

Message from the DAU President Katrina McFarland

A few weeks ago, I appeared before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform as part of the hearing: "The Frontlines of the Acquisition Workforce's Battle Against Taxpayer Waste." My testimony detailed the importance of a fully qualified acquisition workforce, especially in an austere financial environment, and also served as an opportunity to inform Congress of existing and emergent workforce development initiatives at DAU. Our goal is to have a workforce that is fully certified to today's standards and also fully qualified to effectively perform their duties as acquisition professionals. I invite you to view my testimony as well as the statements of the other panel members on this important topic at http://oversight.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1512%3A11-16-11-qon-the-frontlines-in-the-acquisition-workforces-battle-against-taxpayer-wasteq&catid=14&Itemid=1.

DAU and NDIA to Sponsor Defense Systems Acquisition Management Course Offering for Industry Managers

The Defense Acquisition University and the National Defense Industrial Association will sponsor an offering of the Defense Systems Acquisition Management course March 26-30, 2012, at Loews Annapolis Hotel, Annapolis, Md. The course is targeted for industry program managers, assistant program managers, systems engineers, industry personnel serving on DoD integrated product teams, and other personnel who must interface with DoD program offices involved in program development and execution. The result of successful completion of this course is a comprehensive understanding of the environment and driving forces affecting your DoD counterparts that will significantly increase your awareness and effectiveness in dealing with programmatic issues.

The course is also open to a limited number of DoD personnel in grades O4-O6 and GS 13-15, tuition-free. Government students should already be certified at Level II to obtain maximum benefit from this course. Government employees and supervisors may apply the DSAM course towards fulfillment of the DoD requirement for acquisition workforce personnel to earn 80 continuous learning points every 2 years. DSAM counts for 34 CL points, or 3.4 continuous education units. DSAM presents the same acquisition policy information provided to DoD students who attend the DAU courses for acquisition certification training. It is designed to meet the needs of defense industry acquisition managers in

today's dynamic environment, providing the latest information related to:

- Defense acquisition policy for weapons and information technology systems, including discussion of the DoD 5000 series (directive and instruction), and the *Defense Acquisition Guidebook*;
- Defense acquisition reform and initiatives;
- Defense acquisition procedures and processes;
- The planning, programming, budgeting, and execution process, and the congressional budget process; and
- The relationship between capability needs determination, resource allocation, science and technology activities, and acquisition programs.

All course materials will be provided to students on CD-ROM. It is highly recommended that students bring a laptop computer to the class. If you do not have access to a laptop, please contact the respective meeting planner as soon as possible. There will be a limited number of laptops available for use through NDIA, so please call early.

For further information, see www.ndia.org/meetings/202A/Pages/default.aspx. Industry students contact Michael A. Dauth at mdauth@ndia.org or 703-247-2593.

A limited number of experienced government students may be selected to attend each offering. Prospective government students must first contact Karen Byrd at 703-805-3728 or e-mail Karen.Byrd@dau.mil prior to registering with NDIA.

Stay Current with the Contracting Acquimedia

The Contracting section of Acquimedia provides a convenient and easy way to learn about one or more Contracting career field topics. View the Contracting Acquimedia at https://acquimedia.dau.mil/con_lcic.aspx.

Automated Requirements Roadmap Tool

The DAU Service Acquisition Mall (SAM) Automatic Requirements Roadmap Tool (ARRT) at <http://sam.dau.mil/Content.aspx?currentContentID=arrt> is a software tool used to write performance-based requirements following the Requirements Roadmap process. Using ARRT, you can create a Performance Work Statement (PWS) and Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan (QASP) with user guidance throughout the tool.

Defense Acquisition University Training

The FY13 Defense Acquisition University class schedule will be available for registration beginning May 17. Students are encouraged to plan and apply early for DAU training. Applying early will improve the chances of getting the class in the timeframe requested. Please apply through the ap-

appropriate Defense Acquisition Career Manager (DACM) for DoD Agencies and Non-DoD Agencies at www.dau.mil/studentInfo/Pages/Military%20personnel%20Welcome.aspx. Once you receive a confirmed reservation in the requested class, be sure you attend the class as planned.

The timeframe for DAU course cancellations is 30 calendar days from the date the student receives a reservation. Cancellations for a confirmed reservation must be received at least 30 calendar days before the class starts or by the reservation cutoff date, whichever is earlier. Cancellations submitted after that deadline must have general officer or Senior Executive Service member approval, per Department of the Army DAU Training Policy and Procedures signed Dec. 9, 2011, online at http://asc.army.mil/docs/programs/dau/DAU_Training_Policy_&_Procedures.pdf. Students placed on wait status should revisit the class wait(s) and cancel as necessary. If a student rolls into a reservation from a wait within 30 days of the class start date, the student will be held to the 30-calendar-day cancellation policy.

