The United States Naval War College

Academic Awards for the 2022–2023 Academic Year

DIANE M. DISNEY WRITING AWARD
Major David Christian Adamic, U.S. Army  
Lieutenant Commander Duminda Dayananda, Sri Lanka Navy  
Lieutenant Colonel Denise Renee Little, U.S. Army  
Major Jacob Settle, U.S. Army  
CNCS Jun 2023  
NSC Jun 2023  
CNW Jun 2023  
CNCS Mar 2023

DRS. DANIEL AND SUSAN THYS ACADEMIC PRIZE
Name: Commander Charles Gough, JAGC, U.S. Navy  
CNW Jun 2023

CAPTAIN JAMES T. LARKIN, U.S. MARINE CORPS, AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE BY A U.S. MARINE CORPS OFFICER
Name: Major Jonathan Walaski, U.S. Marine Corps  
CNCS Jun 2023

EDWARD H. BRAGG AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE BY A U.S. COAST GUARD OFFICER
Name: Lieutenant Commander Kevin H. Murphy, U.S. Coast Guard  
CNCS Jun 2023

VICE ADMIRAL JOHN T. HAYWARD AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN ONLINE DISTANCE EDUCATION
Name: Captain William B. Nguyen, U.S. Navy  
CDE Nov 2022

ADMIRAL IKE KIDD NAVAL INTELLIGENCE FOUNDATION AWARD
Name: Mr. George Patterson Manson III, U.S. Government  
CNW Jun 2023

MATTHEW C. PERRY AWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH
First Place:
Name: Commander Jurgen Van Daele, Belgian Navy  
Essay: “Securing Europe’s Green Energy Transition”  
NCC Jun 2023

Second Place:
Name: Colonel Thomas M. Tauer, U.S. Air Force  
Essay: “Chinese Demographic Collapse Demands Strategic Ambiguity”  
CNW Jun 2023
GENERAL GEORGE C. KENNEY AWARD FOR WRITING ON THE TOPIC OF AIRPOWER

Winner:

Name: Major Catherine W. Axel, U.S. Air Force
Essay: “Enhancing Air Base Resiliency in the First Island Chain: Bolstering Active and Passive Defenses while Increasing Base Footprint in Competition”

Honorable Mention:

Name: Lieutenant Colonel Brendon D. Herbeck, U.S. Space Force
Essay: “Moonrush: How the USSF and USSPACECOM Must Evolve Their Missions to Support the Coming Economy for Space Resources”

THE HONORABLE JULIETTE C. MCELNNAN ESSAY PRIZE FOR WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY

Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Colonel Alyssa Y. Astphan, U.S. Army National Guard

Honorable Mention:

Name: Lieutenant Colonel Sheryl I. Klinkel, U.S. Air Force

LIEUTENANT MICHAEL P. MURPHY COUNTERTERRORISM PRIZE

International Student Category

Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Commander Kofi Duodu, Ghana Navy
JOHN J. D’LUHY PRIZE TO HONOR EXCELLENCE IN STRATEGIC ANALYSIS AND THOUGHT

First Place:

Name: Mr. George Patterson Manson III, U.S. Government
Essay: “A Fort’s a Fool to Fight a Ship: Land Powers vs. Sea Powers in Long Term Competitions”

Honorable Mention:

Name: Major John C. Tramazzo, U.S. Army
Essay: “Strategic Reassessment in Wartime”

Honorable Mention:

Name: Commander Charles Gough, JAGC, U.S. Navy
Essay: “Nuclear Weapons and Strategic Competitions”

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES H. DOYLE, JR., MILITARY OPERATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW PRIZE

International Student Category

Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Colonel Shenghao Chua, Republic of Singapore Navy
Essay: “Lawfare for the Lawful: Stemming the Tide of Lawfare in the South China Sea”

U.S. Student Category

Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Commander Emily Elizabeth Geddes, U.S. Navy
Honorable Mention:

Name: Major John C. Tramazzo, U.S. Army  
CNCS Jun 2023

CAPTAIN WALTER B. WOODSON, JR., ACADEMIC MEMORIAL PRIZE

First Prize:

Name: Lieutenant Colonel Shenghao Chua, Republic of Singapore Navy  
Essay: “Which Was More Harmful to the American Conduct of the War in Korea: Military Leaders’ Failure to Comprehend the Political Objective or Civilian Leaders’ Failure to Comprehend What Can and Cannot Be Achieved by Force?”  
NSC Jun 2023

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE FOUNDATION AWARD

Winner:

Name: Captain Pradeep Singh Sethi, Indian Navy  
NCC Jun 2023

Honorable Mention:

Name: Lieutenant George O. Hageman, JAGC, U.S. Navy  
CDE Nov 2022

MR. B. FRANKLIN REINAUER II DEFENSE ECONOMICS PRIZE

Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Commander Jonathan Calhoun, U.S. Navy  
CDE
J. WILLIAM MIDDENDORF II AWARD FOR STUDENT RESEARCH

Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Commander Matthew Staggs Galamison, U.S. Navy

Honorable Mention:

Name: Commander Frederick Espy, U.S. Navy
Essay: “Battle Damage Repair during Major Combat Operations in the CENTCOM AOR”

Honorable Mention:


FOREIGN AREA OFFICER ASSOCIATION AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ILC Winner:

Name: Mr. Rui Duarte, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
Essay: “Trans-Atlantic Security Issue: Russian Use of Tactical Nuclear Weapons in Ukraine”

ILC Honorable Mention:

Name: Major Robert L. Johnson III, U.S. Marine Corps
Essay: “Should the U.S. Continue a Policy of Denuclearization toward North Korea?”

