



# 4<sup>th</sup> Estate DACM *Newsletter*

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### 4TH ESTATE DACM UPDATE

Welcome to the third edition of the 4th Estate DACM Newsletter. Our goal is to provide you with relevant and timely updates of new learning assets, policy changes, news and announcements that affect the defense acquisition workforce. In this edition you will find several initiatives within the Business Community, an invitation to the Business Managers' Conference taking place on May 19–20, and other important developments. We hope you find this newsletter informative as we continue to plan, develop and reshape workforce initiatives and learning assets to better support the acquisition workforce.



### DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY (DAU) – FY10 SCHEDULE

The Defense Acquisition University is targeting release of its fiscal year 2010 teaching schedule on May 5, and at that time, the schedule will be available at < [www.dau.mil/schedules/schedule.asp](http://www.dau.mil/schedules/schedule.asp) > . Fourth Estate employees interested in DAU training should register via the Acquisition Training Application System (ACQTAS), located at < <https://www.atrs.army.mil/channels/acqtas/> > . Courses and classes offered on the fiscal year 2010 schedule span the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) career fields and are offered at numerous locations within both the continental United States and outside the continental United States. Available classroom seating has increased approximately 27 percent from fiscal year 2008 to fiscal year 2010, primarily due to the funding provided by the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund. Seize this training expansion opportunity to achieve your DAWIA certification!



## DAU OFFERS NEW SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT COURSES

DAU has launched new courses for the DAWIA Systems Planning, Research, Development, and Engineering (SPRDE) Science and Technology Management (STM) career field, which is focused on the science and technology (S&T) activities of the overall research, development, test, and engineering process. S&T focuses on basic research through advanced technology development activities. The STM career field is designed for personnel in the service laboratories, development centers, warfare centers, and defense agencies.

The two courses in the career field, Intermediate and Advanced S&T Management (STM 202 and STM 303, respectively) began in 2002, were completely redesigned in 2008, and have been successfully implemented for 2009 to better train S&T managers in program management skills and the effective transition of technologies to an acquisition program or directly to the warfighter in the field.

A team from across the Office of the Director of Defense Research and Engineering; Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics; military services; and DoD agencies were brought together in early 2008 to establish the updated competencies and then redevelop the entire career field to these competencies. A DAWIA STM Level I was established, and additional prerequisites were approved by the SPRDE STM functional IPT. Based on that guidance, both resident courses were completely redesigned to prepare technology managers to work effectively with their acquisition counterparts, while managing technology development to specific performance, cost, and schedule requirements with the goal of ultimately transitioning technology to the warfighter.

The 3-day intermediate course, STM 202, builds on the prerequisites (ACQ 101, ACQ 201A, and SYS 101) by addressing how the basic

principles of program management and systems engineering are applied to technology development and transition. It starts with an overview of DoD, military service, and agency science and technology policies and practices. The rest of the course covers planning and execution issues related to the technical, business, and transition aspects of technology development.

