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IU Kokomo's first ROTC Cadets to graduate

campus-news

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KOKOMO, Ind. – For the first time, Indiana University Kokomo’s Commencement on Tuesday, May 10, will include the conferring of degrees to ROTC Cadets.

Corey Stinson and Jonna Rosh will be receiving their bachelor’s degrees in nursing, as well as earning their commissions as second lieutenants in the United States Army Nurse Corps. They will be commissioned at a special ceremony at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis on Friday, May 13.

“Graduating from college and becoming an officer in the Army are both goals that I set for myself six years ago when I enlisted as a medic,” said Stinson. “I am looking forward to my future and hope I will be a great nurse, leader, and asset to the Army. I have had so many wonderful experiences at IU Kokomo. Looking back, I couldn’t imagine completing my degree anywhere else.”

While working as a medic in the Army, Stinson said he knew he wanted to continue his education and decided nursing was the best fit for what he wanted to accomplish.

Entering the ROTC program was a given for Rosh, who comes from a family with military background and has served in the Indiana National Guard since 2004.

“There are so many opportunities in the U.S. Army,” said Rosh. “I knew I wanted to be a nurse and that when I completed the nursing program, I would have a job waiting for me. In fact, I had a job from day one that I signed up through ROTC – all I had to do was complete the requirements.”

As a small child, Rosh said she knew she wanted to go into the medical field to help others. Because many of her family members have served in the military, it was a given to pursue her continued education through ROTC.

“This has been a cool experience and the opportunities are endless,” said Rosh. “I know nursing is definitely my calling and with help from the ROTC and IU Kokomo, I’ve been able to meet that lifelong goal and journey.”

Upon graduation, 2nd Lt. Rosh will attend Basic Officer Leadership Course at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and then be assigned to Madigan Army Medical Center at Fort Lewis, Wash. This summer, 2nd Lt. Stinson will attend the Leadership Developmental Assessment Course at Fort Lewis, Wash., where he will receive his assignment, and then be assigned as a nurse to one of many locations around the world.







“The ROTC program began with two Cadets in 2008, and now has over 16 that participate and are on track to earn their commissions,” said Lt. Col. Thomas Rude, professor of Military Science, U.S. Army ROTC Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. “While completing their rigorous academic classes on the IU Kokomo campus, Cadets also conduct physical training, military science classes, leadership labs, and field training exercises.”

Chancellor Michael Harris appreciates the hard work and dedication of Stinson and Rosh.

“These students are excellent examples of being dedicated to pursuing a degree while staying committed to serving our country. I am very proud of their accomplishments,” said Harris. “IU Kokomo will continue to work with Lt. Col. Rude to grow the ROTC program on this campus.”

IU Kokomo will confer 502 degrees at Commencement.

Indiana University Kokomo serves north central Indiana.

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