A LETTER FROM THE CADET BATTALION COMMANDER:

CADETS AND FRIENDS OF THE SURFRIDER BATTALION, THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND ENTHUSIASM IN OUR PROGRAM. OVER THE PAST YEAR, WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED SOME AMAZING FEATS, RANGING FROM THE GERMAN ARMED FORCES PROFICIENCY BADGE TO CLIMBING MOUNT WHITNEY. NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE HARD WORK AND TENACITY OF THE SURFRIDER CADETS. THEY HAVE RISEN TO THE CHALLENGE OF BALANCING THEIR ROTC OBLIGATIONS OF LEADERSHIP LAB, PHYSICAL TRAINING, AND VOLUNTEER EVENTS WHILE ATTENDING A TOP TIER UNIVERSITY. THEIR EXCELLENCE MANIFESTS ITSELF IN HAVING PT SCORES AND GPAS WELL ABOVE THE CADET COMMAND AVERAGE. WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON HOW MUCH WE HAVE LEARNED AND DEVELOPED, AND ARE EXCITED TO SHARE THESE ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITH YOU.

IT HAS BEEN AN INCREDIBLE PRIVILEGE TO LEAD THE SURFRIDER BATTALION. MY PEERS AND JUNIOR CADETS HAVE DEMONSTRATED IMMENSE STRENGTH OF CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP WITH THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME EXEMPLARY OFFICERS.

–CADET SARA CRATSENBURG

RANGER CHALLENGE
PATROLLING, TACTICS, AND OUTDOORSMANSHP; WITH AN ANNUAL COMPETITION

CADET LIFE
LEADERSHIP LAB, PHYSICAL TRAINING, AND MENTORSHIP GROUPS

COMMUNITY
SURFRIDERS PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY EVENTS

DINING OUT
CADETS CELEBRATE THE END OF THE YEAR
EVERY YEAR THE SURFRIDERS TRAIN WITH NEIGHBORING COLLEGES ON TRAINING EXERCISES IN THE FIELD. THIS FALL THE SURFRIDER BATTALION TRAVELED TO CAMP SAN LUIS OBISPO TO PARTICIPATE IN A LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EXERCISE WITH CAL POLY SAN LUIS OBISPO. CONTRACTED CADETS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO RIDE ON AN UH60 BLACK HAWK TO THE CAMPSITE. DURING THIS WEEKEND, CADETS WERE ABLE TO BUILD RAPPORT WITH CADETS FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL AND LEARN SKILLS THAT WILL BENEFIT THEM IN THE ARMY. CADETS PARTICIPATED IN FIELD LEADERS REACTION COURSES (FLRCS), DAY LAND NAVIGATION, AND ROUND ROBIN TRAINING.

THAT SAME WEEKEND, CADETS CHANGED FROM COMBAT UNIFORMS TO SERVICE UNIFORMS. THE SURFRIDERS WERE INVITED TO THE PIERRE CLAEYSSSENS MILITARY BALL WHERE CADETS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT, CAPTAIN FLORENT “FLO” GROBERG.

[TOP RIGHT CORNER]: MS4 CADETS MARGARET ROMANIN, ROBERTO VARGAS, JESUS QUINTERO, AND AUSTIN AMATO TAKE A PICTURE WITH CAPTAIN FLORENT GROBERG. HONORARY SURFRIDER CSM (R) JONATHAN CHURCH AND PIERRE CLAEYSSSENS REPRESENTATIVE CPT (R) JOE DANELY SALUTE DURING THE ARMY SONG.

[CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT]: MS3 CADETS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: JAVIER LOPEZ, TYLER ZION, BRIAN CROTTY, GENE SCHRECK, DYLAN STEVENS TAKE A GROUP PICTURE BEFORE THE BLACK HAWK FLIGHT. MS2 JETHRO SHEN WORKS WITH HIS SQUAD DURING AN FLRC AS MS1 HUABIN SITU WATCHES ON. CADETS BUILD CONFIDENCE BY CLIMBING A 60 FT TALL ROCK WALL. MS1 BENRY SHEEHAN ORGANIZES HIS FIRST MRE FEAST.
COLOR GUARD

The Surfriders Color Guard team had a successful year and grew from seven to thirteen cadets, enabling us to perform at more events around the community. We presented the colors at several sporting events, including several basketball and baseball games. In the community, they participated in a rifle guard, as well as presenting the colors for the Union Construction Association, the Pierre Claeyssens Memorial Day ceremony, the Goleta Little League, and for the Surfriders Dining Out. They performed to the highest standard at each event, and excellently represented the program.

[CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT]:
MS3 Cadets Javier Lopez, Dominique Chan, Tyler Zion, and Brian Crotty prepare to present the colors at an UCSB Basketball game.
MS3 Javier Lopez leads the color guard at the annual dining out.
MS1 Kirsten Annell, MS1 Dahee Choi, MS2 Michelle Dobler, MS3 Javier Lopez, MS3 Dominique Chan, and MS2 Joyce Kang take a group photo after an event in Montecito.
VETERAN’S DAY WEEKEND

Surfriders marched in the annual Veteran’s Day parade on State Street in downtown Santa Barbara. With the color guard leading the formation, MS3 cadets marched along the side, calling cadences. This event allows the Surfrider battalion to make a positive impact in the community. These events in conjunction with the program’s involvement with Memorial Day marks important community outreach that allows us to build rapport with community organizations such as the Pierre Claeyssens Veterans Foundation.

[CLOCKWISE FROM TOP]:
MS2 Isaac Haskins and MS1 Jessica Hanson lead the cadets in the parade.
The color guard marches before the battalion.
MS3 Brian Crotty, MS3 Dominique Chan, MS2 Joyce Kang, and MS3 Tyler Zion take a picture in Montecito for a Veteran’s Day event.
MENTORSHIP

The Surfrider Battalion continued to utilize mentorship groups in order to create a family-like atmosphere within the ROTC program. Each MS4 is assigned three or four cadets from the MSI-MSIII class at the beginning of the school year to provide guidance and support. Cadets are able to build personal relationships within each mentor group, while senior cadets are able to assist incoming freshmen transition into college and ROTC life. This year, MSIV cadets also assisted their MSIII mentees with their talent assessment packets, which are used during the accessions process.
The Surfriders sent a team to compete for the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge in Fullerton, California with a 100% success rate. Throughout the course of the event, cadets competed in endurance, strength, and marksmanship events. UCSB was the only school competing that weekend to have every cadet earn a medal.

[Above from top to bottom]: MSG Armstrong takes a photo with MS3 Matthew Lanthier and MS1 Zachary Joseph. MS3 Stuart Love and MS3 Gene Schreck run with weighted rucks.

[Clockwise from top left]: MS3 Dominique Chan smiles during the swim event. A cadet swims to qualify for the event. MS4 Jeremy Ho, MS3 Gene Schreck, MS4 Bray McCollum, MS3 Stuart Love, MS3 Sarah Holderman, MS3 Dominique Chan, MS1 Zachary Joseph, and MS3 Matthew Lanthier represent the Surfrider Battalion in Fullerton, CA.
CADETS MET EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND FRIDAY MORNING AT 0630 TO CONDUCT PHYSICAL FITNESS TRAINING. THE WORKOUTS ARE CREATED BY THE CADET COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR AND GENERALLY CONSIST OF RUNNING, PUSHUP AND SITUPS, AND THE OCCASIONAL SQUAD COMPETITION. THE SURFRIDERS PRIDE THEMSELVES IN ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN PHYSICAL FITNESS WHICH SHOWS IN THE HIGH BATTALION APFT SCORES.

[LEFT SIDE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM]:
MSG ARMSTRONG ENCOURAGES CADETS DURING THE RANGER CHALLENGE ORIENTATION.
MS2 THEO VANCE, MS3 BRYAN HUDSON, MS3 GENE SCHRECK, AND MS3 STUART LOVE RUN ALONG SANDS BEACH.
MS3 CADETS SPRINT DURING THE OPAT EXAM.

[RIGHT SIDE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM]:
SURFRIDERS CONDUCT PUSH-UPS BEFORE THE BEACH RUN.
MS4 JEREMY HO GRADES MS3 DYLAN STEVENS DURING THE LIFTING PORTION OF THE OPAT.
EVERY THURSDAY, THE SURFRIDERS MEET TO EXECUTE LEADERSHIP LABS, WHICH ENABLE CADETS TO GET HANDS ON EXPERIENCE IN PRACTICAL ARMY SKILLS. MUCH OF THE FOCUS IS TO PREPARE THE MSIII CADETS FOR ADVANCED CAMP BY RUNNING LANCES OF SMALL UNIT INFANTRY TACTICS, AS WELL AS FAMILIARIZE THE MSI AND MSII CADETS WHO ARE SOON TO ATTEND BASIC CAMP. HERE SURFRIDERS PRACTICE TACTICS, INDIVIDUAL SOLDIER SKILLS, AND TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE.