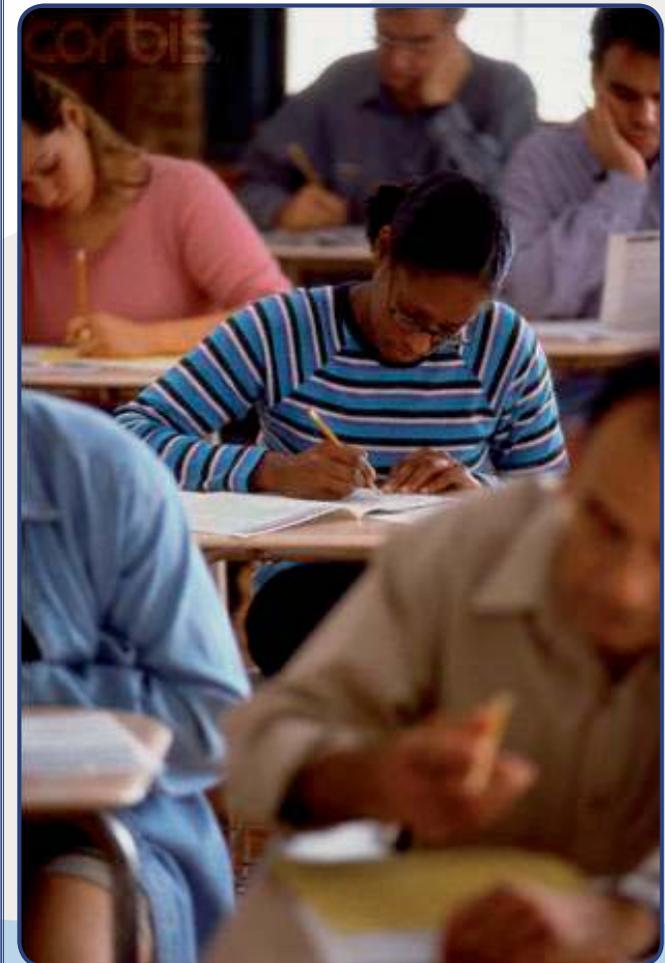
The advanced course, STM 303, has been completely designed around the management of a series of technologies that must be brought out of their respective areas to meet an urgent need in support of an acquisition requirement. Students participate in management teams for 3.5 days to apply the principles and procedures learned in STM 202. They take the 12 separate technologies from initial project planning through successful transition into a program of record, while evaluating performance, managing their budget, and developing technology transition agreements with the acquisition program manager.

These courses are now being regularly offered through the normal DAU resident course schedules throughout all five DAU regions, as each military service requests. With the demand growing in the 21st century for quicker use of advanced technology for our military advantage and warfighter protection, these changes are envisioned to significantly improve the technology manager's understanding of how to get the job done.

More information can be found in the DAU iCatalog, at the DAU STM Community of Practice, or contact the STM Program Development Leader, Dr. Marty Falk, (703) 805-5267.

## THE NEW BCF 203

BCF 203, the Intermediate Earned Value Management course, has been modified to an 8.5 day format—one day shorter. The revision incorporated Cost and Software Data Reporting Requirements, a new tool to assist with schedule analysis, more rigorous exercises in developing the tripwire metrics, and updated policy on system surveillance by the Defense Contract Management Agency. The first official offering was in March 2009.



## ACQUIPIDIA

On March 31, DAU deployed the ACQuipedia Web site, located at < <http://acquipedia.dau.mil> > . ACQuipedia is an online encyclopedia that was developed to create content around acquisition-related topics. ACQuipedia provides the acquisition workforce with quick access to information in a succinct and digestible format. Article content aggregates the most relevant references and learning assets to narrowly focus users and quickly provide high-value content. Each topic is identified as an article; and each article contains a definition, a brief narrative that provides context, and includes links to the most pertinent policy, guidance, tools, practices, and training on the subject. Articles will be maintained as a shared effort of subject matter experts across the DAU. Future growth may expand the collaboration of subject matter experts beyond DAU.

The Web site serves as the knowledge gateway to all articles. A browse and search capability provides access to content in one of three ways:

- Search (returns results within ACQuipedia only);
- Alphabetical listing (A-Z Index View) facilitates browsing by article name; or
- Functional listing facilitates browsing articles by one of the five business field areas identified below:
  - Business, Cost Estimating, and Financial Management
  - Contracting

- Engineering and Technology
- Life Cycle Logistics
- Program Management

ACQuipedia articles reside in the Acquisition Community Connection (ACC) located at < <https://acc.dau.mil> > . In addition to browse and ad hoc queries via the gateway, ACQuipedia articles will be highly leveraged to serve as the topic templates linked from the Integrated Lifecycle Chart (formerly the Integrated Framework Chart), the Defense Acquisition Guidebook, other Web-enabled documents and tools; provide underlying content for community of practice libraries; and serve as a resource for courses (classroom and online).

User accounts in the ACC have rights to suggest contributions to ACQuipedia articles. Those suggestions require editor review and approval before the contribution is added. In addition, a “suggest a topic” feature will allow users of ACQuipedia to suggest candidate topics for creation. Suggested topics come via an alias e-mail to the ACQuipedia support team and are disseminated to the appropriate DAU portfolio manager as a potential new article topic within their portfolio.

