



Uniformed Services University

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News Release

Uniformed Services University alumnus makes flag rank

BETHESDA, Md. – A Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences alumnus, U.S. Air Force Col. [Thomas Travis](#), MC, was recently selected for promotion to brigadier general.

Travis is the commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing at Brooks City-Base (formerly Brooks Air Force Base), Texas.

He entered the Air Force in 1976 as a distinguished ROTC graduate with a bachelor's degree in biology from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He earned his master's degree in physiology from Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1980.

He was a medical student at USU's F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine from August 1982 to May 1986, and was the top Air Force graduate in his class. He became a flight surgeon in 1987. In 1991, he earned his master's degree in public health from the University of Texas Health Science Center, and in 1999, earned his master's degree in national resource strategy from the National Defense University.

Travis is one of the Air Force's few pilot-physicians. He completed residency training in aerospace medicine at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine in 1992 and was board certified in 1993. He was awarded his Air Force pilot wings in 1978, and is a command pilot and chief flight surgeon. He has flown the F-4, F-15, F-16 as mission pilot and, most recently, the Royal Air Force Hawk as senior medical officer/test pilot.

Travis is the fourth USU doctor of medicine graduate to ascend to flag rank. Previously,

Rear Adm. Connie Mariano (U.S. Navy, Class of 1981), Brig. Gen. Bill Fox (U.S. Army, Class of 1981), and Brig. Gen. Bill Germann (U.S. Air Force, Class of 1982) were selected. Mariano served as physician to President Clinton and is now retired and working at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Ariz. Fox is the commander of Brooke Army Medical Center, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. Germann is the commander of Malcolm Grow USAF Medical Center, Andrews AFB, Md.

USU was established by Congress under the Department of Defense in 1972 and has the nation's only fully accredited federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. With its motto "Learning to Care for Those in Harm's Way," the university has a worldwide reputation as a center of excellence for military medical education and research.