



From the Acquisition Support Center Director



I want to wish the Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (AL&T) Workforce the very best for the New Year. In 2011, we will be facing a crucial challenge of “doing more without more.” In a memorandum dated Sept. 14, 2010, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics Dr. Ashton B. Carter outlined further guidance for “Obtaining Greater Efficiency and Productivity in Defense Spending.” The memo highlights 23 principal actions in five major acquisition areas for accomplishing this goal. I urge each of you to study this memo and closely follow his direction. Carter has emphasized that the acquisition community must fundamentally change how we do business, or we won’t have the resources to supply our troops with what they need. Please see the memo at http://www.acq.osd.mil/docs/USD_ATL_Guidance_Memo_September_14_2010_FINAL.PDF?transcriptid=4648. Also, Carter offers insights into DOD Efficiency Initiatives in an article in the Conference Call section of this issue (see Page 46).

I am confident that the AL&T Workforce can meet this challenge with great success by doubling down on our commitment to provide our Soldiers the best weapons, technology, and logistics as quickly and cost-effectively as possible, and by maintaining a well-trained, efficient, and educated workforce to support any new challenges or contingencies that our troops may encounter in an uncertain world.

Acquisition Education, Training, and Experience Update

Two important components of our Acquisition Education, Training, and Experience (AETE) offerings are Defense Acquisition University (DAU) training and the numerous educational and leadership development opportunities offered by the U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center (USAASC). This forum is a great way for me to let our workforce know of important opportunities with both.

Please be aware that in the beginning of every fiscal year, many of the DAU course prerequisites and certification course requirements change. Course prerequisites are different from *Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act* certification requirements. A prerequisite course is a DAU-offered course that must be successfully completed before attending another DAU course. For information on the latest prerequisites, see the DAU Interactive Catalog at <http://icatalog.dau.mil> and click on “Training Courses.”

Please note that USAASC no longer responds to DAU training questions sent to the USAASC reservations e-mail box. All DAU-related questions need to be submitted using the new Army Training Requirements and Resources System Internet Training Application System help desk at <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/aitas/main.asp>.

We have many announcements of educational and leadership opportunities available in the near term. The recently updated AETE catalog provides in-depth information on all of our training and developmental opportunities. Please view the catalog at <http://asc.army.mil/career/pubs/aete> for training opportunities available to acquisition civilian and military workforce members.

The DAU-Senior Service College Fellowship (DAU-SSCF) announcement is now open until March 15, 2011. The 10-month DAU-SSCF is offered for GS-14/15 or broad/pay band equivalent Army acquisition workforce members at Huntsville, AL; Warren, MI; and Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. SSCF offers leadership and acquisition training to prepare senior-level civilians for senior leadership roles, such as product and project managers, program executive officers, and other key acquisition leadership positions. While enrolled in the program, fellows complete the DAU Program Manager Course 401 and various leadership and acquisition courses focused on life-cycle management, acquisition integration, and national defense and security issues. Fellows also work with government and industry mentors and complete a research paper on an important acquisition issue or process. For more information on DAU-SSCF, please visit <http://asc.army.mil/career/programs/dau>. Applicants may apply under the Army Acquisition Professional Development System tab of the Career Acquisition Management Portal/Career Acquisition Personnel and Position Management Information System at <https://rda.altess.army.mil/camp>.

Strategic Planning and Analysis Division

The USAASC Strategic Planning and Analysis Division (SP&A) supports USAASC’s mission of enabling superior acquisition personnel development systems through a strong foundation of strategic planning and process improvement. SP&A provides program management offices and direct reporting program managers with information, data, and career management tools and guidance, oversight, and execution of force protection and security management. With various support functions, SP&A continuously adapts to USAASC’s requirements and keeps its mission in line with the Army Campaign Plan and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for AL&T Strategic Plan. SP&A also conducts data management activities to report ever-changing reflections and demographics of the AL&T Workforce. As the lead for defining USAASC’s strategic plan, the SP&A division must continue developing and maintaining a robust and relevant plan that takes USAASC into the future in supporting key customers. For more information, visit the SP&A section on the USAASC website at <http://asc.army.mil/organization/spa>.

