

## **Meeting Minutes – Class Advisory Senate, 19 April 2022**

1. **Call to Order:** Randy Helms '79, called the meeting to order at 1800.

2. **Members in Attendance:** [See Attachment 1](#)

3. **Others in Attendance:**

Colonel Kurt Wendt, '94, Director, USAF Academy Center for Character and Leadership Development (CCLD)

Bob Lowe '71, Chair, USAFA AOG Board of Directors

Will Gunn, '80, Vice Chair, USAFA AOG Board of Directors

Mark Hille, '97, President, USAFA AOG & AFAF

Naviere Walkewicz, '99, Senior Vice President, USAFA AOG Alumni Relations

Felicia Recker, '98, USAFA AOG Chief of Alumni Programs

Tony Capistrano, USAFA AOG/ IT

4. **Previous Minutes:**

<https://aog-websites.s3.amazonaws.com/usafa-org/documents/aog/governance/CAS/CAS+Minutes+-+18+January+2022+meeting+ FINAL.pdf>

5. **Opening Remarks:**

CAS President Randy Helms, '79 opened the meeting and introduced Colonel Kurt Wendt, '94, Director, USAF Academy Center for Character and Leadership Development (CCLD).

6. **Colonel Kurt Wendt, '94, Director, USAF Academy Center for Character and Leadership Development (CCLD): (see attached slides)**

- Colonel Wendt presented a briefing on CCLD. This program falls directly under the Superintendent.
  - The CCLD is the “champion” for developing leaders of character for the USAFA;
  - Framework: own, engage, practice, leader of character training, and correlation to core values.
- He showed a photo of the new outdoor leadership laboratory, a 105-foot tower of steel and concrete – the High ROPES Course; it is not just a ROPES, but is a many-faceted leadership course. It replaces the old one that we have all trained on. Cost is \$2.1M. It is a Class of '63 donation project; Gen Fogleman will be honored by this tower.
- Col Wendt, '94 briefed the recent National Character and Leadership Symposium (NCLS):
  - NCLS is an annual leadership development symposium.

- It has been developed with four individual, annual themes, so that each class will experience all four themes before the graduate.
  - This year the first speaker was Mr. George Takai, who opened up explaining that his early years were spent in a Japanese American internment camp at the beginning of WWII. Despite being treated this way because of his Japanese heritage, he briefed that his father always stressed that “We are Americans and still love America.”
  - The NCLS finished this year with its keynote lecture from Dr Ben Carson, the “Challenges facing America Today.”
  - The leadership lectures were on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of the NCLS week, and this year all blocks were “sold out.”
  - The NCLS is only possible through USAFA Foundation -- Class and Individual Donors.
  - The lectures compete with the Dean’s class time. In 2007, they had to integrate the lectures into their class schedule as best they could. In 2012, the lectures were integrated into the Cadet schedules. This year and future years, the Cadets have to fit in Thursday lectures with their normal class schedule, but Friday is totally open for them to attend the lectures. Lectures are given on individual subjects at multiple times to give Cadets more opportunity to attend them.
  - This year, they added a presentation of the Sullenberger Leadership Award. Sully presented it this year.
  - There is an on-line NCLS page where anyone can log onto most of the lectures and watch today (but not all of them). (Mr. Takai’s contract did not allow him to be recorded.)
  - The NCLS Page can be viewed at:  
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpqo5wLcCO7oU9VPanBzS94FTXomg5IaP>
  - Mr. George Takai and Dr Carson were polarizing lectures by design, as were other lectures, to give Cadets different perspectives.
- Colonel Wendt gave a brief update on the Honor Code and most recent episode during the pandemic. There were 250 violators; 220 were given probation, and enrolled in the rehab program, and 22 were disenrolled.
    - The re-training emphasis is on the 4<sup>th</sup> Class with a re-introduction of the Honor Code if found guilty. They are assigned individual mentors.
    - It also involved a re-commitment by the upper three classes, and a commitment by the Faculty, Athletics, and third, permanent-party USAFA personnel (across all base personnel).
    - Today, 4<sup>th</sup> Class Cadet honor violations are down.

