

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs - select

Jennifer Kehl Waters, Ph.D., P.E.



Dr. Jennifer Waters grew up in a sailing family on New York's Long Island. It was therefore not surprising that she would attend the Webb Institute of Naval Architecture, graduating with a B.S. in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. Ever fascinated by the ocean, Dr. Waters continued her education at Stevens Institute of Technology, earning an M.Eng. and a Ph.D. in Ocean Engineering.

Dr. Waters varied professional experience includes marine research at Webb Institute and Stevens Institute, engineering design at firms in the U.S. and Australia, interning aboard a commercial oil tanker and shipfitting at Newport News Shipyard.

Joining the Naval Academy faculty in 1994 as a research instructor in the Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering Department, Dr. Waters was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1995, Associate Professor with Tenure in 2001 (having produced two beautiful daughters in the interim) and to full Professor in 2008.

Prior to her selection as the next Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Dr. Waters served USNA in a number of capacities. Her yardwide service ranged from the Naval Academy Admissions Board to the Naval Academy Research Council to several curricular committees. She was the program director and senior advisor for the Ocean Engineering major. She was chair of the Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering Department from 2010 until 2012 and, while in that position, she was elected by her peers as Chair of Chairs.

Dr. Waters has contributed to the marine field as both an educator and a research engineer, and maintains her Professional Engineer licensure in the state of Maryland. Often invited to provide assistance with, or peer review of, research and development projects, she has given numerous presentations, seminars and short courses to practicing engineers as well as non-engineers in the marine industry. She is an active member of several professional societies and a mentor to students in the marine field at USNA and elsewhere.

Dr. Waters' community involvement has included teaching basic science, good citizenship and appreciation for the arts to young students and Girl Scouts throughout the Maryland-DC region.

Dr. Waters currently resides just outside Annapolis, Maryland, with her husband, Tom, and her two teenage daughters. She enjoys traveling and spending her free time with her active family.