



OCTOBER 2022

**NPS and NPS Foundation representatives visit world-class organizations to drive a culture of innovation**



Over the last month, representatives from the Naval Postgraduate School and the Naval Postgraduate School Foundation visited world-class industry and academic facilities throughout the Southern and Central California region as well as the Washington-Metro area. The visits, which were funded and facilitated by the NPS Foundation, presented an opportunity for NPS faculty and staff to be immersed in innovative, best-in-class environments and to imagine what is in the art of the possible for NPS.

The sites in California included Silicon Valley's Microsoft's Innovation Campus and Apple's Apple Park and Southern California's Anduril Industries, Applied Minds Inc, and the University of

California at Irvine Beall Applied Innovation center. The visits to the Washington-Metro area included the Marine Corps Wargaming and Analysis Center, Hopper Hall at the U.S. Naval Academy, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab, Virginia Tech Innovation Campus, the Cyber Bytes Foundation Quantico Cyber Hub, National Intelligence University, Raytheon Technologies, and Lockheed Martin's Global Vision Center.

Following each of these visits, NPS representatives discussed their observations with fellow NPS faculty and staff to energize the campus and explore how to incorporate best practices for innovative and collaborative environments into the vision for NPS. Identifying the critical common elements are key to creating and sustaining an enterprise culture that encourages and rewards education, and innovation. Benchmarking industry best practices allows NPS to develop, foster and lead a culture of innovation within the Department of the Navy's innovation ecosystem. [Read more.](#)



*"The strategic and tactical challenges of the future will require the continuous education of the joint forces to maintain a competitive advantage over our current and future adversaries. The ability for our faculty and staff to visit world-class innovative facilities represents an important step in imagining the possibilities for the Naval Postgraduate School and then incorporating those best practices into our vision to be the world's leading and most innovative institution for defense higher education and research." NPS Provost, Dr. Scott Gartner*

## **Former Deputy Secretary of Defense Robert O. Work Inducted as 25th Member of NPS Hall of Fame**



The Naval Postgraduate School welcomed the Honorable **Robert O. Work**, 32nd Deputy Secretary of Defense and acclaimed national security professional, into the school's prestigious Hall of Fame during a ceremony in Herrmann Hall, Sept. 22, recognizing his lifetime of service to the United States.

Work, a 1990 graduate of NPS, becomes the latest inductee into the Hall of Fame, established to recognize the accomplishments of NPS' most distinguished alumni and friends who, through the attainment of positions at the highest levels of public service, have made the greatest contributions to society, to their nations, and to NPS.

"I am honored, happy and humbled to be recognized with this award," Work said. "I'm honored because of all the academic institutions I've attended, I consider the Naval Postgraduate School to be the best one yet."

After a 27-year career as a U.S. Marine Corps officer, Work went on to hold two of the most prestigious titles in the Department of Defense, serving as Under Secretary of the Navy and later returning to the Pentagon as the 32nd Deputy Secretary of Defense. During his tenure as Deputy Secretary of Defense from 2014 to 2017, Work led DOD efforts to focus on technological areas such as artificial intelligence and machine learning. "Our students have a wide range of outlets to pursue education and research in AI and machine learning, and it is Mr. Work who has led that," said Rondeau. "In the cognitive era of strategic competition, both education and technology, as well as strategic thinking, are all important to the military's education and our decision advantage." [Read more.](#)

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## **Congratulations Summer 2022 Graduates!**

**[Watch the Graduation  
Video](#)**



### **Former Deputy Secretary of Defense Challenges NPS Students to Forge the Future of Warfare**

The Honorable Robert O. Work, NPS alumnus and 32nd Deputy Secretary of Defense, served as the guest speaker for a commencement ceremony honoring 270 graduates,

including 29 international students from eight countries.

NPS President retired Vice Adm. Ann E. Rondeau congratulated the assembled students on their efforts and achievements – while also reminding them that their journey is not over yet.

“Our mission has been to prepare you,” Rondeau added. “It is your mission, now, to deliver. The NPS degree that you get today signals to everybody that you not only increased your knowledge, but that you have distinguished yourself and your ability to apply that knowledge to higher thought and higher results. You will be in demand.”

In his remarks, Work acknowledged the challenges faced by the United States, including never-before-seen technological advances by strategic competitors like China.



"You are joining the force in a time of unprecedented strategic and technological flux and turbulence," said Work. "It's going to require all hands on deck to try to figure out how we get through this."

