



# BIOGRAPHY

*UNITED STATES AIR FORCE*

## COLONEL ROBERT J. KRAUS

Col. Robert J. Kraus is the Chief, Science and Engineering Division, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, where he leads a team of 38 scientists and engineers in managing the basic research investment for the US Air Force. Each year, AFOSR selects, sponsors and manages revolutionary basic research that impacts the future Air Force. AFOSR interacts with leading scientists and engineers throughout the world to identify breakthrough opportunities; actively manages a \$500 million investment portfolio encompassing the best of these opportunities; and transitions the resulting discoveries to other components of the Air Force Research Laboratory, to defense industries and to other federal agencies. The office's annual investment in basic research is distributed among over 200 leading academic institutions worldwide, 100 industry-based contracts, and more than 250 Air Force intramural research efforts.



Colonel Kraus graduated with academic distinction from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1991 with a BS in Aeronautical Engineering and a minor in Russian language. He completed an MS in Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Tech in 2000 and a PhD in Aerospace Engineering from Virginia Tech in 2010.

Colonel Kraus completed previous assignments as a C-141 Pilot, Aircraft Commander, and Nuclear Airlift Monitor at Travis AFB CA; C-130 Experimental Test Pilot and Hurricane Hunter at Edwards AFB CA; Director of Flight Test and Assistant Professor of Aeronautics at the USAF Academy, CO; Chief Test Director and Operations Officer of the AMC Test and Evaluation Squadron, McGuire AFB NJ; Director of the Commander's Action Group for the Dean of the Faculty, USAF Academy, CO; and Chief Scientist and Director of Research, USAF Academy, CO.

Colonel Kraus is a command pilot and experimental test pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours in over 31 different aircraft. He is acquisition certified at Level III in Test and Evaluation and Level I in Science and Technology Management.

### EDUCATION

- 1991 Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Engineering, USAF Academy, CO
- 1992 Undergraduate Pilot Training, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training, Sheppard AFB TX
- 1997 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB AL
- 1998 US Air Force Test Pilot School, Edwards AFB CA
- 2001 Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
- 2002 Air Command and Staff College (Correspondence)
- 2007 Air War College (Correspondence)
- 2010 Doctor of Philosophy in Aerospace Engineering, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, VA

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

1. Aug 1991 – Sep 1992, student, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training, Sheppard AFB TX
2. Sep 1992 – Dec 1992, student, C-141B Pilot Initial Qualification Course, Altus AFB OK
3. Dec 1992 – Dec 1995, C-141B Copilot through Aircraft Commander, Nuclear Airlift Monitor, Squadron Executive Officer, 7th Airlift Squadron and 19th Airlift Squadron, Travis AFB CA
4. Dec 1995 – Jun 1997, NC-141A and C-141B Instructor Research Pilot, Executive Officer, 418th Flight Test Squadron, Edwards AFB CA
5. Jul 1997 – Jun 1998, student, US Air Force Test Pilot School, Edwards AFB CA
6. Jun 1998 – Jun 2001, Standardization and Evaluation Flight Commander, C-130 Instructor Experimental Test Pilot, 418th Flight Test Squadron, Edwards AFB CA
7. Jun 2001 – Jun 2004, Director of Flight Test, Assistant Professor, Executive Officer, Department of Aeronautics, USAF Academy, CO
8. Jun 2004 – Jul 2007, Chief Test Director and Operations Officer, AMC Test and Evaluation Squadron, McGuire AFB NJ
9. Jul 2007 – May 2010, PhD Graduate Student and AFIT Liaison Officer, Virginia Polytechnic and State University, VA
10. May 2010 – Dec 2010, Assistant Professor, Department of Aeronautics, USAF Academy, CO
11. Jan 2011 – Jun 2012, Director, Commanders Action Group, Dean of Faculty, USAF Academy, CO
12. June 2012 - 2014, Chief Scientist and Director of Research, USAF Academy, CO
13. June 2014 – Present, Chief, Science and Engineering Division, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Arlington, VA

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters  
Aerial Achievement Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters  
Air Force Commendation Medal  
AF Outstanding Unit Award with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters  
AF Organizational Excellence Award with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters  
National Defense Service Medal with 1 Cluster  
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal  
Southwest Asia Service Medal with 1 Cluster  
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal  
Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal  
Kuwait Liberation Medal Government of Kuwait

## **OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**

- 1991 Outstanding Cadet in Aeronautical Engineering, USAF Academy, CO
- 1992 Distinguished Graduate, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training, Sheppard AFB TX
- 1992 Academic Excellence Award, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training, Sheppard AFB TX
- 1992 Flying Excellence Award, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training, Sheppard AFB TX
- 1992 Top Formation Pilot, Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training, Sheppard AFB TX
- 2002 Outstanding First Year Instructor, Department of Aeronautics, USAF Academy, CO
- 2003 Tau Beta Pi Faculty Advisor of the Year, USAF Academy, CO
- 2004 Outstanding Academy Educator, Department of Aeronautics, USAF Academy, CO

## **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION**

Second Lieutenant May 29, 1991  
First Lieutenant May 29, 1993  
Captain May 29, 1995  
Major March 1, 2002  
Lieutenant Colonel March 1, 2007  
Colonel Sep 1, 2012