



Joseph W. Swaykos
Captain United States Navy (Retired)

Director, Center of Higher Learning - Stennis Space Center

Captain Joseph W. Swaykos is a native of Bloomfield New Jersey. A graduate of Bloomfield High School, Captain Swaykos entered the U.S. Naval Academy in July of 1972 and graduated with a B.S. in Oceanography in June 1976.

Captain Swaykos served in the U.S. Navy for twenty eight years following his four years at Annapolis. He started out as an Unrestricted Line Officer sailing on USS Badger (FF-1071) in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He was then selected for attendance at the Naval Postgraduate School where he earned Masters Degrees in Meteorology and Physical Oceanography. Captain Swaykos continued his service as a Navy Oceanographer (Restricted Line Officer Community) and served in several sea tours and key shore assignments. His last three tours of duty included serving as Deputy Oceanographer of the Navy (Washington D.C.), Commanding Officer of Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center (Monterey CA), and Chairman of the Oceanography Department at his alma mater. He also earned a Masters Degrees in Systems Management and in National Security and Strategy from the University of Southern California and the Naval War College respectively. Captain Swaykos retired from active duty in 2004 and accepted a position with the University of Southern Mississippi serving as the Director of the Center of Higher Learning at Stennis Space Center. Additionally, he was selected as a Fellow in the American Meteorological Society in 2007 and was selected to represent the University of Southern Mississippi in the state wide Leadership Mississippi program.

Captain Swaykos is married to former Linda Anne Baiamonte of Toms River, New Jersey. Their son Joseph Jr. is a graduate of Virginia Tech, daughter Catherine is a graduate of the University of Iowa, son Patrick is a senior at the University of Nebraska. They reside in Pass Christian, Mississippi.