

Dr. James McMichael Named Acting President, Defense Acquisition University

Dr. James McMichael, vice president of the Defense Acquisition University, has been named acting president. McMichael has been the university vice president since 2005. Prior to that, he served as the director of acquisition education, training, and career development in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics. Dr. McMichael is a graduate of Princeton University and received his advanced degrees at the University of Delaware. He was a fellow in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University from 1982 to 1983.

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 Sept. 10-12, 2012, at the Hotel Valencia Riverwalk in San Antonio, Texas. 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 2 years. DSAM counts for 34 CL points, or 3.4 continuous education units. 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; and
- 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 www.ndia.org/meetings/202A/Pages/default.aspx. Industry students should contact Taryn Crowder at tcrowder@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.

DAU Virtual Campus Experiences Outage—Course Extension Granted

The DAU virtual campus, ATLAS (<https://learn.dau.mil>) was offline July 3-4 due to a severe storm that hit the National Capital Region. As result of the downtime, DAU applied a 10-day automatic extension for all students currently enrolled in a Web and/or continuous learning module. Students who were disenrolled because their class expired during the outage were re-enrolled and given a 10-day extension. All students affected were notified of their extension and restored access. If you experience issues with ATLAS or did not receive an e-mail, please contact the DAU helpdesk at dauhlp@dau.mil or 866-568-6924 (DSN 655-3459).

Product Support Analytical Tools Repository

DAU, in conjunction with the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Materiel Readiness, recently deployed the new Product Support Analytical Tools Repository. This important new resource for DoD product support managers, life cycle logisticians, program managers, and systems

engineers profiles more than 150 analytical tools available to assist in facilitating product support decisions, with an emphasis on DoD product support. For each tool, users will find descriptions, processes the tool supports, services that use the tool, and ways to view additional information. Users can filter the list of tools using criteria such as the Integrated Product Support Elements (identified in the *DoD Product Support Manager Guidebook*), or by the specific support-ability analysis or program planning/control processes they support. The Product Support Analytical Tools Repository can be accessed on the DAU Life Cycle Logistics Community of Practice at <https://acc.dau.mil/productsupport>.

USD(AT&L) Memorandum for Endorsement of Next Generation PBL Strategies

Operations and Support (O&S) costs comprise 60 to 70 percent of total ownership costs, according to a recent memorandum published by Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Frank Kendall. We must find ways to lower our O&S expenditures while maintaining the right readiness for our warfighters. A key method to lowering O&S costs is the implementation of sustainment strategies that optimize readiness at best value. Appropriate use of Performance-Based Logistics (PBLs) will help to achieve affordable sustainment strategies and is a method for achieving Better Buying Power (BBP) goals. Read the USD(AT&L) memorandum entitled "Endorsement of Next Generation PBL Strategies," dated May 14, 2012, at <https://dap.dau.mil/policy/Documents/2012/Endorsement%20of%20NexGen%20PBL%20Strategies.pdf>.

Risk Management Center of Excellence

The Risk Management Center of Excellence website contains a wealth of useful risk management material for the practicing risk manager, including over 60 risk-related informational objects, and explains in clear detail such risk assessment techniques as Monte Carlo simulation, Delphi, and Pareto. It also offers evaluations of the capabilities of popular software risk analysis tools and provides links to other key sites in the risk management community, such as the Program Management Institute (PMI), International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Visit the Risk Management Center of Excellence website at <https://acc.dau.mil/riskcoe>.

Acquisition Community Connection Website Front Page Gets New Look

The front page of the Acquisition Community Connection (ACC) website at <https://acc.dau.mil> was redesigned to provide a more simplistic menu-driven interface and a more streamlined look and feel. The new interface frees up real

estate and minimizes the scrolling previously required of users. Of particular note, the designation of Special Interest Area (SIA) has been removed from the site. All previously listed SIAs are now part of the communities listing.

The default setting upon entering the ACC practice center is the "All Communities" alpha listing. The menu interface filters content on five different areas:

- All Communities (an alpha listing of all communities)
- By category (an expandable list of communities grouped logically by category)
- Guides and tools
- CC Newsletters
- DAU social sites

The "by category" filter allows users to better target the communities that relate to their field of interest. Clicking on a specific category expands the list to show communities related to that subject category.

A DAU "Quick Links" button also has been added to the top blue banner of each page in ACC to enable quick access to a host of acquisition tools and systems.

Finally, DAU has included the community news rotator from the Defense Acquisition Portal (DAP) on the front page to replace the previous "In the Spotlight" section.

Please contact Jill Garcia at jill.garcia@dau.mil if you have any questions or feedback.

Web-Enabled Version of PPP Guidebook Now Available

Working with the Offices of the Deputy Assistant Secretaries of Defense (ODASD) for Materiel Readiness (MR) and Maintenance Policy & Programs (MPP), the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) is pleased to announce the deployment of a new performance learning tool: a Web-based, interactive, hyperlinked version of *Public-Private Partnering for Sustainment: A DoD Guidebook*. This public-private partnering guidebook is an integral part of a suite of product support guides available on the DAU Product Support Guidance site; it is intended to be used in conjunction with the *DoD Product Support Manager (PSM) Guidebook* as well as a range of related partnering resources available on the OSD Maintenance Partnering site. Access the guidebook at <https://acc.dau.mil/ppp-guidebook>.