

Innovation and Creativity

The Thomas Lord Charitable Trust Lecture Essay Contest
by The Brute Krulak Center

The Krulak Center, officially established in July 2018 as part of Marine Corps University (MCU), exists in order to inspire, foster, and provide a means for the Marine Corps to facilitate and develop novel solutions to current and future operational challenges. The Krulak Center and Marine Corps University Foundation sponsored the Thomas Lord Charitable Trust Lecture Essay Contest in December 2018 to help promote, encourage, and reward creativity among all MCU students. The essay contest also challenged the students to think and write about technological innovations that will most impact the MAGTF in the future. The essay contest winners received a certificate and prize money of \$1000 for first place, \$750 for second place, and \$500 for third place in recognition of their achievement. The awards were made possible through the generosity of Col Robert R. Rust, USMCR(Ret) and Mr. Mark Sternheimer who established the First Special Basic Class 1950 Endowment Fund. They were TBS classmates of Senator John Warren and served in the Korean War together. They were so impressed



LtGen Victor H. "Brute" Krulak. (Photo by MSGt Bender, San Diego, Feb 1964.)

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with the MCU when their Basic School class visited in 2016 that they created this fund to train and inform Marines on technological innovations. MCU has chosen to recognize these forward thinkers in conjunction with the Thomas Lord Charitable Trust lecture, acknowledging the importance that MCU places on harnessing the creativity of its students. The essay prompt was:

Emerging technologies are shaping and defining tomorrow's battlefield. Looking 20 years into the future and in no more than 1,000-1,500 words, write about the emerging technology that will most affect the MAGTF in combined maritime-land-air operations. Possible considerations include how the technology will not only affect the MAGTF, but its mani-

festations, opportunities, risks, operational and technological counters, effects, and implications it presents. You may write non-fiction analysis or creative fiction.

The following essays were chosen as the winners:

- First place: "The HIMARS-UGV: Emerging Fires Technology in Support of Expeditionary Advanced Base Operations" by Capt M.P. Magyar.
- Second place: "Emerging Technologies" by Capt James Cole, USAF.
- Third place: "Drones, Artificial Intelligence, and Marine Jedis" by Capt M.S. Hanks.

All students are currently attending Expeditionary Warfare School in Quantico.

