



Photo by Don Parker

Dr. Anita K. Jones, director of defense research and engineering.

“We need to be able to react in the R&D community and in the acquisition community the same way we talk about reacting on the battlefield. We want the decision cycle to be shorter than the enemy’s so that we can react more rapidly.”

—*Dr. Anita K. Jones*



Photo by Don Parker.

LTG Peter A. Kind, director of information systems for command, control, communications and computers.

soldiers and units do their business.”

Robert W. Young, acting principal deputy to the ASA (financial management), gave a financial management perspective. He described general trends such as infrastructure and modernization reductions, increased funding for AIDS and breast cancer research, and the movement of defense dollars to the domestic side.

MG Ronald V. Hite, deputy for systems management, Office of the ASA (RDA) chaired a panel discussion on the future of Army acquisition. Other panel members were MG Larry G. Lehowicz, deputy chief of staff for combat developments, TRADOC, and earlier conference speakers William D. Clark, MG Jay M. Garner, Robert W. Young and BG Lon E. Maggart. Topics of discussion included the Army’s commitment to deep strike, the identification of critical acquisition positions, silver bullet procurements, and delayed fielding of equipment due to factors such as budget drills and the changing threat.

Dinner on the second day of the conference included awards presentations for the Project Manager and Product Manager of the Year. Project Manager of the Year was COL William S. Taylor, Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS), PEO Tactical Missiles, Redstone Arsenal, AL. He was cited for directing the MLRS family of programs to un-

paralleled successes in system performance, readiness, customer satisfaction and financial leveraging, and for demonstrating superior leadership skills.

LTC D. David Newlin, product manager for the Advanced Field Artillery System—Mobility System, PEO Armored Systems Modernization, was named Product Manager of the Year. He was recognized for his leadership, technical expertise, and management ability which led to outstanding accomplishments for this highly visible, unique and most complex acquisition program.

Guest speaker for the final dinner was Dr. Robert J. Hermann, senior vice president, science and technology, United Technologies Corporation, who addressed acquisition reform. He stressed that the current acquisition process is costly and lengthy. Hermann discussed possible solutions such as increased reliance on commercial industry, stating that competition is a tool which can be used to better serve the public.

The final day of the conference opened with a presentation by MG Lehowicz on battle lab integration and technology. He emphasized that in 1994, the battle lab focus will be on horizontal technology integration, distributed interactive simulation and advanced warfighting demonstrations.



Photo by Don Parker.

COL William S. Taylor received the Project Manager of the Year Award.



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LTC D. David Newlin received the Product Manager of the Year Award.

Lehowicz stated, "Battle labs are the bridge between how we fight today and how we will have to fight in the future."

Attendees were given the opportunity to choose two of the following breakout sessions: Team Concept/Business Planning by MG Dewitt T. Irby Jr., PEO—Aviation; Enterprise Strategy by LTC(P) Scott C. Long, project officer, Army Enterprise Strategy, DISC 4; Space and Strategic Defense Command (SSDC) Roles and Missions by COL Thomas L. Haller, assistant chief of staff for program analysis and evaluation, U.S. Army SSDC; Distributive Interactive Simulation by LTC Jan S. Drabczuk of the Simulation, Training and Instrumentation Command; Military Specifications and Standards by James Sullivan, general engineer, Concurrent Engineering Division, HQ Army Materiel Command (AMC); and Pollution Prevention in Army Acquisition by Luis E. Garcia-Baco, engineer, Army Acquisition Pollution Prevention Support Office, HQ AMC.

The luncheon address was given by VADM William C. Bowes, commander, Naval Air Systems Command, who spoke about needed improvements to the acquisition system, what naval aviation is doing, and joint projects. He said that the acquisition process could



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MG Larry G. Lehowicz, deputy chief of staff for combat developments, TRADOC, discussed battle labs.

be improved by using communications and dialogue to build trust within the system. Bowes advocated joint efforts, stating, "Certainly the answer to our succeeding in the future has to be better understanding among the services and working together."

MG Otto J. Guenther, commanding general, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command discussed AMC support of the acquisition process, such as AMC's involvement with the battle labs in support of PEO programs, digitizing, and the reduction of functional requirements via roadshows, the third of which is currently being planned.

Army Acquisition Executive George E. Dausman provided brief closing remarks, recognizing the conference staff and requesting feedback from the attendees for use in planning future conferences.