

U.S. NAVAL INSTITUTE 2015 BALLOT I Candidate Profiles

The profiles below are provided to inform U.S. Naval Institute members about Board of Directors and Editorial Board candidates. Each candidate was invited to provide 150 words. These lists are arranged alphabetically.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

RADM Daniel R. Bowler, USN (Ret.)

Rear Admiral Bowler, President, The Whitehall Group, LLC, is a 1970 U.S. Naval Academy graduate and served in the Navy nearly 33 years as a surface warfare officer. He commanded the USS *Leftwich* (DD-984), USS *Chosin* (CG-65), COMCRUDESGRU FIVE, and the National War College. Following retirement, from 2003 to 2009 he worked for Lockheed Martin Corporation's Washington Operations office as the Vice President for Naval Systems. He served on the Naval Studies Board in 2006-7. He was an Associate Member of the Naval Research Advisory Committee from 2008 to 2010. In 2009 he established The Whitehall Group, LLC, a defense consulting company. Rear Admiral Bowler served on the Naval Institute's Editorial Board from 1996 to 1998. He is a former contributor to *Proceedings* and has been a member of the Institute since 1970.

VADM Sally Brice-O'Hara, USCG (Ret.)

Vice Admiral Brice-O'Hara retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in July 2012. During 37 years of active duty, she achieved several firsts for women, but is most proud to have been a role model and inspiration to all members of the service.

At the time of her retirement she was the 27th Vice Commandant, second in command and Chief Operating Officer of the Coast Guard. Other flag assignments included: Deputy Commandant for Operations; Commander, Fourteenth Coast Guard District; Director of Reserve and Training; Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District; and Director of Personnel Management.

An Annapolis native, she graduated from Goucher College in 1974. She holds advanced degrees from the Harvard Kennedy School and National War College.

Vice Admiral Brice-O'Hara serves on the Board of the Coast Guard Foundation and the Coast Guard Academy Board of Trustees.

VADM Nancy E. Brown, USN (Ret.)

Vice Admiral Brown retired as Director, Command, Control, Communications, and Computer Systems, The Joint Staff on 1 October 2009. She has served as an Outside Director of Systematic Software, on the Board of Advisors for Enlightened Inc. and Kingfisher Systems Inc., and is currently the Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of the U.S. Naval Institute.

Highlights of her career include command of the Naval Computer and Telecommunications

Station Cutler, Maine, and Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Atlantic, Norfolk. She served on the NSC staff at the White House and was Deputy Director, White House Military Office. In 2004 she deployed to Iraq, becoming the first Multi-National Force-Iraq C6. Returning in April 2005 she was assigned as the J6 for both North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command.

CAPT Fred W. Kacher, USN

Captain Kacher graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and currently serves as Commander, Destroyer Squadron SEVEN. A former commanding officer of the USS *Stockdale* (DDG-106), he has served at sea on multiple ships deploying throughout the Atlantic and the Pacific.

Ashore, he has served as special assistant to the Secretary of the Navy, speechwriter to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and earned a master's degree in public policy from Harvard's Kennedy School. In 2006, he was selected as a White House Fellow, where he worked on homeland defense and counterterrorism policy in the White House.

A frequently published and longtime USNI member, he is the author of the *Newly Commissioned Naval Officer's Guide* (Naval Institute Press, 2009). Since 2012, he has led USNI's Young Leaders Group, a network dedicated to connecting rising leaders with the Institute that has contributed to more than 40 articles and one book by its members.

ADM Richard W. Mies, USN (Ret.)

Admiral Mies completed a distinguished 35-year career in the Navy and commanded U.S. Strategic Command for four years prior to retirement in 2002. He was a Senior Vice President of Science Applications International Corporation from 2002 to 2007. He also served as the chairman of the Department of Defense Threat Reduction Advisory Committee from 2004 to 2010 and as chairman of the board of the Navy Mutual Aid Association from 2003 to 2011.

He presently serves as the Chairman of the Strategic Advisory Group of U.S. Strategic Command and Chairman of the Naval Submarine League. He is a member of the Boards of Governors of Los Alamos National Laboratory and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and is a member of the Board of Directors of Babcock and Wilcox, Exelon, and the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation. He completed postgraduate education at Oxford University, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, and Harvard University.

