

Professor Thomas E. Zelibor, Rear Admiral, USN (ret) Dean, College of Operational and Strategic Leadership, Naval War College

Thomas E. (Tom) Zelibor joined the Naval War College in Newport, RI as Dean of the College of Naval Leadership in July 2006. In this position, he is responsible for the content of the Professional Military Education (PME) continuum for Navy officer and enlisted personnel, which also includes education on ethics, and character development. In October 2007 he became the Dean of the College of Operational and Strategic Leadership when his responsibilities expanded to include responsibility for education, training and leadership development of the Maritime Headquarters/Maritime Operations Center Flag Officers and their staffs. This includes responsibility for the Combined Force/Joint Force Maritime Component Commander's Course, Maritime staff Operator Course, senior mentor program, Fleet assist and assessment teams, and competency development.

Prior to this assignment, Dean Zelibor was the site manager and Vice President for Strategic Operations - Strategies, Simulations, and Training Business Unit at Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) in Omaha, NE. He was responsible for interfacing across SAIC to ensure that operational strategies and capabilities of the United States Strategic Command and its mission partners were known and included into business development efforts for SAIC.

Dean Zelibor is a retired Navy Rear Admiral with 30 years of significant leadership experience in Naval Operations, Information Operations, Space Operations, C4ISR, IT, and Nuclear Operations. In his final military active duty assignment, he served as the Director, Global Operations (J-3) at US STRATEGIC COMMAND where he was responsible for maintaining full-spectrum global strike, and coordinating space, and information capabilities to meet both deterrent and decisive national security objectives.

In his varied Navy career, Dean Zelibor, a seasoned combat veteran, commanded a fighter squadron, carrier air wing, Naval Space Command and a carrier battle group. The highlight of his command tours was his assignment as Commander, Task Force Fifty for Operation Enduring Freedom where he led a three Carrier Task Force in combat operations in Afghanistan after 9-11. Additionally, he pioneered transformational efforts in his Battle Group to create the environment and tools for network centric warfare capabilities and a knowledge management culture. He has extensive experience in Information Operations where he served as the Joint Staff J-39. In this capacity he was at the leading edge of IO definition, policy, and operations for DoD. While serving as Commander, Naval Space Command, he was responsible for the management of Naval space operations and duties as the Naval Component Commander to the Commander, US Space Command in Colorado Springs, Colorado. His extensive C4ISR expertise culminated in his assignment as the Navy's N-61 and N6F where he led the definition of warfighting requirements for all Navy C4ISR programs and budgets. In his final six months on the Navy Staff, he became the Department of the Navy, Deputy Chief Information Officer (CIO), Navy, responsible for implementation of IT policy and procedures.

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

1976 BS, Oceanography, US Naval Academy

SENIOR EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

Leading Change in the Information Age, Naval Post Graduate School
Keenan Flagler Executive Business Course, University of North Carolina
Center for Creative Leadership (CCL)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2006 – present: Dean, College of Operational and Strategic Leadership, Naval War College, Newport, RI.

2005 – 2006: Vice President for Strategic Operations, Strategies Business Unit, Science Applications International Corporation, Omaha, NE.

2004 – 2005: Director of Global Operations (J-3), United States Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, NE.

2002 – 2004: Director, Space, Information Warfare, Command and Control Division (N61). In December 2003 he assumed the position as Deputy for C4 Integration and Policy/DON Deputy CIO (Navy) (N6F), Washington, DC.

2000 – 2002: Commander, Carrier Group Three and the USS Carl Vinson Battle Group, Bremerton, WA.

1998 – 2000: Commander, Naval Space Command and the Naval Component Commander for USCINCSpace, Dahlgren, VA.

1996 – 1998: Operations Directorate (J3) of the Joint Staff as the Deputy Director for Operations (Information Operations), J39, Washington, DC.

1994 – 1996: Commander, Carrier Air Wing Three, Virginia Beach, VA.

1976 – 1994: Various squadron and staff assignments.

HONORS, AWARDS, AFFILIATIONS, ARTICLES PUBLISHED

Department of Defense Awards

- Two Defense Superior Service Medals

- Four Legion of Merit Medals

- Distinguished Flying Cross with Combat "V"

- Bronze Star

- Three Meritorious Service Medals

- Three Strike/Flight Air Medals (two with Combat "V")

- One individual Air Medal with Combat "V"

- Four Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medals (three with Combat "V")

- Two Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medals

Affiliations/Boards

AFCEA member and Professional Development Center instructor for Network Centric Warfare

Kellogg School of Management, Executive Leader in Residence Program

Zell Center for Risk Research, Kellogg School of Management, visiting scholar

InScope Solutions, Advisory Board Member

Published

(December 2003). *FORCEnet is Navy's future: Information-sharing, from seabed to space*. Armed Forces Journal.