GREYHOUND BATTALION
Loyola University
Towson University
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Fall 2018 Alumni Newsletter
Happy New Year to our Alumni around the globe. It has been a whirlwind semester for me jumping into the seat as the Military Science Department Chair and Professor of Military Science in July and I am loving every minute of my time in the Greyhound Battalion. Morale is high, and we had a lot of new faces join us this semester, to include 12 National Scholarship winners. This December we commissioned three outstanding young leaders as 2nd Lieutenants in the Active Duty Infantry and Army Reserve Corps of Engineers. I have no doubt these three young men will have amazing careers in the Army and Army Reserve.

It was a busy but fun semester despite the fact we seemed to get rained on whenever we stepped out to a training site. The Cadets focused on squad level tactics and individual tasks this semester and we conducted our fall field training exercise with The Johns Hopkins University Blue Jay Battalion at Launderick Creek Military Reservation. Other highlights include CPT Henry Hensley (Towson ’12) joining us as guest speaker for our annual Dining In, partnering with BG(R) Nolley for community service with Gilchrist to honor Veterans at assisted living facilities in North Baltimore, and escorting Gold Star mothers at the Annual Towson Military Appreciation Football Game.

Spring semester will be exciting and rewarding for both the Cadets and Cadre. We have so much to look forward to and we hope you will be a part of the fun. In February we will have our bi-annual Cadet Awards ceremony and Military Ball in April. It is always a special time when we can recognize the achievements of our hardworking Cadets and University faculty. We will be busy planning and executing the Task Force Field Training Exercise with our sister battalions. Additionally, we will hold the Annual Alumni Reception at Loyola on May 16, 2019 and our Spring Commissioning Ceremony at Alumni Chapel on May 17, 2019. We anticipate commissioning 21 Cadets as 2nd Lieutenants. This was a record year for Cadets receiving a combat arms (6) and signal corps branches (10). Of the 21 Cadets commissioning this Spring, 16 will be Active Duty and five will commission into the National Guard spanning states from Pennsylvania to North Carolina.

This Summer we anticipate sending 24 Juniors off to Cadet Summer Training at Fort Knox, KY. I have no doubt they will excel when presented with myriad challenges to include land navigation, platoon tactics, and foot-marching over hilly terrain with heavy rucks, radios and crew served weapons. This year Advanced Camp will be a few days longer to provide for more basic rifle marksmanship, a buddy team live fire and a grenade assault course, where Cadets will have the opportunity to throw a live grenade. Four Cadets were selected to participate in the Cultural Understanding and Leadership Program this summer and many others will do various internships, Cadet Troop Leadership Training, Airborne and Air Assault school.

We are excited to provide you with an update on our first Greyhound Battalion endowment fund. You will recall the lead gift for the Endowment was made by Joe and Patty Sacco, parents of Christopher Sacco ’11 who is now an Army Captain working in Special Operations. It is expected that by 2023, once our donors’ 5-year pledges are honored, the Endowment will reach the $50,000 threshold. Great news! It has been through the generosity of many that we will reach this goal. Thank you!

Once the endowment reaches the $50,000 threshold it will generate approximately $2,500 annually that we can then apply to annual Cadet and Alumni programming. We want the endowment to continue to grow, so I would be extremely grateful if you would consider supporting the Department of Military Science Endowment or giving directly to the Department. If you are interested in learning more or contributing, please contact Samantha Zipp Dowd at szdowd@loyola.edu or (410) 617-2797. Thank you for your efforts and commitments to support our Greyhound Battalion Fund and our Cadets.

In closing, it is an honor and a privilege to serve in the Greyhound Battalion and grow the next generation of officers to serve this great nation. Stay safe wherever your journey takes you! We hope to see you over the next semester and look forward to hearing about your Army adventures and beyond.

Letter from the Professor of Military Science

LTC Ammilee Oliva
Cultural Understanding and Leadership Program (CULP)
Bradley Barron, Loyola ‘19

Through CULP, Cultural Understanding and Leadership Program, Cadet Command sent five Greyhound Cadets around the world to understand other cultures and train with foreign militaries. Cadets Barron and Yeung traveled to Honduras for their CULP mission, while Cadet Conjelko went to Morocco and Cadet Roberts went to Estonia. Cadet Cooney traveled to Paraguay for his CULP mission, where one of his team leaders was Greyhound alum, CPT Chris Carmody (Towson ‘10).

Cadets apply for CULP in the fall semester of the MS II and MS III years. They are approved based on their academic and physical fitness proficiency within their ROTC programs. Cadets that are approved, need to make sure that they are medically cleared, including acquiring current immunizations for the areas they are traveling to. Before leaving for their countries, Cadet Command made sure that Cadets learned as much as possible about their countries, including their languages and cultures. While these classes proved helpful, nothing could compare to being in country.

Cadets have to adjust to their new surroundings and acclimate to the people and environment around them. Cadets Barron and Yeung spent a week with the Honduran version of West Point working out with them. They also spent time visiting Mayan Ruins, the beautiful island of Roatan, at a sit-down meeting with the US Ambassador to Honduras and her cadre of officials. The time spent in country irrevocably changed these Cadets as people and more importantly as leaders. By spending time immersed in another culture, they learned the importance of seeing others’ points of view as well as being open-minded leaders.

