

## Defense Logistics Agency Employees Honored in Annual Recognition Ceremony

DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS  
(DEC. 15, 2010)

Beth Reece

Some of the Defense Logistics Agency's top performers were honored during the 43rd Annual Employee Recognition Program ceremony Dec. 14 at the McNamara Headquarters Complex.

The agency's workforce is full of talented, dedicated employees whose individual and collective efforts make DLA the warfighter-focused, globally responsive supply chain leader it is today, DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson said.

"The group assembled before you today is representative of the kind of talent, innovative thinking, dedication, experience, and skill that exists throughout this great agency," he said. "We recognize them today for improving our ability to forecast customer requirements, for streamlining our inventory planning and management, and for increasing the quality we provide to warfighters on the battlefield."

Team achievements recognized range from DLA Energy's timely delivery of fuel from Pakistan, Asia, and Europe to 14 countries in the Middle East, to DLA Land and Maritime's efforts to sustain a more than 90 percent readiness rate for lifesaving Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles.

"It is members of our DLA team who make our credo—doing what is right for the armed forces and DoD—a reality. People like Robert Luera, who managed movement of 1.53 billion gallons of fuel in support of our warfighters in Southwest Asia, and Patrick Gookin, who worked to root out workers' compensation fraud, returning more than \$5.5 million of taxpayers' dollars to the agency," Thompson said.

From a pool of 57 nominations, this year's 10 outstanding personnel are:

- Robert Brandt, DLA Aviation
- William Johnson Jr., DLA Installation Support
- Donald Hollis, DLA Land and Maritime
- Candace Corbin, DLA Logistics Information Service
- Hillary Casari, DLA Disposition Services
- Robert Luera, DLA Energy
- Charles Pope Jr., DLA Energy
- Donald Cabral Jr., DLA Installation Support
- Patrick Gookin, DLA Accountability
- Jeffrey Gamber, DLA Land and Maritime

Team performance awards recognize teams that have improved organizational performance by using structured improvement methods or have advanced the principles of teamwork. Twenty-eight teams were nominated.

- Small team category—DLA Land and Maritime Forecast Improvement Initiative Team
- Medium teams—DLA Distribution's Defense Distribution Expeditionary Depot Team, and DLA Logistics Operations' Inventory Policy Optimization Development, Deployment, and Production Team
- Large team—DLA Land and Maritime Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Team

### Civilian Leadership Award Recipients

- Tier One, Nonsupervisor—Deborah Sinno, DLA Troop Support
- Tier Two, Supervisor for Less Than 2 Years—Pat Amendolia, DLA Troop Support
- Tier Three, Supervisor for 2 to 10 Years—Donna Estep, DLA Human Resources
- Tier Four, Supervisor for More Than 10 Years—Frances Placeres, DLA Distribution
- Tier Five, Manager of Managers—Tanya Lee, DLA Installation Support

### Military Leadership Award Recipients

- Field grade Officer of the Year—Marine Lt. Col. Patrick McDoniel, DLA Aviation
- Company Grade Officer of the Year—Air Force Maj. Donovan Gonzalez, DLA Troop Support;
  - Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year—Air Force Master Sgt. Michelo Glover, DLA Aviation
  - Junior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year—Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Keith Russell, DLA Distribution

### DLA Joint Reserve Awards

- Junior Officer of the Year—Army Maj. Mark Rode, DLA Distribution
- Senior Enlisted Member of the Year—Army Master Sgt. Crystal Fleming, DLA Disposition
- Junior Enlisted Member of the Year—Navy Petty Officer Robert Tan, DLA Distribution

### Equal Employment Opportunity Awards

- Outstanding Employee with a Disability—Wendy Gray, DLA Land and Maritime
- Achievement in EEO by an Organization—DLA Troop Support;
- Achievement in EEO by a Manager—Vincent Harmon, DLA Installation Support
- Achievement in EEO by a Nonmanager—Pamela Downing, DLA Information Operations

### Acquisition Excellence Awards

- Excellence in Pre-Award Contracting—DLA Distribution Acquisition Assistance Team
- Excellence in Contract Administration—Strategic Material Sourcing Group Readiness Division, DLA Troop Support
- Excellence in Pricing—Brian Benfer, DLA Aviation
- Excellence in Procurement Analysis—John Dotchin, DLA Land and Maritime
- Excellence in Acquisition Management—Barbara Peterson, DLA Energy.

