



USNA Summer Seminar

by Anastasiya Austin (Claremore, '07)

This summer, I was privileged to attend the United States Naval Academy Summer Seminar. My classmate, Caitlin Robertson, and I flew to Annapolis for a week of intense training and classes, along with the other chosen candidates from all over the United States. Our week there consisted of getting up with our companies before dawn for a PT (Physical Training) session before the morning meal in the Mess Hall. Afterwards we attended drill sessions with our platoons and engaged in various other training activities such as the Physical Readiness Test, more running, and frantic memorization of ranks, mission statements, and USNA traditional songs and mottoes. One of our days was devoted entirely to the Sea Trials, which is eight hours of continuous team-building PT, and an endurance course in the woods, log PT, races in Zodiacs, and finally, the traditional 40-Year Swim and a jump off the diving tower at the USNA swimming pool.

We also had the opportunity to take two days of classes at the Academy, where we got to know the programs available, the teaching faculty, as well as getting to engage in hands-on activities. We operated robots, planned out attacks and completed missions in Fleet Command War-Gaming, examined torpedoes, and designed web-pages. One night, we were treated to a chance to attend the Sunset Parade, in which the Marine Corp Marching Band and Drill Team performed outstanding and complex routines. Later in the week, all the platoons and companies had a drill competition, judged by the Marine Corp Gunnery Sergeants, for which we prepared throughout the seminar. The day before we left, we were to exhibit our nerve and memorization skills as the cadre lined everyone up in the hallways for the Mock Indoctrination Ceremony.

The week at the USNA Summer Seminar was an opportunity for which I am very grateful. Besides learning more about the Navy, its customs and traditions, I got first-hand experience that became crucial in my final decision about attending the Academy. I would gladly repeat that week again, and readily recommend attending the seminar to anyone who is interested in applying for the United States Naval Academy.

Students Report on Summer Research

After a very nice solo sung by Kim Dike (Edmond, '07) and a report from Judy Wang (Ponca City, '07) updating her fellow students on national and world news, Wednesday's assembly was turned over to the three students who were fortunate enough to have spent the summer in an investigative research lab with mentor, Dr. Stephen Jackson, at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation. Kim, along with Nathan Roy (Choctaw, '07) and Michael Henderson (Dale, '07) gave us a Power Point presentation explaining the research they did (cancer cell research) under the watchful eye of Dr. Jackson.

Dr. Jackson presented each of his students with a *Certificate of Investigative Research* for completing the **Building Young Scientists** academic and mentorship program. The certificate states "You have demonstrated your ability to formulate and test new hypotheses by performing primary investigative research in both a logical and ethical manner."

Besides the knowledge and skills they gained, all three students testified that they also learned about commitment, work ethic, dedication, respect, friendship, and personal responsibility (among other things) from working with Dr. Jackson.

PAOSSM

(www.paossm.org)

What a great Parents Day we had! I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we did. It's a wonderful way for us parents to get a feel for what our students are doing day in and day out. However, we didn't get the full effect because we didn't come away with any homework. At least we didn't. Maybe some of you weren't so lucky.

Don't forget the very first Parents Association meeting on Monday, September 4, at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium at Lincoln School. Dr. Lease will be there to share some important information that will be of value to all OSSM parents. Remember, a PAOSSM meeting is the place to be if you want to be "in the know!"

Chris and Mack Harris

Your PAOSSM treasurer, Adrienne Collins, reports a poor response from senior parents to the request for pledges. If you did not receive a pledge sheet you can pick one up at Monday's meeting or at the front desk of the Residence Hall.

Parents Day Celebrated

The combined efforts of the faculty, parents, and students made Parents Day a very successful and enjoyable event. Suzanne Donnolo's superb organizational skills were equaled by those of Chris and Mack Harris in their coordination of other parent helpers and treat providers. Ruth Roy, Bea Tran, Audrey Lynch, Mary Ann Henderson, and Ron Weyand were a great help in keeping the food tables abundantly filled and with the help of alumni parents Dave Chapman and Joy Ahmad kept things busy at the memorabilia booth.

