**Fall FTX**

Kansas State Army ROTC Cadets conducted the first FTX of the year on 17 and 18 September. Day 1 was spent conducting day and night land navigation and day 2 was spent doing FLRC, Tactics drills, confidence course, and operating the rappel tower. Cadets worked on communicating within their teams, worked through obstacles as a squad. The confidence course and rappel tower helped Cadets gain confidence and the weekend ended with very high morale overall for the whole battalion. Even though the choice of attendance was optional for non contracted cadets, there was still a great showing from all 4 MS levels.

**Wildcats Welcome New PMS**

The Wildcat Battalion is extremely excited to welcome LTC Peter Gray. LTC Gray was commissioned in the Field Artillery from Virginia Tech in 1998. His assignments include fire support positions from Company to Division-level in the Republic of Korea, Fort Bragg, and Fort Campbell as well as deployments to Kosovo and Iraq. He also served as an Assistant Professor of Military Science at Xavier University.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star (2nd Award), the Meritorious Service Medal (4th Award), the NATO Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Air Assault Badge, and the Senior Parachutist Badge.
Pershing Rifles/Color Guard

Pershing Rifles has gotten off to a good start this year already performing at an event in Lacede Missouri, the birthplace of the organization's namesake, General John Joseph Pershing. Pershing was the commander of the American Expeditionary Forces in WWI and also commanded the Mexican Punitive Expedition in 1916 against Pancho Villa with a young 2nd LT George Patton serving on his staff. The Pershing Rifles team under their new leadership for the year- Jolene O'Donnell as the commanding officer (CO), Robert Sholl as the executive officer (XO), and Cole Cochran first sergeant (1SG) performed a fitting tribute to honor this iconic figure in American history.

The Color Guard has not yet performed an event yet due to weather conditions on 24 September, but have had practices and are looking forward to a great year.

Mentorship Night

On 9 September, the Wildcat Battalion conducted Mentorship Night at the bowling alley in the Student Union. The night was a great opportunity for MSI's, II's, and III's to get to know their IV mentor as well as catch up with friends from last year and make some new ones. The Cadets had a great time getting to know one another and learn more about what it is like to be a member of the Wildcat Battalion.
**LTG Caslen Visit**

On 26 September, Cadets were given the incredible opportunity to conduct PT and a Q&A session with LTG Caslen, current Superintendent of the United States Military Academy. The Battalion showed LTG Caslen the different historical sites and monuments around Kansas State Campus.

**Army Ten Miler**

On 09 October, twelve Kansas State University Cadets competed in the Army Ten Miler race. The Army Ten Miler is a race held in Washington, D.C. that allows runners to compete on a course around many monuments and memorials. The race begins and ends at The Pentagon. This year, over 24,000 runners attended. The Kansas State ROTC team finished 24th out of 79 teams in their division.

**CULP Experience**

*Written by Cadet Reckard*

Most of our time in country was spent at the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy (CRMA for short). We spent most of our day with the Cadets of the academy, helping them practice English. We also spent some time helping out at the Human Help Network’s orphanage and Drop in Center in the city of Pattaya. The whole trip was an amazing chance to experience Thai culture. Talking to Cadets around the same age as us was a great way to learn about their traditions and customs. We were able to really connect with them and hear about why some aspects of their culture were so important to the Thai people. I wouldn’t trade my experiences of this trip for anything, I learned so much about Thai culture as well as about the culture of the military and how a bunch of people from all over can come together to experience something so unique.