

Rear Admiral Shoshana S. Chatfield

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Oil on Canvas
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Rear Admiral Chatfield graduated from Boston University in 1987 with a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and French Language and Literature. She received her commission through NROTC and earned her naval aviator wings in 1989. Continuing her education, she graduated from Harvard University in 1997 with a Master of Public Administration, and from the University of San Diego in 2009 with a Doctor of Education in Leadership Studies.

Chatfield served as a helicopter pilot and flew the SH-3, CH-46D, and MH-60S including multiple deployments to the Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf. She commanded the "Island Knights" of HSC-25, the only forward-deployed MH-60S expeditionary squadron. In 2008, Chatfield took command of a joint provincial reconstruction team in Farah Province, Afghanistan. Returning to the Pacific in 2010, she assumed command of Helicopter Sea Combat Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet and of Joint Region Marianas in Guam.

In 2019, Admiral Chatfield was appointed the 57th President of the Naval War College, becoming the first woman to hold this position. Upon arrival, she emphasized the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion and increased confidence in the culture of respect and collaboration within the institution. She led the College during a time of extraordinary challenges stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. Chatfield oversaw the successful transition of the college's education and research programs to virtual and hybrid formats. For these efforts, the College received the Meritorious Unit Citation.

Chatfield worked with the newly created Deputy CNO for Warfighting Development N7 to achieve consequential outcomes in War Gaming by coordinating across DON, DOD and Interagency organizations, reestablishing governance and prioritization processes and investing strategically in modeling and simulation tools. She mainstreamed Women Peace and Security across the curriculum. She established a new center for Strategic Deterrence. Her tenure was marked by an emphasis on enhancing fiscal stewardship through data driven analysis, the identification and accomplishment of strategic initiatives, academic innovation and the development of future leaders.

