NPS New Home for Giant Segmented-Mirror Space Telescope

By Barbara Henegger

The Naval Postgraduate School is the proud new home for the Segmented Mirror Space Telescope (SMT), designed and developed for the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) as a technical demonstrator and experimental testbed for cutting-edge space imaging technologies. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the 10-foot-diameter telescope, whose hexagonal mirrors unfold like the petals of a giant flower upon reaching orbit, was attended by NPS and NRO leadership, including the satellite reconnaissance agency’s then-Deputy Director and Commander of the Air Force Space Command Element Maj. Gen. Ellen Pawlikowski, and senior representatives from the aerospace industry, national laboratories and other academic institutions.

The new multi-million-dollar acquisition represents a quantum leap in the research and educational capabilities of NPS’ Spacecraft Research and Design Center (SRDC), Department of Mechanical and Astronautical Engineering (MAE) and Space Systems Operations students in the fields of high resolution adaptive optics, active vibration and jitter control, space system design and distributed satellite systems.

Pawlikowski keyed a series of briefings on the technical aspects of the telescope, its history of acquisition by NPS, and plans for its use in teaching and research prior to the unveiling ceremony.

“It’s a thrill to welcome the telescope here to NPS, which is the ideal place, as you’re our future generation of space scientists and engineers,” Pawlikowski told the audience of Space Systems Engineering and Space Systems Operations students in the Mechanical Engineering Auditorium. “NPS is the heart and soul of what it’s all about – having science and technology research and education all in one place. At NRO, we look to the Naval Postgraduate School to help us develop new technologies and integrate them in new ways to meet our ever-changing missions,” Pawlikowski added.

The SKAO, she continued, “is the project that represents the next phase of your helping us to become more flexible. It’s a great accomplishment to successfully move something of this scale and complexity all the way across the country, and I congratulate you all on a great success.”

The Segmented Mirror Telescope is a national treasure and the crown jewel of the Spacecraft Research and Design Center that will give our faculty and students unique and unprecedented experiences in the design, analysis and testing of a new-generation space system,” said SRDC Director and MAE Distinguished Professor Brij Agrawal, who oversaw the four-year effort that brought the high-tech system 3,000 miles from Rochester, NY, to Monterey. This was a huge project that required many highly skilled people from NPS, NRO and ITT (International Telephonic and Telegraph) coming together and working like clockwork to make it happen. It also opens up a huge potential for collaborative research and administrative activities between various institutions, the national labs and the aerospace industry.

“I was a little bit apprehensive and a lot of people were concerned about the large size of the telescope and the time it would take to get it to the school. But they really got the telescope here in less than a year and it is an incredible resource,” said Stephen Mabry, former Deputy Director and Commander of the Air Force Space Command Element.

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The National Reconnaissance Office’s Segmented Mirror Space Telescope – a state-of-the-art experimental testbed for space-imaging and research – was officially received by its new home, the NPS Spacecraft Research and Design Center (SRDC), early this year and represents a quantum leap in the research and educational capabilities of the SRDC.

In Brief

• Preparations are underway for the second visit of the WASC accreditation process. Following the successful first visit in March 2009, faculty and staff assistants from across the campus have been working to get ready for the Educational Effectiveness visit in October 2010. The visit will again be structured around three themes – strategic planning, educational effectiveness and support for the academic enterprise. Committees for each of these themes are led by, respectively, Dr. Rob Dell, Dr. Doug Moses and Ms. Colleen Nickles. The activities of the committees have been largely brought into the Executive Council, the Strategic Planning Council and Deans/Chairs.

