
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News Release #15-14

Feb 18, 2014

Contact: Ed Barker

850.452.9110
(DSN) 922.4858
(FAX) 850.452.4900

NETPDTC 2013 Civilian of the Year Announced

PENSACOLA, Fla. -- The Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center (NETPDTC) announced their 2013 Civilian of the Year (COY) Feb. 18.

The 2013 COY, Mathematical Statistician Andrea Ducker, works for the Navy Advancement Center (NAC) in the exam execution division designing, developing and performing statistical functions and controls that ensure the accuracy and integrity of the Navy Enlisted Advancement System (NEAS) process. NEAS provides administrative advancements and exam development, directly impacting more than 300,000 Sailors per year.

"I was surprised to find out that I had been selected as COY," said Ducker.

"The other nominees are all very talented, hardworking individuals. It is an honor and I'm grateful just for being nominated."

Ducker started with NETPDTC in 2008 as a cooperative education student while simultaneously attending the University of West Florida in Pensacola. She has worked on a number of projects supporting critical Navy personnel programs including researching and developing statistical projects for use in NAC's evolving exam development processes. This included work on exam

and question psychometrics, exam bank management and exam construction. Psychometrics is a branch of clinical or applied psychology dealing with the use and application of mental measurement.

"This project has been one of the most challenging experiences I've encountered," said Ducker. "I've enjoyed working with my peers, learning different processes and exchanging ideas to develop creative solutions."

Sue Dickerson, a co-worker in the NETPDTC Statistical Analysis Branch credited Ducker's insight into the exam process for her COY selection.

"Much of our successful work is due to Andrea's abilities, one being the ability to see both the big picture and the details from all angles," said Dickerson. "When we are on a team together my confidence about the decisions and analysis we provide is much greater."

Ducker's supervisor, NAC's Statistical Analysis Branch Head Darlene Barrow, relies on Ducker's abilities to develop output for in-house requests and for projects supporting the Department of Defense.

"Andrea has a deep understanding of statistics, great insight on project requirements, a tremendous ability in analyzing data, and provides fast turn-around on output requested," said Barrow. "Andrea's work is definitely important to the Navy."

During a recent All Hands event, Capt. Janet Lomax, NETPDTC's commanding officer, said Ducker is a true superstar and recognized her for spending extensive man-hours researching innovative statistical methods and approaches for exam and item statistics.

"Mrs. Ducker's evaluative analysis on past exam administration and test item banks were invaluable to the Navy Advancement Center exam development processes," said Lomax. "Employees like Mrs. Ducker work quietly behind the scenes, but their efforts pay huge dividends in achieving our command mission. I continue to be awed and inspired by the NETPDTC Team."

For more information about the Navy Advancement Center and the Navy Enlisted Advancement System visit <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Navy-Advancement-Center>.

Additional information on the Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center can be found on the NETPDTC website: <https://www.netc.navy.mil/netc/Commands/NETPDTC.aspx>.

For more information on the Naval Education and Training Command, visit <https://www.netc.navy.mil>.

-USN-

Story by Katrina Gergely, Naval Education and Training Professional
Development and Technology Center Public Affairs