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CADET SUMMER TRAINING

For most college students, summer means the start of a relaxing three months, filled with beach days and catching up on sleep. Not for Pirate Battalion Cadets though; the start of summer brought the beginning to a number of unforgettable training opportunities. All rising seniors participated in Advance Camp, while rising juniors got to attend Basic Camp, both held at Fort Knox, KY. In addition, other Cadets had the opportunity to attend follow on training such as Air Assault School, various internships around the US, and Culture Understanding and Language Proficiency trips to foreign countries. Pirate Battalion Cadets routinely get offered paid, career broadening programs each summer, and this edition of the Pirate Scroll focuses on highlighting the opportunities available to inform prospective Cadets. No other organization in the world can compete with the US Army’s efforts in development of its soldiers. Pirate Battalion Cadets are head and shoulders above their civilian counterparts due to the fact these trainings do not just develop better Army officers, but better students, better people, and the best leaders of tomorrow.

REMARKS FROM THE PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE

Pirate Battalion Cadets fully immersed themselves in summer military instruction, with the majority of that training taking place at the Basic and Advanced camps at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Some cadets led the JROTC summer program or were able to practice their Army leadership at bases throughout the country, while others traveled around the world to places like Latvia, Jordan, Comoros, and Djibouti. The ROTC cadre have also been busy preparing for the next school year and leading summer training at Fort Knox, including Ms. Jackson and Mr. Frederick who spent the entire summer in Kentucky!

I am honored to be a part of the Seton Hall University and the Pirate Battalion team. I’d like to publically thank LTC Trinidad Gonzalez for leading Pirate Battalion to where it is today, and for setting us up for success in the future. I feel truly fortunate to step into such a strong organization. We will continue to use this newsletter, Facebook, and our website to provide information to anyone interested in the program. If you are a Pirate Battalion alum, feel free to keep your contact information updated and submit a nomination for the Hall of Fame: http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc/alumni.cfm

Needless to say, we are eager to get started with another semester of military science courses, community building, and leadership exercises. Feel free to contact us if you’d like to participate.

MAJ Russell Lemler
CONGRESSIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Participating in Cadet Professional Development Training (CPDT) granted me unprecedented access to various networking opportunities, experience working as part of a political office staff, and a unique chance to participate in the governing of our republic. This summer’s training opportunity is at heart an internship as a Legislative Intern within a congressional staff. What this means in practice is applying the lessons learned as a Cadet on a daily basis in a highly professional setting. Working on a congressional staff means not only working as a team, but communicating, thinking critically, and taking the initiative, to keep the office functioning at a high level in support of the congressman or woman that it supports. These are all things that the Army expects of its leaders and their teams, so this internship is an excellent chance for aspiring leaders to put their skills to the test. As a Legislative Intern, one performs a wide variety of tasks and works in a high-intensity and often hectic environment. Whether you’re running to the next policy briefing, or answering phones, rushing to get a co-sponsorship to the house floor, or simply attending an after-hours reception, one can expect to work in a challenging, changing, and exciting environment on Capitol Hill.

As important as the everyday experience as an intern is, enough simply cannot be said about the opportunities that arise just being in Washington D.C. and working in the Capital. Over the course of just one month in Washington, CPDT participates: met the Commandant of the Marine Corps, Under Secretary of the Army and countless other General Officers, attended briefings on national security, listened to the Speaker Ryan talk on multiple occasions, toured the White House, Central Intelligence Agency, Arlington National Cemetery, the Pentagon, as well as attended numerous other functions that were only possible as a Capitol Hill Intern and Cadet in ROTC.

