IN BRIEF

The NPS Centennial celebration will kick off on Memo- rial Day weekend, May 22-25. NPS will proudly celebrate its landmark achievements with a yearlong slate of special events and activities, beginning on Reunion Week- end, which will feature an evening gala, a golfing event at Monterey Pines, keynote speakers, an open house featuring the four Schools, Institutes and departments, group photo opportunities, an NPS timeline extending down Root Pines walkway, rededication of the Monterey Halls, a historical exhibition at the Monterey Maritime and His- tory Museum, special performances by the Monterey Bay Symphony, children’s activities and events, and live mu- sic. The Centennial headquarters is located in Herrmann Hall Room 127, at Ext. 2007/Ext. 3092, and at www.nps. edu/100.

On March 10 in Washington, D.c., five students – Lt...
This past month, NPS was honored to host the visiting team from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges for the Capacity and Preparatory Review (CPR). As you know, this is the first of two visits which form the process of accreditation evaluation. These visits are peer reviews by faculty and administrators from similar institutions. The team spent two days interviewing faculty, staff, and students. In the exit interview, the team praised NPS for its CPR report and the supplemental materials provided throughout the visit. The team observed that progress was made in each of the areas noted in the 1999 review (inclusiveness, program assessment, technology). Overall, the team found that NPS processes and personnel are put in place to be sound and urged NPS to continue to move forward with implementation and documentation of its continuous improvement efforts, in particular on the high quality of the NPS faculty and students.

In the area of strategic planning, NPS was complimented on the depth and breadth of our consultative process. The team noted that strategic planning was already going on in many school and department units and that those efforts were leveraged effectively with the institutional planning process. As the team acknowledged, NPS is going through a period of considerable change but our ability to be self-reflective, our commitment to continuous improvement, and our interest in involving all aspects of the university community in the change process were seen by the WASC team as strong foundations for the future. The entire campus is to be praised for the efforts made in preparing for this accreditation visit. Many individuals – faculty, staff and students – were involved in the logistics of the visit, preparing for the interviews. Sponsors (Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson) and Board of Advisor members came to campus to show support and encourage NPS. At the end of the team, the Board of Advisors will hold its biannual meeting here on campus. A full report of the WASC visit and progress on the strategic planning efforts will be given to the Board at that time.

The positive feedback and encouragement given to NPS by members of our peer institutions provides a strong affirmation of our progress toward becoming a more fully-realized research institution. I encourage the entire NPS community to join in celebrating this achievement and moving forward to do the same with the Educational Effectiveness visit in 2010.

Faculty Notes

In January 2009, Prof. Bert Lundy of the Computer Science department published a book on telecommunication history titled Telegraph, Telephone and Wireless: How Telecom Changed the World. A portrait of two centuries of telecom history, including the inventions of the telegraph, the telephone, wireless and the first major transatlantic cable connections, which two U.S. Naval officers played important roles. The book also covers telecom, including its inventors, scientists, technology, business development, and government policies. A paper titled TA-RAI Model for Networks written by Prof. Ted Lewis – Executive Director of the Center for Homeland Defense and Security – and published in The Journal of Risk Finance, has been chosen as a Highly Commended Award Winner at the Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2009. The award-winning papers are chosen following consultation among the journal’s editorial team, many of whom are eminent academics or managers. Prof. Lewis’ paper, which reports the work of his recent Ph.D. student, Waleed Al-Mannai, a Colonel in the Bahrain Air Force and an NPS Outstanding Foreign Officer, was determined to be “one of the most impressive pieces of work in [the] literati’s editorial team has seen throughout 2008.” In addition, Prof. Lewis’ new book, Network Science: Theory and Applications by John Wiley & Sons, is shipping this month.

NPS Unveils New Supercomputer

By MC2 Kellie Arakawa

Leaders and faculty from the Naval Postgraduate School celebrated the arrival of a new supercomputer, which will enable researchers and students to carry out advanced levels of computing never before seen on campus.

The new supercomputer, named “Hamming” after the late Dr. Richard Hamming, a world-renowned mathematician who was a pioneer in his field and an NPS professor from 1976 to 1998, is a Sun Microsystems High-Performance Computing Cluster with a processing power of 10.736 teraflops – or 10.736 trillion floating-point operations per second. The system includes 112 terabytes of storage, more than 1,000 Gbps, and blade-based technology, which helps the system consume less energy.

At a ribbon-cutting ceremony in Ingersoll Hall, Dr. Christine Cermak, NPS Vice President of Information Resources and Chief Information Officer, said the new supercomputer is a reflection of NPS growth representing a world-class teaching and research university. “We have made such great strides in high-performance computing (HPC) at the Naval Postgraduate School in the last several years, but this is really a peak moment for us,” she said.

NPS President Leonard Ferrari praised the efforts of the Information Technology Task Force and HPC Center, and said the new supercomputer will not only improve the schools research, but help with recruitment as well. “We’re looking to enhance the capacities of researchers all over the NPS campus, and will really help the national labs, war-fighting labs and systems commands. I think this will help attract more civilians and Ph.D. students to the campus, so it’s a great asset to us,” he said. “This system also ranks among the top 1,000 systems in the world. Today, that’s an impressive number.”

Hamming should be ready for campus-wide use in late spring; however, for these interested in immediately conducting beta-testing on Hamming, please contact Dr. Jeff Haferman at Ext. 3076.