

# NCSU NROTC IMC SPRING 2018

JANUARY 2018  
MONTHLY ISSUE #1



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## WELCOME WOLFPACK TO 2018

As we end another great semester with North Carolina State's Wolfpack Battalion, so begins a new! Welcome to 2018!

Congratulations to all Midshipmen (MIDN), Officer Candidates (OC's), and Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Education Program candidates (MECEPs) that made this last semester such a memorable one and keep up the hard work to ensure that this semester is even better than the last! For our newly commissioned Ensigns and Second Lieutenants, a hearty Bravo Zulu to all of you and we look forward to hearing from each of you on your worldwide adventures!

We would like to also thank our families, friends, NROTC staff, veterans, and Active Duty for the support and guidance they give us each and every day. None of this would be possible without you.

Please enjoy reading about the leadership happening in and around the Wolfpack Battalion each month!

Semper Fortis and Semper Fidelis

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(Left to Right) ENS Magness, ENS Blinn, ENS Newman and 2nd Lt. Eyre during their commissioning ceremony.

At the end of the fall 2017 semester, NCSU Naval ROTC had four graduates who commissioned into the Navy and Marine Corps: Dereck Newman, Charles Blinn, Michael Magness and Kento Eyre. The ceremony began with a speech from the battalion's commanding officer, Captain Mark Stern. An experienced officer in the United States Navy, Captain Stern gave his advice and best wishes to the new Ensigns and Second Lieutenant.

Then, the Oath of Office was given to each midshipman to formally commission them into the Navy and Marine Corps. Captain Stern gave the oath to everyone but Ensign Magness. His oath was given by his father. Each of the newly-commissioned officers was given their new uniform pieces, including their cover and jacket. These items were exchanged by the families. After they were in their new officer uniforms, they each rendered their "first salute" to an enlisted military member. The first salute for Ensigns Newman, Magness, and Blinn was given by Staff Sergeant Bradley, the Assistant Marine Officer Instructor for the battalion. Second Lieutenant Eyre's first salute was given by one of his friends, an enlisted member of the Marine Corps. Following tradition, the newly-commissioned officers all gave their first salutee a silver dollar. Next, the new officers, and Captain Stern signed their formal documents. They were presented with a plaque to congratulate them. All four of the new officers will soon be headed to their respective platforms in the Navy and Marine Corps.

- MIDN 4/C Burcher



Early morning on 22 JAN 18, the battalion conducted the Inventory PRT for the start of the spring semester. At approximately 0600, LT Rorapaugh read off the official PRT instructions before commencing the test. Despite the frigid temperatures reaching a low of 37 degrees, seven midshipmen and one OC scored "outstanding." Only 16 members of the battalion were put on FEP to start the semester. That number will drop as the year goes on with opportunities to test out of FEP once per month. MIDN Spalding, the battalion Physical Training Officer, was impressed with the results. He said: "As PTO, I am very happy with the base level of fitness within the Battalion this semester and see great potential in where we can end up by the time the final PFA comes around at the end of April."

- MIDN 3/C Perry

The lab conducted on January 10, 2018 consisted of several briefings and introductory statements by MIDNs, OCs, and MECEPs in new leadership positions. The battalion was informed of the changes, goals, and expectations for the new semester.



CAPT Stern speaking on integrity and moral conflict

Afterwards, Captain Stern spoke on the importance of integrity. He began by telling a personal story about a time he was placed in a moral conflict where he faced serious consequences if he told the truth. Early in his career he was serving aboard a submarine, when he received a routine order to destroy sensitive information. Unfortunately a crucial error was made regarding sensitive information that he accidentally destroyed. He had a decision

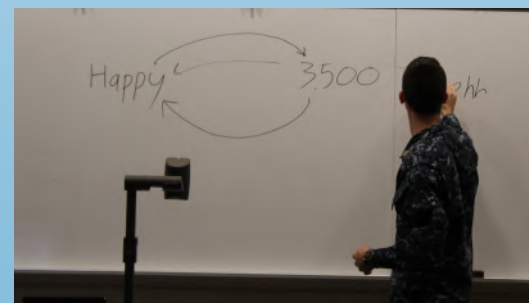
to make: if he told the truth, it was likely that he could go to captain's mast; however, he ultimately made the decision that his integrity was far more important than any potential consequences. He told the truth and was only given a minor reprimand. He went on to provide examples in which students could be placed in similar situations where their integrity could be challenged such as plagiarism.

Then, several midshipmen in new leadership positions went forward to introduce themselves. They gave further explanation of the battalion's goals for the upcoming semester. Particularly MIDN 1/C Boisse provided details for how he planned to lead the battalion. He indicated his plan to lead under three basic principles: "be personable, be professional, and be transparent." MIDN 1/C Boisse also outlined his plans to make the battalion operate like an actual fleet unit in the Navy and Marine Corps.

Next, Staff Sergeant Enright discussed the reasons and organizational benefits of forming Charlie Company. Chiefly, Charlie company would help the Marine-options better prepare for OCS. Major Morris made it very clear that the marine options and MECEPs were not separating from the battalion, but rather reintegrating with more focus on OCS preparation.

