



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Far East District

# EAST GATE EDITION

APRIL 2019 VOL. 28, NO. 05

## STEM Career Shadow Day provides glimpse into future

By Antwaun Parrish  
FED Public Affairs

The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) program allows school-age children to participate in learning-enrichment activities that exposes them to aspirational careers for their future.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Far East District (FED) continues to do its part in ensuring school-age children within the community are exposed to varying STEM programs throughout the school year. The district hosted a STEM Career Shadow Day March 21, where six students of Humphreys Middle School were briefed by employees on their role within the district, participated in practical exercises, and toured construction sites around the base.

Shane Kobialka, a district engineer, has been volunteering with the STEM program for the past four years. He began working with the program by volunteering to participate in the local elementary school's STEM day event.

"STEM events are designed to be educational while also being fun and interactive," said Kobialka. "By allowing our students to be hands-on, we engage their senses. Most of our

activities are designed to be repeatable at home, so whether they are learning about fluid dynamics with a hair dryer and a ping-pong ball, or structural engineering using paper cups, when the students get excited, they take these

activities to their families and repeat them, reinforcing what they have learned and hopefully developing that interest in the STEM fields."

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*The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District hosted Camp Humphreys Middle School students during the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Career Shadow Day at the district's headquarters, March 21. The students were briefed by employees on their role within the district, participated in practical exercises, and toured construction sites around Camp Humphreys. (Photo by Yi Yong-un)*



*Far East District USACE Leadership Development Level 2 Program (ULDLP) selectees went through a series of obstacle courses as part of a team building activity on March 15 at Camp Humphreys. This year's Far East District participants include Choe Ye-kwon, BJ Mata, Jared McCormick, Ben Nguyen, Eden Shin and Yung Chae-ung. (Photos by Yi Yong-un)*



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[www.pof.usace.army.mil](http://www.pof.usace.army.mil)

## STEM Career Shadow Day provides glimpse into future

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The FED is constantly engaged with contractors developing structures in multiple locations throughout the peninsula. These sites offer the STEM program a unique experience within their learning.

“For this event, we had an older group of students, so we were able to walk them through the design and construction process at an understandable level,” said Kobialka. “Being amongst so many construction sites at different completion levels, they should now be able to look at projects with a new perspective.”

Kobialka went on to state that whether the students realize it or not, every time they notice construction activity on base, it will reinforce the STEM fields and what they learned here at FED.

Although Kobialka led this event, it takes teamwork in order to execute a well-developed STEM event that supports the program’s mission of enriching student’s lives.

“I could never have pulled this off without the support of everyone involved,” said Kobialka. “Having unique perspectives from the differ-

ent branches within FED has helped to shape this successful and hopefully memorable program.

The students of the STEM program at Camp Humphreys are able to take the lessons they learn from district employees with varying amounts of experience and use that knowledge to help them construct their future.

“The goal for our involvement in the STEM program here at USAG Humphreys is to inspire youth to pursue a career in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math,” said Kobialka.



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# Far East District and K water continue technical exchanges

By Stephen Satkowski  
FED Public Affairs

In 2015 at the world water forum in Daejeon, Korea, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Korea Water Resources Development Corporation or K water, signed a memorandum of understanding to work together annually in the area of water resources.

Last year the two organizations decided to assist developing nations in south Asia with water resources management. That mission continued in March 2019, following a high-level meeting in February after both countries agreed to collaborate further with water-related exchanges with other nations. This led to the current joint

engagement, “enhancement of water resources management using geographical information systems workshop” in Daejeon, Korea, with engineers from the Philippines.

Dr. Jay Pak, Ph.D., P.E., Far East District’s Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering Branch chief, held a presentation with the Filipino engineers discussing applications used by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that alleviate and prevent flooding. These geographic information systems and software, developed and utilized by USACE in the U.S. can be applied by these Filipino engineers in their country.

“It’s excellent in content and delivery,” said Paulina A. Lingan, senior engineer at the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources of the Philippines. “I find challenge in my role as senior engineer to do more in geographical information systems. I thank God I got a chance to learn through you (Far East District).”

