Captain Henry C. Taylor

Henry Clay Taylor (1845–1904) was the sixth president of the Naval War College. In 1880 – 1884, Taylor had commanded one of Admiral Luce's training ships. Taylor clearly understood Luce's thinking and became a lecturer to the College's first class. During his tenure as president, Taylor revised the curriculum and established an academic program that lasted until 1919. Among his innovations were the use of case studies for instruction in international law and making war gaming part of the curriculum.

The artist, Rufus Fairchild Zogbaum (1849 - 1925), was the most famous naval illustrator of the Spanish-American War era. A contemporary of Frederic Remington and Winslow Homer, he gained fame as an illustrator for Harper's Weekly. In his time, he was world renowned and even mentioned in a poem by Rudyard Kipling. On Taylor's death in 1904, the members of the Naval Academy Alumni Association of New York solicited subscriptions for a memorial portrait of Taylor. Their appeal raised only five hundred dollars, but the famous artist agreed to undertake the work as a labor of love. Upon its completion, the Alumni Association donated it to the Naval War College.

PRESIDENT, 15 NOVEMBER 1893 - 31 DECEMBER 1896 Oil on Canvas Rufus F. Zogbaum, 1905 Gift of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association of

