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2011 Defense Logistics Agency Industry Conference and Exhibition

Fiscal realities to determine future logistics decisions, officials say

By DLA Strategic Communications

The challenges of taking care of troops in today's constrained fiscal environment were the main topic of discussion among three top Defense Department leaders and other officials June 28 during the first full day of the 2011 Defense Logistics Agency Industry Conference and Exhibition in Columbus, Ohio.

Vice Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff Marine Gen. James Cartwright; Ashton Carter, undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics; Undersecretary of Defense (Comptroller) Robert Hale; and several other logistics experts addressed the event's estimated 3,000 attendees.

Cartwright said persistent global conflict, coupled with the nation's \$15 trillion debt, will require the entire Defense Department to better align its decreasing resources with wants and needs.

"Today, you have 2.5 million men and women in uniform supporting the persistent global disruption out there. I don't really see that changing anytime soon," Cartwright said during his keynote address.

To get away from the "one size fits all" concept, military equipment will soon be placed in one of three tiers, he said. The first tier will include items urgently needed on the battlefield.



DLA PHOTO BY HEATHER ATHEY

DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson and DLA Vice Director Mae DeVincentis cut the ribbon to open the 2011 DLA Industry Conference and Exhibition June 27 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio. Nearly 3,000 people were expected to attend this year's conference, which brought DLA employees from across the enterprise together with industry representatives.

"It's a very difficult thing to say, but I don't really care about how much it costs, and I don't care about performance; if I can save one life I want it in the field now," he said.

Carter continued the theme of doing more with less during his address. Having just returned from an eight-day trip to Afghanistan where he

focused on rapid acquisition and logistics, Carter said DLA accomplished a "true miracle" in supporting the quick troop surge into Afghanistan in 2010 and now must focus on ensuring the force there remains capable as troops withdraw.

"Our overall objective must be to make the force there,

which is going to be somewhat smaller over the next year, nevertheless more capable than the force that has been in Afghanistan this past year," Carter said.

While support for warfighters in Afghanistan and other areas is the first priority for the defense logistics commu-

[PLEASE SEE FISCAL, PAGE 7](#)

'We'll give you a very clear perspective on the future'

By Jacob Boyer

DLA Strategic Communications Office

The 2011 Defense Logistics Agency Industry Conference and Exhibition will give attendees an understanding of how to do business with the agency and the Department of Defense, the agency's director said at the conference's opening June 27 in Columbus, Ohio.

"We'll give you a very clear perspective on the future for defense logistics and, best of all, how you can be more successful doing business with the Department of Defense and the Defense Logistics Agency," DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson said. "I know that you will be impressed by all that you will hear."

DLA's senior leaders were on hand as Thompson cut the ribbon, officially opening the conference, which brought employees from each of the agency's eight supply chains together with industry partners, stakeholders and customers.

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[PLEASE SEE FUTURE, PAGE 7](#)

DLA Land at Anniston activated at June 22 ceremony



ANAD PHOTO BY JEREMY GUTHRIE

DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell Williams passes the DLA flag to Army Maj. James Godfrey, provisional commander for DLA Land at Anniston, during the organization's activation ceremony June 22 at Anniston Army Depot. With this transfer of power, 38 ANAD employees officially move under DLA's command.

By Jennifer Bacchus

Anniston Army Depot Public Affairs

ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT, Ala. — A June 22 ceremony officially activated DLA Land at Anniston, transferring 38 employees from Anniston Army Depot to DLA Land and Maritime, headquartered in Columbus.

The transition is the result of a 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decision.

The employees, members of the Directorate of Material Management's Receiving and Storage Branch, will continue to perform the same job duties, just for a different Army command.

"Much dialogue has occurred since we began this journey in 2005 and, over the last year, I can say we've become better acquainted," said Jack Cline, the depot deputy commander. "I realize this

can be an anxious time for those personnel who are impacted by standing up this new organization. But, I do believe this will be a great relationship, and one that is transparent to our customers."

Army Brig. Gen. Darrell Williams, commander of DLA Land and Maritime, agreed with Cline, calling the process a "seamless transition."

