



### PHOTO ACCESS FOR PARENTS -

The U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs office provides command information to the installation and the public. One of the ways we do this is through social media venues such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. All information provided is official, but there is also fun stuff on there too. Did you know you can download photos from our Facebook page for free?

[Official USAFA Facebook site](#)

[Official USAFA Twitter site](#)

[Official USAFA Instagram site](#)

[Official USAFA Flick'r site](#)

### Prep School Access:

<https://twitter.com/USAFAPrepSchool>

[www.facebook.com/AFPrepSchool](http://www.facebook.com/AFPrepSchool)

<https://www.instagram.com/usafapreppofficial/>

We also want your Academy photos. Upload them to Instagram using #YourAcademy and #YourUSAFAPrep for the Prep School. You might see it on Facebook and Twitter. If you have any questions, please call the Public Affairs office at (719) 333-7731.



### Cadet commentary: Soaking up Operations Air Force 'like a sponge'

### Cadet Class Statistics (as of 31 July 19)

Class Year	Men	Women	Total
2020	707	287	994
2021	770	299	1069
2022	812	282	1094
2023	810	317	1127
<b>WING</b>	<b>3099</b>	<b>1185</b>	<b>4284</b>

58 International Cadets are counted in the Cadet Wing Strength, but do not count in the Fiscal year Strength.



Back row, middle: Cadet 2nd Class Spencer Flint and other cadets from the U.S. Air Force Academy pose for

a photo during their Air Force Operations visit to Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, this summer. (Courtesy photo)

*Commentary by Cadet 2nd Class Spencer Flint, Sept. 4, 2019*

**U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.** — I traveled to Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma this summer for two weeks with other cadets to take part in Operations Air Force. It's a program designed to help cadets better understand how the Air Force works and how officers, noncommissioned officers and successfully team up to complete the mission. It's amazing to see how many people go into making things work. My Ops Air Force experience taught me that people truly are our greatest asset.

Most cadets come to understand before taking part in the program that support and operational functions have a purpose even if we don't know exactly what that purpose is. After visiting Tinker, I know we developed a better picture of the "Big Air Force" and how its components combine to accomplish the mission. Flying missions may seem the most important part of the Air Force from the outside, but during Ops Air Force, we came to realize those flying missions are just the tip of the iceberg.

Some of the more important things I learned from Ops Air Force were meeting enlisted Airmen and seeing how important all the different Air Force specialties are in the big picture. I gained a lot of respect for aircraft maintainers who will make sure my aircraft can safely fly if I become a pilot. I also learned a lot about how a second lieutenant provides leadership even if they have little idea what responsibilities they'll have when they arrive at their first unit.

When cadets graduate from the Academy and become second lieutenants, we have to be willing to immerse ourselves in our new unit and be mentored by the officers above us and by our senior NCO and civilian teammates. We need to be like sponges, soaking up all the knowledge we can get from our Total Force teammates to be the best at our respective specialties. We need to be the experts the Air Force needs us to be.

During Ops Air Force, my group of cadets heard this advice from many people, particularly from the senior officers and senior NCOs we met.

We had a great visit and learning experience at Tinker. Without a doubt, the experience will help us make educated decisions about our careers and help us be the best second lieutenants we can be after we graduate.

*[Editor's note: Flint is a mechanical engineering major from Knoxville, Tennessee. He's assigned to Cadet Squadron 07]*



## AF Academy cadets compete for 1st time in reserve officers' competition in Estonia

U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Ethan Haley prepares his sling during the rifle marksmanship portion of the international military competition. United States service members participated in the 2019 Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR) Military Competition Commission in Tallinn, Estonia, Aug 4-10, 2019. ([Staff Sgt. Nina Ramon](#)) [205th Press Camp Headquarters](#)

*By Ray Bowden, Sept. 10, 2019*

**U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo.** — Two cadets and an officer at the Air Force Academy helped Team USA win several medals at a military challenge in Estonia last month.

Cadets Ethan Haley and Thomas Walker, and Lt. Col. Rob Marshall, competed in the Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers Military Competition in Tallin, Estonia, Aug. 4-9. Team USA earned two gold, one silver and two bronze medals.

“It’s a highly-competitive international gathering of NATO and Partnership for Peace allies,” said Marshall, the deputy chief of research at the Academy’s Center for Character and Leadership Development.

U.S. military cadets can compete as they’re on reserve status while attending a service academy.

“It tests real warrior skills officers need on the battlefield: physical fitness, teamwork, land navigation, marksmanship, combat First-aid and the Law of Armed Conflict,” Marshall said.

A team of three Air Force officers — including Marshall — and an Army sergeant, won the gold medal in the competition’s only academic category, the Law of Armed Conflict. The team also received the bronze medal in the Tactical Combat Casualty Care category.

Haley, Walker and an Army corporal, earned the bronze medal in the Novice Team category.

“Placing second overall for novice is very difficult,” Marshall said. “The novice category often represents the younger, most physically fit and fastest service members.”

This is the first year cadets from the Air Force Academy have competed in the challenge, which began in 1957.

Haley said the challenge gave him a deeper appreciation for international relationships.

“I no longer have to imagine the effects of allied partnerships and relations we hold with other countries,” he said. “I’ve experienced them first-hand with members of NATO and Partnership for Peace allies.”

Partnership for Peace promotes cooperation between various Euro-Atlantic countries and NATO.

Visit <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/701404/lt-col-rob-marshall-cior-2019-interview> to see more coverage of the event.



The U.S. Air Force Academy will host an official retirement ceremony for Brig. Gen. Andrew Armacost (seen here), dean of the faculty, Sept. 16, 2019. Armacost will retire from the Air Force after 30 years of military service. (U.S. Air Force photo/Trevor Cokley)

*Staff reports, Sept. 11, 2019*

**U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo.** — The Air Force Academy will celebrate Brig. Gen. Andrew Armacost’s tenure as dean of the faculty and his 30-year active duty career with an official retirement ceremony, Sept. 13 in Arnold Hall.

