NPS Honors Summer Graduates

by Kenneth A. Stewart

Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) President retired Vice Adm. Norbert R. Ryan Jr. addressed NPS students, faculty and staff during NPS’ Summer Quarter Commencement Ceremony in King Auditorium, Sept. 25. NPS said farewell to 330 students earning 335 degrees at the ceremony.

“I can’t tell you how inspired I was to watch you all file in this morning … This nation’s greatest treasure is the young men and women that serve,” said Ryan.

Sgt. Robert Brady, a supervisor in the New York Police Department’s counter-terrorism unit, was one of those students.

“Being put together with such a diverse group of people from so many different disciplines was excellent. We challenged each other and drew out the best in one another to become better homeland security professionals,” said Brady.

“Leadership is not about words, we all know that, leadership is about being an example”
– MOAA President Retired Vice Adm. Norbert R. Ryan Jr.

During his address, Ryan shared examples of heroism and perseverance while challenging the assembled student body to lead by example and to never quit in the face of adversity.

“Leadership is not about words, we all know that, leadership is about being an example,” he said.

Ryan also called for the assembled students, faculty and staff to do their part to advocate for their fellow service members and their families.

“All of us collectively … have to make sure that the 99 percent of the population that have not served keep their commitments to those that have served,” said Ryan. “Please speak up to your elected officials about the importance of keeping our commitments to the men and women, and their families, that have kept us free for the last 14 years.”

Ryan was recently recognized as one of the 100 most influential and impactful veterans on Capitol Hill. Under his leadership, the MOAA has been named a “Top Lobbyist” for the past eight years.
NPS, Naval Surface Forces Establish Surface Warfare Chair

By Kenneth A. Stewart

NPS in conjunction with Commander, Naval Surface Forces, Vice Adm. Thomas S. Rowden recently established the university’s first-ever Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) chair. The chair will serve as a mentor and a liaison between the surface Navy community and NPS students, faculty and staff.

“It gives me great pleasure to establish a SWO chair here. I have been dreaming about doing this for a very long time,” said Rowden.

“NPS brings three powerful assets to the table that no other single institution can match – human capital in the form of a student body composed of mid-career naval, military and defense professionals; intellectual capital in the form of a faculty with deep ties to both academia and the defense establishment; and physical capital in the form of laboratories, centers, facilities and this beautiful and historically significant campus,” said Rowden.

In an effort to leverage those assets, Rowden assigned NPS alumnus Capt. Charles Good to the position.

“It’s Capt. Good’s responsibility to take the value of NPS to the fleet so that we can take those young, great intellectual minds that are serving on our ships and get them properly synced up with the faculty here in order to provide them the opportunity to achieve all of the greatness they can.

“I think all of us are smarter than one of us and if we can bring [NPS and the SWO community] together in a meaningful way, the opportunity to really improve not only the richness of the experience here in Monterey, but also the value that experience brings to the fleet, can be increased by orders of magnitude,” said Rowden.

Good is returning to NPS after a nearly two-decade absence. He notes that NPS’ outward appearance has changed very little in the last two decades, but that the number and diversity of programs offered by NPS has increased dramatically. He hopes to harness the collective expertise found in those programs for the benefit of the surface fleet.

“It feels great to be back on campus, I graduated about 19 years ago with a Master in National Security Affairs with a focus on Europe and Eurasia. We have a great blending of faculty here, some academic powerhouses, as well as some folks who have served in the surface warfare community before getting their academic credentials. We need to do everything that we can to leverage all of that [intellectual capital and capacity at NPS] to the maximum amount that we can,” said Good.

Good also intends to focus on matching NPS students with surface warfare research needs and guiding them along career paths that will not only enhance their academic experience at NPS, but will benefit the surface warfare community as well.

“I can serve as a conduit. The fleet can send issues, concerns and initiatives to me and I can tie them to interested students and faculty on campus.

