

# Leadership Excellence Program Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M University



*Forging Leaders  
of Character*



## *Leadership Excellence Program*

The Leadership Excellence Program was established in January 2002 with the support of distinguished alumni and Texas A&M University administration. The purpose of the program is to develop leaders of character who are prepared to provide values based leadership to all sectors of society.

In today's society, it is not enough for students to excel in their current environment—they must also envision the future. Students must possess the leadership skills that can develop winning strategies and, more importantly, sustain them. Success depends on the students' ability to welcome and lead change, and ensure that learning, design and execution become a natural rhythm in their leadership development.

The Leadership Program is one of very few that offers in-depth study and practice of leadership. The four-year Corps program intentionally places students in positions of responsibility and accountability through guided practice and applicable experiences outside of the Corps of Cadets. The program is designed to take full advantage of each student's development opportunities in the Corps of Cadets.

The leadership development of each cadet is based on their progression beginning with becoming an effective follower as a freshman, to being a direct leader as a sophomore, to being an indirect leader as a junior, and finally being an executive leader as a senior.

### **Freshman**

#### *Followership*

Cadets are responsible for themselves and must become contributing members of a team.



### **Sophomore**

#### *Direct Leadership*

Cadets are responsible for themselves and held accountable for the training of three cadets.



### **Junior**

#### *Indirect Leadership*

Cadets must learn to lead leaders and are responsible for making decisions to achieve operation goals.



### **Senior**

#### *Executive Leadership*

Cadets must set Corps policy and be able to make decisions in a complex environment.



## *School of Military Science*

The experiential component of the Leadership Excellence Program is supported by coursework in leadership theory through the School of Military Science (SOMS). The SOMS courses are designed to foster personal leadership development through a six-semester curriculum. The freshman and sophomore courses focus on the necessary transition and training skills for followers and direct leaders. The fall junior course focuses on organizational leadership development with specific attention to intra-group relationships and techniques for achieving group goals. The spring junior workshop emphasizes personal leadership development planning with specific attention to personal

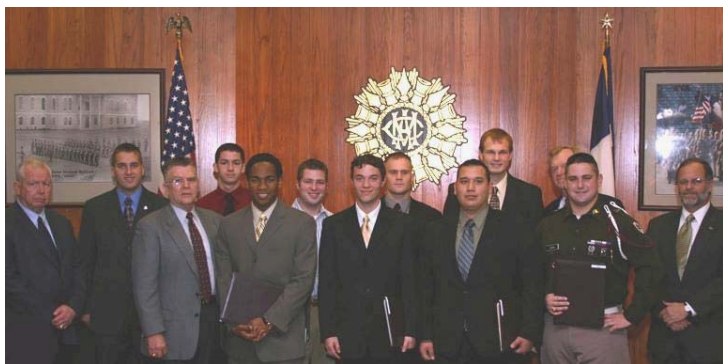
### ***School of Military Science (continued)***

attributes and skills for achieving individual goals. The fall senior seminar focuses on executive leadership with specific attention to organizational relationships and techniques for achieving goals. The spring senior course explores the significance of ethical leadership in organizations.

### ***Certificate in Leadership Study and Development***

The critical aspect of the Leadership Excellence Program is the Certificate in Leadership Study and Development. The certificate—12 approved academic hours and verified leadership experience—is open to all cadets, regardless of major, at the University. The award verified participants have completed a series of training and development opportunities, in addition to formal education. The program's courses and testing are designed to ensure that students can fulfill the requirements to their development as a leader in their profession.

The Certificate in Leadership Study and Development is an academic accolade that is noted on students' official transcripts. The School of Military Science through the Leadership Excellence Program and the Office of the Commandant is the only department at Texas A&M University that is authorized to confer an academic award for leadership study and development.



#### **December 2006 Certificate Ceremony**

F: Dr. Dick Cummins, Emmanuel Guillory, Stephen Van Omen, Andrew Barrera, and Brett Gass. B: LTG John Van Alstyne, Gabriel Chmielewski, Christopher Crotty, Jerred Crumley, Josh Erkkila, James Townson, Dr. Robert Walker, and Dr. Dean Bresciani.

The first Certificates in Leadership Study and Development were awarded to 11 cadets May 2005. With each passing year, more students learn the importance of the certificate and apply with the Leadership Excellence Program. The past recipients of the certificate are employed in all military branches, across various non-profit organizations and in over 10 Fortune 500 companies, including AT&T, Lockheed Martin and USAA.



David Clayton  
May 2007  
McKinsey & Co.



Aditi Gupta  
December 2007  
Deloitte & Touche

### ***Support the Leadership Excellence Program***

The Leadership Excellence Program at Texas A&M University is focused on developing the leadership capacity of college students. It is essential to assist emerging young leaders in their personal development of honor, integrity, accountability, and selfless service. The Leadership Excellence Program is maintained through generous donations made through the Texas A&M University Foundation. Contributions are needed to provide first-rate leadership development skills for students within the Corps of Cadets and the Texas A&M community. For more information on supporting our programs, please contact the Director of Development with the Division of Student Affairs at (979) 458-1689 or (800) 392-3310. You may also contact Cathy C. McWhorter, Development Relations Coordinator for the Office of the Commandant at (979) 862-2868 or [cmcwhorter@corps.tamu.edu](mailto:cmcwhorter@corps.tamu.edu).

