Powell (Assessment Associate, Student Learning), and Julie Atwood (Director of Assessment) presented "Putting It All Together: Using a Variety of Assessments and Processes to Improve Program Level Assessment" at the Association for Institutional Research Conference in New Orleans, LA.

Jennifer Cramer (Professor, Anthropology) successfully defended her Ph.D. dissertation, "Scrotal Color and Signal Content among South African Vervet Monkeys (Chlorocebus Aethiops Pygerythrus)."

Everett Corum, (Program Director, Humanities, Religion and Philosophy) presented "Sam Shepard's 'Buried Child' under Charles Darwin's Microscope," at the LIT CRI '12 Conference in Istanbul, Turkey.

Dr. Valerie Davis (Associate Professor, Security and Global Studies) and James Green, Jr. (Manager, Intelligence and National Security Relationships) presented at Howard University’s Camp Cyber 2012 on what it takes to succeed in and after college. Dr. Davis conducted a cognition and critical thinking exercise while James discussed critical thinking and analytical reasoning in relation to jobs in the intelligence community. Dr. Davis was also recently elected membership chair to the International Association for Intelligence Education.

Patrick Deely (Instructor, Information Technology) presented "Engaging Students with Technology" at the Teaching and Learning with Technology Symposium at Wilmington University.

Fabiola Hurtado De Mendoza (Education Coordinator, Military Outreach) won the Nuestra Belleza Bolivia contest and represented Bolivia at the Miss Pan-American International beauty pageant in June.

Dr. Joseph DiRenzo (Professor, Intelligence Studies) participated in a bi-national meeting hosted by the U.S. Coast Guard with Canadian officials about strategic emergency preparedness in the Great Lakes region. He also published "Making Every Dollar Count" and co-authored "Proceedings," which was featured in the U.S. Coast Guard’s Year in Review.

Samantha Evans (Associate Professor, School of Business) presented "Technology in the Classroom" at the Marketing Educators’ Association Conference in Long Beach, CA.

Dr. Larry Flegle (Professor, Sports Management) was nominated as Internet Radio Personality of the Year by the 2012 AMG Heritage Awards. One of his Internet radio stations, Cowboy Gospel NETradio, has been nominated for Radio Station of the Year. The Artists Music Guild was established to help in the understanding, appreciation, and advance of the contributions of the arts to American culture. The final five nominees in each category, along with the winners, will be announced during the awards show in November in South Carolina.

Brian Freeland (Program Director, Sports and Health Sciences and Sports Management), Lisa Miller (Instructor, Sports Psychology), and Larry Flegle (Professor, Sports Management) co-presented "Using Internet Radio as a Sport Management Educational Tool" and "Harnessing the Power of Alumni in Building a Sports Management Program" at the 2012 North American Society for Sport Management Conference in May.

William Gillum (Associate Professor, Education) presented "Integrating Practical Technology into Social Studies" at the University of Riverside Global Conference on Education in Ontario, CA.

Dr. Robert Gordon (Professor, Reverse Logistics Management) will present a webinar, "Managing Virtual Mega Projects," hosted by the IT Metrics and Productivity Institute. He also recently published a paper, "Reverse Logistics Management: Beyond 3.4 defects per million."

Daniel Hahn (Adjunct Instructor, Emergency and Disaster Management) will present "Developing a COAD as a Step Towards Community Resilience" at the International Association of Emergency Managers 60th Annual Conference and EMEX in Orlando, FL, in October 2012.

Dr. James Hess, III (Professor, Intelligence Studies) recently published the book Improving Intelligence: A Counterinsurgency or Counterterrorism Environment through the Application of a Critical Thinking-Based Framework.

John Hough (Vice President, Community College Relations and Outreach) and Mike Gunia (Director of Facilities) were interviewed by the Hagerstown Morning Herald about the new APUS Finance Center and solar array.

Dr. Phil Ice (Vice President, Research and Development) and Melissa Burgess (Director, Research Methodology) co-published the chapter "Using the Community of Inquiry Model and Bloom's Revised Taxonomy to Support 21st Century Teaching in Multi-User Virtual Environments" for Transforming Virtual World Learning: Cutting Edge Technologies in Higher Education.

Dr. Russell Kitchner (Vice President, Regulatory and Governmental Relations) hosted a Magna Publications webinar, "The New Regulatory Realities: Eight Strategic Issues for Distance Education," on July 24. He also recently met with White House Deputy Director of Domestic Policy Mark Zuckerman to discuss the implications of President Obama's veterans' education policy directives.

Kevin Metcalf, Esq. (Adjunct Professor) was nominated and selected to attend the "Computer Forensics in Court – Prosecutors" class held at the National Computer Forensics Institute.

