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The Naval Postgraduate School announces the  
establishment of a Distinguished Visiting  
Professorship of Innovation - DRAFT

Sanders, John

Monterey, California. Naval Postgraduate School

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The Naval Postgraduate School announces the establishment of a Distinguished Visiting Professorship of Innovation. This chaired professorship is being supported by the Office of Naval Research. John Kao, M.D., M.B.A. was named as the first incumbent for a term of three years.

Dr. Kao has held previous academic appointments at the Harvard Business School, where he was a faculty member from 1982-1996. He has developed and taught innovation and entrepreneurship courses at both the MBA and senior management levels. Dr. Kao has also been a visiting Professor at the MIT Media Lab and has held teaching positions at Yale University and the University of Copenhagen. He has published numerous books and articles; his book *Jamming: the Art and Discipline of Business Creativity* was a BusinessWeek best-seller. His most recent monograph *John Kao's Innovation Manifesto* has been widely distributed within the defense community.

Described by the *Economist* as “Mr. Creativity” and a “serial innovator,” Dr. Kao has also been a co-founder of several companies in areas ranging from biotechnology to digital media. As a Tony-nominated producer has been involved with both feature films and Broadway theater. Dr. Kao has been an advisor to numerous companies world-wide, and serves on several boards of directors in both the commercial and not-for-profit sectors.

Dr. Kao has worked with the Navy in a variety of capacities over the past few years and presently advises NETWARCOM and PEO Carriers among other groups. He has created a role, in his own words, as a “self-appointed innovation activist.” Dr. Kao has made presentations to CSA’s commander’s conference, MCCDC, Pacific Fleet, NWDC, SSG, and SPAWAR. He recently directed a short documentary on Trident Warrior ’03. Dr. Kao’s particular areas of interest include: new concepts of command and control, the future environment for military operations, the role of simulation and gaming in the innovation process, and the implementation of large-scale innovation processes within the military context.

A key agenda for Dr. Kao at NPS will be to launch an innovation executive program for the Naval community. He has described the

course as a technology-enabled base camp for innovation activities. It will be delivered both at the Naval Postgraduate School and at end-user locations throughout the Naval enterprise in order to serve as a focal point for developing naval communities of interest around innovation. NPS will also launch a collaboration lab under Dr. Kao's direction that will prototype new approaches to integrating people, processes and technology to carry out the work of innovation.

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