### Employee of the Quarter Annual Winner

- Michael Meacham, DLA Energy

### DLA Environmental Award

- DLA Columbus Installation Sustainment Champions Team, DLA Installation Support

### DLA Quality of Life Excellence Award

- Battle Creek Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Program, DLA Installation Support

### First Award Made in DLA Implementation of Enterprise Procurement

DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS  
(DEC. 16, 2010)

*Dianne Ryder • Keith Beebe*

Defense Logistics Agency's Document Services blazed the trail as one of the first activities in the agency to go live with Enterprise Procurement on Nov. 29. After only 2 weeks, they've awarded the first contract in EProcurement.

EProcurement, a software program that automates and standardizes contract writing throughout the agency, was developed to replace DLA's legacy contracting systems.

Air Force Col. Michael Claffey, special assistant for programs in DLA Acquisition, said this first contract award marks a significant milestone in DLA's history.

"It demonstrates the first step in providing the entire DLA enterprise with an automated contract writing and administration system," he said. "Once fully fielded, EProcurement will be a key enabler as DLA seeks greater efficiency in the stewardship of public resources."

The contract award, placed with a Service-Disabled, Veteran-Owned Small Business vendor, was for the purchase of CD-ROM production equipment for the DLA Document Services production facility in Groton, Conn. The facility di-

rectly supports Naval Submarine Base New London and its nuclear submarine customers.

The new equipment is in keeping with the DLA Document Services mission to transition the Department of Defense to the use of digital documents.

"We are excited and proud this first contract in EProcurement was awarded to a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business, affirming the commitment of DLA to this vital socioeconomic program," Claffey said.

DLA Document Services Director Steve Sherman presented a framed copy of the contract award to DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson at DLA Headquarters Dec. 15 to highlight the significant achievement resulting from the implementation of EProcurement.

"This document represents an important milestone along a long road, all made possible by the tremendous work done by the Enterprise team," Sherman said. "We're depending on EProcurement to streamline our process and improve the quality and consistency of contracts and their awards by the agency in support of the Defense Department and the warfighters."

The first release of EProcurement is focused on providing manual functionality to delivery order processing and will provide limited support to manually source, solicit, and award incoming requirements as well as perform necessary post-award actions.

*Ryder is a public affairs specialist, DLA. Beebe is the public affairs officer for DLA Document Services.*

### 2010 Phoenix Award Winner Announced

The Department of Defense (DoD) announced the 2010 winner of the Phoenix Award, part of the 2010 Secretary of Defense Maintenance Awards, on Nov. 17, 2010, at the 2010 DoD Maintenance Symposium and Exhibition in Tampa, Fla. The field-level maintenance award honors military maintenance organizations for outstanding performance. The awardee is chosen from active and reserve organizations performing unit or field-level maintenance and singled out as the best of the best.

The 2010 winner of the Phoenix Award for field-level maintenance is the Marine Corps Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 40 (MALS 40), 2nd Marine Air Wing, Cherry Point, N.C. Activated in March 2009, MALS 40 was immediately deployed to Southern Afghanistan in support of the Marine Expeditionary Brigade, Afghanistan. Formed from 12 com-

mands and less than one-half the size of a normal MALS, MALS 40 provided intermediate-level supply, maintenance, and ordnance support to 79 aircraft of eight type/model/series from three separate forward operating bases. That support consisted of 271 aviation repair capabilities inside 177 mobile maintenance facilities along with 350 pieces of support equipment. The success of MALS 40 was crucial to the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade's effectiveness in providing the required aviation combat power and repaired more than 60,000 aviation parts, enabling the brigade to log more than 35,000 flight hours, airlift more than 81,000 coalition and Afghan passengers, and conduct almost 30,000 sorties in a hostile combat environment.

