

### **AF e-Learning Offers Free Self-Development 24/7**

*AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND MANPOWER, PERSONNEL AND SERVICES (AUG. 2, 2013)*

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio—AF e-Learning is a robust, on-line, self-development tool that is free and available to active duty, guard, and reserve military personnel as well as Department of the Air Force civilian employees 24/7. It contains a large, searchable collection of free online courses, books, simulations, and other e-learning resources for your self-development—whenever and wherever you have the need and time. Below are just a few of the features accessible via AF e-Learning:

- Thousands of online courses: Choose one of the many short courses accessible from your desktop 24/7 to maximize your time while advancing your self-development.
- Books 24x7, an online library of searchable content: Read a book and recommend to a colleague or set up feeds to notify you when new books arrive plus much more.
- Mobile “On the Go” options: Download certain content to your smart phone, Kindle, or iPad.
- Leadership Knowledge Center portal: Use one of the topical learning roadmaps with links to related books, articles, courses, video challenges, simulations, and professional sites such as:
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  - Harvard Business School
  - Hale Chief Executive Leadership Institute
  - Wharton Center for Leadership and Change
  - Management
  - Leadership Now
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These resources are free and available on-demand from any Common Access Card-enabled computer through the Air Force Portal. From the Portal home page, go to Top Portal Links and select Education/Training/Force Development. For direct navigation to the AF e-Learning home page, go to <https://usafprod.skillport.com/skillportfe/custom/login/usaf/seamlesslogin.action>.

### **Take a Break, But Don't Separate**

*NAVY PERSONNEL COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS (AUG. 28, 2013)*  
*Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Andrea Perez*

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS)—The Career Intermission Pilot Program (CIPP) is a continuum of service initiative that allows sailors to take a break from active duty without permanently separating, officials said Aug. 28.

As outlined in NAVADMIN 198/13, CIPP provides eligible service members a one-time temporary transition from active duty to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) for one to three years to pursue personal or professional growth

outside the service and seamlessly transition back to active duty.

The long-term intent of the program is to retain the valuable experience and training service members possess that might otherwise be lost by permanent separation.

During their time in the IRR, participants retain their full medical and dental benefits for themselves and their dependents, as well as Navy Exchange and Commissary benefits. Participants will also receive a small monthly living stipend.

Educational pursuits are considered a legitimate use of the program, and service members are eligible to use GI Bill benefits while participating in CIPP, but are not eligible for Tuition Assistance.

Additional obligated service (OBLISERV) is required to participate in the program, and service members must OBLISERV two months for every one month they participate in the program.

To date, 25 officers and 22 enlisted sailors have been accepted into the program, and 15 have completed their career intermission and returned to active duty.

The program is limited by law to the selection of 20 officers and 20 enlisted participants per year and has been extended to 2015.

Sailors should refer to OPNAVINST 1330.2B for rules, eligibility, and application procedures.

Interested sailors can submit an electronic package to the Chief of Naval Operations Program Managers for consideration. An example CIPP application is available on the CIPP Web Page at <http://www.npc.navy.mil/support/tflw/Pages/CIPP.aspx>.

Packages will be reviewed for eligibility and routed to a service member's detailer and community managers before final approval by Commander, Navy Personnel Command (NPC).

For more information, read NAVADMIN 095/09, NAVADMIN 301/09, and NAVADMIN 089/12. For more news from NPC, visit <http://www.npc.navy.mil>. For more news from Navy Personnel Command, visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/npc/>.

### **Navy Seeking Academic Researchers for Two Faculty Programs**

OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH PUBLIC AFFAIRS (SEPT. 11, 2013)

Katherine H. Crawford

ARLINGTON, Va.—The Office of Naval Research (ONR) is seeking applications from college and university professors for its 2014 Summer Faculty Research and Sabbatical Leave programs, ONR officials announced Sept. 11.

“This year, we hope to increase the number of applications for potential research that will further introduce the academic community to Navy research opportunities,” said Bill Ellis, acting director of the Department of the Navy’s (DoN) Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) Program and coordinator of the faculty programs.

The Summer Faculty Research Program connects researchers from colleges and universities with scientists and engineers at DoN laboratories for 10 weeks during the summer. Over the years, this collaboration has led to numerous innovations and breakthroughs. The program—open to U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents who hold teaching or research appointments at U.S. colleges and universities—has three levels: Summer Faculty Fellow, Senior Summer Faculty Fellow, and Distinguished Summer Faculty Fellow.

The Sabbatical Leave Program bestows fellowship appointments on science and engineering faculty to work at DoN laboratories for between one semester and one year. Participants earn a monthly stipend to cover the difference between their salaries and sabbatical leave pay.