“Having the students do surface warfare related theses is a big step, it ensures that they remain grounded in the community while at the same time getting exposure academically,” said Good.

NPS has been central to officer development and career progression within the SWO community for many years. And according to Good, graduate education at NPS is an integral part of the process by which SWOs are groomed for future leadership positions.

“NPS has been, is, and will continue to be, the core of the SWO graduate education delivery into our career path,” said Good.

Unlike Sailors in other career fields, SWOs complete their initial fleet tours relatively early in their careers. Coming to NPS allows them to catch their breath between deployments and allows them to gain skills and education that will serve them well when they return to the fleet as department heads and when they take their knowledge and experience back ashore to the Pentagon and other major staffs, noted Good.

“Nearly every single one of the SWO students on campus is a prospective department head. They are career minded, mid-career professionals. Coming to NPS is a natural fit in their surface warfare career progression,” said Good.
Space Systems Professor Assumes Position of Acting Provost

By Dale M. Kuska

Space Systems Academic Group (SSAG) Professor James H. Newman officially assumed the position of NPS Acting Provost, Oct. 5. As he steps into his new role on campus, he noted his first order of business is to continue the efforts of former university Provost Dr. Douglas A. Hensler, who retired from the institution in early October to spend more time with his family.

“My first responsibility is to continue Provost Hensler’s work as Provost and Academic Dean, in particular, to maintain the academic standards and accreditation at NPS.

“While Newman is known on campus as one of NPS’ resident astronauts – he logged four flights into space aboard the Space Shuttles, spending 43 days in orbit – Newman’s career with NASA also included several management positions, the last one being NASA's Director of Human Spaceflight Program, Russia, in which capacity he served in Moscow from 2003 to 2006. Academics, however, has been his singular focus since he joined NPS from 2003 to 2006. Academics, however, has been his singular focus since he joined NPS from 2003 to 2006, fully transferring from NASA to NPS in 2008 as a Professor in Space Systems.

As he embarks upon his new responsibilities, Newman says he is learning rapidly about the demands of the position of Provost, and will rely on his diverse experience on campus to meet them.

“President Route made it clear that he expects me to fulfill the position of Acting Provost for the immediate future, as he executes his plan for a comprehensive search for a permanent Provost,” he said.

“I have been at NPS for nearly 10 years now, and have been involved with the Faculty Council for the last five or six years, first with the Budget Committee and the Executive Board, and most recently as elected Faculty Chair,” he continued. “This experience has helped broaden my exposure to the entire campus, and the many disciplines our impressive faculty represent. I will rely on this experience and the new relationships to come, as we continue to execute our NPS mission.”

Newman has been an enthusiastic teacher and researcher on campus in his role as Professor and Associate Chair of the SSAG especially in the fields of small satellites and orbital mechanics. While his new responsibilities of Acting Provost will dominate his time, he does still intend to continue some teaching and research in space systems.

“While Acting Provost, I intend to keep up with the Space Systems program here at NPS,” Newman said. “My teaching and applied research in the fields of very small satellites is important to me and valuable for the Navy, and I will continue to work with thesis students and the research in the lab whenever possible.

NPS Professor David Yost was recently honored with the title of Distinguished Professor in recognition of his service to NPS, the Department of Defense, NATO and academic institutions around the world. The prestigious honor was conferred upon Yost during NPS’ Summer Quarter Commencement ceremony, Sept. 25.

“I feel profoundly grateful and honored to have been awarded this title,” said Yost. “After many years as a professor, my responsibilities remain the same. I teach and conduct research about European politics and security issues.”

Graduate School of Business and Public Policy (GSBPP) Associate Professor Aruna Apte has been named the recipient of the 2015 Richard W. Hamming Award for Achievement in Teaching.

The Hamming Award recognizes NPS faculty members for outstanding teaching, excellence in thesis supervision, and for the strength of their contributions to NPS students beyond the classroom.

