

7 March 2015

From Phil Rogers

The Class of 1948 has been a major contributor to the benefit of the U. S. Navy and the Naval Academy for many years. We were honored by having classmates serve as the Chief of Naval Operations, Tom Hayward and Deputy Chief, Bill Small. We have fought the good fight and been able to maintain the existence of our beloved class memorial within the pedestrian entrance to the Visitors Gate.

In 2003 we added one more star by presenting the Academy a two million dollar Information Technology Endowment. Since that presentation the impact on the curriculum of the Academy has undergone major changes. The first effect was the establishment of a major in Science and Information Technology (SIT) several years ago. We now have an annual award of \$1,000 presented, at graduation, to the midshipman who stands the highest in that discipline. The SIT major represents 37% of the total credits required for graduation. In addition, it is now possible for a midshipman to acquire a double major one in Computer Science and one in Information Technology. To give you a further example of the importance of SIT, midshipmen must take at least one Restricted Electives and two Unrestricted Electives in addition to the core SIT curriculum.

Today the Academy is undergoing another major change. The field of cyber warfare has given reason to develop a curriculum in Cyber Operations. The planning and work to establish a degree in this discipline will probably establish a major in 2017. The number of credit hours in CO will be about 35% of the total required for graduation. This development is a natural spin-off from SIT and is one more example of the impact the Class of 1948 has had in the Yard.

Many members of '48 are still making plans for some size of legacy gift. Giving a part of the legacy to our IT endowment might be a good idea. Our contributions so far have certainly made a noteworthy impact. In addition to the above, it is important to note that our efforts have allowed the Academy to establish the Distinguished Visiting Professor Chair filled by Dr. Raymond Greenlaw. He lectures large and small groups of midshipmen when he comes to Annapolis.

As a side note, I was fortunate to attend a Forrestal Lecture several months ago when the CNO, Admiral Jonathan Greenert, addressed the midshipmen in Alumni Hall. He gave a very inspiring talk. He gave considerable attention to the subjects of Information Technology and Cyber Operations and emphasized they were fields in which every naval officer and marine must have a certain degree of expertise and that they will be core subjects in the education of midshipmen beginning with the Class of 2019.

Well Done '48