



NPS IN THE NEWS

Weekly Media Report – Nov 15 - 28, 2022

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FACULTY:

[NPS Professor Completes Strong Run in “Jeopardy!” Tournament of Champions Finals](#)

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[Tyller Williamson, a CSUMB Alum, Has Been Elected Mayor of Monterey](#)

(CSUMB 18 Nov 22) ... Walter Ryce

Tyller Williamson grew up in a military family and lived all over the world, but as a young adult he decided to put down roots in Monterey. He attended and graduated from CSUMB with a degree in human communication and pre-law, and then earned an MBA from the **Naval Postgraduate School**. He became a Monterey city councilmember in 2018, and was recently elected mayor of his adopted city. He is the first openly-gay, as well as the first Black, mayor of the city. He is joined by CSUMB Pre-College Programs director, Kim Barber, who was elected to Monterey's city council.

[From Industry to Academia: Professor with Industry Experience Prepares Graduates to be Ready for Industry 4.0](#)

(Bethel University 28 Nov 22) ... Marcus Dip Silas

Carl Albing spent many years working in the industry before going into academia. As an industry veteran, he has had the opportunity to write textbooks on programming language for prominent tech learning company, O'Reilly Media. Albing joined Bethel's faculty during the pandemic in 2020... Albing started his career in academia at the U.S. Naval Academy as distinguished visiting professor, then became a research professor in the Data Science and Analytics Group at the **Naval Postgraduate School**. His time as a civilian professor with the Navy gave him his first taste of academia and his love for teaching has only grown.

ALUMNI:

[Navy Lt. Cmdr. named O'Neill Officer of the Year](#)

(Southern Maryland Chronicle 16 July 22)



Lt. Cmdr. Chad Henderson received Naval Air Station Patuxent River 2022 Admiral Merlin O'Neill Officer of the Year award during a ceremony Nov. 10 on base... Henderson is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and earned his wings in 2012. He attended the Empire Test Pilots' School in 2017 and holds a master's degree in business administration from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

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Capitol Integration, based in Bradenton, Florida has been named as one the fastest-growing companies owned or led by Florida State University alumni. They will be honored during the 6th annual Seminole 100 Celebration on Saturday, February 25, 2023... Gene's groundbreaking academic research earned him a PhD in Public Policy and Administration from Walden University. His dissertation explored the impact of congressional lobbying on contracting and the performance of democracy. He holds a Master's in Financial Management from the U.S. **Naval Postgraduate School**; and a Bachelor's degree from Florida State University.

[City of San Luis Obispo Hires New Fire Chief](#)

(Paso Robles News 21 Nov 22)

San Luis Obispo City Manager Derek Johnson has announced the appointment of Todd Tuggle as the San Luis Obispo City Fire Chief following Chief Keith Aggson's retirement on Dec. 9... Tuggle earned a master's degree in homeland security from the **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey, and a bachelor's degree from Cal Poly.

[NSWC Dahlgren Division's Isel Caro: From a Small Town in Texas to the Naval Academy and Beyond](#)

(DVIDS 15 Oct 22)

Capt. Isel Caro's life began in a single-wide trailer in the "Land of Heart's Delight," otherwise known as Falfurrias, Texas. Depending upon who you ask, the town either derived its name from the Lipan Apache language or from the name of a desert flower... Caro earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering while at the Naval Academy. He later earned a master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College and a certificate in Space Systems from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

[Amid Economic, Political Crises, Pakistan Must Choose Its Next Army Chief](#)

(Media Line 22 Nov 22) ... Arshad Mehmood

The imminent retirement of Pakistan Army Chief of Staff Gen. Qamar Javed Bajwa has placed the people of this South Asian country in a quandary over the appointment of his successor amid the nation's worst economic and political crises in memory... Bajwa is scheduled to retire on November 29, 2022, at the end of his second three-year term as army chief. A graduate of the Canadian Army Command and Staff College, the **Naval Postgraduate School**, and the US National Defense University, Bajwa had served in several operational and staff positions in the Pakistan Army.

UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS:

Dec 5: [Navy Senior Leader Seminar](#) (NSLS)

Dec 6: [NPS Defense Energy Seminar](#)

Dec 6: Fall Quarter Pre-Graduation Awards Ceremony

Dec 16: Fall Quarter Graduation



FACULTY:

NPS Professor Completes Strong Run in “Jeopardy!” Tournament of Champions Finals

(Navy.mil 23 Nov 22) ... Lt. Cmdr. Ed Early, Naval Postgraduate School Public Affairs

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For the second year in a row, Dr. Sam Buttrey treated his colleagues and students at the **Naval Postgraduate School** (NPS) to another amazing tournament run on the hit TV quiz show “Jeopardy!”

Buttrey’s winning streak – which began during last year’s “Jeopardy!” Professors Tournament – finally came to an end in the show’s prestigious Tournament of Champions, which was recorded in Los Angeles earlier this fall and televised, Oct. 31 - Nov. 21.

But the associate professor in NPS’ Operations Research department, who finished third overall behind TOC champion Amy Schneider in the tournament finals, had no regrets about his performance on the Alex Trebek Stage.

