

Vice Admiral Joanna M. Nunan

U.S. Maritime Service (Retired)

14th Superintendent, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

Former Senior Executive Service member

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard (Retired)

In the course of a 35-year Coast Guard career, Nunan commanded two cutters in Kodiak, Alaska, the World War Two era IRONWOOD and its state-of-the-art replacement, SPAR. She commanded the Hawaiian Islands Sector and the Great Lakes District and served in the offices of two Cabinet Secretaries, in Transportation and Homeland Security. At the time of her retirement, she was overseeing all things Personnel, from recruiting and training to the Coast Guard Academy and workforce management.

In a two-and-a-half year tenure as Superintendent of the United States Merchant Marine Academy, she sought to refine the culture on campus as well as raise external awareness of Kings Point's unique brand of excellence. Nunan strengthened relationships with national security and industry leaders. Under her purview, Kings Point's licensing curriculum was re-certified by the United States Coast Guard, its entire collegiate program re-accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, and all eligible Marine Engineering programs re-accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.

Her Kings Point legacy will forever be a ten-year interagency agreement signed with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, to modernize an aging 82-year old campus, along with a ten-year Long Range Master Facilities Plan, approved by the Secretary of Transportation, to guide their efforts.

In retirement she serves as an advisor to a number of organizations, among them the World Maritime University, the Navy League of the United States, and the National Cargo Bureau.

A Bridgeport, Connecticut native, Nunan graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 1987 and received her Master of Business Administration from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She holds several Coast Guard merchant marine licenses, including Master of vessels of not more than 1,600 gross tons and 3rd Mate on vessels of unlimited tonnage, upon oceans.