Future Air Force Cadets,

My name is Cadet Rachel Shane. I am a senior meteorology major at Valparaiso University and I’ve been a member of Air Force ROTC for the past 3 years. First, congratulations on completing high school and on your decision to pursue a college degree! I am very excited about your interest in Air Force ROTC here at Detachment 225. I remember when I had just graduated high school and was interested yet quite apprehensive about adding ROTC onto my already full and new college schedule. Nonetheless, ROTC has provided me with so many amazing experiences and lifelong friendships during my college career. It has also pushed me to become a better student, person and leader. At Detachment 225, you will join an organization which includes a diverse group of students from Holy Cross College, Bethel College, Trine University, Saint Notre Dame. At this detachment you will be able to participate in a wide range of unique opportunities, such as base visits, physical training, community service, flight competitions, and field training exercises. Members of Detachment 225 are a close knit community of individuals who are firmly dedicated to integrity, service and excellence.

If you decide to join Air Force ROTC at Det 225, I highly suggest attending our New Cadet Orientation (NCO) program held from Sunday, 13 August until Thursday, 17 August 2017. This New Cadet Orientation is a five day introduction to basic military customs and courtesies, marching, drill, and the cadet leadership structure. Here, you will begin to understand what it means to become an Air Force cadet, and the opportunities open to you as you work to become an Air Force officer upon college graduation. It is an incredible opportunity to meet other new cadets and get a head start into your first semester in ROTC. A typical day at NCO will begin early in the morning and end around 2100. Activities planned include in-processing, drill practice, briefings, team building activities, physical training, field exercises, and a practice physical fitness assessment. If you plan to attend, please arrive on Sunday, 13 August between 0900 and 1000 at Pasquerilla Center, Notre Dame. If you are flying into South Bend and cannot arrive before 1000, you may want to fly in on Saturday. Let the detachment know if this is the case so we can arrange for lodging and someone to pick you up at the airport.

Parents who will be bringing their student to the orientation will have an opportunity to have a tour of Notre Dame Campus Sunday morning, followed by a meeting with the detachment commander, cadre, and other parents of ROTC cadets. Parents are also invited to attend a closing ceremony for the NCO cadets on Thursday at 1100, followed by a picnic directly afterward. All students may move into their permanent dorms after NCO has ended on Thursday afternoon.

Again, thank you for your interest in the Air Force ROTC program. I hope to see you all at our New Cadet Orientation. It is an incredible opportunity to meet other cadets who, like you, want to be part of something bigger than themselves. Should you decide to pursue ROTC here at
Detachment 225, you will be rewarded with amazing experiences and lifelong friendships made throughout your time in college. Until 13 August, have a safe and relaxing summer, and take pride in knowing that you will be joining one of the most prestigious and powerful organizations in the world, the United State Air Force.

RACHEL L. SHANE, C/Lt Col, AFROTC
New Cadet Orientation Commander