Thank you to all the parents who provided refreshments and drinks throughout the morning: Manisha and Amal Chakraborty, Kim and Peter Hoang, Lori and Kraig Thornton, Bea and Phuoc Tran, Syam and Shravanthi Mannava, Arlene and Sid Ballard, Tran and Xiao Bing Li, Wilma Melot, Cheri and John Reilly, Mary and Thomas Henderson, Ruth and Randy Roy, Rhonda and Jess Storie, and Charlotte and Robert Meyer.

Suzanne Donnolo thanks all the students who helped her during the day: Jared Gipson (Blanchard, '07), Claire Manning (Oklahoma City, '07), Tim Thomas (Enid, '07), Connie Liu (Edmond, '08), Zoraya Hightower (Ada, '08), Phil Harris (Oklahoma City, '07), Anastasiya Austin (Claremore, '07), Ed Shalda (Yukon, '07), Randy Schroeder (Haworth, '07), and Prunil Patel (Tulsa, '07).

Senior Parents

There are a few copies of the *2006 Lyceum* available for sale at \$25.00. If your student did not order a year-book last spring, or if you would like an extra copy of last year's book, please contact Donna Roberts (405/522-7806 or droberts@ossm.edu) and she will put a book aside for you.

Happy Birthday to:

Prof. Shannon Chasteen	September 5
Lauren White	September 5
Cameron Goforth	September 5
Amanda Cook	September 8



Meet the Computer Science Faculty

Dr. Farideh Samadzadeh joined the OSSM computer science faculty at the beginning of the 1994-95 school year. She has a B.A. degree in public relations from the College of Mass Communication in her native Iran, two master's degrees, one in communications and one in computer science, from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and a Ph.D. in computer science from Oklahoma State University. This semester Dr. Samadzadeh is teaching Data Structures I, and Object-Oriented Programming with Java. She also teaches Structured Programming, Operating Systems, and Data Systems II. She is also responsible for administering OSSM's Unix Workstations and the OSSM Webpage. Dr. Samadzadeh also maintains the Registrar's database which is the system used to post, record, and store student grades.

In 1999 Dr. Samadzadeh was honored by the Tandy Corporation as one of only 100 teachers in the nation to receive the Radio Shack Prize for Teaching Excellence in Mathematics, Science, and Technology. The award recognizes "exceptional, innovative teachers who instill a spirit of intellectual curiosity, innovation, and competitiveness into today's students."

Dr. Samadzadeh and her husband, Mansur, who is a professor of computer science at Oklahoma State University, live in Stillwater. They have three daughters, Shahrzad, Nozlee, and Shereen. Shahrzad graduated from OSSM in 2000 and with a degree in materials engineering from Carnegie Mellon University. Nozlee graduated from OSSM in 2006 and attends Yale University, and Shereen is currently a senior at OSSM. Dr. Samadzadeh loves to cook with her daughters who are also budding gourmet cooks. As for her taste in music, she enjoys jazz and blues most of all, but she says that she likes "music that suits her mood" which could even include the music that her teenage daughters listen to.

Dr. J Adrian Zimmer is both a computer scientist and a mathematician. His education leans much more towards mathematics. His experience leans much more towards computer science. This experience has included developing software, college teaching, administration of computer science masters degree programs, publishing books, academic research, and service on the editorial board of a research journal in software maintenance.

Dr. Zimmer came to OSSM in January of 2002, where he teaches courses in computer science and the occasional advanced mathematics course. While at OSSM, he has also presented papers at two computer science conferences.

Raised in Nebraska, Dr. Zimmer has lived in three foreign countries and five U.S. states. His Ph.D. is from the University of Waterloo in Ontario. He likes foreign movies and sometimes reads foreign newspapers on the internet. Mostly he reads in English but he can read German with a dictionary and Danish without the dictionary.