If you have questions regarding ACQuipedia please send an e-mail to [acquipedia@dau.mil](mailto:acquipedia@dau.mil).



## NEW CLMs AVAILABLE

The following offerings are the newest Continuous Learning Modules available to the acquisition community at < <http://clc.dau.mil> > :

- Online Representations & Certifications Application (ORCA) – (CLE 043)
- Intragovernmental Transactions – (CLE 044)
- Audit Readiness Requirements for DoD Equipment (hosted) – (CLM 048)
- Government Purchase Card Refresher - (CLG 004) (content update)
- Source Selection – (CLC 007) (content update)
- Condition Based Maintenance (CLL 029)
- Forecasting Techniques (CLB 026)
- Contract Management: Strategies for Mission Success (FAC 033)
- Time Space-Position Information (CLE 038)
- Small Business: A Requirements Approach (FAC 032)
- Introduction to Probability and Statistics (CLE 035)
- Testing in a Joint Environment (CLE 029)
- Logistics for the Rest of Us (CLL 004)
- Telemetry (CLE 037)
- Environmental Issues in Testing and Evaluation (CLE 039)
- SPS System Administration (SPS 103)



## BEST PRACTICES CLEARINGHOUSE TEAMS WITH DAU MULTIMEDIA LIBRARY

THE DoD ACQUISITION BEST PRACTICES CLEARINGHOUSE AND DAU'S MULTIMEDIA LIBRARY...A COMPLIMENTARY MATCH THAT'S A WIN-WIN FOR THE DEFENSE ACQUISITION WORKFORCE

Many government organizations have attempted to develop systems to capture best practices or lessons learned, but have fallen short of success in recent years. As programs are asked to do more with tighter budgets and schedules, it becomes crucial to avoid past mistakes. However, finding appropriate best practices is not always easy. Rarely is there evidence about expected outcomes resulting from a particular best practice to aid in its selection within a given context. In many cases, guidance based on experience is missing, and the gap between “what is a best practice?” and “how do I implement it?” is not addressed in detail or at all.

DAU's knowledge management team has partnered with organizations within the Office of the Secretary of Defense to leverage research conducted by the Fraunhofer Center for Experimental Software Engineering (University of Maryland) and Computer Sciences Corporation to design a tool that achieves a Congressional mandate to improve software development, while at the same time meeting an emerging need in support of the larger DoD acquisition workforce.

The vision for this new system—the DoD Acquisition Best Practices Clearinghouse, or BPCh—is to provide an integrated set of processes, tools, and resources that enable users to share experiences and identify practices through evidence of practice effectiveness in environments like their own. Located at < <https://bpch.dau.mil> >, BPCh also completes a planned “system of systems” called the Acquisition Knowledge Management System (AKMS), which, in addition to BPCh, is composed of the Acquisition Community Connection (ACC), the Acquisition Knowledge Sharing System (AKSS) and the ACQUIRE search site. Each of these systems are jointly sponsored and supported by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (OUSD[AT&L]) and DAU.

BPCh is designed to improve DoD's systems acquisition processes by allowing users to select and

implement proven acquisition, development, and systems engineering practices appropriate to their individual programmatic needs. Rather than recreate or repost information, BPCh is designed to link to as many existing resources as possible that not only identify practices, but how to implement them.



United States  
DEPARTMENT  
of DEFENSE

BPCh adopts an evidence-based approach in which supporting evidence and practices for programs undergo a system of recommendations and vetting by government, industrial, and academic members comprising a content advisory group. The value-added that BPCh provides is that stored evidence is contextualized, guiding users to lessons and practices relevant to their program, type of problem, or specific environment that help them learn from practical results—both good and bad—which may be applied in their environment. BPCh users have immediate access (with suitable caveats) to source materials from which vetted recommendations will be built.

