

Activity University-ROTC Relationships Committee (URRC)

Period: AY 2019 - 20

Report prepared by:

Jeffrey Varner
Professor,
Robert Frederick Smith School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
244 Olin Hall, Cornell University,
Ithaca NY 14853

Head, URRRC

The URRRC provides University oversight for the hiring of active military personal that serve as military instructors in the Cornell ROTC programs. The committee is composed of tenured Cornell faculty members spread across multiple colleges and the heads (and/or executive officers) of each of the service branches as a courtesy.

As a committee we interview potential candidates (typically via videoconference) for open positions within the ROTC programs. We discuss each candidate as a committee, and vote to approve or disapprove of the appointment. Candidates are extensively vetted by the service branches before being interviewed by the URRRC.

The URRRC committee makeup (Cornell faculty) for AY 2019- 2020:

Person	Term of service	School	College
Jeffrey Varner (Chair)	7/1/2016-6/30/2019	Chemical & Biomolecular Engr.	ENG
Charles Aquadro	7/1/2018-6/30/2021	Molecular Biology & Genetics	A&S
T. Michael Duncan	7/1/2018-6/30/2021	Chem. & Biomolecular Eng.	ENG
Charles Walcott	7/1/2016-6/30/2019	Neurobiology & Behavior	CALS
Peter Loucks	7/1/2016-6/30/2019	Civil & Environmental Eng.	ENG
Lindy Williams	7/1/2018-6/30/2021	Developmental Sociology	CALS

Change in committee makeup. Lindy Williams resigned from the URRRC in December 13, 2019. Her email to me on 12/13/2019:

Dear Jeffrey,

I write to ask if you could find another person to fill my slot on the committee. Mike Duncan suggested me originally for committee diversity. The subject matter is so far out of my area, however, that I feel you could find someone better to serve in my place. Please let me know what you think.

Best wishes,
Lindy

Lindy Williams, Professor
Department of Development Sociology
265 Warren Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853
(607)255-4609

I approved her request to resign from the committee on 01/02/2020. Prof. Bill Philpot, Civil and Environmental Engineering has since joined the committee and will serve until 2023.

Committee activity during this reporting period. The committee met five times and conducted seven interviews during the AY 2019-20 term.

1. Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 2:00PM - 3:00PM

Location: Wortham Military Museum Barton Hall

Chair: J. Varner

Notes: A quorum of the committee was present along with a representative from each service branch. The committee interviewed CAPT Lindsey Kozuch and Mr. Alex Steinbronner for positions in the US Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Unit at Cornell University, both with the rank of Visiting Lecturer of Military Science.

CAPT Kozuch and Mr. Steinbronner were approved unanimously by the committee.

2. Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 10:00AM - 11:00AM

Location: 121 Barton Hall

Chair: Charles Walcott (J. Varner traveling)

Notes: A quorum of the committee was present along with a representative from each service branch. The committee interviewed CAPT Wittmaack for a position in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Unit at Cornell University, with the rank of Visiting Lecturer of Aerospace Science.

CAPT Wittmaack were approved unanimously by the committee.

3. Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 2:30PM - 3:30PM

Location: Zoom

Chair: J. Varner

Notes: A quorum of the committee was present along with a representative from each service branch. The committee interviewed two candidates, MAJ Ficchi and MSG MacVey to fill two open positions in the US Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Unit, both with ranks of Sr. Visiting Lecturer of Military Science.

MAJ Ficchi and MSG MacVey were approved unanimously by the committee.

4. Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 3:00PM - 4:00PM

Location: Zoom

Chair: J.Varner

Notes: A quorum of the committee was present along with a representative from each service branch. The committee interviewed LT Sean Mansfield for a position in the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) Unit at Cornell University, with the rank of Visiting Lecturer of Naval Science.

LT. Mansfield was approved unanimously by the committee.

5. Thursday, April 2, 2020 at 2:30PM - 3:30PM

Location: Zoom

Chair: J.Varner

Notes: A quorum of the committee was present along with a representative from each service branch. The committee interviewed LT Tyler Trainor for a position in the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) Unit at Cornell University, with the rank of Visiting Lecturer of Naval Science.

LT. Trainor was approved unanimously by the committee.

For each case, appointment documentation was signed by the chair of the committee, and the corresponding service branch representative, and filed with Dean of the University Faculty.