• A Memorandum issued by the Under Secretary of the Navy in mid-February noted that in the past year, the Department of the Navy (DoN) has experienced repeated inadvertent releases of personally identifiable information (PII) for Navy and Marine Corps military and civilian personnel, and their dependents, the most common of which was the unauthorized release of personal Social Security Numbers (SSN). The continued loss of this data directly impacts the morale, security and financial well-being of personnel; therefore, a DON-wide plan is being implemented to reduce the collection and use of SSN, to accelerate the implementation of data-at-rest (DAR) encryption software and to employ the use of new software tools to restrict the use and display of sensitive privacy information. Stiffer procedures for the disposal and accountability of all electronic media capable of PII data storage, and use of personnel who routinely handle PII are also being enhanced. Leadership has been asked to take immediate, corrective action to mitigate further data losses and to ensure that DoN guidance and policies are consistently and diligently followed.

• With the pilot change to the Academic Calendar now under way, the new academic year will see several changes in curricular and extra-curricular activities. Undergraduate students will have an opportunity to participate in various academic activities during their first year at NPS, such as Enrichment Week, March 22-26. For a list of available opportunities, check out http://intertran.nps.edu/Academics/Enrich/EnrichWeek/index.html.

By Dale Kniska

Foreign Area Officers (FAOs) across all of the services now have immediate access to educational resources networking exactly where they need it, in the field, thanks to the recent launch of FAOweb.

Created by NPS’ Joint FAO Skill Sustainment Pilot Program (JFSSPP) office, with technical development by Information Technology and Communications Services (ITCS), FAOweb offers myriad professions and educational programs previously unavailable to this rapidly expanding community of warrior-diplomats.

According to Dr. Tristan Mabry, Executive Director of the JFSSPP, FAOweb is one part of a comprehensive FAO educational program underway at NPS. Through JFSSPP’s in-residence and in-country educational programs, FAOs gain a deeper understanding of the region they operate in. But often they need immediate access to educational resources and community networking while overseas.

“We have developed FAOweb to be able to support these officers was very important, especially in Afghanistan and Pakistan where it would be left to gather dust in a warehouse somewhere, where both ST&K and science and technology faculty and students can really use it for education and research. We were able to mobilize the people in the regions where it could go, and decided NPS was the ideal place for research on the military applications of adaptive optics up to the next 10 to 20 years,” Mabry said.

“These are exciting times at the Naval Postgraduate School,” Executive Vice President and Provost Leonard Ferrari told the Space Systems Operations and VIP attendees at a briefing prior to the ribbon cutting. “Today, the National Reconnaissance Office is placing the most advanced and innovative tools in the hands of military students who have come from, and will be returning to, operational assignments. This kind of facility takes NPS to a whole new level in the breadth and scope of research that can happen here, and for collaboration with the rest of DoN and the defense and national security community. It’s a really great birthday present for the School.”

By Dr. Brij Agrawal

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“It’s a thrill to welcome the telescope here to NPS, which is the ideal place, as you’re our future generation of space scientists and engineers,” Pawlikowski told the audience of Space Systems Engineering and Space Systems Operations students in the Mechanical Engineering Auditorium. “NPS is the heart and soul of what it’s all about – having science and technology research and education all in one place, for providing critical guidance on regional, cultural and linguistic knowledge to U.S. officials working in the country. And according to a seasoned FAO, this new web portal fills a critical gap.

“FAOweb is a breakthrough. It is exactly the right catalyst to create a Joint Community for Foreign Area Officers,” said Army Col. Mark Chalvers, U.S. Army Foreign Area Officer Chair and NPS senior FAO.

“At last, all FAOs from all services in all duty assignments, anywhere, can access our professional world – for language, for professional exchanges, for education, or for fun,” he continued.

“We are global and operate in the countries we support, providing immediate intelligence, operations and education and research to our officers who routinely handle PII are also being enhanced. Leadership has been asked to take immediate, corrective action to mitigate further data losses and to ensure that DoN guidance and policies are consistently and diligently followed.

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Rubrecht says that one of the big who often become marginalized, despite long-standing employment for people with developmental disabilities from Monterey and Salinas, including Dylan Copeland, left, and Chris Rubrecht, right.

