The U.S. Naval War College

Graduation Ceremony

6 March 2013

HISTORY OF THE U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

Founded in Newport, Rhode Island on October 6, 1884, the U.S. Naval War College is the oldest war college in the world. Commodore Stephen B. Luce was the first president and organized the War College as a place to study the highest aspects of the military profession, defining it as "a place of original research on all questions relating to war and to statesmanship connected with war, or the prevention of war." These foundations were built upon by Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan, second president of the College, who had originally been selected by Luce to initiate the course in Naval History. Of all the men who were to influence the institution in its early years, none was to have a more profound impact. Mahan's views deeply affected such leaders as Henry Cabot Lodge and Theodore Roosevelt and through them and others helped shape the United States' destiny at the turn of the century. Mahan's Naval War College lectures, published as *The Influence of Sea Power Upon History, 1660–1783* (1890), gained him worldwide acclaim and first established the U.S. Naval War College as an internationally respected institution. Other early faculty members made pioneering contributions to hallmark areas of enduring interest for the College. Among them were Charles Stockton, who drafted the first international law code for naval warfare in 1898, and William McCarty Little, who developed the art of naval war gaming between 1886 and 1914.

Functioning continuously since 1884, except for brief periods during the Spanish-American War and World War I, the War College numbers among its graduates such distinguished naval officers as Admirals Sims, Spruance, King, Nimitz, and Halsey, in addition to many others who today are holding prominent positions, such as Ambassador Maura Connelly (U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Lebanon), Admiral James "Sandy" Winnefeld (Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff), Admiral Robert Papp (Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard), General Raymond Odierno (Chief of Staff of the Army), General Håkan Syrén of the Swedish Navy (Chairman of the European Union Military Committee), Admiral James Stavridis (Commander, U.S. European Command and Supreme Allied Commander, Europe), General C. Robert Kehler (Commander, U.S. Strategic Command), and General Carter F. Ham (Commander, U.S. Africa Command).

The work begun more than one hundred years ago by Luce and Mahan continues today. As graduates well know, the curriculum is both demanding and rewarding. For the military professional, the unique education provided by the Naval War College is unrivaled. In recognition of the academic rigor and educational excellence of its program, the U.S. Naval War College has been accredited since 1991 by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges to award a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION AND REGALIA

For centuries, institutions of higher learning have dignified their ceremonies with an academic procession, a custom descending from the clerical procession. The procession is led by a marshal, followed by the student body and the academicians or faculty, attired in the robes prescribed for their respective degrees. Distinguished visitors and delegates follow the faculty, and last in the procession comes the president of the institution.

Each member of an academic procession ordinarily wears a cap, gown, and hood. In the procession today military faculty will not wear academic gowns. The earliest illustration of gowns worn at Oxford University somewhat resembles cassocks worn by English teachers who found good use for the hood, or cowl, as protection against the weather. A uniform American system of academic heraldry displays the level of degree, the field of study in which it was earned, and the institution by which it was granted.

It is the hood which provides academic regalia its color and offers the most information about its wearer. The silk lining of the hood bears the color, or colors, of the degree-granting college or university; its velvet facing reveals the color assigned to each area of study. The Bachelor's gown is relatively simple, falling in straight lines from an elaborate yoke and having pointed sleeves. The Master's gown is slightly more elaborate and fastens about the wrist. The Doctor's gown is marked by velvet panels down the front and around the neck, as well as by three bars of the same material on the well-shaped sleeves. It is cut more fully and may be ornamented. The hood worn is three feet in length for Bachelors, three and one-half feet for Masters, and four feet for Doctorates, with velvet trimming of two, three, and five inches in width respectively.

The edging, or facing, velvet of academic hoods indicates the area of study. The principal scholarly fields seen in the procession today include:

Philosophy	*Dark Blue*
Arts, Letters, Humanities	*White*
Business Administration	*Light Brown*
Economics	*Copper*
Engineering	*Orange*
Law	*Purple*
International Affairs/Public Administration	*Peacock Blue*

The American mortarboard, derived from the soft Oxford cap, is black. Its tassel, for holders of the bachelor's and master's degree, is usually black, while gold tassels are worn by holders of doctoral degrees and heads of institutions. The tassel is worn on the right side of the cap by undergraduates, on the left by holders of bachelor's and higher degrees.

PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies

Captain Raymond F. Keledei, U.S. Navy
Dean of Students

Procession of Students

Arrival of Official Party*

National Anthem*

Musician Second Class Nina Church, U.S. Navy
Navy Band Northeast

Invocation*

Chaplain Douglas E. Rosander
Commander, U.S. Navy
U.S. Naval War College Chaplain

Introduction

Colonel Mark Elliott Solomons, U.S. Army
College of Naval Warfare, Class of 2013

Graduation Address

Dr. John H. Maurer
Chair, Strategy and Policy Department

Presentation of Diplomas

Charge to Graduates

Rear Admiral John N. Christenson, U.S. Navy
President, U.S. Naval War College

Benediction*

Chaplain Douglas E. Rosander
Commander, U.S. Navy
U.S. Naval War College Chaplain

*Guests please stand

Rear Admiral John N. Christenson
President, U.S. Naval War College

Rear Adm. Christenson became the 53rd president of the U.S. Naval War College, March 30, 2011. The fourth of six sons of a Navy Skyraider pilot and a Navy nurse, he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1981.

At sea, he commanded USS *McClusky* (FFG 41); Destroyer Squadron 21 in USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74); and Carrier Strike Group 12, the USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65) Strike Group, and most recently served as president, Board of Inspection and Survey. He also served as the anti-submarine warfare officer and main propulsion assistant aboard USS *Cook* (FF 1083); aide to commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group 1 in USS *Long Beach* (CGN 9); weapons officer aboard USS *Downes* (FF 1070); Destroyer Squadron 21 combat systems officer in USS *Nimitz* (CVN 68); and as executive officer aboard USS *Harry W. Hill* (DD 986). He deployed eight times on seven ships and twice in command of *McClusky*.

Ashore, he commanded the Surface Warfare Officers School in Newport, and as a new flag officer he served as commander, Naval Mine and Anti-submarine Warfare Command, Corpus Christi, Texas. He also served at the U.S. Naval Academy as a company officer, celestial navigation instructor, assistant varsity soccer coach and member of the admissions board; at Headquarters, United States Marine Corps in the Strategic Initiatives Group; on the Joint Staff, J5 and as executive assistant to the assistant chairman.

He graduated with distinction, and first in his class from the Naval War College, earning his Master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. He was also a Navy Federal Executive Fellow at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Christenson has been awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (five awards), the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (five awards) and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Dr. John H. Maurer
Chair, Strategy and Policy Department
U.S. Naval War College

Professor John H. Maurer serves as the Chair of the Strategy and Policy Department at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. He is a graduate of Yale University and holds an M.A.L.D. and Ph.D. in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. Before joining the faculty of the Naval War College, he served as executive editor of *Orbis: A Journal of World Affairs,* and held the position of senior research fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute. He served on the Secretary of the Navy's advisory committee on naval history. In addition, he is the author or editor of books examining the outbreak of the First World War, military interventions in the developing world, naval arms control between the two world wars, and a study about Winston Churchill's views on British foreign policy and strategy. His current research includes work on Winston Churchill and Great Britain's decline as a world power, and great power arms competitions. In June 2001, he received the U.S. Navy's Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

Ambassador (Ret.) Mary Ann Peters
Provost, U.S. Naval War College

Ambassador Mary Ann Peters became the fourth provost of the U.S. Naval War College on September 18, 2008. Previously, she was dean of academics of the College of International and Security Studies at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. Prior to becoming the dean of the college, Ambassador Peters served as associate director for international liaison at the Marshall Center.

Ambassador Peters spent more than 30 years as a career diplomat with the U.S. Department of State. From 2000 to 2003, Ambassador Peters served as the U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh, leading the mission's efforts in support of the war on terrorism and other key U.S. foreign policy goals. She received a Presidential Meritorious Service Award in 2003 for her work in Bangladesh. Prior to her posting in Dhaka, Ambassador Peters was the deputy chief of mission at the United States Embassy in Ottawa, Canada, responsible for the management of the embassy and supervision of the six U.S. consulates general in Canada.