AMEDD Internship
Phoebe Steiger, Towson ‘19

The purpose of the Army Medical Department Internship is to offer rising senior cadets insight into the Army Medical Facilities and exposure to leadership in the medical arena. Following Cadet Summer Training (CST), Cadet Steiger had the privilege of being selected for the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Internship at Camp Humphreys in Pyeongtaek, South Korea. She was able to immerse herself in a new culture, while also gaining valuable experience. Cadets work under the direction and supervision of an AMEDD Officer. The other Cadet interns were all interested in becoming actual Army Doctors, but this was not the case for Cadet Steiger. She knew that whatever branch she ends up getting, she will end up being a staff officer at some point.

While Cadet Steiger’s peers were working with veterinarians and dieticians, she shadowed a captain who was in charge of the Current Operations section of the 65th Medical Brigade S3 (operations) Shop. Most people in the military can agree that being on staff, especially working in operations, isn’t the most fun or exciting thing, but getting to take part in real Staff and Sync meetings gave her incredible insight. Honing the art of writing Operations Orders, and talking to Officers of varying branches in the other Staff sections gave Cadet Steiger an edge as she prepares to enter Active Duty. In her free time Cadet Steiger took the opportunity to learn about the Korean culture, taking in what the city had to offer.
Cadet Summer Training:
Advanced Camp
Daniel Brown, Towson ‘19

Starting in early June, while millions of college students begin their summer vacation, over five-thousand Army ROTC Cadets from all over the country go to Fort Knox, Kentucky for Cadet Summer Training (CST). Advanced Camp is an intense 30-day test of mental and physical fortitude that all Cadets finishing their junior year must attend. The training is intended to measure aptitude for leadership, ability to function in a high stress environment, and mastery of tactical and technical skills in a platoon with up to 40 other Cadets.

A physical fitness test, land navigation test, and qualifying with an M4 rifle are some training events Cadets are graded on during the initial days of Advanced Camp. The ability to cope with sleep deprivation, uncomfortable weather, and work well with others are tests of resilience for 20 consecutive days while operating and sleeping in a field environment. Leadership is tested when Cadets are given command of their platoon and told to complete missions within a time limit. This can be executing an ambush or attacking a position occupied by an unknown number of enemy Soldiers. Cadets that do well at Advanced Camp earn higher rankings on the order of merit list than their peers nationally. This allows Cadets a greater chance of earning their preferred branch when they commission as lieutenants next year.

Above: Cadet Frank pulls security at his platoon’s patrol base

For Cadets in the Greyhound Battalion, Advanced Camp is an opportunity to test their tactical and technical knowledge during three years of ROTC and compete for higher rankings on a national level. The Loyola ROTC program has enjoyed above average success at Advanced Camp by producing six distinguished military graduates this year alone and having above average Cadet rankings on the national level.

Nurse Summer Training Program (NSTP)
Cassandra Fangio, Towson ‘19

The Nurse Summer Training Program is a month-long clinical elective that select Army hospitals in the United States and Germany offer to ROTC nursing student Cadets. Cadets can apply in the fall semester of their junior year to attend NSTP in the summer before their senior year of college. The purpose of the training program is to introduce nursing Cadets to the Army Medical Department, test their leadership capabilities, and expand on their clinical expertise. The application process includes identification of preferred Army hospital locations and units within a hospital, such as medical-surgical or emergency care, that Cadets wish to train in. Cadet Fangio identified Tripler Army Medical Center and labor and delivery as her top choices and was lucky enough to receive orders to travel to Hawaii and help laboring women under the supervision of a labor and delivery Army Nurse Corps (ANC) officer. According to Cadet Fangio, flying to Oahu, Hawaii after spending 31 days in Fort Knox, Kentucky was one of the most exciting moments in her life thus far. While she was a student nurse at Tripler, Cadet Fangio learned various clinical skills, such as drawing blood and starting an IV on a patient, which she does not get the chance to learn in nursing school. Most importantly, she met many successful ANC officers, from whom she was able to learn more about her future career and keys to being successful as a new second lieutenant in the ANC. After spending a month working in an Army hospital, she expresses being quite eager to graduate and begin her career as an Army Nurse. While she loved helping deliver babies, she did get to enjoy her days off from the hospital. She traveled alongside the five other nursing Cadets that were in her cohort and spent long hours on beaches, enjoyed the local food, hiked on some of the world’s most famous trails, and made many life-long memories. She is grateful for the Army ROTC program for offering such a unique, educational, and enjoyable training experience to nursing Cadets.
This past summer, following Cadet Summer Training at Advanced Camp, five Greyhound Cadets went on to Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT). This experience sought to help the Cadets better understand what the daily life and duties are for Second Lieutenants, as they will soon have the responsibility of fulfilling this position.

Cadet Bracht went to Fort Benning, Georgia, where he spent time with the 3-16 Charlie Company, a TRADOC unit and home of the United States Army Sniper School. This was a unique opportunity because he was able to see the TRADOC side of the Army as Bracht shadowed the Commanding Officer and Sniper Instructors. Cadet Bracht also observed the importance of listening to your Platoon Sergeant and forging connections while leading from the front. Cadet Bracht’s experience at CTLT imparted on the need to always be ready to learn and improve.

In addition, fellow Greyhound Cadets had unique experiences that will undoubtedly benefit them in their Army careers. Cadet Slocum shadowed a lieutenant at Fort Polk, Louisiana with the 1-509th. This is home to the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) which serves as a pre-deployment training site for units to test their readiness. Cadet Slocum saw how active Army units train for their missions to deploy at a moment’s notice: ready to fight, win, and most importantly plan our nation’s battles.

