

WEBSTER UNIVERSITY MILITARY EDUCATION SOURCES

Webster University Deployed Military Student Contacts:

The following deployed soldiers/Webster University students are available via e-mail. Each is willing to discuss their experiences as a student during deployment and how they are directly applying what they are learning to their particular military missions. Many are located in encampments in Iraq where media access is allowed and interviews may be granted.

Lev Alex Krutz
1st Lieutenant - Kansas National Guard
1-635 Armor Battalion
Hometown: Overland Park, Kansas
Email: lev.a.krutz@us.army.mil

Alex Krutz is a 1st Lieutenant in the Kansas National Guard currently deployed to the peacekeeping mission in Kosovo, a NATO/United Nations controlled area in Serbia. Krutz, now a graduate student pursuing a master's degree in management, will graduate in December from Webster's Ft. Leavenworth campus. Krutz is the first child in his family born in the U.S.; his family emigrated from Russia in 1976. He joined the military during his senior year of high school and was awarded a ROTC scholarship to attend the University of Kansas. Krutz knew getting an advanced degree at Webster would give him the "opportunity to better market [himself] to federal agencies such as the FBI" and that "a masters degree is good for the civilian work place as well."

Editor's Note: Lt. Krutz e-mailed a photo of himself next to a Belgian officer both stationed in Kosovo. The photo is available by contacting Christine Wells at wellsch@webster.edu.

Tilisha Rodgers
First Lieutenant Signal Officer
Hometown:
E-mail: tilisha.rodgers@iraq.centcom.mil

First Lieutenant Tilisha Rodgers, 25, is a Signal Officer, currently deployed in Baghdad, Iraq, where she has been stationed for seven of the thirteen months of her deployment. Rodgers' military career began in high school when she joined Junior ROTC. When she was 17 she enlisted in the Army.

Since 2003, Rodgers has been enrolled in the MBA program at Webster University's Fort Bragg/Pope Air Force Base program, with a concentration in Business and Organizational Security Management. Rodgers is now enrolled in

her second course during deployment. She decided to add an area of concentration once she was deployed and discovered the need and importance of physical and information systems security. After the military, she hopes one-day work to for the National Security Agency or the Department of Homeland Security. She says taking security classes during deployment has helped her with her duties while in Iraq.

“I am so glad that I am able to take these classes while here in Iraq because it has really helped me. I wanted to continue my education because I enjoy going to school. I don’t feel right if I am not taking classes,” said Lt. Rodgers. “In one of my classes, I had to create a building or facility that requires security upgrades and establish a security plan with adequate security measures for the current environment. I used the building that I currently work in and I also put those ram measures into action,”

Editor’s Note: A photo of Rodgers during her deployment is available, please contact Christine Wells at: wellsch@webster.edu.

Military Administration Contacts:

Michael Sturdivant
Immediate supervisor of Tilisha Rodgers
E-mail: Michael.sturdivant@iraq.centcom.mil

Michael can discuss:

- His observations and opinions regarding how First Lieutenant Tilisha Rodgers has benefited from her role as a student; and
- How Rodgers’ work is affected by the knowledge acquired during deployment.

Lauren Rowe
First Lieutenant, Military Police Platoon Leader, 2nd Brigade Combat Team
Hometown: Woodbridge, Virginia
E-mail: Lauren.Rowe@us.army.mil

Lauren Rowe, 23, is a Police Platoon leader who is currently deployed in Baghdad, Iraq. Rowe comes from a military family; her father was a Military Intelligence Officer and her mother an Army nurse. She is also a West Point graduate, along with her father, older sister and fiancé. Rowe is currently enrolled in Webster University’s MBA program at Fort Stewart campus in Georgia. She is currently taking Introduction to Human Resource Management and Organizational Behavior, and will be taking economics and accounting classes during the Fall 2005 semester.

Huy Tran
First Lieutenant Officer Air Force, Logistics Officer
Hometown:
E-mail: kablooie@hotmail.com

“Anthony” Huy Tran is currently deployed in Iraq and based out of Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina and is working toward an MBA. He is four courses from graduation. He is a logistics officer and first lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He graduated from San Diego State University with a degree in telecommunications and film and enrolled in ROTC as a freshman.

Tran is responsible for the Logistics Readiness Section and is also a Unit Travel Representative. He is responsible for the deployment and redeployment of more than 1,300 combat airmen spread throughout nine locations in Iraq and coordinates the inter-theatre and intra-theatre airlift throughout the area of responsibility.

