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# Daniel T. Oliver, President, Naval Postgraduate School (Biographical Essay)

Naval Postgraduate School Committee on the Future

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**Daniel T. Oliver**  
**President, Naval Postgraduate School**

Vice Admiral Daniel T. Oliver USN (Ret.) was appointed by the Secretary of the Navy to be President of the Naval Postgraduate School as of 1 April 2007. Commissioned in 1966 through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Virginia, he became a Naval Aviator and piloted the Navy's P-3 Maritime Patrol Aircraft, specializing in detecting and tracking submarines. He completed eight operational deployments around the world during the Cold War with the Soviet Union, commanding Patrol Squadron Sixteen and Patrol Wing Two. As a Flag Officer, he served as Commander, Fleet Air Forces Mediterranean, and commanded coalition air operations in support of the United Nations' embargo of the former Republic of Yugoslavia.

Vice Admiral Oliver served on the personal staffs of two Chiefs of Naval Operation. In his first Flag assignment as director, Total Forces Training and Education Division, he supervised mobilization of naval reservists called to active duty during Operation Desert Storm. He later served sequentially as director of the OPNAV Assessment Division, Fleet Liaison Division and Programming Division. In these capacities, he was instrumental in shaping a balanced investment program for all Navy resources during the post-Cold War drawdown.

In September 1996, Vice Admiral Oliver became the Chief of Naval Personnel and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower and Personnel. He was the primary advocate for sailors, both officer and enlisted, from recruitment through retirement. In this position, he formulated and instituted personnel policies that guided the Navy through a critical transition from a post-Cold War drawdown to a steady state force.

After retiring from active duty in February 2000, he was active in the private sector as a senior executive and board member of a number of companies and civic organizations, mostly involved with government contracting in the Information Technology sector.

Vice Admiral Oliver holds a Bachelor's and a Master's degree from the University of Virginia where he also served as an associate professor of Naval Science. Vice Admiral Oliver is a graduate of the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program and was a White House Fellow.