



ASSERTIVE PROFESSIONALS NEWSLETTER

ASSERTIVE PROFESSIONALS

FALL 2019 ISSUE

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT AP?

- We have recently been added to the Marine Corps ISREPED Contract. Very soon we hope to be recruiting FMV Analysts to represent for team AP on Camp Lejeune, NC! If you or someone you know has any interest in this work and have FMV analysis experience—reach out to our team at careers@assertiveprofessionals.com.
- We have also been added to NGA Emerald Task Order 21, which has increased our capabilities to now include GEOINT & IT Standards. **Tyler O'Neal** has just joined our team in this capacity and we are happy to have him!
- Also recently added to Emerald, was **Danyeal Thomas**. A great big welcome to you! We are thrilled to have you join team AP.
- The Talent Acquisition & Marketing team are excited to welcome **Luis Martinez** into the fold. He is already an asset to the team. Welcome aboard!
- If you missed the last Power Hour, we now have a new intern from Norwich University. **Shane Ryan** has been diligently working on his defense contracting training since August.
- The next GEOINteraction Event will be held on November, 19, 2019 from 4:30-6:30PM EST and is focused around Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI). It will be located at NCE in Springfield, VA. Registration closes on November 12th. Sign up at the following link: <https://usgif.org/events/workshop-series/machinelearning>

SECURITY CORNER

The DoD Hotline 1-800-424-9098. Report leaks of classified information here if you don't feel comfortable using AP Security channels.

You must inform Tom Hoefs, the AP FSO, prior to going on any foreign travel (business or pleasure), to arrange both pre & post travel briefings.

Do not make yourself a target for our adversaries! Do not put your exact security clearance level on your resume or sites such as LinkedIn. Instead, simply state that you have a National Security Clearance.

AP Ombudsman

The Ombudsman is your resource to address any questions or concerns while remaining anonymous to your coworkers and AP Leadership. Report problems or get answers quickly and without fear of reprisal.

ombudsman@assertiveprofessionals.com

MENTORSHIP

Howdy,

I want to start off by thanking everyone at AP for their support and guidance since coming onto the team. For those of you I have not been introduced to, my name is Luis Martinez and I am part of the Talent Acquisition & Marketing team. I live in Bryan, Texas where I attend Texas A&M University in pursuit of a Ph.D. in Geography.

My path to Texas A&M was unconventional as I never planned to attend Texas A&M, nor pursue a Ph.D. While in the Marine Corps, I had a friend from my undergraduate program who repeatedly invited me to come out for a football game. I finally gave in and decided to visit him. Little did I know that this innocent visit would put me on the path I'm on today. After what some would call "drinking the kool-aid" of Aggieland, I was set on pursuing a Masters degree from Texas A&M. Fortunately for me, A&M started an online Master of Geoscience in August 2017 where I was one of the first students accepted, and later one of the first five students to graduate from the program in December 2018. While in the Masters program, I had two professors take interest in my GEOINT background and career goals. Long story short - they encouraged me to apply to the Ph.D. program and here I am.

My research is supported by the Department of Defense (DoD) National Defense Science & Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowship. It is a 36-month period that covers full tuition and mandatory fees, a monthly stipend, stipend for medical insurance, and travel stipend for conferences/research. NDSEG supports U.S. citizens and nationals who pursue a doctoral degree in one of fifteen disciplines at any U.S. college of their choosing. Your research must align to a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR), the Army Research Office (ARO), or the Office of Naval Research (ONR) under the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (OSD) for Research and Engineering. Whether you complete your Ph.D. or not, you do NOT owe service upon acceptance of the fellowship. The goal of the Fellowship is to increase the number of American scientists and aid in research supporting the DoD.

My research is based on BAA W912HZ-18-BAA-01, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC). The goal of the ERDC's Geospatial Research Laboratory (GRL) Topography, Imagery, and Geospatial (TIG) Research Division is to improve situational awareness through geospatial intelligence within GPS-denied areas for mounted and/or dismounted operational environments. My research aims to support the GRL mission of providing the warfighter with superior knowledge of the battlefield. The goal of the research is to provide the warfighter with the ability to accurately map subterranean environments within a GPS-denied environment utilizing an autonomous unmanned ground vehicle (UGV) and terrestrial laser scanners. This ultimately would improve situational awareness through implementation of geospatial intelligence within the dense urban environment and within GPS-denied areas for mounted and/or dismounted operational environments. Upon completion of my research, deliverables include UGV capable of: (1) Map subterranean environments autonomously or via handheld controller (dependent on needs of warfighter), (2) Calculate height, width, and depth of tunnel, (3) Provide MGRS location in relation to ground level, (4) Gather point cloud data and images through mounted sensors, (5) Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM) model capable of mapping environment within +/- 1-meter accuracy, and (6) Machine learning (ML) capable UGV capable of optimizing how to collect data and resolve problems dependent on the situation at hand.