Dr. Zimmer's wife, Karen, is a senior systems analyst at Integris Health in Oklahoma City. She has a masters degree in computer science. They live within two miles of OSSM. Dr. Zimmer often walks to work. Their house is almost 100 years old. Mrs. Zimmer calls it the "house of a 1000 projects." The Zimmers are regular visitors at Integris's gym and make use of season tickets to the Oklahoma City Philharmonic.

A daughter, Leslie, lives with her husband and two children in the Philadelphia area. They recently purchased a summer home in Brittany, France. A son, Ethan, lives with his wife in the Boston area. This past summer, Dr. Zimmer and his son took a road trip together, you can find photos at <http://jazimmer.net/family/summer06>.

OSSM's dorm has some Go boards which were donated by the American Go Association at Dr. Zimmer's request. Go is an ancient game of Chinese origin. Dr. Zimmer is a rated, but not particularly strong, player. He enjoys teaching interested students what he knows of the game.

Professor Charlie Dillard is teaching Computer Networking this semester. He also runs the afternoon Pre Calculus II labs. He has also taught Introduction to Computer Science, Structured Programming, Probability and Statistics, and Computer Architecture and Assembly Language Programming. He also teaches "The Art and Science of Fly Fishing" in the spring as part of the fine arts program. Professor Dillard's B.S. is from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in mathematics and computer science, and he has an M.A. in government from Georgetown University. He earned his master's degree while serving in the United States Air Force, stationed at the Pentagon. He worked on the staff of the Secretary of Defense during the Reagan administration and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after 20 years of active duty. He said he has been a "computer person" since he was 16-years-old (yes, they did have computers back in those days!), and worked as an assistant in the computer lab at SWOSU when the university had its first computer. In the Air Force he spent half his years flying planes, and the other half as a computer scientist and statistician. He worked on the Air Force's very first super computer.

Professor Dillard joined the OSSM faculty in August of 1991, and left us after the 1993/94 school year to take a position at SWOSU. Luckily for OSSM, he came back to join our faculty again in 1999.

Professor Dillard and his wife, Karol, a registered nurse, make their home in Weatherford. Their daughter Sara graduated from OSSM in 1994, attended Oklahoma City University, and graduated from Duke University's ministry program. She is now an ordained minister. Their son Christopher is a travel agent in Oklahoma City. For rest and relaxation the professor "leaves it all" for two weeks every summer and goes to Colorado to stand hip deep in a stream to fly fish.



Thank you to . . .

. . . the seniors who helped Ms. Donnolo with a study skills session for juniors this week: Wyatt Sharber (Wynnewood), Anastasiya Austin (Claremore), Michael Henderson (Dale), Katie Maurer (Enid), Sebastain Gould (Kingston), Maggie Qi (Tulsa), Phil Harris (Oklahoma City), Brooke Luo (Oklahoma City), and Alex Speir (Bristow);

. . . and to Jerrel Revels (Proctor, '08) for helping Coach Dan Vossen set up for a MathCounts seminar he held for math teachers on Wednesday;

. . . and to the students who gave tours to guests from Leadership Oklahoma City when they were on campus on Wednesday: Amber Lockner (Gore, '07), Haofei Wei (Tulsa, '07), and Prunil Patel (Tulsa, '07);

. . . and to the students who helped Ms. Donnolo train juniors to give tours: Jason Tolbert (Howe, '07) and Phil Harris (Oklahoma City, '07).

Parents:

Please check Professor Gleason's web page for information on: Selective Service Registration, flu shots, upcoming events, college representatives visiting OSSM, and other periodic announcements. We'll point you to announcements on the web throughout the year.

HELP NEEDED

If you can help us save paper and postage by getting your parents weekly online, please email Donna Roberts, droberts@ossm.edu. We'll save a little money and you'll be able to get your newsletter faster. The weekly is available on Friday afternoons at the main school web page, www.ossm.edu, and at Professor Gleason's web page, www.ossm.edu/~jpgleason

Please see Prof. Gleason's web page for additions and changes to the list of visiting college representatives.