

West Region Welcomes New Defense Acquisition University President



DAU West Region “All Hands” with new DAU President Katrina McFarland. From left: DAU West Region Dean Andy Zaleski; McFarland; DAU Vice President Dr. James McMichael; DAU West Region Associate Dean for Outreach and Performance Support Rob Tremaine; DAU West Region Associate Dean for Academics Dr. Hank DeVries.

The West Region hosted DAU President **Katrina McFarland** Jan. 24–27, 2011, during her participation at two West Region major events: the Enterprise Performance Review and Analysis and the Board of Visitors. In her first visit to the West Region as DAU’s new president, both proceedings gave McFarland a strong sense of the West Region’s mission and commitment as well

as insight into all regional activities and the rich source of expertise at her disposal.

Her visit to San Diego also gave DAU West Region faculty and staff the opportunity to meet and get to know the new president. Before she returned to the DAU main campus, a “meet and greet” videoconference was conducted with three other West Region sites (Los Angeles, Port Hueneme, and Seattle). Those attending were introduced to McFarland and given an opportunity to quickly summarize their careers. One in particular captured her attention. During DAU West Region Professor **Jim Rego’s** introduction, McFarland reminded Rego that she was one of his students. Ever quick to respond, Rego asserted, “I’m a lot better now!”

Also in attendance was DAU Vice President **Dr. James McMichael**, who offered the West Region a brief insight into his personal and professional life that included an assignment in San Diego many years ago. Following the introductions, McFarland graciously shared a few of her personal interests that included her love for the outdoors. The entire West Region team appreciated the time to get to know the new president. Dean **Andy Zaleski** and the DAU West Region leadership team concluded the visit by conducting a tour of the San Diego facility on McFarland’s behalf.

SSCF Program Fellows Tour Major Commands, Team Orlando

The Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) Senior Service College Fellowship (SSCF) Director **Jim Oman** and eight APG Fellows—Steve Cooper, Ray Fontaine, Joe Forino, Stephanie Halcisak, Raj Malhotra, Dan Shearer, Dennis Teefy, and Randy Young—joined by Midwest SSCF Program On-Site Director Dave Kosinki from Warren, Mich., and three Midwest Fellows—Pamela Demeulenaere, Ross Boelke, and Steve Turpen—toured U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM), U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM), and Team Orlando Jan. 24–28, 2011.

At USCENTCOM, the Fellows were greeted by, received an overview from, and had direct dialogue with USCENTCOM Chief of Staff Marine Maj. Gen. Michael Jones. After the general’s remarks, the Fellows received a series of classified presentations that resulted in a deeper understanding of how USCENTCOM executes its roles and responsibilities. These presentations included a theater campaign plans brief from the J5 Plans Branch Chief, a current operations overview brief from a J3 Plans Officer, a logistics overview brief from the J4 Deputy Director of Operations, and a science and technology brief from the Chief of Concepts and Transformation, J8. Moving to USSOCOM, the Fellows received a command overview brief from Special Operations Research, Development, and Acquisition Center Deputy Director James F. Geurts, a member of the Senior Executive Service; an acquisition overview briefing; and a presentation on USSOCOM’s role in the ongoing Global War on Terrorism. Departing Tampa, the Fellows arrived at Orlando and transitioned to the Team Orlando portion of the visit. The Team Orlando segment of the visit consisted of stops at the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training, and Instrumentation; the U.S. Army Simulation and Training Technology Center; the Institute for Simulation and Training/University of Central Florida; the Science Applications International Corporation Common Driver Trainer; and the Advanced Distributed Learning Co-Laboratory. The Fellows had the opportunity to experience and demonstrate their marksmanship proficiency at the Engagement Skills Trainer and their driving skills at the Common Driver Trainer. This on-site, interactive trip not only deepened the Fellows’ understanding of the role played by combatant commands in protecting national interests, but also afforded them an opportunity to hear about and examine some of the latest modeling, simulation, and gaming capabilities available to the nation’s warfighters.

