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## Provost's Corner v.2:3

Gartner, Scott S.

Monterey, California: Naval Postgraduate School

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## Office of the Provost **PROVOST'S CORNER**

Vol. 2, Issue 3

### FROM THE PROVOST AND ACADEMIC DEAN'S DESK:



Dear Colleagues,

Like many of you, "how" questions dominate my day. Our problem solving ranges in scale from the specific, "How can I support a teammate with a need?" to the general, "How are we going to transform our school?" At each level, individual through institution, the answers to how we operate are critical to those impacted and our success. Yet, despite this importance, I spend so much time on the "how" that sometimes I fear I forget the "why." Over the last 10 days, the why has come into sharp focus through two experiences.

First, I was deeply moved from talking at length with three of our current Ukrainian students, joined by President Rondeau and the Deputy of the International Graduate Programs Office (IGPO). To say that these officers are impressive is an understatement. In the face of daily threats to family, colleagues, and country, they remain steadfast, optimistic, clear-sighted, professional, and proud. It is no wonder that Ukraine's forces have blunted the seemingly overwhelming attack. While painfully eager to return home and engage in their national fight, they understand that their NPS education will make them more effective warriors for their country, and they remain committed to their studies. Their grace is awe-inspiring and provides a clear answer as to why do we do what we do.



Second, a few days before, while meeting with Pacific Fleet, I had the opportunity for the first time to visit the USS Arizona/Pearl Harbor National Memorial. Recognizing and memorializing the attack and losses of December 7, 1941, the USS Arizona Memorial tells a story that is simultaneously solemn, tragic, heroic, and historical. It drives home the importance of readiness, assessment, and sacrifice.

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Each drop of oil that bubbles to the surface and each name that is read on the wall crystalizes the sacrifices of our sailors and Marines. We must both remember them and do our utmost to defend our nation from current and future threats. This is why we and NPS are here.

Our days are noisy, busy with the thundering drumbeat of answering and executing the how. This past week, these experiences drove me to find solace in a moment of calm, reconnecting with the why. I encourage you all to focus and reflect on your answers as to why you, our school, and our students are here. If you feel comfortable, share your answers with teammates, and perhaps with me on Friday mornings at Starbucks.

In deepest gratitude and respect for your service and commitment to NPS, the United States, and democracy.

V/R  
Scott

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## NPS...NEXT TRANSFORMATION UPDATE



On Thursday, 31 March at 1500 in King Hall, the President and I will be hosting a townhall on transformation, discussing with you where we are on our transformation journey and what we see as the way ahead to achieve our vision.

Recent engagements with external stakeholders underscore the criticality of our transformation efforts to be the nation's premier, defense-focused, graduate education and research institution, urgently and ruthlessly focused on delivering leaders and solutions prepared for the contemporary battlespace.

The President and I will provide progress updates on our journey to NPS Next aligned to the priorities in her [2022 Intent](#), the status of pending efforts/decisions and host Q&A with our LOE leads. Much has been done, and we are on our way.

Details:

1. **Who:** Faculty, staff (students not required)
2. **What:** Trip and visit highlights, NPS Next updates and Q&A
3. **When:** 31 March, Thursday 1500–1600
4. **Where:** King Hall or TeamsLive link ([NPS.edu account holders click here](#))

Advance questions can be submitted to the Ask The President wiki [here](#) or to the NPS Next general email at [transformation@nps.edu](mailto:transformation@nps.edu).

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The Teaching and Learning Commons (TLC) is pleased to announce the SEAL Education Grants awardees for FY22:

Dr. Frank A. Narducci (Professor, Physics Department), Ms. Corina White (Lecturer, Systems Engineering Department), Ms. Kristen Tsois (Lecturer, Department of Defense Analysis) and Ms. Jessica Herman (Professor of Practice, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering).

The SEAL education grants look for projects that expand assessment practices to measure student learning—specifically the acquisition and application of knowledge, skills, and attitudes, as well as professional competencies, demonstrated by the achievement of educational outcomes.

For more details about this year awardees and their projects visit the [SEAL Education Grants Awardees—FY 22](#).

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## ANNOUNCING TIP: THE ART & SCIENCE OF LEARNING



P E T A A L  
Promoting Excellence in Teaching to Advance Learning

Theory into Practice (TIP) seminars leverage principles of learning to enhance instruction through thematic discussion and sharing of ideas between faculty campus wide.

This TIP series introduces efficiencies and practical exercises for faculty who want to incorporate educational technologies to prioritize the use of instructional time in ways that structure and engage students in productive learning.

Participants will discuss and share strategies for:

- innovative content presentation,
- techniques to improve student engagement,
- learning experiences in multiple environments, and
- creating efficiencies for feedback and assessments of learning.

Participants who want to experiment with and integrate new instructional strategies may apply for a mini grant through the Office of Teaching and Learning.

[Please use this form to register for the seminar series.](#)

For more information, contact the presenters:

[Ali Rodgers—Director of Faculty Development, OTL](#)

[Ana Eckhart—Coordinator of Educational Innovation, GEAC](#)

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## 2022 PORTRAIT OF WOMEN IN THE SERVICES

In observance of Women's History Month, [this infographic](#) highlights interesting facts and data points regarding military and civilian women in the Department of Defense.



## WRITING COACHING DROP-IN HOURS HAVE RETURNED ON CAMPUS!

The [Graduate Writing Center's library drop-in desk](#) has reopened! Students can stop by the first floor of the library Monday through Friday, 11:00–13:00, to meet with a writing coach. No appointment needed; first-come, first served.

For more information, contact the GWC, [writingcenter@nps.edu](mailto:writingcenter@nps.edu).

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## GEAC OPENS LIGHTBOARD VIDEO STUDIO

The lightboard in the Graduate Education Advancement Center (GEAC) video studio is now available for faculty use! A transparent whiteboard made of glass with internal lighting to make writing with colored markers glow, the lightboard can be used in recorded video lectures. GEAC can help you prepare, record, and edit lectures using the lightboard.



Using a lightboard helps instructors create presentations that feel personal to the viewer and can also make presenting handwritten content more efficient for both instructors and students. [Learn more about the lightboard on the TLC website here.](#)

Interested in testing it out? Please email us at [GEACInstrDesign@nps.edu](mailto:GEACInstrDesign@nps.edu) to schedule a time.

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## COVID-19 UPDATES

For specific information on Coronavirus for university faculty, students, and staff, and the latest updates from NPS leadership, [visit the NPS community's COVID-19 website](#).

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## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

**Mar 21:** Reporting Date (U.S. Students)

**Mar 25:** [Winter Quarter Graduation Ceremony](#)

**Mar 28:** First day of classes

**Mar 29:** [SGL with Rear Admiral Blake Converse](#)

**Mar 31:** Town Hall (faculty/staff)

**Apr 19-21:** [Naval Research Working Group \(NRWG\)](#)

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## OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AT THE NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

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If you would like to submit an item for consideration in future Provost Corners, [click here](#).