CORE Lab Casts Light on IED Networks

By Amanda D. Stein

When improvised explosive devices (IEDs) talk, they have a lot to say. Each wire and detonator helps tell a story of who created the device. Their locations across a battlespace help create a visual map of IED networks. And now, NPS defense analysis students Navy Lts. Deak Childress and John Taylor are proving that efficiently recording and analyzing those IED details can save lives.

Building upon an NPS Common Operational Research Environment Lab program called Lighthouse, which utilizes mobile devices to gather socio-cultural data, they have developed an iOS-based app called Improvised Explosive Device Network Analysis, which will allow Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) technicians to compile key information about IEDs into a streamlined database.

“We really tried to look at a way to capitalize on all of the component data that counter-IED forces are required to collect. As it stands now, dozens of times a day throughout Afghanistan, counter-IED forces, specifically EOD guys, are required to go out and collect enormous amounts of data,” explained Taylor. “However, the data that’s collected isn’t being used efficiently or effectively in our opinion.”

Childress and Taylor saw an opportunity for the concept of human-network mapping, developed by NPS student Capt. Carrick Longley in 2009, to be used in mapping IED networks based on the bombs’ ‘signatures’ or components that link the device to other IEDs collected.

With their combined intelligence and EOD perspectives, Childress and Taylor saw potential for the data to be analyzed to help tactical-level users better understand and potentially counter IEDs in hostile environments.

“According to the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization, the number of IEDs found and cleared continues to trend upward,” explained Childress. “So we are getting better at finding and exposing them before they blow up. And the severity of injuries from IED explosions is trending downward. But the overall number of attacks continues to exponentially go up.

“And that tells anyone looking at the problem that you’re not effectively attacking the network that’s putting those things in place,” he continued. “So that’s the line of operation that we focus on — ‘Attack the Network.’” – Lt. Deak Childress, Defense Analysis Student
A Message From ...
Dr. Christine Haska, Vice President for Information Resources and Chief Information Officer

Information Resources teams have been working to provide appropriate and timely services to the campus in support of the NPS mission. For the newest members of our campus community, Information Resources is comprised of three central components—Information Technology and Communications Services (ITACS), Institutional Advancement (IA) and Institutional Research and Planning (IRP).

As part of its central mission, ITACS supports and maintains the university’s e-mail network, enabling faculty and students as they pursue their academic endeavors in the classroom and laboratory. The e-mail network provides flexibility and greater capability for learning management tools such as Sakai and Eliminate as well as improved versatility in using research applications. Ease of access to the web through the e-mail results in an increased ability for faculty and students to work together, and to network with colleagues at a variety of higher education, government and international institutions. The U.S. Naval Academy and the Naval War College also utilize a e-mail network.

Through a collaborative called Team Monterey, NPS has assisted the nearby Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC) in migrating to a e-mail network. Handled through a number of phases, NPS provided technical expertise and support throughout to bring these enhanced capabilities to our local neighbor institution. The result is the ability of DLIFLC faculty and students to use real-time news feeds, social networking, enhanced access and speed, and mobile access to course materials. Of course, adherence to the security policies of the Department of Defense (DoD) is also a high priority. The effort to date is successful, with CENIC, the Corporation for Educational Network Initiatives in California, awarding NPS and DLIFLC with its 2012 Innovations in Networking Award for Educational Institutions.

Institutional Advancement is also involved with the Team Monterey collaboration of all DoD assets within Monterey County. The success of NPS’ Pentagon Channel show, “Inside NPS,” prompted Team Monterey founder, Congressman Sam Farr, to suggest that local DoD institutions create a half-hour television show to highlight the collaboration. Initially, the Team Monterey show will be broadcast on local cable access stations, with the program giving Monterey County residents the opportunity to become better acquainted with area commands and bases to gain a better understanding of the importance of these institutions to the local economy.

Whether it is in technology, institutional communications or data support, the Information Resources team is proud to support the academic and administrative arenas at NPS. We strive to continuously improve our services to the university community, and encourage both your feedback and ideas for new endeavors.

Information Resources

NPS Provost, Chair Professor to be Honored with Ellis Island Medals of Honor

By Javier Chagoya

Naval Postgraduate School Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Leonard Ferrari and Chair of Systemic Strategy and Complexity Navy Capt. Wayne Porter will soon join a prestigious group of American citizens who have been honored with an Ellis Island Medal of Honor during an upcoming ceremony, May 12.