There is simply no better place than D.C. to network and learn, and CPDT offers the opportunity to do both of these things. Those looking for careers outside of politics or active duty in the Army have just as much to learn in Washington compared to those who are interested in politics and current affairs. Congress holds hearings on virtually every topic imaginable; from healthcare to science and technology, to agriculture, there is an organization and a following for every single issue represented in Washington. CPDT offers all of these benefits to those who attend this internship and can be reasonably summed up as one of the best resume builders for young professionals from every job sector.
Wisdom from Washington

Having a network of mentors is possibly the most valuable asset a future officer can utilize in their own development. With this in mind, the Pirate Scroll staff reached out to a number of military leaders working in Congress and the Pentagon in regards to pieces of advice they thought would be most impactful to us. The inaugural Wisdom from Washington section is guidance straight from the highest level of military leadership, personally written and given to Pirate Battalion Cadets.

LTG Gary Cheek
Director of the Army Staff

“Strive to be #1 in your BOLC class. If you go in with the mindset of “just getting by”, you will be doing a disservice to your troops by being a middle of the pack graduate. You owe it to your future soldiers and their families to make yourself the best possible 2LT. Also, commit yourself to becoming a Company Commander- No business in the world can compete with the honor of commanding 100+ US Soldiers.”

General Paul J. Selva
Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

“I’m going to tell you the story of when a 3 year old boy opened the window of a military aircraft mid flight. Thankfully, an officer happened to be walking down the aisle when the boy reached up and pulled the fateful red handle. The 1LT threw himself against the window and managed to close it, then very sternly told the boy “Do NOT touch that again”. The plane landed, and the 1LT walked back to the boy, took him out of his still furious mother’s arms, and walked him around the plane; showing him every nut and bolt of the aircraft. That boy grew up to be the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, that boy was me.

Whenever my father tells the story, he refers to that 1LT as being a hero twice that day. The first, for throwing himself against that window, and the second, for showing the boy around the plane when he had no obligation or expectation to do so. I expect you all to be leaders such as that; to have the courage to sacrifice for others, but to also take the opportunity to do something special and change someone’s life for the better, even though it’s not your direct responsibility. The fact that you sought out leadership in ROTC means that you inherently want to do good in this world and make a difference. And you will.”

Colonel John Howerton
Chief, Army House Liaison Division

“To answer the question, “Are leaders made or born?”, I believe the path you follow makes you. I think that everyone has the same traits locked inside them, but it is the crucibles and challenges, the watching and the learning, that are the keys to unlock those leadership traits. By challenging yourself, you will be put in a position to develop your own leadership style in a way that is genuine. Be yourself and do not impersonate anyone or else they’ll see right through you. Take pieces from, and learn from mentors and leaders you admire, however always be true to yourself.”
Simply put, you need to "know" your people. Leaders that care about their people build strong bonds and trust one another. The Army moves at the speed of "trust" built on the foundation of care and empathy for one another. The tactics, techniques, and the application of our systems will come through education and experience, but they are applied by people, that are led by leaders. Leaders that are of high moral character, based in a set of values, that are agile, adaptive, and innovative in meeting the intent of our commanders."

“The most important thing a leader does is build their team. In that sense you are like a coach, responsible for the success or failure of your team. Most young leaders understand that role. But don’t ever forget that in addition to being the Coach of your team (platoon, company, battalion, etc.) you are also a player and part of a larger team. Support your coach (Co. Commander, Battalion Commander, etc.) and be a good team player. Finally, you are also a Teammate with your fellow platoon leaders. Be a good teammate and help your fellow Platoon Leaders to be successful. Ask yourself every day - have I been a good Coach, Player, and Teammate - if you can answer yes to all, you will have a rewarding career.”

“First, there may be times, especially in your initial few months, when it is necessary and advised to explain your decision making and thought processes to your senior NCOs. You will be constantly evaluated upon arrival and tasked with projects and missions meant to test your abilities and prepare you and your team for combat. By making a well thought out assessment and sharing your intellectual framework and insights with the more experienced members of the unit, you accomplish a few important things: showing the willingness to seek counsel after you think through the process, creating buy-in from key stakeholders, and providing an opportunity to defend your analysis. Furthermore, this shows your competence and care for the team you are leading.