Vetted recommendations help form a practice's ultimate “maturity rating,” indicated by a bronze, silver, or gold rating in the system. Bronze-level practices are nominated by experts and user

communities, and have received a preliminary check for applicability. While the detailed evaluations continue, the initial evidence is provided to aid our users in making informed decisions. For example, a bronze-level practice would typically be simply identified in a practice listing, or minimally, consist of a few supporting details or minor evidence that describes what types of programs have used the practice and how it was applied.

Silver-level practices have been selected as promising enough to commission experts in the practice area to summarize key information. Users can see at a glance what they should know—and they can always see the source of the practice summary by following pointers to more in-depth practice evidence than is available at a bronze-level practice. A silver-level practice would also include an easy-to-read summary of key information prepared by an expert in the given practice area.

Gold-level practices have been through a rigorous analysis by a committee of experts in the practice area itself as well as by user representatives. Information on gold-level practices contains the best and widest-ranging experiences that are available to the user. Gold practices have a fully detailed summary and a vetting certification assuring that the information has been checked for both accuracy and usefulness.

As with any knowledge sharing tool, it is imperative that users always read a practice's entire summary—there may be examples in which results for your project type were not ideal. Users should also bear in mind that additional and new evidence will continue to be added to existing practices recorded in BPCh, describing results in new contexts with summaries updated as needed to reflect the new knowledge.

As mentioned previously, BPCh was born out of a Congressional mandate—Section 804, Improvement

## THE ACQUISITION BEST PRACTICES CLEARINGHOUSE (CONTINUED)

of Software Acquisition Processes, of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2003 prescribed that the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration and OUSD(AT&L) assist the secretaries of the military departments and the heads of the DoD agencies to carry out software acquisition improvement programs effectively by identifying and serving as a clearinghouse for information regarding best practices in software development and acquisition in both public and private sectors.

In compliance with that legislation and to support the revitalization of DoD systems engineering in recent years, the BPCh project was established and expanded to become the central DoD clearinghouse for all system acquisition best practices, to eventually include program management, development, and sustainment. The initial focus of BPCh content has been on meeting Section 804 system acquisition management requirements and supporting systems engineering revitalization across DoD. However, BPCh content mining activities in fiscal year 2009 and beyond are focusing on additional functional domains and elements of the acquisition framework, including several program management “hot topic” areas such as requirements management, risk analysis, and probability of program success factors; the logistics functional area; the human capital initiatives strategic area; and soon, the contracting functional area.

BPCh will expand in another major way later in fiscal year 2009 when the system begins integrating portions of DAU’s Multimedia Library, notably Living Library interview sessions completed with senior DoD leaders in recent years. The Living Library is a series of media-on-demand (MOD) productions presented by DoD senior leaders and model practitioners in an interview format, designed to provide acquisition workforce members with acquisition lessons learned and best practices culled from high-priority acquisition issues, like dealing with configuration steering boards and program planning and

stability. Since the program’s inception in late 2007, over 20 Living Library MOD productions (consisting of both video and audio assets) have been recorded by senior leaders and practitioners and all are accessible at any time in DAU’s Multimedia Library found at < [www.dau.mil](http://www.dau.mil) > .

DAU’s multimedia program has proven to be a powerful and effective outreach tool—the combined viewership of webcasts, the Living Library sessions, and MOD files available in DAU’s Multimedia Library and consequently through Apple’s iTunes University (iTunesU) site totals nearly 27,000 as of October 2008. DAU is the first non-degree granting university to partner with Apple in providing content on its iTunesU site. DoD and DAU is capitalizing on the success of its multimedia initiatives by improving and streamlining production processes for all phases of multimedia production in fiscal year 2009 and to continue populating DAU’s Multimedia Library and iTunesU with a steady stream of viable webcasts and Living Library MOD files. Additionally, the Living Library series will be more tightly integrated with BPCh, allowing BPCh to become a more effective multimedia delivery platform highlighting lessons learned and proven practices already catalogued in that system.

These planned-for program enhancements in both the BPCh and DAU’s Multimedia Library are designed to improve and supplement DAU’s comprehensive Performance Learning Model of certification training, performance support, and knowledge sharing, which is the basis for recruiting and retaining workforce members. In addition, 24/7/365 reach-back to best practices and supporting evidence; archived webcasts; and Living Library MOD productions through the BPCh system, DAU’s Multimedia Library, or through iTunesU supplies credible, proven practices and lessons learned anytime, anywhere to workforce members. The wide reach of these resources ultimately enable the right acquisition outcomes on the job through the delivery of timely and relevant topics.

