

TO: Faculty and Staff

FROM: MG Grizzle

DATE: 22 April 2020

Re: Week 4 Recap

Commandant – No significant change from last week. All Cadets have departed Post. The Commandant's staff are working with Cadets on an individual basis to get their belongings returned or stored. Interview for Senior Corps Leadership positions continues. The Commandant will be my guest on the May 5, Alumni call, to explain the process to select Cadre and the remainder of all Corps Leadership positions. Weekly video meetings continue within the Corps. The Commandant has spoken with the Corps Master Fitness trainer and with the NMMI fulltime Trainers about developing an exercise plan that would be videotaped and rolled out to the Corps. The thought was to select a series of exercises, have a different individual demonstrate how to perform the exercise correctly, and then repeat this on a weekly basis. The Demonstrators would be Senior Leadership of the Corps, the Commandant's Staff and any other Staff or Faculty member that wanted to be selected to learn and then demonstrate the proper way to perform an exercise.

Facilities – Again, not much change from last week. Emphasis has switched to doing "deep cleaning" in empty buildings and getting them to a status where they were be locked and receive only an occasional cleaning. Other buildings which still have traffic will receive periodic cleaning. Work has resumed on Cahoon Armory. The energy contract employees continue to install new lighting, controls and preparation for major installation of items such as boilers and chillers.

Academics – Preparation for graduation is ongoing. As stated before, we intend to produce a completed program, following last year's agenda. Then at the selected time, the program will be aired on Saturday, May 16th. The Registrar is involved in the selection and delivery of diplomas. The Awards Ceremony will have to be held in the fall. Many of the awards cannot be produced, the provider is not currently working. Many of the special groups that actually come here to make the presentation of their award, cannot travel because on the current situation. We will have to work with the Valedictorian and Salutatorian, to receive their awards. This is usually a large framed certificate and diploma. Again, we do not have a source right now to do the framing. Jordan Ta'amu has agreed to be our guest speaker. He will be telling his story to the graduates. A reminder about Jordan, no school in the nation offered him a scholarship out of high school except NMMI. He barely played for us his freshman year, he was playing behind a strong Division 1 transfer who went to NMSU after he left NMMI. His sophomore year, in his first start, he threw for 8 touchdowns and was named the NJCAA Offensive Player of the Week. He went on to be named NJCAA All American and signed to play for Ol' Miss. He was told he would redshirt for one year to learn the offense. About the fourth game of the year the starting Quarterback went down with a knee injury and Jordan went in. He started every game the remainder of the year and every game the next year. He holds several Ol' Miss passing records. He was not drafted out of college by the NFL but was invited to two different training camps. He did not make either roster but then became the Number One draft pick in the XFL football league. He was then signed by the current Super Bowl Champions the Kansas City Chiefs and is the backup Quarterback to the current NFL Player of the Year. I have communicated with Jordan and asked him to prepare his remarks as if he was talking to the next "Jordan" sitting in the audience.

Admissions – Reenrollment is at 388 out of 599 possible. The Commandant’s Staff has begun making personal calls about reenrollment. I requested from the Registrar, a listing of all 3rd Class that have not reenrolled. There are 65 on the list. I will start personal contact with that group. Actual recruiting has slowed down some but we are still receiving applications and inquiries. Year-to-date applications are at 840 compared to 1060 last year at the same time. Accepts are at 170 compared to 217 for the same period last year. Our projection model shows we could still be on a glide path, as of today, for a high of 714 with a median number of 663. This is very good for this time of year. In a regular recruiting cycle, we would start to increase activity as we neared the end of the spring semester. We still expect the activity to increase in May.

Senior ROTC – We did receive approval this week from Cadet Command to proceed and plan for commissioning. More than likely it will all be done virtually. We have some NM Cadets that want to return and have their commissioning in Pearson if possible. We anticipate commissioning 25 to 30 Cadets.

IT – Our IT Director is working with our leasing company but we believe the best alternative will be to exercise the one year extension on the lease. This will take the pressure off on getting the laptops returned so they can be prepared for turn-in to the vendor. Also the unknown of how many new ones to order for the next school year.

Athletics – The Athletic organizations are still working together to amend status for Athletes. They will consider eligibility, academic requirements, etc. We are actively monitoring the situation but do not have any solid answers. We are fortunate in that our Head Junior College Football Coach, Joe Forchtner is the current President of the Junior College Coaches Association. In addition, I am on the President’s Advisory Council for the NJCAA. We know we will be getting the decisions as soon as they are made and will get the results out to everyone as quickly as possible.

Parents - I am addressing this last section directly to the Parents to deal with some questions that are being asked.

Refunds – We previously announced that refunds would be calculated and applied for board and laundry. Each Cadet and family have an account balance with NMMI. That balance is different depending on the payment arrangements that were made at the beginning of the school year. Throughout the year different charges and credits are applied to each individual account. We must finish the semester before each account will receive a full reconciliation and any credits issued to the account. Once the reconciliation has been completed, if there is an overall credit balance, a check will be issued or applied as a credit to next semester’s obligation for those returning students. If the reconciliation concludes that a balance is due NMMI, after all credits have been applied, a final bill will be sent to the Cadet and Parents.

Payments – Many families are set up on a payment plan for the cost of attending NMMI. For the payments due in April, we have a total of \$216,000 in outstanding balances. Parents, please meet your obligations. Please do not withhold payment because you are waiting on a credit. Your Cadets education continues and the obligations you agreed to are still valid and need to be paid. As stated above, there will be a net reconciliation at the end of the semester.

CARES – We are still monitoring and attending what seem to be endless meetings on the distribution of proceeds under the stabilization act. We know that we will receive money. We know that 50% or half of the money must go directly to Junior College students to offset a portion of their cost due to COVID-19. The half coming to NMMI we intend to cover shipping costs of returning laptops and textbooks for all students.

Future Plans – We met this afternoon to develop three courses of actions and a group of underlying considerations to be applied to each course of action. The Tier One Committee will take the scenarios back to their departments and sub-departments and start to Staff each course of action through until it is a completed standalone plan. Then we will reconvene next week with a larger group consisting of representatives from all departments. During this meeting, we will hear briefings from each as to their approach to supporting each course of action. We will develop a follow-on list of questions that need answers and or additional guidance provided. Our intent is to have the three courses of actions converted to action plans by the end of the semester.