



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
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In this emerging era of great power competition the gravity of OUR mission to properly and effectively develop midshipmen in support of our Nation remains as strong as ever. It has been decades since we last competed in the global maritime commons. As the premier maritime accession source we must be prepared to deliver officers to the fleet that are ready to be combat leaders. This is a matter of urgency. I have been impressed with the dedication of the Brigade and staff to meet mission. As with our life journey, there remains room for additional improvement. OUR ability to improve is directly proportional to OUR attitude, ownership and effort.

The principles below, while not particularly revolutionary, are presented in a manner that we may use them to reinforce and align OUR efforts to achieve the Naval Academy's mission -- these principles enhance, but clearly do not replace the mission.

THE COMMANDANT'S SEA "C" POWER PRINCIPLES ARE:

The Brigade and staff supporting the Brigade shall:

1. Develop the CHARACTER of a Professional Naval Officer

- a. Honest and ethical always -- we will be challenged every day - CHOICES matter
- b. Humble over prideful -- enhance confidence -- eliminate arrogance
- c. Respectful, consistent, selfless and compassionate
- d. Resilient (morally, mentally, physically)

*"We are masters of our character. We choose what we will stand for in this life."
- Gen James Mattis*

2. Build the COMPETENCE required of a Professional Naval Officer

- a. Academic (not just only a Monday to Friday pursuit)
- b. Professional - focused & self-reflective - continuous growth - admit mistakes, take ownership & learn
- c. Physical - body and mind (health focused and manage fatigue for optimal performance)

"Just try to be the best you can be; never cease trying to be the best you can be. That's in your power." - John Wooden (legendary UCLA basketball coach)

"Leadership = Competence + authentic character" - Gen James Mattis

3. Live by the CORE VALUES of a Professional Naval Officer

- a. Honor - build and sustain institutional, peer to peer and chain of command trust
- b. Courage - Moral and Physical
 - (1) Healthy Relationships and connections
 - (2) Active Bystander Intervention
- c. Commitment - to your team and our purpose
 - (1) Positive Mental Approach
 - (2) Conviction - unfailing support of the mission, to the people you lead and leadership

"The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavor." - Vince Lombardi

Your Legacy. Our Brand. One Team.

CAPT T.R. Buchanan, USN
88th Commandant of Midshipmen