In addition to Cadet Slocum and Bracht, the Greyhound Battalion also sent Cadet Valdes, who trained at Wheeler Army Airfield in Hawaii and learned about the duties and responsibilities of an Officer in an aviation unit. He also had the opportunity to observe their equally important responsibilities as a pilot. Cadet Shriner trained at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) with the 2nd Infantry Division and had the opportunity to lead an infantry platoon for several days in the field.

Cadet Rolnick went to Fort Sill, Oklahoma and worked with a transportation group. While there she helped plan a women's forum and was chosen as the narrator, receiving an Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM) for her work at the event. Cadets at the Greyhound Battalion had a wide array of astonishing opportunities this summer to grow as leaders, and these experiences will undoubtedly help them on their career path to becoming the best Officers they can be.

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loyola.edu/rotc facebook.com/loyolarotc Instagram.com/greyhoundrotc
The Loyola Greyhound Battalion conducted the Combat Water Survival Test (CWST) on September 12, 2018 at the Loyola Fitness and Aquatic Center in order to test water confidence levels. At times in military training, Soldiers will need to deal with a water obstacle. Leaders at all echelons should be aware of the potentially dangerous situation this presents for Soldiers who fear water or cannot swim. Each year, many Soldiers lose their lives through their inability to manage themselves in water. The CWST provides a baseline for all Soldiers, so those who are deemed weak swimmers are able to get assistance to gain confidence and become safer, stronger, or proficient in water.

The CWST has four main components: the swim test, the 15-meter rifle swim, equipment ditch, and unexpected water entry. The swimming portion measures confidence without equipment. The 15-meter rifle swim proves that a Soldier is able to successfully maneuver from point A to point B without submerging their weapon. The equipment ditch assesses the ability to remove their Front-Loading Carrier (FLC) and weapon system at a moment’s notice, and the unexpected water entry is a drop off of a 3-meter diving board (apprx. 10 ft.) that tests a Soldier’s ability to react while also maintaining control of their actions. Loyola and Towson Cadets were extremely successful in completing this training event.

There were 52 Cadets that participated in the event, and of the group, 40 passed giving the Battalion a 77% pass rate. This was a success for the battalion since it was the first training assessment of the academic year. Even though not every Cadet passed, we were still able to achieve the overall mission, and we were able to provide future Cadets with feedback to continue to improve the event and the organization as a whole.
Super Lab: Squad Tactics
Yeun Yeung, Towson '19

Super Labs are training events that allow Cadets within the Greyhound Battalion to test their skills in the art of leadership and the science of warfare under simulated real-world circumstances. These events occur on the weekends and provide the opportunity for our Cadets to challenge themselves and learn in a safe environment while improving their leadership capabilities and implementation of tactics. Super Labs focus primarily on squad tactics with MSIII Cadets leading these missions and MSIV Cadets serving as observer-trainer-mentors.

Super Lab One had three different missions for eight different squads. Each squad consisted of nine to ten Cadets with an MSIII in the leadership role. The MSIII squad leaders controlled the planning and execution of the mission. The mission’s objectives were in wooded areas scattered around Gunpowder Military Reservation. Once MSIII squad leaders were given their mission order, they immediately began their planning process following the Troop Leading Procedures. Once rehearsals where conducted, they executed their missions. Once the mission ended, a debrief was held where the MSIV graders provided feedback on what dimensions of their leadership they can potentially change and assess the MSIII overall leadership capabilities.

The primary goal of these Super Labs is to provide a foundation for building competent and confident leaders for the United States Army and to have Greyhound MSIII Cadets excel at Cadet Summer Training (CST) for the upcoming summer. CST is a rigorous month-long training program of military exercises that all Cadets must complete in order to commission.
Alumni Spotlight: Elizabeth Rupp  
Thomas Shriner, Loyola ‘19

Former Captain Liz Rupp was an Engineering Officer, who graduated from the Greyhound Battalion in 2012. She went on to attend Engineer Basic Officer Leadership Course at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. She served her time at Fort Stewart, Georgia with the 92nd Engineer Battalion. She had experience as an S2, a Maintenance Platoon Leader, and Company Executive Officer. Currently she is living in California working for Johnson & Johnson in medical device sales. She took the time to answer several question about her experiences in the army and how they relate to her civilian career.

How would you describe your experience in the Army?
Really Great! I was so thankful for the learning and leadership opportunities that I do not think many of my civilian peers that I graduated from Loyola with got with their jobs. The army pushed my growth as a person and a leader. Even though I am a civilian now I am very thankful to have the chance to take care of a platoon and a company as an XO, and learn how to manage projects and people. Because of my army experiences, I now have the job that I would never have had as an undergrad right out of Loyola.

How long did you plan to stay in the Army?
Actually my dad was a Marine for 35 years. Growing up I didn’t think the army was going to be the end-all-be-all. However, the army was something I felt comfortable with growing up in a military household. Going into ROTC I knew that I wanted to be an Active Duty Officer, but I came to my military service open, I did not want to put a definite timeline on how long I served. I decided to take the army all as it came.

What advice would you give to Cadets about to commission?
I think showing up with a good attitude and a willingness to work hard will get you further than you ever expected. Never allow your Soldiers hear you complain. I would say to all of you about to commission to get really responsible with the energy you bring into a room, whether that’s with your Battalion Commander or lowest private. It doesn’t matter who you are with, you are responsible for how you show up. I would also say as a lieutenant to raise your hand and volunteer any chance you get.