Armacost, the Academy’s 10th dean, was nominated to that position in May 2013 by President Barack Obama and assumed his current duties and rank after Senate confirmation that summer. He moved to the dean’s chair from his position as permanent professor and head of the Academy’s Department of Management.

As dean, Armacost commanded the 700-member Dean of the Faculty and oversaw the annual design and instruction of more than 500 undergraduate courses for 4,000 cadets in 30 academic disciplines. He also directed the operation of five support staff agencies and faculty resources involving more than \$350 million.

Armacost began his career with his commission through ROTC after earning his bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering from Northwestern University in 1989. He earned his masters and doctorate degrees in operations research from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Armacost led the faculty through many key events at the Academy, including greatly increasing research output and technology transfer to warfighters, re-accrediting the institution and restoring resources following sequestration.

President Donald Trump's nominee to replace Armacost, Col. Linell Letendre, is currently the Permanent Professor and Head of the Academy's Department of Law. The Senate has not yet confirmed her nomination.

## PREP SCHOOL INFORMATION

Below is the Point of Contact for questions for our Preparatory School Candidate parents.

Central Email for Prep School Questions:  
[PrepInfo@usafa.edu](mailto:PrepInfo@usafa.edu), or phone (719) 333-2583

Website: <https://www.usafa.edu/prep-school/>

FACEBOOK:  
<https://www.facebook.com/USAFAPrepSchool/>

Mail: HQ USAFA/PL  
5229 Cedar Drive, Suite 117  
USAF Academy, CO 80840-3100

Prep School 2019-2020 Academic Calendar:  
[https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/PL\\_2019-2020\\_Calendar.pdf](https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/PL_2019-2020_Calendar.pdf)

## HELPFUL WEBSITES and POCs -

Parent Information Link:  
<https://www.usafa.edu/parents/>

Graduation Information Link:  
<https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/graduation/>

AOG's Event Calendar Link:  
[www.usafa.org/Calendar/Events](http://www.usafa.org/Calendar/Events)

Academic Calendars Link:  
<https://www.usafa.edu/academics/academic-calendar/>

Cadet Curriculum Handbook:

(also outlines summer programs available for cadets in what year):  
<https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/CHB.pdf>

Cadet Major listing:  
<https://www.usafa.edu/academics/majors-minors/>

Cadet Clubs:  
(just a listing of clubs and POCs, not a schedule of where they may be):  
<https://www.usafa.edu/cadet-life/clubs/>

Cadet Survival Guide: Go to [www.usafasupport.com](http://www.usafasupport.com) and click Arnold Hall or go to the below link:  
<http://nebula.wsimg.com/0c9d0bf12f8b6a1ca725ae69871b531b?AccessKeyId=C7760A2EE485D3702028&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

Cadet Media:  
[www.usafasupport.com/cadet-activities/cadet-media](http://www.usafasupport.com/cadet-activities/cadet-media)

Admissions:  
(parents can help us recruit future cadets):  
[www.academyadmissions.com/](http://www.academyadmissions.com/)

Sports Schedules:  
[www.goairforcefalcons.com/calendar/events/](http://www.goairforcefalcons.com/calendar/events/)

Base Cadet Treats (Flower Shop):  
(719) 472-8589  
[petalsnblooms.com](http://petalsnblooms.com)

Gift Cards order phone numbers:  
Cadet Store (Base Exchange) (719) 472-1953  
10 FSS: (719) 472-7930

Hometown News Release (must have CAC card):  
<https://jhns.release.dma.mil/public>

Life Touch photos:  
POC: Sherri Peloso <http://lifetouch.com/>  
1 (800) 426-9533 extension 128 or 241

**UPCOMING DATES:**

5 Oct 19	Football Game against NAVY (away)
14 Oct 19	Columbus Day Holiday (no classes)
2 Nov 19	Football Game against ARMY (Home)
11 Nov 19	Veterans Day Holiday (no classes)
26 Nov – 1 Dec 19	Thanksgiving Break Leave after LMD; return by 7 pm on 1 Dec 19
9 – 13 Dec 19	Cadet Finals
16 Dec 19 – 5 Jan 20	Cadet Winter Break; Return by 7:00pm on 5 Jan 20
20 Jan 20	Martin Luther King Holiday (no classes)
17 Feb 20	Presidents Day Holiday (no classes)
19 – 21 Feb 20	National Character and Leadership Symposium (NCLS)
12 – 14 Mar 20	2023 Recognition
20 – 29 Mar 20	Cadet Spring Break, released LMD, Return by 7:00pm on 29 Mar 20
11 – 15 May 20	Cadet Finals
28 May 20	2020 Class Graduates
30 May 20	1st Summer Session Begins
20 Jun 20	1st Summer Session Ends/ 2nd Summer Session Begins
25 Jun 20	2024 Class In-Processes
26 Jun 20	2024 Swearing In Ceremony (time TBD)
4 Jul 20	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Holiday (2024 BCT training continues)
31 Jul 20	2024 BCT Graduation (not for parents) Cadet Wing only
1 Aug 20	3 <sup>rd</sup> Summer Session Ends/BCT Ends/Cadet Wing Returns by 7:00pm

**Parent Liaison Contact Info:**

MARIE NIKOVITS

Parents' Liaison

Phone: (719) 333-3828,

Toll Free: (877) 268-3383

Fax: (719) 333-1433

E-mail: [USAFA.ParentLiaison@usafa.edu](mailto:USAFA.ParentLiaison@usafa.edu)