The National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations (NECO) created the awards program more than 25 years ago to honor American citizens who “exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage.”

Throughout his academic career, Ferrari has distinguished himself in the field of signal and image processing where he has produced extremely efficient computational procedures. He has also served as faculty, department head and executive director at leading institutions of higher learning. Prior to his current position as Executive Vice President and Provost, he served as the university’s Dean of Research for three years.

The 2012 list of Medal of Honor winners at Ferrari and Porter in the company of some of our nation’s most senior leaders, such as current Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond Odierno. But as Porter notes, within and outside of the defense community, the Medal of Honor represents a prestigious collective of leaders across several disciplines looking to make a difference for the future.

“I am deeply honored to be sharing this award with all the recipients of the award who are more deserving than I,” he added.

On April 5–6, NPS President Dan Oliver traveled to Washington, D.C., for the annual meeting of the Navy’s Advanced Education Review Board (AERB). Chaired by the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, the AERB provides the Secretary of the Navy with expert advice and recommendations on military personnel policies and programs, and the Navy’s education institutions.

On April 10–12, Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Leonard Ferrari traveled in Washington, D.C., to attend the 2012 Ex-Im Bank Conference as well as a Corporate Council on Africa Conference on transforming agribusiness in Nigeria.

On April 16–17, Oliver traveled to Montgomery, Ala., to participate in the Air University Board of Visitors. The board provides a forum for independent advice and recommendations on matters pertaining to the university to the Secretary of the Air Force through the Commander and President of Air University.

Several members of the NPS administration participated in meetings throughout April with the NPS Strategic Planning Task Force. Chaired by Dean of the Graduate School of International and Information Sciences Dr. Peter Purdum, the committee finalized a draft of the next NPS five-year strategic plan.

The NPS Board of Advisors annual spring meeting was held on the NPS campus, April 25–26, with several members of the NPS administration attending to present the progress. A subcommittee to the Board of Advisors to the President of the Naval Postgraduate School and Naval War College, the Board discussed several topics such as the school’s strategic plan, the CNO initiatives, energy and cyber programs, and listened to presentations of student thesis projects.

From the Mezz provides a brief report on the activities of NPS’ senior administration. For more details on any of these reports, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at pao@nps.edu.
Distinguished Professor Honored with Fulbright Award

By Amanda D. Stein

Distinguished Professor Dr. Nancy Haegel was recently awarded a Fulbright scholar award for research and lecturing for her work in near-field scanning optical microscopy. Her work will take her to Hebrew University in Israel, where she will have the opportunity to work with and learn from head of the Department of Applied Physics, Professor Aaron Lewis, a world-renowned expert and pioneer in near-field imaging techniques.

“It is a great honor to be selected by the Foreign Scholarship Board for a Fulbright award to Israel,” said Haegel. “I am very excited about the opportunity to participate in cutting-edge research at Hebrew University and also to help build the international relationships and collaborations that are central to the Fulbright Program. To do the best job in teaching and research, we always need to be learning new things and seeing the world from different perspectives. This is a great opportunity to do exactly that.”

For the past several years, Haegel has been researching a new technique called contactless microscopy that uses near-field scanning optical microscopy, with the goal of better understanding solar cells and lasers. Haegel explained that her research involves taking pictures of incredibly small objects without allowing the light to diffract, resulting in crisper images.

“Normally when you take a picture of something, the sharpness of the picture, what we call the resolution, is limited by the wavelength of the light used to make the picture,” she said. “When people take visible pictures, the wavelength is small enough that you don’t really notice this. They are limited by how good the camera is and various other factors. But there is a fundamental limit there.

“Our research is looking to take pictures of really tiny things,” she continued. “And the diffraction limit, the spreading due to light, can limit the picture you can take. So the idea of near-field imaging is to go in and collect the light so close to the surface that you don’t give it the chance to diffract. You literally collect the light right from the surface of the sample. And when there’s no diffraction, there’s no blurring from that, and you can take much sharper pictures of very small things.”

Haegel will spend four months at Hebrew University, during the 2012–2013 academic year, and will build upon work previously conducted internationally with a presence in Israel.

“I wanted to do leadership development full time,” said Nelson, “but I wasn’t sure that I wanted to work with adults because I noticed that adults don’t usually change. “Life experience itself gives us a lot of tools that had far-reaching effects to force protection and security— from the physical safety afforded by forces on the ground or at sea to intelligence, political and cultural considerations as well.

