Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) said Terri Brutzman, Deputy Director of ITACS. “This puts control of content in the hands of the end user,” said Brutzman. “We built an automatic workflow system that is designed with that in mind.”

Better system to process Web content is being utilized

As a result, the National Defense Authorization Act, which consists of these wonderful, patriotic people who support the critical and strategic missions at NPS, is really important for us and our future, because no university in the country can really be a competitive research university without private funding.

Ruck also noted the importance of private funding and said that support from the Foundation plays a substantial role in sustaining defense research when government funding may be slow. He cited Physics Prof. Gregory Haeckel’s research on the Individual Identity Friend or Foe (IFF) patch as an example of a research project that received early assistance from a Foundation member.

The Foundation’s next quarterly event, which is scheduled for Jan. 28 and will feature discussions with military officers who have served on the frontlines of Afghanistan.

For more information about the Foundation visit www.npsfoundation.org.

In This Issue:

• The Center for Stabilization and Reconstruction Studies and Global Majority are hosting “On Thin Ice: Addressing the Scientific, Economic, Environmental, Cultural and Security Implications of Climate Change in the Arctic Region” on Dec. 8 - 9, 2008. A reception will also be held at the Monterey Bay Aquarium from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8. For more information, contact: http://www.crs-nps.org/logistica/public/home.cfm.

• The National Defense Authorization Act has included a section outlining a number of authorities for and requirements on the State Department and USAID related to strengthening U.S. government civilian capability for stability and reconstruction activities. The law establishes the State Department Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization in statute. Of direct interest to us, the legislation instructs the Secretary of State to “ensure”...that State and USAID staff “make use of relevant existing training and information programs offered within the government, such as those at the Center for Stabilization and Reconstruction Studies here at NPS.

• Blackboard workshops are being offered to faculty members who are new or who need a refresher on its tools and features. Instructional strategies will also be covered. The workshops will be held in the Dudley Knox Library, Room 151, from 11 - 12 p.m. on Dec. 10 and 17.

• On Jan. 29, 2009, the NPS Foundation will be sponsoring its quarterly dinner event, “A Better Way Ahead in Afghanistan” featuring experts in Middle East and Pakistan affairs who have served in those regions.

• The Capacity and Preparatory Review Task Force has worked through November to finalize their final report for WASC. In addition, team members have been collecting the requisite data and supplementary evidence to describe the status of NPS in terms of its capacity to support the academic mission. A new WASC Web site will be launched shortly, so that the entire campus can view the copies of all reports and data for the visiting team.
At the Board of Advisors meeting in October, two presentations on the agenda had particularly significant implications for our campus' present and future. First we heard from Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson (Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education). Vice Adm. Ferguson reported that an Advanced Education Review Board (AERB) was being established. The AERB will be chaired by the Vice Chief of Naval Operations and include Vice Adm. Ferguson and, for the first time, the leaders of the three Navy higher education institutions (Naval War College, Naval Academy, and Naval Postgraduate School) together. The AERB will meet twice a year and will include presentations about the accomplishments and plans of the three institutions. A review board that includes all three institutions will provide a regular venue for greater visibility and recognition for the Navy’s higher education institutions and their contributions. This major change in Navy attention to higher education signals greater opportunities for NPS in the future.

Second, Vice Adm. Mike Loose, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Fleet Readiness and Logistics, presented his proposal to change NPS status from a Navy facility to an independent institution. This proposal was approved by the Chief of Naval Operations last week, and represents a major shift in the way NPS base support will be operationalized. Installation status will mean a $3 million increase in sustaining funding in FY09, $7 million increase in FY10, and a $5 million increase for subsequent years. Sustainment funding includes custodial services, gardener services, general building maintenance and refurbishment support, etc. In addition to an increase in operational funding which will include contracted services, a staff of 8-10 people will be added to augment service levels, improve quality assurance and track plant schedules for painting, carpeting, window coverings, etc. Furthermore, this change is a particularly important acknowledgment of the Naval Postgraduate School’s research university and the distinctive requirements for supporting graduate education, research and service.

Both presentations represent significant changes in the way NPS is positioned with the Department of Navy.