

2008 DHS Distinguished Fellows Announced



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) National Preparedness Directorate, FEMA and the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security are pleased to announce the selection of John Paczkowski and Lai-Sun Yee as the 2008 U.S. Department of Homeland Security CHDS Distinguished Alumni Fellows.

The one-year Fellowship Program based in Washington D.C. allows DHS to benefit from the perspectives Paczkowski and Yee obtained during their graduate work in homeland security at NPS, and throughout their careers in public safety. The Fellowship will also provide an opportunity for the Fellows' home agencies or organizations to benefit from the national perspective and DHS programmatic knowledge that the Fellows will bring back.

"I am extremely grateful for the opportunity that this Fellowship provides to make a contribution to national homeland security policy and programs," said Paczkowski. "The valuable learning that I am confident will come from this assignment will make me a better informed and more capable homeland security practitioner at the State and local level." Paczkowski has worked for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey since 1978. He currently serves as the Director of Emergency Management and Security where he is responsible for oversight of agency-wide critical infrastructure protection and emergency readiness programs for the Authority's aviation, transit, tunnel and bridge, and maritime cargo facilities.

Yee says she is also honored to have been selected as a NPS CHDS Alumni Fellow and welcomes the opportunity to represent NPS at DHS/FEMA. "It will be a great experience to work on senior level policy projects and to contribute to the area of homeland security and emergency management." Since 2001, Yee has held a variety of homeland security positions. She most recently served as the Assistant Deputy Secretary for Homeland Security in the New York State Governor's Office where she had responsibilities with a number of homeland security agencies including the State Emergency Management Office, Office of Homeland Security, Cyber Security and Critical Infrastructure Coordination.