As I mentioned earlier, I never intended to attend Texas A&M or pursue a Ph.D. I will admit the reason for it was the fear of rejection and failure. Thankfully I have a great "corner" consisting of my wife, family, friends, and mentors. They helped me realize that in order to achieve my career goals, I would have to apply. I share this as encouragement for anyone to pursue their goals, whether its higher education, a professional certification, or the next big step in your life. It was not easy but I completed my Masters degree while on active duty and I owe part of it to my military service. It taught me to prioritize and work beyond what was comfortable. There were countless days where I would work 12+ hour days to only come home and do homework/research for 4+ hours. I have not completed this journey on my own and owe a great deal of it to those in my "corner." Do not let fear keep you from pursuing your goals and lean on your prior experience (military or civilian) which gives you a unique perspective in the classroom. Utilize your past experience and unique skills to help complete your goals. As a friendly reminder, my Ph.D. journey began because of a football game. So if any of the team ever wants to visit College Station, Texas and attend an Aggie Football game, maybe we will set you on the path to your next major goal.

Thanks & Gig 'Em,

Luis

WORD ON THE STREET...



Team AP Representing at the annual DODIIS Conference held August 18-22, 2019 in Tampa, FL. From left to right, **Chris Kintner, Tiffany Shaffery, Nicole Savely** and **Steven Shaffery**.

Lieutenant General James R. Clapper Jr. (Ret), former Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency is joined by **Shane Ryan**, AP's Norwich University intern at the USGIF GEOINTeraction Event held in Herndon VA on September 27-28, 2019.



Irene Nesterenko pictured while marking off one of her personal goals this year, a "Shake-down" hike preparing herself for her larger goal of a "Thru-Hike" next year on the Appalachian Trail, 2190 miles in length.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Do you have something newsworthy to share?
Email Nicole at: Nicole.savely@assertiveprofessionals.com

KEY DATES

OCTOBER

- 14th Columbus Day
- 31st Halloween

NOVEMBER

- 5th Election Day
- 11th Veteran's Day
- 14th Fort Belvoir Expo
- 28th Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 25th Christmas

FALL EVENT IS TBD! Stay tuned for updates.

COMMISH'S CORNER

Gridiron Coaches,

We are just over one-third of the way through our season, and we've seen a few break-outs, in both directions... For those unfamiliar with fantasy football, our season ends after NFL's week 14, and the top four teams use the final two weeks of the regular season for playoffs. Remember, we have prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in addition to a prize for the team with the best regular season record. If the season were to end today, best record would go to Fear the Conseqwentz who would also be the #1 playoff seed, followed by I Like Big Punts, Hershey Hijinx and ATWB. BUT... the season is far from over, and anything can happen as we move into the heart of bye weeks. With this many people in the league, each team only has one or two marquee players, so the coaches who use scrubs to the greatest advantage will reap the rewards. Here are some quick facts, by the numbers:

- 0.94 Smallest margin of victory thus far (I Like Big Punts)
- 01 Undefeated Teams (But, Conseqwentz does not possess the most "points for" which could come into play later)
- 02 "defeated" teams (But, what a story it would be if one or both run the table.)
- 04 One-loss teams knocking on the door
- 17 Most kicking points in one game (Rebuilding Year)
- 37 Most defensive points in one game (Blazing Girdles - 7 sacks, 4 INT, 2 TD, 0 points allowed)
- 86.1 Easiest strength of schedule thus far (Tom's Terrific Team)
- 86.4 Largest margin of victory (Ambassador of Quan)
- 121 Highest point average per game (I Like Big Punts)
- 122 Hardest strength of schedule (Trophy Wife)
- 168 Most points in one game (Ambassador of Quan)

Commish's favorite team name this year: I Like Big Punts (But, should be spelled Puntz)
Bragging rights trivia question: Email me if you know the reference for my team name: Ambassador of Quan