### **AFMC Headquarters Receives Air Force Organizational Excellence Award**

*AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS REPORT (FEB. 3, 2011)*

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio—Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command has been awarded the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, according to a special order from the Secretary of the Air Force dated Dec. 10, 2010.

The headquarters received the award for exceptionally meritorious service for the period Jan. 1, 2008, to Dec. 31, 2009.

Highlights of the command's accomplishments during this period include reinvigorating the Air Force's nuclear enterprise through the strengthening of the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center, establishing the Air Force Global Logistics Support Center as the cornerstone of logistics enterprise transformation and supply chain management, and contributing more than half of the \$19 billion invested in the Air Force's Small Business Programs in 2008 and 2009.

Said AFMC Commander Gen. Donald Hoffman, "This award recognizes only a snapshot in time—the exceptional work of our airmen each and every day is a testament to [AFMC's] teamwork and warrior spirit. Congratulations to all."

All assigned or attached personnel who served with a unit during the indicated period for the award are authorized the appropriate ribbon if they directly contributed to the mission and accomplishments of the unit.

According to the Air Force Personnel Center, the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award—first authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force on Aug. 26, 1969—recognizes the achievements and accomplishments of U.S. Air Force organizations or activities. It is awarded to Air Force inter-

nal, unnumbered organizations that are entities within larger organizations.

### **DoD Awards Grants to Minority Institutions**

*DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (FEB. 17, 2011)*

The Department of Defense (DoD) announced today plans to award 52 grants totaling \$45.7 million to minority institutions as part of the fiscal 2010 DoD Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Institutions Program.

The grants will enhance education programs and research capabilities at the recipient institutions in scientific disciplines critical to national security and the DoD.

This announcement is the result of merit competition conducted for the office of the assistant secretary of defense for research and engineering by the Army Research Office, the Office of Naval Research, and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research. The fiscal 2010 program solicitation received 184 eligible proposals in response to a broad agency announcement issued in May 2010.

Among the awards are three research centers, three education centers, and 46 grants for single-investigator basic research. Awards for centers range from \$3.7 million to \$3.9 million for a 4- to 5-year period. The basic research awards range from \$275,000 to \$575,000 for a 36-month performance period. Grants will be made by the Army Research Office.

All awards are subject to the successful completion of negotiations between DoD and the academic institutions.

The list of recipients for fiscal 2010 can be found at [www.defense.gov/news/d20110217grants.pdf](http://www.defense.gov/news/d20110217grants.pdf).

### **AFIT Research Dean Wins Air Force Role Model Award**

*AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND NEWS RELEASE (FEB. 17, 2011)*

*Bill Hancock*

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio—Air Force Institute of Technology Dean of Research Dr. Heidi R. Ries earned the 2011 Women's History Month Foreign Language and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, or STEM, Role Model Award in recognition of a multitude of efforts.

"I am honored to be a recipient of this award, and to serve the Air Force and AFIT," Ries said. "The existence of this award is an indication of the Air Force's commitment to diversity and STEM, and I am enthusiastic about our progress in these areas."

Her work includes exemplary leadership in support of the recruitment, retention, promotion, and career development of women STEM faculty in the Dayton region; public service to the STEM educational community; and engagement with middle school science activities.

"I could not be more pleased with the selection of Dr. Ries. This is well-deserved recognition of all she does for AFIT, the Air Force, and the STEM community," said Maj. Gen. Walter D. Givan, AFIT commandant. "Dr. Ries reflects the high quality of educators we have on staff here at AFIT, and has made all of us very proud."

