

MINUTES
BOARD OF VISITORS ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 21, 2012
WASHINGTON, DC

1. DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER'S REMARKS. Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) David Jones, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the United States Military Academy (USMA) Board of Visitors (BoV or Board) stated for the record that the BoV operates under the authority of US Code Title 10, Section 4355. The Board is an Advisory Board subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS. Chairman Frederick Malek called the meeting to order at 1203.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS. Meeting packages included an agenda and briefing slides. Copies of the 2001 Federal Register Final Rule on Federal Advisory Committee Management, the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), and BoV Overview briefing slides were available for those desiring additional copies.

4. ROLL CALL. For the record, a quorum of the Board was present. A list of attendees, annotated to reflect members arriving late or departing early, is appended to these minutes.

5. MR. LAMONT'S REMARKS. Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Mr. Thomas R. Lamont, addressed the BoV on the challenges of the Army's drawdown and budget reductions. The Army has a current strength of 569,000. It will reduce to its authorized military strength of 547,000 by the end of FY13 and to 490,000 by the end of FY17.

The Army plans to accomplish this through normal attrition and "natural levers," such as slowing promotion rates, reducing selection rates, and offering voluntary separation incentive pay (VSIP) and voluntary early retirement authority (VERA). Some soldiers may be asked to leave active duty, but the Army hopes to transition them into the Reserve component to benefit from their experience. The Army must also reduce its civilian workforce by 8,700 by the end of FY12. Most of this reduction will be through normal attrition. However, the drawdown gives the Army the opportunity to reshape itself to meet the National Defense Strategy.

The Budget Control Act indicates that the Department of Defense must reduce its base budget by \$487 billion over the next ten years, with the Army absorbing a little over one-third of that amount. If there is no agreement by January 1, 2013, the cost to the Army over the next five years will be an additional \$134 billion. This would force the Army to reduce its population by an additional 100,000 soldiers.

West Point will be affected by the drawdown and budget reductions. There will be a modest reduction in the military and civilian staff and faculty. However, there is no plan to reduce the authorized number of cadets, the number of international cadets at West Point, or the presence of West Point cadets overseas.

6. BOARD BUSINESS.

a. NEW MEMBER WELCOME. Mr. Malek welcomed two new members of the BoV, the Honorable Mike Conaway from Texas and the Honorable Steve Womack from Arkansas.

b. ELCTION OF 2011 CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN. A quorum being in attendance, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas was unanimously elected as Chairman and Congressman John Shimkus of Illinois was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman of the 2012 BoV.

c. OTHER BOARD BUSINESS. Wednesday and Thursday, June 13-14, 2012 were selected for the Summer Visit and Meeting dates at West Point.

Mr. Brock raised the issue of the number of BoV meetings each year. Following discussion, it was decided that the BoV would meet three times per year. On even years, two meeting would be held at West Point and one meeting in Washington, DC. During odd years, two meetings would be held in Washington, DC and one meeting at West Point. In addition, members of Congress and BoV members were encouraged to visit West Point outside of these scheduled meetings.

Congressman Shimkus suggested that during the Summer Meeting visit, Board members observe summer training, tour infrastructure, and meet instructors and family members. In addition, Congressman Shimkus suggested that the visit include a briefing by Admissions on the incoming class and class composition goals to better understand USMA accessions and provide help with minority recruitment. Mr. Malek suggested that the BoV visit the new barracks construction site to better understand the project scope.

For the fifth consecutive year, the BoV Annual Report was submitted to the President on time. The 2011 USMA BoV Annual Report was signed and delivered to the President's office on 27 December 2011. All BoV members were mailed a hard copy and a copy was sent to select Army Leaders. Mr. Brock took the lead on preparing the Annual Report, and through his efforts and the assistance of Mr. Malek and all Board members, submission of the Annual Report remained on schedule.

7. USMA UPDATES.

a. MISSION, VISION, PRIORITIES, INITIATIVES. LTG Huntoon, 58th Superintendent of the United States Military Academy at West Point, focused attention on the mission of USMA and the education, training, and inspiration of the Corps of Cadets. Leaders of character produced by the Military Academy continue to provide selfless service to the nation.

Cadet Andrew Rodriguez is an example of the type of cadet produced at West Point. He won the 2012 Sullivan Award given to the finest amateur athlete in the United States. It was the first time in 60 years that a West Point cadet received this award. The last cadets to receive the award were Heisman Trophy winners Blanchard and Davis. Cadet Rodriguez was also the recipient of the

Campbell Award, given to the finest scholar-athlete in the NCAA. He is a leader, a tremendous student, and a remarkable athlete.

West Point has proposed to build its first new barracks in 40 years. USMA would like to have it open by 2015. The current barracks are overcrowded, lack HVAC, and have safety, plumbing and electrical problems that cannot be addressed without significant modernization. Once the new barracks is open, renovations on existing barracks can begin.

The United States Military Academy Preparatory School (USMAPS) opened its new location at West Point in July 2011. Since its opening, there have been no issues concerning violations of NCAA rules and regulations or the encroachment of cadet candidates on the main post.

Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) is emphasized and taken seriously at West Point. USMA follows a comprehensive approach to address these issues with all cadets, staff, and faculty. West Point has 10 victim's advocates as well as several layers of effort that address sexual assault and sexual harassment issues. The Academy continues to look for ways to prevent and respond appropriately to incidents. The Corps of Cadets has also taken ownership of this issue and addresses it additionally within their ranks.

A 2011 DoD task force on sexual assault and sexual harassment noted that USMA was out of compliance in three areas: education of first responders, speaking to the senior class, and having a comprehensive approach to sexual assault and sexual harassment training. First responder education and speaking to the senior class were addressed within two weeks of the report. On April 13, 2012, West Point submitted its comprehensive curriculum to DoD.

