Missouri Military Hosts New Heads & College Prep Gatherings

Tony McGeorge and his Missouri Military Academy (MMA) staff hosted two sequential AMCSUS gatherings in late October. The first was a New Heads’ Workshop where seasoned Association leaders provided valuable perspectives and insights to new members. The follow-on College Prep School Conference explored a variety of topics relevant to Heads of School, Commandants and Deans. MMA’s exceptional cadets, faculty and facilities left quite an impression on the visiting delegation and confirmed what is possible when a military school has strong leadership, a clear vision and a passion for cadet education.  

Well done Missouri Military Academy!
Keynote: Congressman Rob Wittman

Rob Wittman was first elected to serve the First Congressional District of Virginia - America's First District - in December of 2007. He was re-elected for his fourth full term in the House of Representatives in November 2014. Congress Wittman serves on the House Armed Services Committee and the Committee on Natural Resources. He has quickly earned a reputation for being an advocate for our men and women in uniform and for being a champion of the Chesapeake Bay. He holds a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University, a Master of Public Health degree in Health Policy and Administration from the University of North Carolina, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Virginia Tech.

Global Perspective: Shabana Basij-Rasikh

Educator Shabana Basij-Rasikh was born and raised in Kabul, Afghanistan. She attended high school in the United States through an exchange program and then earned her degree at Middlebury College in Vermont. During college, she co-founded School of Leadership, Afghanistan (SOLA), a nonprofit to give young Afghans access to quality education abroad and jobs back home. She also founded HELA, a nonprofit organization to empower Afghan women through education. After graduating, she returned to Kabul to turn SOLA into the nation's first boarding school for girls. She is the president of the nonprofit school that provides college preparatory courses and helps graduates enter universities worldwide and return to substantive careers in Afghanistan, where students often become the first women to enter certain fields. SOLA has helped girls from dozens of provinces across the country access more than $7.7 million in scholarships.

Awards Banquet Speaker: Lieutenant General H.R. McMasters

Lieutenant General H. R. McMaster assumed duties as the Director, Army Capabilities Integration Center and Deputy Commanding General, Futures, US Army Training and Doctrine Command on 15 July 2014. Prior to his arrival at Fort Eustis he most recently served as Commanding General, Maneuver Center of Excellence and Fort Benning from June 2012 to July 2014. Previously he served as Commander, Combined Joint Inter-Agency Task Force Shafafiyat (Transparency) in Kabul, Afghanistan. He was commissioned as an officer in the United States Army upon graduation from the United States Military Academy in 1984. He holds a PhD in military history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

School Safety: Dr. Erroll Suthers

Dr. Erroll G. Southers is an internationally recognized expert on counterterrorism, public safety, infrastructure protection, and homeland security. Dr. Suthers is the Director of the Homegrown Violent Extremism Studies Program at the University of Southern California, where he is also an Adjunct Professor of Homeland Security and Public Policy. Dr. Southers is the Managing Director for Counter-Terrorism & Infrastructure Protection at TAL Global, an international security consulting firm. There he directs security assessments addressing transportation modalities, stadium venues, and educational and cultural institutions. He is a Senior Fellow of the UCLA School of Public Affairs and a Visiting Fellow of the International Institute of Counter-Terrorism in Herzliya, Israel. Dr. Southers lectures throughout the world and has been interviewed on CNN, NBC, MSNBC, NPR and a variety of other news programs. He holds Doctoral and Master’s degrees from USC and earned his BA from Brown University.

Registration packages were emailed out in Dec and are available at amcsus.org or by contacting Ray Rottman at amcsus@cox.net or 334-414-0078.
Calling All School Counselors

As part of the 2016 AMCSUS Conference in Alexandria VA 21-23 February, 2016 the Association will host a workshop specifically designed for our school counselors.

Three counselors from within the Association (VA Tech’s Dr Chris Flynn, Hargrave Military Academy’s Dena Olsen, and Army & Navy Academy’s Chris Brown) have agreed to lead the identification of topics and presenters for the workshop. The event can accommodate between 7-8 presentations; are there topic areas you would like to discuss or present? Please contact Executive Director (Ray Rottman) at amcsus@cox.net or 703-272-8406 to discuss your ideas.