2010 U.S. Army Acquisition Corps Annual Awards

I would like to congratulate the 2010 U.S. Army Acquisition Corps (AAC) Annual Award winners. The AAC awards recognize extraordinary contributions by uniformed and civilian acquisition professionals, in support of overseas contingency operations. I would also like to thank and congratulate the USAASC support staff who helped make the awards ceremony and dinner a memorable and festive occasion. For a list of AAC award winners, please see the article below or http://asc.army.mil/docs/press/20_Oct10_2010_AAC_Annual_Awards_Ceremony_Press.pdf.

Craig A. Spisak

Director, U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center

Army Acquisition Notables Honored

U.S. Army Acquisition Corps Annual Awards

The Army acquisition community held its 2010 U.S. Army Acquisition Corps (AAC) Annual Awards Ceremony Oct. 24 at the Westin Alexandria, Alexandria, VA. The event, annually themed “Celebrating Our Acquisition Stars,” recognizes the uniformed and civilian professionals who work tirelessly behind the scenes to acquire and procure the weapons, information, and equipment that combatant commanders and their Soldiers need to execute decisive, full-spectrum operations in support of overseas contingency operations. The awards and winners follow.



LTC James Choung (center), Product Manager Force Protection Systems, Joint Project Manager Guardian, Joint PEO Chemical and Biological Defense, accepts the 2010 Secretary of the Army Acquisition Product Manager of the Year Award from LTG William N. Phillips (left), Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (ASAALT), and Dr. Malcolm Ross O'Neill, ASAALT, at the AAC Annual Awards Ceremony, Oct. 24, 2010. (U.S. Army photo by McArthur Newell II, BRTRC.)

2010 Army Life Cycle Logistician of the Year Award: John T. Smith, Program Executive Office (PEO) Aviation

2010 Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (ASAALT) Contracting Noncommissioned Officer Award for Contracting Excellence: MSG Jason Pitts, 413th Contracting Support Brigade (CSB), 618th Contingency Contracting Team

2010 Secretary of the Army Award for Excellence in Contracting—Barbara C. Heald Award: Walter O. Epps, U.S. Army Contracting Command, 412th CSB

2010 Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology Continuous Process Improvement Award: Full Materiel Release Process Ground Munitions Project Team, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition Policy and Logistics

2010 Department of the Army Research and Development Laboratory of the Year Awards

- **Laboratory of the Year (Small Laboratory):** U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (MRMC) Laboratories, MRMC
- **Management Award (Small Laboratory):** U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research, Development, and Engineering Center, U.S. Army Research, Development, and Engineering Command (RDECOM)

2010 Secretary of the Army Acquisition Director, Product Manager of the Year, and Project Manager of the Year Awards

- **Acquisition Director of the Year at the Lieutenant Colonel Level:** LTC James Patrick Delaney, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command
- **Acquisition Director of the Year at the Colonel Level:** COL Theodore Harrison, Expeditionary Contracting Command, 410th CSB
- **Product Manager of the Year:** LTC James Choung, Joint PEO Chemical and Biological Defense, Joint Project Manager Guardian, Product Manager Force Protection Systems
- **Project Manager of the Year:** COL Kevin B. Peterson, PEO Combat Support and Combat Service Support, Project Manager Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicles

2010 Army Acquisition Excellence Awards

- **Individual Sustained Achievement Award:** MAJ John Todd Masternak, PEO Ammunition, Product Director Non-Standard Ammunition
- **Equipping and Sustaining Our Soldier's Systems Award:** Acquisition Cell Team, RDECOM and U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command



The Combined Enterprise Regional Information Exchange System-International Security Assistance Force Team accepts the 2010 David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award from Dr. Ashton B. Carter (left), Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, and Dr. James McMichael, Acting President, Defense Acquisition University (DAU). (U.S. Army photo by Erica Kobren, DAU.)

- **Information Enabled Army Award:** Project Directorate Counter-Rocket, Artillery, and Mortar, PEO Command, Control, and Communications-Tactical
- **Transforming the Way We Do Business Award:** Forward Deployment Services Cell, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Middle East District

David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Awards

The 2010 David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Awards were presented Nov. 2, 2010, at the Fort Belvoir Officers' Club, Fort Belvoir, VA. The awards recognize organizations, groups, and teams who have demonstrated exemplary innovation using best practices that achieve acquisition excellence in DOD. The David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award is DOD's highest acquisition team award.

