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## Air Force/Army Commissioning Ceremony

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Air Force/Army Commissioning Ceremony  
President John M. Dunn  
Aug. 16, 2013

- Good afternoon, and welcome to what is a "first" for ROTC at Western Michigan University. This is the first joint commissioning ceremony at WMU for Army ROTC and Air Force ROTC cadets. AND, this is the first ever commissioning of Air Force ROTC cadets EVER held at Western Michigan University.
  
- I want to welcome our guests from Michigan State University, with whom we have had joint Air Force ROTC operations for nearly a decade. Thank you for making the trip to WMU and celebrating with us the achievements of three promising young people.
  
- I want to thank today's keynote speaker Air Force Brig. General and WMU Professor of Finance and Commercial Law Thomas Edmonds. He leads by example in and out of the classroom.
  
- And of course, I want to welcome and congratulate the three students we're honoring today as we send them off to the next phase of their professional development.
  - Army ROTC cadet and WMU student **Paul Fitzpatrick**
  - Air Force ROTC cadet and MSU student **Julia Kreag** (pronounced Craig),
  - Air Force ROTC cadet and the first every WMU student ever to be commissioned on this campus **Andrew Doenitz**.
  
- Thank you for inviting all of us to be part of this special and historic moment. And thank you, Andrew, for organizing this. I understand it has been your dream to be commissioned here at WMU. I love to see dreams realized.
  
- Thank you for what you have done and what you will do for your nation. We'll be watching you with pride. And now, I will turn the program back over to Lt. Col. Hains.