Below is a list of some of the presentation areas (and presenter where confirmed):

— Peer Counseling (harnessing key players from across campus as the school’s eyes & ears)
  PRESENTER: Christy Brown (Army & Navy Academy)
— Impact of ADD, ADHD, Aspergers and proliferation of student medications
  PRESENTER: Dr Chris Flynn (VA Tech)
— Threat Assessment Presentation (IDing & mitigating both internal (student/staff) and external threats)
  PRESENTER: Mr Jeff Pollard (Sigma Threat Management)
— Advisory Program (how counsellors are used to assist in a variety of areas to include re-enrollment)
  PRESENTER: LTC Sarah Jones, Psy.D. (VMI)
— Best Practices & Innovations (each school brings a counseling-related best practice to share)
  PRESENTER: Every school counselor provides 5-minute best practices
— Collaboration with stakeholders (leadership, faculty & staff well informed and working with single purpose)
  PRESENTER: TBD
— Addressing problem behavior (hazing, bullying, etc.)
  PRESENTER: TBD
— Impact of ESL and innovations to maximize the effectiveness and benefit of international cadets
  PRESENTER: TBD
— College counseling (helping inform cadets on opportunities available and facilitate the application process)
  PRESENTER: TBD
— Addressing a variety of issues involved with a student’s transition from High School and College
  PRESENTER: TBD
— Your idea for another area ____________

ROTC Celebrates 100 Years!

USA Cadet is planning events between now and June 2016 to mark the Anniversary of ROTC.

One of those events will be hosted by our very own Norwich University. Please mark your calendar for Norwich’s Future of ROTC Conference 21-23 April 2016.

Event will examine the future and possibilities for ROTC and education. RADM Schneider is seeking education futurists and topics to enhance the conference.

Please contact RADM Schneider with questions or recommendations!
AMCSUS Leadership Awards

As part of the 2016 AMCSUS Conference, four $1,000 scholarships (two for College level cadets and two for Prep School level cadets) will be awarded during Monday evening's Awards Banquet. Call for nominations emailed to Heads & Commandants on 16 Dec 2015. Submissions due NLT 15 Jan 2016 (use single-page submission format).

The AMCSUS Leadership Award recognizes well-rounded cadets who excel in the areas of leadership, character, service, academics and athletics. Each member school can nominate a single*. *GMC, NMMI, VFMAC & Wentworth can nominate both a College and College Prep cadet if desired, but no school will receive more than one leadership award in a given year.

SELECTION PROCESS
- Nominations reviewed/scored by a panel of three Heads of School (scoring to take place 18-22 Jan)
- College nominations scored by Prep School Heads & Prep Schools scored by College Heads of School
- Panel members will submit their scoring/rank ordering of submissions to amcsus@cox.net NLT 25 Jan

PRESENTATION PROCESS
- Winner’s Head of School will be notified of selection NLT 26 Jan
- Each award winner will be asked to create a 30 second acceptance video
- Acceptance video forwarded to amcsus@cox.net video NLT 8 Feb
- As part of the Annual Conference Awards Banquet (Mon 22 Feb), the winning cadet’s Head of School (or representative) will be presented with the Award/Check and asked to make a few comments (2-3 minutes) prior to the viewing of the cadet’s acceptance video.

** Address questions to: Executive Director (Ray Rottman) at amcsus@cox.net or 703-272-8406 **

Please Follow AMCSUS

AMCSUS is now tweeting at: Military Schools #CharacterIsKey

Mark Your Calendar

- 2016 AMCSUS Annual Conference: 21-23 Feb 2016 at Alexandria Westin
- 2016 Commandants’ Workshop: 15-17 Jun 2016 at Culver
- 2016 Senior Military College Conference: 18-21 Sep 2016 at VA Tech
- 2016 Military Junior College Meeting: 16-18 Oct 2016 at NMMI
- 2016 New Heads Workshop & College Prep Conference: Seeking Host School

2015-2016 AMCSUS Executive Committee

PRESIDENT: BG Don Broome, USA (ret); Hargrave Military Academy
VICE PRESIDENT: Maj Gen Randy Fullhart, USAF (ret); Virginia Tech
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* Please forward questions/recommendations/concerns to the Executive Director at amcsus@cox.net or (703) 272-8406 *

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