“Honestly, I think I would have been pretty satisfied if I’d won just the first game, but of course I’m excited to have made it to the finals,” said Buttrey, who joined friends and colleagues on campus Nov. 16 and 18 to watch two of his games – including his lone win in the TOC finals. “This most recent tournament was a special delight because I had watched the other competitors play. So it was neat to go up against them and see how I could do.”

Buttrey earned a \$50,000 prize for his third-place finish in the Tournament of Champions, hosted by former “Jeopardy!” champion Ken Jennings. Schneider, from Oakland, Calif., won the tournament’s grand prize of \$250,000, while Andrew He of San Francisco earned \$100,000 for finishing second.

“All of us at NPS are tremendously proud of Sam for winning the inaugural ‘Jeopardy!’ Professors Tournament last year and for his deep run this year into the finals of the Tournament of Champions,” said NPS President, retired Vice Adm. Ann Rondeau. “Sam’s colleagues and students know his wit and intellect first-hand, and I think his uplifting spirit came through on the show, amassing many fans across the country to cheer him on with us. Sam’s success reflects his – and all of our faculty and staff’s – deep dedication and service to our men and women in uniform studying here at NPS, preparing them as warrior-scholars to go back to the fleet and joint force to lead and make a difference in the defense of our nation.”

Buttrey had qualified for the Tournament of Champions thanks to his win in the 2021 Professors Tournament, which aired last December. During his run, Buttrey quickly gained a national following due to his uncanny resemblance to comedian Steve Martin, not to mention his sharp, self-deprecating wit.

What’s more, after winning the Professors Tournament, Buttrey and his wife chose to start a scholarship endowment at California State University, Monterey Bay, with more than half of his \$100,000 winnings.

“It seemed like a good idea to use the money to foster education, and we liked the idea of operating locally,” said Buttrey.

In addition to Buttrey, the Tournament of Champions field of 21 included five “super-champions” (10 wins or more), all contestants with four or more wins since 2020, the winner of the National College Championship tournament, and two “Second Chance” qualifiers.

Just as he did the year before, Buttrey advanced to the TOC finals with strong performances in the first two rounds. In the semifinals, Buttrey scored an upset victory over “super-champion” Matt Amodio, who owns the third-longest winning streak (38 games) in “Jeopardy!” history behind Jennings and Schneider.

“You have to be intimidated when you play someone like Matt or Amy, but at the same time we all know that there’s a lot of game-to-game variability – that is, there’s luck in the questions, the locations of the daily doubles, and just how you’re working the buzzer that day,” Buttrey said.

With the tournament over, Buttrey is now back at work, preparing for finals and graduation before the holidays. He’s thankful for his experience on “Jeopardy!” – although he confessed that he still hasn’t heard from a certain comedian.



"I haven't heard from Steve Martin, and at this point I don't really expect to, but I hope he'd be as amused as I am by the reactions of all the people noticing a certain similarity," Buttrey said. "And I'm glad that I was able to give off an exuberant vibe in the middle of this fairly stressful situation. I think people reacted to seeing me having fun, and I'm happy for that."

[NPS Professor Completes Strong Run in "Jeopardy!" Tournament of Champions Finals > United States Navy > News-Stories](#)

[NPS Professor Completes Strong Run in "Jeopardy!" Tournament of Champions Finals - Naval Postgraduate School](#)

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Monterey Voters Elect Gay Mayor, Out Latina Sheriff

(Bay Area Reporter 15 Nov 22) ... Matthew S. Bajko

In Monterey County voters elected as their first lesbian and first Latina sheriff Tina Nieto, who will also serve as the county coroner, in the November 8 general election. Meanwhile, in the coastal tourist mecca of Monterey, City Councilmember Tyller Williamson has become his city's first gay and first Black mayor.

Currently the police chief of the seaside city Marina, Nieto is a 33-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department. Once sworn into office, she will be the first out LGBTQ Latina sheriff in California.

As Nieto noted on her Twitter handle, she is "Sheriff Elect of Monterey County in California, serving a population 439,035 and an area covering 3771 square miles."

"I pray to be a good leader — not to win, but to really do the work for the men and women of the Sheriff's Office, and help lead us to become the best Sheriff's Office in the state, if not the nation," Nieto said at her election night party, as the Monterey County Weekly reported.

Across the country there are currently four out sheriffs listed on a map of LGBTQ electeds maintained by the LGBTQ Victory Fund — lesbians Kristin Graziano in South Carolina's Charleston County and Charmaine McGuffey in Ohio's Hamilton County; and gay men Dustin Heurman in Illinois' Champaign County and Dave Hutchinson in Minnesota's Hennepin County. After a controversial first term Hutchinson will depart at the end of the year, while Heurman was reelected last Tuesday to a second term.

New mayor

Four years ago Williamson became the first known LGBTQ Monterey city councilperson. He was also the first Black council member in the city's history and, at 31 years of age, the youngest.

Rather than seek a second council term, he opted to seek election as mayor of the global tourist destination along California's Central Coast. Mayor Clyde Roberson, who was born in Oakland, decided not to seek a fifth consecutive term.

