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Commander Congratulates Summer Grads, Welcome Chief of Staff Col. Pete Boerlage

In Brief:

- From the Dean of Students Office, Cmdr. Kevin Sudbeck has reported as the new Deputy Dean of Students, replacing Cmdr. Mary Blankenship who is departing to teach a GSA assignment to Iraq. Ms. Rachel Davis has replaced Mrs. Lina Ventura as the Student Services Assistant for the Student Services Office.

- The Monterey Bay Regional Navy Ball is scheduled for October 17, 2009. This year the ball is a cooperative event between the Naval Postgraduate School Associate Student Council and the Center for Information Dominance Department at the Presidio of Monterey. The guest speaker will be Rear Admiral Edward Masso. For more information, contact Lt. Brad Thompson at bgthompson@nps.edu.

- NSD Monterey Public Works hosted a town hall meeting for all base occupants to discuss the various construction ed projects scheduled throughout the next year, some of which include the Sustainment Special Project, the Roof-top Photovoltaic projects (Halligan, Knox, Watkins), the Inger-soll Classroom Addition project, and the Quad Pathways/Spruce Plaza project. The meeting allowed participants to hear about the scope and schedule for the projects, and to discuss the project’s potential impacts and challenges. For further information, contact the Director of Public Works, Lt. Cmdr. Matthew McCann at Ext. 3653.

- National Hispanic Heritage Month is observed from September 15 through October 15, and celebrates the culture and traditions of those whose roots are to Spain, Mexico and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central and South America and the Caribbean. The theme for 2009 is “Embracing the Fierce Urgency of Now.” For more information, contact the Office of the Provost at Ext. 3662.

Marine General Congratulates Summer Grads

By Barbara Honegger

Commanding General of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Maj. Gen. Thomas Conant encouraged 255 Naval Postgraduate School graduates to use their intellectual capital to the fullest as their careers continue during Summer Quarter commencement ceremonies held Sept. 25.

“I am honored to be here on behalf of [Marine Corps Commandant] General Conway [who succeeded NPS Hall of Fame alumnus Michael Hager],” said Conant, himself a graduate of the Aviation Safety School, then a Marine Fighter Attack Squadron and a Bronze Star recipient. “I am honored for several current projects at ONR headquarters.

Dr. Karl van Bibber, the NPS Dean of Research, said he was very pleased with the depth of engagement between the attendees and students. “Our students are really impressive; their operational experience is most often the inspiration for their thesis research here at the Naval Postgraduate School, and I think the attendees took away how vertically integrated NPS research is,” he said. “It’s the whole chain of innovation from basic and applied science through technology, prototyping and field experimentation.”

On Sept. 10, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead hosted the NPS Centennial Showcase Reception at the Army Navy Country Club in honor of the school’s 100th year of academic excellence. Vice CNO Adm. Jonathan Greenert spoke to attendees and lauded the quality education training programs, research partnerships and international efforts that bring leading experts and complex problem-solvers together to discuss and develop solutions to the most pressing and urgent global challenges,” Greenert said.

“NPS is playing a leading role in establishing joint education training programs, research partnerships and international forums that bring leading experts and complex problem-solvers together to discuss and develop solutions to the most pressing and urgent global challenges,” Greenert said.

In this era of the 21st Century Cooperative Maritime Strategy, I believe that the closer you look, the more you will realize that NPS is an extremely effective institution of soft power and support of this strategy,” he continued.

Vice Chief of Operations Admiral Jonathan Greenert with President Dan Oliver during the NPS Centennial Showcase reception at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, Va. on Thursday, September 10.

NPS, Research Showcased in Our Nation’s Capital

By MC2 Kellie Arakawa

Students and faculty from the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) showcased their unique research projects at a two-day event held in the Washington, D.C. area, Sept. 9-10.

Concurring with the school’s fall Board of Advisors meeting, the event served as a platform for NPS students, faculty and leaders to interact with representatives from the Office of Naval Research (ONR) and senior leadership from the Pentagon, intelligence community, Department of Homeland Security, and the White House.

Research projects and academic programs highlighted during the two-day event covered every corner of campus, ensuring all four schools were well represented. Senior officials across the D.C. landscape were introduced to everything from roulgains to CubeSats, from arctic ice modeling to improvements in defense acquisition.

According to NPS Provost Dr. Leonard Ferrari, the university was indeed well represented.

“Our students and faculty are some of the most talented researchers this country has to offer,” said Ferrari. “And we want to ensure that leaders from the Department of Defense and other government agencies and institutions gain a better understanding of their extraordinary work, which is directly advancing the security and freedom of our country, and from around the globe.”

NPS President Dan Oliver said the showcase was designed to not only highlight the education and research programs at NPS, but to help defense leaders forge new partnerships with the school.

During the opening event on Sept. 9, NPS students and faculty present ed several current projects at ONR headquarters.

