



# **Reinvigorating Defense Acquisition Research at DAU**

**Presentation to DAU Board of Visitors  
January 26, 2011**

**Dr. Roy Wood  
Dean, DSMC-School of Program Managers**

---

## Enabling Legislation 10 USC Sec. 1746

Defense Acquisition University shall provide for:

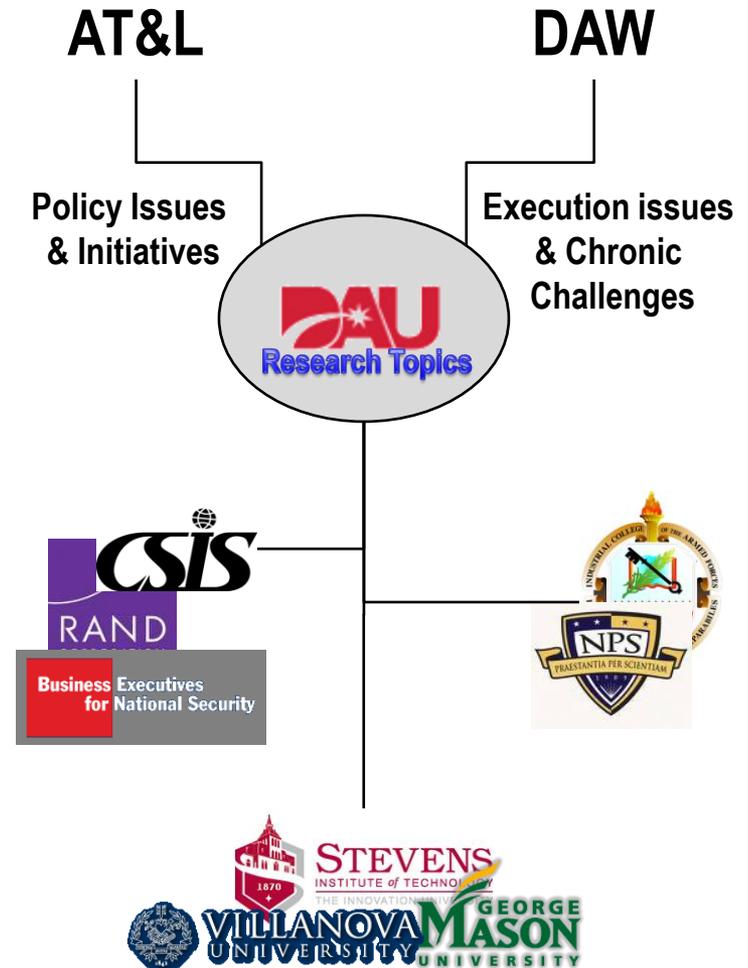
1. the professional educational development and training of the acquisition workforce; and
2. **research and analysis of defense acquisition policy issues from an academic perspective.**

## DAU Strategic Goal 3: Transformation

- Support Congressional and DoD acquisition improvement initiatives through *thought leadership*, *applied research*, and engagement with key acquisition organizations.

# Unique Vantage Point

- As AT&L's asset, DAU has a unique and direct linkage to acquisition policy and policymakers
  - Insight into policy matters, interest items, and nascent initiatives
- Access to current workforce through classes and mission assistance
  - Deeper understanding of current and emerging problems and issues facing the acquisition workforce
- Working relationship with DoD academic institutions, think tanks, and universities
  - Ready-made source of research resources and partners



# Vision for Defense Acquisition Research

---

*Become the  
AT&L Center for Defense Acquisition Research*  
**DAU's in-house research center and clearinghouse**

to:

- Examine acquisition, workforce, and policy issues identified as critical to AT&L leadership,
- Provide linkage to internal DAU and external partners as research assets,
- Share findings with leadership and workforce through
  - focused reports,
  - reinvigorated ARJ, and
  - robust Web presence

# Goals and Objectives

---

- Create an agenda of current and pressing topics for research
- Act as a **hub of a research network** to link research agenda with researchers from DoD institutions (e.g. DAU, AFIT, NPS, NDU, SSCFs, etc.) and other research-oriented organizations (e.g. CSIS, BENS, ICCPM, partner universities)
- Organize relevant and timely research symposia, workshops, and conferences focused on understanding and solving real acquisition problems
- Disseminate research results through *Defense Acquisition Research Journal*, research reports, white papers, etc.
- Develop a robust 24/7 research web presence to facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration across the network

# Next Steps

---

- Establish effective internal DAU governance structure and processes to support expanded vision
  - Revitalize DAU Research Review Board; rewrite DAU research directive
  - Identify DAU researchers/mentors
  - Revitalize ARJ Editorial Board
- Connect with other research organizations
  - Understand their capabilities/interests/processes
  - Pilot cooperative research activities/symposia/etc.
- Identify ways to connect with the defense acquisition community (AT&L and workforce) to
  - Identify, clarify, and prioritize research topics and agenda
- Create an executive-level Research Advisory Board to help review and prioritize research agenda, assist in identifying resources (people, organizations, etc) with interests in research/topics, and offer expert executive guidance