



Director, Acquisition Career Management Office

NEWS

The Army DACM Office is responsible for talent management, career/leader development, Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act certification, policy, and advocating for the professionals who are members of the Army Acquisition Workforce.

FROM THE ARMY ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE: TRANSFORMING ARMY ACQUISITION THROUGH THE PATHWAY FOR INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The future of warfare is defined by speed—speed in decision-making, rapid adaptation, and most critically, delivering capability to Soldiers when they need it. As the Army continues to modernize, this driving principle remains clear: We cannot afford delays when lives are on the line. The Army must be strategically equipped at the “speed of relevance,” ready to outmaneuver adversaries in tomorrow’s combat environment.



To execute this imperative, the Army has embarked on an ambitious overhaul of its acquisition strategy, with the **Pathway for Innovation and Technology** (PIT) serving as one of the Army’s key acquisition reform initiatives. The PIT is not simply another office or program; it represents a transformational philosophy embedded into Army acquisition—a deliberate, structured research and development (R&D) approach designed to bring purpose, agility and creativity to how the Army identifies, procures and deploys emerging technologies.

[Read More Here](#)

A FOUNDATION OF MASTERY: SENIOR SERVICE COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP CLASS OF 2026 SELECTEES

On May 21st, nineteen fellows, along with their families and friends, gathered at the Warfighting Acquisition University’s (WarU) Scott Hall to celebrate the graduation of the Senior Service College Fellowship (SSCF) class of 2026.

The SSCF program is a 10-month senior leadership development opportunity sponsored by the U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center’s Director, Acquisition Career Management Office. It provides leadership acquisition training to prepare senior-level civilians in the grades of GS-14/15 (or broadband equivalent) for leadership roles.

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WHAT’S INSIDE:

**ACQUISITION LEADERS HIGHLIGHT
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SYMPOSIUM**

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During the ceremony, remarks were provided by Bilyana Anderson, president of WarU; Chris Manning, the deputy assistant secretary of the Army for research and technology; and Col. Barry Williams, deputy director of the U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center. Williams made a particular note to thank the graduates' families for their support and encouragement throughout the program, which was integral to enabling the success of the graduates.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

Redstone Seminar

Paige Bridges
Jason Buckner
Katherine Fry
Spencer Guida
Kelsey Haynes
Whitley Mann
Leah McIntosh
Summer Wilson
LeJeania Wood

Virtual Seminar

Renée Bober
Brian Gruchacz
Eric Hodges
Amy Kozlowski
Phillyp Lawson
Lindsay Longobardi
Katherine Mangum
James Sawyer
Darin Stevens
Donel Wanton Sr.

[Read More Here](#)

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2026-2027 ACADEMIC YEAR SENIOR SERVICE COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP SELECTEES

Please join the Director, Acquisition Career Management (DACM) in congratulating the selectees for the 2026-2027 academic year (AY) Senior Service College Fellowship (SSCF) program. The selectees for the **SSCF program** are:



REDSTONE ARSENAL SEMINAR

- **Ephraim Befecadu**, Capability Program Executive (CPE) Defensive Fires
- **Marlon Browne**, Space and Missile Defense Command
- **Jeffrey Gaddes**, U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command (DEVCOM) Aviation and Missile Center
- **Todd Gangl**, CPE Offensive Fires
- **Amanda Haley**, DEVCOM Aviation and Missile Center
- **Matthew Mooney**, Army Test and Evaluation Command
- **Nicole Olbricht**, Space and Missile Defense Command
- **Robert Seybold Sr.**, CPE Aviation
- **Jarrold Weeks**, Army Contracting Command – Redstone Arsenal

VIRTUAL SEMINAR

- **David Armstrong**, Communications-Electronics Command
- **James Bechtel**, CPE Ground (Combat Platforms)
- **Thomas Gauntner**, DEVCOM Armaments Center
- **Holly Gregg**, CPE Ammunition and Energetics
- **Mandy Hayes**, CPE Simulation, Training, Test and Threat
- **Bryan McGann**, Army Contracting Command – Aberdeen Proving Ground
- **Jason Morneault**, CPE Command and Control Information Network
- **Anthony Morris**, CPE Command and Control Information Network
- **Johnathon Putrus**, CPE Combat Sustainment
- **Aladrian Wetzel**, CPE Intelligence and Spectrum Warfare

FACES
of the
FORCE

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

The Spotlight feature is your chance to highlight the interesting work you or your AAW teammates are doing in support of the warfighter. Don't be shy—tell us what you're working on. Fill out a nomination form and we'll help get the word out. Details are at: <https://asc.army.mil/web/army-btf/submissions/>



SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Meet **Charles Harris**, a contract specialist and general engineer at the **U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense (CPE CBRND)**. With a master's degree in Bioengineering from the University of New Mexico Albuquerque and a DAWIA certification at the Practitioner level in Engineering and Technical Management, Mr. Harris is a wonderful example of career success.