Williamson, with 54.72% of the vote, defeated Councilmember Dan Albert Jr., whose father had served as mayor in the 1980s and 1990s. The elder Albert served alongside Roberson, who was a city councilmember for 16 years and supported the younger Albert to succeed him as mayor.

Elected citywide to a two-year term, the mayor works closely with Monterey's city manager and the other four members of the City Council. Albert conceded the race on November 12 and called Williamson that morning to congratulate him.

"It's an incredible honor and look forward to getting to work," Williamson, whose inauguration will be December 6, told the Bay Area Reporter in a texted reply November 13.

Speaking by phone November 15, Williamson told the B.A.R. he has received "a lot of love and support" since being declared the incoming mayor. "A lot of people are super enthusiastic and excited."

Raised by a mom serving in the Navy, Williamson lived in different cities across the globe as a child. He first moved to the Monterey area in 2010 for a job with the **Naval Postgraduate School** and graduated from Cal State Monterey Bay in 2013. He went on to earn a master's of business administration



from the naval school and briefly lived in San Francisco's LGBTQ Castro district while working on President Barack Obama's 2012 reelection campaign.

As in the Bay Area, housing is a major issue for the Monterey Peninsula and impacts many of the people who work in the local tourist industry and struggle to afford to live near their jobs. Monterey has seen its new housing requirement from the state go from 650 units to nearly 3,700 units, a target that Williamson is committed to meeting as mayor.

"It has been a healthy debate over the last several months, though the message I've been hearing loud and clear from residents is seen in the results of this election — we need to move Monterey forward," he wrote in a Facebook post last Saturday after declaring victory in the race. "I'm eager to work with the new council on the many issues facing our city, but for now want to thank my friends, family, colleagues, volunteers, and this beautiful community that we live in for supporting my campaign."

In the nearby city of Carmel-by-the-Sea, gay City Councilmember Jeff Baron easily won a second term with 33.85% of the vote, according to the unofficial returns. The married former Silicon Valley resident was elected four years ago as his city's first LGBTQ councilperson.

John Uy, a professor at the U.S. military's Presidio of Monterey, won election to a seat on the City of Del Rey Oaks City Council.

"It will be a true honor and a privilege to serve you and your families as a Del Rey Oaks Councilmember for the next four years," Uy, who is a gay immigrant, wrote in a Facebook post about his victory.

In Santa Cruz County, transgender Cabrillo Community College Board of Trustees member Adam Spickler can finally claim to be the first transgender man elected to public office in California. Four years ago he was appointed to the college board in lieu of an election, since no one else ran for his Area II seat, making him the first transgender man to hold public office in the Golden State.

This year, Spickler easily vanquished challenger Bob Kittle, the head coach the past 11 years of the college's baseball team. He received close to 80% of the vote to clinch a second four-year term.

"My opponent was not running a campaign in the same way I was. He was not spending money and not really doing any campaigning or get out the vote efforts that I could see," Spickler told the B.A.R. by phone November 14. "He is a well known baseball coach at both the high school and college level. I don't think he felt he needed to run on more than his reputation."

Spickler noted that all three incumbents on the college board won reelection last week. It was a sign of voters' confidence in the district's leadership, he added, which voted 6-1 Monday night to start a process to change the name of the college from that of a Spanish colonizer.

"I think the voters here in Santa Cruz County looked at the way our college faced difficulties with not only the COVID pandemic but the fires in Santa Cruz County, and how we stepped up. We ended up losing students to both of those horrible crises," said Spickler, who works for the county human relations department.

In the contest for the District 4 seat on the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, gay candidate Jimmy Dutra fell short. He is in second place with 42% of the vote.

A member of the Watsonville City Council, Dutra lost his first bid for the seat in 2018. The county board has yet to have an out LGBTQ member serve on it.

[Monterey voters elect gay mayor, out Latina sheriff :: Bay Area Reporter \(ebar.com\)](#)

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Tyler Williamson, a CSUMB Alum, Has Been Elected Mayor of Monterey

(CSUMB 18 Nov 22) ... Walter Ryce

Tyler Williamson grew up in a military family and lived all over the world, but as a young adult he decided to put down roots in Monterey. He attended and graduated from CSUMB with a degree in human communication and pre-law, and then earned an MBA from the **Naval Postgraduate School**. He became a Monterey city councilmember in 2018, and was recently elected mayor of his adopted city. He is the



first openly-gay, as well as the first Black, mayor of the city. He is joined by CSUMB Pre-College Programs director, Kim Barber, who was elected to Monterey's city council.

Question: When did you realize you had won? What were you doing and how did you feel?

Williamson: I realized I won on Friday, November 11, at 5pm when the vote count was updated by the county. We knew the update was coming and it was likely to give a strong indication on the outcome of this election, which it did. I was at home and hitting refresh every second starting at 4:30 in anticipation of the update. 5 o'clock came and nothing updated. I tried a different browser and realized it was an issue with the data being cached on the original browser. All this to say, I was anxious all week until the results came out. Once they were released, I felt relieved. I had a strong indication that we were going to be successful but you never really know until you see that data.

