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Corporate gift to support ethics

by **Martha Thorn**

Trident Feature Editor

Northrop Grumman Corp. recently donated \$1 million to the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation for support of the the Naval Academy's Center for the Study of Professional Military Ethics.

Thomas C. Schievelbein, Class of '75 and president of Northrop Grumman Corp., presented a ceremonial check to Dick Johnson, executive vice president of the Naval Academy Foundation, in a ceremony March 4 at the Ethics Center.



USNA photo by Wayne McCrea<

Northrop Grumman Corp., left, presents a check to the USNA Foundation.

Naval Academy Superintendent Vice Adm. Rodney Rempt and Dr. Albert C. Pierce, director of the center, also took part in the ceremony.

Rempt talked about the difference between the academy and other colleges. He said other colleges had wonderful professors to teach ethics, but they didn't try to imbue ethics in every student.

The academy tries to raise all its midshipmen to the highest standard, he said, and not just in bookwork, but in their soul. Rempt said it was critical to the leadership development of the officer corps that 100 percent of the academy's student body develop to the highest ethical standard.

Rempt saw the donation as a significant help for the academy as it tries to steer midshipmen along an ethical path.

Schievelbein talked about how ethics was critical both in the Navy and industry and how one ethical lapse could taint, and even destroy, an entire organization or company. He said it was especially important in the Navy and in a nuclear shipyard where safety is such a primary concern.

Ethics isn't something that you can check a block and move on, Rempt noted. Rather it's something you have to practice 24 - 7 (twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week).

Johnson thanked Schievelbein for Northrop Grumman's gift. He also thanked him for his work on the Naval Academy Foundation's board of directors, where he has served for a year and a half.