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Vision for the Unit

I envision a unit that is not a collection of individuals pushing for the common goal of Commissioning in the Navy and Marine Corps, but a team who collectively challenges, inspires, and holds each other accountable for the standards that we must maintain as future officers. As each class progresses through the unit, overcoming different trials and learning from new experience, I want them to build a sense of pride in their work and begin to develop a sense of dedication and humility for those who they are charged with supervising as they begin to hold billets within the Midshipman Company. As future officers, the midshipmen need to learn that they are in place to serve their people. This should reflect in their actions while they are in this unit. I want this unit to run in as close accordance to the fleet as possible, to include many duties and responsibilities, to ensure that they have the time management and leadership qualities that will be expected of them after they leave Savannah State University. We need to ensure that the fleet is receiving the most well-rounded and committed junior officers as it can get so that Marines and Sailors are getting the leaders that they deserve. This unit should emanate a presence of discipline and integrity in both their military and academic responsibilities. Every midshipman here has the ability to make a change for the better and inspire ingenuity and initiative in themselves and others. This unit is the place where high school graduates are to be molded, in four years, into college graduates who have earned the right to lead Sailors and Marines.

MIDN HEFLEY
NROTCU MCO
LT Muzik M. McClinton earned a BA in Psychology in 2006 from Georgia State University. He was accepted into Officer Candidate School in October of 2009, began training in February of 2010 and was commissioned in May of the same year.

In June of 2010 he reported aboard USS PONCE (LPD 15), then homeported in Norfolk, Virginia. There he served as the Repair Division Officer and the Auxiliaries Division Officer. During his time on PONCE, LT McClinton qualified Officer of the Deck Underway, Engineering Officer of the Watch, and earned the Surface Warfare Officer Pin. He also completed a deployment to the 5th and 6th Fleet areas of responsibility.

In April 2012 LT McClinton transferred to PC CREW ECHO/USS WHIRLWIND (PC 11), located in Norfolk, Virginia. While onboard, he served as the Weapons/Supply Officer and Executive Officer, and completed his second deployment to the 5th Fleet AOR. In June of 2013, he transferred with the crew to Manama, Bahrain. LT McClinton reported to NROTCU Savannah State University on July 27, 2014. He is teaching Introduction to Naval Science and Sea Power and Maritime Affairs.
Ms. Pamela E. Howard

Ms. Pamela E. Howard is a native of Savannah, Georgia. She is a 1982 graduate of Tompkins High School. In April of 1990 she joined the United State Navy and served faithfully for 12 years as a yeoman. While in the Navy Ms. Howard was stationed in New Orleans, LA; Jacksonville, FL; and Norfolk, VA., and the ports that she was honored to visit were Puerto Rico; Bathe, ME; Iceland; England; Scotland; Ireland; Norway and Holland. After an honorable discharge from the Navy, she moved to Orange Park, FL where she raised her two children, Jamal and Jasmine and earned a Bachelor’s in Business Management and Administration. In 2010, she moved back to her hometown, Savannah, where she completed her Masters in Adult Education and Training. She accepted a position as a Paraprofessional in the Special Education Department at Windsor Forest High School. Now, Ms. Pamela Howard is working as the Ship’s Secretary for the Savannah State University NROTC Unit.
In my time here at Savannah State University, I have never been more proud of the Midshipman Company than I was this year. This semester was fraught with challenges, but along with these challenges came opportunities, and we made the most of every one of them. As individuals, everyone stepped up their game this semester and many went above and beyond in their duties to make the unit run as efficiently as possible. As a Company, these individual efforts were multiplied one hundred fold. We have made incredible strides this year towards improving our own training and getting the most out of our time at Savannah State and Armstrong State Universities, and I know this trend will continue next fall. However, I am most proud of this Company for its perseverance and constant support. My staff and I came into this semester with lofty goals and a handful of changes right from the start. But no matter what we tried, I always found that we could count on the Company for support and great feedback to make a particular event better in the future.

