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Naval Postgraduate School Historical Highlights: Cmdr. Frances Biadasz, first female instructor at NPS

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Monterey, California: Naval Postgraduate School.

<https://hdl.handle.net/10945/59043>

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Historical Highlights

Cmdr. Frances Biadasz, first female instructor at NPS

In 1963, Cmdr. Frances Biadasz became NPS' only, and likely first, female instructor. Biadasz had a remarkable naval career filled with firsts. In 1958, she worked as Special Assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Arleigh A. Burke. In 1961, she was transferred to Paris to work with NATO. Later in that same year, Biadasz received her PhD in International Relations from Georgetown University and earned Georgetown's "Gold Key," its highest academic honor.



Left, Biadasz presents Burke with her "Gold Key," as a token of her appreciation for his "long and consistent support of graduate instruction for naval officers in the field of International Relations" and for his personal support of her career.

Read a full interview with Biadasz in "The Classmate" available in Calhoun, the NPS Archive at: <https://calhoun.nps.edu/handle/10945/46832>.

November 2015

Irene Berry