What was the hardest part of your campaign for mayor?

The hardest part was balancing my time amongst various priorities, and prioritizing all the tasks requiring action to execute a successful campaign. One of the most important things as the candidate is to ensure you can inspire and motivate people to make contributions, volunteer to canvas, help spread the messaging, and most importantly to vote!

Why do you think you won? How do you see your victory in the larger political/cultural context?

I think I won because I am passionate about making a difference in my community and that helped me establish messaging around a vision. I also committed to myself to run a winning campaign from the get-go despite how others felt. I knew if I didn't believe in my chances, how could I expect anybody else to believe in me?

How did CSUMB help you get here?

CSUMB helped me establish a lot of relationships in the community. Of course, there were many lessons picked up from the Human Communications curriculum. Some examples include my Restorative Justice class and recognizing the value of healing the victim, and trying to get the offender to recognize their wrong in order to appropriately reacclimate them into society. I also recall from my Free Speech and Responsibility class the rights of U.S. citizens and the press but also recognizing when they can create societal harm. As you can imagine, I use lessons from my Cooperative Argumentation class all the time to make a case for perspectives that aren't often heard in the political settings.

What do you want to do as mayor?

My platform focused on issues like affordable housing. We know the cost of living is high around here. If we don't do anything to address it we'll only see the issue continue to get worse. We need to create more housing stock in order to stabilize the cost of housing. The issue is very much tied to the second issue, which is developing a sustainable water supply. The water politics in the region have prevented us from ensuring we have water that supports future growth, and I've been strongly advocating for the construction of Monterey One Water's Pure Water Monterey project that may allow the cease and desist order that's currently imposed on CalAm to be lifted and provide enough additional water supply where we can continue to do housing construction. The last issue is transparency. As a public agency, we can always do a better job of making information more accessible and available to the public.

Anything else you would like to add about this moment in civic engagement?

Get involved. Everybody cares about something, and has skills they can offer to their community. The only way that we'll be able to move forward is together. We need more empathy in the world, and to create the space to understand the perspective of those with different points of view. Media and social media have made it easy for us to read a headline without even knowing if it's a legitimate argument. For your own health, for your friends, neighbors, and families, take the time to engage in the political process, because if you don't I guarantee you there are folks happy to keep the control and power.

[Tyller Williamson, a CSUMB alum, has been elected mayor of Monterey | California State University Monterey Bay](#)



From Industry to Academia: Professor with Industry Experience Prepares Graduates to be Ready for Industry 4.0

(Bethel University 28 Nov 22) ... Marcus Dip Silas

Carl Albing spent many years working in the industry before going into academia. As an industry veteran, he has had the opportunity to write textbooks on programming language for prominent tech learning company, O'Reilly Media. Albing joined Bethel's faculty during the pandemic in 2020.

While his experience comes primarily from being in the industry, Professor Carl Albing is also a published author and has written four computer science text books.

Carl Albing's value for life-long learning has set him on a unique path in life. The associate professor of math and computer science has degrees in mathematics, business, and computer science. "I like to tell people that I am the poster child of life-long learning," Albing says. "It's been a case of feeling like I never know enough!"

Albing's fascination with mathematics began early on in his life. As a child, he learned how to calculate the height of a flagpole from its shadow. "I remember being fascinated by the fact that I did not have to climb a flagpole with a tape measure to figure out its height," Albing recounts. "Mathematics was a good place for me to start my education because it explains how the world works."

In college, Albing discovered computers and it was his first hands-on experience with the machines. He describes the experience as formative to his career in computer science. "Even though so much of computing has changed over the years, what I learned as an undergraduate student is still relevant to my work," he says.

After graduating from college with a degree in mathematics, Albing searched for a graduate program in computer science. At the time, computer science programs were few and far between, but he found one in Maryland which helped launch his career in the industry. Albing has had an illustrious career with big companies like Honeywell, NCR Corporation, and Cray Inc. Always seeking a challenge, he moved around in the industry, feeding his love for learning. Then, when his children went off to college, he grew interested in academia. "I became really excited about academia and realized I had a wealth of information to share from my experience in the industry," Albing says. "It was right around the time of the dot-com bubble burst in the early 2000s, and I saw it as an opportunity to change fields."

Albing approached some friends in academia who told him that enrollment in computer science was stagnant as a result of the turn-of-millennia stock market crash. From his own experience, Albing knew that infusing excitement into academia was key to keeping up people's interest in computer science. As he explored the possibility of moving from industry to academia, a colleague suggested he speak with a couple of her favorite computer science professors at Bethel. They all met for lunch where Albing learned he would need a doctorate in computer science in order to teach. He sought out a Ph.D. program that would allow him to keep his day job and found an online option through a university in England. He enrolled and then earned his Ph.D. in Computer Science in 2012.

Albing started his career in academia at the U.S. Naval Academy as distinguished visiting professor, then became a research professor in the Data Science and Analytics Group at the **Naval Postgraduate School**. His time as a civilian professor with the Navy gave him his first taste of academia and his love for teaching has only grown.