"You will stay in place, accomplish the same jobs, and, more importantly, deal and work with the same Army and the same personnel you have been working with every day here at Anniston," Williams said to the employees.

Williams discussed how appropriate transition of a storage and distribution site at Anniston Army Depot was, given the installation's rich history in stor-

[PLEASE SEE ANNISTON, PAGE 7](#)



DLA PHOTO BY DAN BENDER

Multicultural Unity Day a hit

DFAS Columbus employee Lindsay Macklin, a member of Team DFAST, participates in the Minute To Win It competition at the June 16 Multicultural Unity Day and Fun Fest on the DSCC installation. Federal employees from across the installation and their family members came out to enjoy the sights, sounds and food at the 12th annual event. For a story and more photos from the event, see pages 4 and 5.

Cmdr. Michael Hudson assumes command of Navy Recruiting District Ohio

By Navy MC1(SW/AW) Keith Bryska
Navy Recruiting District Ohio
Public Affairs Officer

Navy Recruiting District (NRD) Ohio held a time-honored traditional naval change of command ceremony June 3 in the Weapons Park pavilion on the Defense Supply Center Columbus installation.

The officers and crew, family, friends and other distinguished visitors gathered to witness the change of command. The guest speaker, Capt. Tim Pangonas, Commander, Navy Recruiting Region East, bid a formal farewell to Navy Cmdr. Edward M.G. Rankin, departing commanding officer, and welcomed

the promotion of Navy Cmdr. Michael Hudson from executive officer to commanding officer during the ceremony.

Pangonas said Rankin's leadership contributed to the caliber of the district's performance in the Navy's national recruiting effort, and the district's personnel as a cornerstone of the Navy's overall recruiting strength.

In his farewell remarks, Rankin thanked the officers and crew for a rewarding tour while stationed in Ohio, and reflected on the many memories his sailors had provided him. He also thanked his family for supporting him through his many years of mili-

tary life and allowing him to serve his country honorably.

Hudson, a native of Jacksonville, Fla., enlisted in the Marine Corps delayed entry program in September 1984. He earned an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy, via the Naval Academy Preparatory School, in 1988, and graduated in 1992 with a bachelor of science degree in systems engineering.

Hudson attended flight training in Pensacola, Fla., finishing on the Training Air Wing FIVE Commodore's List (with Distinction), and was designated a Naval Aviator in

[PLEASE SEE NAVY, PAGE 7](#)



PHOTO BY NAVY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS KEITH BRYSKA
Navy Cmdr. Michael Hudson passes through the honor guard sideboys at the beginning of a change of command ceremony for Navy Recruiting District Ohio. Hudson relieved Navy Cmdr. Edward M.G. Rankin Jr. as commanding officer during the ceremony.

Point of View

Handling transition process properly can lead to a successful change

By Robert L. Boggs

DLA Land and Maritime
Human Performance Division

“Before you can begin something new, you have to end what used to be. Before you can learn a new way of doing things, you have to unlearn the old way. Before you can become a different kind of person, you must let go of your old identity. So beginnings depend on endings. The problem is, people don’t like endings.” - Managing Transitions, William Bridges

Change and transitions are about new beginnings and endings. We know that beginnings can be exciting. People often want new beginnings but at the same time they can fear and resist beginnings for a number of reasons. Beginnings make endings seem very real and most people don’t like endings. We are comfortable just the way we are. There is no need to change – or is there?

For many years, my wife drove the same mini-van. I know this because she told me so on numerous occasions. “Do you realize how long I’ve been driving this mini-van?” We had the mini-van at the time our children were young. We drove it to the hospital for the birth of both our children. My wife used it to drive our children everywhere they needed to go (school/parties/sporting events/holiday events/visits to family and vacations). The mini-van came to be associated with who we were and what we did as a family.

Like all vehicles, there came a time when the number of miles on the odometer and the maintenance costs (and my wife’s reminders) couldn’t be ignored. Like most families, we loaded into the mini-van and headed to the car dealership. We found a brand new shiny vehicle (also a mini-van) that would meet our transportation needs. The idea of a new vehicle was exciting. We made a down payment, signed the purchase agreement and cleaned out the old mini-van so we could head home – proud and excited owners of a new vehicle.

