NETWORK UPGRADE UPDATE

The contract for the network upgrade has been awarded to Trofholz Technologies, Inc. (TTI-Tech) of Rocklin, California, which also has a remote office in Monterey. The network equipment will be from Foundry Systems and will replace the present CORE and Building Distribution Facility equipment. The upgrade will enable a 10 GB core and building infrastructure. Plans are still underway to distribute to the desktop. Additional wireless equipment is also part of the contract. For ease of management, the new wireless implementation will allow the Network Operations Center (NOC) to deploy 150 access points using two controllers. Edge devices (connectivity to the desktop), which will provide flexibility for intensive research and are covered under CLIN 3, have not been funded; however, efforts are underway to secure the $1.6 million funding for that upgrade.

Ms. Lonna Sherwin, Manager of the NOC, will work with the vendors to support the services aspects of the project.

MONTEREY PENINSULA DoD-NET EXPANDS

The Personnel Security Research Center (PERSEREC) located at Heritage Harbor Monterey, transferred their network connection to the Naval Postgraduate School and Defense Management Data Center (DMDC) from a T1 connection to the Monterey Peninsula Department of Defense Net (MP DoD-Net) ring. PERSEREC's connection to NPS is part of NPS MIL network and provides internet connectivity for their organization. The MP DoD-Net ring is a GIG network that interconnects the DoD facilities on the Monterey Peninsula. The MP DoD-Net Technical Advisory Committee meets every other month to share new technologies and projects that can be used on this ring. If you are interested in attending the next meeting in April, please contact Lonna Sherwin at lsherwin@nps.edu for more information.

ITACS LAUNCHES NAVCAST

The Academic Video Webcast (NAVCast) was launched at the end of March. NAVCast is powered by the VBrick EtherneTV system, and replaces the functionality of the legacy Webcast-in-a-box system while adding some exciting, new features. The system enables NPS to encode content in both Microsoft's Windows Media and open source MPEG4 formats, and also provides the capability to encode and stream in DVD quality MPEG2 format for sharing video content with those with larger bandwidth capabilities, such as our CENIC partners.

By being fully LDAP compliant — using standard NPS usernames and passwords to access the system, NAVCast is designed to be highly scalable to meet the needs of the projected growth within the NPS distributed learning environment.

One of the most exciting new features of NAVCast is its ability to rebroadcast television signals over the existing NPS IP network, eliminating the need to install cabling in offices and conference facilities that need access to television programming. NAVCast programming is available to internal NPS users via the NAVCast portal.

The old portal will remain for approximately six months after the V-Brick systems goes live.

External users can access NAVCast at: https://navcast.nps.edu.
Internal NPS users can access NAVCast at: https://intranet.nps.edu/navcast.

NEXT GENERATION ENTERPRISE (NGEN)

NPS joined its partners in the Navy Higher Education Information Technology Consortium (NHEITC) to participate in a six-month to assess requirements for future enterprise networks. The first interim report was completed on March 14, 2008, and a final report will be submitted in July. The IT Task Force will be involved in the review of the draft report before being shared with NPS leadership.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

The Lifecycle Management Plan (for classrooms, LRCs, conference rooms, and some labs) was presented to the Business Processes, Facilities, and Infrastructure Committee. Per President Oliver's request, a list of various campus facilities is being compiled for the Board of Advisors to visit when they meet in April.

The Spring Quarter VTE classes have been finalized and schedules have been promulgated to the program managers and the distant sites.

Mr. Harry Thomas presented a brief to the IT Task Force detailing the latest AV virtual management tool, 'Global Viewer.'

PARTNERSHIPS AND OUTREACH

A group from NPS attended the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives (CENIC) Conference in Oakland, California, from March 10-12, 2008. National Reconnaissance Chair and former Astronaut **Dan Bursch** was the keynote speaker, **Dr. Jeff Haferman** presented an "Overview of Research at the Naval Postgraduate School using High-Speed Networks and High Performance Computers."

CENIC President **Jim Dolgonas** visited NPS on Tuesday, March 18, 2008, and met with both President Oliver and Provost Ferrari.

Mr. Larry Smarr, President of the Board of CENIC and Director of the Advanced Technology Center at the University of California San Diego and CalIT2 visualization facilities visited NPS on March 27, 2008, to meet with President Oliver, Provost Ferrari and members of NPS academic departments to discuss high bandwidth requirements and research partnerships.

On March 25-26, 2008, **Dr. Jeff Haferman** attended the National High Performance Computing and Communications Council's 22nd annual government HPC and IT conference in Newport, Rhode Island.

Ms. Terri Brutzman and **Mr. Joe LoPiccolo** recently visited the Center for Asymmetric Warfare (CAW) at Pt. Magu in Oxnard, California for a tour of their facilities. The visit was an important step toward understanding the uniqueness of their geographic location as well as network connectivity challenges

Stakeholders for NPS' distributed learning initiative met with the Director of the Advanced Distributed Learning Initiative for the Office of the Secretary of Defense **Dr. Robert Wishe**r on March 19, 2008, to share ideas on furthering standards for learning object repositories. Discussion included *Elluminate,* VBrick, training, modalities, growth, challenges, problem-solving, and costs of IT support for distributed learning.

Anyone who would like to schedule the same kind of session, but specifically focused on his/her department, is welcome to contact **Mr. Joe LoPiccolo** at Ext. 2994.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE CENTER (TAC)

From March 1 through March 27, the Technology Assistance Center (TAC) received 2,020 requests for assistance, 1,722 of which were resolved by the Tier 1/Tier 2 areas. The remaining 289 requests for assistance were resolved by other groups within ITACS.

Requests for assistance were categorized as follows:

- Phone: 1,100
- Walk-in: 521
- Email: 330
- Web: 69

The top five categories of calls for this month were IT services, which includes such items as Password Reset, Software Check-Out/Check-In, Locked Account and General Questions; Software; Networking; Information Security and Hardware.

92% of all requests were resolved within the Service Level Agreements (SLA). Those that are carried over are awaiting parts, pending information from the customer, etc.

TAC also processed 40 incoming resident students, and provided two briefings on TAC services for incoming Distributed Learning students — one for EMBA and one for MSSE program students.