From 1995 to 1997, Ambassador Peters served in the White House as Director for European and Canadian Affairs at the National Security Council. Among other portfolios in this position, Ambassador Peters worked on the diplomatic and security aspects of the search for peace in Northern Ireland. From 1993 to 1994, Ambassador Peters served as deputy assistant secretary of state with oversight responsibility for U.S. relations with 19 Western European countries and Canada. In this capacity she acted as the U.S. chair of the U.S.-Canada military coordination body, the Permanent Joint Board on Defense. A senior diplomat, fluent in six foreign languages, Ambassador Peters has also served in Sofia, Bulgaria, as deputy chief of mission; in Moscow as economic counselor; and in Mandalay, Burma, as principal officer. From 1988 to 1990, Ambassador Peters was the deputy director of the Office of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh Affairs in the State Department. She began her career as a vice-consul in Frankfurt in 1975.

Ambassador Peters holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Santa Clara University and a Master's in International Studies from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. Her formal education also included courses at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris. She is married to Timothy McMahon, a teacher. They have two children: Maggie and Blaise.

Ambassador Peters is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and Women in International Security.

Professor William R. Spain
Associate Provost, U.S. Naval War College

Since 2001, Bill Spain has been involved in nearly every aspect of the U.S. Naval War College and Navy professional military education (PME), assisting five consecutive Presidents and four Provosts with the Naval War College's academic programs, implementing the CNO's professional military education continuum, developing the Navy's Path to Jointness, and devising a systemic approach to embedding regional and cultural education throughout Navy PME. In addition to his principal duties, he teaches two courses in the elective program—"Modern American Foreign Policy" and the "American Revolutionary War & the Colonial Military Tradition."

Before he retired from the United States Marine Corps, Colonel Spain served as the Chairman, Joint Military Operations Department, Special Assistant to the Dean of Academics for Joint Professional Education, and the H. M. Smith Chair of Expeditionary Warfare at the Naval War College. During his thirty years of active service, he commanded in three of the four Marine Corps divisions and served in all four.

Professor Spain's civilian education includes an MIT fellowship for Seminar XXI, doctoral studies and an MA in International Relations from Salve Regina University, and a BA in History from Randolph-Macon College.

Professor Spain has been awarded the Department of the Navy Superior Civilian Service and Meritorious Civilian Service Awards. In 2009, Bill received the Bud Gifford Leadership Award recognizing him as Rhode Island's Federal Supervisor-of-the-Year.

COLLEGE OF NAVAL WARFARE

Commander Andrew David Amidon, U.S. Navy
Colonel David G. Athey, U.S. Army
Commander Mark B. Baehr, U.S. Navy
Commander Robb G. Bennett, U.S. Navy
Captain Louis A. Bodnar III, CEC, U.S. Navy
Commander Thomas G. Bodnovich, MSC, U.S. Navy
Commander Joseph F. Cahill III, U.S. Navy
Commander John J. Calvert, Jr., U.S. Navy
Captain Barbara J. Coder, U.S. Navy
Commander Kenneth M. Curtin, Jr., U.S. Navy
Commander Erik C. Estenson, U.S. Navy
Commander Marc Francisco Falcke Guarin, JAGC, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Christopher Michael Guoan, U.S. Navy
Captain David C. Hagen, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Bartolome R. Jumaoas, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Ryan Logan, U.S. Navy
Commander Diane J. Quattrone, U.S. Navy
Commander Phillip A. Rogerson, U.S. Navy
Commander Rome Ruiz, U.S. Navy
Commander Mark F. Silbernagel, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Damon M. Slutz, U.S. Navy
Commander Jason Small, U.S. Navy
Colonel Mark Elliott Solomons, U.S. Army
Lieutenant Commander James W. Stewart, U.S. Navy
Commander Johnetta C. Thomas, SC, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Colonel James B. Wellons, U.S. Marine Corps
Lieutenant Commander Kevin P. Zayac, U.S. Navy
Lieutenant Commander Travis W. Zettel, U.S. Navy

US Naval War College

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"The War College is a place of original research on all questions relating to war and to statesmanship connected with war, or the prevention of war."

Rear Admiral Stephen B. Luce, Founding President

U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

Est. 1884

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