Before we left the car lot, my wife, in a sad voice, said she needed some time to say goodbye to the old mini-van. I waited as she sat alone in the driver’s seat saying her goodbyes. Eventually, she came over to me and said she was ready to leave. It was obvious to me that my wife was having legitimate feelings of loss and needed closure. The new vehicle represented the excitement of change. The old mini-van represented an ending, which is what we go through during a transition. I think it was that event that helped me understand the difference between change (beginnings) and transition (endings).

Change is situational where transition is psychological. People



Robert L. Boggs

ple mistakenly use the words change and transition interchangeably. When we change, we focus on the outcome that is or will be produced.

Change is about doing some new thing. Transition is different; it depends on letting go of the old reality and the old identity we had before the change took place. We find great comfort in what we have known and experienced. We’ve traveled that well worn path. It fits us nicely, much like a favorite robe or pair of pajamas; however, change is inevitable.

Unfortunately, organizations often focus on an outcome (change) but overlook the ending process (transition) and the feelings of loss that exist. When we fail to deal with the feelings of loss either privately or publicly, the change process, even though well intended, can go badly. Failing to recognize and deal with our feelings of loss or the feelings of others often leads to serious and avoidable transition problems.

Feelings of loss are real and need to be acknowledged and expressed. It is a mistake to hide feelings of loss and refuse to work through them. Research has shown that recovery from feelings of loss is quickened when open discussion takes place.

William Bridges believes that endings make people angry, sad, frightened, depressed and confused. These feelings are often attributed to low morale when, in actuality, they are signs of grieving. Organizational changes fail not because they didn’t focus on the outcome.

William Bridges explains why organizational changes fail: “The single biggest reason organizational changes fail is that no one has thought about endings or planned to manage their impact on people. While the first task of change management is to understand the desired outcome and how to get there, the first task of transition management is to convince people to leave home.”

Successful endings require us to acknowledge feelings of loss. The loss can be a job, familiar process, relationship, special project or, as I found out several years ago, even a mini-van. It’s necessary to grieve when we lose something we value. It is important for us to remember that sometimes people need help when dealing with transitions.

It’s also important to realize that it takes time to transition from what’s old to what’s new. We need to come out of the transition in order to fully embrace the new change. If the transition (ending) is handled properly, people can discover a new sense of purpose that can reduce fear and resistance and thus allowing for new beginnings.



DLA PHOTO BY CHARLES MORRIS

Columbus associate recognized for effort during deployment

DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell Williams began his June 1 town hall session by presenting a meritorious civilian service award to DLA Land and Maritime civilian deployer Robin Estrada, who was recognized for her work as a lead warfighter support representative for DLA Support Team-Iraq from May to November 2010.

Briefs

IRS increases mileage rate

The Internal Revenue Service recently announced an increase in the optional standard mileage rates for the final six months of 2011. Taxpayers may use the optional standard rates to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business and other purposes.

The rate will increase to 55.5 cents a mile for all business miles driven from July 1, 2011, through Dec. 31, 2011. This is an increase of 4.5 cents from the 51 cent rate in effect for the first six months of 2011, as set forth in Revenue Procedure 2010-51.

In recognition of recent gasoline price increases, the IRS made this special adjustment for the final months of 2011. The IRS normally updates the mileage rates once a year in the fall for the next calendar year.

Panetta the next defense secretary

The U.S. Senate voted unanimously June 21 to confirm Leon E. Panetta as the next Secretary of Defense.

Panetta received broad bipartisan support following his June 9 confirmation hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee in which he said his foremost mission as defense secretary would be to protect the United States and ensure it has the “best-trained, the best-equipped and the strongest military in the world.”

President Barack Obama nominated him earlier this year to replace outgoing Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, who retired June 30. Panetta, who currently serves as CIA director, is a former Congressman from California who has worked in government for four decades, including as President Bill Clinton’s budget director.