Both programs are intended to strengthen the relationship between academia and DoN, as well as foster and leverage cutting-edge work for the benefit of the fleet.

Applications are due no later than noon Dec. 6.

For more information, visit <https://onroutreach-summer-faculty-research-sabbatical.com/>.

Faculty from HBCUs, MIs, American Indian Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Hispanic Serving Institutions are encouraged to apply.

For more news from Office of Naval Research, visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/onr/>.

### **Level I and II Acquisition Certification Now Automated**

AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND MANPOWER, PERSONNEL AND SERVICES (SEPT. 11, 2013)

Linda Moore & Tim Frey

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio—As of August 2013, the acquisition certification system will review personnel records daily to determine if an individual meets Level I or II acquisition certification standards. If a personnel record shows that an individual meets all required standards, he or she will automatically be granted certification without having to request it.

For now, Level III certifications still require an individual to go through the current process of applying, getting a supervisor recommendation, and then having an Acquisition Professional Development Program manager review and approve.

Upon certification, an individual will receive an e-mail notification. He or she can then log into ACQ Now for APDP Certification and print a certificate. Career fields in which the certification is sent to the supervisor to be presented will continue this process. For those in career fields that have chosen not to present certifications, individuals will be able to log into ACQ Now for APDP and print a certificate.

Please note that it takes approximately four to six weeks for earned certifications to be pushed into the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System or the Military Personnel Data System and reflect on an Acquisition Career Management System record.

It is important to understand that an automated certification will only be received if a personnel record shows an individual meets all standards. Because of this, it is imperative for individuals to take ownership of their personnel records to ensure accuracy. Acquisition records can be reviewed via AFPC secure in the ACMS application. Individuals are also encouraged to use the certification tool to do a periodic check of any outstanding requirements needed for certification. The tool allows individuals to scrub records against the certification standards of any acquisition functional area, and will alert the individual of any outstanding education, experience, and training requirements.

Problems with acquisition records, such as missing training classes, acquisition experience or education, or additional information, should be worked through the individual’s supervisor and an APDP representative.

A list of available APDP representatives can be found via the Air Force Portal and within the ‘Acquisition’ functional area. From there, click on ‘Career/APDP’ and then on ‘Career Points of Contact.’

**U.S. Army FY14 Acquisition Education and Training Announcements**

*U.S. ARMY ACQUISITION SUPPORT CENTER (SEPTEMBER 2013)*

The FY14 schedule for U.S. Army Acquisition Education and Training (AET) opportunities has been finalized. All AET opportunities (except for Acquisition Leadership Challenge Program) will be announced through the Army Acquisition Professional Development System (AAPDS). To access AAPDS, login at the Career Acquisition Management Portal (CAMP) at <https://rda.altess.army.mil/camp/>. Next, click on Career Acquisition Personnel and Position Management Information System (CAPP MIS). Once in CAPP MIS, select the AAPDS tab, and then select the Application Module link. Click on Apply and view all Army Director of Acquisition Career Management (DACM) available opportunities. For information on any program, go to the USAASC website at <http://asc.army.mil/web/access-acquisition-education-and-training-corner-3-10/>.

- Acquisition Tuition Assistance Program (ATAP) FY14 Announcement will open April 28 and close May 26, 2014. Anyone approved for funding during this announcement may start courses no earlier than Oct 1.
- The Competitive Development Group/Army Acquisition Fellows announcement is on hold for FY14. Because of the current hiring freeze, we have been unable to bring new fellows on board from the FY13 Announcement. If and when the hiring freeze is lifted, we will first work toward finalizing the FY13 board results prior to conducting another announcement.
- The Defense Acquisition University-Senior Service College Fellowship announcement will open Jan. 29 and close April 2, 2014. REMINDER: Applicants need to complete the Civilian Education System Advanced Course prior to the start of the Fellowship.
- The Defense Civilian Emerging Leaders Program announcement will open May 5, 2014, and close June 13. These dates are tentative as this is a DoD-scheduled program, and DoD has not provided specific dates.
- The Excellence in Government Fellows announcement will open June 12, 2014, and close July 15.
- The Naval Postgraduate School-Masters of Science in Program Management: Announcement will open Feb. 3, 2014, and close March 18.
- School of Choice (SOC): Because of the current fiscal environment, there will not be an SOC announcement in FY14. Should a command have an urgent need to send a high-performing workforce member to obtain his/her bachelor's or master's during duty time, please contact the AET Branch Chief, Scott Greene, at [scott.m.greene14.civ@mail.mil](mailto:scott.m.greene14.civ@mail.mil), to discuss options.

