



THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20593-0001

Dear Friends,

Greetings NSBE National Leadership Conference Participants!

It is my distinct honor and pleasure to welcome the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) to the United States Coast Guard Academy for your 2011 leadership development conference. Our goal during your stay with us is simple -- To be your resource and steadfast partner in making your annual conference a "world-class" event.

I am committed to, and proud of our alliance with NSBE. A partnership that is based on our common goals of elevating the engineering profession, promoting proficiency in mathematics and science, and improving the graduation rates of more Americans, especially minorities and women in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. During your visit to our campus, we invite you to discover what makes the Academy a premiere institution, dedicated to not only educating diverse, talented engineers and scientists, but above all in developing leaders and citizens of character.

The Academy and the Coast Guard are excited to host NSBE's annual leadership development conference for the over 250 collegiate and graduate students, and, professional and alumni leaders. During the next five days, you have a full and dynamic agenda filled with instructive and growth-based training as well as ample opportunity to network and share best practices with your colleagues. I wish you a very enjoyable and enriching experience.

Again, welcome to each and everyone, and I thank you for bringing your conference and your membership to the Coast Guard Academy. We look forward to spending this time with you in New London, Connecticut. If we can do anything to make your stay more pleasant, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. J. Papp, Jr.", written over a circular stamp.

R. J. Papp, Jr.
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard