

Defense Acquisition University (DAU) Sponsors Executive Level Course

"Competing in a New Business Environment"

DAU sponsors a two-week executive-level course, "Competing in a New Business Environment," at the Darden School of Business, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va. The Office of the Secretary of the Air Force (SAF/AQXD) supports the course.

Program Length

12 days

Dates Offered

To Be Determined

Tuition

Paid by the Defense Acquisition University (includes lodging and meals).

Transportation is the responsibility of the student's parent organization. POC for the course is Mandy Edwards, e-mail: mandy@pentagon.af.mil, DSN: 425-7135 or Commercial: (703) 588-7135.

A You're asking me for some details that I just don't have at this point in time. We want to let the communities have an input into this process, and it may be at some point it would be appropriate to do so. We have not spelled that out in the legislation.

Q Will there be any openness in the overseas closings? The last rounds, in the early '90s, were done quite secretly.

A I haven't seen the results yet, and I don't know how they plan to present it. There's not a need that I see to have a highly secretive process. Commanders ought to be able to identify which facilities they need and which ones they don't, and that ought to be an open process that the Secretary of Defense has to address.

Q One of the major criticisms of the previous BRAC rounds was that without a uniform accounting system, you couldn't tell how much savings were going to be achieved. So how do you intend to address that within this initiative? And second, are you going to ask Congress to alter the 60-40 rule for depot maintenance?

A That's not part of this legislation. But yes, we want to have a much more comprehensive analysis of the savings. We're getting a very good database put together of what our facilities are, how much they cost, what capacity they have. So we have some good information, better information to start this process than we did in the past. So we hope to do that.

Q Have you given any thought to incentivizing the process by letting each Service keep the savings from the bases it closes?

A Basically, the end result is that's what will happen. If we do in fact save money as a result — and we hope we will — those funds will be redistributed and offset things we would normally have to pay for in people and modernization and so forth. So while the number of bases doesn't get directly back to the Services, it does in an indirect way because it increases the money available to other than base operations for the Department of Defense.

Thank you very much.

Editor's Note: This information is in the public domain at <http://www.defense.link.mil/news>.

Federal Civilian Education and Training in DoD How Can We Gauge Its Value?

The Department of Defense (DoD) prides itself on providing "world class" training and continuing education to its military employees and would like to expand that reputation to its civilian employees. But just what does "world class" mean in the civilian context and how can the DoD best measure the quality of its efforts? A recently released RAND study, *Ensuring the Quality and Productivity of Education and Professional Development*

Activities: A Review of Approaches and Lessons for DoD, points out that the DoD's education and training efforts are highly decentralized and suggests that defense policymakers can gauge the caliber of those efforts by choosing one of four assessment approaches. To read about the approaches or to obtain a complete copy of the report, visit the DoD Chancellor of Education Web site at <http://www.chancellor.osd.mil/>.