"In 2019, my wife and I decided that we wanted to come back to Minnesota and so I sent my resume to Bethel," he recounts. "As it turns out, there was a vacant faculty position in the mathematics and computer science department and I was hired for the role."

His most recent book *Bash Idioms* was published last spring. It is his fourth technical book and his third book on Bash, a programming language for most Linux and Unix computer systems that is also available on Windows and Mac systems. His book takes a look at some of the unique and peculiar ways Bash expresses computing ideas that may be foreign to those familiar with other computer languages.

“Though we are small, it is a gem of a program with great reach and we teach industry standard ACM curriculums where students learn topics that experts think are best.”

— Carl Albing, associate professor of math and computer science

Albing came to Bethel with many years of industry experience and he feels Bethel is a special place for students to study computer science. As an industry veteran, Albing knows exactly what companies are looking for in their hiring process and he believes that Bethel is capable of producing Industry 4.0-ready graduates. “Though we are small, it is a gem of a program with great reach and we teach industry standard ACM curriculums where students learn topics that experts think are best,” Albing says.

Students are taught up close and personal and build long-lasting relationships with their computer science professors. “There is a strong culture of helping one another along the journey in our CS Lab sessions,” he says. “Coupled with the emphasis on Christian faith and principles, Bethel’s computer science is truly a unique and meaningful program.”

[From Industry to Academia: Professor with Industry Experience Prepares Graduates to be Ready for Industry 4.0 | Bethel University](#)

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ALUMNI:

Navy Lt. Cmdr. named O’Neill Officer of the Year

(Southern Maryland Chronicle 16 July 22)

Lt. Cmdr. Chad Henderson received Naval Air Station Patuxent River 2022 Admiral Merlin O’Neill Officer of the Year award during a ceremony Nov. 10 on base.

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) local representative Col. Neil Johnson, U.S. Army (ret.), presented the award to Henderson, who was recognized as a junior officer who has demonstrated superior performance and leadership, emphasizing volunteer work activities and involvement in the community.

“Chad is an exemplary naval officer and leader in our office and the community,” Capt. Alex Dutko, the Direct and Time Strike Weapons (PMA-242) program manager who oversees Henderson. “This award reflects his sustained superior performance and clearly reflects those values that Admiral O’Neill espoused throughout his career.”

Henderson is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and earned his wings in 2012. He attended the Empire Test Pilots’ School in 2017 and holds a master’s degree in business administration from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

He has supported Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 23 at Pax River, working as the F/A-18 A-F and T-45 project officers. He served as the officer-in-charge of multiple detachments, leading pilots, engineers and maintenance personnel to complete the KC-46 in-flight refueling capability for Navy aircraft. Currently, Henderson serves as the class desk engineer for PMA-242 and leads a team of more than 100 engineers to support 18 weapons systems, including the Advanced Anti-Radiation Guided Missile-Extended Range (AARGM-ER) integration on Navy and Air Force aircraft.

Outside of work, Henderson is active in the local community and volunteers for the Navy Patuxent River Sailing Club and serves as a youth group leader and Sunday school teacher at his church.

The Southern Maryland Chapter of MOAA established the Admiral Merlin O’Neill award in 1981 to recognize exemplary junior officers assigned to duties at NAS Patuxent River. This award is named in honor of Admiral Merlin O’Neill, Commandant of the Coast Guard from 1950 to 1954, and a southern Maryland resident in his later years.

[Navy Lt. Cmdr. named O’Neill Officer of the Year - The Southern Maryland Chronicle](#)

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Santa Fe County Names New Fire Chief

(Santa Fe New Mexico 18 Nov 22)

Santa Fe County has named a 19-year firefighting veteran to head its fire department.

Jacob Black, the assistant chief of support services for the county's fire department, is being elevated to the top position, according to a news release issued Friday by the county.

Black has a bachelor's degree in business administration degree from the University of New Mexico and associate's degree in paramedicine from Santa Fe Community College. He is working toward completing a master's degree in homeland defense and security at the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

Black will take the helm as the county fire chief Dec. 3. His annual salary will be \$114,000, according to the release. He replaces Jackie Lindsey, who county officials announced in September was retiring to spend more time with her family.

"I look forward to working with the entire department to meet the challenges that lie ahead, starting with the recruitment and retention of volunteer and paid staff alike," Black said in Friday's news release.

Black holds firefighter and specialist certifications from the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress. He is married and has two school-age children.

[Navy Lt. Cmdr. named O'Neill Officer of the Year - The Southern Maryland Chronicle](#)

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Capitol Integration Honored in the 2023 Seminole 100

(Yahoo Finance 18 Nov 22)

Capitol Integration, based in Bradenton, Florida has been named as one the fastest-growing companies owned or led by Florida State University alumni. They will be honored during the 6th annual Seminole 100 Celebration on Saturday, February 25, 2023.

Florida State University's Seminole 100 is powered by the Jim Moran Institute of Entrepreneurship in partnership with the FSU Alumni Association. The top 100 fastest-growing FSU alumni-owned or alumni-led businesses are recognized at a celebration each year on FSU's campus, during which each company learns their numerical ranking and receives their award. This event recognizes and honors FSU's entrepreneurs and allows them to share valuable business insights with each other.

