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Dr. Leonard A Ferrari, Executive Vice
President and Provost, Naval Postgraduate
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Dr. Leonard A Ferrari
Executive Vice President and Provost, Naval Postgraduate School

Dr. Leonard A. Ferrari was appointed Executive Vice President and Provost of the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in July 2006. Since becoming Provost, Dr. Ferrari has spearheaded a new Strategic Plan initiative, proposed new collaborative efforts with regional research and education institutions and launched new efforts to make campus academic and business processes more effective.

Prior to becoming the Provost, Dr. Ferrari was the Dean of Research at NPS, with responsibility for oversight of research, grants and contracts, the research activities of the Modeling, Virtual Environments, & Simulations Institute (MOVES), the Cebrowski and Meyer Institutes, policy issues and supervision of sponsored programs, oversight of the NPS Research Initiation Program (RIP) and the development of new research relationships and programs with federal, state and civilian organizations. Under his leadership, sponsored programs grew at a rate of nearly 25% per year. Dr. Ferrari played a lead role in the development of industry and relations with the University of California system and several universities in the National Capital Region (NCR), and strengthened programs and collaborations with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Dr. Ferrari has spent thirty years in academic faculty positions, and more than ten years in industrial research and development positions. He was Department Head of the Bradley Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and later Vice Provost for Special Initiatives and Executive Director of the Institute for Information Technology at Virginia Tech. Prior to that time, he was a faculty member at the University of California, Irvine and Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies for the School of Engineering. Dr. Ferrari also has more than ten years of experience in private industry with Bell & Howell and the Polaroid Corporation.

He holds a B.S.E.E. degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an M.S.E.E. from Northeastern University. His Ph.D. degree is from the University of California, Irvine with research work in spatially varying digital filters. Dr. Ferrari's research is in the areas of signal and image processing, medical imaging systems, computer graphics and multimedia systems. His most recent research is in the area of spline computations for computer graphics and data compression, where he produced extremely efficient computational procedures. He recently created the 2-5-2 spline, a mathematical basis function suitable for all spline applications that has superior properties and computational advantages over conventional B-splines. Dr. Ferrari and his colleagues have used the new spline algorithms and concepts in the development of low power circuits for high quality computer graphics and data compression in multimedia systems. He has also published approximately 100 research articles about electrical engineering.

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