But Work also expressed confidence in the ability of NPS graduates and faculty members to help address these challenges and others which lie ahead. [Read more.](#)



### **NPS Research Assistant receives competitive ONR Young Investigator Program grant**

Congratulations to Dr. **David Ortiz-Suslow**, Research Assistant Professor in NPS' Dept. of Meteorology, one of 25 researchers selected to receive a highly-competitive Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Program (YIP) grant. The YIP

awards target early career academics whose areas of research show significant promise for naval applications.

Ortiz-Suslow's research focuses on marine aerosol loading on the atmospheric surface layer, leading to advanced validation and testing of naval atmospheric forecasting models relevant to climate and weather prediction, and electromagnetic weapon systems (high-energy lasers, radar, IR, etc.) deployed in the Fleet. Ortiz-Suslow was a recipient of NPS Foundation SEED Funding in 2021 for his project "Monterey Bay: A Geophysical Lab for improving Coastal Environment Prediction."



We are saddened to hear that NPS alumnus, Col. **Vance Klosinski**, passed away on Sept. 24.

A native of Stevens Point, Wis., Klosinski began his US Army career as an infantry platoon leader with the 10th Mountain Division and later qualified as a Special Forces officer. His deployments took him to Afghanistan, Iraq, Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Philippines, among other places. He most recently served as the Garrison Commander for U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz in Germany. Klosinski graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School in December 2009 with an MS in Defense Analysis.

The tributes from those who knew him remind us of his inspirational and selfless leadership. Our deepest condolences to his wife and children. [Read more.](#)

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## Alumni in the News



FEMA Administrator **Deanne Criswell**, MA in Security Studies '11, has been hard at work touring the recent damage of Hurricane Ian throughout Florida and the Southeast. Many have become familiar with Criswell as the face of the federal government's response to Hurricane Ian. Criswell has been widely praised for her ability to add a human touch to disaster response and her ability to work with officials at every level because of her broad experience across emergency management. Watch Criswell on the [ongoing response to Hurricane Ian](#).

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Vice. Adm. **Karl Thomas**, MS in Information Technology '98, is the current commander of Seventh Fleet. Seventh Fleet is the largest of the U.S. Navy's forward-deployed fleets and operates in the Indo-Pacific region. Thomas has been a leader in response and strategy as tensions between China, Taiwan and the United States continue to escalate. Read [China is capable of blockading Taiwan, U.S. Navy commander says](#) or [China can blockade Taiwan, but at a cost: US Admiral.](#)

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## Alumni Updates

On September 19, 2022, the Secretary of Defense, Lloyd Austin announced U.S. Navy Rear Adm. **John Wade**, MS in Information Systems Technology '96, as the Commander of the Joint Task Force – Red Hill.

Wade is currently the director of operations, J3, for U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, a role he's had since October 2020. As the commander of the task force, which was set up to oversee the defeueling of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, Wade will be responsible for working with the Environmental Protection Agency, the community and the Hawaii Health Department.

"The Department of Defense and the United States Navy remain focused on the health and safety of our military families and the people of Hawaii, and I have confidence that Rear Adm. Wade will continue to do everything to protect the population, the environment, and the security of the nation," Austin said in his statement.



On Tuesday, Sept. 13, the Office of Naval Research held a change-of-office ceremony for NavalX, a partner organization within the command. The ceremony welcomed new NavalX Director Capt. **Casey Plew**, Master of Business Administration '16, who took the reins from Capt. **Benjamin Van Buskirk**, Master of Business Administration '07.



NavalX serves the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps as an innovation and agility cell, supporting and connecting initiatives across the DOD. The organization enables collaboration; accelerates the pace of discovery, learning and experimentation; and fosters the naval workforce's capacity for innovation and agility.

"Capt. Van Buskirk has done an outstanding job of taking NavalX from a start-up environment to an established organization with codified processes and procedures for innovation," said Plew. "I look forward to building on the valuable work he's done by using those processes to bolster innovation partnerships, find game-changing ideas and technologies, get them into requirements for acquisition, and ultimately deliver them as capabilities to warfighters." [Read more.](#)

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**Chris Costamagna**, CHDS Executive Leadership Program '18, a 27-year veteran of the Sacramento Fire Department, has been promoted to Chief. Costamagna had been serving as the deputy fire chief of technical services. He will take on the new role immediately, the city said in a release on Monday. Costamagna takes the helm of a department with 700 employees and a \$173 million budget.

Costamagna joined the department on Sept. 11, 1995, and has also served as assistant chief of special operations, operations shift commander, battalion chief, in-service training captain and drill instructor for the department's training academy. He also has experience overseeing FEMA Urban Search and Rescue California Task Force 7 and helped develop a state urban search and rescue training group.