What advice would you give to those Officers in the army looking to get out?
I would say to not only look for companies that are known for employing veterans, but also look at the retention rate of veterans a year into the job. Even if a company says they hire thousands of veterans a year, you should know how many of those veterans stick with that company. But I definitely recommend finding companies that share the same army values.

How did working with other Officers and enlisted Soldiers help you in your civilian job?
I watched a lot of Platoon Leaders come to their first unit and think they knew everything. When I was a Maintenance Platoon Leader, my mechanics that were 18-year-old privates, knew more about the vehicles we used then I could ever imagine. You have to be able to talk to your young privates and understand how valuable their input is as much as you value and respect your Battalion Commander’s advice and time. I think this has helped me in my civilian career. I have to be able to speak to a surgeon as well as an OR Scrub Tech that does more of the dirty work in surgery. Being able to respect every player in the game has helped me tremendously in my civilian job.
Alumni Spotlight: First Lieutenant Brandon Yeung  
Madeline Isacco, Loyola’19

Greyhound Battalion alum, 1LT Brandon Yeung, went to Towson University and graduated in 2016. 1LT Yeung majored in sociology and anthropology with a focus on criminal justice and criminology. He originally planned on enlisting in the Army after high school, but, after some thought, decided it would be beneficial to get an education before joining the military. This led to his involvement with the Greyhound Battalion. Currently, 1LT Yeung is serving in the Maryland Army National Guard as a Platoon Leader in Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 175th Infantry Regiment. When 1LT Yeung is not working with the National Guard, he is serving full time as a Police Officer in Montgomery County, Maryland. Thank you, 1LT Yeung, for taking time out of your busy schedule to answer questions and give advice about your experiences.

How were your first few months in the Army?
I went to IBOLC and immediately went to and completed the Ranger Training Assessment Course at Fort Benning. After a whirlwind of those events, I was immediately hired by the Montgomery County Police Department and started their academy. My current job is as a Platoon Leader in charge of the training, welfare and readiness of 38 infantrymen. My company spearheads the National Guard Response Force which responds to any crisis in the state. Currently, I am planning on applying to the 20th Special Forces Group to attend Special Forces Assessment and Selection in a couple years.

How has your Platoon Leader experience been?
I love my platoon and being a Platoon Leader. Right off the bat, I got a platoon from a good friend and fellow alum of the Greyhound Battalion, 1LT Lee. This allowed for a smooth transition. The platoon was put at ease knowing that their current Platoon Leader had faith in me. I’ve been a Platoon Leader for a little more than a year and a half. I love being with the Soldiers; I like to see them evolve and become not just better infantrymen, but individuals and leaders as well.

What is your advice for new Platoon Leaders?
You’re going to hear time and time again, but trust your NCO’s. When you and your NCO’s develop that smooth working relationship, your team becomes unstoppable. Know your job – whether you’re in the infantry, engineers, aviation, etc. This is a small list of things a SGM told me that a leader at any level should take into consideration:
1. Get to know your Soldiers, build that trust with them that can’t be broken.
2. Be the last to eat whether you are in garrison or in the field.
3. Be the leader and role model you would want to be led by.
4. Lastly, never make your Soldiers do something that you are not willing to do yourself.

More specifically, do you have any advice for working with your NCO’s?
When I came to the platoon, I took a step back to see how they operated. Since they’ve been working together for so long I didn’t want to come in and immediately change all their SOPs and TTPs. If there was something I didn’t agree with, I’d consult my Platoon Sergeant and Squad Leaders to discuss the topic. Your NCO’s will respect your rank, but you must respect their knowledge, for they are the Subject Matter Experts. Never be ashamed to ask them for advice. It’ll show your humility and that you’re eager to learn. When they give you advice though, it’ll ultimately be up to you to make the final decision that you feel is best for your platoon.

Have you thought about furthering your education and would you have the time to?
I have thought about it. I plan on going for my Masters, but I don’t know the exact timeline. It is not a top priority right now. It’s possible, but time would have to be taken away from other aspects in my life. I would have to sacrifice some things.

Do you have any closing remarks?
It’ll be intimidating coming to your platoon with little to no experience. Put yourself out there to succeed and fail and overtime you’ll see what kind of leader you were meant to be. Thanks for the interview!
On September 28th, 2018 the Greyhound Battalion conducted its semi-annual awards ceremony. In the Awards Ceremony, Cadets of the battalion were recognized for their achievements in the spring and summer of 2018. There were three categories by which Cadets were recognized: academic excellence, physical excellence, and success at summer training.

Forty-seven of the seventy-seven returning Cadets maintained a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and thirty-eight of the seventy-seven returning Cadets scored a 270 or higher on the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT). All twenty-six members of the MSIV class completed their Advanced Camp summer training at Fort Knox, Kentucky; additionally, three Cadets of the MSII class completed Basic Camp summer training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Cadet Boland, a member of the MSIII class, completed the United States Army Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Cadet Cooney, a member of the MSIII class, completed the United States Army Air Assault School at Fort Campbell, Kentucky where he graduated first in his class. Five Cadets participated in the Cultural Understanding and Leadership Program (CULP) which sent them to countries like Morocco, Honduras, Paraguay, and Estonia. Five Cadets participated in the Cadet Troop Leader Training program (CTLT), which sent them to Active Duty units all across the nation where they received invaluable training. Two Cadets participated in Army medical internships that sent them to Hospitals in Hawaii and Korea. Four Cadets also served in support of summer training at Fort Knox as either MSIII Trainers or as Opposing Force (OPFOR). The Greyhound Battalion also recognized Ms. Maura Brennan for her contributions by presenting her with the Green and Grey Award. In addition to presenting awards, the awards ceremony serves as the perfect opportunity to issue the oath of service to newly contracted Cadets. This fall, the Greyhound Battalion swore in fourteen Cadets who decided to dedicate their lives to the army profession.

