



May 9, 2016

VADM Ronald Route
President, Naval Postgraduate School
1 University Circle
Monterey, CA 93943

Dear President Route,

The intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance mission is integral to the Department of Defense, security of the United States, and the mission of the United States Navy. The National Reconnaissance Office's Ground Enterprise Directorate has been at the forefront of technology innovation in this domain and is focused on maintaining its strong technical leadership position. An important element in our success is our people. Keeping our world-class workforce at the cutting edge of discovery and innovation are critical to the delivery of ground solutions that enable information dominance for our forces.

In this regard, I strongly endorse the Data Science Graduate Certificate Program that is currently being developed by the Naval Postgraduate School's Operations Research Department and would like to offer an opportunity to pilot your first offering with students from our workforce. My staff recently met with NPS' Center for Multi-INT Studies (CMIS), and left encouraged by this opportunity to increase our intellectual capacity and hone our skills in the data science disciplines.

I am pleased to discuss this further and work with your faculty and staff to realize this excellent opportunity. My point of contact for this matter is Dr. Oliver King, (703) 808-0799.

Warmest Regards,

Col. Tim Gillespie

Director

Integrated Intelligence System Program Office

Ground Enterprise Directorate