This year, an Army team was honored with one of the three Packard awards. PEO Command, Control, and Communications-Tactical and PEO Intelligence, Electronic Warfare, and Sensors formed the Combined Enterprise Regional Information Exchange System-International Security Assistance Force Team, which rapidly addressed a critical gap in electronic data sharing among coalition partners in Afghanistan. Their solution enabled significant cost savings for the Army and greatly enhanced mission success for multinational coalition operations in Afghanistan.

Article courtesy of U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center.

2010 Student Loan Repayment Program Data

Army acquisition has offered its Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) for the second year, funding more than three times the number of applicants in 2010 than it did in 2009. The SLRP is made possible through the Army's Section 852 program. All Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology Workforce members with outstanding federally insured student loans and a college degree are eligible to apply for SLRP. This program is used as a retention incentive for individuals who are considered highly qualified in their current position. The recipients agree to remain within DOD for 3 years. Any further repayment made after the initial agreement requires an additional 1-year commitment.

The application process is online, using the Army Acquisition Professional Development System within the Career Acquisition Personnel and Position Management Information System (CAPP MIS). CAPP MIS is the Army's central repository for acquisition workforce data.

This highly accessible process, with the ability to view the dates when applications are accepted, led to an overwhelmingly positive response to SLRP in 2010. The 2010 announcement opened on April 21 and closed May 28. In 2009, 1,130 applications were reviewed and 438 of those were selected for funding, for a total of \$4.1 million. In the 2010 offering, 2,751 applications were submitted and 1,327 were funded, for a total of \$11.9 million spent to retain those qualified individuals.

The areas of consideration reviewed during the evaluation process included, without priority: applicability of degree to the 14 acquisition position categories, *Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act* position requirement achievements (i.e. certification, Continuous Learning Points, etc.), annual performance, and endorsement from the supervisory chain. The breakdown of the 1,327 applicants selected in 2010 follows:

Enter on Duty Date	
1970s	6
1980s	39
1990s	106
2000s	1,176
Total	1,327

Acquisition Position Category		
A	Program Management	19
C	Contracting	456
E	Purchasing	1
F	Facilities Engineering	2
H	Production, Quality, and Manufacturing	56
I	Science and Technology Manager	2
K	Business—Financial Management	62
L	Life-Cycle Logistics	164
P	Business—Cost Estimating	11
R	Information Technology	46
S	Systems Planning, Research, Development, and Engineering	399
T	Test and Evaluation	107
Not Posted		2
Total		1,327

Acquisition Position Level	
Level I	83
Level II	829
Level III	413
Not Posted	2
Total	1,327

Army Workforce Status	
A – U.S. Army Acquisition Corps Member	187
C – U.S. Army Acquisition Corps Eligible	3
N – Non-Acquisition Workforce	2
W – Acquisition Workforce	1,135
Total	1,327

For additional information on the Army's Section 852 efforts, including the SLRP, please visit <http://asc.army.mil/career/programs/852/default.cfm>. The 2011 SLRP announcement is scheduled for release by the 3rd quarter of FY11.

Army Command		
AE	U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center (USAASC)	71
AS	U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command	2
AT	U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command	102
BA	U.S. Army Installation Management Agency	2
CE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	73
MC	U.S. Army Medical Command	10
SC	U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command	7
SE	Field Operating Agencies of the Army Staff (OA-22)	37
TA	U.S. Army Recruiting Command	1
X1	U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC Roll-up)	2
X2	U.S. Army Headquarters, AMC	1
X4	U.S. Army Training Activities, AMC	15
X6	U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command	23
X7	U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command	123
X8	U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command	61
XC	U.S. Army Sustainment Command	4
XD	U.S. Army Contracting Command	317
XK	U.S. Army Materiel Acquisition Activity	1
XP	U.S. Army Security Assistance Command	1
XQ	U.S. Army Operations Support Command (Provisional)	47
XR	U.S. Army Research, Development, and Engineering Command	425
XX	U.S. Army Materiel Readiness Activities	2
Total		1,327

Article courtesy of the USAASC Acquisition Career Development Division.