The Award ceremony is a testament to the commitment of the Cadets in the Greyhound Battalion. Their dedication to success in and out of the classroom is evident by their outstanding performance. The Greyhound Battalion has fostered an environment that allows it to take exceptional Cadets and turn them into future leaders of the Army.

Green and Grey Award Recipient: Ms. Maura Brennan

On September 28, 2018, the Loyola Towson ROTC program hosted their Fall Awards Ceremony to honor their Cadets’ accomplishments for the previous semester and to swear in those Cadets who are beginning the semester contracted.

During this time, we present one staff member from Loyola with the Green and Grey Award to recognize them for their outstanding contribution to our program and for assisting our cadets in any way they can. This year the Green and Grey award was presented to Ms. Maura Brennan. Ms. Brennan is a Loyola University alumna and has chosen to give back to the Loyola community by becoming the Campus Visit Coordinator. With her position at the university, Ms. Brennan has helped the Greyhound Battalion out by providing our incoming Loyola Cadets with personal tours of the campus and reaches out to prospective high school students and tells them what we aim to accomplish. Through her efforts there is no limit to the amount of influence she has in her outreach and persuasion in helping recruit new students into our battalion.

We look forward to maintaining the relationship with Ms. Maura Brennan as she continues her support of the Greyhound Battalion Cadets and their future training experiences and recruiting efforts.
Field Training Exercise
Hugh Slocum, Loyola ‘19

A semester’s worth of Wednesday labs and Saturday super labs led to the Greyhound Battalion’s Joint Field Training Exercise (JFTX) with Johns Hopkins University. From 2-4 November Cadets conducted the JFTX at Laudercreek Military Reservation (LCMR). Cadets knew it would be a grueling three-day training, but that did not deter their morale, nor impact performance as they exceeded expectations throughout the weekend.

The training started on Friday, November 2nd, where Cadets received valuable training at six different stations. Topics taught included tactical maneuvers, first aid, grenade handling, weapons handling with both M4 rifles and M249 light machine guns, and react to enemy contact. Each Cadet was evaluated at all the stations, and as a battalion, we met the standard at each one. At the end of the day, the Cadets persisted through a downpour to learn patrol base operations.Cadets woke up at 0400 on day two and immediately got to work on squad level missions. Each junior Cadet was evaluated at a Squad Leader level on how well they planned and conducted a mission. All Greyhound Cadets achieved the standard required to lead a successful mission. By the end of day two, Cadets had been through four missions, and were setting up in a patrol base to sleep in the frigid November conditions.

With the end in sight, Cadets woke up on day three at 0330 ready for the final day of training. JFTX culminated in Night into Day land navigation, where all Cadets were expected to find six points in four hours. Over 85% of Cadets succeeded in meeting the standard. All who completed land navigation were greeted with a warm meal and the satisfaction of finishing a tough weekend in the woods with their peers.

Land Navigation Training
Kyle Owens, Towson ‘19

Land navigation includes the ability to read maps, use a compass, and other navigational skills. Land navigation courses are an essential part of military training. Often, these courses are several miles long in rough terrain and are performed under adverse conditions, such as at night or in the rain. The Loyola Greyhound Battalion completed the exercise at the training site Laudercreek Creek, which is a part of Aberdeen Proving Ground. A rainy training exercise did not stop these Cadets; the majority of the Cadets were able to complete the assigned land navigation exam.

The Greyhound Battalion approaches this training with both classroom and hands-on application. Starting with introductory classroom and lab sessions taught by seniors and their Military Science instructors, the Cadets learn the needed techniques to be successful. These sessions teach the basics of using a compass, plotting grid points on a map, and other techniques used in the practical exercises done on the actual land navigation course.

The practical exercise consists of giving Cadets a series of four to six different grid coordinates. The standard is that each Cadet is able to plot those points on a terrain map, navigate to those points, and identify the correct point markers for each grid coordinate. This all must be done in a certain amount of time, normally under 3 hours. Cadets utilize this training for the rest of their army career. Being able to do such tasks teaches confidence in each Cadet and provides valuable skills that will be kept for the rest of their lives.
Starting in the fall of 2018, the Greyhound Battalion went through a large change of cadre staff, and among the new officers and non-commissioned officers was Sergeant First Class Daniel Everett. SFC Everett may have started off the semester with an ankle injury, but that did not hold him back. He has quickly acclimated to the Greyhound Battalion and working in an ROTC program. SFC Everett adjusted to ROTC, taking his practical knowledge from his job as an AG 42 series NCO in the Regular Army.

