

2018 West Point Boot Fit a Success!



NYCPM students smile amidst towering piles of boxes of boots. Left to right: Priya Patel, Rebecca Mina, Sanjna Sanghvi, and Gabriel Cooper, all Class of 2020.

Sixteen students from NYCPM, as well as Eileen Chusid, PhD, Susan Rice, DPM and Russell Volpe, DPM, joined Jinsup Song, DPM, PhD from TUSPM, and Howard Hillstrom, PhD from the Hospital for Special Surgery to conduct a boot fit for 1,026 cadets at West Point over a period of 13+ hours on a very hot July 5.

Students measured cadets for shoe/boot size; Dr. Volpe and Lt. Col. Bill D. Michie, DPM, the podiatrist at West Point, handled problems described to them by the cadets, some of whom required different-sized boots. Col. Laura Dawson, MD, a foot and ankle surgeon, expedited the exchanges for those cadets. Drs. Rice and Chusid supervised students, who enjoyed a barbecue at the Michie home the evening before the boot fit.

The students measured arch height index for each cadet, as well as helping to fit the boots. Dr. Chusid thinks "we accomplished a great deal and held the place and space for future research." She feels that Lt. Col. Bill D. Michie, DPM, who replaced the retired Col. Neary, DPM, is "a good addition to the team."

Regarding the boot fit, Lt. Col Michie wrote, "... at the end of the day, the Boot Fit was a resounding success. We accomplished our mission and hopefully mitigated lower extremity injuries in this new cadet patient class. As well as saved the US Army a lot of tax payer dollars!"

This volunteer activity continues to be the most popular with NYCPM students, and Dr. Trepal, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean, wrote to students that their efforts this July did not go unnoticed and will be reflected in official Dean's Letters composed when applications are made for residency programs.

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*(Left) NYCPM students measure cadets.
(Right) A cadet tries on her boots.*



*Left to right: Lt. Col. Bill D. Michie, DPM (Podiatrist at West Point), Emily Lewson 2020, Kwame Doh 2020 (Student Coordinators), Susan Rice, DPM, Russell Volpe, DPM, Eileen Chusid, PhD, Howard Hillstrom, PhD (Hospital for Special Surgery)
Absent from photo: Jinsup Song, DPM, PhD (TUSPM).*