It’s A Date

July 2011

- JULY 6** – DLA Land and Maritime Hall of Fame induction ceremony, 1 p.m., Bldg 20 auditorium
- JULY 8** – American Red Cross blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Bldg 20 basement, C6 South
- JULY 18** – DLA Land and Maritime Supervisors Call, 1:30 p.m., Building 20 auditorium
- JULY 22** – Armed Services Blood Program blood drive, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Bldg 20 basement, C6 South
- JULY 26** – Parents Day

August 2011

- AUG. 1** – Air Force Day
- AUG. 2** – Friendship Day
- AUG. 4** – U. S. Coast Guard’s 221st birthday
- AUG. 5** – American Red Cross blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Bldg 20 basement, C6 South

DSCC honors Associates Choice Award winners

The DLA Land and Maritime Associates Choice Award program has announced winners for March, April and May.

The winners for March are Dan Haughey, Larry Nance, Tim Colna, Chad Shevlin and Princess Green. The winners for April are Jerri Ann Brown, Deanna VanCleaf and Lawrence Gladman, and the winners for May are Jane Bennett and Brian Mason.

The Associates Choice Award program is a peer recognition program created by the Culture Council as a way for associates to recognize coworkers who demonstrate at least five of the eight tenets of the DLA Land and Maritime Way.

Obituaries

Patricia Ann Basye

Patricia Ann Basye, 74, of Reynoldsburg, died June 28. Ms. Basye was retired from DFAS Columbus.

Myron “Mike” O. Beatty

Myron “Mike” O. Beatty, 84, died June 26 at Homewood at Plum Creek in Hanover, Pa. Mr. Beatty formerly worked in the spare parts division of “the Depot,” now DSCC.

Charles R. Clifton

Charles R. Clifton, 92, died. Mr. Clifton served in the Civil Air Patrol during World War II and retired from DESC in 1987 after 27 years of federal service.

Elmer B. Fisher

Elmer B. Fisher, 89, of Whitehall, died June 11 at his home. Mr. Fisher was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and retired from DSCC as a supervisory systems accountant after a 31-year career.

Thank You

My sister, Cynthia Gover, and I would like to thank the DLA Land and Maritime family for your expressions of kindness during our bereavement for our father, James H. Parks Jr. Your kind acts did not go unnoticed. We are deeply moved and humbled by the many messages, well wishes, cards and deeds received from each of you. There are not enough words to express our gratitude for your graciousness and concern shown for our family. Thank you, we are truly grateful. May God bless and keep you all.

Cyd Parks

DLA Land and Maritime

To submit a thank you for publication in the Columbus Federal Voice, e-mail the thank you to publicaffairs.dsc@dla.mil.

FEW executive VP discusses importance of mentoring at workshop

From Federally Employed Women

A local nationally recognized speaker for Federally Employed Women held a workshop on mentoring during FEW’s Southeast Regional Training Program in Mineral Wells, Va., on April 28.

Arlena Fitch-Gordon, a Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office associate and FEW’s national executive vice president, expounded on the advantages of having a mentor in her workshop entitled “Getting a Mentor: Your Next Critical Career Move.”

She informed her audience



Arlena Fitch-Gordon

that her success in being involved with diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity issues can be attributed to her mentor, Dave Bader, a former

EEO director at Defense Supply Center Columbus.

“He guided my early steps toward my own personal career goals,” Fitch-Gordon said. She told the audience members that she hoped to motivate them and get them moving on their career path, and relayed some key points to consider in beginning a mentor search.

She began by noting that there are many definitions for the word mentoring.

“I will define mentoring as an experienced person acting to enhance a person’s skills and intellectual development by serving as a sponsor and using his or her influence to aid that person,” Fitch-Gordon said. “The mentor has achieved career success, acquired self-confidence and wishes to share his or her experience with a less experienced member.

“Mentors help women advance in organizations by building self-confidence and

providing career guidance and direction, insight on organizational politics and job search strategies,” she continued. “Most importantly, a mentor can help women overcome gender related obstacles and play a vital role in providing growth opportunities and visibility within the organization.”

The key points covered during this workshop were:

- Mentoring women is different than mentoring men;
- A good mentor is anyone you can learn from;
- You don’t have to have a lot in common;
- Mentoring can be in groups;

- Everyone needs mentors;and,
- Being a mentor is good for the mentor’s career, too.

