



Acquisition Community Connection Month in Review

<https://acc.dau.mil>

March-April 2013

DAU News

DAU Wins Best Overall Corporate University in the World

The Global Council of Corporate Universities (CCU) presented DAU with this year's Gold Award for Best Overall Corporate University. GlobalCCU Awards recognize the very best Corporate Universities worldwide that have performed at the highest level of excellence and have realized great advancements within and for the profession. The ceremony took place in the presence of Ambassadors or representatives of the embassies of Brazil, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Namibia, Portugal, Turkey and the United States of America, as well as of many directors of corporate universities coming from four continents, and personalities of the economic world.

Acquisition Awards, Proven Practices, and Lessons Learned CoP

The [Acquisition Awards, Proven Practices, and Lessons Learned CoP](#) was designed as a repository of Web-links, both DAU and non-DAU, to improve the ability of acquisition personnel to locate information on awards, proven practices, and lessons learned. Using the information contained in this site, we can improve DoD Acquisition Workforce ability to ensure the warfighter has the right goods and services they need, when and where they need them, by:

- streamlining our acquisition processes and procedures;
- integrating process and product improvements into our goods and services;
- incorporating new or innovative techniques or technologies; and
- achieving cost savings and efficiencies.

Product Support Manager Award

Award nominations for the first annual [Product Support Manager \(PSM\) Awards](#) are due May 16. This new award will recognize outstanding PSMs for their contributions in controlling cost growth, addressing long-term affordability, and promoting industry competition and innovation, as well as outstanding achievements in the development, implementation, and/or execution of affordable and effective weapon system product support strategies. [Click here](#) for

eligibility criteria and nomination information. The extension date information is available [here](#).

OSD Obligations & Expenditures Study

Recently DAU and ARA engaged in a collaborative effort to study obligation and expenditures across a light sampling of the acquisition workforce. The OSD-directed study involved a survey and extensive analysis collected from 229 respondents across the ACAT I, ACAT II, and ACAT II program office personnel, as well as PEO and key senior Pentagon staff. The findings on 61 factors were briefed to the Honorable Katrina McFarland, along with other key Senior Executive Service personnel, and provided insight that the ARA wishes to provide to the larger workforce. View the findings [here](#)...

Hot Topic Forum Presentations Added BBP Training to Meet Defense Acq Challenges

The [presentations](#) from the 9 Apr 2013, Hot Topic Forum ("Better Buying Power Training to Meet Defense Acquisition Challenges") have been posted. The forum provided training and perspectives on implementing the Better Buying Power (BBP) 2.0 initiatives of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics. Through a series of classroom training sessions, attendees learned about such topics as: controlling costs through "should cost" based management; building stronger partnerships with the requirements community to control costs; employing appropriate contract types and defining "best value" and "technically acceptable"; increasing effective use of performance-based logistics; how to enforce open system architectures and effectively manage technical data rights; and improving the professionalism of the Defense Acquisition Workforce.

DoD Performance Based Payments Guide

DAU recently launched a [Web-enabled version of the 2012 draft DoD Performance Based Payments Guide](#). The purpose of this tool is to demonstrate the financial impact to both the Government and the Contractor of using Performance Based Payments (PBPs) versus Customary Progress Payments. The ACC Web-enabled guide includes a link to the [DPAP/DP Contract Policy Performance Based Payments Guidebook and Analysis Tool website](#) where a PBP analysis tool is available for use by both Government and Industry. [Read the full blog...](#)

For information or assistance: acc@dau.mil

For user training: <https://acc.dau.mil/usertraining>

EDITORS TIP: Please be sure to keep your personal profile information updated so that we and your community members can reach you.



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July Hot Topic Forum: Agile Project Management

Here is a chance for Defense Acquisition Professionals to stay on the program management learning curve and at the same time implement the [Better Buying Power 2.0](#) focus area: Improve the professionalism of the total Acquisition Workforce! The Defense Acquisition University (DAU) will host a no-cost, half-day hot topic training forum on Wed, 10 Jul 2013, at its Fort Belvoir campus (Scott Hall). The forum is presented by the [DAU Alumni Association \(DAUAA\)](#) on behalf of DAU. The theme is: "Agile Project Management: What it is and how it compares with current project management practices." The presenter is Dr. Matthew Kennedy, Professor of Engineering and Technology, who has done extensive research in the area of agile system engineering program management. The presentation will include the history of agile project management development, its focus on establishing a "battle rhythm" in terms of business, system and software processes, and cover the risks and benefits of this concept in enhancing rapid and informed decision making in an actual example from the National Cancer Institute (NCI). The no-cost training forum will take place from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Attendance at VTC sites will be handled by Coordinators from each of the DAU Regional Campuses. Seating is limited. To reserve a seat at Fort Belvoir for this no-cost learning and development event, please email your Name, Organization and Phone Number to acc@dau.mil NLT COB Mon, 8 Jul 2013.

DAG Chap 4 Systems Engineering Revised

On 8 May 2013, a major update to the Defense Acquisition Guidebook (DAG) Chapter 4, Systems Engineering was released. DAG Chapter 4 is the primary reference on the use of systems engineering throughout the system life cycle. With this release, the chapter has been restructured to provide Program Managers and Systems Engineers with life cycle phase and systems engineering technical review expectations, including a knowledge-based, technical-maturity table for key events. The chapter provides details on systems engineering technical and technical management processes and includes links to relevant policy, standards, and detailed guidance on key topics.

The Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems

Engineering developed the DAG Chapter 4 with contributors from 24 different organizations across the Department. The update reflects recent policy changes and Better Buying Power initiatives and emphasizes the role of systems engineering in providing balanced solutions (managing the system's cost, schedule, performance, and risk) to deliver Warfighter capability needs.

[Read more>>](#)

Sample Items Pulled Into ACC Using RSS

- Contracting: [FPDS updates in recording of set-aside orders under multiple-award contracts, including GSA schedule orders](#)
- Life Cycle Logistics: [Technical Data Management](#)
- Program Mgmt: [Additive printing aka 3D Printing](#)
- Space Acquisition: [DoD Executive Agent \(EA\) for Space Directive Released](#)

New/Unanswered Questions on ACC

Please provide a response if you can [login required]:

- Contract Pricing Reference Guides: [Compliance Requirements: Effect of Christian Doctrine on Thresholds at time of Subsequent Contract Actions?](#)
- Life Cycle Logistics Chart: [Is there a template or Guide for all sections that need to be addressed in a Core Depot Assessment?](#)
- Termination: [What does "WITHIN GENERAL SCOPE" of the contract mean legally?](#)
- Contracting: [When is it appropriate to use the clause, FAR 52.232-18 'Availability of Funds' in solicitations?](#)

Upcoming Events

- [Product Support Manager \(PSM\) Awards Nominations Due](#), 16 May 2013
- [Hot Topic Forum: "Agile Project Management: What it is and how it compares with current project management practices"](#), 10 Jul 2013 @ Scott Hall, Ft Belvoir, VA