Second, relationship building is incredibly important from the time that you arrive at your unit. This includes building your team of fellow Lieutenants and pre-command Captains. A personal and professional relationship with your peer group sets the foundation for sharing information, learning from setbacks, and provides an outlet for venting frustrations. I recommend that this group extends to the senior First Lieutenants and pre-command Captains. Often times, these more senior company-grade officers have organizational and institutional knowledge that will help you better integrate to the unit, learn the personalities of the commanders and field grade officers, and provide recent information concerning your Soldiers and their strengths and weaknesses.”
The purpose of the Basic Airborne Course is to qualify soldiers and Cadets in the use of the parachute as a means of combat deployment, as well as to develop self-confidence and leadership. Airborne Soldiers have a long and distinguished tradition of being an elite body of fighting men and women — people who have always set the example for determination and courage. If you get selected for this training, know that you will be held to the highest of standards as well, and you might get to join the ranks of the select few in our Battalion who have gotten their wings in the past.

Air Assault School

This summer I had the opportunity to attend Air Assault School, which is a 12 day course that prepares Soldiers for air mobile operations. During the course we were trained and evaluated on combat assault, sling loads, rappelling, physical fitness, and various other critical skills. We also were required to complete an obstacle course and two-mile run on zero day before officially being allowed to enter the course. In addition, other graduation requirements consisted of successfully completing written, as well as hands-on examinations, sling load tests, and a 12-mile foot march in under three hours with full combat load.

This course had a unique, tedious, and tense environment. We started the course with nearly 270 Cadets and soldiers, while only 160 graduated. To be apart of the half that did graduate is a special feeling I will not soon forget. However, a few other moments stood out for me as well. The first was the packing list; it was incredibly tedious and if you left out a single item, you would be a zero day drop out from the course. I couldn't tell you how many Cadets and soldiers left that first day. The 12 mile ruck was the worst experience I had while at Air Assault due to the humidity in Georgia; 49 soldiers failed the march and 13 of them were critically injured. With that being said, I loved the course and learned a number of skills that I can bring to my future units as well. I can not say how glad I am to have earned the wings and made SHU ROTC proud! Can Do Never Quit!

-CDT Walton MSIII (Pictured above, middle)
The most highly selective program available, the Combat Diver Qualification Course in Key West has less than fifteen Cadet slots per year, and most of the other slots are filled by Special Forces soldiers. The training is seven weeks of physical and mental exhaustion, so preparation above and beyond the basic requirements of the school is mandatory. To have the best chance in passing CDQC, a Pre-CDQC course at West Point, NY is highly recommended. Pre-CDQC training includes an APFT and pool events, including a 25 meter sub-surface swim, a 50 meter sub-surface swim, clump retrieval, two minute water tread, weight belt swim, underwater knot tying, ditching and dawning of equipment, treading water for five minutes with a weight belt and twin 80 air cylinders, and drown proofing.

Pool week is where students become very familiar with pushing themselves to their limits while remaining calm and accomplishing the tasks at hand. Following pool week, students start using open-circuit scuba and conduct a 130-foot deep dive, ship bottom searches, and underwater navigation swims. Next, they are introduced to closed-circuit LAR V rebreathers. During advanced closed-circuit, cadets use DPDs (Diver Propulsion Devices) and Zodiacs in tandem as a 12-man team to accomplish missions. Finally, there is spec-ops week where Cadets jump out of C-130’s with Zodiacs on SOCEPs (Special Operations Combat Expendable Platforms) and land in the water. Needless to say CDQC is not for the faint of heart, but it offers some of the most challenging and rewarding training that a Cadet can participate in.