To address the shortfall in Level II contracting classes, six commercial vendors and four universities offer equivalent classes. The vendors continue to teach the FY11 Contracting courses in FY12, and the courses are valid predecessors to the new FY12 courses until Sept. 30, 2013. More information on equivalencies is at the DAU website <http://icatalog.dau.mil/appg.aspx>.

On Dec. 12, 2011, DAU released CON 170E, Fundamentals of Cost and Price Analysis Equivalency Examination. CON 170E allows students to test out of taking the two-week resident CON 170 course. If a person does not meet the Deputy Director, Acquisition Career Management waiver requirements for CON 170, he or she has the option to fulfill CON 170 by passing the exam. Students opting to take the equivalent exam must receive a grade of at least 80 percent. Prerequisite CLC 058 (in the DAU Digital Library) is required for entry to take the exam. For more information on the CON 170E exam, refer to the concept card at http://icatalog.dau.mil/onlinecatalog/courses.aspx?crs_id=1898.

DAU has expanded classroom size from 24 to 28-30 in 4th Qtr, FY11 and all FY12 Level II Business, Cost, And Financial Management (BCFM) course offerings, specifically the following courses: BCF 203, BCF 205, BCF 206, BCF 211, and BCF 215. An additional 680 seats were added to the FY12 schedule in light of additional offerings and an increase in class size. The demand is due to a temporary surge of BCFM certification requirements, along with an increase in BCFM workforce members needing certification. For experienced BCFM personnel, fulfillment of the course is recom-

mended. For more information, go to <http://icatalog.dau.mil/DAUFulfillmentPgm.aspx>.

DAU has successfully procured a commercial-off-the-shelf new Student Information System to replace the current distinct DAU registration systems for the four Services. The Web-based system, named PORTICO, will interface with the following DAU and DoD systems: Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS) Internet Training Application System (AITAS); and Career Acquisition Management Portal/Career Acquisition Personnel & Position Management Information System (CAMP/CAPPMIS). PORTICO will standardize functionality and capability, allowing more transparency and up-to-date status information for students applying for DAU courses. The system is in the Business Requirements Review phase, with initial operating capability planned for January 2013. For more information, go to www.dau.mil/sis/default.aspx.

Upcoming Life Cycle Executive Leadership Program

Maintain your Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act and Federal Acquisition Certification in Contracting certifications by attending the Life Cycle Executive Leadership Program (LCEL). LCEL is a one-week executive education program designed for leaders who work in the areas of acquisition, logistics, sustainment, budgeting, contracting, and engineering. Ideal candidates want to learn more about implementing, managing, or developing life cycle plans or policies in their organizations.

Students will receive 42 Continuous Learning Points (documented by North Carolina State University (NCSU) with 4.2 Continuing Education Units) upon completion of the course. Since members of the Acquisition Corps need 80 hours of continuing education training every two years to maintain certification, the LCEL offers a unique executive leadership option for future career advancement.

The Institute for Defense and Business (IDB) developed the LCEL in response to the need to reduce total ownership costs for military and other government products, services, platforms, and systems. The IDB offers this one-week course in partnership with two leading Schools of Industrial and Systems Engineering—NCSU and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NC A&T). Experts from these universities and military/government thought leaders collaborated with the IDB to develop a curriculum on effective and affordable life cycle systems design. The objective of the course is to increase the life cycle management knowledge and skills of participants while linking them to a broader network of peers. LCEL

provides world-class academic instruction, peer interaction, and in-depth exchanges with military, government, and private sector counterparts. Learn more about the LCELP at www.idb.org/programs/lcelp/register-1.

DAU's Senior Service College Fellowship Now Accepting Applications

From now until March 15, 2012, the Senior Service College Fellowships at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., Huntsville, Ala., and Warren, Mich., will accept applications for the 2012-2013 class. This 10-month resident program provides acquisition and senior leadership training to prepare civilian senior leaders for key leadership positions within the DoD acquisition community. For more program information, visit www.dau.mil/sscf/default.aspx.

Opportunities at Regent University

Graduates of DAU's Program Manager's Course (PMT 401) may receive advanced standing in Regent's Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership (15 credits) and Master of Arts in Government (Public Administration) (9 credits). Regent is a fully accredited, nondenominational, and Servicemembers Opportunity College providing associate's, master's, and doctoral programs both on campus in Virginia Beach, Va., and online globally. Learn more about Regent's academic programs at www.regent.edu/academics/catalog.cfm.

Better Buying Power Update: Template for Should-Cost Analysis

On Sept. 14, 2010, USD(AT&L) directed the manager of each major program to conduct a Should-Cost analysis justifying each element of program cost and showing how it is improving year by year or meeting other relevant benchmarks for value. To help program managers meet this requirement, on Dec. 12, 2011, the Acquisition Resources and Analysis Director signed a memo to provide a Should-Cost analysis template to guide program managers of ACAT I programs in preparing their Should-Cost information for presentation to the Milestone Decision Authority. Copies of this memo and templates are available on the Better Buying Power (BBP) Gateway at <https://dap.dau.mil/bbp> or BBP Public Site at <https://acc.dau.mil/bbp>.