



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

14 December 2018

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [How the U.S. military became the exception to America's wage stagnation problem](#)

(29 Nov) *Brookings*, By *Brendan R. Stickle*

Over the last 18 years, active duty military pay increases significantly outpaced their civilian counterparts. A combination of economic forces and political obligations inverted the earning potential for uniformed personnel. With very little fanfare, military service became one of the last bastions of middle class social mobility.

2. [Strong economy poses recruitment challenge for the Army](#)

(3 Dec) *Foreign Policy*, By *Lara Seligman*

The healthy state of the U.S. economy is posing a challenge for the U.S. Army, which is struggling to lure young people away from the hot job market and into military service.

3. [After losing court battle, Pentagon to send green-card holders to recruit training](#)

(4 Dec) *Stars & Stripes*, By *Dan Lamothe*

The Pentagon will begin sending a backlog of thousands of green-card holders to recruit training, suspending a policy adopted by the Trump administration last year that required more-stringent background checks for some immigrants wanting to serve.

4. [Federal investigators say Coast Guard Academy retaliated against whistleblower](#)

(5 Dec) *Hartford Courant*, By *Ana Radelat*

Federal investigators have determined the Coast Guard Academy in New London retaliated against a black female officer after she complained she was bullied and harassed.

5. [Coast Guard commandant gives 'full attention' to race, bias allegations at academy](#)

(6 Dec) *Military.com*, By *Richard Sisk*

Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Karl Schultz said Thursday he would convene a senior leadership meeting early next week to address allegations of race and gender bias against a faculty member at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.

6. [Michelle Obama Just Said 'Lean In' Doesn't Work. Here's the Study That Proves She's Right](#)

(7 Dec) *Inc.*, By *Jessica Stillman*

One strand of criticism notes it's way harder to lean in if you don't have the sort of privileges and support that Sandberg enjoys. But the real trouble is that Sandberg's approach implies it's up to women alone to fix the problem of gender inequality. Companies don't have to become more accommodating and less biased if all that's needed for more women to rise is for them to change their behavior. Sandberg puts all the onus on women and none on institutions and society.

7. [Recruitment war sets up battle for the sexes between Boy, Girl Scouts](#)

(9 Dec) *The Washington Post*, By *Samantha Schmidt*

The battle between the youth programs echoes a divide that has been playing out across many arenas of American life amid the #MeToo movement, raising fresh questions about what it means to be male or female in 2018.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

8. [Do Women Actually Help Other Women Succeed? Ask the Army](#)

(29 Nov) *Fortune*, By Claire Zillman

In a new article for *Harvard Business Review*, two researchers asked the question: How do we know whether women actually help other women? So the researchers turned to an interesting time and place in history to weigh their query—West Point in the early 1980s. The United States Military Academy provided what they needed to make a determination: By randomly assigning cadets to companies, West Point unintentionally created “treatment groups”—women in companies with other women—and “control groups,” or women in companies *without* other women.

9. [Everything you need to know about the new Army fitness test is right here](#)

(30 Nov) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers

The Center for Initial Military Training launched an official site with descriptions, training tips and video demonstrations to help soldiers prepare for the shift, which could come as early as Oct. 1, 2019.

10. [Combat Vessels Opened to Women 25 Years Ago Today](#)

(30 Nov) *Navy Live*, By Yonca Poyraz-Dogan

Today is the 25th anniversary of the date when women became eligible to serve aboard combat vessels in the Navy. Previously, women were in shore-based roles or aboard noncombat vessels, such as, oilers, hospital and supply ships. The Nov. 30, 1993 Defense Authorization Act signed by President Bill Clinton repealed a prohibition against women serving on combat vessels.

11. [The Pentagon is reviewing the special operations community after a series of high-profile scandals](#)

(5 Dec) *Military Times*, By Meghann Myers

The most recent National Defense Authorization Act points to “growing congressional concern with misconduct, ethics, and professionalism,” according to a Congressional Research Service report published in late October. Just this year, Army Special Forces soldiers have been charged with attempting to smuggle cocaine back from Colombia, the murder of an estranged wife, the sexual assault of a family friend, and the rape of two young girls.

