



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
1000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

SECNAVINST 1524.2C
ASN (M&RA)
October 21, 2014

SECNAV INSTRUCTION 1524.2C

From: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: POLICIES CONCERNING THE NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. Chapter 605
(b) SECNAVINST 12534.1C of 18 October 2005
(c) 5 U.S.C. §4107
(d) 42 U.S.C. §4742

Encl: (1) Academic Programs
(2) Research
(3) Faculty
(4) Admission Policy

1. Purpose. To update and clarify policies concerning the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS). Detailed information pertaining to the NPS can be found in enclosures (1) through (4).

2. Cancellation. SECNAVINST 1524.2B.

3. Background. Reference (a) authorizes the operation of the NPS under the purview of the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV). To perform effectively in peace and in war, Navy and Marine Corps officers must understand the technologies inherent to the capabilities of their weapons systems and ships, the way in which such capabilities are synergistically integrated and operated within tactical organizations, the manner in which such tactical organizations contribute to the fulfillment of a coherent national strategy, and the way in which resources may be used most efficiently to meet the requirements of such a national strategy. The professional development and education of Navy and Marine Corps officers must, therefore, give them both the knowledge to operate in an increasingly sophisticated technological environment and an appreciation of our nation's defense objectives to include the supporting maritime strategy. Accordingly, the Department of the Navy (DON) offers a number of professional development and education programs designed to prepare Navy and Marine Corps officers for their challenging leadership roles. NPS is a key part of meeting the higher

education needs of the DON. NPS is critical to continued naval maritime dominance, defense imperatives, and national interests.

4. Applicability. This instruction applies to the Office of the SECNAV, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), the NPS, and all Navy and Marine Corps organizations supporting, working with, or receiving support from the NPS.

5. Policy

a. Rationale for NPS. The NPS exists for the primary purpose of increasing the combat effectiveness of the Navy and Marine Corps. It accomplishes this by providing post-baccalaureate degree and non-degree programs in a variety of sub-specialty, academic, and professional areas not available through other educational institutions. The NPS also supports the DON through continuing programs of naval and maritime research and through the maintenance of an expert faculty capable of working in, or as advisors to, operational commands, laboratories, systems commands, and headquarters activities of the Navy and Marine Corps. Education is the Navy's asymmetric advantage in developing leaders with the attributes necessary to innovate, adapt, and succeed in planning and delivering maritime joint warfighting and support capabilities; to meet strategic challenges and maintain our maritime dominance; and to exploit strategic opportunities in a dynamic and complex security environment. The contributions of the NPS to the combat effectiveness of the Navy and the Marine Corps reflect:

(1) Its ability to develop and offer unique academic programs with associated research opportunities, e.g., Undersea Warfare, Cyber Warfare, etc., that are unavailable elsewhere because of lack of civilian interest, uneconomically small classes, constraints on classified research, and the absence of relevant expertise and experience.

(2) Its flexibility in tailoring general educational subjects to the particular needs and interests of the military, e.g. systems engineering, security studies, organization, space technology, and acquisition and resource management.

(3) Its ability to meet the DON requirements, rapidly and effectively, by creating and adapting relevant programs and terminating obsolete programs.

(4) The encouragement of a professional dialogue among students and faculty engaged in related efforts to solve significant military problems.

(5) The cultivation of a unique pool of specialized faculty whose expertise is particularly relevant and useful to the Department of Defense (DoD).

(6) The diversity of the student body, which includes members of the other services, other nations, and government civilians, provides shared experiences and facilitates relationships that contribute to combat effectiveness and enhances the long-term national security strategy.

b. NPS Mission. 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, NPS and the DON foster and encourage a program of relevant and meritorious research which both supports the needs of the Navy and the DoD while building the intellectual capital of the NPS faculty.

c. General Program Guidance. The programs of education and associated research at the NPS must be uniformly excellent and must meet the requirements of the Naval Service:

(1) The NPS shall strive to benefit the Naval Services through the education of Navy and Marine Corps service members. NPS programs must provide students the latest technological, managerial, and policy knowledge relevant to their future duty assignments, as well as an appreciation of the fundamentals of the maritime strategy and concepts of naval warfare. Such programs must enhance the ability of students to effectively use the knowledge and critical thinking skills gained at the NPS in their future military careers.

(2) The NPS must support the Navy and Marine Corps with faculty research, faculty advice to DON officials, and work by faculty (both military and civilian) in operational units,

laboratories, systems commands, and headquarters of the Navy and Marine Corps. To that end, programs will be instituted by DON and NPS to assure continuing interaction between NPS faculty and DON organizations.

6. Support of the NPS

a. Navy and Marine Corps organizations shall work with the NPS to ensure that the NPS's educational offerings satisfy their requirements. To achieve this objective, DON leaders shall, where possible and appropriate, attempt to involve NPS faculty and students in their organizations' operations, activities, and research. DON organizations shall cooperate with the President, NPS to provide experience tours in their organizations for NPS faculty and students.

b. The development and maintenance of educational excellence requires stable resource support. Superior faculty and facilities require relatively constant funding levels for development, maintenance, and growth. The CNO is responsible for ensuring that the NPS receives adequate and stable fiscal and manpower support within the DON.