Mountain Warfare School

Mountain Warfare School is a two-week course taught by the Vermont National Guard at Ethan Allen Firing Range in Jericho, Vermont. The training is designed to make you an expert in mountain operations, offering a summer as well as a winter phase. Mountain Warfare School is physically exhausting, as well as mentally demanding, requiring soldiers to climb and rappel down mountains, tie rope systems to make bridges, navigate the land by day and night, and learn how to care for and evacuate casualties on harsh terrain.
This summer Cadet Command decided that my destination for CULP would be Comoros, which is made up of four Islands located just north of Madagascar. In November when I found out that I was going to this country no one ever heard of, I had no idea what to expect. Google searches came up with fragmented pieces of information, painting a very blurry picture of what awaited me on this mission. I knew only three things; I was going to this country, it was an Islamic country, and I was going to be teaching members of their military English. With these three things I set off on my journey, my imagination drifting off into scenes of Somalia from the film Black Hawk Down, wondering if the towns would be similar to those in the movie. Seeing the requirements, and noticing that it required a yellow fever and typhoid shot, also made me wonder what the disposition of the country would be; my thoughts on Comoros drifted between an island paradise and a third world country. Not knowing what to expect, but nonetheless excited, I embarked on my journey to be immersed in a completely different world, and prepared to take as much as possible out of the experience.

After approximately 50 hours of travel to Comoros we finally arrived. After getting settled in we headed straight into the cultural week of our stay. We met with a coast guard lieutenant for the Comorian military who helped us with everything. We travelled around the largest island, Ngazidja, participating in various activities such as swimming with dolphins, playing in soccer games, touring the coast guards facility, and attending the English school’s graduation. The following week consisted of us preparing to teach English lessons to their soldiers. I was apprehensive at first, but with the help of our Defense Language Institute liaison, it was made very easy. I discovered an appreciation for teachers because at times it was not easy; some students got distracted and everyday was a new challenge to keep them focused. However overall, they were amazing and were all very friendly and for the most part willing to work hard. Just spending time with them was such a great experience, that it really wasn’t about teaching English, but building relationships with a foreign military.

I think the biggest takeaway both in what I learned and how I can apply it as an officer is that, happiness is a relative state of mind. Going into the country, especially upon first arrival, I was expecting people to be somewhat sad in a country not nearly as developed as the US, but they weren’t. Everyone I met was happy and content with living in the present and not wishing for things they did not have. The Comorians just lived, for lack of a better word. They lived day to day, keeping what they viewed most important in life close to their hearts; family and God. In their eyes that’s all they needed, and even with access to knowledge of how other country’s citizens live, it’s all they wanted. When I become an officer I will use their attitude to make sure I keep what is truly important in perspective and try to help my soldiers find happiness in whatever we do.

-CDT Antonini MSIII (Pictured above, white shirt)

"A young person who has visited one hundred countries is like a person who is 100 years old"
-One of CDT Antonini’s Comorian Students
This summer I had the unique opportunity to participate in Project Go, a Department of Defense funded program attaching ROTC cadets from all services to civilian study abroad tours. I traveled to Jordan this summer to study Arabic alongside 15 Northeastern University Students and 14 Cadets; 2 Airforce, 1 Navy, and 11 Army. My trip not only taught me a great deal about the country of Jordan and the language, but also afforded me the unique opportunity to work with my counterparts in the civilian world and those from the different services as well. Studying in the Middle East was a life-changing experience and I am very grateful and honored to have had this opportunity.

I studied Modern Standard Arabic and Levantine Dialect at Qasid Institute in the capital city of Amman for two months, but my time was not spent solely within the city. We travelled throughout the country visiting many historical sites and meeting incredible people. We spent time on a farm with Syrian refugee workers, we walked among Roman ruins within eyesight of the Golam heights, saw the sunset over Israel and Lebanon, snorkled miles from the Egyptian border, toured the ancient city of Petra, stood atop Mount Nebo overlooking the Promise Land, swam in the Dead Sea, and much more. It was truly humbling and eye-opening to realize that you stood in a nation of relative peace when only miles away wars were being waged. Nothing can quite capture the feeling of sitting among and getting to know people who had lost everything when fleeing their country or of sitting at a Café looking out over regions you’d only heard about in the news. The people of Jordan and their culture are truly beautiful and they taught me so much about not only the region, but myself as well.