I will close by leaving you with a challenge: never stop improving yourself and those around you. This applies not only to your time at Savannah State, but also in your upcoming naval careers and in your civilian lives to follow. The minute that you stop seeking improvement is the minute you stop performing your duties as an officer and as a contributing member of society. I am certain that every one of you will go on to achieve great things in any of your pursuits, but this is not my concern. The temptation of accepting the status quo is ever-present, and we must do our best to resist this temptation and not become stagnant in our lives. It is also vital that you seek these improvements for the right reasons and never lose sight of the true purpose behind everything that you do: service to others. Self-improvement must not be pursued for your own sake, but for the Sailors and Marines that you will be so privileged to serve. We are all called to lead America’s sons and daughters, and we owe them and their families our very best.

Captain Price
My first week was aviation week. The best part of the week was getting the opportunity to fly in a T-6. The second week of CORTRAMID was Marine week. Some of the activities consisted of going inside of a gas chamber, running the obstacle course, fighting with the pugil sticks, doing Mount Warfare training, flying a Cobra simulator, exploring Marine aircraft, and, shooting weapons at a live gun range, such as the M-16, SAW, and Mark 19. My favorite week was surface week. I got to spend six days out at sea on the USS Whidbey Island. I got to tag along with operations and see what the officers and enlisted do throughout the day. The last week was submarine week. A two hour tug boat ride took me to meet the USS Alaska. I was able to take as many tours as I liked, “angles and dangles” was the best part, and the crew were very respectful and knowledgeable.

I spent approximately a week aboard on DDG Laboon 58. The purpose of this cruise was to ensure that all midshipmen understand the importance of the enlisted members of the crew on a ship and their place in the chain of command. Seeing the surface warfare life has helped me consider becoming a SWO. I really enjoyed seeing the 5-inch gun fire. I witnessed and participated in multiple shipboard evolutions including live-fire exercises, small boat operations, watch standing, man overboard drills, underway replenishment, flight operations, and engineering drills.
During Mountain Warfare we did a lot of survival training, such as sleeping outside. We made our own shelters out of nothing but the materials we had packed with us and materials we found out in nature, such as sticks, and logs. When we traveled from one point to another we would hike with packs on our backs, and it would be up steep hills. The higher we climbed in elevation the thinner the oxygen got, which made it harder to breathe. The highest point we climbed was close to 10,000 ft. When we would sleep outside, it would get cold enough that most of the midshipman including myself, would have to sleep in layers to keep warm. Looking back I can say that I will never forget what I learned and saw while there and that participating in that training was an once in a lifetime experience that will stay with me for the rest of my life.

For the summer of 2014 I attended Officer Candidates School for the Marine Corps. During my six-week process as a candidate I was tested mentally, spiritually, and physically. Many situations tested all of the candidate’s leadership abilities and problem solving skills. Some of the events we were evaluated in were the Leadership Reaction Course, Small Unit Leadership Exercise and various physically demanding events. The mission of OCS is to screen, train, and evaluate potential candidates for officers of the Marine Corps. This mission is the heart and soul of OCS and the instructors are very passionate about challenging each individual. Each candidate has a chance to be put in what’s called a “billet” or a job, and then is evaluated by not only the instructors but the candidates as well. Twice each candidate would evaluate other candidates in his squad and all of these evaluations would go into what is called a command evaluation or “overall e-val”. I enjoyed my process at OCS with the opportunities I had and the many candidates I befriended. Marine Corps Officer Candidates School is one of the most memorable moments in my life.
NSO, or New Student Orientation is a week long orientation period where students new to the program are taken to Parris Island and converted from civilian to Midshipman. Orientation is only a couple of weeks long thus instruction is both critical and intense.