Gene Moran, Founder and President of Capitol Integration, is the foremost expert on federal defense and security lobbying. He guides and advises defense companies of all sizes to dramatically improve federal sales through funding and policy change in Washington DC. He is the co-author of "Million Dollar Influence," with Alan Weiss.

Spearheaded by Gene's leadership, his firm, Capitol Integration, has been twice-recognized by Bloomberg Government as a Top-Performing Lobbying Firm. Gene is an inductee in the Million Dollar Consulting Hall of Fame ® and a personal recipient of the prestigious Corrie Shanahan Memorial Award for Advancing Consulting (Consultant of the Year). Florida State University has twice-heralded Capitol Integration as one of the 100 fastest growing alumni-led Florida companies. He is also twice-recognized as a "Top Lobbyist" by the National Institute for Lobbying & Ethics.

Gene's groundbreaking academic research earned him a PhD in Public Policy and Administration from Walden University. His dissertation explored the impact of congressional lobbying on contracting and the performance of democracy. He holds a Master's in Financial Management from the U.S. **Naval Postgraduate School**; and a Bachelor's degree from Florida State University.

President and Founder of Capitol Integration, Gene Moran, commented:

"We are incredibly proud to again be recognized as a 2023 member of Florida State University's Seminole 100 fastest growing alumni-owned companies. Our work with exceptional clients doing incredible things to serve our nation's warfighters and greater national security is so important. That our client's success also shines a light on our success is a wonderful bonus. Thank you to Florida State University for this special recognition."



"The alumni on the Seminole 100 list represent 12 schools and colleges across Florida State University and show the immense value of a degree from FSU," said Julie Decker, president and CEO of the FSU Alumni Association. "The accomplishments of these alumni exemplify what is possible with tenacity and innovation. We are proud to recognize them for all they have achieved as leaders and entrepreneurs."

The 2023 Seminole 100 includes companies from several industries such as construction, finance, legal, marketing and realty. Of this year's 100 companies, 80 are based within the state of Florida and a total of 12 U.S. states are represented as part of the 2023 Seminole 100.

[Capitol Integration Honored in the 2023 Seminole 100 \(yahoo.com\)](#)

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City of San Luis Obispo Hires New Fire Chief

(Paso Robles News 21 Nov 22)

San Luis Obispo City Manager Derek Johnson has announced the appointment of Todd Tuggle as the San Luis Obispo City Fire Chief following Chief Keith Aggson's retirement on Dec. 9.

Tuggle's first day as chief will be December 5, 2022, and his annual base salary will be \$218,400. He will manage the San Luis Obispo Fire Department's \$14 million budget and lead a team of about 60 full-time fire department employees serving the San Luis Obispo community.

"Todd's strong leadership skills will aid in the rollout of the fire department's five-year strategic plan to ensure that the department continues to meet the community's and the city organization's needs," said Johnson, "Todd's passion, strong work ethic, and innovation makes him a fantastic addition to the department head team."

Tuggle comes to the city with 19 years of experience in the fire service industry. Tuggle most recently served the City of Santa Maria for two years as the deputy chief and chief of the Santa Maria Fire Department. Tuggle led the Santa Maria Fire Department through the Covid-19 pandemic and led the development of the department's first strategic plan.

Before Tuggle and his wife, Jules, moved to the Central Coast in 2020, he spent 17 years serving the City of Fresno Fire Department. During his time in Fresno, Tuggle worked his way through the ranks culminating as the deputy chief of training and special operations. He also worked with state incident management teams for over 10 years on various disasters throughout California.

Tuggle earned a master's degree in homeland security from the **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey, and a bachelor's degree from Cal Poly.

"I am excited to return to the city from which my wife and I received so much," said Tuggle, "It is a great honor and opportunity to lead such a dynamic group of professionals in a vibrant and growing community. I look forward to continuing the department's focus on skilled, progressive, compassionate service while expanding the department's connectivity to our citizens and business community."

Chief Tuggle was selected following a national search and rigorous evaluation process. The evaluation process consisted of interviews with regional fire chiefs, community partners, regional city managers, and current department staff.

[City of San Luis Obispo hires new fire chief - Paso Robles Daily News](#)

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NSWC Dahlgren Division's Isel Caro: From a Small Town in Texas to the Naval Academy and Beyond

(DVIDS 15 Oct 22)

Capt. Isel Caro's life began in a single-wide trailer in the "Land of Heart's Delight," otherwise known as Falfurrias, Texas. Depending upon who you ask, the town either derived its name from the Lipan Apache language or from the name of a desert flower.

Life was cramped for Caro's family in the trailer where he lived with his parents and brother. The trailer was the heart of his grandparents' farm where they raised crops, cattle, horses, chickens and pigs on a total of 1,000 acres. His parents were both teachers. His dad taught high school mathematics and physics and coached basketball while his mom was an elementary school teacher.

The Caros moved their young family from the farm, stopping first in another small town by the name of Kingsville before eventually settling in the Woodlands, a suburb of Houston, Texas. A school counselor in Woodlands initially didn't believe that Caro should be placed in advanced classes despite his record of academic excellence. "They didn't believe that a small-town kid could be that smart," he said. "By the end of the first semester, I had hundreds on all of my work." The school administrators soon realized their mistake and Caro started taking an advanced curriculum the following year.

