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Applied Math, Defense Analysis Students Share Top Army Award

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Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California

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U.S. Navy photo by Javier Chagoya

Applied Math, Defense Analysis Students Share Top Army Award

By MC2 Michael Ehrlich

U.S. Army Capt. Ryan Miller oversees a Saturday session of the Breakfast for Your Brain tutoring program in NPS' Dudley Knox Library. Thanks to his commitment to community service, and his own outstanding academic achievement, Miller is one of two officers sharing the Spring quarter's Association of the U.S. Army Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell Award for Outstanding Army Student.

"At NPS, I had the privilege to study and learn with exceptionally intelligent officers from all service branches. To be chosen from such high caliber peers to represent the Army is a tremendous honor," said Miller, whose thesis in the field of network science developed a community-detection algorithm to partition dark networks into knowledgesharing communities.

"I hope that my performance at NPS will open future opportunities for me to pursue a Ph.D. in applied mathematics. As an Explosive Ordnance Disposal officer, I have spent the majority of my career attacking dark networks from the tactical level," said Miller.

"The skills I have learned and the research I have conducted in the applied math department at NPS has allowed me to understand and to disrupt dark networks at a much higher level. I plan on continuing this research while I am at West Point to enhance our current dark network targeting solutions," he continued.

Sharing in the honor with Miller is Army Maj. Kyle Greenheck, who has already departed NPS to assume command of 5th Special Forces Airborne in Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He leaves this advice to new students coming into the university.

"When you come there initially, have your head wrapped around your thesis early ... Know what you want to do and if you don't know, work with your professors as they are more than wiling to help out," said Greenheck.

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