The FY14 schedule for the Acquisition Leadership Challenge Program (ALCP) follows. (Note that ALCP will not be announced using AAPDS. Please contact your command or organization acquisition career management advocate or organizational acquisition point of contact.)

DATE TION	OFFERING TYPE COURSE LEVEL	LOCA-TION
Dec. 2-4 ville, Ala.	ALCP I	Hunts-
Dec. 13	<b>4-6</b> ALCP I	Huntsville, Ala.
Jan. 13-15	ALCP I	Atlanta, Ga.
Jan. 15-17	ALCP II	Atlanta, Ga.
Feb. 24-26	ALCP I	Alexandria, Va.
Feb. 26-28	ALCP I	Alexandria, Va.
March 3-4	ALCP B	Aberdeen, Md.
March 17-19	ALCP I	Orlando, Fla.
March 19-21	ALCP I	Orlando, Fla.
April 28-30	ALCP I	Aberdeen, Md.
April 30-May 2	ALCP I	Aberdeen, Md.
May 19-21	ALCP I	Atlanta, Ga.
May 21-23	ALCP II	Atlanta, Ga.
June 9-11	ALCP I	Warren, Mich.
June 11-13	ALCP II	Warren, Mich.
June 23-24	ALCP B	Huntsville, Ala.
July 28-30	ALCP I	Huntsville, Ala.
July 30-Aug. 1	ALCP I	Huntsville, Ala.
Aug. 18-20	ALCP I	Atlanta, Ga.
Aug. 20-22	ALCP II	Atlanta, Ga.
Aug. 25-26	ALCP B	Atlanta, Ga.
Aug. 27-28	ALCP B	Atlanta, Ga.

**FY14 Acquisition Certification Changes**

*U.S. ARMY ACQUISITION SUPPORT CENTER (AUGUST 2013)*

DoD Acquisition, Technology & Logistics career field certification standards are implemented on Oct. 1 of each fiscal year. FY14 changes are outlined in a table at <http://asc.army.mil/web/access-acquisition-education-and-training-corner-3-10/>. The changes in these 11 certification requirements become effective for the respective career fields on Oct. 1. For career fields not listed, there are no approved changes to date. To view the most current career field certification standards required for your current acquisition position, please access DAU's iCatalog at <http://icatalog.dau.mil/>.

**Program Manager's and Executive Program Manager's Course**

*U.S. ARMY ACQUISITION SUPPORT CENTER (AUGUST 2013)*

The Program Manager's and Executive Program Manager's Courses, also known as PMT 401 and PMT 402, are statutory required for program executive officers (PEOs), deputy

program executive officers (DPEOs), and program managers (PMs) or deputy program managers (DPMs) of ACAT I and II programs. Board-selected ACAT I or II program managers should have attended the course prior to beginning their assignment. PEO, DPEOs, and DPMs must have completed the mandatory training within 36 months of encumbering their position. Work with your command and supervisor to ensure attendance in the required training. High-potential Level III acquisition professionals in O-5 or GS-14 or above with extensive experience in acquisition, including four years in, or directly supporting, a program, may participate on space-available slots.

Each fiscal year, the Army receives scarce allocation of seats in selected offerings. More details on the course are available on the DAU's iCatalog website at <http://icatalog.dau.mil/>.

A weekly low-fill listing, posted weekly on DAU's website, allows students the opportunity to attend classes coming up in the next 60 days. Low-fill classes within 60 days from the start date of the class are available on a first come, first served basis for Priority 2 students and 40 days for Priority 3-5 students. Please remember that even if a class is on the low-fill list, students must choose the designated cost-effective location for their training.

All requests, including submission of the travel worksheet (for students approved for DAU funding), should be completed no later than 15 days prior to the start date of the course. Students who do not submit a travel worksheet earlier than 15 days prior to class start date may not be guaranteed central funding for their travel expenses. Students may start their travel order as early as 60 days prior to the start date of the course.

If you have questions on any Acquisition Education, Training, and Experience (AETE) programs or DAU Training, please contact the the AETE Branch Chief Scott Greene at [scott.m.greene14.civ@mail.mil](mailto:scott.m.greene14.civ@mail.mil).

### **New Joint Military Education Course Ongoing in Tampa**

*JOINT FORCES STAFF COLLEGE (AUG. 9, 2013)*

NORFOLK, Va.—A new-model Joint Professional Military Education Phase II course is ongoing at the Joint Special Operations University in Tampa, Fla.

The 10-week course began in January. Two classes totaling 39 students have already graduated. A third class is underway and a fourth is slated to begin in September. Each

class has 18 students with equal air, land, and sea service representation.