Fitch-Gordon pointed out that FEW’s goal is to provide outstanding training to help people become the leaders of tomorrow.

As FEW’s national president, Sue Webster said, “Remember and practice our principle of ‘Each one, Teach one.’ Talk to others who are involved and mentor one another.”

Fitch-Gordon ended her workshop by stating, “If you don’t have a mentor, get one because getting a mentor is your next critical career move.”

Detachment associate recognized by DOD/AbilityOne for contracting effort

A contracting officer at the DLA Land and Maritime detachment in Philadelphia was recently recognized with the Department of Defense/Ability One Commitment in Action Certificate for her ongoing commitment to increasing business with the AbilityOne program.

Lisa Flite worked with the National Industries for the Blind (NIB) to implement an agreement for parts machining that is available for use by all DLA activities. The DLA Wide Parts Machining initiative was added to the procurement list on March 7 with an estimated annual dollar value of \$500,000.

The award was presented in May at the DoD Procurement Conference in Orlando, Fla., a conference at which 18 members of the DLA Land and

Maritime contracting community were present to exchange ideas with other DoD contracting members as well as receive training in more than 30 contracting subject areas.

Flite worked on the initiative with The Lighthouse for the Blind Inc. in Seattle, Wash., Wiscraft Inc., in Milwaukee, Wis., and Arizona Industries for the Blind in Phoenix, Az., all nonprofit agencies associated with NIB.

"It has been a great opportunity and an honor to work so closely with NIB and the nonprofit centers throughout the creation and addition of this contract," Flite said. "I was lucky enough to visit each site and the people represented by NIB are such dedicated, hard-working individuals ..."

The parts machining concept initiative began in 2009

with a series of meetings between NIB and Land and Maritime Philadelphia with the basic premise of increasing the level of NIB participation in Philadelphia hardware acquisitions. As a contracting officer for miscellaneous hardware items, Flite was seeking sourcing solutions for low demand, low frequency items. These items, often critical items for older weapon systems, frustrated buyers and compromised mission support due to long administrative lead times due to specifications or raw material problems.

As work progressed on the initiative, Flite began receiving inquiries from other DLA supply chains that were facing similar sourcing challenges and were also looking to increase their Ability One involvement. She

saw this as an opportunity to increase work at the participating NIB agencies, so she worked with her NIB counterparts to change the procurement list addition. Her efforts resulted in the March 7 notice to expand the parts initiative to cover all DLA activities.

Flite is currently finalizing the agency wide Basic Ordering Agreement and has volunteered to work with NIB on a marketing campaign.

Her award citation states that Flite "should be commended for her efforts in creating a collaborative approach with NIB that not only helps DLA meet mission requirements of providing high quality spare parts to military customers, but also provides increased business opportunities for DLA's Ability One partners."



DLA PHOTO BY FRED MILLER

Lisa Flite, a contracting officer at the DLA Land and Maritime detachment in Philadelphia, holds the certificate she received from the National Industries for the Blind for her work to implement an agreement for parts machining that is available for use by all DLA activities.

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Thousands celebrate 12 years of MULTICULTURAL UNITY

From the MWR Marketing Office

Federal employees from across the Defense Supply Center Columbus installation and their family members came out to enjoy the sights, sounds and food at the 12th annual Multicultural Unity Day and Fun Fest.

During his opening remarks, DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell Williams said he was issuing one executive order for the day – “Have fun!” Following his remarks, a brief parade focusing on the diversity of the federal workforce on the DSCC installation led visitors into the Welcome Tent and the games, musical entertainment, food and other activities that were part of the day.

Thousands of people followed Williams’ order while attending the June 16 event. New elements and activities like Minute to Win It, a “flash mob” and the Recycling Contest and MWR give-aways brought excitement to this year’s event. Participants also enjoyed the return of old favorites like the dunk tank, food, thrilling rides, live entertainment, unique merchandise and a fun day out in the sun.