Every new MIDN, OC, and MECEP in a leadership position provided clear and concise information regarding their expectations for the coming semester. MIDN 1/C Feroce was especially helpful in his brief regarding the ratio of happiness to one's GPA. He even provided a helpful chart that outlined the logic behind the phenomena. Overall, the lab was successful.

- MIDN 4/C Olson



MIDN Feroce's cycle of happiness vs. GPA.



Monday, 15-Jan, students received a day off because of the federal holiday to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. On Wednesday, 17-Jan, the Wolfpack Battalion was slated to have a morning lab period, as always, followed by a standard day of classes.

However, Mother Nature would have other plans. On Tuesday night, classes were canceled for the coming Wednesday due to an expected snow storm. And true to the prediction, Raleigh was blanketed with up to five inches of snow in some places. The frigid precipitation came down all day, and everyone had a good chance to catch some extra sleep and frolic in a post-Christmas winter wonderland



MIDN Kirkland and MIDN Perry enjoying the snow day in the presence of their friends.

As roads became hazardous and cars were frozen and buried in snow, most Wolfpack members remained close to their homes or dorms, doing homework and making some time for fun. MIDNs Kirkland and Perry posed with their comrades after a brutal snowball fight while MIDN Trevey took the picture. Even though the snow duel ended in a physical brawl on the ground, it was a lovely time for all and a good workout for those unwilling to make their way down the icy road to Carmichael Gym.

Other midshipmen were known to make snowmen or have friends over for hot chocolate. Although the teaching and learning experience of a bright and early morning lab was dearly missed by all those concerned, it must also be said that the opportunity for fun and sleep taken by the Wolfpack Battalion was an acceptable substitute.

The following 18-Jan school day would also be canceled, and much fun and studying would also be had. Classes were back in session on Friday, 19-Jan, but spirits were high after a two-day school week going right back into the weekend. It was a lovely vacation.

- MIDN 3/C Kirkland

Today's Naval Science Lab began with a current event brief. MIDN Hamrick discussed the government shutdown and its effect on military operations. MIDN La Pointe briefed the battalion on the false alarm in-bound missile alert that took place in Hawaii. After the current event, there was a transition to a combined security brief. This brief addressed cyber security, operational security, PII, and insider threats. This information was presented by MIDN Pockat, MIDN White, MIDN Gagelin, and OC Doughtie. LT Scalabrino also interjected to emphasize important information and to help answer questions. After this, we were briefed by the battalion commander and the battalion sergeant major on the EMI policy. This was beneficial, as many MIDN had not seen the policy before and were unaware of this information. After this, the battalion was briefed on the proper wear of uniforms to be worn throughout the spring 2018 semester. We were also given an academics brief by the academics officer, MIDN Feroce. Finally, the battalion commander and the battalion sergeant major conducted an award ceremony. This recognized MIDN/OC's/MECEP's who excelled in academics, physical fitness tests, drill, and in the supporting of shipmates. Captain Stern went out of his way to emphasize the importance of awards during this ceremony.

The discussion on awards by the Captain was extremely significant. Being an enlisted sailor or marine is often a relatively thankless job. Many good deeds by our sailors and marines that should be recognized are simply missed when it comes to recognition. It is important that we, upon commissioning, recognize our sailors and marines for their contributions and accomplishments. This can be done initially by making a recommendation via our chain of command. Once a higher rank is reached, we will be able to award our sailors/marines ourselves. Awards are important for recognizing those who go above and beyond what is required.

-OC Love



SSgt. Manuel receiving an award from Midshipman Boise, our Battalion Commander, for achieving a 4.0 GPA last semester



(Right to Left)-Midshipman Krasny, Taylor, Chaundy, Henkel, White, and Jaynes receiving awards from Capt. Stern for a maximum score on their PFA



As usual, the day began with an update on current events. Today's topics were 1) the resignation of the FBI Deputy Director and the President's role in the process, and 2) the status of Turkey territories and how US supported forces there are perceived as terrorists. This is something we need to keep in mind – that to others, we are not heroes. Extra caution must be observed especially when traveling overseas.

When trouble arises, however, such as accidents, it would be useful to know a few things especially that people would likely to turn to us, men and women in uniform, in time of need. In such cases, we need to remember to follow the M-A-R-C-H order. Additionally, ensure that the person is out of danger zone X prior to treating non-life-threatening concerns, which instead must be addressed in the safety of the casualty collection point (CCP) since it provides better cover than danger zone X. Also, whenever you put on a tourniquet, NEVER REMOVE IT! Only a medical professional can.

## MARCH

- **M- Massive hemorrhaging** (Reassess TQ, apply TQ or pressure dressing)
- **A- Airway, Alertness** (assess and clear airway, check alertness)
- **R- Respiratory system** (tiger claw method, treat for sucking chest wound)
- **C- Circulation** (treat non-life threatening bleeding)
- **H- Hypothermia, Hyperthermia, Shock** (assess and treat as needed)

The Trauma Care Training was then followed by a SWO-N brief for all Navy options, which ran concurrently with a Marines Breakout. LCDR Gunderson and Master Chief Foster discussed the typical timeline for both conventional and nuclear SWOs, as well as ship selection and port visits. A brief comparison of submarine life and surface life was also made by Master Chief Foster, who happen to have served in both communities.