“Close to the NPS campus, one of the lessons learned from the Cole bombing also led to the development of NPS Regional Security Education Program (RSEP). RSEP is an outreach program that attempts to better educate naval forces by providing custom education about the regions in which they operate.

“We’re still in the middle of this war and it’s going to go on for a long time,” Lippold said. “Using the brain power and education this place gives you, you’re the ones that are going to try to think through the problems with critical analysis that are going to keep this nation safe.”

Business School Lecturer Helps Build Youth Leadership Skills

By MCI Leonardo Carrillo

Former USS Cole CO Details the Port of Aden Attack

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On the morning of Oct. 12, 2000, a suicide bomber on a trash barge attacked the guided missile destroyer USS Cole (DDG-67) while the ship was refueling in the port of Aden, Yemen. The attack claimed the lives of 17 sailors, injured 39 others and fundamentally changed the way the Navy operates today.

As part of its Secretary of the Navy Guest Lecture Series (GSL), NPS hosted a lecure, April 3, by retired Cmndr. Kirk S. Lippold, Commanding Officer of the Cole at the time of the attack.

Lippold gave a moving, step-by-step account of the events of that October morning when a routine refueling stop turned into a fight for survival for Cole and her crew. Lippold said that it was the training and determina- tion of the crew, along with the principles of their command philosophy and crisis man- agement ability, that saved the ship that day.

The attack on Cole sparked a series of changes that had far-reaching effects to force protection and security—from the physical safety afforded by forces on the ground or at sea to intelligence, political and cultural considerations as well.

New Fiscal Year Brings New Changes for the U.S. Navy

By Leanne E. Zablotney

The electrical and computer engineering department welcomed Associate Professor David A. Garren as a new tenure track faculty member, effective April 24.

Defense Resource Management Institute (DRMI) Associate Professors Jomana Amara and Diana Angelis, Senior Lecturer Steve Hurst, and Lecturer Lt. Col. Mike Nixon concluded the third human capital resources management course in Amman, Jordan. The Director of Training for the Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF), General Mohammed Farghal, sponsored the course with a primary goal of introducing a large segment of the JAF to international best practices in human resources management.

Information Sciences Associate Professor Wolfgang Baer presented a lecture titled “Hierarchy of the Quantum Brain: From Wave Function to Neural Pulses,” at the 2012 “Toward a Science of Consciousness” Conference in Tucson, Ariz. on April 11.

Graduate School of Business and Public Policy Assistant Professor Lt. Col. Timothy Hawkins’ article titled “Explaining the Effectiveness of Performance-Based Logististics: A Quantitative Causal Model” was published in the International Journal of Logistics Management was chosen as a Highly Commended Award Winner at the Literati Net-work Awards for Excellence 2012.

Have a story to share? Institutional Advancement is constantly looking for interesting news and stories for Update NPS. Send your tips to Update@nps.edu.

FACULTY news & notes

NPS Alumni Hit Wall Street

A select group of Naval Postgraduate School graduates toured the floor of the New York Stock Exchange during a special alumni event, April 27.

Hosted by NPS alumnus Marshall N. Carter (’70), Chairman of the Board for NYSE Group, participants left the city’s “financial district” for a personal tour of the stock exchange facilities, where the group was fortunate enough to witness the opening bell.

“Marshall Carter was a tremendous host for our NPS event at the stock exchange, and I think he really enjoyed hearing about the backgrounds and experiences of such a wide range of fellow alumni in attendance,” said Director of Alumni Relations Kari Miglaw. “He invited us back for a future event, and we will definitely be taking him up on the offer.”

Business School Lecturer Helps Build Child Leadership Skills

By MCI Leonardo Carrillo

In his spare time, an NPS lecturer of management has turned his KIdLead, Dr. Alan Nelson, CEO and co-founder of the educational organization, created KidLead after years of experience working in the social sector, finding just the right demographic that he wanted to impact outside of his NPS teaching duties.

“I wanted to do leadership development full time,” said Nelson, “but I wasn’t sure that I wanted to work with adults because I noticed that adults don’t usually change.”

With that, he decided to start a non-profit educational organization focused on leader- ship development and training programs for children, teens and young adults from as early as two to as old as 22.

He was joined in his efforts by his wife Nancy, who focused on designing the trainer certification for the KidLead Curricula, one of the cornerstones of the program.