**7. Bob Lowe, ‘71, Chairman, AOG Board of Directors Remarks:**

- He said the Board is having an off-site strategy development meeting 13-14 May 22 and is seeking inputs from the CAS. Give them to Randy, Will Gunn, himself or any Director.



- The next Board election is next Spring, '23, and they are encouraging participation from the '90s classes and newer classes.
- The Board has a special briefing for local chapters that they can present if they are asked.

#### **8. Mark Hille, '97, AOG & AFAF President:**

- Mark Hille, '97 introduced his staff that were present: Naviere Walkewicz '99, Felecia Recker '98, and Tony Capistrano.
- He briefly mentioned the AOG's "three current rocks": Membership for All, Capital Campaign, and Single Staff Structure.
- He briefed the AOG's current efforts to extend their current 50 year lease on USAFA, trying to extend it by signing a 99-year extension. Will include possibly another AOG building and expansion of the Heritage Trail; all part of the "Doolittle Campus Master Plan."
- He briefed that the AOG & Foundation have been a significant part of the North Gate Visitor Center development, including the Bond issue and donors to the project.
- Mark briefed the Cyber Security Center project – they have raised \$30M against a \$60M requirement so far. The Ribbon-cutting ceremony is currently scheduled tentatively for May-June 2024.
- On the Single Staff Structure, he said they have combined two staffs into a much more efficient single staff supporting two organizations. HR, Budgeting, Finance, Events branches have all been worked so far.
- The Capital Campaign has reached \$220M donated against a \$270M goal, and there are 2.75 years left in the campaign.
- Falcon Stadium project funding is being split by the Foundation and the Athletic Department. The Architect has been selected; it has previous experience designing the stadium for the Rams and Chargers. It is being funded at roughly one-third donor and two-thirds bond issue against future revenues.

#### **9. Naviere Walkewicz, '99, AOG Senior Vice President Alumni Relations: (see attached slides)**

- She updated the effort that is currently under way for Membership-for-All Grads. The program was launched on 3 January 2022. Membership is currently at 59%, with a goal of 85%. AFA Graduates can sign up at: [membership4grads@usafa.org](mailto:membership4grads@usafa.org).
- Naviere said that the recent Grad Survey was the first one in over 15 years. Over 7,200 grads participated.
- See the slide on Opportunities to Engage: She mentioned the "Firstie Departure" on 28 April 22 in Arnold Hall, AFA Top Golf on 30 April 22, and the upcoming Basic Training "March Back" scheduled for 22 July 22; as yet, the Distinguished Graduate Dinner is unscheduled.
- There are eight more Founders Day events across the country (April – 5 June).

**10. Other Business / Round Table:**

- John Borling, '63 mentioned that there is a video in the making by the AOG Board entitled: "We Are Americans", for Memorial Day celebrations; it visits special places in America's history, and will be on PBS in the future.
- Bruce Mitchell, '75 stated that there was a booth manned by first-, second-, and third-class Cadets at the recent Space Force Symposium. He stated that they represented themselves very well.
- Dan Beatty, '76 reminded everyone of the upcoming monthly Rampart Chapter event at Jack Quinn's restaurant in downtown Colorado Springs.

**11. Randy Helms, '79, CAS President, gave brief closing comments:**

- He reminded senators to sign up for the joint AOG Board and CAS dinner on 13 May 2022.
- He then thanked Senators for their continued support and adjourned the meeting.

**12. Next Meetings:**

- AOG Board, 12-13 May 2022
- CAS Executive Committee, 21 June 2022
- CAS, 19 July 2022
- CAS Schedule: [CAS Schedule.xlsx \(aog-websites.s3.amazonaws.com\)](https://aog-websites.s3.amazonaws.com/CAS%20Schedule.xlsx)

**13. Close/Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1916.

Minutes submitted by: Tom Hayden '74, CAS Secretary

Minutes approved by: Randy Helms '79, CAS President

**Attachments:**

1. [Members in Attendance](#)
2. [CCLD slides](#)
3. [AOG Update slides](#)