NPS Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering (MAE) Professor and former chair Dr. Knox Millsaps was honored with the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award in front of Herrmann Hall, Sept. 11.

Millsaps served in various academic, directorship and chairman positions at NPS from 1992 to the present. He has advised nearly 100 students throughout that span, and says it’s one of the aspects of his tenure at NPS that he will greatly miss.

Have a story to share? Public Affairs is constantly seeking interesting news and stories for Update NPS. Send your tips to pao@nps.edu.
Intern Develops Small, Inexpensive Star Tracker

By Kenneth Stewart

Former NPS student Intern Julian Brown, in conjunction with NPS Professor and Acting Provost Jim Newman, has been working to build a star tracking system at NPS designed to help very small satellites determine their orientation in space.

“Professor Mathias Kolsch and I had been working part-time, with students on developing a low-cost, very small star tracker to challenge the price point that industry currently provides, and I realized this would be a great project for Julian,” said Newman.

“A star tracker is used to take a picture of the sky and identify the patterns of stars in an image. Based on this, a satellite can tell which direction it is facing. Because stars are little specks of light that don’t move, it is very easy to know where you are looking if you know which stars you are looking at,” explained Brown.

Star trackers have been used in various forms since ancient times. The sextants used by ancient mariners are an example of early star tracker technology. And though the star tracker developed by Brown is far more complex than a mariner’s sextant, it is similarly designed to tell an operator where his craft is relative to the stars in the sky.

“When taking pictures of the stars for general navigation, there are many systems that provide coarse attitude information offering accuracy down to a tenth of a degree, but if you want accuracy down to arc seconds, 1/3600th of a degree, then you need to use a star tracker,” explained Brown. “They offer the highest accuracy pointing that you can get in space. They are very valuable for a lot of different missions and we would like to make them accessible to research groups like the one here at NPS.”

Star trackers are currently employed by most large commercial satellites, but they are generally too large and too costly to be employed aboard small satellites.

“They are also really expensive. A good model will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and installing a single star tracker on a nano-satellite would wipe out a significant portion of your total satellite budget,” said Brown.

According to Newman, school and university budgets for nano-satellites usually cap out between $50,000 to $100,000, whereas government sponsored satellite budgets range from anywhere between $100,000 to $3,000,000.

“We want to create much cheaper star trackers and put them on satellites that would not normally be able to afford them due to budgetary constraints,” Brown noted.

According to Brown, his work comes on the heels of increased research interest in satellite technology and greater industry and academic reliance on the information gleaned from commercial satellites.

Newman agrees. His goal is to develop a government-owned, government-shared star tracker whose technology can be transferred to industry and spur motivation to improve the existing star trackers on the market.

NPS Marines Thank City Leaders, Alumnus for Dining Out Support

By MCT Lewis Hunsaker

NPS Senior Marine Corps Representative Col. Mitchell McCarthy recently presented a framed set of photos to Monterey City Manager Mike McCarthy at his Monterey office in recognition of the city’s support of the Marine’s recent dining out and annual Monterey landing commemoration.

“We really appreciate the City of Monterey for providing security support during the Marine Corps dining out event at Monterey’s Custom House,” said McCarthy. “This event was only a week after the Chattanooga shooting, and the city’s support ensured the event was a success.”

Part of the city team that helped make the support happen were City of Monterey Police Chief Dave Hober, Assistant City Manager, and NPS alumnus Hans Uslar. A former German Surface Warfare Officer, Uslar graduated from NPS in 1992 and married a Pacific Grove native along the way. Uslar eventually returned to the Monterey Peninsula, continuing his own public service where he serves as Monterey’s Assistant City Manager.

“It’s always good to receive this acknowledgement from the NPS Marines,” said Uslar. “The city of Monterey is committed to having a good relationship with NPS.”
Hughes Contributes to DKL Legacies

By Javier Chagoya

NPS Dudley Knox Library Electronic Collections Technician Jason Leyk recently met with NPS Professor of Practice retired Navy Capt. Wayne Hughes to begin to put together a major exhibit titled “NPS Legacies” in the Dudley Knox Library.

