

1. Program Highlights: This was a year of transition for the Department of Military Science. It saw the departure of Department Chair Major Ed Ripp and the arrival of Lieutenant Colonel Scott Bolstad. It also realized the goal of opening a formal partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Other personnel changes include the addition of Mr. David Ratz as the department's supply technician. With him comes the addition of a permanent federal employee position to the university, replacing an active duty soldier. Major Robert Kehoe returned from his assignment in Iraq in late 2005 and returned to his duties as Assistant Professor of Military Science in January 2006. Finally, this spring Major Doug Ferrel was deployed with the Army Reserve for a one year tour at Fort Rucker, Alabama. During SY 05-06, we commissioned seven Lieutenants into the United States Army. At the close of this school year, we noted a significant rise in our cadet population and project that our growth will continue this fall. We conservatively estimate that by the end of calendar year 2006, the Department of Military Science will have at least 100 cadets.

In the coming year, Master Sergeant Michael Butcher will retire from Active Duty and continue working with the Department as a contracted employee. His continued presence will ensure stability as our program grows. Major Gary Thompson will assume Major Ferrel's duties and continue as the Executive Officer for the program.

Last year, our students at the Leader Development and Assessment Course achieved the second highest quality rating within our brigade of 21 midwestern universities.

2. Partnerships: At the close of the 2004-2005 school year, our goal of opening a partnership program with UW-Stout seemed doomed. Fortunately, the hard work initiated by MAJ Ed Ripp and continued by Lieutenant Colonel Scott Bolstad paid off. While the partnership is with UW-Stout, he recruited students for the program at both UW-River Falls and UW-Eau Claire. By the end of the school year he had added 13 contracted cadets from the Stout partnership to our program. The new partnership will commission its first cadets in 2007 and projects continued growth as National Guard soldiers from that area return from deployments and reenroll in school. Lieutenant Colonel Bolstad is working to secure additional staffing at UW-Stout to build his recruiting efforts.

More recently, we received approval to teach a new class at both UW-Marathon County and UW-Marshfield. The class, MSL 250, will focus on basic leadership and skills. MSL 250 will target second year students on those campuses who have a desire to transfer to UW-Stevens Point. It also prepares them for the Leadership Training Course (LTC), an ROTC course offered at Fort Knox, KY that qualifies students to bypass the first two years of MSL courses. Successful completion of LTC also carries with it the promise of a two year full tuition scholarship. We believe this program will provide another opportunity for continued higher education for many people who could not otherwise obtain a Bachelor's degree.

3. Student-centered excellence: During the 2005-2006 school year, four of our seven graduates won the Chancellor's Leadership Award, all who were nominated. Two additional students won the University Leadership Award, one student won the Who's Who Among Students In American Universities, and one received the Albertson Medallion Award. Mr. Dylan Abler, one of the Chancellor's Leadership Award winners, was also named the UW-Stevens Point George C. Marshall Award winner. Mr. Abler

traveled to Virginia as UW-SP's representative to the Marshall Award seminar, where he attended roundtable discussions on national security with the nation's senior military leaders.

4. Student Research: During the summer of 2005, our cadets participated in different training events around the country. Students learned tactical parachute skills, tactical mountaineering, and a variety of other mentally and physically challenging tasks. Other students attended leadership internships at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and in the Republic of Korea. Still others participated in Cadet Field Training at West Point, NY, or in Exercise Robin Sage, the "final exam" for Special Forces trainees.

5. Diversity: During this school year, the department refined its diversity goals and identified specific actions to be taken over the coming year. Our department desires to be the model for equal opportunity. We are expanding our recruiting efforts into traditional minority communities by working with the National Guard and their recruiting staff. Further, we are working to bring minority military leaders to campus to discuss opportunities for personal and professional development through our programs.

6. International and study abroad: Last summer one of our cadets interned with a Platoon Leader in the Republic of Korea. This year one of our cadets will train in Germany as part of an Army Medical Department internship for ROTC cadets interested in pursuing graduate study in the medical field.

7. Community service (civic engagement) of students/ faculty: Faculty are frequently called upon to speak at Memorial Day and Veteran's Day ceremonies. During this year, Master Sergeant Michael Butcher, Major Gary Thompson, and Major Robert Kehoe all spoke at such ceremonies. Further, Major Kehoe served in Iraq as a battalion operations officer and Major Doug Ferrel is now deployed to Fort Rucker, AL compiling "lessons learned" from Iraq and Afghanistan.

8. Improving our work/living/study environment: During this year the university completed the installation of a new fire alarm system for our work areas. Our department also continued discussions in pursuit of a new facility attached to the HEC/MAC. Finally, the rappel tower was repaired this year. In addition to providing realistic training opportunities to our cadets, the tower is also used by other campus and community organizations.

9. Outlook for the upcoming year: Currently the program has 34 contracted students (students who have contracted with the Army to complete ROTC). This is the largest number of contracted cadets this program has experienced in over ten years. There are 13 other students who are in various stages of the contracting process. This increase will lead to an increased number of commissioned officers in subsequent years. Current projections for this upcoming year show us commissioning 13 officers, which will enable us to meet our commission mission. This is the highest number of commissions in a single year for this program since 1990.