



DAU e-Newsletter

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April 2013

President's Message



Dr. James McMichael

We have all been hearing about furlough developments in the news. While I hope they won't occur, DAU and your DACMs are collaborating to adjust schedules and travel days so that you may attend courses. Our online learning assets, tools and resources will remain available throughout this period.

Please visit the [Student Furlough Information](#) page on our [website](#) for the latest updates on impacts to courses and learning assets.

Better Buying Power Update

BBP Training to Meet Defense Acquisition Challenges

The Hot Topic Training Forum at the DAU Fort Belvoir campus offered government and industry acquisition professionals an opportunity to receive training and perspectives on implementing the Better Buying Power (BBP) 2.0 initiatives.

The training was particularly valuable as it offered a chance to hear examples of effective BBP implementation and to interact directly with DAU faculty charged with training the workforce on BBP. Several OSD thought leaders attended the sessions and helped provide a deeper understanding of how these initiatives are being implemented to improve acquisition outcomes.

Six training sessions were offered at the forum, two of which were also available via video teleconference (VTC) to a number of locations across the country. Session topics included: controlling costs through "should cost" based management; building stronger partnerships with the requirements community to control costs; employing appropriate contract types and defining "best value" and "technically acceptable"; increasing effective use of performance-based logistics; enforcing open system architectures and effectively managing technical data rights; and increasing the recognition of excellence in acquisition management.

More than 1000 people attended at the Fort Belvoir campus and via VTC from 23 sites across the country. Presentations and videos from the event will be posted to the [DAU website](#) soon.

Learning Assets

Leadership & Management Course Opportunities

Continuous training opportunities are available for those with DAWIA Level III certification in any career field. Seats are available in:

[ACQ 405](#) - Executive Refresher Course – focuses on acquisition policy updates, processes and lessons learned.

Facts About Continuous Learning Points

All Services and agencies track [Continuous Learning Points](#) (CLPs) earned by their workforce members. Each of the components implement CLP tracking in slightly different ways to ensure workforce members meet the standards set forth in [DoD Instruction 5000.66](#). Regardless of tracking method:

- Excess points cannot be credited or carried over to a future period.
- Points earned are applied at the time earned, regardless of when the points are entered into the tracking system.

To learn more about the system in your Service or agency, click on a link: [Army](#) / [Air Force](#) / [Navy & Marine Corps](#) / [4th Estate](#)

Items of Interest

New Secretary of Defense PSM of the Year Award

The USD(AT&L) established a new award to recognize the very best Product Support Managers (PSM) in the Department of Defense. In a [memo](#) announcing the award, the Under Secretary stated PSMs are critical to delivering weapon system readiness affordably and effectively. Nomination submissions for this new "Secretary of Defense Product Support Manager Award" are due **April 16, 2013**. Learn more about the award [here](#).

DAU named Best Overall Corporate University

The [Global Council of Corporate Universities](#) presented the first [GlobalCCU Awards](#) recognizing the best corporate universities worldwide that have performed at the highest level of excellence and have realized great advancements within and for the profession. The Advisory & Judging Committee was composed of international experts and selected the winners among candidates in 19 countries spanning five continents.

The May-June edition of [Defense AT&L](#) magazine will soon be available. Feature articles include a closer look at mission assistance and "The Original Better Buying Power" by Frank Kendall.

