

Strengthening the Acquisition Workforce - The Next 12 Months



Director unveils new training initiative

Mark Woodbury | DCMA Public Affairs

A new initiative named “Strengthening the Acquisition Workforce – The Next 12 Months,” focusing on training throughout the agency, was unveiled in an April 17, “On Point” memo by Charlie E. Williams, Jr., Defense Contract Management Agency director.

Williams said the memorandum of agreement signed last fall with the Defense Acquisition University to stand up the College of Contract Management served as a catalyst for the senior leadership team to improve the agency’s efforts in areas of training and leadership development. At the DCMA Council’s off site in February, this further developed into specific plans to maximize existing opportunities, develop new programs and find ways to

assess the effectiveness.

Part of the plan is focusing on six specific training areas; each area assigned a member of the DCMA Council to “champion” throughout the initiative. The champions and the areas are: Marie Greening — identifying, validating and prioritizing agency training requirements; Pamela Conklin — leadership development; Navy Rear Adm. Robert Gilbeau — mentoring; Jim Russell — strengthening the Learning Management System; Timothy Callahan — assessing the health and competency of agency workforce; and Jim Russell — standing up the College of Contract Management.

Williams said even though a champion is identified for each area, he, along with all other agency leaders, will continue to

be engaged in each focus area. He finished the memo by encouraging employees to seriously consider new training and self-development growth opportunities as they become available.

“As I have often said, this agency is all about its people. At DCMA, I see our employees as an investment,” he said. “I want to see our investment grow. I also know with shrinking budgets and fewer resources, it is absolutely critical for us to make smart choices about how we invest in educating and training our workforce. We must strengthen and streamline programs and opportunities so DCMA will continue to be a first-class organization trained well prepared for future challenges and successes.”