K water and the Far East District’s joint exchanges will continue later in the month of March as Pak and his geotechnical team will visit K water’s resource center, material and environmental testing labs as they look to improve technical capacity.



*Dr. Jay Pak, Far East District’s Geotechnical and Environmental Engineering Branch chief, discusses using geographical information systems to Filipino engineers during a K water research workshop March 8 in Daejeon, Korea. (Photo by K water)*



**Col. Teresa Schlosser (fifth from left), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Far East District (FED) commander and Col. Garrett Cottrell (fourth from left), USACE FED deputy commanding officer-Transformation/USDCA, along with other dignitaries, hosted a ribbon cutting and opening ceremony at the Camp Humphreys Golf Course and Clubhouse, April 1. (Photo by Capt. Rodolfo Martinez)**



**Brig. Gen. Thomas Tickner, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Pacific Ocean Division commander, and Col. Teresa Schlosser, USACE, Far East District commander, hosted a promotion ceremony for Sgt. 1st Class John Williams, at the district's headquarters, Camp Humphreys, South Korea, April 2. Williams' family along with other FED employees were present during his promotion from staff sergeant to sergeant first class. (Photos by Antwaun J. Parrish)**

# EEO CORNER/ DIVERSITY

By Valerie Bradley  
FED Equal Employment Opportunities Officer

## **Another Fantastic FED 2019 Observance and Awareness Event**

### **The Women's History Month**

Every year, the month of March is a time we celebrate and honor all of women's history. And today, Women's History Month belongs to all groups collectively everywhere. It is not a country, group or specific organization, but a celebration of all women's achievements and support for each other.

Congress declares March as National Women's History Month in perpetuity. The observance recognizing women's contributions was established by Public Law 100-9. This observance runs through the month of March and celebrates the struggles and achievements of women throughout the history of the United States. The theme for this event changes each year. Women have come a long way in their struggle for equality, but there is still a long distance to cover. This year the theme was "Visionary Women: Champions of Peace and Nonviolence."

### **Fact**

Women's history was virtually an unknown topic in the K-12 curriculum or in general public consciousness. The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women initiated a "Women's History Week" celebration in 1978.

In 1987, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to expand "Women's History Week" to the entire month of

March. Since then, the National Women's History Month Resolution has been approved with bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

International Women's Day is a global celebration of the economic, political, and social achievements of women, and it first took place on March 8, 1911. The United Nations (UN) has sponsored International Women's Day since 1975, —To recognize the fact that securing peace and social progress and the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms require the active participation, equality and development of women; and to acknowledge the contribution of women to the strengthening of international peace and security. ll

In 1970, Elizabeth P. Hoisington and Anna Mae Hays were promoted to the rank of Brigadier General, making them the first female generals in U.S. history.

Brigadier General Margaret W. Burcham became the first woman to be promoted to general officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in January 2012.

### **Keynote Guest Speaker**

The USACE Far East District celebration of the Women's History Month was held on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at the USACE HQ bldg. 12600 Camp Humphreys. Over 80 people attended the event. The Women's History Month was with keynote Teresa A. Schlosser COL, EN CDR, USACE FED.

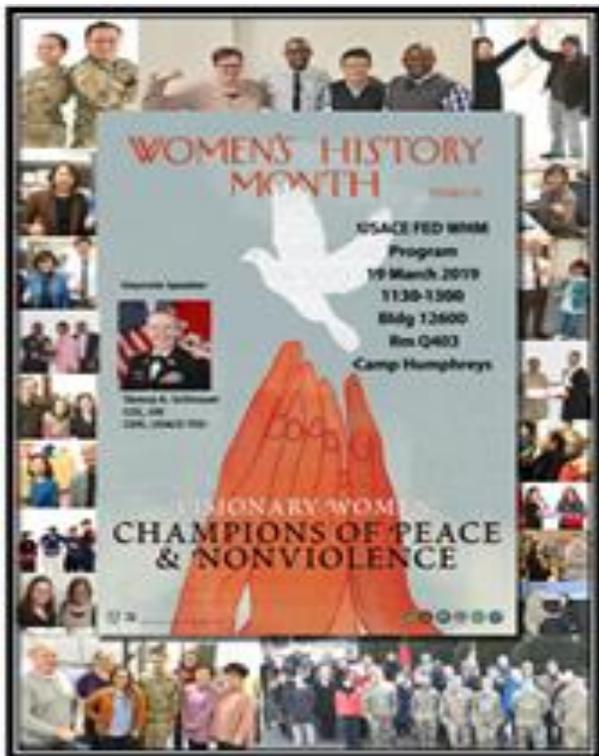


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## **EEO CORNER / DIVERSITY**