NSO is a learning instruction primarily for the freshman, however NSO period proves to be a valuable experience for the Troop Handlers as well. While the freshman are learning basic military instruction such as customs and courtesies, Troop Handlers have to learn how to effectively transport the freshmen and provide them with clear instructions. Troop handlers have to feed and take care of the freshman which proves to be a very difficult task.

“A Troop Handler’s job is to instill bearing, discipline, and respect within the Midshipmen Candidates.”

-MIDN 1/C Russell
The Midshipmen of the Semester are students that reach a high level of performance by excelling academically and physically. They are awarded this title based on military performance, Midshipmen Company involvement and being active in University activities.
**MIDN 2/C BUTLER**

Hometown: Easley, SC  
Major: Political Science  
Classification: Senior  
Career Goals: Commission and deploy to East Asia.  
Advice: “Get involved, but not too involved to where it conflicts with your interest and academic needs.”

**MIDN 1/C MACHEN**

Hometown: Miami-Dade, FL  
Major: Criminal Justice  
Classification: Junior  
Career Goals: To be successful, support my family, and never have to ask the next man for funds  
Advice: “Practice what you preach.”
Midshipmen of the Semester

MIDN 2/C HULIK

Hometown: Cumming, Georgia
Major: History
Classification: Junior
Career Goals: Become a Marine Corps Officer at all cost.
Advice: “Always remember why you are doing this.”

MIDN 1/C HEFLEY

Hometown: Santa Ynez, CA
Major: Criminal Justice
Classification: Senior
Career Goals: Select an MOS that I want and staying in the Marine Corps until Captain or beyond.
Advice: “There is a time for play and a time for work.”
THIS YEAR THE MIDSHIPMAN COMPANY HAD MANY MIDN PARTICIPATE IN THE ANNUAL HALLOWEEN RUN. PERSONALITIES TRULY CAME OUT WITH EVERYONE’S CHOICE OF COSTUME. THE HALLOWEEN RUN IS A TIME WHEN THE MIDSHIPMEN’S CREATIVE SIDE BEGINS TO REALLY SHOW. THE HALLOWEEN RUN GIVES MIDSHIPMEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO STEP BACK FROM THEIR BUSY EVERYDAY LIVES FOR A WHILE AND COME TOGETHER TO HAVE SOME FUN. LAUGHING AND SINGING DURING A RUN IS NOT SOMETHING THE COMPANY DOES ON A REGULAR BASIS, HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO IT EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE MOTIVATES THE MIDSHIPMEN AND HAS PROVED TO BE A GREAT MORALE BOOSTER FOR THE COMPANY. EVERYONE’S PARTICIPATION MADE THIS YEAR’S HALLOWEEN RUN A TRUE SUCCESS.
The Medal of Honor Scholarship awards a $5,000 scholarship to ROTC undergraduate students from each branch of the Armed Services. These students are chosen by their demonstrated devotion to their country and proven leadership characteristics such as selflessness, courage and devotion to country. Above all, these students are chosen for their demonstrated leadership performance and potential.

This semester Midshipman Vanda Johnson received the Medal of Honor Scholarship for the Navy ROTC.

Congratulations Midshipman Johnson!!!!
This semester our unit was fortunate enough to be visited by the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Michelle Howard. This visit affected me greatly; I highly enjoyed being in the presence of such an outstanding Navy figure. As future Naval Officers, Admiral Howard gave us advice that will affect how we fight in our Naval career. She told us to be adaptable to the ever-growing world around us and to use our resources to become effective war fighters. Personally, I will try my hardest to use the advice she gave us to become the best Naval Officer I can be.

MIDN 1/C Hensley
The Navy/Marine Birthday ball is conducted every fall semester not only to foster the *esprit the corps* of the unit but also to celebrate the birthday of the U.S Navy and Marine Corps. This event is a time for the Midshipmen Company to come together and honor the Military Traditions that have been inherited for centuries. Midshipmen take a moment to remember the fallen service members from the past and all the sacrifices they have made. However, this is a joyous event celebrating yet another year of military service.
Congratulations Officers!