

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 June 14-18, 2010, at the Omni San Francisco Hotel in San Francisco, Calif. 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 two years. DSAM counts for 34 CL points, or 3.4 Continuous Education Units (CEU). 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
- 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 "Courses Offered" under "Meetings and Events" at <www.ndia.org>. Industry students contact Michelle Hariston at mhariston@ndia.org or 703-247-9478. 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.

Systems Engineering Body of Knowledge

The Systems Engineering Research Center, under the auspices of DoD, is developing a Systems Engineering Body of Knowledge (SEBoK) and an associated reference curriculum. The SEBoK authors, a renowned group of systems engineers and software professionals from around the world, held a kick-off meeting Dec. 8-9, 2009, at the Naval Postgraduate School. DAU professor Dr. John Snoderly, one of the authors of this high-priority effort, is leading an international team of experts examining systems engineering processes that deal with stakeholder requirements, requirements analysis, system architecture, and implementation using the International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Commission/Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (ISO/IEC/IEEE) 15288 standard as a framework. Version one of the SEBoK is scheduled to be delivered at the end of 2010.

GAO Review of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development and Training

On Dec. 9, 2009, the Defense Acquisition University hosted the entrance conference for a Government Accountability Office review of Defense Acquisition Workforce development and training at DAU's Fort Belvoir, Va., campus. GAO is beginning this work in response to a congressional mandate. Objectives and key questions to be addressed include the nature and efficacy of training for DoD acquisition and audit personnel; the extent to which such training reaches appropriate acquisition personnel; and the extent to which training recommendations from previous reviews, including the Gansler Commission, and other initiatives have been implemented. DAU President Frank Anderson reports that the audit team will also be looking at the university's alignment with its stakeholders, the scope of its processes, and the robustness of its metrics and other business data. The GAO's findings will be reported and made public on its Web site at <www.gao.gov>.

Service Acquisition Mall Launched

On Jan. 15, DAU launched the Service Acquisition Mall, or SAM, at <<https://sam.dau.mil>>. SAM is a new initiative to provide training and knowledge sharing for the acquisition community involved in service acquisition. SAM uses

DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Through the years, the Defense Acquisition University has established strategic partnerships with universities and colleges, defense-sector corporations, professional associations, other government agencies, and international organizations. Such partnerships with academic institutions allow Defense Acquisition Workforce members to transfer DAU course work toward college and university degrees and certificates. Partnerships with industry, professional societies, government agencies, and international organizations focus on sharing training materials, tools, modules, and training opportunities. A complete database of DAU Strategic Partnerships can be found at <http://www.dau.mil/aboutDAU/Pages/partnerships.aspx>. In October 2009, an additional partnership was added to the database:

DAU and AbilityOne Program Form Strategic Partnership

DAU President Frank J. Anderson Jr., and Tina Ballard, executive director for the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled and representing the AbilityOne Program, signed a strategic partnership between the two organizations. The memorandum of understanding between DAU and the AbilityOne Program will greatly facilitate the delivery of AbilityOne training to Department of Defense acquisition personnel through a variety of educational applications, promoting national awareness, understanding of, and preference for federal purchases of products and services provided by nonprofit agencies employing people who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

The AbilityOne Program is the largest source of U.S. employment for people who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and the program currently employs more than 40,000 people on federal contracts. Through two central nonprofit agencies, the National Institute for the Blind (NIB) and the National Institute for the Severely Handicapped (NISH), AbilityOne works with more than 600 nonprofit agencies nationwide and represents \$2.3 billion in products and services provided to the federal government.

At the annual NIB Conference held in Kansas City, Mo., in October 2009, Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled Chairperson Andrew Houghton and Ballard presented the Osborne A. "Oz" Day Award to Anderson in recognition of his extraordinary efforts to advocate and promote the AbilityOne Program. The prestigious award is named in memory of a former committee member who was relentless in his commitment to people with disabilities. Day served as a presidential appointee and private citizen committee member, providing knowledge and insights about obstacles to employment for disabled individuals. His service on the committee was the culmination of a lifelong career of advocating for the blind and disabled.

a seven-step service acquisition process. It will contain functional information based on broad service categories depicted by the stores in the mall. SAM 1.0 is the initial step in developing tools, training, and functional knowledge available through the Internet. The Knowledge-Based Service, or A&AS (Advisory and Assistance Services) store is the first to contain functional information. DAU's goal is to include sample performance objectives and standards for various types of services that will provide acquisition teams with a good start in developing effective Performance Work Statement requirements. Additional functional content and training will be deployed as it is developed. If you would like to

participate in developing material for SAM, please contact Lyle Eesley, 703-805-4853, or lyle.eesley@dau.mil. Also, please explore SAM and let us know what you like and what could be improved.