EDITORIAL BOARD CANDIDATES

LCDR Benjamin "BJ" Armstrong, USN

Lieutenant Commander Armstrong is a naval aviator and helicopter pilot who has served as an HH-46D search-and-rescue and special-warfare pilot, an advanced flight instructor, and as the officer-in-charge of a deployed MH-60S armed helo detachment. He has also served on board ship and holds OOD and CDO (under way) designations. He is currently serving in the Navy Secretariat.

Lieutenant Commander Armstrong holds an MA in military history from Norwich University and is a research student pursuing his MPhil/PhD in the Department of War Studies at King's College, London. He has published widely on naval irregular warfare, strategy, and naval education and training. His articles have appeared in *Proceedings*, *Naval History*, and the USNI Blog. He has also published numerous articles in academic journals including the *Naval War College Review* and *Infinity Journal* and has lectured at U.S. Special Operations Command, Navy Warfare Development Command, and the Naval War College. Lieutenant Commander Armstrong was awarded the 2013 Alfred Thayer Mahan Award by the Navy League of the United States and is the 2013-14 Samuel Eliot Morison Scholar with the Naval History and Heritage Command.

Col Douglas G. Douds, USMC

Colonel Douds is a faculty member at the U.S. Army War College teaching the Advanced Strategic Art Program seminar. He has served as a strategist and senior speechwriter in the Chairman's Action Group on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He commanded a Marine fighter attack squadron in Iraq prior to earning his master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College in June 2010. As an F/A-18 pilot, he has deployed multiple times, including two carrier deployments to the Mediterranean Sea and Persian Gulf and a Western Pacific deployment. He has completed the Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Instructor's course, the Navy Fighter Weapons School (Top Gun), was the top honor graduate from the Amphibious Warfare School, and received two bachelor of arts degrees, in political science and history, from Wake Forest University. Colonel Douds is an avid historian and enjoys hosting educational tours of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where he resides.

CAPT Stephen S. Erb, USN

Captain Erb grew up in a Navy family and is a 1992 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, with a bachelor of science degree in computer science.

At sea, Captain Erb has served in the USS *Tortuga* (LSD-46), USS *Vicksburg* (CG-69), as operations officer in the USS *O'Kane* (DDG-77), and on the Destroyer Squadron EIGHTEEN staff, where he was recognized as the Junior Officer Tactician of the Year from COMCRUDESGRU TWELVE. He served as executive officer of the USS *Carney* (DDG-64) and USS *Chung-Hoon* (DDG-93) and commanded the *Chung-Hoon* from May 2010 through November 2011. He has deployed to the Mediterranean, Persian Gulf, Western Pacific, Indian Ocean, and South America, including two independent Western Pacific deployments in command.

Ashore, Captain Erb has served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff (J39), and FBI Headquarters. In 2004 he earned a master of arts degree in national security and strategic studies (with distinction) from the Naval War College. He served as the 1st Battalion Officer, Officer in Charge of the Plebe Summer Regiment, and as a Military Instructor in Ethics for the Naval Officer at the Naval Academy from 2012–14. Captain Erb currently serves as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations (N3) on the staff of Commander, Naval Surface Force, Atlantic.

CTR1(SW) H. Lucien Gauthier III, USN

Petty Officer Gauthier joined the U.S. Navy in April 2006. He completed Yeoman "A" School and reported to the USS *San Antonio* (LPD-17) for duty. His service on board the *San Antonio* included the ship's maiden deployment and qualifying as an enlisted surface warfare specialist.

In October 2009 he volunteered for individual augmentee duty and was subsequently assigned to U.S. Army logistics units in Afghanistan. In early 2010 and while in Afghanistan, he was invited to blog for the U.S. Naval Institute.

Also while in Afghanistan, he was invited by Admiral James Stavridis' staff to become the admiral's Special Assistant for Strategic Communications, reporting for duty at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in early 2011, and was promoted to the position of Social Media Advisor to the SACEUR in 2012.

In 2012, he requested and was approved to cross-rate to Cryptological Technician (Collections). In early 2013 he reported to CTR "A" School, with follow-on orders to NIOC Maryland, where he qualified and currently serves as an enlisted information dominance warfare specialist.

LCDR Rachael A. Gosnell, USN

Lieutenant Commander Gosnell graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2001 with a bachelor of science degree in political science and a Spanish minor.