SFC Everett started in the National Guard in an AG unit for a few years before transitioning to Active Duty in 2004. From there, he either worked as or for the S1 in Germany, Japan, Bosnia, Israel, Iraq, and Kuwait. Over this time, he also got married and raised a family of five children. SFC Everett has the role of Operations NCO within the battalion and can often be found assisting CPT Howell in teaching the first-year Military Science classes. SFC Everett attends the weekly training meetings and assists the Battalion Cadet Staff in organizing and executing the Greyhounds’ training events. He makes a great team with CPT Zdrojewski, an MP Officer, in training the staff and teaching them how to lead from a non-combat arms standpoint.

As an AG non-commissioned officer, SFC Everett brings a different set of skills to the table for the Greyhounds. The other NCOs in the battalion, SFC Heil and MSG Hicks, were part of combat arms units and offer a lot to the Cadets in terms of tactics and field life; however, not every Cadet wants a future in combat arms, and SFC Everett can offer great insight into non-combat aspects of the army.

SFC Everett is a friendly and approachable Soldier. He has made a great addition to the battalion, and all new Cadets will learn from him during his time with us at Loyola-Towson ROTC.
Cadet Spotlight: Edward Devan
William Stamathis, Towson ‘19

As far as ROTC programs are concerned, underclassmen are often left out of the spotlight. With seniors commissioning and juniors preparing for camp, the freshmen and sophomores often go without the recognition they deserve. One Cadet that deserves such recognition is Cadet Edward Devan, a freshman at Towson University.

Cadet Devan is a geography major from Eldersburg, Maryland. Cadet Devan has constantly upheld the Army values and is a person of high moral character. Aside from a constantly positive attitude and a willingness to learn, Cadet Devan also maintains an impressive set of achievements. His achievements include membership in the National Technical Honor Society, Industry certified geospatial technician, membership in the Sons of the American Revolution, and recipient of the Outstanding Citizenship Award from the same association. Cadet Devan also participated in his high school’s JROTC program to prepare himself for his experience in the Greyhound Battalion. He has interned numerous times at Carroll County Public School’s Transportation Department. Cadet Devan’s primary focus has been on geospatial analysis, which includes planning bus routes, updating GPS tracking programs, and analyzing stop data for public transportation programs. Cadet Devan became an Industry certified geospatial technician through a yearlong completer course at Carroll County Career and Technical Institute. Aside from this impressive list of accomplishments, Cadet Devan routinely carries himself with a great attitude and high morale. He has made a distinctive effort to increase his physical fitness and has demonstrated his understanding of Army doctrine during several labs and field training exercises throughout the semester.

The skill sets he has already brought to the Greyhound Battalion in his freshman year leave nothing but potential in his future throughout the rest of his experience in the ROTC program at Loyola University. Cadet Devan exemplifies everything the Greyhound Battalion values, and the skills he has brought to the ROTC program leave the future looking bright for the Greyhound Battalion and the United States Army.

Cadet Spotlight: James Nowell-Coleman
Luis Valdes, Towson ‘19

Cadet Nowell is a Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) Cadet that came to our program from the Maryland Army National Guard’s 224th Area Support Medical Company. As a 68W Combat Medic, Cadet Nowell brings with him 7 years of military experience and leadership. It is often easy to spot Cadet Nowell in our formations taking charge and sharing his knowledge and expertise with Cadets who have never served in the military. After being asked what the best part of his ROTC experience has been thus far, Cadet Nowell said, “It’s fun being back in the uniform every day and training with people working toward similar goals.”

Cadet Nowell has had the opportunity to participate in numerous training and operational activities as a member of the National Guard. He has served on a deployment to the Middle East in support of Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR), the U.S. military’s military intervention against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria; worked with members of allied military forces; and supported the Maryland Army National Guard with maintaining operational readiness through his work as a medic.

Cadet Nowell is currently a Mass Communications major at Towson University, while continuing to serve in the Maryland Army National Guard. Upon graduation, Cadet Nowell intends to commission as an Aviation officer in the Army National Guard.
The Greyhound Battalion has had a long-standing tradition of having an Army Ten-Miler team. The team is established each spring when the battalion conducts tryouts. These tryouts help to ensure the team is made up of the ten most competitive runners in the battalion.

Cadet Cooper was the captain of this year’s team, which consisted of Meghan Anderson, Garrett Bracht, Hanna Nalls, Daniel Brown, Noah Ulrich, Alex Conjelko, Patrick Sacchet, Anna Kruegler, and Jacob Roberts. Cadet Cooper led the team in vigorous PT sessions five days a week for the first six weeks of the semester. During these training sessions, the team conducted several long distance runs that pushed them extremely hard. Throughout the training, the Cadets saw what they were truly capable of and exceeded their previous fitness expectations. According to Cadet Brown, “I wanted to be a better runner and officer and joining this team helped me accomplish that goal”. It was truly inspiring to see the team come together and push each other to be the best they could be. All of this hard work was worth it when race day finally came.

The race is a special event in which 28,500 people that have served or have been impacted by the United States Army come together in Washington D.C. It was a motivational experience for Cadets to see the veterans and wounded warriors participating in the race. The ambiance and patriotism present on race day is one that cannot be justified with words. The Greyhounds placed 34th out of the 96 ROTC programs competing. Overall, the Cadets learned their true capabilities and had the opportunity to participate in a special day.
The Ranger Challenge competition is a staple of ROTC. Each program is tasked with fielding a team consisting of eleven Cadets to compete against other schools in their respective brigade. The 4th Brigade Ranger Challenge competition consists of a three-mile run in addition to moving to various stations through the rolling terrain of Fort Pickett, Virginia, while carrying combat equipment as well as a 35 lb ruck. Each station is designed to test physical fitness and mental agility. In order to succeed at the Ranger Challenge competition, the Greyhound Battalion held a rigorous tryout period to select the competing team members. To make the team, Cadets are required to complete a twelve-mile ruck march in under three hours and be able to work in small groups to complete several physically and mentally demanding tasks.