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COL Teresa A. Schlosser became the 36<sup>th</sup> Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Far East District on 7 July 2017. As Commander and District Engineer, she is responsible for the planning, engineering, design, and construction management series across the full spectrum of operations from armistice to contingency in support of the Department of Defense and U.S., and Korean National employees executing an overall program in excess of \$10 million.



There was a great opportunity to ask questions to COL Schlosser and her experience in the military as a female moving up in the ranks.



Some employees brought with them their children. Marley Ferguson, and Medline Tallman, both age 11 who found the courage to ask questions.



Medline Tallman, age 11 COL Schlosser, Marley Ferguson, age 11



### **EEO Office Support**

The event was made possible through the kind support to the EEO Office by MSG David Montez with the invocation, the great 8th Army vocalist SPC Trinity Colvin performing the American and Korean National Anthems, Mrs. Pamela Lovasz Engineering Division, Mrs. Penny Ferguson and Ms. Jessie Lindor both from the Logistics Management Office, and Mrs. Passmore from the Executive Office.

Until then to be continue and look forward for the Asian American AND Pacific Islander Heritage Month 1-31- May 2019.



# Building *Safety* Strong

## ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG



### *Don't Slip Up and Fall Down on the Job*

One of bigger safety hazards we have to deal with is slips and falls. Falls always have an element of surprise. The surprise factor is what makes falls a standard comedy routine. But falls aren't at all fun when they are real. Falls are one of the leading causes of workplace injury and death. And these aren't necessarily falls from heights such as ladders or construction scaffolds. Most are falls from the same level, caused by slipping or tripping.



#### *The main causes of slips, trips, and falls in the workplace are:*

- ◆ **Poor housekeeping:** Scrap on floors, spilled liquids, equipment cluttering the aisles all of these scenarios can lead to someone slipping and falling if we simply ignore these hazards. You may think someone else will take care of it, but that may not happen in time to prevent an accident.
- ◆ **Dangerous surface conditions:** Broken or cracked surfaces, protruding nails, different elevations which are unmarked, torn carpets, loose or curled mats and slippery finishes are all hazards.
- ◆ **Insufficient lighting:** Dim or incorrect lighting, glare in areas where it is dangerous or lights which flicker or "strobe" and cause perception difficulties.
- ◆ **Inattention to tasks:** Carelessness brought on by inexperience, horseplay, fatigue or personal problems.
- ◆ **Improper footwear:** Shoes which are not properly fastened, are too big, too small, have slippery bottoms or oversized heels.

#### *Here are some reminders about preventing falls:*

- ◆ Keep obstructions out of walkways. These items are common causes of tripping accidents - stored materials, equipment, cables, hoses, scrap, and trash. Keep doors and drawers of cabinets and workbenches closed.
- ◆ Keep all floors as clean as possible. Clean up any spills promptly. If this is not possible, make sure there is a barricade and sign. Place cleaning equipment in areas where everyone can find it.
- ◆ Floor coverings such as carpets, mats, and tiles should be secured to prevent tripping hazards. Report any problems you find.
- ◆ Stay under the speed limit when you are walking. Don't run in your work area.
- ◆ Make sure your footwear won't trip you up. It should fit well and have low heels. Keep your shoelaces tied. The tread should be adequate for travelling safely on slippery surfaces and in good repair.
- ◆ Properly barricade any hazardous areas such as construction zones.
- ◆ If you are carrying an item, be sure you can see over it or around it. This is especially important on stairways.



***Falls aren't funny. They cause serious injuries and death. If you keep these fall prevention tips in mind, we will all be much safer. Watch your step to prevent falls.***