12. [All the dummies have been dudes, until now](#)

(7 Dec) *ConnectingVets.com*, By Kaylah Jackson

When soldiers are trained on how to care for a casualty in a combat zone, they learn basics from tying tourniquets to caring for sucking chest wounds. What soldiers don’t train on, is how to address these injuries when they happen to a female soldier, until now. By training on both male and female mannequins, soldiers could essentially save more lives.

13. [A top flutist, paid \\$70,000 less than a male oboist, sues for gender bias](#)

(12 Dec) *CBS News*, By Aimee Picchi

A lawsuit over equal pay in the ultra-competitive classical music world may strike a chord with women in all types of professions. Boston Symphony Orchestra principal flutist Elizabeth Rowe, claims she's a victim of gender bias.

14. [The head of US special operations is putting out new guidance following ethics concerns, high-profile scandals in his force](#)

(13 Dec) *Military Times*, By Meghann Myers

In the midst of a Defense Department review of U.S. Special Operations Command, including a dissection of the organizations ethics programs, the four-star in charge of all American special operations troops is calling for an in-house analysis starting in the new year.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

15. [Army sergeant gets life without parole for slaying soldier wife](#)

(2 Dec) *The Associated Press*

A U.S. Army sergeant has been sentenced to life in federal prison for killing his wife, who was an Army soldier. Pfc. Karlyn Ramirez was found fatally shot at her home with their 4-month-old daughter by her body, unharmed.

16. [A female soccer player’s historic moment was spoiled by one man’s question: ‘Do you know how to twerk?’](#)

(4 Dec) *The Washington Post*, By Allyson Chiu

Ada Hegerberg, a 23-year-old professional athlete made history as the first winner of the women’s Ballon d’Or award, an achievement that recognizes her as the best women’s soccer player in the world. Until then, the distinguished award had only

been given to men for more than 60 years. But her momentous accomplishment, and arguably the rest of a memorable ceremony, was swiftly overshadowed by a single question about twerking that has since sparked global outrage.

17. [Vermont adjutant general disputes characterization of state's Guard as a 'flying fraternity'](#)
(7 Dec) *The Associated Press*, By Lisa Rathke
The head of the Vermont National Guard disputed the characterization of the Guard's culture that was reported in a series of news articles that included allegations of excessive drinking and sexual misconduct among some members.
18. [Ex-fiancé of slain Navy chief petty officer jailed in Florida on murder charge](#)
(8 Dec) *Navy Times*, By Carl Prine and Geoff Ziezulewicz
The ex-fiancé of a Navy chief found dead in her Jacksonville home only days after she was advanced is behind bars, charged with murdering her.
19. [The Army's New Sexual Harassment Training Truly Looks Promising](#)
(10 Dec) *Slate*, By Brigid Schulte
The idea of this new approach is to shift soldiers' mindsets from thinking about sexual misconduct as a list of prohibited activities to focusing on the mission of the Army: fighting and winning the nation's wars. With that goal in mind, participants are then forced to examine how their own attitudes, behaviors, and beliefs—about women, about who belongs in the military, about how warriors should act—either help or get in the way of accomplishing that mission.
20. [Travis psychologist sexually assaulted patients, who were recovering from sexual trauma](#)
(11 Dec) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
Three women, all Air Force officers, came to Heath Sommer, a former staff psychologist at Travis Air Force Base in California, and asked him for help on their recovery from past sexual assaults and other traumas.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

21. [This soldier is blasting off into outer space to spend six months on the International Space Station](#)
(30 Nov) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers
An Army helicopter pilot and astronaut will strap into a Soyuz rocket on Monday for the trip from Kazakhstan to the International Space Station, according to a release from Army Space and Missile Defense Command.
22. [Arkansas National Guard's first black female colonel credits her 'village'](#)
(30 Nov) *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*, By Hunter Field
Col. Erica Ingram, the first black female colonel in the Arkansas National Guard's 215-year history, never thought she was military material. As a high schooler with hot-pink nails and highlights in her hair, Ingram didn't plan to accept the ROTC scholarship if it was offered. But nearly three decades later, Ingram, 46, was formally promoted to colonel on Thursday at Camp Robinson.
23. [Texas just got its first female adjutant general](#)
(3 Dec) *The Associated Press*
An Iraq War veteran with more than 30 years of military service has been named the first female adjutant general of Texas. Gov. Greg Abbott announced the appointment of Maj. Gen. Tracy Norris effective Jan. 1.
24. [Two ROTC commanders help pave the way for women in military leadership](#)
(4 Dec) *The Beacon*, By Molly Lowney
Senior communication major Mira Gill has been the fall semester Wing Commander for UP's Air Force ROTC. But she's not the only woman in military leadership on campus. Marion Lilly, senior nursing major, has served as Army ROTC's fall semester Battalion Commander, leading about 75 Army cadets. The commander position is the highest ranking a cadet can hold while in ROTC.
25. [10 cool facts about the Army astronaut at the International Space Station](#)
(4 Dec) *Stars and Stripes*, By Staff and Wire Reports
Lt. Col. Anne McClain, an Army helicopter pilot and astronaut, made it to the International Space Station as a crew member of NASA's Expedition 58.