It's anticipated that nearly 80 participants will graduate from the course by the end of the year.

The new satellite program course is offered by the Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Va., and hosted by Joint Special Operations University. Because it is offered by JFSC, but hosted by JSOU, it is considered "non-resident."

However, course participants attend classes full-time during the 10 weeks of instruction. This model reflects input from combatant commands, which preferred the 10-week, full-time option rather than a longer term, after-hours option that was originally proposed.

In the 2012 National Defense Authorization Act, Congress authorized a five-year test of non-resident JPME II at no more than two combatant command headquarters. The Joint Staff chose Tampa as the location for its first "satellite" program to maximize exposure to the large population of staff officers requiring JPME II education.

Most of the students come from U.S. Central Command and U.S. Special Operations Command. One international fellow and one interagency student also attend each class. Classes are open to other commands as room allows.

Congress requires the Secretary of Defense to report on the value of the program in 2015. Pending congressional approval, the satellite option may be offered to other combatant commands as soon as 2016.

The satellite program complements the existing JPME II course offered on-site at Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, said Dr. Ken Pisel, who coordinates the non-resident satellite program at JFSC. The satellite version is identical in length and nearly identical in academic content to the on-site version.

The only academic difference is in the lessons on the elements of operational design, which use locally relevant case studies. For example, Norfolk-based students focus on the Revolutionary War Battle at Yorktown, Va., and Tampa-based students focus on the Second Seminole Wars in Florida.

The JPME II satellite program is open to officers and selected senior enlisted members assigned to CENTCOM and SOCOM. JPME II is required for all military officers to become fully joint-qualified.

Each year, about a thousand students graduate from the 10-week Joint and Combined Warfighting School in-residence program at JFSC. Another 300-400 graduate each year from the 40-week Advanced Joint Professional Military Education program, a near-clone of JCWS designed for Reserve and Guard officers unable to commit to 10 weeks away from home.

Each year, about 30 U.S. officers graduate from the 11-month Joint Advanced Warfighting School War College program.

### **AF Names DoD Leadership Program Participants**

*AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS (AUG. 15, 2013)*

*Debbie Gildea*

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas—Six officers have been selected for the Department of Defense Executive Leadership Development Program, Air Force Personnel Center officials said.

This program is designed specifically for highly motivated, active-duty officers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership ability, commitment to public service and integrity, and who have an interest in moving into senior management positions, said Tech. Sgt. Jason Franklin with AFPC's officer developmental education office.

Selectees are Maj. Sharon T. Cortney, Air Education and Training Command; Scott Brandimore, Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency; Matthew Dibble and Jeffrey James Pederson, Air Mobility Command; and Capt. Ian Slazinik and Christopher Uhland, also with AMC.

Participants will function in a simulated environment where they will focus on real-life situations that involve short deadlines and require thoughtful decision making, Franklin said.

The intent of the ELDP is to provide a new approach to training civilian employees by including military participants and interagency partners that parallel certain aspects of selected military training.

"Military participants contribute a vital perspective on military missions, operations and culture, and these shared experiences enrich military and civilian participants," said Franklin.

Military course participants will remain in their current positions during the program, with the exception of 95 days throughout the year, when they will participate in intensive training, briefings, and educational trips.

For more information about ELDP and other developmental opportunities, go to myPers at <https://mypers.af.mil>.

### **Civilians Must Create eOPF Account to Access Records**

*AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS (SEPT. 11, 2013)*

*Gloria Kwizera*

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO—RANDOLPH, Texas—Air Force Personnel Center officials are reminding Air Force civilian employees that they need to create their Office of Personnel Management electronic Official Personnel Folder account in order to access their personnel records.

The OPM eOPF application, which replaced the Air Force Civilian Electronic OPF, is a secure electronic personnel folder that contains civilian personnel documents, such as notifications of personnel actions for federal appointment, awards, promotions, and the recent furlough notice. It also includes documentation of benefits elections, such as Thrift Saving Plan contributions, life insurance, and health benefits.

"This is an important tool in managing your career and ensuring your records are correct," said Chuck Zedek, eOPF program manager. "We highly urge employees to set up their new eOPF accounts and view their records sooner than later, because if there are delays or issues, we can get them resolved now rather than at the last moment when an individual needs to have the information."

This self-service tool enables employees to electronically view and print OPF documents, and to update emergency data. Civilian employees will be prompted to change their password every 60 days.

For guidance on how to create an eOPF account, visit the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>. For additional assistance, contact the OPM eOPF help desk at 866-275-8518 or e-mail [eopf\\_hd@telesishq.com](mailto:eopf_hd@telesishq.com). Employees with questions concerning specific personnel actions or documents should contact their servicing personnel representative.