Paul Michaels (Adjunct Professor, Security Management and Public Administration) earned his professional certified investigator certification with ASIS International and will be recognized for his achievements at the ASIS International 58th Annual Seminar and Exhibits on Sept. 11.

Phil McNair (Vice President, Strategic Initiatives) presented "Online Education: A Preferred Choice for Students with PTSD?" at the Distance Learning Administration Conference in Jekyll Island, GA, and presented "The War on Terror and Veterans" at the North Carolina Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates Conference in Wrightsville Beach, NC.

Michael O’Shea (Professor, English) presented "HCE/LIVES: A 35-Year Perspective on the King of the Wake" at the XXIII International James Joyce Symposium in Dublin, Ireland.

Lee Ostrom (Professor, Emergency Management) and Cheryl Wilhelmsen (Professor Emergency Management) recently co-published a book, Risk Assessment: Tools, Techniques, and Their Applications.

Chad Patrizi (Dean, School of Business) will have a feature article discussing M.B.A. programs catering to military students published in an upcoming issue of Military Advanced Education: Journal of Higher Learning for Today's Servicemember. He was also interviewed, with Professor Larry Flegle, by Distance Education Report for an upcoming feature on the perception of online M.B.A. programs by hiring managers.

Dr. Thomas Phelan (Program Director, Emergency and Disaster Management, Fire Science) presented "Emergency Management and Tactical Response Operations: Bridging the Gap" at Elmira College in May.

JiJi Russell (Wellness Coordinator) recently served as a lead trainer promoting healthy foods and yoga at CraftWorks, a center for craft, art, sustainable living, and creative learning in Charles Town, WV.

Stephen Schwalbe (Program Director, Political Science) won an essay competition sponsored by the Air Command and Staff College Distance Learning Program. He submitted "Grading Discussion Board Posts," and will present his paper at the Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, AL.
Linda Kay Silva (Director, English and Communication) received her second Golden Crown Literary Award for book two, *When an Echo Returns*, in her thrilling Echo Branson Investigation series.

Don Sine (Professor, History) recently spoke at the U.S. Naval Academy, where he presented “The role of the USN Seabees during the Tet Offensive at Khe Sanh in the Vietnam War.”

Leslie Sine (Senior Data Research Specialist) presented “Just the Facts—A Review of a Course Fact Book in Data Visualization” at the Association for Institutional Research Conference in New Orleans, LA.

Dan Soschin (Associate Vice President, Interactive Marketing) presented “Social Media Content that Delivers Results” and “Using SOAP API to Integrate with Marketo” at the Marketo Summit 2012 in San Francisco, CA.

Delena Spann (Professor, Security and Global Studies) presented “Fraud Analytics in the 21st Century” at the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists Conference in Chicago, IL.

Jennifer Staley (Director, Instructional Design), Dr. Phil Ice (Vice President, Research and Development), and Melissa Burgess (Director, Research Methodology) co-published “Using Semantic Mapping to Align Curriculum,” a manuscript for the International Journal of Emerging Technologies in Learning.

Fred Stielow (Dean, Libraries) was recently appointed to the board of trustees of the Anne Arundel County Public Library System. He also appeared as a panelist for “Electronic Course Materials” at the WCET Leadership Summit: New Directions for Digital Learning Content in Salt Lake City, UT.

Jim Sweizer (Vice President, Military Programs) was interviewed by Military Times Edge for an article titled, “50 most popular colleges: Where active-duty troops are using their TA benefit.”

Anne Venzon (Instructor, History) was interviewed by Stand at Ease for a radio segment on military leadership. While on the air, she also spoke about her book *Leaders of Men: Ten Marines Who Changed the Corps*.

Liz Wallace (Senior Manager, Data Research), Melissa Burgess (Director, Research Methodology), and Phil Ice (Vice President, Research and Development) co-authored a Sloan Consortium article “Using Text Analytics to Enhance Data-Driven Decision Making.”

Jim Werbaneth (Adjunct Professor) recently published “Unlocked Potential: The Legacy of the War of 1812 to the United States” on the Grog News blog.

Brad Wiles (University Archivist) was recently appointed to the executive board of the Arts and Humanities Alliance of Jefferson County (AHA!) for a term ending in 2015. The university archives also received an AHA! Community Grant to help support the upcoming Panhandle Documentary Heritage Preservation Workshop, which will be held Oct. 12-13, 2012, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the APUS Academics Center Library in Charles Town, WV.

Dr. Teresa Williams (Instructor, Faculty Development) co-presented a session titled “Fishbowl Dialogue Session: Ensuring Integrity of Online Learning” at the Distance Learning Administration Conference 2012 in Jekyll Island, GA.

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