BATCOM MIDN Boisse presenting LCDR Gunderson and Master Chief Foster with a battalion coin.

Meanwhile, our Marines familiarized themselves with the compass – its different parts, holds (cheek and center), and measurements (degrees and mils). They also learned to convert between the different types of north and to orient themselves using a topographical map. Using the compass is crucial to success of our Marines while going through OCS, where they will be tasked to navigate both day and night in the woods.

Finally, the lab ended with an Alumni Update featuring ENS Katherine Spaeth. She is currently qualifying towards her SWO pin and efficiently running her division. It recently dawned on her how very people oriented our profession is. One time when she finished her tasks for the day, she asked her Chief if she could leave. Her Chief had to explain to her that they are not to leave until their last sailor does. This is what leaders do. We cannot expect our sailors to work harder or longer than we ourselves are willing to put in. We lead by example.

-OC Goh



Left: MIDN 2/C Abourched and MIDN 4/C Grose shown standing outside of Bancroft Hall in Annapolis Md. with MIDN from UNC, Duke, and Gy.Sgt Aguilar. This iconic building is the largest single building dormitory in the world, housing the entire brigade of midshipmen (~4000 MIDN) at the Naval Academy.



Right: MIDN 2/C Abourched and MIDN 4/C Grose standing in Memorial Hall inside of Bancroft Hall beneath the the infamous "Don't Give Up The Ship" placard. Memorial Hall is dedicated to the memory of alumni who have died in service to their country

This semester the NCSU Wolfpack Battalion sent two of its own to the 2018 Naval Academy Leadership Conference (NALC) held at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis Maryland. MIDN 2/C Abourched and MIDN 4/C Groce attended the NALC with 4 fellow Midshipmen from UNC and Duke and their AMOI, Gunnery Sergeant Aguilar. Speakers ranged from former Vice President Cheney, a former Blue Angel, multiple members of the Naval Special Warfare Command, as well as CEO's of Fortune 500 companies. The theme for this year's conference was "Breaking Barriers: Obstacles are Opportunities." Many of the speakers talked about different types of adversity they've encountered in their Military and Civilian careers and how they have dealt with them. The underlying theme was not physical toughness but mental resilience. Almost all of them said that to make it through an obstacle in life, you can't go through it alone. They harped on the importance of having a support system made up of those that you love and who love you back. Overall the experience was outstanding. Having the opportunity to listen, talk to, and shake the hand of people who've done so much for our country and prospered in the face of adversity was truly humbling.

## - MIDN 4/C Groce



MIDN shown here with Gy.Sgt Aguilar and former EOD LT. Brad Synder, who was blinded by an IED. He was one of the many speakers at the conference.

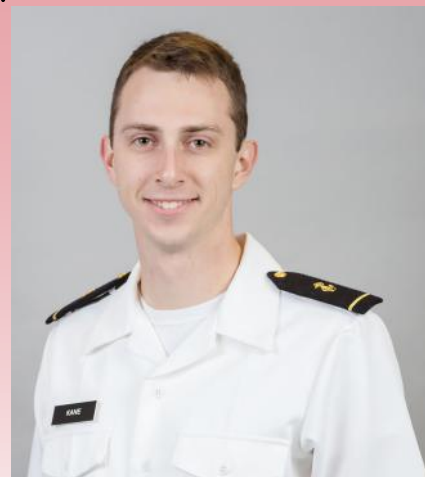


MIDN shown here with Gy.Sgt Aguilar standing aboard a Yard Patrol Craft (YPC), used to train MIDN at the Naval Academy on the key tenants of seamanship.





MIDN 1/C Liam Taylor is a senior Navy option in Textile Engineering from Annapolis Maryland. He has a rich naval history in his family, stemming primarily in the aviation community. He is service selected as a Student Naval Aviator and hopes to one day follow in his father's footsteps and fly maritime patrol.



MIDN 1/C Dylan Kane is a senior Navy option in Industrial Engineering from Richmond, VA. He is service selected as a Student Naval Aviator and hopes to fly helicopters. He enjoys watching movies and running Spartan races.



MIDN 1/C Henry Feroce is a senior Navy option in mechanical engineering, a major he chose due to the positive influence of his father and his career in the field. He is from Shelton, Connecticut. Taking from his uncle, a Navy helicopter pilot, MIDN Feroce has service selected for Student Naval Aviator.

MIDN 1/C Michael Londa is a senior Marine option in Industrial Engineering from Akron, OH. He proudly continues LeBron James' hometown legacy on the club basketball team. His favorite author is Jon Krakauer. He is commissioning in the Marine Corps and hopes to earn an aviation contract.



MIDN 1/C Ian Barclay is a senior Marine option in Accounting from Charlotte, NC. After The Basic School, he hopes to be selected as a Marine Infantry Officer because he wants to confront evil and oppression in the world.