7. Responsibilities

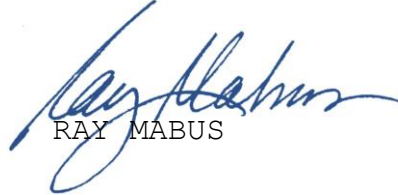
a. The Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) is responsible for the overall supervision of the procedural guidance and requirements under this instruction.

b. The CNO is responsible for providing execution oversight and implementing guidance to the NPS pursuant to this instruction.

c. The President of the NPS is responsible for executing the guidance in this instruction and operating the NPS per this instruction and supplemental guidance from the CNO.

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8. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per SECNAV Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.



RAY MABUS

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ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

1. Objectives. The objectives of graduate degree programs at the NPS are to prepare officers to fill sub-specialty and leadership positions and to reinforce the self-discipline, integrity, and intellectual standards of the officer corps of the Naval Services.

2. Guidance. The following direction is provided for implementation by the CNO and the President, NPS.

a. The focus of curricula at the NPS shall be on increasing the combat effectiveness of the Navy and Marine Corps.

b. Programs of education shall not be offered at the NPS if programs of comparable cost, quality, and focus are readily available at other institutions.

c. The President of the NPS shall ensure that all educational programs at NPS are uniformly excellent. Graduate degree and non-degree programs in technical, non-technical, and interdisciplinary fields shall be established by the President of the NPS in response to Navy and Marine Corps requirements.

d. The NPS may conduct education pilot programs to establish new naval curricula to meet emerging naval requirements. Pilot programs shall have a well-defined purpose, fully articulated costs and sources of funding, targeted population, limited duration, and factors to evaluate success. Pilot programs shall be approved by the Advanced Education Review Board. Transition from a pilot to a permanent program will require demonstration of the intended effect to meet a validated requirement in a cost-wise manner and approval through the resource planning, programming, and budgeting processes.

e. Resident DON students shall have the opportunity to participate in strategy and naval warfare focused courses embedded within their respective curricula, as well as in the Joint Professional Military Education (JPME) offered through the Naval War College program at NPS. JPME provides courses in strategy and war, theater security decision making, and joint maritime operations. Curriculum sponsors and community managers shall determine the requirement for JPME for DON students enrolled at NPS.

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f. The President of the NPS shall conduct an active professional lecture series for Navy and Marine Corps students at the School. Lectures by high-level authorities shall be scheduled at regular intervals during the academic year with the objective of bringing a broad level of awareness of current defense and national security topics to the faculty and students at the NPS.

g. Each curriculum leading to an academic degree shall be formally reviewed every 2 years by the curriculum sponsor. NPS shall maintain an ongoing dialog with curriculum sponsors to ensure curriculum relevancy, sound investment of limited resources, and that educational content fulfills the needs of the DON.

RESEARCH

1. The collaborative generation of new knowledge through research is an essential component of graduate education. An active academic research program is vital to the quality of education provided to students, the attraction and retention of exceptional faculty members, and the provision of real-time, directly relevant deliverables to government sponsors.
2. Primarily, relevant research informs NPS graduate level curricula and ensures that classroom instruction is not stagnant or uninformed. NPS students are the greatest beneficiaries of the wide range of relevant research programs available to them and this research enterprise underpins graduate-level thesis and capstone work. It also enables faculty to stay current with cutting edge issues of their disciplines, make progress in answering problems of importance to the DON, understand major technical and scientific issues facing naval forces, and involve students in attacking some of the most complex problems of today and into the future.
3. As a top-tier post-graduate institute, NPS shall continue to engage in the research necessary to meet the needs of the students, faculty, and the DON. The President of the NPS may accept qualifying research grants under the conditions of section 7050 of reference (a).

FACULTY

1. Faculty at the NPS shall be fully competent in their areas of academic expertise, and they shall also be able to apply their expertise in support of the Naval Services. DON and NPS policies shall support the selection and the development of faculty at NPS having both academic and naval expertise.

2. Faculty programs shall emphasize and reward teaching excellence; consulting expertise with operational commands and other DON organizations; contributions to the work of DON laboratories, systems commands, and headquarters staffs; and other faculty efforts, which enhance the effectiveness and prestige of the Naval Services. Civilian faculty compensation is governed by reference (b). The NPS faculty evaluation system for pay, promotion, and tenure shall reflect an emphasis on:

- a. The quality of instruction;
- b. Faculty contributions to knowledge, e.g., publications and research; and
- c. The active application of that knowledge to the missions of the Navy and Marine Corps.

ADMISSION POLICY

1. Per reference (a), the primary function of the NPS is the instruction and education of naval officers. The inclusion of a variety of students into the classroom enhances the learning experience overall. Additionally, the broader understanding and crossover engagement ultimately enhances the combat effectiveness of the Navy and Marine Corps.

2. NPS may admit qualified students as follows.

a. Other U.S. military officers and enlisted members under the conditions of section 7045 of reference (a).

b. Military officers of foreign countries under the conditions of section 7046 of reference (a).

c. Students from accredited institutions of higher learning having a reciprocal agreement with the NPS under the conditions of section 7047 of reference (a).

d. Defense industry civilians under the conditions of section 7049 of reference (a).

e. DoD and other Federal Government civilians under the conditions of reference (c).

f. State and local government employees for federal professional training programs under the conditions set forth in reference (d).