

Mentoring

DAU provides each Fellow the opportunity to engage a senior mentor from the government acquisition workforce. Each Fellow meets with his or her mentor throughout the 10 month program. With both the mentor's time and the Fellow's calendar full of important and demanding activities, the Fellowship program does not schedule specific dates for the meetings to take place, but instead offers both the mentor and mentee opportunities to engage.

Mentors provide their strategic viewpoint on personal development as well as acquisition leadership, our national security, and America's position in today's global arena. Mentors share their perspective on best practices, challenges, and lessons learned from throughout their careers. Even a discussion on a mistake a mentor has made in the past can provide a wealth of insight for the Fellows. Fellows also participate in a **Mentoring Module** which covers such topics as:

- Program goals and schedule;
- Mentoring experiences;
- Benefits to the protégé, mentor, and organization;
- Characteristics of a protégé and mentor;
- Protégé and mentor responsibilities;
- Communication;
- Meetings; and
- Mentoring myths

This module is offered at the beginning of the 10 month program to provide expectations and goals of mentoring throughout the year and into the future. The Mentoring Handbook is also provided within the orientation binder.