"Contributing to development and implementation of new and relevant equipment that will protect the Warfighter provides satisfaction in what I do as an Army professional."

As a member of the Army Acquisition Workforce, Harris took advantage of one of the many program offerings available, namely, the **Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)**. The SLRP is an annually funded program designed to repay federally insured student loans as a retention incentive for civilian acquisition employees with critical acquisition skills. If selected, payments will be made to the loan holder in a lump sum payment of up to a maximum of \$10,000 for an employee in a calendar year, with a potential \$60,000 lifetime maximum. The FY27 **SLRP** announcement for new application submissions is projected to open **Oct. 1** and will close on **Nov. 12, 2026**.

Charles Harris draws on a wide range of experience that equip him to handle challenges with confidence in his dual role as general engineer and a contract specialist at [CPE CBRND], formerly Joint Program Executive Office Sensors – Wearables). Throughout his career, he's approached each responsibility with the belief that being open to new ideas and opportunities only strengthens his ability to succeed. By taking on what's unfamiliar and turning it into added skill, he continues to build momentum for whatever comes next.

You can read more about Harris' career journey in the **Build Career Momentum** [article here](#).



SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Meet **Aaron Robertson-Majewski**, a pricing team chief at **Army Contracting Command – Detroit Arsenal**. He holds a master's degree in business from Wayne State University and a DAWIA certification in Contracting at the Professional level. As a member of the Army Acquisition Workforce (AAW), Robertson-Majewski benefitted from the **Acquisition Tuition Assistance Program (ATAP)** to pursue his degree.

ATAP is a fiscal year program that provides tuition, laboratory and technology fees, within limits, to AAW civilians, Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 51 Contracting (51C) Noncommissioned officers, and flexible length and renewable term technical appointment employees in laboratories designated as Science and Technology Reinvention Laboratories (STRs).

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"Over the course of my career, both professionally and personally, the most important lesson I've learned is the power of humility, positivity and gratitude," he explained. "It's about appreciating each day—and each opportunity—as it comes, even when it doesn't seem positive at the moment."

Aaron Robertson-Majewski approaches each day as a gift, and each opportunity as a chance to grow, viewing challenges not with fear but as pathways to learning and progress.

Some of his most rewarding experiences have emerged from situations that initially appeared challenging or even unfavorable, and this mentality has taught him to approach every task with an open mind, a willingness to learn and a genuine appreciation for the chance to grow.

You can read more about Robertson-Majewski's career journey in the **Step Outside Your Comfort Zone** article [here](#).



ACQUISITION LEADERS HIGHLIGHT WORKFORCE TRANSFORMATION AT NPS SYMPOSIUM

The Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) hosted its 23rd annual Acquisition Research Symposium and Innovation Summit on May 6-7, 2026, as a fully virtual event centered on the theme Accelerating Warfighting Capabilities, which brought together

leaders and experts to explore innovations in logistics, program management, space systems and test and evaluation—all aimed at delivering capabilities to the warfighter faster and more effectively.

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Among the key topics discussed was “Empowering the Professional: Shaping the Future of Acquisition Talent,” an executive panel led by Lt. Gen. Bob Marion (Ret.), professor of the practice at NPS and former military deputy assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology.

“The success of any acquisition reform is fundamentally tied to the caliber and readiness of the professionals executing it,” Marion said in his opening remarks. “This executive panel brings together the service directors of acquisition career and

talent management to discuss the strategic development of the Department’s most critical asset: its people.”

By highlighting cross-service initiatives in education, credentialing and certification, panelists explored how to better synchronize efforts to build a modern acquisition workforce capable of accelerating warfighting capabilities in a complex global environment.