### **Official: DoD Readiness Depends on Workforce Diversity**

*AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (SEPT. 16, 2013)*

*Terri Moon Cronk*

WASHINGTON—The Defense Department's commitment to equity and inclusion is rooted in the belief that diversity is a readiness imperative that gives a strategic advantage, a senior DoD official said recently during the 10th annual National Latina Style symposium.



Army Lt. Gen. Michael S. Linnington, military deputy to the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, speaks about diversity in the Defense Department during the 10th annual National Latina Style symposium, Sept. 5, 2013.

DoD photo

Nearing the eve of National Hispanic Heritage Month, observed from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, Army Lt. Gen. Michael S. Linnington, military deputy to the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, addressed a largely Latina audience of about 300 people at the symposium and a DoD Distinguished Military Service Awards luncheon.

"Your military remains the most effective fighting force on the globe," Linnington said. "We recognize that diversity goes well beyond race and gender, and we rely on the diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and expertise of our people to successfully respond to the many complex challenges of the 21st century national security landscape."

The Defense Department appreciates that its total force stems from a rich tapestry of America, the general said. "And we believe our all-volunteer force is better when it reflects the nation it serves," he added.

Linnington said diversity progress continues, and women and minorities in the military make "tremendous contributions" in roles critical to national defense.

"But actions speak louder than words," he said, citing DoD's January rescinding of the policy that excluded women from serving in direct combat roles.

"This is a huge step for our armed forces," the general said. "Today, nearly 200,000 women serve ... and make up nearly 15 percent of the force. Under the new policy, DoD will ensure the mission is met with the best qualified and most capable people, regardless of gender."

For Latinas and other women in uniform, the opening of combat roles to women is a chance to continue meeting and exceeding new challenges, and paving the way for future leadership success, Linnington said.

"Our military workforce has grown to about 35 percent minorities and 15 percent women, with minorities comprising about 29 percent of our civilian workforce and women over a third of our civilians," he said. The number of Latina officers has more than doubled in the last decade, he noted, with more than 2,000 serving across the armed forces.

Yet, while DoD celebrates its progress and the great strides it's made, work remains to be done, Linnington said, stressing the need to increase diversity in DoD's civilian positions and in senior leadership.

"For this and other efforts, we look toward partner organizations, like Latina Style, to work with us to continue progress and improvement," he said of increasing minority representation in the civilian workforce.

An important factor that affects advancement and retention of top talent is mentorship, Linnington said.

"When groups of diverse talent gather together, we learn a great deal from one another and build relationships that carry us into the future," the general explained. "We must continue to look toward the future. Let's take a moment to ask ourselves, 'Where do we go from here?' In the audience today are key influencers from our society. ... Each of you is a mentor, and I call on you to help increase awareness of what DoD has to offer by sharing with young people the value of public service, ... either in the military ranks or as civil servants."

The Defense Department gives people the opportunities to develop leadership skills that cannot be found anywhere else and offers a full range of choices and opportunities for Latinas to fulfill great potential, Linnington added.

"Every individual here is in a unique position to help us address many of our challenges and ... help us build a more diverse and inclusive total force ... that not only possesses the diverse backgrounds and experiences to conquer global challenges, but also reflect the changing face of our nation," he said.

This month provides an excellent opportunity for DoD and other organizations to take time to recognize the immeasurable contributions made by the nation's Hispanic-Americans and reflect on diversity and inclusiveness, Linnington noted.

"We are not going to solve our challenges overnight, but together, we can continue our progress," he said.

### **Nominees Sought for Verne Orr Award**

*AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS (SEPT. 26, 2013)*

*Gloria Kwizera*

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas (AFNS)—Air Force Personnel Center officials are accepting nominations for the 2014 Verne Orr Award.

The Air Force Association established this award in honor of former Secretary of the Air Force Verne Orr to recognize mission-oriented unit accomplishments and achievements that used personnel to their full potential in order to accomplish the mission.

The Verne Orr Award, which recognizes an Air Force unit's effective use of human resources, is open to all Air Force units and organizations regardless of size.

Organizations and base-level personnel must contact their major command, combatant command, field operating agency, or direct reporting unit for applicable suspense dates and additional information regarding nomination procedures.

Each major command, combatant command, field operating activity, and direct reporting unit may submit one nomination. Completed nomination packages are due to the Air Force Personnel Center by Jan. 7, 2014.

For more information on Air Force recognition programs and other personnel issues, visit the myPers website at <https://mypers.af.mil>.