Cadets Shawn Frank and Andrew Cooney led the team of eleven Cadets. The team prepared for the competition by conducting physical training in order to prepare for the eighteen miles of rucking that is done at the competition as well as the developing technical skills, such as land navigation, tactical casualty combat care, and marksmanship. The grit and mental toughness required to be a part of the Ranger Challenge team is unlike any typical sports team. Cadets must be experts in 15 warrior tasks and be in incredible physical shape. Also, significant points of adversity occur during the competition, and teams must get past them to succeed. One point of adversity during the 2018 competition was the weather. Rain showers began to soak the team, and the terrain at around 2:00 am and persisted until 12:00 pm. Despite being cold and wet, the team pressed on completing all 15 stations, a task only 50% of teams accomplish. Cadet Sam Rolnick, one of the team’s seniors, stated, “Before the competition the team resembled friends and peers. After the completion, we were more like a family who could rely on each other during difficult times.” Overall the team placed 11th out of 45 teams, finishing in the top 25% of all teams that competed.
The Simultaneous Membership Program, or SMP, is a program designed to offer ROTC Cadets concurrent training in the Army Reserves or National Guard, while they are seeking their commission through an ROTC program. Cadets in SMP are full time students who also participate with a National Guard or Army Reserve unit to better prepare themselves to serve as a future Army Officer.

When Cadet Cartner first began the program with the Army Reserves, the lieutenant he shadowed immediately began to mentor him. After applying the leadership capabilities learned from ROTC and the advice from his mentor, Cadet Cartner has become the detachment’s lead training non-commissioned officer as well as a squad leader. The Simultaneous Membership Program not only gives Cadets the opportunity to learn, but also apply this knowledge and begin building leadership experience with a reserve or guard unit. Cadet Cartner will also continue to attend a two week training event every summer with his unit in Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. This training event is supposed to simulate a deployed environment as Soldiers develop and hone their skills.

Cadet Cevallos currently is assigned to a Military Police unit with the Maryland National Guard. When asked about the Simultaneous Membership Program, he said, “It is a diving experience where it gives you an opportunity at early leadership. It has allowed me to meet leaders that I can possibly be working with in the future.” Cadet Cevallos has been a range OIC and a squad leader. He regularly attends meetings with his leadership because of the SMP experience. This has allowed him to know and understand the daily requirements and expectations of a young officer with the National Guard and apply this to his future career.

As both Cadets are set to commission shortly, they can apply numerous lessons learned from the SMP program to their prospective units. This program has not only helped them, but many other cadets. It is highly recommended for any Cadet who wishes to develop their leadership capabilities, build experience, and be a part of the US Army Reserves or National Guard.
Wind whipped against the crowd’s faces as they intensely looked to the sky, searching for a football soaring amongst the clouds. It was 2 o’clock on a crisp Saturday afternoon, and the annual military appreciation game at Towson University had just begun. This game, a long awaited battle against James Madison University, had become a hot topic throughout the campus. Although, the rivaled opponent was not the only topic of discussion; at halftime, recognition was given to family members of fallen military personnel who were in attendance. Recognition was also given to all current and future military members.

Of those in attendance, thirteen of our nation’s future leaders, Loyola-Towson ROTC Cadets, provided support to Towson University staff by serving as the Color Guard for the game and escorting distinguished military visitors, such as Command Sergeant Major Tom Beyard. Most importantly, our Cadets stood resolute by the sides of almost a dozen Gold Star family members throughout this event. Gold Star mothers, such as Paula Davis and Tracy Miller, commended our Cadets for their hard work and determination to make this day special for the Towson military community.

Events such as these serve as a stern reminder that freedom is never free, yet they also provide a venue for celebrating past, present, and future military service members in the Towson community. While the Duke Dogs ultimately triumphed over the Tigers, a larger victory was had by the Loyola-Towson ROTC Cadets. Through the selfless service of a few Cadets, the bonds of family and friendship were strengthened throughout the Towson military family and will continue to grow deeper.

Someone said “Football”...in ROTC?

