Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science  Seminar Series

The Scientist and the Sailor

with James Colvard,
U.S. Navy

Tuesday, October 9, 2012, 2:00 - 3:30 pm
ICTAS on Stanger, Room 310

This talk will trace the associations of science and the Navy, including the history of the in-house labs, the UARCS and the FFRDCs. I will discuss the unique capability of each of the different type institutions and why they are important to the Navy. I will also discuss the current organizational arrangement within the Navy that oversees these institutions.

Dr. James Colvard began his Navy career as an electronic technician during the Korean War. In 1958, he joined the Navy as a civil servant at the Naval Ordnance Test Station, China Lake, California. Stints followed at the Naval Weapons Laboratory and Naval Material Command. After completing his federal career, Dr. Colvard served as the associate director for the Applied Physics Laboratory/Johns Hopkins University. He later served as a senior fellow in the Office of the President, Center for Naval Analyses. Dr. Colvard continued his long football tips association with the Navy after his civil service career ended. He chaired the Navy Research Advisory Committee and serves today as a consultant to the Navy on such issues as ballistic missile defense and management of R&D. He currently serves as a special assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Dr. Colvard's education includes a B.A. in physics from Berea College, Kentucky, a master's in Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma, and a Ph.D. in Public Administration from the University of Southern California.

Dr. Colvard has received numerous awards including the Presidential Rank of Distinguished Executive from Presidents Carter and Bush and has published extensively since 1980.