Along with her many duties at AFIT, Ries is the institutional coordinator for the Launching Equity in the Academy across the Dayton Entrepreneurial Region Consortium National Science Foundation ADVANCE program partnership led by Wright State University. This program is designed to improve the institution's ability to attract, retain, and promote women professors in STEM disciplines. As the most experienced administrator on the consortium's leadership team, Ries successfully advocated organizational strategies for improving the consortium's effectiveness during last year's transition to a new LEADER project principal investigator. New programs have been developed for 2010 implementation to train department heads to effectively mentor junior faculty, advocate bias-free search committee and promotion processes, and provide a welcoming environment for under-represented faculty.

At AFIT, Ries has implemented a well-received quarterly faculty women's luncheon to promote camaraderie and improved communications, with the goal of enhancing the work environment for all. Ries also advises and guides AFIT's equity advisor, who is responsible for working with search committees to obtain more diverse candidate pools for STEM faculty positions.

"Dr. Ries' compassion and dedication for the principles and practices of STEM are acknowledged in this most prestigious award," said AFIT Graduate School of Engineering and Management Dean Dr. Marlin U. Thomas. "She is an inspiration, from the school-age children who benefit from STEM, to the AFIT students who seek out her knowledge, and a true champion of academia."

Ries serves as a member of the Engineering and Science Foundation of Dayton's Board of Trustees. She also serves as the "champion," or subcommittee chair, for ESF's strategic partnership with Dayton's public television station, *ThinkTV*, to produce Stem Cluster Videos. Videos on the topics of power and propulsion, sensors, advanced manufacturing

and materials, human performance and medicine, and air vehicles/air systems, designed to directly support the science curriculum of the Dayton Regional STEM Center, have been developed.

The videos provide introductions to the basic scientific concepts, as well as real-world examples to motivate continued interest. The first three videos were recently made available nationally and internationally via the website, and the last two will be completed soon. A sixth video, "What is Quality STEM Education?" is also in production to support professional development initiatives for K-12 STEM educators.

Ries tutors 10 students as the optics event coach for the 2010-2011 Hadley E. Watts Middle School Science Olympiad program. In the optics event, students develop basic knowledge of geometric and physical optics, which must be demonstrated during written tests at invitational, regional, and possibly state and national competitions. Ries also served as a team coordinator for Dr. John Hole Elementary's Destination Imagination 4th and 5th grade team 2008-2009 academic year on a topic addressing animal communication techniques.

Prior to joining AFIT, Ries served as professor of physics and director of the Center for Materials Research at Norfolk State University, a historically black university in Norfolk, Va., where she still serves as an advisory committee member for its recently awarded NSF Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship program project. While at NSU from 1986 to 1999, she collaborated in a variety of materials-related research and science education initiatives involving regional universities, Jefferson Lab, NASA Langley Research Center, and Los Alamos National Laboratory. These funded projects and collaborative initiatives resulted in Norfolk State University's first master's and doctoral programs in the sciences.

Joining the AFIT faculty in 1999, Ries has served as the dean for research since 2005. Under her leadership, AFIT established designated research centers and successfully increased external research and educational funding from \$2.6 million in FY00 to nearly \$20 million in FY10. She acquired more than \$15 million in funding to support research and education projects in the areas of nonlinear optical materials, radiation effects, electron paramagnetic resonance spectroscopy, and laser processing of materials.

Ries received the Air Force Award for Meritorious Civilian Service in 2009, and was recognized by the *Dayton Daily News* as one of the region's 2009 10 Top Women.

Hancock is with 88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs.

### Logisticians Share Expertise With Iraqi Forces

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE (FEB. 18, 2011)

Donna Miles

WASHINGTON—Recognizing that the Iraqi security forces—no matter how well they're trained and equipped—require an equally capable sustainment network, U.S. logisticians have moved into overdrive sharing expertise they say will be critical after U.S. forces leave Iraq.

As the Army Reserve's 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command focuses on keeping the roughly 50,000 U.S. servicemembers in Iraq supplied and moving excess equipment out of the country to meet the Dec. 31 withdrawal deadline, it's also taken on a new training mission, its commander reported.

"An army that cannot sustain itself for the long term is not really a viable army," Army Brig. Gen. Mark Corson told American Forces Press Service from his headquarters at Joint Base Balad in Iraq. "Eventually their equipment will fall apart. Eventually they will run out of bullets."

Army Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, commander of U.S. Forces Iraq, assigned the new training mission to the 103rd about 2 months ago to shore up gaps within Iraq's logistical network—the proverbial "tail" needed to support the combat "teeth."

"They have the basic maneuver piece down," Corson said of the Iraqi security forces. "But the reason General Austin puts so much emphasis on this is that he realizes at the strategic level that an army that provides that level of security but cannot sustain itself for the long term is going to have real problems."

A recent report by the inspector general for Iraq reconstruction expressed concern that real or potential gaps in Iraqi security forces' capabilities could affect their ability to lock in hard-won security gains, citing logistics as an area requiring improvement.

Corson agreed that a solid logistics, transportation, and sustainment capability is critical to sustaining progress in Iraq, particularly among its security forces, after U.S. forces leave.

"You may have good maneuver forces and security forces, [but] if you can't sustain them so that they are fueled, fed, and armed, they are not going to be very long-lived and not very robust," he said.

"It is one thing to put forces out there that can man check-points and guard things," he continued. "It is another thing to have a force that can actually sustain and regenerate itself—in other words, over the long haul, they can continue to fix their vehicles, keep everyone supplied with ammunition, and keep everybody properly fed."

Corson said the Iraqis have no shortage of logistics skills at the tactical or unit level.

"They have excellent mechanics who can not only fix things, but if they don't have the parts, they can actually fabricate the parts," he said. "In spite of a lack of tools, they are very resourceful." Now, he added, the task is to extend that capa-

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bility to higher levels of sustainment, into the highly complex enterprise management arena.

"It's not just teaching them how to fix things and hang parts, but the whole process of maintenance, of requirements development, of developing an enterprise management solution," Corson explained.

"It goes all the way from 'How do you, at the national level, budget and procure parts which typically are bought from abroad?'" he said. "How do you do that, between the finance ministry and the ministry of defense, and then get those parts to the higher level depots and then get them distributed throughout the country? That is serious business that is not easily done, so I think our opportunity is to help them, with our various training partners, to be able to master that process."

The 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command has plenty of expertise to share. In addition to providing sustainment for the 50,000 U.S. troops in Iraq now, the command's soldiers

arrived just in time to support the logistical drawdown of forces from 130,000.

Now, with about 2 months left of their deployment, they are continuing the logistical drawdown while fine-tuning the plan for the full withdrawal of U.S. forces by Dec. 31.

In addition to military-acquired skills, many unit members bring particularly valuable expertise from their civilian jobs.

For example, Army Lt. Col. Gerry Schwartz, Corson's deputy support operations officer, is a Lean Six Sigma black belt for Hewlett-Packard, responsible for the company's manufacturing and distribution operations throughout North and South America.

Another unit member is an engineer with several patents to his name and significant experience in project management and process management.

"We have a fair number of people with really substantial civilian-acquired skills who can bring those to bear. And we think that is part of our value-added," Corson said. "We also have some highly experienced reserve- and active-component officers with great military-acquired skills at this level of logistics operations."

Despite their expertise, Corson said, he and his sustainers recognize the importance of diplomacy as they share it with the Iraqis. He noted that he first learned that lesson while deployed to Kosovo in 2001 supporting the Kosovo Protection Corps.

"You don't just walk into somebody else's operation and throw your weight around," he said. "You have to be diplomatic, and you have to be culturally aware of how they do things, why they do things, and recognize that we are not going to try to force upon them our ways. We have to learn their ways of doing it and help them to improve their processes along the way."

Using this approach, Corson said, his expert sustainers have a chance to make a big difference in helping the Iraqis take their sustainment apparatus to the next level. Corson said he sees the Iraqis making strides.