As part of the program, Nelson also wrote two books — “Lead Young” and “KidLead: Growing Great Leaders.” The books are the latest in Nelson’s extensive list of works that includes 15 books and hundreds of published articles. These latest books bring the essence of youth leadership development in the program into a comprehensive guide to child leadership development.

Nelson said that many schools throughout the U.S. are using the program and are showing great results. The program has even expanded internationally with a presence in Singapore, Pakistan, Canada, Malaysia, Thailand and even countries in the Middle East.

“Life experience itself gives us a lot of tools that we can use in leading,” said Nelson, “but when you don’t have a lot of life experience as a young person, it’s tough to make it. This program is really designed to light the fuse in these young leaders.”

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Focus On … High Performance Computing
A Monthly Look at Names and Faces on Campus

NPS recently welcomed a new representative for Productivity Enhancement, Technology, Transfer and Training (PETTT), Dr. Jose Renteria. With over 10 years experience in visualization and High Performance Computing (HPC) environments, Renteria helps students and faculty take advantage of the HPC capabilities available to them through the DOD.

PETTT consists of dozens of onsites around the country, to which approved DOD personnel can apply for access. When researchers are looking to run software or simulations that need more than their standard desktop can handle, the network of supercomputers operated by the DOD can be used to support their work.

“The DOD High Performance Computing Modernization Program offers NPS a significant amount of compute power that is available remotely across the country,” said Renteria. “If the software supporting your research is consuming too much time and/or exceeds the capabilities offered at NPS, DOD resources can be used to further develop, test, evaluate and speed-up your research process.”

Renteria’s expertise lies in computer science, but the combined PETTT onsites represent a wide range of expertise, and are all available to eligible members of the NPS community. Renteria’s day-to-day includes providing technical support and training.

“For those new to HPC, needing software or simulations that need to be developed, test, evaluated and further training, code optimization or help transiting code to a DOD high performance computing environment,” he added, “I and other PETTT onsites are here to assist with those needs.”

Members of the NPS community interested in HPC access and support from PETTT personnel must register for a DOD HPC account at www.hpcmo.hpc.mil.

Highlighting the similarities between Department of Defense (DOD) financial management policies and regulations of other federal entities, Gates notes the relevancy NPS’ EMBA has in all facets of the federal government.

“In the program, we focus heavily on financial management and acquisition which is regulated by federal statute,” said Gates. “It’s a program that is fitting for all federal organizations, not just DOD.”

For incoming EMBA student Jose Garcia, who currently serves as the Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the Johnson Space Center, the ability to focus on studies with other professionals with years of experience was a draw to the program.

“I first heard about NPS’ [EMBA] program while on travel at the Ames Research Center, and then again when I returned to Houston,” said Garcia. “I looked at the curriculum and it really seemed to focus on the real-life experiences brought to the classroom by other students.”

GSBPP Lecturer Bill Hatch, NPS EMBA Program Manager and a retired Navy commander, notes the relevancy of the education provided in today’s economic environment.

“As the Department of Defense, and the federal government in general, become more fiscally constrained… there is a tighter focus on funds and where those funds are spent,” said Hatch. “The EMBA program provides students with the key skills necessary to execute financial management and resource management plans.”

NPS’ EMBA program has been in existence since 2002, and was originally designed to reach members of the aviation community who typically have been unable to attend resident programs due to career gates. In 2009, a civilian EMBA program was added to reach financial management professionals within the Department of the Navy. The course of instruction includes 17 courses taught over a two-year period. Students attend classes one day a week, with two courses taught each quarter.

By MC1 Grant P. Ammon

Any Day at NPS …

Myrna Hill of the Naval Support Activity Monterey (NSAM) Public Works Office sits with a solid block of crushed aluminum cans during NSAM’s Fourth Annual Earth Day Celebration, held on the Naval Postgraduate School campus quad and in Sanspace Plaza, April 19. The aluminum block marked-contest challenging participants to guess how many cans were included. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Leonardo Carrillo)

Reiml Rear Adm. Jerry Ells, director of NPS Underserved Wartime program presents Adm. Cecil Jemmott, Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, with a certificate naming Hanyu a distinguished alumnat of the Naval Postgraduate School during the university’s annual Submarine Birthday Ball, April 28. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Grant P. Ammon)

Lt. Matthew Yokley is the Chairman of the President’s Student Council. Visit the PSC on the intranet at http://intranet/psc/index.html.