SLC Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Pruden, U.S. Marine Corps
Essay: “Induction of Finland and Sweden into NATO Increases Regional Stability and Deterrence”
LTGEN VICTOR “BRUTE” KRULAK WRITING AWARD SPONSORED BY THE MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

First Place Winner:

Name: Major Stephan Bohanan, U.S. Marine Corps
Essay: “The Human Element of Operational Fires: What the Stand-In Force Should Do to Increase the Effectiveness of Maritime Strikes”

Second Place Winner:

Name: Major Chelsea Scott, U.S. Marine Corps
Essay: “Failure Is Not Fatal, but Failure to Change Might Be: Operational-Level Logistics, the Critical Vulnerability for the Marine Corps”

AFCEA RESEARCH HONOR AWARD

IO/IW/C2W Category

Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Colonel Elizabeth Pham, U.S. Marine Corps

Honorable Mention:

Name: Ms. Audrey Leanne Duke, Naval Sea Systems Command

Communications, Electronics, Command and Control, Information Systems Category

Winner:

Name: Mr. Michael D. Welken, Defense Intelligence Agency
Essay: “Japan’s Space Situational Awareness Mission: Evolution, Challenges and Opportunities”
Honorable Mention:

Name: Major Jonathan Walaski, U.S. Marine Corps  
Essay: “Command and Control Artificial Intelligence: AI-Supported Operational Planning in the Maritime Domain”  
CNCS Jun 2023

NAVAL SUBMARINE LEAGUE AWARD

Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Nicholas S. Nalbone, Sr., U.S. Navy  
Essay: “The Navy Needs New Submarine Tenders: Protecting Expeditionary Capabilities Is the Key to Undersea Dominance”  
CDE Jun 2023

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE SURFACE NAVY ASSOCIATION AWARD

Winner:

Name: Commander Matthew Ray Garcia-Bragiel, U.S. Navy  
Essay: “Unattended Seas: Navy Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technology in the Arctic”  
CNW Mar 2024

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN JOINT SERVICE WARFARE

Winner:

Name: Major Jeffrey Ryan Weinmeister, U.S. Marine Corps  
Essay: “Decentralizing Maritime Fires Coordination”  
CNCS Jun 2023

Honorable Mention:

Name: Major Alice Jane Bechtol, U.S. Army  
CNCS Jun 2023
CAPTAIN JEROME E. LEVY ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY AND WORLD ORDER PRIZE

Winner:

Name: Major William J. DeStasio, U.S. Army
Essay: “Chinese Presence in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Strategic Threat?”

Honorable Mention:

Name: Colonel Jeffrey Marc Dulgarian, U.S. Army Reserve
Essay: “A Strategy to Counter Environmental Security Challenges in Southeast Asia”

ROBERT E. BATEMANS’ INTERNATIONAL PRIZE ESSAY AWARD

Winner:

Name: Captain Pradeep Singh Sethi, Indian Navy
Essay: “Forming a Combined Maritime Task Force under the Quad in the Indo-Pacific Region”

Honorable Mention:

Name: Captain Scott Robinson, Royal Canadian Navy
Essay: “Building a Combined Maritime Force for INDOPACOM”

ZIMMERMAN-GRAY ESSAY AWARD

Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Colonel Shenghao Chua, Republic of Singapore Navy

Honorable Mention:

Name: Lieutenant Commander Taimoor Sultan, Pakistan Navy
ADIRAL RICHARD G. COLBERT MEMORIAL PRIZE

Winner:
Name: Commander Charles Gough, JAGC, U.S. Navy

Honorable Mention:
Name: Mr. David Iain Nowak-Laird, U.S. Coast Guard

ASIA-PACIFIC STUDIES PRIZE

Winner:
Name: Mr. Brian M. Sperlongano, Naval Sea Systems Command
Essay: “Speak Softly and Carry a Big Stick: Preventing US-China Conflict over Taiwan”

Honorable Mention:
Name: Lieutenant Michael S. Wilinski, MC, U.S. Navy

RADM JOSEPH C. STRASSER INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP PRIZES

Naval Command College:
Name: Commander Wiremu Leef, Royal New Zealand Navy

Naval Staff College:
Name: Lieutenant Commander Kofi Duodu, Ghana Navy

RICHARD COLBERT EMBED OF THE YEAR AWARD
Winner: Colonel Ellen M. Ellis, U.S. Space Force
ADMIRAL JONAS INGRAM EMBED OF THE YEAR AWARD
Winner: Major Chelsea Scott, U.S. Marine Corps  NSC Jun 2023

MCGINNIS FAMILY AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN NONRESIDENT SEMINAR EDUCATION

Prize Winner:

Name: Lieutenant Timothy J. Cadigan III, U.S. Navy  CDE Jun 2023

ADMIRAL ARLEIGH A. BURKE AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE BY AN INTERNATIONAL OFFICER
Name: Captain Pradeep Singh Sethi, Indian Navy  NCC Jun 2023

NAVY LEAGUE AWARDS

Stephen B. Luce Award:

Name: Mr. George Patterson Manson III, U.S. Government  CNW Jun 2023

William S. Sims Award:

Name: Major John C. Tramazzo, U.S. Army  CNCS Jun 2023