The exhibits will draw upon Hughes’ journals, academic writings and other memorabilia. Leyk hopes that the exhibit will offer some insight into how Hughes, whose contributions to naval tactics have earned him the moniker “living legend,” developed as a tactician and a scholar over time.

Hughes will be featured alongside Adm. Arleigh Burke and Vice Adm. Arthur K. Cebrowski in the exhibit. Hughes donated an extensive collection of his personal journals, research notebooks and correspondence capturing six decades of his career and revealing his development as a naval officer and strategist.

“As I leaf through Capt. Hughes’ diaries, school notebooks, other notations and the reams of correspondence that he wrote over 60 years, I can witness his transformation from being a young naval officer … to a man who is refining his intellect and becoming a supreme naval strategist,” said Leyk.

In Hughes’ own words, his development as an officer was born of pushing boundaries and thinking deeply about naval challenges.

“I believe the development and maturity of an officer won’t come with sunbathing thoughts, but with challenging oneself, with thinking of far-reaching operational and tactical matters,” Hughes said.

Leyk, who came to NPS from the National Archives, is working with NPS Special Collections Manager John Sanders on the Hughes collection and exhibit. They hope to open NPS Legacies by early 2016.

Faculty Participate in Scientists to Sea Program

By Dale M. Kuska

NPS Department of Information Sciences Research Associate Professor Ying Zhao and NPS Lecturer Tony Kendall recently joined a group of fellow scientists on board the USS Howard (DDG 83) to embark upon the Scientists to Sea program. The effort provides academics and scientists who work on advanced defense technology with a first-hand view of naval vessels and systems in action.

“We were able to see what exactly is needed on a Navy destroyer, as well as the current state-of-the-art with the Aegis combat system,” said Zhao. “We were particularly interested in the process of combat ID decision making, and how big data and deep learning might improve the process.”

“I think researchers need to be more out in the fleet as a sanity check,” added Kendall. “We were not unwelcomed visitors, rather we were part of the Plan of the Day and we could see anyone and go anywhere we wanted. Even the captain made himself available for questions and later even came by and discussed our follow on questions.”

The scientists’ host on the ship was plenty familiar with NPS, USS Howard Commanding Officer Capt. John Fay graduated from the Department of Information Sciences in 2004, and shared great memories of his time on campus with the visiting professors.

 “[Capt. Fay] is a proud alumnus of NPS, and he represents the best of our school and community,” said Zhao. “He has many fond memories of NPS, and his adviser, Dr. Alex Bordetsky. He is very professional, and very knowledgeable about the ship and its combat systems aboard.”
Cyndy Daley has been dedicated to guiding students and faculty through NPS’ Systems Engineering department since 2007. Throughout the years she has developed a reputation for getting things done.

“I’m kind of the go-to person,” said Daley. “Much like a car parts store where they have a staff member who knows the parts and delivers them to customers. I’m like the runner, I help to keep everything running smoothly.”

Daley’s open door philosophy and wide range of knowledge allows her to serve as an effective advocate for the community she serves within the department.

Daley takes pride in her ability to navigate NPS’ supply and travel systems while not losing site of providing customer service.

“My goal is to keep everyone happy. With all of the processes we have for things like travel and supply, people can get frustrated,” said Daley. “Students and professors have a lot to do and learning new processes can be a pain, especially when you factor in quirky clauses and processes. That’s where I come in.”

According to Daley, the best part of her job is the people.

“I love this department because I feel like a human being here,” she said. “I love everything about this department, because we have a great team spirit and we all work together,” said Daley.
Any Day at NPS ...

