CAPT BryerJoyner Assumes Command of Hopper Center

“Momentarily, I will stand relieved and relinquish the greatest responsibility I’ve had so far in my naval career. It’s been everything I imagined, and much more.” Those were the words of Capt. Darryl Jackson as he prepared to turn over command of the Hopper Information Services Center to Capt. Susan BryerJoyner, in a ceremony in the NMIC auditorium Jan 14.

In her remarks as presiding officer, Rear. Adm. Elizabeth Train, ONI Commander, listed many of Hopper Center’s accomplishments under Jackson’s leadership, including Hopper’s Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions Team winning the 2015 Bob Feller Act of Valor Award as the Junior Sailor Peer-to-Peer Mentorship Chapter of the Year.

“To succeed in command, you have to be a strong leader,” said Train, citing quotes from naval leaders including Hopper namesake Grace Hopper: “You manage things, but you lead people.” Train addressed Jackson as she continued, “Darryl, you epitomize the definitions of a strong leader. Hopper’s accomplishments...are all testaments to your strong leadership. Not only did you provide focus to your team, you are an exceptional role model, and a mentor to your staff.”

Train presented Jackson with the Legion of Merit (his second), with the accompanying citation noting his superb management of 704 military and civilian personnel worldwide.

As Hopper Center’s new CO, BryerJoyner opened by thanking Navy Intelligence Community leadership for the opportunity to command. “It is a real honor to be the first information professional to be selected to lead the Information Services Center,” she said. She credited her parents with instilling in her the wisdom of making the most of your resources, and in the value of hard work, saying, “I think it’s going to set us up very well for an environment with decreasing resources.”

Addressing Hopper personnel, BryerJoyner said, “I look forward to working with you to build on past success and conquer future challenges.” She concluded by saying, “It is my distinct pleasure to be here today, and I am ready to get to work.”