

MHJ  
T13c

**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
TRI-SERVICE COMMISSIONING  
May 21, 2004**



## Officer's Oath of Office

*I, (state your full name), having been appointed a Second Lieutenant/Ensign in the United States (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force) do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter, So Help Me God.*

## **Hail! Minnesota**

**Minnesota, hail to thee!  
Hail to thee, our college dear!  
Thy light shall ever be  
A beacon bright and clear;  
Thy sons and daughters true  
Shall proclaim thee near and far;  
They will guard thy fame  
And adore thy name  
Thou shalt be their Northern Star.**

## Schedule of Events

**Welcome**

**Processional**

**National Anthem**

**Presentation of the Mace**

**POW/MIA Poem: Mr. Stan Kowalski**

**Invocation: CH (MAJ) James A. Leston**

**Commissioning Address: Dennis W. Schulstad, USAFR Ret**

**Presentation of Commissions \*\*\***

**Recessional**

**Reception**

\*\*\* Guests are encouraged to move freely  
around The Great Hall to take photos.

## Commissioning Party

<b>University Representative</b>	<b>Regent Frank Berman</b>
<b>Guest of Honor</b>	<b>BG (R) Dennis W. Schulstad</b>
<b>Professor of Military Science</b>	<b>LTC Douglas Trenda</b>
<b>Professor of Naval Science</b>	<b>CAPT James Coulson</b>
<b>Asst. Prof. of Aerospace Studies</b>	<b>CPT Timothy Jensen</b>

## **REGENT FRANK BERMAN**

Frank Berman received a bachelor of science degree in accounting, with distinction, and a Juris Doctorate, cum laude, from the University of Minnesota. He has practiced law for 35 years in business-related litigation, business transactions, resolutions of disputes, and other commercial matters. He has served on numerous governing boards including the executive committee of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the Committee for Identity and Continuity for the Jewish Federation of Minneapolis, and Governor Carlson's Task Force on Stadium Financing. He has been married for 35 years and has two adult children and four grandchildren.

**Dennis W. Schulstad**  
Brigadier General (USAFR Retired)

The General entered the Air Force in 1966 as a graduate of the University of Minnesota's Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He served in numerous units to include the 3408th Student Squadron, 934th Tactical Air Group, Air Force Academy, 15th Air Force, and Headquarters Air Combat Command, Langley Air Force Base, VA. He currently serves as an appointee of the Secretary of Defense as the Minnesota Chair of Employers Support for Guard and Reserve (ESGR) issues, (equivalent rank of Major General).

His major awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation medal with two oak leaf cluster, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hourglass device.

His educational achievements include:

- BA Speech and Public Relations, Univ. of Minnesota
- William Mitchell School of Law, St. Paul
- Squadron Officer School
- Air Command and Staff College
- Air War College
- Program for Senior Executives in Government, Harvard University.

As a former Minneapolis City Council Member of 22 years, his dedication to community service is strong. He serves on numerous boards and commissions to include:

- 1st VP, Univ. of Minnesota Alumni Association
- Board Secretary, Metro Minneapolis YMCA
- VP, Municipal Employees Retirement Board
- KARE-TV "Eleven Who Care" Board of Directors
- Univ. of Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Board
- As the Chair of the George Mikan Tribute, he coordinated the unveiling of the bronze statue televised nationally during a Laker/Timberwolves NBA game.
- He also has raised \$500,000 for juvenile diabetes.
- Provides over 50 speeches each year on defense, politics and ceremonial programs.

**DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY SCIENCE**  
***CANDIDATES FOR U.S. ARMY COMMISSIONING***

**Peter Arthur Decrans**

History/Art  
Cottage Grove, MN  
Engineers, Nat'l Guard, Ft. Leonard Wood, MO

**Scott M. Eberle**

Political Science  
Maple Grove, MN  
Infantry, Active Duty, Ft. Benning, GA

**Christopher J. Elfering**

History  
Maple Grove, MN  
Quartermaster, Active Duty, Ft. Lee, VA

**Jacob R. Gilpin**

Electrical Engineering  
New Market, MN  
Transportation, Army Reserves, Fort Eustis, VA

**Niels J. Gott**

Master of Int'l Management  
Grand Forks, N.D.  
Signal Corps, Nat'l Guard, Fort Gordon, GA

**Michael J. Herzog**

Environmental Studies  
Mount Prospect, IL  
Chemical Corps, Nat'l Guard, Fort Leonard Wood, MO

**Peter B. Postma**

History  
Clara City, MN  
Engineers, Active Duty, Ft. Leonard Wood, MO

**Benjamin L. Sass**  
Real Estate  
Stewartville, MN  
Infantry, Active Duty, Ft. Benning, GA

**DEPARTMENT OF NAVAL SCIENCE**  
***CANDIDATES FOR U.S. NAVY COMMISSIONING***

**Jordan M. Cohen**  
History  
Duluth, MN  
Division Officer, USS BARRY (DDG-52)

**Thomas E. Hartung**  
Mechanical Engineering  
Maple Grove, MN  
Pilot Training, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL

**Samir T. Mukherjee**  
Electrical Engineering/Physics  
Freehold, New Jersey  
Uniformed Services, U of Health Services, Bethesda, MD

**Darin Rippentrop**  
Chemical Engineering  
Mitchell, SD  
Naval Reactors, Washington, D.C.

**DEPARTMENT OF AEROSPACE STUDIES**  
***CANDIDATES FOR U.S. AIR FORCE COMMISSIONING***

**Amanda Backes**  
Biochemistry  
Ft. Walton Beach, FL  
Navigator Training, Eglin AFB, FL

**Jason R. Bartlett**  
Architecture  
River Falls, WI  
Logistics Readiness, Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ

**Beth Lyn Brockshus**  
Chemistry  
Minneapolis, MN  
Navigator Training, Randolph AFB, TX

**Kristopher Thomas Healey**  
Electrical Engineering  
Minneapolis, MN  
Pilot Training, Eglin AFB, FL

**Grant Eleeson Hosmer**  
Political Science-International Relations  
Sisseton, SD  
Security Forces, Ellsworth, AFB, SD

**Kristopher D. Nielsen**  
Genetics, Cell Biology, and Development  
Racine, WI  
Space & Missiles, Vandenberg AFB, CA

**Katrina Lynn Schweiker**  
Biophysics  
Johnson City, TN  
AFIT, Penn State University

**John Thomas Truex**  
Finance  
Eden Prarie, MN  
Finance, Misawa AB, Japan

## ROTC Staff

### Army

Commanding Officer	Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Trenda
Executive Officer	Major Kristin Frazer
Operations Officer	Major Steven Thielen
Recruiting Officer	Colonel Richard Olson
NCOIC	Master Sergeant Rick Michalec
Training NCO	Sergeant First Class Kelvin Nolen
Administrative NCO	Staff Sergeant Ruben Marrerogalgarza
Executive Secretary	Geri Johanson
Army and Air Force Supply Officer	John Joyner

### Navy

Commanding Officer	Captain James Coulson
Executive Officer	Commander David Hutton
Marine Officer Instructor	Captain Joseph LaPan
Asst. Prof. of Naval Science	Lieutenant Eric Wenschlag
Asst. Prof. of Naval Science	Lieutenant William Brooks
Asst. Prof. of Naval Science	Lieutenant Robert Peeler
Administrative Officer	Chief Petty Officer Susan Hakala
Supply Officer	Chief Petty Officer Bryan Shonyo
Assistant Marine Officer Instructor	Gunnery Sergeant David Reid
Office Specialist	Debbie Whitt
Personnel Assistant	Susan Vásquez

### Air Force

Commanding Officer	Colonel Henry J. Gilman
Admissions Officer	Major Gregory Webster
Commandant of Cadets	Captain Timothy Jensen
NCOIC, Personnel	Technical Sergeant Patrick Caspers
NCOIC, Information Management	Technical Sergeant Anthony Czech
Principal Administrative Specialist	Tony Yulo

\*Special thank you to our sign language interpreters, Ms. Amy Williams and Ms. Barb Podesta from the University of Minnesota Disability Services.

**\*\*The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.**



## Army ROTC

Army ROTC is the largest commissioning source for the US Army, annually commissioning approximately 75% of all new officers for the Active Component, Reserves and National Guard. AROTC graduates enter one of the 18 combat arms, combat support, or combat service support branches. After commissioning, AROTC graduates attend training at their assigned branch's Officer Basic Course. Active component officers then go on to further training, such as Airborne or Ranger School, or directly on to their follow-on assignments in either the continental United States or abroad. USAR and NG return to their home states to lead and train their local units, while simultaneously pursuing their civilian careers. Currently, we have 71 cadets enrolled in our program.

## Naval ROTC

The Naval Service consists of both the Navy and the Marine Corps. The Naval ROTC program commissions approximately 1,500 men and women as Navy Ensigns or Marine Corps Second Lieutenants each year. Following commissioning, NROTC graduates begin careers in surface warfare, aviation, nuclear powered submarines, nursing, or the Marine Corps. The NROTC battalion consists of Midshipmen, and Navy and Marine Corps enlisted service members on active duty who are earning their degrees and commissions. The Midshipmen operate the Battalion under the guidance of the NROTC Unit Staff.

## Air Force ROTC

Air Force ROTC is the largest and oldest source of commissioned officers of the Air Force, and serves to recruit, educate, and prepare college students to be Air Force Officers. Nationally, approximately 3,000 men and women are commissioned each year. Air Force ROTC is located at 143 colleges and universities with approximately 600 additional colleges handled through "cross-town agreement". At the University of Minnesota, we have 80 students enrolled in Air Force ROTC.