

## Welcome Letter



Welcome to the 2021 General Donald R. Keith Memorial Capstone Conference! I am pleased to have you visit West Point, albeit virtually. I hope that you have the opportunity to visit in-person soon. Until then, I invite you to visit the conference's Support Channel on MS Teams. There you can take a virtual tour of West Point to learn more about the historic local area and the beautiful grounds and structures that make up the United States Military Academy (USMA). You can also utilize the Support Team to share a brief "shout out" that will be shared at the closing award ceremony. Any attendee or visitor can share a message of support to our graduating cadets or to the teams presenting at the conference.

Established in 1802, the Academy's mission is "to educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of Duty, Honor, Country and prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the Nation as an officer in the United States Army." Here at West Point, over 4,000 men and women simultaneously pursue an undergraduate education and a commission in the United States Army; this takes place during a four-year process known as the "West Point Experience." All graduates receive a Bachelor of Science degree "designed specifically to meet the intellectual requirements of a commissioned officer in today's Army."

A special thank you to General Keith's family for the generous endowment that allows our Department to run this exciting event every year and to the staff and faculty in the Department of Systems Engineering who have had a hand in the planning and execution of this conference. Lastly, if we can assist you in any way, please stop by the Support Team where our IT and administrative staff can provide the assistance you need.

West Point is truly a distinctive institution with a unique atmosphere. I hope that you enjoy your time while attending the 2021 General Donald R. Keith Memorial Capstone Conference.

Sincerely,

*Rich Morales*

Colonel Rich Morales, Ph.D.  
Professor and Head  
Department of Systems Engineering