Coming from South Texas, the Caro brothers didn't know much about the Naval Academy or the nation's other service academies. Caro's older brother, Vique, paved the way when he first learned about and then earned an appointment to the Naval Academy Preparatory School before gaining full admission to the U.S. Naval Academy. "One summer, Vique brought back all these things and experiences from a Baltic Operations cruise that included visits to Russia," Caro explained. "I was like 'hey, this is a good deal.' You don't have to pay for college, you get to travel during the summer and you have a guaranteed job when you graduate."

Soon after, Caro submitted his own application, hoping to follow in Vique's footsteps. His stellar academic record that included valedictorian honors, serving as student body president, National Honor Society membership and playing school sports earned him invitations from both the Naval Academy and West Point.

Caro earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering while at the Naval Academy. He later earned a master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College and a certificate in Space Systems from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

After his commissioning in May of 1996, he served aboard the USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) as a communications officer. He qualified as a surface warfare officer during that time and supported Tomahawk launches into Iraq during Operation Desert Fox. During his career, Caro also sailed aboard the USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67) and served in numerous other positions including as a sound underwater surveillance watch officer and training department head. He left active duty in 2004, but continues to serve in the Naval Reserve.

It was also in 2004 when he began his career at Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD). While stationed in the United Kingdom, Caro interviewed and was hired for a job at Dahlgren while attending a service academy career fair in Washington D.C. He began his NSWCDD career working in critical infrastructure protection. Starting in 2006, he moved over to the Joint Warfare Analysis Center to provide intel analysis.

Caro is currently a branch head for the Warfare Analysis and Digital Modeling Department and is in his fourth Navy Reserve command serving as commanding officer in the Office of Naval Intelligence at the Hopper Headquarters Reserve unit. He believes that the work he does in both positions provides beneficial support to the other. "Hopper is one of the five centers for the Office of Naval Intelligence providing Joint Worldwide Intelligence Communications System services," Caro explained. "NSWCDD is one of the organizations that Hopper provides services to, so I'm in a great position to help ensure that the connections between the two are well maintained." The intelligence briefs he's privy to while serving helps him better understand the threat capabilities in the world today and he can use that knowledge in his work here at Dahlgren.



The small-town kid who grew into a decorated naval officer and engineering leader believes that his roots never stunted his future opportunities. “You’re not limited based off of where you started,” he said. “What matters most is having parents and family that care about you. People who will ensure that you focus on what’s going to put you in a better position in the future.”

Caro said his parents built the foundation for his future success. “They were both teachers. They placed an emphasis on education and pushed for college for myself and my brother. They made sure we achieved our goals through mentoring and providing opportunities that put us in position for success.”

These days, Caro has a family of his own. When he’s not spending time with his wife and six children, Caro volunteers as an assistant scout master in the Boy Scouts.

[DVIDS - News - NSWC Dahlgren Division’s Isel Caro: From a Small Town in Texas to the Naval Academy and Beyond \(dvidshub.net\)](#)

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Amid Economic, Political Crises, Pakistan Must Choose Its Next Army Chief

(Media Line 22 Nov 22) ... Arshad Mehmood

(Daily Pakistan 27 Nov 22)

The imminent retirement of Pakistan Army Chief of Staff Gen. Qamar Javed Bajwa has placed the people of this South Asian country in a quandary over the appointment of his successor amid the nation’s worst economic and political crises in memory.

Bajwa is scheduled to retire on November 29, 2022, at the end of his second three-year term as army chief. A graduate of the Canadian Army Command and Staff College, the **Naval Postgraduate School**, and the US National Defense University, Bajwa had served in several operational and staff positions in the Pakistan Army.

Although the tenure of the army chief is three years, Bajwa, like many others, got an extension. He was appointed in November 2016 by then-Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, but his term was extended in 2019 by Prime Minister Imran Khan for another three years.

In the interim, Nawaz Sharif was removed by the courts after he was convicted of corruption, while Khan was ousted through a no-confidence vote. Both leaders reacted differently after being removed from power.

Sharif and his daughter, Maryam Nawaz, began by criticizing the top command of the army, but after the removal of Khan, they adopted a more cautious attitude and expressed admiration for the same command. On the other hand, Khan began a campaign of nonstop critiquing Bajwa, along with other senior officers.

The decision to appoint the next army chief is expected in the coming days, amid mounting concern by the entire country. The powerful Pakistan Army, which has ruled the country for more than half of its 75 years of existence, dominates decision-making in security and foreign policy.

Unlike in the past, the appointment of the new army chief has become highly controversial, due to Khan’s endless criticism of the military establishment. Khawaja Asif, Pakistan’s defense minister, said in a statement that the next army chief would be appointed by next week and the official process would start on Monday. He slammed Khan for making the constitutional process controversial for personal reasons.