“The class experience while being deployed has been enjoyable,” Tran says. “It keeps me focused and gives me something else to think about when I am not working. We work 12 to 15 hours a day and it is easy to get burned out. So it’s nice to study or read about a completely different subject and escape the day-to-day job. My professors have been very helpful and understanding of my situation. Sometimes I have to sacrifice a couple of hours of sleep to study, but I know it will be worth it in the long run.”

Editor’s Note: Lt. Tran e-mailed a photo of himself posed in front of mural he painted during his current deployment that is dedicated to combat airmen in Iraq. The photo is available by contacting Christine Wells at wellsch@webster.edu.

Lloyd King
Chief Warrant Officer
Hometown: Vicksburg, Mississippi
E-mail: lloyd.king@us.army.mil

Lloyd King has devoted almost 18 years of active federal service to the Army. King initially joined the Army because he wanted to travel and see different parts of the country but says, “after a few years, it became a part of my life and I was proud to wear the uniform and serve my country.” Although he is currently deployed in Iraq, King is enrolled at Webster University’s campus at Fort Stewart, Georgia and has been there for four and a half years. He is enrolled in the Master’s program in Management and Leadership and plans to complete his degree before military retirement in 2007. King is currently taking Organizational Behavior and Management while serving in Iraq.

Webster University Military Campus Faculty Contacts:

Gene Godsey

Adjunct Professor of Computer Resources and Information Management

Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia

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Gene Godsey, adjunct professor, Ft. Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield, has been teaching graduate courses in Webster University's Master of Arts program in Computer Resources and Information Management for two years. Godsey is a great example of Webster University's adjunct faculty who is a successful industry professional. He has been a software developer for 12 years, working with dot-coms and now as a government contractor at Cyber Government Solutions, a software firm where he is now director of information management. Since he began teaching at Webster University, Godsey has taught 10 deployed students in addition to those in a traditional classroom.

Currently, he is teaching Systems Analysis, Design, and Implementation; Internet Management Applications; Database Management; and Project Management of Information Systems. Four students in these classes are currently deployed in Iraq. Godsey's classes, while challenging, are particularly popular among students because he is accessible and presents materials in a pragmatic manner. None of his students have ever taken an "incomplete" because of deployment and although there may be gaps in communication, he says he anticipates "what needs to be done and plans ahead accordingly."

Godsey can discuss:

- Details concerning how he teaches deployed students; and
- The caliber and commitment of the deployed students he teaches.

Webster University Administration Contacts:

Randy Wright

Associate Vice President

Academic Affairs

Webster University

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Randy Wright, associate vice president for Academic Affairs and director of military programs, leads operations and develops policies for all military campus locations. Wright has 26 years of experience in higher education which includes teaching, advising and counseling, grant writing and designing and implementing new educational programs for adults. He was the chief designer of Webster

University's graduate program in security management, assisted in developing Webster University's online classroom Web site and was the architect of Webster University's many cooperative masters degree programs.

Since 2000, he has opened 20 new Webster University campuses on military installations. Wright is a member of and participates in nearly all professional associations organized to support and improve the Department of Defense's voluntary education program. This year, he was selected by his academic colleagues as Vice President, President-elect of the National Association of Institutions for Military Education Services, a position he will hold for the next four years.

Wright can discuss:

- Webster University's 30-plus year history as one of few graduate education providers of choice for the nation's military;
- What is involved in establishing a military base campus location; and
- Webster University's military campuses, service centers and cooperative education programs and partnerships, as well as course and degree completion options available to deployed students.

Marsha Sands
Assistant Site Director
Webster University
Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield
Fort Stewart, Georgia
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Marsha Sands, assistant site director of Fort. Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield, serves as academic advisor to all Webster University student/soldiers on base and is the chief point of contact for deployed students in Iraq and Kuwait. Sands has extensive experience working with soldiers who wish to continue their education during deployment. As a result, 90 percent of all advising she does is conducted via e-mail. Her other responsibilities include recruitment operations, registration and records maintenance.

Sands can discuss:

- The role of spouses of deployed soldier/students;
- Spousal assistance of deployed students in course registration and other such educational and institutional processes; and
- Generating new enrollments via word-of-mouth from deployed student troops to other deployed non-student troops.

Mike Warren
Interim Director of Public Affairs
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Mike Warren, retired Army engineer with the rank of Major, has worked in public affairs at Fort Leonard Wood Air Force Base in Missouri for almost 10 years and has a masters degree in business management from Webster University, which he earned while serving in the Army. During his military career he held three company commands and served in key staff positions at the battalion, brigade and installation levels.

Mike can discuss:

- His experiences as an active soldier pursuing a graduate education at Webster University; and
- The value Webster University's presence added on a military base.