



1,400 WEST POINT NEW CADETS “START OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT” THANKS TO STUDENTS AND FACULTY OF NEW YORK COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE



In both photos, the military man is Col. Michael Neary, DPM, MBA, of the Podiatry Service at West Point's Keller Army Community Hospital. In the faculty photo, pausing for a quick lunch, are (left to right) Robert Stabile, DPM, Adjunct Clinical Instructor of Surgical Sciences; Russell G. Volpe, DPM, Professor of Orthopedics and Pediatrics; Susan M. Rice, DPM, Associate Professor of Surgical Sciences; and Michael J. Trepal, DPM, NYCPM's Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean.

Five faculty members from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM), along with twenty of the school's students, worked feverishly recently to fit the more than 1,400 new cadet candidates of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point with properly-fitting boots. The NYCPM volunteers found cadet candidates with a variety of pre-existing problems, ranging from blisters to bunions, hammertoes and other conditions, and referred them to their company medic. New cadets begin rigorous physical training almost from the moment they arrive at West Point, and later this summer, they do a 15-mile road march. Badly-fitting boots could result in blood blisters, ulcerations and stress fractures, hobbling even those cadets with the strongest constitutions. Properly-fitting boots go a long way toward maintaining the cadets' foot health and, as a result, their overall health and their ability to meet the Academy's demanding expectations.

This year's participation by NYCPM in the Boot Fit marked the seventh year that the College has provided faculty and students to West Point to help out. Leading the effort were Col. Michael Neary, DPM, MBA, of the Podiatry Service at Keller Army Community Hospital, and Michael J. Trepal, DPM, NYCPM's Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean. Other NYCPM faculty members taking part were Russell G. Volpe, DPM, Professor of Orthopedics and Pediatrics, Susan M. Rice, DPM, Associate Professor of Surgical Sciences, Robert Stabile, DPM, Adjunct Clinical Instructor of Surgical Sciences, and Jose Loor, DPM. The NYCPM student volunteers were Amarjit Chhatwal; Ilona Ocher; Irina Pisaryuk; John Ellie; Jay Bhuta; Avanti Redkar; Jarna Rathod; Rahul Bhatt; Anthony Ferraro; Jennifer Seifert; John Kannengieser; Shawn Braunagel; Spencer Monaco; Erin Roberson; Dunja Delevska; Michael Collins; Sara El Bashir; Kevin Warner; Lee Greenberg; and Keleigh Muxlow.