[MAIN PHOTO]: MS3 CADETS POSE AS OPPOSING FORCES.
[CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE]: MS3 ANDREW RIPLEY, MS3 CONNOR GUTTMANN, AND MS3 NICOLE SUBOSHEVA TEACH UNDERCLASSMEN HOW TO RECON AN OBJECTIVE. MS3 CONNOR GUTTMANN SPEAKS WITH HIS SQUAD BEFORE THE MISSION BEGINS. A CADET HAS HIS RIFLE AT THE HIGH READY AS HIS SQUAD PUSHES THROUGH AN OBJECTIVE.
[LEFT SIDE FROM TIP TO BOTTOM]:
MS3 CONNOR GUTTMANN CONDUCTS EPW SEARCHES ON MS3 MATTHEW LANTHIER.
MS3 MATTHEW LANTHIER AND MS3 JAVIER LOPEZ ENGAGE THE BLUFOR CADETS.
MS1 MICHAEL LAZICH PULLS SECURITY IN THE BRUSH.

[RIGHT SIDE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM]:
MS3 BRIAN CROTTY KEEPS WATCH AS SQUAD MEMBERS RECEIVE AN OPERATIONS ORDER.
MS3 GENE SCHRECK INSTRUCTS MS2 ADRIENNNE JACOBS ON HOW TO CROSS A LINEAR DANGER AREA.
ONE OF OUR PROUDEST ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE SURFRIER BATTALION IS OUR RANGER CHALLENGE TEAM. TEAM MEMBERS REPRESENT THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST OF BOTH UCSB AND THE BATTALION. EVERY YEAR THEY COMPETE IN THE RANGER CHALLENGE COMPETITION WHERE THEY STRONGLY REPRESENT THE SURFRIDERS.

[Top row from left to right]: MS3 Dominique Chan, MS3 Bryan Hudson, MS3 Dylan Stevens, and MS3 Javier Lopez pose with the guidon at the competition. RANGER CHALLENGE CADETS CARRY THEIR GEAR TO THEIR DESTINATION.
[Bottom row from left to right]: MS4 Francisco Perez does burpees for the RANGER CHALLENGE APFT. MS3 Javier Lopez does squats for the RANGER CHALLENGE APFT.

THIS YEAR, THE RANGER CHALLENGE TEAM ASCENDED MT WHITNEY, THE TALLEST PEAK IN THE LOWER 48 STATES. DESPITE REPORTS THAT THIS WAS THE MOST DIFFICULT HIKE IN THE PAST TEN YEARS, THEY ACCOMPLISHED THIS FEAT IN AN AMAZING 15 HOURS. THIS WAS MADE POSSIBLE DUE TO RANGER CHALLENGE COACH CDT GENE SCHRECK AND TEAM CAPTAIN CDT THEO VANCE.

ASCENT UP MT. WHITNEY
SPRING
FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE

THIS SPRING, THE SURFRIDER BATTALION PARTICIPATED IN A JOINT FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE AT CAMP ROBERTS, CALIFORNIA WITH CAL STATE FRESNO AND CAL POLY. CADETS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN LEADERSHIP TECHNIQUES FROM OTHER SCHOOLS AS WELL ASSESS THEIR TACTICAL PROFICIENCY ON A LARGER SCALE. THIS YEAR WAS PARTICULARLY CHALLENGING WITH ADDED RUCK MARCHES, Foul WEATHER, AND LIVE M16S AND M4S. SEVERAL LUCKY CADETS EVEN HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOOT AND CARRY 240B MACHINE GUNS.

[TOP PHOTO]: CADETS LISTEN AS SURFRIDER ALUMNI MG WENDT ADDRESSES THE BATTALION AND GUESTS. [MIDDLE ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT]: MS1 DAHEE CHOI POURS HER MUSTARD AND WHEY CONCOCTION INTO THE TRADITIONAL GROG AS GROG MEISTER MS4 ROBERTO VARGAS RECOILS. THE MS2 CADETS TAKE A CLASS PHOTO TO COMMEMORATE THE EVENT. [TO THE RIGHT]: LTC RAYFIELD GIFTS CSM (R) CHURCH THE AMERICAN FLAG THAT WAS RETIRED FROM THE ROTC BUILDING THIS YEAR.
ON APRIL 29TH, SURFRIDER CADETS AND GUESTS GATHERED AT MOSHER ALUMNI HOUSE FOR THE ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY AND ALUMNI RECEPTION. THIS EVENT IS TO RECOGNIZE THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE SURFRIDER CADETS FROM THE PAST YEAR AND WERE PRESENTED AWARDS BY SPECIAL GUESTS FROM THE PIERRE CLAEYSSENS VETERANS FOUNDATION AND THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS. THE Awardees WORKED EXTREMELY HARD THIS YEAR, AND REPRESENT THE BEST OF THE SURFRIDERS.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, THE PROGRAM INVITED CADETS, FAMILY, AND ALUMNI TO ENJOY THE ALUMNI RECEPTION AT BUILDING 451. THROUGH THIS EVENT, CADETS WERE ABLE TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH GUESTS AND SURFRIDER ALUMNI.
EVERY YEAR THE SURFRIDER BATTALION VOLUNTEERS AT SANTA BARBARA CEMETERY DURING MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS PUT ON BY THE PIERRE CLAEYSSENS VETERANS FOUNDATION. CADETS HELPED WITH PEDESTRIANS AND PARKING, AND THE COLOR GUARD TEAM PRESENTED THE COLORS AT THE CEREMONY. THIS IS A GREAT WAY FOR THE CADETS TO INTERACT WITH LOCAL VETERANS AND TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY SERVICE. THIS YEAR, CADETS WERE INVITED TO THE HOME OF THE BLANKENSHIPS TO ADMIRE THEIR EXTENSIVE MILITARY HISTORY COLLECTION.