Visit BPCh at < <https://bpch.dau.mil> > and DAU’s Video Library at < [www.dau.mil](http://www.dau.mil) > for more information on either of these programs. If you have more questions, please contact Mike Lambert, BPCh and DAU Multimedia program manager, at [michael.lambert@dau.mil](mailto:michael.lambert@dau.mil); or John Hickok, DAU director of knowledge management, at [john.hickok@dau.mil](mailto:john.hickok@dau.mil).

### AT&L LIVING LIBRARY FEATURES LESSONS LEARNED FROM U.S. MAJOR GENERAL IN IRAQ

Army Maj. Gen. George J. Smith, the senior U.S. officer in the Security Assistance Office (SAO), Baghdad, Iraq, in 2008, was interviewed by Justin Porto, DAU professor of program management, Capital and Northeast Region, and the interview revealed some eye-opening experiences. Smith currently serves as both the chief of staff and the deputy director for strategic initiatives in the Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate (J5), the Joint Staff.

During his interview, Smith drew upon some very personal experiences to describe some scenarios that occurred during his watch with the SAO in Baghdad working with the two largest Iraqi Ministries, Defense and Interior, representing the armed forces and the police respectively. Smith also touched upon some of the leadership challenges that he faced while assigned to the Multi-National Security and Transition Command—Iraq. Smith outlined the varied agendas and different perspectives he encountered, leading to split focuses among coalition and Iraqis. Also, misconceptions of the U.S. acquisition system led to issues with trust and confidence between the U.S. and Iraqi leadership.

For an interesting and eye-opening perspective, be sure to view this program in its entirety or as nine individual programs on the DAU AT&L Living Library Web site: < <http://view.dau.mil/dauvideo/view/channel.jhtml?stationID=2123402795&c=307> > .

## RESTRUCTURING THE ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY AND LOGISTICS (AT&L) BUSINESS, COST ESTIMATING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAREER FIELD



ACQUISITION,  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

DEC 22 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Restructuring of the Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (AT&L) Business, Cost Estimating and Financial Management Career Field

Section 820 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) FY 2007, Government Performance of Critical Acquisition Functions established the goal for the Department to ensure that within 5 years of enactment that key positions, to include cost estimator positions, are performed by a properly qualified member of the Armed Forces or full-time employee of the Department of Defense for each major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP) and each Major Automated Information System Program (MAIS).

In support of Section 820, I direct the restructure of the Business, Cost Estimating and Financial Management (BCEFM) career field and certification standards. Effective October 1, 2009, the BCEFM career field will be known as the Business (BUS) career field with two distinct career paths, one targeting those performing cost estimating functions known as the Business – Cost Estimating (BUS-CE) career path and one targeting financial management functions known as the Business – Financial Management (BUS-FM) career path.

Furthermore, I direct all Defense Acquisition Workforce positions designed to perform cost estimating functions for MDAPs and MAIS programs be recognized in the appropriate civilian and military personnel reporting systems as a BUS-CE position within 30 days following the implementation of this restructure. In addition all cost estimating Key Leadership Positions (KLPs) must be captured and coded within the 30-day period. I expect there to be a minimum of one Lead Program Cost Estimator per MDAP or MAIS program throughout the RDT&E and Production phase.

The Director, Acquisition Resources and Analysis, will remain as the Functional Leader for the Business career field and is authorized to establish the position category descriptions (PCDs) and certification standards for both career paths to become effective upon implementation of this restructure.

The Director, Human Capital Initiatives, will coordinate an implementation plan and promulgate implementation guidance to include the PCDs and certification standards not later than April 1, 2009.

My point of contact is Ms. Sharon Jackson at [Sharon.jackson@dau.mil](mailto:Sharon.jackson@dau.mil) or 703-805-5263.

John A. Young, Jr.

## IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE FOR THE RESTRUCTURE OF THE ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY AND LOGISTICS (AT&L) BUSINESS, COST ESTIMATING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAREER FIELD



ACQUISITION,  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND LOGISTICS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
3000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3000

APR 1 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Implementation Guidance for the Restructure of the Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (AT&L) Business, Cost Estimating and Financial Management Career Field

On December 22, 2008, the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (AT&L) approved the restructure of the Business, Cost Estimating and Financial Management Career Field to the Business Career Field. This restructure is effective October 1, 2009 for position coding and career path certification purposes.

The restructuring changes the career field name to Business and establishes two distinct career paths, one for Business - Financial Management (BUS-FM) and one for Business - Cost Estimating (BUS-CE). These new career paths will include increased training and experience certification standards.

Attached is the approved implementation guidance, as well as new Position Category Descriptions and certification standards. Our point of contact for questions is Ms. Sharon Jackson at [sharon.jackson@dau.mil](mailto:sharon.jackson@dau.mil) or 703-805-5263.

Nancy L. Spruill  
Director  
Acquisition Resources and Analysis

Frank Anderson, Jr.  
Director  
Human Capital Initiatives

NOTE: The Position Category Descriptions (PCDs) will also be published on the DAU Web site at < [www.dau.mil/workforce/PCDs.asp](http://www.dau.mil/workforce/PCDs.asp) > no later than April 15, 2009.

Career Path Certification and Core Plus Development Guides that support the Financial Management and Cost Estimating career paths will be published in the 2010 Defense Acquisition University (DAU) Catalog. They will also be published online in the DAU iCatalog at < <http://icatalog.dau.mil/onlinecatalog/CareerLvl.aspx> > no later than May 1, 2009.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL ACQUISITION (PM-IA) CAREER PATH



ACQUISITION  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND LOGISTICS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
3000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3000

APR 07 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
(ACQUISITION, LOGISTICS & TECHNOLOGY)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (RESEARCH,  
DEVELOPMENT & ACQUISITION)  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
(ACQUISITION)  
PRESIDENT, DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY  
DIRECTOR, HUMAN CAPITAL INITIATIVES

SUBJECT: Implementation of Program Management International Acquisition (PM-IA)  
Career Path

This is a follow on to my memorandum of October 9, 2008, and the meeting on March 24, 2009 on this subject with the President, Defense Acquisition University (DAU), Directors, Acquisition Career Management, and Military Department and OUSD(Policy) - Defense Technology Security Administration international representatives.

As agreed at the meeting, we will implement the International Acquisition Career Path (IACP) as a Program Management career field path on October 1, 2009. International Program Management Level III positions will be identified in component personnel and manpower data systems within 120 days based on the criteria set forth in the attached IACP Required Positions Document.

I will conduct a midterm assessment in approximately 60 days. I believe this career path is a vital step towards preparing our Defense Acquisition Workforce to function effectively in the Global environment. The point of contact in my office is Mr. Richard Kwatnoski at (703) 697-7798 or email to Richard.Kwatnoski@osd.mil.

*A. Volkman*

A. Volkman  
Director, International Cooperation

Attachment:  
As stated



Program Management - International Acquisition (PM-IA)  
Career Path

Positions Designation Guidance

Positions will be designated in the PM-IA career path only at Level III.

Identify Program Management Level III positions where at least 50 percent of the duties and responsibilities involve implementing or providing support to AT&L international cooperative research, development, test and evaluation, acquisition and support programs/projects.

These positions will be designated as Program Management - International Acquisition (PM-IA). An international program/project is characterized by one or more of the following criteria.

1. Designated an international program/project or high-potential future foreign sales program (Foreign Military Sales (FMS) or Direct Commercial Sales) by the USD(AT&L) or Component Acquisition Executive, or as further delegated.
2. Associated with a Technology Development Strategy or Acquisition Strategy with an international system or cooperative opportunity identified.
3. Associated with an existing AT&L cooperative international agreement<sup>1</sup> or, upon submission or approval of a Summary Statement of Intent<sup>2</sup> for a potential AT&L international agreement.
4. Associated with an approved FMS Letter of Offer and Acceptance<sup>3</sup> for purposes of International sale, lease, or logistics support of U.S. major defense equipment.