Lt. Michael R. Cribbs and his family are pictured with APEA Monterey Chapter President Lawrence Reeves, left, and NPS President retired Vice Adm. Ronald A. Route, middle, after receiving the John McReynolds Woencraft Electrical and Computer Engineering Award, Sept. 15. (U.S. Navy photo by Javier Chagoya)

Professors Joseph Blau, Keith Cohn and Professor Emeritus William Colson are pictured in front of Spanagel Hall, Sept. 19. The trio was recently honored by the Association of Old Crows for their directed energy work. (U.S. Navy photo by Javier Chagoya)

The 64th graduating class of the Naval War College (NWC) Monterey partnership with NPS for Joint Professional Military Education (JPME) stands for a group portrait in front of Herrmann Hall, Sept. 17. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Brian H. Abel)

NPS Program Officer Lt. Cmdr. Eric "Syphin" McMullen renders Taps during the Naval Support Activity Monterey's Patriot Day ceremony at Centennial Park, Sept. 11. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Shawn J. Stewart)

NPS President retired Vice Adm. Ronald A. Route, left, is pictured with former Provost Dr. Douglas A. Hensler, center, and Janie Hensler, right, after receiving the Navy Distinguished Civilian Service Award in Herrmann Hall, Sept. 28. Hensler is retiring to spend time with his family. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Lewis Hunsaker)

NPS student Lt. Clay Greunke demonstrates the virtual environment training system he developed to prepare inexperienced Landing Signal Officers (LSO) for duty aboard aircraft carriers. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Brian H. Abel)

STUDENT voice

Lt. Cmdr. Jesse-LaRou Walsh Vice Chairman of the President’s Student Council

This month and into October, the President’s Student Council (PSC) is focused on student outreach. There are two student outreach items that the PSC is actively working on, the bi-annual student survey and the nomination of Secretary of the Navy Guest Lecture (SGL) speakers.

The PSC will be conducting the bi-annual student opinion survey in November. The last survey was conducted in April. Our latest survey will focus on NPS facilities, academics, student life, and students’ thoughts about NPS. The survey will provide each student with the opportunity to offer an honest, non-attributable opinion. Your input will help the PSC to understand what is important to the student body as well as help the NPS student government to improve student life on campus.

We are also focused on identifying future SGL guests. The student body and faculty can provide input as to who they would like to have come and speak to the NPS community. If you know of someone that you would like to nominate to speak at a monthly SGL, please email PSC Chair Lt. Cmdr. Colleen McDonald or Vice Chair Lt. Cmdr. Jesse-LaRou Walsh so we can send your nominations to the Dean of Students and NPS President.

Finally, with the start of the new quarter upon us, the PSC is always looking for volunteer opportunities in the Monterey community. If you know of any volunteer events, please email the PSC so we can send an event listing out to the student body.

Have a story to share? Public Affairs is constantly seeking interesting news and stories for Update NPS. Send your tips to pao@nps.edu.
The mission of the Naval Postgraduate School is to provide relevant and unique advanced education and research programs to increase the combat effectiveness of commissioned officers of the Naval Service to enhance the security of the United States. In support of the foregoing, and to sustain academic excellence, foster and encourage a program of relevant and meritorious research which both supports the needs of Navy and Department of Defense while building the intellectual capital of Naval Postgraduate School faculty.

Officers from 12 nations crossed the King Hall Auditorium stage last month along with their U.S. classmates to receive their NPS diploma. Their presence contributed valuable international perspective for the academic programs and helped to establish important professional networks that will support future coalition operations. The allied nations represented in this graduation ceremony were Bahrain, Germany, Israel, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia and Turkey. Their participation continued a legacy that began in 1921 when Argentine Navy Lt. Cmdr. O. Repetto became the first international officer to attend NPS at Annapolis. Cmdr. J. O. Fisher was the head of the school. He had been in the inaugural class in 1909 and was the first alumnus to be placed in charge of the Navy’s nascent advanced education program.

**Historical Highlights**

Historical Highlights are provided by the Dudley Knox Library.