At sea she has served on board the USS *Shiloh* (CG-67), USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN-75), and as weapons officer and combat systems officer on board the USS *Stockdale* (DDG-106). Ashore,

Lieutenant Commander Gosnell was stationed in La Maddalena, Italy, at the Pentagon in OPNAV 513 Strategy and Policy, and served as speechwriter for the Chief of Naval Operations.

Her awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (4), Navy Achievement Medal (2), Top Gunner Award, Navy League Award, and various campaign and unit awards. She has a master's of engineering management from Old Dominion University and a master's in international security studies from Georgetown University. Lieutenant Commander Gosnell is currently assigned to the U.S. Naval Academy as a political science instructor.

SgtMaj David L. Maddux Jr., USMC

Sergeant Major Maddux currently serves as the Director of the Senior Enlisted Academy, Quantico, Virginia. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in July 1990. Sergeant Major Maddux has deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan multiple times, first as a GySgt during OIF-2 filling the billet of 1st Marine Division Frequency Manager, then as a 1stSgt with Tango Battery in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 08.01, and finally as the MACG-38 Fwd Sgt Maj for OEF 10.1 in Afghanistan. His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (2), Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal (4), Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2), Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal (6).

In addition to receiving his master's degree in business administration from Grantham University in July 2012, Sergeant Major Maddux is a distinguished graduate of all of the Marine Corps Enlisted PME courses.

CDR Stephanie A. Morrison, USCG

Commander Morrison is a 1998 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. She is currently Chief of the Waterways Management Division at Coast Guard Sector Baltimore, where she directs all Coast Guard marine events, port safety, and security at many of the marine facilities and oversees most of the Aids to Navigation operations in the northern Chesapeake Bay and National Capital Region.

Commander Morrison most recently served as the Deputy Chief of the Coast Guard Liaison Office in the U.S. House of Representatives where her duties included preparing senior Coast Guard leaders for hearings that influenced national maritime policy and directly supported Coast Guard budget initiatives. Previous assignments include executive officer on board the Coast Guard Cutter *Aspen* (WLB-208), operations officer on board the cutter *Cowslip* (WLB-277), a performance consultant at the Office of Workforce Performance and Training in Washington, DC, and military aide to the U.S. Coast Guard First District Commander in Boston. In addition, Commander Morrison was temporarily assigned to assist with the Deepwater Horizon recovery efforts

and served at the Incident Command Post Mobile, Alabama. She holds graduate degrees from San Diego State University and the U.S. Naval War College.

LCDR James "Scott" Sharrow III, USN

Lieutenant Commander Sharrow is currently a student at the College of Naval Command and Staff, U.S. Naval War College. After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2003 with a bachelor of science degree in political science, he completed nuclear power and basic submarine training, and reported to the USS *Tucson* (SSN-770) as the main propulsion assistant, chemistry and radiological controls assistant, assistant engineer, and assistant operations officer.

Following this tour, he served as operations officer at Deep Submergence Unit in San Diego where he oversaw the completion of sea trials, fleet acceptance trials, and the initial overseas deployment of the Submarine Rescue Diving and Recompression System to Exercise Bold Monarch 2008 in Norway.

Upon completion of the Submarine Officer Advanced Course, he reported to the USS *Newport News* (SSN-750) as the navigator/operations officer in May 2010. Following deployment, he led the ship through the transition into Engineered Overhaul (EOH) in Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

Lieutenant Commander Sharrow most recently served as the flag aide to the Director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program from November 2013 to January 2015.

LT Alexander P. Smith, USN

Lieutenant Smith graduated cum laude from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in 2009 with a bachelor of science degree in nautical science and logistics. Shortly after receiving his commission, he reported aboard the ballistic-missile defense destroyer USS *Milius* (DDG-69) homeported in San Diego, California, and served as the first lieutenant from July 2009–July 2011. He fleeted up to navigator on board the *Milius* in August 2011 and served in that role until detaching in August 2012.

He then reported to the George Washington University NROTC unit and served as an assistant professor of naval science. During his time at George Washington, he was hand-selected as the NSTC Navigation Course Coordinator and made positive improvements to the curriculum nationwide. Since August 2014, he has served in the House of Representatives Navy Office of Legislative Affairs.

Lieutenant Smith's personal decorations include the Navy Commendation Medal and Navy Achievement Medal with two gold stars, as well as various campaign and unit awards. He obtained a master of arts in American history from the George Washington University, while authoring multiple *Proceedings* articles and serving on the USNI Editorial Board.