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Operations Specialist selected as training center's Junior Enlisted
Instructor of the Year

DAHLGREN, Va. –Center for Surface Combat Systems (CSCS) announced its 2012 Junior Enlisted Instructor of the Year Feb. 5.

Operations Specialist 2nd Class Adrian Clark was ecstatic to hear the results.

"The competition was tough and it is an honor to have been selected among so many worthy candidates," he said.

Clark teaches Sailors how to operate the Navy's modern tactical data networks at CSCS Unit (CSCSU) Dam Neck in Virginia Beach, Va.

CSCSU Dam Neck's Command Master Chief Frank Oborny emphasized that Clark has made an outstanding impact on the Navy's mission.

"It is imperative that Sailors enrolled in our courses receive the highest quality training possible," he said. "Students who graduate from OS2 Clark's courses will employ their training aboard ships in support of the nation's

interests. He always ensures the courses he teaches are constantly updated to reflect the ever-changing global mission of the Navy."

In Clark's case, it is especially essential to stay up to date due to the Navy's increasing reliance on advanced data exchange systems.

"Tactical data 'links' are indispensable in the emerging arena of ballistic missile defense," said Clark's leading supervisor, Operations Specialist 1st Class Corey Snowden. "His expertise in this subject matter makes him uniquely qualified to instruct the next generation of Sailors. I am thrilled to see him recognized for the work he has done to improve the quality of Sailors who graduate our courses."

Capt. Don Schmieley, CSCS commanding officer, congratulated Clark and thanked him for his exceptional performance.

"Once again, I continue to be amazed with the professionalism and excellence CSCS instructors exhibit on a daily basis and OS2 Clark has truly made his mark not only in the domain, but also in the fleet," he said.

Clark joined the Navy from his hometown of Virginia Beach, Va., serving in the Navy since 2005, including a tour aboard the Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate USS Carr (FFG 52).

Clark says he looks forward to his next tour aboard the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Monterey (CG 61) as a subject matter expert returning to the fleet with the most current rating knowledge, benefiting the Surface Warfare Enterprise and the Navy as a whole.

Clark will now go on to compete for Naval Education and Training Command's Officer Junior Enlisted Instructor of the Year.

"I am both grateful and honored to represent CSCS in the NETC wide competition," said Clark.

The Center for Surface Combat Systems Headquarters' staff oversees 14 learning sites, including CSCS Unit Dam Neck, and provides 80,000 hours of curriculum and 670 courses a year to more than 50,000 Sailors. The mission of CSCSU Dam Neck is to develop and deliver surface ship combat systems training to achieve surface warfare superiority. CSCS Unit Dam Neck provides many different curriculums, and is a primary training facility for several Navy combat systems ratings.

For more information about the Center for Surface Combat Systems, visit <https://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/cscs/>

For more news from Naval Education and Training Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnet/

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Story by Operations Specialist 1st Class Daniel Osterberg, Center for Surface Combat Systems Unit Dam Neck