



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

May 5, 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (RESEARCH,
DEVELOPMENT, AND ACQUISITION)
CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

SUBJECT: DON Key Strategic Issues List

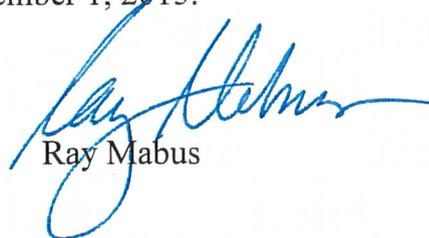
The Department of the Navy (DON) must create a process by which we identify the DON's key research issues and share them with a diverse audience. This ensures a cross-disciplinary approach to problem solving, a proven approach for fostering innovation. It is to our advantage to share unclassified research needs with the public to leverage the outstanding graduate programs in the United States.

In 2014, OPNAV N51 created the *U.S. Navy Key Strategic Issues List, Academic Years 2014-2015*. N51 used this product to identify and share the strategic research needs of the U.S. Navy with Navy graduate students and fellows.

Using OPNAV N51's model, I direct the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development, and Acquisition) to solicit unclassified research needs from all functional communities across the DON and provide the results to Naval Post Graduate School.

The Naval Post Graduate School shall compile the results and publish the *U.S. Navy Key Strategic Issues List, Academic Years 2016-2017* and ensure this list is publically accessible on the NPS website.

Actions will be completed by September 1, 2015.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Ray Mabius", is written over the typed name.

Ray Mabius

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cc:

USN

ASN's

DUSN's

JAG

NAVINGEN

DNS

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DMCS

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