

Woohoo! We made it to graduation! I know I share with my faculty and staff a sense of accomplishment and pride in completing the education of 967 cadets on Saturday with an amazing and special graduation ceremony. Big shout out to the director of graduation, Lt Col Sarah Isbill and her deputy, Lt Col Colleen Kellam. They did an AMAZING job under completely extraordinary circumstances.

We can now turn our attention to the remaining classes and planning for this summer and next fall. The faculty will continue to teach our lower three classes remotely until the end of the semester. We have several teams that are ramping up their planning for the next phase of our response, and I look forward to sharing with you and the faculty as these plans come together.

There have been a few non-graduation and COVID related accomplishments this last week. For the second year in a row, the USAFA to Test Pilot School pipeline was announced. Col Brian Neff (Electrical and Computer Engineering) is excited to help select our brightest STEM cadets for this exciting opportunity.

We were also pleased to learn that AU press has digitally published the second volume of the Harmon Lecture series: "The Harmon Memorial Lectures in Military History, 1988-2017." A print volume will follow once we emerge from the current national health crisis. This years-long effort was led by Dr. Mark Grotelueschen, who has taught in both the history and military strategic studies departments, who was lead editor. He oversaw Dr. John Abatiello (History and CCLD), Dr. Doug Kennedy (History), Lt Col Craig Morris (History), Dr. Chuck Steele (History) and Dr. Bob Wettemann (History) who each served as section editors. <https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/AUPress/Display/Article/2144535/the-harmon-memorial-lectures-in-military-history-19882017/fbclid/IwAR1zPccvR6YqP4DdN8-JDcjvhZM7FRJPT8wFKV7p791odhXNI7A6VCGia8U/>

Upcoming Events:

- 27 April: Dean's Time with Class of 2021, 22, 23
- 22 May: Classes end for Class of 2021, 22, 23
- 26-29 May: Finals for Class of 2021, 22, 23
- 1 Jun: Superintendent's Brown Bag with DF members

Highlights:

- **Creates Leaders of Character**
 - o The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Region V Virtual Student Paper had the following winners from the Department of Aeronautics against a team from 19 institutions from 10 states:
 - 1st Place – C1C Eric P. Hembling and C1C John M. Wirth: "Hypersonic Crossflow Investigation on the HiFiRE-5 Elliptic Cone"
 - 2nd Place – C1C Mohamed Ferchiou: "Methane Dependence on Temperature"
 - 3rd Place – C1C Sam Spangler and C1C Nate Lavery: "Development and Application of a Dynamic Stability Evaluation Technique for the NASA Orion Program"
 - Team 2nd Place – C1C Jack Funk, C1C Ryan McDermott, C1C Ahsan Tariq and C1C Will Walker: "Engine Preliminary Design for a Stealthy Supercruising Tactical Tanker"
- **Improves Processes**
 - o The UAS Center cadre of industry and active duty sUAS operators will re-hack their flight currencies by NLT April 28th, 2020 allowing them to execute UAS 200/400 during

summer, albeit at a greatly reduced throughput due to the lack of qualified Cadet instructors and social distancing.

- USAFA Systems Engineering Program and Mechanical Engineering Department hosted a COVID-safe end of year morale event for both of the program's majors, funded entirely from faculty, spouses, and graduate donations.
- **Establishes an World Class Reputation**
 - Dr. Jill Harris (Econ and Geoscience) had her paper accepted to the Journal of Political and Military Sociology. Dr. Tom Phelan (Civil Engineering) had his manuscript accepted for publication in Critical Reviews in Environmental Science and Technology. C1C Erica Lee (Chemistry) had a paper published in the Journal of Breathe Research based on work completed during her CSRP at Wright-Patterson AFB.

V/R,
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LINELL A. LETENDRE
Brigadier General, USAF
Dean of the Faculty, U.S. Air Force Academy