Implementation Period: All training requirements must be met within two years of IACP coding of billet.

<sup>1</sup> as defined in DoD Directive 5530.3, "International Agreements".

<sup>2</sup> using the USD(AT&L)-issued streamlined procedures in the Defense Acquisition Guidebook as authorized by DoD Instruction 5000.2, Section E9.4.1.

<sup>3</sup> as defined in the DoD 5105.38-M, "Security Assistance Management Manual".

March 26, 2009

## 2009 BUSINESS MANAGERS' CONFERENCE

Mark your calendar for the annual Business Managers' Conference — Managing for the Future of DoD. The conference will be held May 19 and 20, 2009, at the Defense Acquisition University, Howell Auditorium (Scott Hall) Fort Belvoir, Va.

The Business Managers' Conference is a free conference supported by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics and hosted by the Director for Acquisition Resources and Analysis, Dr. Nancy J. Spruill. Targeted attendees include the DoD acquisition management workforce as well as members from the DoD financial management, cost estimating, and program analysis and evaluation communities. Defense industry personnel are also welcome to attend. Information regarding the conference agenda and registration can be found at <<http://bmc.dau.mil>>. Registration for the conference will begin on or about March 30, 2009.

For further information on past conferences go to: <[http://www.dau.mil/conferences/past\\_conferences.asp](http://www.dau.mil/conferences/past_conferences.asp)>.



2008 Conference Registration

## DAU LAUNCHES NEW DISTANCE LEARNING MODULE FOR CONTRACTING LEVEL I CERTIFICATION

On February 23, DAU launched the new distance learning module, “Shaping Smart Business Arrangements” (CON 100), to provide Level 1 certification in the contracting career field. The module, which was converted from a 4-day resident course, features high quality, engaging, interactive exercises that use the latest in learning technology to maximize the educational experience while achieving the desired learning outcomes. Approximately 500 students are currently enrolled in the course in five sessions of 100 each, with plans to increase capacity to 300 per session. This rate of throughput will eliminate the current CON 100 backlog, enabling students to take their required contracting courses in the proper sequence and further improve the quality of their professional training experience.



**2009 Business Managers' Conference**

**Managing the Future of DoD Acquisition**

**May 19-20, 2009**  
**Defense Acquisition University**  
**Fort Belvoir, Virginia**

<http://bmc.dau.mil>

If you have training and development questions, always begin with your local agency travel or quota management point of contact—typically located in your Training, Human Resources, or Acquisition offices—for agency-specific guidance.

**ACQTAS Help Desk** (for registration or ACQTAS issues) 703-645-0161 or <[acqtashelp@dau.mil](mailto:acqtashelp@dau.mil)>. Hours of Operation: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST.

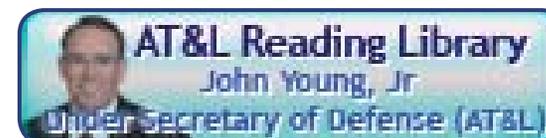
**ACQTAS Travel Technician**, 703-752-3150 (commercial), 703-645-0432 (fax).