Student Council

Why are we here? I ask not in the abstruse way of examining the existence of humanity, but rather in the context of what we do here at NPS. Is it to do research? Is it to receive a higher level of education? Or, perhaps it is to take time to enjoy our families. The easy answer is, of course, all of the above. The real answer though, I think, is deeper than that.

As students of one of the premier institutions of higher learning in the world, we have been sent here not merely to do “all of the above,” but to gain knowledge and skills that can be utilized to solve any number of problems thrown our way.

We must remember that our nations and our services chose us to be here because they have faith in us. They know the caliber of the individual and they have faith that we will return ready and able to do more than ever before. We receive an education, but our services receive an investment. They have invested in us in the hopes that we will give a return on that investment to help grow and improve our services.

Often, being wrapped up in courses, tests and theses, we can lose sight of the “big picture.” Don’t forget that YOU are what makes this institution and your service great. So perhaps the question should be not, “Why are we here?” but rather, “Where are we going?”

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By MC1 Grant P. Ammon

When NPS welcomed its newest cohort of Executive Master’s of Business Administration (EMBA) students, among them were the usual military officers representing traditional fleet concentration sites such as San Diego, Pearl Harbor and Norfolk, Va.

But a unique group formed for the first time in Houston as well. A cohort of five federal civilian employees representing NPS’ Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center joined the ranks of NPS students, marking the first-ever group participating from the space agency.

EMBA students from NPS’ Johnson Space Center pose for a photo with two of NPS’ resident astronauts, and EMBA faculty members, March 19 during orientation week at NPS. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Grant Ammon)

NASA recently welcomed a new representative for Productivity Enhancement, Technology, Transfer and Training (PETTT), consisting of dozens of onsites around the country, to which approved DOD personnel can apply for access.

“Myra Hill of the Naval Support Activity Monterey (NSAM) Public Works Office sits with a solid block of crushed aluminum cans during NSAM’s Fourth Annual Earth Day Celebration, held on the Naval Postgraduate School campus quad and in Sanspace Plaza, April 19,” said Rear Adm. Jerry Ells, director of NPS Undergraduate Wartime programs. “The aluminum block marked a contest to challenge participants to guess how many cans were included.”

For the first time, Dr. Bill Gates, Dean of NPS’ Graduate School of Business and Public Policy (GSBPP), “From the feedback I’ve received so far, the team at NASA is really excited about this program.”

For us in the business school, it’s the first time we have had students coming from NASA,” said Dr. Bill Gates, Dean of NPS’ Graduate School of Business and Public Policy (GSBPP). “From the feedback I’ve received so far, the team at NASA is really excited about this program. We’re able to offer tailored instruction that meets their needs at half the cost of similar programs offered at local universities.”

NPS Welcomes NASA Students to EMBA Program

By MC1 Grant P. Ammon

“I’ve received so far, the team at NASA is really excited about this program offers NPS a significant advantage over the competition,” said Renteria. “If the research is consuming too much software supporting your research, you must register for a DOD HPC account at www.hpcmo.hpc.mil.

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On Campus this Month

May 7–10
10th International Mine Warfare Technology Symposium
POC Retired Rear Adm. Rick Williams, Ext. 7702

May 15
Dr. Fenton Carey
Retired Naval Officer and Consultant
Secretary of the Navy Guest Lecture
POC Lt. Jenny Phillips, Ext. 2466

May 16–17
9th Annual Acquisition Research Symposium
POC Karey Shaffer, Ext. 2257

May 8
Gen. Edward A. Rice, Jr., USAF
Commander, Air Education and Training Command
Secretary of the Navy Guest Lecture
POC Lt. Jenny Phillips, Ext. 2466

May 10
Robots in the Roses Research Fair
POC Carol O’Neal, Ext. 3807

May 28
Memorial Day Concert on the Lawn
POC Alan Richmond, Ext. 3649

In Review Magazine
Look for your copy around campus.

Historical Highlights

In 1921, while still stationed in Annapolis, Md., the Naval Postgraduate School welcomed the first students from other branches of the military. Marine Corps Captains Charles Jones and Clyde Matteson and Coast Guard Lt.j.g. Robert Donohue began the legacy that has grown today to include both military and DOD civilian students. That same year, NPS also welcomed the first group of international students.

Today, the school hosts military officers from around the world and across services, promoting the diversity and collaboration that have become cornerstones of the NPS mission. At any given time, Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines from up to 50 different countries can be seen around campus, representing their service through education and collaboration.