

# Remarks

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE EDITOR



This issue marks the debut of the *Defense Acquisition Research Journal (ARJ)*. Its publication marks a continuation of the same peer-reviewed journal that the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) has been publishing since 1994, first under the title *Defense Acquisition Review Quarterly*, and since 2004 as *Defense Acquisition Review Journal*. The *Defense ARJ* carries forward this tradition of scholarly excellence.

This change in name is part of an overall re-emphasis on DAU's research mission. When the university was established by Congress in 1991, the enabling legislation stated that it would "provide for the research and analysis of defense acquisition policy issues from an academic perspective" (DAU Structure, 1991). DAU's mission today supports Department of Defense (DoD) and congressional initiatives by providing the kind of thought leadership that helps improve acquisition outcomes. This journal is central to that mission by providing a high-quality, peer-reviewed forum for disseminating a broad range of research and analysis from across the entire defense acquisition enterprise.

The theme of this issue, "Creating Knowledge," describes the fundamental purpose of acquisition research: to make sense of observations and data through systematic study and analysis, with the goal of creating practical applications to influence acquisition policies, procedures, and outcomes.

COL Michael G. Padgett, USA (Ret.), leads off with an examination of where knowledge is created worldwide, and how the DoD should go about locating and making best use of that knowledge. Col Jason James Denney, USAF, by contrast, looks at how the United States can prime the innovation pump to maintain its knowledge competitiveness in the world. Tiffany L. Lewis et al. explain how expert knowledge and judgment can be better employed in establishing the progress plans for critical program elements. Ian N. Barford and Patrick T. Hester look at how Generation Y—the latest generation of "knowledge workers" to enter the DoD—perceives various motivational factors in their workplace. Finally, Capt Albert Olagbemiro, USAFR et al. examine the use of real options theory to improve knowledge and management of software acquisition risk.

A new feature in the *Defense ARJ* is the Defense Acquisition Professional Reading List. The aim of this list is to enrich the knowledge and understanding of the defense acquisition enterprise workforce.

The books that will be reviewed in this journal reflect important historical and contemporary insights that are directly applicable to today's defense acquisition workforce. Leading off in this issue, Michael Pryce of the Manchester Business School (UK) reviews *The Polaris System Development* by Harvey Sapolsky. The methods and lessons of this highly successful project resonate even after a half-century. I encourage *Defense ARJ* readers to submit reviews of books, following the guidelines set out in the Reading List section.



Dr. Larrie D. Ferreiro  
Executive Editor  
*Defense ARJ*

## REFERENCE

Defense Acquisition University Structure, 10 U.S.C. § 1746 (1991).