

# Space Professional Oversight Board Charter

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**Purpose** Space power represents a decisive asymmetric advantage for the United States. We rely on space for many critical capabilities and this reliance is growing. In order to preserve our advantage as the leading spacefaring nation, the United States must ensure it maintains the people element of space power—space professionals. The Space Professional Oversight Board is established to oversee the development of the Space Professionals within the Department of Defense (DoD). By strategically managing multi-service and multi-agency space professional development activities and guiding investments in space professional development, the board ensures that space professionals possess the depth and breadth of training, education and experience required to advance the use of space power and to transform military and intelligence operations.

**Mandate** The Space Professional Oversight Board (SPOB) is the Senior Officer Forum required by the Department of Defense Executive Agent *Space Human Capital Resources Strategy, February 2004*. The board serves a dual function as the Space Programs Joint Oversight Board required by the *Memorandum of Agreement Forming an Educational Alliance Between the Department of the Navy and the Department of the Air Force, 4 December 2002*.

**Administration** The SPOB is established by the DoD Executive Agent for Space. The SPOB's oversight function concerning the space programs of the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) and the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) is established by the NPS Superintendent and the AFIT Commandant. The SPOB replaces the Joint Space Oversight Board. All responsibilities and obligations of the Joint Space Oversight Board are transferred to the Space Professional Oversight Board. Meetings will be held a minimum of twice a year.

**Responsibilities** **The Space Professional Oversight Board will**

- Approve NSS professional development policy
- Validate NSS-level space professional requirements
- Approve DoD-level space professional development plans
- Guide the synchronization and integration of the department's space cadre efforts
- Promote the development of a cadre of space professionals within each of the military services
- Provide guidance on professional development efforts, plans and activities
- Oversee DoD EA for Space managerial processes and identify best practices pertaining to space professionals

The SPOB in support of the AFIT/NPS Educational Alliance will

- Ensure officers in space programs receive high-quality, relevant and responsive graduate education aligned to defense needs
- Prevent unnecessary duplication within AFIT and NPS space programs, while sustaining excellence
- Make periodic reports to the NPS Board of Advisors and AFIT Board of Visitors
- Establish and Oversee an Admissions Review board to make future recommendations for candidates to attend either AFIT or NPS

**The National Security Space Office (NSSO)** will serve as the Executive Secretariat to the board. In this capacity it will perform all administrative functions directed by the Chair.

**The Human Capital Resources Steering Group (HCRSG)** is established and will, when necessary, guide the efforts of the Joint Space Academic Group and the Human Capital Resources Working Group. The Director of the NSSO will chair the HCRSG.

**The Joint Space Academic Group (JSAG)** is established and will provide an integrated vision of graduate-level space education and coordinated AFIT and NPS responses to SPOB taskings and queries.

**The Human Capital Resources Working Group (HCRWG)** is established to implement the Space Human Capital Resources Strategy and perform other duties (Congressional Reporting Requirements) as assigned.

#### Membership

As a minimum, board membership will include representatives from the four military services, United States Strategic Command, the Joint Staff and the National Reconnaissance Office. Invitations to individuals to become board members may be extended by the Chair. Invitations to organizations to provide board members may be extended by the Chair. Termination of individual board membership may be directed by the Chair. The Chair of the board will be the Under Secretary of the Air Force/Director of the National Reconnaissance Office. Should the Chair be reappointed, the Chair will be selected from Flag/General Officers of the NRO, Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps or United States Strategic Command.

Peter B. Teets  
 Under Secretary of the Air Force  
 Director of the National Reconnaissance Office