As a future Army Officer it is important to have cultural understanding and awareness and nothing teaches you these competencies more than being thrust into a world completely adverse to your own. This program, and programs like it are important in developing leaders with cross-cultural competence and excellent language skills. I am honored to have participated in this program and I hope to see many more cadets take advantage of it. Learning a language, adapting to a strange culture, and seeing such incredible sights is an experience we all, as officers, should one day go through.

-CDT Bennett MSIV
In the heat of Kentucky, Basic Camp is a 30-day training course held at Fort Knox designed to instill leadership in future officers, while also giving insight to the life of an enlisted soldier. Brand new officers know very little about the hardships that the enlisted soldier goes through, which is why drill sergeants and new 2LT’s were attached to each platoon. Marching, saluting, customs, courtesies, and the 21st century soldier competencies were greatly emphasized throughout the entire summer training.

Loading off the busses and grabbing all equipment to carry up a hill on Day 0 was the very first test that carried on to Day 30. The Drill Sergeant on Day 30 came up to me and asked, “Do you know the true reason why we did what we did once you came off the bus? We wanted to see which true leader would help out his very last battle buddy struggling to carry their equipment up the hill despite our screaming and the scorching heat.” It was so simple yet no Cadet from any regiment passed this first test.

Becoming a better soldier and leader was definitely achieved at Basic Camp with the help of Major General Hughes. MG Hughes left Cadets with some very important lessons that will be used not only in the military, but also in the civilian world. MG Hughes told us that above all, we must learn how to fix ourselves. “Failure is the most important lesson taught to young men and women.” He spoke to the fact that If one does not experience failure, how is it possible to overcome it? Another important point brought up was the fact that “GPA does not determine great officers. For instance, would you rather be led by a student with a 4.0 from Georgetown where his or her parents paid all of the tuition, or an orphan who put himself through Georgetown with two scholarships and three part time jobs?” MG Hughes also stressed the fact that while society is about money, the Army is about values. People in society want to be paid for their acts, and this is not the case in the Army. The Army Values are important as they define character traits that help develop and maintain discipline. It allows soldiers to do the right thing and continue to, even when deciding between a hard yes and an easy no.

Memorable events such as the high ropes course, entering the CS gas chamber, qualifying at the live range, numerous days in the field, the briefing by Major General Hughes, and multiple days of getting smoked by drill sergeants will not be forgotten. Due to this, Cadets who did not have the opportunity to go through this program to witness experiences from the enlisted side, may have more trouble relating to and leading their future soldiers. Attending this summer training was very beneficial and rewarding; teaching me a number of lessons, and certified me in skills that I will need come Advance Camp next summer, so I am extremely thankful to now be ahead of the curve.

-CDTs Kim & Chalhoub, MSIII (Pictured above/right)
Advance Camp is the culmination training course that puts each Cadet's skillset and knowledge to the test. The course is 30 days long, and encompasses a number of different evaluations ranging from standardized testing, to a 12 day long field exercise that assesses leadership under pressure as well as tactical knowledge. In the pre-field time, we spent time completing events such as the Confidence Course, Field Leaders Reaction Course, Rappel Tower, weapons training and live round qualification. Cadets also get a full day course on combat medicine with practical exercises, a day spent learning and conducting simulated Call for Fire missions, and numerous briefings from high level officers. Throughout the 30 days, Cadets have the opportunity to work with their counterparts from all over the country, from all walks of life with different bases of knowledge. Personally I learned just as much from discussions with Cadets from other schools about their battalions, as well as from various cadre members, as I did during the formal portions of training.