The Naval Postgraduate School is celebrating its ongoing strategic partnership with the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC) by participating in the CENIC 2010 Annual Conference from March 8-10, held at the Hyatt Hotel in Monterey. CENIC designs, implements, and operates CalREN, the California Research and Education Network, which connects institutions and industry research organizations, including NPS, throughout our region. An event like the planned afternoon at NPS for CENIC attendees could not happen without the support of campus leaders, the willingness of faculty to share their time, talent and expertise, the cooperation of the Research Office, and the enthusiastic participation of our neighboring institutions. As such, CENIC provides the infrastructure that makes possible NPS education and research, our other strategic partnerships make many other goals achievable demonstrating that collaboration is a profound resource multiplier.

If you are interested in participating in the CENIC conference, please contact Michele Memenhoens. The program for the CENIC conference, please contact Michele Memenhoens. The program for the 2010 CENIC Annual Conference, please visit https://censis.ucsc.edu.

NPS Celebrates 15 Years With HOPE

By Dale Koske

Thanks to a little-known federal program, HOPE Services was awarded a contract in 1995 to provide janitorial services to the Naval Postgraduate School. Now 15 years later, HOPE and NPS celebrate a partnership that is serving more than 20 people with developmental disabilities from Monterey and Salinas. The result has been much more than just clean facilities, it has been a long-standing employment for people who often become marginalized, despite their capabilities.

HOPE Client and NPS janitor, Chris Rubrecht, has been with the university since the contract’s inception 15 years ago. Rubrecht says that one of the biggest benefits is that he likes the people he works with and they are good to him. “They have changed my life. I have a better job than before with more hours and more money,” Rubrecht added that this allows him to be more independent. Another HOPE Client, Dylan Copeland, said, “This job has helped me to become more responsible. I am part of a team. The HOPE House is the second home for me. The kids are not all drugs, they are taking care of the child development center area clean. I like my job and I like coming to it every day.”

Copeland has been employed at NPS for seven years. “HOPE Services has been an outstanding partner for the Naval Postgraduate School. The HOPE clients take tremendous pride in their work, and are very responsive to the needs of this great university,” said Pete Dausen, NPS Base Operations Director. Director of Naval Support Detachment Monterey, Tom McManus, commended the partnership. “The stand-up of the Naval Postgraduate School as a Naval Flagship Institution, we have seen a real re-dedication of HOPE’s custodial efforts. It is truly special to have HOPE Services here on the job, and for us to be able to participate in this fine federal program.”

“Employees like the Naval Postgraduate School bring these programs full-circle from concept to reality,” says HOPE Services President and CEO Joe Campbell. “The school has been an outstanding leader in helping our clients achieve full inclusion in their communities. Their partnership promotes quality of life for our clients and enriches the fabric of our community by allowing people with disabilities to lead productive and meaningful lives,” said Campbell.

During the average workday, HOPE Clients assist with cleaning about one million square feet of office space, classrooms, and common areas on the NPS campus. Services provided include mopping, vacuuming, dusting, carpet cleaning, stripping and waxing floors and trash/recycling services.

Celebrating its 15-year anniversary, the contract between HOPE Services and NPS employs more than 20 people with developmental disabilities from Monterey and Salinas, including Dylan Copeland, left, and Chris Rubrecht, right.

**Message From Dr. Christine Hauser**

Vice President for Information Resources/CIO

Associate Professor Rene G. Rendon of GSPP partici-

pated as a panel member at the Institute for Supply Manage-

ment’s Hispanic Supply Management Summit in San Diego in early February. The theme of the conference was Alimentando la Recuperación Económica - Latinos Mejorando la Cadena de Alimentos. The presentations and discussions included articles by Doug Porch of the Donald Stoker Mercenaries to Privatization, 1815-2007 Kindle versions of

other posters highlighting NPS research efforts accompanied by neighboring higher education and research institu-

tions. For more information contact Joan Ackerman, jeackerm@nps.edu.