[Read the BTF article here](#)

FROM THE DACM: REBUILDING THE ARMY ACQUISITION WORKFORCE FOR SPEED, AGILITY AND RESULTS



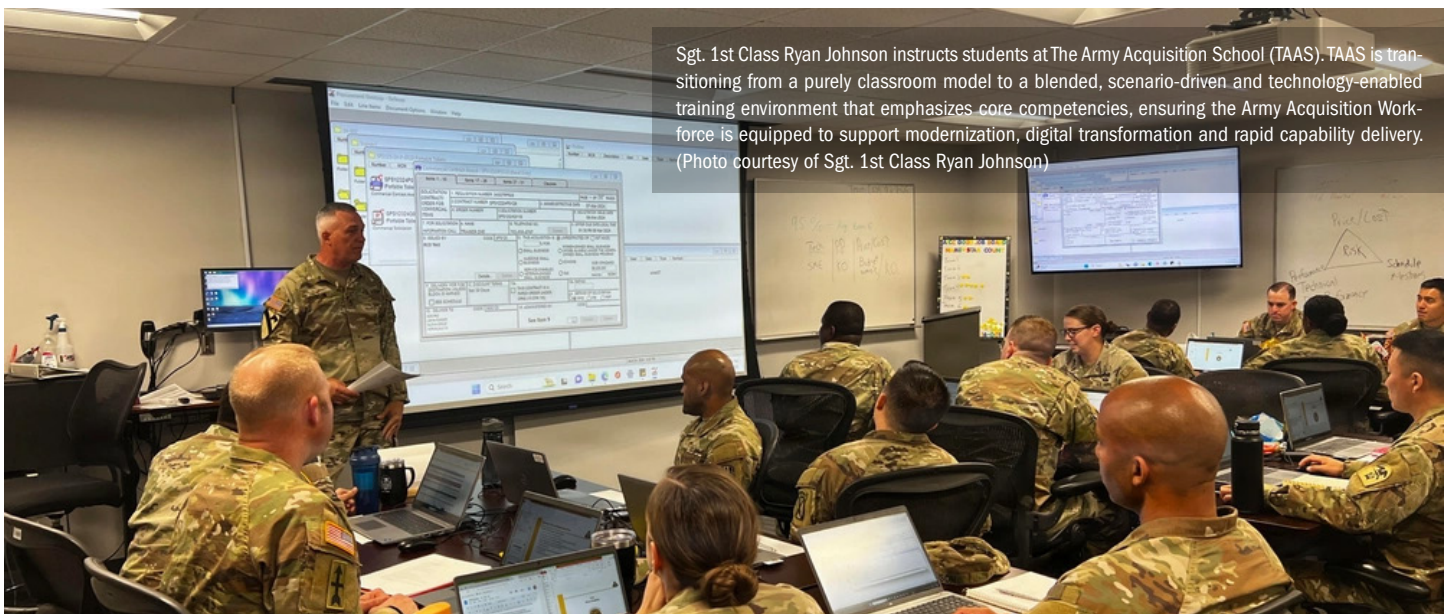
Rob Richardson Jr., Director, Acquisition Career Management (DACM)

The Army stands at a pivotal moment, one defined not by incremental change but by deliberate transformation. At the center of this evolution is a concept often discussed but not always fully understood: workforce optimization. This initiative, tied directly to broader acquisition transformation, is reshaping how the Army Acquisition Workforce is structured, trained and employed. While the journey has not been without disruption, it is fundamentally about one outcome—delivering the right capability into the hands of Soldiers faster and more effectively than ever before.

UNDERSTANDING WORKFORCE OPTIMIZATION IN A TIME OF TRANSFORMATION

Workforce optimization does not exist in isolation. It is a direct response to a larger strategic imperative, the need to build a leaner, more lethal force capable of outpacing peer and near-peer competitors. This imperative has driven the Army to rethink not only what it acquires, but how it acquires, and critically, how it organizes the people responsible for delivering those capabilities.

At its core, workforce optimization is about alignment. Over the past year, the Army undertook a series of workforce reductions



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and realignments intended to reduce fixed costs and redirect resources toward capability development. These measures, including programs encouraging voluntary departures, achieved the goal of shrinking the workforce by 10%. While this lowered overhead, it also introduced unintended consequences.

Reductions did not occur evenly across skill sets or organizations, leaving some areas critically short of talent, while others retained excess capacity. This created a new challenge—how to rebuild the workforce in a smarter, more intentional way. Optimization, therefore, is not simply about reducing numbers; it is about redistributing talent, reskilling personnel and ensuring that the

Army has the right expertise positioned where it matters most. It is a deliberate effort to correct imbalances and create a workforce aligned with modern acquisition goals. At the same time, acquisition transformation has introduced new organizational constructs, most notably structures led by portfolio acquisition executives (PAEs) and capability portfolio executives (CPEs). These are designed to unify previously fragmented functions—requirements, contracting, testing and funding—under a single accountable leader. The result is greater unity of effort, faster decision-making and a sharper focus on outcomes rather than process.

[Read more here](#)



REMINDER – ARMY ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS CLOSES ON JULY 27

[NOMINATE HERE](#)



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on a rolling basis –
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<https://asc.army.mil/web/army-btf/>

U.S. ARMY ACQUISITION SUPPORT CENTER



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