The Turkey Bowl is an annual event where the Loyola/Towson ROTC program plays a flag football game against the Johns Hopkins ROTC program just before Thanksgiving break. It is a friendly game that promotes esprit de corps amongst not just the Cadets in the Greyhound Battalion, but also with those in the Blue Jay Battalion. This event allows for Greyhound Cadets to interact with our sister battalion and build long-lasting relationships. Cadets join the team voluntarily but are expected to attend practices and put forward substantial effort in order to help lead the team to victory. The team captain is responsible for organizing the event and assigning Cadets to a specific position to play. Once Cadets have found out what position best suits them, the team is divided into an offense and defense. These two groups are led by two co-captains who have ample experience in that area. These captains generate plays, and the Cadets begin to learn how to operate effectively as a team. In addition to physical training Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, the Turkey Bowl players also practice either two or three times each week to expand their football skills. This year, the game was played at Towson University’s Johnny Unitas Stadium on November 16. The game lasts for just over an hour and at the end of the game the trophy goes to the winner. This trophy has traveled between the two Battalions multiple times, and it grants the winning program bragging rights until the next year when the trophy is up for grabs once again. Unfortunately, the Blue Jays took home the trophy this year, but the Greyhounds’ spirits remain high. They are motivated to regain ownership of the trophy in 2019. The Turkey Bowl Game is a tradition that has been with us for years and will continue to be a part of the Loyola/Towson Greyhound Battalion for years to come.
Every fall, the Greyhound Battalion ends their semester by hosting a Dining In event. This semester, Dining In was hosted at the American Legion Post #22 in Towson, Maryland. Cadets were recognized for their achievements, while MSIVs and Vs were given their branch insignias. This was a very special moment for those commissioning this year. The MSIVs and Vs shared a special moment with Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Ammilee Oliva, Professor of Military Science, while pinned on their branch insignias. She expressed how proud she is of each Cadet. These Cadets were able to wear their branch insignias for the first time on this night. The Greyhound Battalion will commission twenty-six Second Lieutenants throughout eleven branches in the United States Army. The Ranger Challenge team was presented with certificates from 4th Brigade Commander, Colonel (COL) Farrell J. Duncombe. The skit portion of the night is always a Cadet favorite. Throughout the semester, each MS class comes together and makes skits about other Cadets, or Cadre! These skits are both hilarious and entertaining. Individuals are teased for their personalities and reminded of embarrassing moments. Being able to laugh alongside your peers creates a sense of cohesion. A battalion that is able to come together to laugh, celebrate, and unwind is a battalion that will forever share a bond. The Greyhound Battalion represents solidarity and esprit de corps among its ranks. It will continue to thrive throughout the future semesters.

Class of 2019 Branches

- **Air Defense Artillery**
  - Bradley Barron (Active Duty)

- **Armor**
  - Yuen Yeung (Active Duty)

- **Aviation**
  - Luis Valdes Marrero (MDARNG)

- **Chemical**
  - Phoebe Steiger (Active Duty)

- **Engineers**
  - Meghan Anderson (Active Duty)
  - Jason Gomez (USAR)

- **Field Artillery**
  - Connor Grasso (NJARNG)
  - Tyler Marriner (Active Duty)
  - Kyle Owens (Active Duty)

- **Infantry**
  - Garrett Bracht (Active Duty)
  - Daniel Brown (Active Duty)
  - Alexander Cartner (MDARNG)
  - Stuart Kennedy (Active Duty)
  - Jacob Shriner (Active Duty)
  - Hugh Slocum (Active Duty)
  - William Stamathis (Active Duty)
  - Travis Thompson (Active Duty)

- **Medical Service**
  - James Foster (Active Duty)

- **Military Intelligence**
  - Patrick Cooper (Active Duty)
  - Jacob Roberts (NCARNG)
  - Samantha Rolnick (Active Duty)

- **Nursing**
  - Cassandra Fangio (Active Duty)

- **Signal**
  - Christopher Cary (PAARNG)
  - Sean Frank (Active Duty)
  - Gilchrist Toh-Nyongha (Active Duty)
Community Service
Gilchrist Toh, Loyola ‘19

Our Cadets in the Loyola-Towson Army ROTC Greyhound Battalion not only understand the importance of service to their country, but they also know how important it is to serve their own local communities. Every year, our Cadets go out to different parts of the Baltimore community to represent their battalion, the Army as a whole, as well as themselves. This year, the Greyhound Battalion was able to offer their service by teaming up with some incredible service organizations.

The Cadets of Alpha Company, led by Cadet Yeun Yeung, hosted members of the Young Marines from the Kennedy Krieger Institute at Loyola’s campus for some joint physical training exercises at the Loyola Fitness and Aquatic Center and some team building challenges, followed by a tour of Loyola’s campus.

The Cadets of Bravo Company led by Cadet Bradley Barron got together with Habitat for Humanity in the month of October. They worked in a warehouse preparing materials for building homes for those in need. All proceeds made from their work was donated to Habitat for Humanity.

The Cadets of the Staff led by Cadet Stuart Kennedy worked with the Gilchrist Foundation to recognize our veterans for their service to our country. This gave our Cadets an opportunity to meet our veterans from all over the Baltimore community and recognize them for their hard work and show appreciation for fighting for our beloved country.

Community Service in the Greyhound Battalion has always been and will always be an important part of what we are about. Our Cadets will continue to show the world their will and desires to be involved in their communities by helping the Baltimore Community in any way possible.
Cadets working together to complete an obstacle during the Fall Leadership Reaction Course.

Senior Cadets pose for a picture after graduating from the 3rd Regiment of Advanced Camp.

Cadets conducting their end of semester Battalion run at Lake Montebello.
Top: The Greyhound Battalion during the Halloween run, Middle left: Cadet Isacco dresses up as Cadet Bracht, Middle right: Cadets Haines, Taganas, Dilone, and Nowell-Coleman as the Professor and Power Puff Girls, Bottom left: Cadet Conjeiko and Cadet Sacchet as a painting and Bob Ross, Bottom right: Cadet Korpel and Cadet O’Hara as ninjas
Top left: Cadet Reardon (Mr. Vice) tests the grog
Top Right: The 10-Miler team poses after their finish
Middle: Cadets test their problem solving and leadership abilities in the FLRC
Bottom left: Cadet Frank tackles an obstacle
Bottom right: Cadet Valdez awards our November Cadet of the Month, Cadet Peter Friedrichs