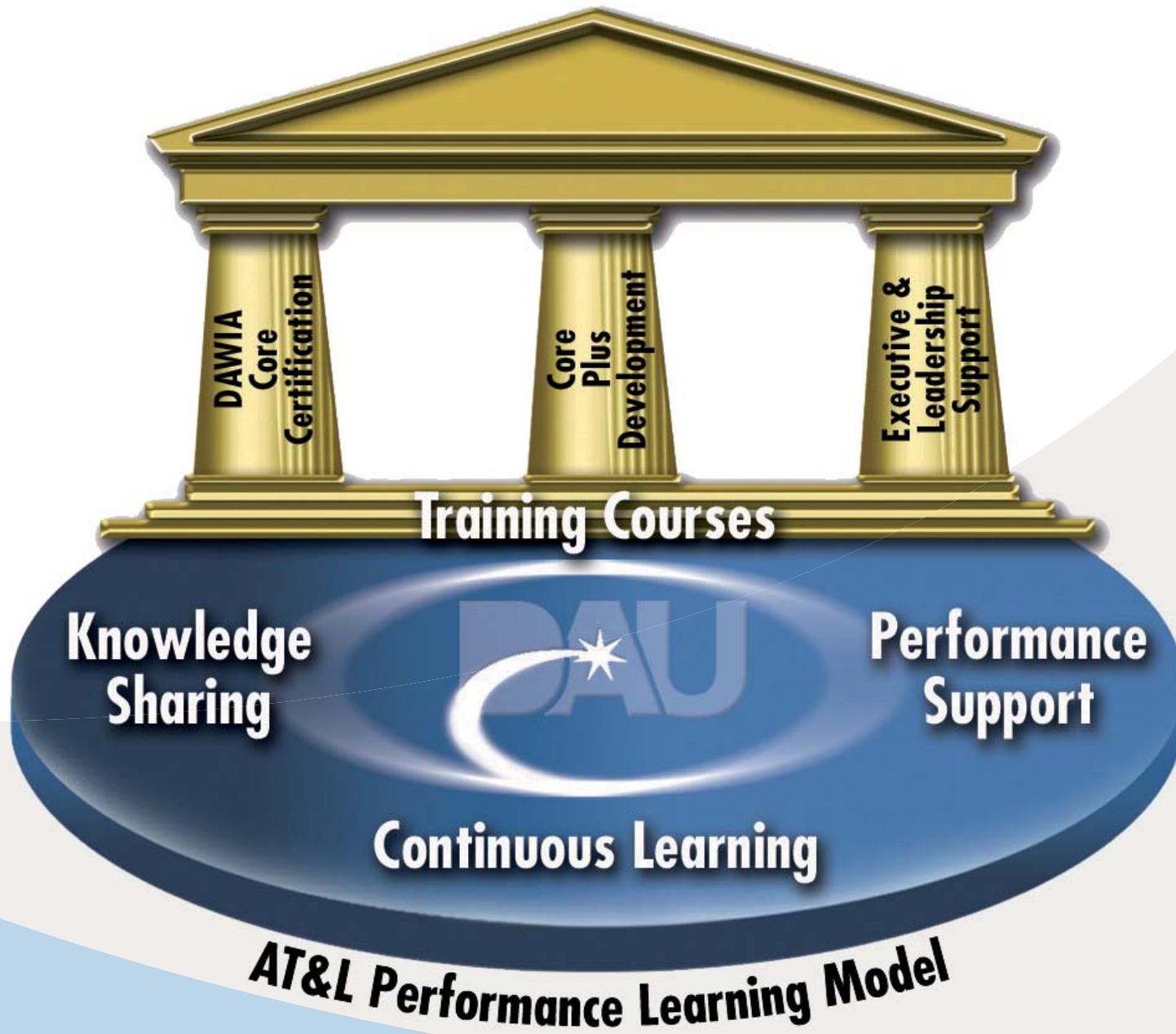


**DAU Student Services** (general information and questions about welcome messages) <[student.services@dau.mil](mailto:student.services@dau.mil)>, 703-805-3003/DSN 655-3003, or toll-free 1-888-284-4906.

**DAU Virtual Campus Help Desk** (questions on distance learning courses and continuous learning modules) <[dauhhelp@dau.mil](mailto:dauhhelp@dau.mil)>, 703-805-3459, or toll-free 1-866-568-6924/DSN 655-3459 (choose option 1).

We hope you find this newsletter informative. Let's collectively commit to providing outstanding support to our 4th Estate Defense Acquisition Workforce as it strives to become a model DACM office.





THE AT&L PERFORMANCE LEARNING MODEL (PLM) ENSURES THAT ALL LEARNING ACTIVITIES ARE FOCUSED ON ENHANCING JOB PERFORMANCE AND WORKPLACE CAPABILITY TO ENABLE THE DEFENSE ACQUISITION WORKFORCE TO ACHIEVE MISSION GOALS.