Dr. Karl van Bibber, the NPS Dean of Research, said he was very pleased with the depth of engagement between the attendees and students. “Our students are really impressive; their operational experience is most often the inspiration for their thesis research here at the Naval Postgraduate School, and I think the attendees took away how vertically integrated NPS research is,” he said. “It’s the whole chain of innovation from basic and applied science through technology, prototyping and field experimentation.”
As we celebrate the Naval Postgraduate School’s Centennial Year, we have many opportunities for reflection. While the information technology arena has only had 55 years of experience, NPS has been significant and impactful. As we look forward, information technology plays significant roles in virtually all of our institutional aspirations for the future. One role that cuts across all others has to do with cybersecurity, which encompasses a number of topics and issues that relate to the integrity of cyberinfrastructure and associated services. While higher education is no more vulnerable than other sectors, higher education constituents and stakeholders must be able to trust their institutions in order to maintain the academic community’s principles of openness and collegial discourse in building quality in both education and research programs.

National and global economic drivers depend on electronic transfer and storage capabilities. Increasingly, collaboration and partnership are requirements for commerce, education, government, and communications for all societal interests. This dependence on cyberinfrastructure makes it a compelling target for criminal activity. The examples are many and increasing in sophistication. Some argue that the business models embraced by cyber criminals are not unlike those found in the most successful corporate strategies. What is undeniable is that “born as a service” is a chilling prospect of networking underminded computers to carry out specific directions to commit crime. The Conficker worm demonstrated the ability to use old methods (e.g., exploiting operating system vulnerability) in inventive ways. In cooperation with WildFire malware, a scareware package was delivered and sold to unsuspected users. Domain Name System cache poisoning can direct consumers away from a legitimate Web site to another site which then asks for login credentials that may then be used for unauthorized fund transfers. While there are many issues that cause concern, none is more insidious than identify theft – the Federal Trade Commission reports that 14 million identities are stolen annually in the U.S. As a result, the entire portfolio of topics concerning cybersecurity shows many ways in which trust of our fundamental social institutions is being undermined. October is designated as National Cybersecurity Month, and our Information Technology and Communication Services department would like to use this time to raise campus awareness about the importance of cybersecurity issues. We have a series of activities planned, including a guest lecture by Kevin Rowney, co-founder of Vinten (now part of Symantec) on October 8. We will also host brown bag seminars where individual faculty members will share their cybersecurity-related research. The following faculty members have agreed to lead a brown bag seminar that permits an in-depth look at various dimensions of cybersecurity: Dr. Cynthia Irvine, Computer Science Professor and Director of the Center for Information Systems Security Studies and Research (CISR); Mr. Chris Eagle, Computer Science Senior Lecturer; Dr. Simon Garfielk, Computer Science Assistant Colonel; Dr. John McLachlan, Electrical and Computer Engineering Professor; and Col. Jon Czarnecki (USA, Ret.), Naval War College Associate Professor. Each of these faculty members has national reputations in their respective areas and we appreciate their professional generosity in taking time to share that expertise with the campus community.

The Dean of the Graduate School of Operations and Information Sciences and the Vice President for Research will sponsor an all-day Cybersecurity Research Showcase on October 29, featuring many NPS faculty members doing research in this area. The all-day event is designed to provide an overview of NPS cybersecurity research, to encourage cross-campus collaboration and perhaps serve as a catalyst for a major umbrella funding proposal for the institution.

We also plan to add a bit of fun to an otherwise serious (and scary) subject. The Information Technology and Communication Services staff will be using EDUCAUSE (the higher education IT professional association) posters and communications materials which use a 1950s horror film theme to give heightened attention and visibility to cybersecurity issues. Since October is also the month for Halloween, this might be a different way to grab campus attention to an important area of national priority. Please join us in these activities – the full schedule is available online at \( \text{http://intranet.nps.edu/cybersecurity2009}. \)

Welcome Chief of Staff Col. Andrew “Pete” Boerlage

In early August, NPS welcomed Air Force Colonel Andrew “Pete” Boerlage as its Chief of Staff, Navy Element Commander, Senior Military Assistant to the President and the Senior Military Office in the Command. “My wife, daughter, and I are ecstatic to be back in Monterey, where big city events occur in the ‘bunker setting,’ said Boerlage, “and I am thrilled to be back at NPS in this new role.” The colonel’s immediate goal is to focus on people, whether it is to support the evolution of the warfighters’ who come as students to NPS, the campus leadership, and the faculty and staff, “who deserve to be happy in their jobs and recognized for performing them well.” Colonel Boerlage looks forward not only to his new responsibilities, but also to supporting the school in, “accomplishing its mission, and in staying relevant so we can continue to thrive.”

Colonel Boerlage’s past experience will serve the university well. He is an NPS alumus (meteorology), and former Assistant Dean of the Graduate School of Operational and Information Sciences. Colonel Boerlage also served two years as the executive officer for the 14th Air Force Commander, and commanded a flight and a squadron during his tour at Vandenberg AFB in Calif. In addition to these assignments, Colonel Boerlage has served as the Director of Operations Headquarters, Air Force Weather Agency, Offutt AFB, Neb., where he led a 303-member directorate; as the Deputy for National Intelligence, Air Force Director of Weather, Department of Operations and Training; Deputy Chief of Staff Air, Space and Information Operations, Plans and Requirements at the Pentagon; and as a commander of the 45th Weather Squadron at Patrick AFB in Fla.

Colonel Boerlage is also the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with four oak leaf clusters.

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