Retired U.S. Navy Capt. **H. Thomas Workman**, MS in Operations Research '96, has been named Director of Bureau of Land Management National Operations Center. As the director of the National Operations Center, Workman will oversee approximately 300 employees and contractors that provide operational and technical mission support to BLM staff and collaborators in the areas of financial management, human resources, geospatial services and land and natural resources management.

Workman, who begins his new position in mid-October, has worked in both the public and private sectors and has decades of experience in leading people, leading change, driving results, building coalitions and overall organization success. During 30 years of service in the U.S. Navy, he commanded three warships and a Destroyer Squadron at sea. He also developed, resourced and implemented critical policy, personnel and budget objectives across the U.S. Navy's Surface Force ashore. [Read more.](#)

[Submit an Alumni Update](#)

## Meet more Students & Alumni: Faces of NPS

### Get Involved!

#### 2023 Acquisition Research Program Symposium

##### - Seeking Proposals

DUE NOVEMBER 29, 2022



The Naval Postgraduate School announces the 20th Annual Acquisition Research Symposium to be held May 10-11, 2023 as a hybrid event. The Symposium Program Committee solicits proposals for papers or panels from academicians, practitioners, researchers at think tanks, and others interested in defense acquisition research. **We seek a diverse audience of influential attendees** from academe, government, and industry who are well placed to shape and promote future research in acquisition. [Submit or Learn More.](#)

#### 2023 Design Challenge: Local Challenges, Global Solutions - Seeking NPS Student Mentors

Schools and students are invited to envision, develop, and design innovative solutions to local climate challenges. Through engagement with design challenges presented with scaffolded lessons that support student learning and engagement, students will be asked to consider how science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) can be used to create meaningful solutions with global impact. [More information.](#)

### NPS Foundation Events



### **Evening with Peyton Manning**

OCTOBER 11, 2022

Spend a fabulous evening with Legendary quarterback Peyton Manning at Monterey Peninsula Country Club on October 11, 2022. This two-time Super Bowl Champion, five-time Most Valuable Player has earned his place among the greatest quarterbacks in league history.

Known as a great motivator on and off the field, Manning will share his own experiences and insight on teamwork, leadership and motivation. Feel free to share this event with friends. [More information.](#)



### **Grand Winter Ball**

DECEMBER 3, 2022

In the ballroom of the historic Hotel Del Monte, we host an evening of live music, dancing, delicious food and drink, and wonderful company. Each December this magical evening will transport you to a winter wonderland complete with snow, trees, lights and a musical red-carpet entrance to remember. [More information.](#)

To purchase a sponsored table, [contact the NPS Foundation.](#)

## **In Case You Missed It:**

### **China is Running Covert Operations That Could Seriously Overwhelm Us**

By Nigel Inkster, former director of operations and intelligence at Britain's Secret Intelligence Service

The U.S. and British intelligence chiefs — the FBI director, Christopher Wray, and the MI5 director general, Ken McCallum — signaled rising concern over this with an unprecedented joint news conference in July to warn of, as



Mr. Wray put it, a “breathtaking” Chinese effort to steal technology and economic intelligence and to influence foreign politics in Beijing’s favor. The pace was quickening, they said, with the number of MI5 investigations into suspected Chinese activity having increased sevenfold since 2018. [Read more.](#)

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## **C2 Superiority in an Era of Technological Competition**

By Lt. Chris Britt, MS in Cyber Systems and Operations '22, Lt. Andre Leon, MS in Computer Science '22, and Dr. Britta Hale, Assistant Profesor, Computer Science

Considering the recent cyber actions taken by Russia against Ukraine, the peer rival threat is real and more tangible than ever before. There is an increasing need for speed and security in sensors and unmanned assets. As called for in the 2021 Navy Science and Technology Strategy for IAS, the DOD must keep pace with shifting threats and technology by fundamentally redesigning the journey from science and technology to adapting warfighting capability. [Read more.](#)



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## **Faces of NPS: Homeland Security and Defense**

[\*\*NASA's DART spacecraft successfully slams into asteroid in historic test of planetary defense\*\*](#)

[\*\*For JADC2, Pentagon must guard innovation through cumbersome acquisition: Report\*\*](#)

[\*\*White House Unveils Pacific Islands Strategy at Historic Summit\*\*](#)

[\*\*US Senators Call for Coordinated Strategy in Confronting China\*\*](#)

[\*\*Here are the new leaders of the Space Force and US Strategic Command\*\*](#)

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