Since his ouster in April 2022, Khan has been holding public rallies and meetings across the country and has received massive public support, including from some retired army generals. The support of ex-military officers has boosted Khan’s morale and he continues his critical rhetoric meddling in the politics of the military establishment.

For this reason, and for the first time in the history of Pakistan, the head of the country’s top intelligence agency held a press conference in which he strongly rejected Khan’s allegations.

Chief among his other responsibilities, the Pakistan Army’s top commander is responsible for the country’s nuclear arsenal. While Pakistan is considered the world’s seventh nuclear power, the country suffers from a daunting combination of political and economic crises, including the infiltration of terrorists from Afghanistan and regular border skirmishes with neighboring India.



The announcement of the new army chief is expected in Rawalpindi on November 29, but Khan issued instructions to his supporters to reach Rawalpindi by November 26. On October 28, he began a long march to Islamabad from Punjab's provincial capital, Lahore. Khan and his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party are calling for early general elections.

When the marchers reached Wazirabad a week later, on November 3, Khan was shot in the leg in a failed assassination attempt. Despite his wounds, the long march continued under the leadership of senior party leaders, while Khan continued to address supporters via video link.

When the long march reached the suburbs of Islamabad on Saturday, November 19, Khan asked the workers to reach neighboring Rawalpindi on November 26, where he would participate in the march. Rawalpindi is a garrison city, home to the General Staff Headquarters of the Pakistan Army, and is adjacent to the federal capital Islamabad.

Opposition leaders accused Khan of planning a protest in a garrison city at this crucial time, just to install an army chief of his choice. But Khan told reporters on Sunday in Lahore: "I have no more concern about the appointment of the next army chief. I have no problem with whomever they want to appoint. Now the government is trapped from both sides."

Khan added: "I know that my wounds cannot heal soon; even so, I will lead the long march with the wounded leg." He also hinted that "everyone will get a surprise on November 26. I am aware of their plans, but I am planning ahead."

The Media Line spoke with several experts who are closely monitoring the situation in Pakistan. Brig. Gen. (ret.) Haris Nawaz, a Karachi-based leading defense and political analyst, called it "very unfortunate to drag the military establishment into politics. The establishment seems willing to resist, because Khan is constantly calling them traitors, and this is the main reason that the military is not supporting him, and ultimately, he is irritated.

"In my view," he continued, "Khan should fight political battles with political means, without dragging the army into it. The appointment of the next army chief is a normal process, which occurs after every three years. Four or five names of the senior-most serving lieutenant generals are sent to the Defense Ministry with their dossiers and the prime minister may select any one of them. Unfortunately, this time a simple process is intentionally made controversial by ruling coalition leaders and Imran Khan."

Andrew Korybko, a Moscow-based American defense and political analyst, told The Media Line: "The importance of what just transpired and the curious timing just before the planned appointment of the country's new army chief of staff ... compellingly suggest that something serious is happening behind the scenes within its powerful establishment at this pivotal moment of Pakistan's converging crises."

Korybko added that "following his superficially democratic ouster, Khan inspired millions of his compatriots to peacefully rally for free and fair elections ... as early as possible in order to restore the political certainty required for saving the economy from its ongoing meltdown. The regime brutally cracked down on the opposition and even attempted to assassinate the former premier."

On the other hand, Korybko told The Media Line: "It certainly appears that some responsible elements within the establishment are indeed trying to pragmatically de-escalate their country's crisis by exploring the possibility of an early election."

Faran Jeffery, COO of the UK-based Midstone Centre for International Affairs, is an expert on counterterrorism, geopolitics, and foreign policy. He told The Media Line: "I think the priority of the government, as well as a quarter of the establishment, is to appoint the new army chief on the basis of seniority."

On the other hand, he added, "Imran Khan wants to continue to exert pressure on the incoming new army leadership in hopes of pushing them to convince the federal government to announce an early election day. At the same time, Khan will at least initially try to mend his ties with the new army leadership.

"Similarly, the new army leadership will also be under pressure from segments of the public, as well as its rank and file, to take two steps back and establish itself as apolitical."



Adeeb Ul Zaman Safvi, a Karachi-based retired captain of the Pakistan Navy, a graduate of the US Naval War College, and a seasoned analyst, told The Media Line: “Regardless of who becomes the new army chief, he will not carry the baggage of his predecessor.

“There is a famous quote in the navy, ‘my ship my command,’ which means that I will run the ship in my way. This is equally true for all command appointments in the armed forces. It is not at all necessary that the new army chief should continue the policies of his predecessor.

“The new army chief will be the head of a nuclear army, and considering the geostrategic situation of the region, he will focus all attention on increasing the professional capabilities of the army. He will have an uphill task for the restoration of its image and rebuilding the confidence of the nation in the army as a state institution.”

Safvi added: “The newly appointed COAS will have to take significant actions to convey that “political engineering” is gone and civilian supremacy is foremost under his command.”

For the foreseeable future, the question will remain unanswered whether Pakistan will be able to manage its ongoing crises after the appointment of the new army chief.

[Amid Economic, Political Crises, Pakistan Must Choose Its Next Army Chief - The Media Line Profile: General Qamar Javed Bajwa \(dailypakistan.com.pk\)](#)

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