It was a truly eye opening experience being completely immersed in military life for 30 days. I attended a month long CULP mission to Albania last year, however Advanced Camp brought a completely different military atmosphere. The first half of camp preparing for the field is a very hectic time, where each day begins with an early wake up and does not end until 2100 at night. However, that is also a time where you truly start getting to get to know your fire team better, and you slowly but surely build relationships with the rest of the platoon. The next part is the field training, where you learn more about yourself compared to any other part of Advance Camp. You fight through extreme heat, rain storms, unknown opposition forces, and constant changes to keep you off guard. However in the end, your battle buddies always pick you up and you find it in yourself to complete the mission no matter what. Before you know it, you’ll be nearing the end of camp, and ready for your role as an MSIV running the battalion.

-CDT Osika MSIV

CDT Osika

“The fondest memory I have from camp was day 8 in the field. We had just completed a mission that took us nearly 10 miles up and down mountains I had no idea Fort Knox even had, and it was about 105 degrees; needless to say we were hurting and hungry. Suddenly, a massive storm rolls in. For the next 2 hours, it down poured and lightning started hitting near on our position. Sounds miserable right? Not necessarily. Our platoon was forced to get into a low laying area for safety, but instead of complaining about the weather, our platoon burst out singing the Army Song as we were getting soaked. I’ve never felt such camaraderie with a group of people I hardly knew just a week prior. No matter what the weather, we embraced the suck and smiled through it. No ropes course, confidence course, or team building activity was able to foster the same level of esprit de corps we had that day. All the Army needed to supply was some awful weather and nothing to comfort ourselves but our battle buddies.”
I was unfortunate to come during block leave so I was not able to see a full forced company, however with a smaller group I was able to become more personal and learn from the NCOs and soldiers. During quick talks at PT or during PMCS on Mondays was enough to build interpersonal tact and learn about the Signal Corps as well as the lifestyles of enlisted personnel. I highly suggest every Cadet that is able to apply for CTLT, and regardless if they get to shadow a branch that they want or do not want, they will definitely learn things that will expand through all branches as a Platoon leader and higher. Signal Corps is not in my top 3 choices, but by being with this unit for just 20 days has taught me more as to what an active duty lifestyle is and the challenges officers face and how to overcome them.

-CDT Keyes MSIV (Pictured above, red shirt)
Over the summer I learned the application of Cultural Property knowledge in theatre level operations. The Cultural Property Protection Instruction Proficiency (CPPIP) internship at Ft. Drum's Cultural Resources department provided myself and three other Cadets the opportunity to work with renowned archeologist Dr. Laurie Rush, collect data on cultural property in the Baltic states for the J9 at NATO, and learn about the history of Ft. Drum’s interaction with the Iroquois nations. CPPIP takes the critical thinking and cultural awareness skills officer Cadets learn and applies these skills to realistic scenarios that ROTC simply cannot not replicate.

When I arrived at Watertown Airport outside Ft. Drum, I expected to designate categories of cultural property in a host nation of my own choice and prepare a brief on that nation's culture. However, on the first day, Dr. Rush explained that NATO’s J9, the Civil and Military Cooperation department, had reached out to her and asked that interning Cadets collect data on Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, and Finland to create No-Strike-Lists for an upcoming NATO training exercise. The other Cadets and I quickly realized the significance of our project that would facilitate a real NATO training exercise. Over the course of a month, other Cadets and I were exchanging emails with NATO officers, reading unclassified OPLANs, and building spreadsheets on Cultural Property to support the development of a cultural flashpoint scenario in the upcoming joint NATO exercise.

After seeing that NATO's J9 had contacted Dr. Rush, I appreciated the extent of her influence around the world. Dr. Rush acts as Ft. Drum's primary liaison with the Iroquois Indian Nations to coordinate with representatives from each nation so that training and vehicle traffic impacts ancestral burial grounds and cairns as little as possible. Her important role at Ft. Drum meant that myself and the other CPPIP Cadets were introduced to installation managers and state of the art facilities on an almost daily basis. Cadets on this internship can expect to attend Environmental Officer classes, work at archeological dig sites at historic property such as the LeRay mansion, and go on rapport-building visits to Oneida Nation representatives.