West Point continues to expand its international focus. Over the past ten years, USMA has increased the number of cadets who spend time abroad in cultural immersion programs. These experiences help cadets prepare for the volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous environments they will face as officers. Many of these experiences are paid for with funding raised by the Association of Graduates, reducing the fiscal burden of the Army. USMA currently has 54 foreign cadets from 33 countries completing its 47-month curriculum. These exchanges are invaluable in developing relationships that provide important future benefits.

West Point has provided its cemetery with additional funding and support and is currently reviewing its cemetery operations. The Superintendent remains responsible for the cemetery's administration and operation. The Academy is closely following the work of the National Cemetery Task Force to ensure its procedures meet standards. The master plan contains additional columbarium space.

For the past three years, USMA has met class composition goals in all areas except African Americans. It has consistently exceeded the goal for females. West Point's composition of females is 16.01%, which exceeds the Army's percentage for females in the active component officer corps, which was 13.54% on March 5, 2012. The Academy remains sensitive to changes that may take place in the future Army and is prepared to adapt its composition goals accordingly. In addition, USMA remains sensitive to the composition of its staff and faculty to ensure that it can appropriately influence and develop the Corps of Cadets.

b. RESOURCES. COL Stafford, USMA Chief of Staff, updated the Board on FY2012 funding. From FY08 to FY11, USMA had an increase in funding in its base budget but additional funding for unfinanced requirements (UFRs) decreased. This parallels the Army budget as it relates to Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) dollars.

FY12 shows a downward trend in the USMA base budget. This movement reflects the transfer of \$12 million for mess hall operations to Army Sustainment Command. The transfer of mess hall operations will allow West Point to better meet cadet nutritional requirements and meal quality.

A reduction of an additional \$6 million from the base budget is a reflection of the civilian pay cut that accompanied the drawdown of personnel. This drawdown affected mainly administrative staff. Seventy-one positions were cut. Almost all personnel have been successfully placed in other positions, although remaining personnel may face a reduction in force (RIF). West Point is currently examining positions for another ten percent reduction to help the Army reach its budget cap and pay for required positions, such as installation Victim's Advocates. To meet this target, USMA must identify functions that it will no longer perform.

West Point met its DoD military positions cap number in January, completing its grade plate review in FY11. The review identified positions to re-grade at lower ranks. USMA has not identified which military positions will be lost through the Total Army Analysis (TAA) process. However, the Academy believes that, if civilian faculty are reduced, the number of military faculty must grow.

West Point has a request moving forward through HQDA to OSD to authorize 21 civilian faculty and 12 laboratory technician positions. The Academy has the funding to pay for these positions but needs the authorizations.

In the past, additional dollars were used for force modernization, barracks furniture, lab equipment, barracks HVACs, and other important expenses. This year's unfinanced requirements (UFRs) include \$1.9 million for summer training, \$4.2 million for laboratory operations, and \$1.0 million for information technology modernization.

8. REMAINING BOARD BUSINESS. No other business was discussed.

9. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further comments, Senator Hutchison moved to adjourn at 1420. The motion was seconded by Congressman Shimkus and unanimously agreed upon. This concluded the 2012 Organizational Meeting of the USMA Board of Visitors.

Certified by:

SEN Kay Bailey Hutchison
Chairman
USMA Board of Visitors

LTC DAVID A. JONES
LTC, US Army
Designated Federal Officer,
USMA Board of Visitors

APPENDIX TO THE MINUTES:

ROLL CALL

Congressional Members:

Senator Jack Reed	(arrived at 1321) (departed at 1329)
Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, Chairman of the BoV	
Senator Richard Burr	(arrived at 1209) (departed at 1318)
Congressman Mike Conaway	(departed at 1320)
Congressman Maurice Hinchey	(arrived at 1227)
Congressman Jerry Lewis	
Congressman John Shimkus, Vice Chairman of the BoV	
Congressman Steve Womack	(departed at 1220)

Presidential Appointees:

Mr. Frederick Malek
Mr. Randolph Brock
Ms. Elizabeth McNally
Ms. Sue Fulton
MG Errol Schwartz

The following members were absent:

Senator Mary Landrieu
Mr. Patrick Murphy

Based on the BOV attendance, a quorum was present.

Other attendees:

The Honorable Thomas Lamont, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (ASA-M&RA)
COL Lawrence Wark, ASA-M&RA
LTC Robert K. McGee, ASA-M&RA
MAJ Conrad Jakubow, SAFM-BUL
MAJ Josh Campbell, OCLL

Congressional Military Legislative Liaisons

Ms. Carolyn Chuhta, MLA to Sen. Reed

Mr. Dave Davis, Senior Advisor to Sen. Hutchison

Mr. Ross Nordurft, MLA to Sen. Landrieu

Mr. Terry Redd, Army Fellow to Sen. Burr

Mr. Spencer Freebairn, MLA to Rep. Lewis

Ms. Virginia M. Müller, Legislative Assistant to Rep. Shimkus

Ms. Ivy Williams, Legislative Correspondent to Rep. Womack

USMA command and staff members in attendance:

LTG David Huntoon, 58th Superintendent of the United States Military Academy

COL Gus Stafford, USMA Chief of Staff

Ms. Maureen Fitzgerald, Director of Strategic Communications

LTC David Jones, Secretary of the General Staff

LTC Scott Smith, Secretary of the General Staff (inbound)

MAJ Adam Sawyer, Superintendent's Aide

Ms. Deadra Ghostlaw, Assistant Secretary of the General Staff

Ms. Joy Pasquazi, BoV Conference Specialist

Members of the Public

Ms. Joan Grey

BG(Ret) Samuel K. Lessey

Mr. Greg Mathieson, MAI photographer