[TOP PHOTO]: MS2 DYLAN DONOVAN-SMITH, MS3 BRIAN CROTTY, AND MS3 DOMINIQUE CHAN TAKE A PICTURE WITH MILITARY MEMORABILIA.

[MIDDLE ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT]: VOLUNTEERING CADETS AT THE CEMETERY TAKE A GROUP PHOTO. PILOTS PERFORM THE MISSING MAN FORMATION AT THE END OF THE CEREMONY.

[TO THE LEFT]: COLOR GUARD STANDS AT CEREMONIAL PARADE REST.
MEET THE MS4 CLASS

JESUS QUINTERO
2LT Jesus Quintero graduates with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. During his last year he served as the Cadet Battalion Personnel Officer as well as the Cadet Battalion Intel and Security Officer. Upon Graduation, 2LT Quintero will serve as an Active Duty Engineer Officer and will attend Basic Officer Leaders Course at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri in November 2017.

JEREMY HO
2LT Jeremy Ho graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in Financial Mathematics and Statistics. He served both as the Battalion Executive Officer, and as the Battalion S6. 2LT Ho will serve as an Active Duty Engineer Officer, and will report to his first duty station at Fort Lewis, Washington.

AUSTIN AMATO
2LT Austin Amato is graduating with a Bachelor’s Degree in Economics and Accounting. As a senior he served as the Cadet Command Sergeant Major. He will serve as an active duty Infantry Officer and will receive his first duty assignment based on the completion go US Army Ranger school and other specialty schools.

ROBERTO VARGAS
2LT Roberto Vargas will graduate will a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biological Sciences. Prior to transferring to UCSB, he completed Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training as a Private First Class. 2LT Vargas will serve as an Active Duty Infantry Officer and will attend the Infantry Basic Officer Leaders Course and Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia in August 2017.
SARA CRATSENBURG
2LT Sara Cratsenburg is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Feminist Studies. As a senior she served as the Cadet Battalion Commander and will enter the Field Artillery Branch. She will go on to serve as Platoon Leader in the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell in Kentucky.

ROBERT ZARASUA
2LT Robert Zarasua is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry. As a senior, he served as an Assistant Operations Officer. Upon Graduation, 2LT Zarasua will serve as an Active Duty Quartermaster Officer and will report to his first duty station with the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii.

FRANCISCO PEREZ
2LT Francisco Perez is graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Applied Math. During his senior year he served as the Cadet Battalion Signal Officer. 2LT Perez will be commissioning in September 2017.

BRAY MCCOLLUM
2LT Bray McCollum graduates with two Bachelor of Arts degrees in Global Studies and Religious Studies. As a senior he served as the Battalion Operations Officer, and will commission as an Active Duty Air Defense Artillery Officer. After training 2LT McCollum will report to 6th Battalion, 52nd Regiment, 35th ADA Brigade at Camp Casey, South Korea.

MARGARET ROMANIN
2LT Margaret Romanin is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. During her senior year, she served as the Cadet Battalion Recruiting Officer. 2LT Romanin will be commissioning in September 2017.

SAM LEE
2LT Sam Lee is graduating with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History. During his senior year, he had roles in the Battalion S3 shop and was the head of the Volunteer Committee. 2LT Lee will serve as an Active Duty Armor Officer, and will receive his first duty assignment based on the completion of Basic Officer Leaders Course.
AFTER FOUR YEARS OF RIGOROUS ROTC TRAINING AND COLLEGE CLASSES, EIGHT INDIVIDUALS GRADUATED AND COMMISSIONED AS OFFICERS IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY. THESE NEWLY COMMISSIONED 2ND LIEUTENANTS TOOK THE OATH BY THE BEACH WHILE SURROUNDED BY FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND FELLOW CADETS. THE SURFRIDER BATTALION TAKES PRIDE IN PROVIDING THE ARMY WITH THE BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST. WE CONGRATULATE EVERY ONE OF THEM FOR COMPLETING THEIR TRAINING HERE AT UCSB AND WISH THEM A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE.