



# UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS EDUCATION COMMAND  
MARINE CORPS UNIVERSITY  
2076 SOUTH STREET  
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5067

IN REPLY REFER TO

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17 January 2002

The Honorable Bob Stump  
Chairman  
Committee on Armed Services  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

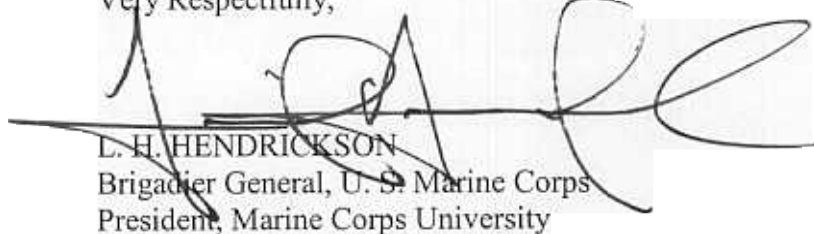
Dear Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the Marine Corps War College Director, faculty, staff and students I am pleased to report to you that the U. S. Secretary of Education has certified the War College's Master of Strategic Studies graduate level degree program. This certification represents the culmination of several years of intense work toward optimizing the graduate level curriculum and obtaining federal degree-granting authority.

House Report 107-333 directed the President of the Marine Corps University to transmit to the Committees on Armed Services a copy of the Department of Education certification that requirements established by the Marine Corps War College are in accordance with requirements for a degree of Master of Strategic Studies. Enclosed is that document.

As President of the University, I have the privilege of leading some of America's finest men and women. I am proud that I will be able to formally recognize the efforts and hard work of the graduates of the Marine Corps War College by conferring a Master of Strategic Studies upon them.

Very Respectfully,



L. H. HENDRICKSON  
Brigadier General, U. S. Marine Corps  
President, Marine Corps University



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

August 8, 2001

Brigadier General Leif H. Hendrickson  
President  
Marine Corps University  
Marine Corps Combat Development Command  
Quantico, Virginia 22134-5067

Dear General Hendrickson:

At its May 23-24 meeting, the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (National Advisory Committee) recommended that I support a request of the Marine Corps University for authorization to award a Master's degree for successful completion of its Marine Corps War College program in strategic studies. As you know, the University, in accordance with the applicable policy directive, "Federal Policy Governing the Granting of Academic Degrees by Federal Agencies and Institutions," had requested an evaluation by the U.S. Department of Education to obtain authorization to grant the Master's degree for the War College's strategic studies program.

Last March a team of National Advisory Committee members and U. S. Department of Education staff conducted a site visit at the Marine Corps University to review the Marine Corps War College and its strategic studies program. Based on its site visit observations and its evaluation of program materials, the team determined that the strategic studies program met all criteria used to assess the adequacy of a Federal institution to grant degrees at the Master's degree level. The team's report at the May meeting resulted in the National Advisory Committee's unanimous recommendation that approval be granted for the Marine Corps University to award the Master's degree for successful completion of the Marine Corps War College program in strategic studies.

I concur with the recommendation of the National Advisory Committee and am so advising the Office of Management and Budget. Nothing in my approval, however, may be interpreted as a determination by the Administration that legislation or other actions to request funds for such a degree-granting program have been approved. Such determinations are reserved to the normal channels for legislative and budgetary proposals of the applicant agency, as prescribed in OMB Circulars A-11 and A-19.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rod Paige", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Rod Paige

Enclosure (1)