26. [Success has no limit for women in Air Force](#)
(6 Dec) *DVIDS*, By Airman BrieAnna Stillman
Although Airman 1st Class Sondra Saul is the only female in her shop, the Air Force works to be a very diverse and welcoming environment where anyone can achieve any goal they become qualified for, uninhibited by social discriminations which may occur in the civilian world.
27. [Academy announces new commandant of cadets](#)
(13 Dec) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
Brig. Gen. Michele Edmondson has been selected to become the next commandant of cadets for the Air Force Academy.

WOMEN VETERANS

28. [Native American helps Soldiers find solace](#)
(28 Nov) *Army News*, By Joe Lacdan
Julia Kelly applied Crow principles during her Army career that helped her rise to the service's highest enlisted rank. Since her retirement in 2010, she still contributes to the Army as an ammunition test coordinator at the Redstone Test Center in Huntsville, Alabama. She also volunteers her time speaking to women on overcoming domestic abuse and she helps serve food to homeless veterans.
29. [U.S. Army's only all-female, African American WWII unit honored with monument](#)
(29 Nov) *ConnectingVets.com*, By Kaylah Jackson
The contributions of over 800 African American women who sorted mail in a segregated unit during WWII were recognized Friday in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, with a monument erected in their honor.
30. [Review praises 'Beyond the Call: Three Women on the Front Lines in Afghanistan'](#)
(30 Nov) *Military Times*, By Jerri Bell
In "Beyond the Call: Three Women on the Front Lines in Afghanistan," former Army linguist and USA Today editor Eileen Rivers profiles three military women and two of their Afghan counterparts to showcase the development and significance of the U.S. military's female engagement efforts in Afghanistan from 2010 to 2014.
31. [West Virginia nurse recalls duty with Army MASH unit in Korea](#)
(1 Dec) *The Intelligencer*, By Heather Ziegler
It was a U.S. Army recruiter who convinced Helen Faso, now 80, she could see an exciting world if she joined the military. The Army held fast its promise to the young nurse and off to San Francisco she went. But a short six months into her military career, she was ordered to Korea where she would work in a Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, known as a M.A.S.H. unit.
32. ['To Care For Him': Female Veterans Ask VA To Include Them In Its Motto](#)
(4 Dec) *NPR Morning Edition*, By Quil Lawrence
A new congressional bill seeks to rename the Manhattan VA after Margaret Corbin, the first woman pensioned by the United States Army to fire her cannon at British redcoats. It's part of a larger movement, to change the motto of the Department of Veterans Affairs so that it reflects that women do — and have always — served in the armed forces.
33. [Rising suicide rates among younger veterans trigger alarm bells at VA](#)
(4 Dec) *Military.com*, By Richard Sisk
"The fact that the female [veteran] rate is 1.8 times higher than their non-veteran counterpart is something we're concerned about." Dr. Keita Franklin, the VA's national director of suicide prevention, said the data shows that "females attempt [suicide] more with less lethal means, such as medication. We are focusing on the increased rate for female veterans." She said her initial thoughts are that problems for younger veterans may stem from the transition process from the military to civilian life.
34. [Coast Guard pioneer, race riot survivor laid to rest](#)
(6 Dec) *The Associated Press*
The first African-American woman to serve in the U.S. Coast Guard and one of the last survivors of a race riot in Oklahoma has been laid to rest with military honors. A funeral was held Wednesday in White Plains, New York, for Olivia Hooker. She was 103 years old when she died on Nov. 21.