"They have a national depot that is actually very well resourced, with some really excellent warehouses and work-



Army Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, commander of U.S. Forces Iraq (left) meets with Army Brig. Gen. Mark Corson, commander of the 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command to discuss the sustainment role in Iraq and the 103rd's new mission of helping the Iraqi security forces improve their own logistical, maintenance, and sustainment operations.

U.S. Army photo by Army Sgt. Jessica Rohr

shops," he said. "They have a general transportation regiment that is very proficient at its mission to take things and get them to where they are supposed to go."

What's needed now, he said, is an ability to "connect the dots"—getting all of those pieces to work together.

"I think the potential is certainly there," Corson said. "But they still need some additional help in fleshing all that out." Ten months into their deployment, Corson and his command recognize they're working against the clock to get a lot accomplished.

"You might think, as we come to the end of our tour, that we are ready to take it easy and pack it up and pack it in, but it is absolutely the opposite," he said. "Our operations tempo has increased with this advise-and-train mission, along with our planning activities and our drawdown activities."

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates told Congress earlier this week that he expects the Iraqis to encounter some initial difficulties with logistics and other issues as U.S. forces leave.

"The truth of the matter is, the Iraqis are going to have some problems that they're going to have to deal with if we are not there in some numbers," he told the House Armed Ser-

vices Committee. In addition to logistics and maintenance, he cited intelligence fusion and the ability to protect Iraqi airspace.

Gates hinted that the United States might be able to provide extended support beyond Dec. 31, but only if the Iraqis request it.

"This is the agreement that was signed by President [George W.] Bush and the Iraqi government, and we will abide by the agreement unless the Iraqis ask us to have additional people there," he said.

### **Air Force Mentor-Protégé Team Wins Nunn-Perry Award for Cyber Applications**

*AIR FORCE NEWS SERVICE (MARCH 7, 2011)*

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va.—A mentor-protégé team earned the Nunn-Perry award March 2 for achievements in cyber applications for the Air Force, officials from the Air Force Office of Small Business said here March 4.

Ball Aerospace, Colorado Engineering, Inc., and Florida International University were recognized at the annual Mentor-Protégé Conference in Virginia Beach.

The mentor firm, Ball Aerospace, specializes in intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; and space science and tactical systems. The protégé small business, CEI, provides advanced engineering services in the design, development, and testing of software and hardware systems. FIU, a participating minority-serving institution, emphasizes research as a major component of its mission. Ranked first in the nation in awarding bachelor's and master's degrees to Hispanic students, FIU also is one of the 25 largest universities in the nation.

"The Air Force Office of Small Business Programs ensures the mentor-protégé program develops small business capabilities in areas linked to the Air Force's mission and priorities," said Karen Holloman, Air Force Office of Small Business mentor protégé program director. "The program is designed to focus on mentor-protégé agreements that provide innovative, state-of-the-art technology transfers in the domains of air, space, and cyberspace."

The award-winning team is one of six active Air Force mentor-protégé contract agreements. Ball Aerospace, CEI, and FIU are developing capabilities in digital processing technologies; and command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance.



### **Travis Civilian Worker Nears 50 Years of Service**

Jo Cobb, 60th Contracting Squadron contracting officer at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., is pictured March 3, 2011, at Travis AFB, Calif. Cobb has worked for the federal government in various capabilities for nearly 50 years.

*U.S. Air Force Photo by Airman 1st Class Michael Battles*

All eligible protégés are certified by officials with the U.S. Small Business Administration as small disadvantaged businesses or minority-serving institutions.

The mentor-protégé program encourages large-business contractors to assist in developing the technical and business capabilities of small disadvantaged businesses.

Mentor firms benefit by establishing long-term business relationships with qualified suppliers. Mentors also receive reimbursements or credits for their developmental costs as well as a boost in meeting their small business goals.

Protégé firms gain valuable expertise in technology and business-knowledge transfer, which increases their competitiveness in the marketplace as well as their access to other subcontracting opportunities.