These experiences also provided myself and the other cadets with an understanding of the 10th Mountain Division's organization, community housing, and relationship with the civilian population outside Ft. Drum. This perspective provided an opportunity to understand garrison life on a post in a way that I had not during my time in the Army ROTC.

The CPPIP internship best serves cadets interested in cultural awareness in the context of large scale military operations. CPPIP provides broad experience with the concern of the U.S. Army's impact on the environment and local population that the platoon leader shadowing internship CTLT and Airborne and Air Assault schools available to Cadets do not. I am extremely thankful to have had this opportunity to attend CPPIP and I urge Cadets planning on entering the combat arms branches or the Military Intelligence to apply for this competitive internship.

-CDT Chideau MSIV (Pictured above, middle)
Pirate Battalion Cadets are presented with many opportunities for summer training; some mandatory, some voluntary, some highly coveted. For those cadets wishing to get a “sneak peak” of life in the US Army as a 2LT, the Cadet Troop Leader Training program offers a few weeks of valuable experience with a line unit; however, for some students the opportunity to immerse themselves in the Army can also be an opportunity to utilize and explore their academic degree as well. For engineering and science majors, the Engineering Internship Program (EIP) offers hands on experience with all aspects of the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Most Cadets are well acquainted with the traditional military understanding of line engineering units; everything from sapper school to bridge construction and destruction are common topics of conversation around the Pirate Battalion Cadet lounge. However, few Cadets are aware that there is a second side to the Engineer Branch which places a wide variety of officers in USACE districts and divisions around the country supporting military construction projects, navigation projects, and a whole host of diverse civil works functions. The EIP offers Cadets the opportunity for a first hand survey of all the Corps has to offer our.

In my four weeks with the Wilmington District of the Army Corps I was afforded the opportunity to assist in and observe on all functions of the Wilmington District. This district encompasses a diverse area of responsibility which covers almost all of the state of North Carolina and some sections of neighboring states. Employees of the Wilmington District support and facilitate military construction at Fort Bragg, Seymour Johnson Air Base, and the Marine Ocean Terminal Sunny Point. These three installations are some of the busiest facilities the Army and Air Force operate and support vital national security missions at home and abroad. The Wilmington District also conducts extensive hydrographic surveying operations with a fleet of over a dozen survey vessels in order to establish an underwater picture of one of the most dynamic coastlines on the eastern seaboard. These survey enable dredging operations by the district's fleet of shallow draft dredges or enables contracting for North Carolina's deep draft ocean ports at Wilmington and Morehead City. The district also manages the regulatory requirements of North Carolina’s navigable waters, issuing permits for private development and construction projects in order to ensure sustainable and environmentally appropriate growth in their area of responsibility. The Wilmington District also administers and operates a system of dams for water management and power generation throughout the state. These vital resources help provide reliable water and power to the citizens of North Carolina and Virginia. In addition to these major operations the district supports endangered species management for plants and animals, engineering aspects of emergency management during manmade and natural disasters, and the cleanup and disposal of chemical waste and unexploded ordnance at previously used defense sites.

On a long list of summer training opportunities for cadets, the EIP stands out as a unique experience for diverse exposure and professional development for cadets with STEM interests. The experience has expanded my understanding of the US Army and the Corps of Engineers and has helped develop my knowledge of military engineering applications and capabilities. I can not wait to share these experience with the Pirate Battalion cadets over the coming academic year and help them grow as leaders and future US Army officers.

-CDT Porter MSIV (Pictured above)
To stay updated on what our Cadets are up to during the school year, follow us on Facebook at…
www.facebook.com/SetonHallROTC/

or on Instagram at…
“SHU_PIRATEBATTALION”

And don’t forget to visit our website at…
http://www.shu.edu/offices/rotc/