“I’ve been with MWR for nearly 15 years and put on numerous events both stateside and abroad, and this is one of the best events I’ve ever had the pleasure of being a part of,” new MWR office chief James Rose said.

“We really wanted to have something for everyone out there this year,” Fun Fest coordinator and MWR marketing

manager Jennifer Russell said.

One event that generated buzz was the “flash mob,” for which an estimated 100 people, including Williams, danced to Beyonce’s “Move Your Body” in support of Michelle Obama’s “Move Your Body Campaign,” an initiative to combat childhood obesity.

Another activity that drew a lot of attention was the new Minute to Win It competition. Competitors on 24 teams battled it out during a series of wacky 60-second challenges using household items.

“The teams really showed their spirit and it was awesome to watch them giving it their all, while showing a sense of humor,” MWR marketing assistant Dana Thornbury said.

Adults and kids alike lined up to take a shot at some of the installation’s most recognizable figures at the dunk tank. Volunteers, including Williams, Army Lt. Col. Matthew Carran, Dan Bell, Thomas Barger, Pam Franceschi, James McClaugherty and Blair Hartley, braved the chilly waters of the dunk tank. Thanks to their participation and the crowds of eager dunkers, a record \$512 was raised for future MWR programming.

Rides for kids included the new Pit Car Races, Spinning Strawberries, Zero Gravity and Extreme Air, and activities such as Laser Tag, a Wii Gaming Tent, midway games and prizes and various inflatables. The Creativity Zone, a self-contained activity area for toddlers and preschoolers,



DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell Williams waits for his daughter’s throw to see if he’ll end up in the water at the dunk tank. Williams was one of numerous installation leaders who volunteered to get dunked.



Xander Meredith, grandson of DLA Land and Maritime associate Georgia Shirey, checks out the weaponry carried by Mark Abbati, known in central Ohio as “The Living Statue.” Abbati was dressed as a combination modern and future Army soldier for the day.



Caleb Boyer, son of DFAS Columbus employee Jessica Boyer, was all smiles after getting his face painted in the Creativity Zone for kids.



Derrick Dewitt, a DLA Human Resources Center employee, tries to get a slinky to balance on top of his head during a game called “Pink Elephant” during the Minute To Win It



Members of the Jammin’ Jumpers jump rope team entertained the crowd by showing off their skills during an energetic performance at Stage II.

DLA photos by Chuck Morris and Dan Bender



The Boulderdash inflatable ride was a big draw for kids of all ages as they tried to make it through the maze without getting hit by an inflatable boulder.



The Vernon Hairston Trio, with featured vocalist Cynthia Hale, provided the smooth sounds of jazz during their performance in the Weapons Park pavilion.



DFAS Columbus employee Hillary Hartman points her niece, Avery, toward the finish line in the Pit Stop racing game.



Members of the Hispanic American Special Emphasis Program walk down Roosevelt Lane in front of Building 20 at the start of the diversity parade that opened Multicultural Unity Day and Fun Fest.



Nearly 100 people joined together for a “flash mob” dance performance to Beyonce’s song “Move Your Body” in support of Michelle Obama’s “Move Your Body Campaign,” an initiative to combat childhood obesity.



Serving as judges for the American Idol competition at Stage III were (from left) Carl Dello-Stritto as Steven Tyler, Nikkia Laster as Jennifer Lopez and Robert Jones as Randy Jackson.



Chuck Morris, a photographer for DLA Installation Support at Columbus, winds up for a throw at the dunk tank target as he tries to sink his boss, Multimedia Services Office chief Dan Bell.



The spinning Zero Gravity ride was a popular attraction for young and old alike.



Cutting the ribbon to kick off the diversity parade and officially open the 2011 Multicultural Unity Day and Fun Fest are (from left) DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell Williams and his wife, Myra, and DFAS Columbus deputy site director Pam Franceschi.

Local BIG chapter awards three scholarships

By Monica Tinker

Blacks in Government Communications Chair

The Columbus Area Chapter of Blacks in Government awarded scholarships to three local students during the organization's annual recognition ceremony May 23 at DLA Land and Maritime.

The scholarship recipients were Josabeth Martin of Northland High School, Jordan Robinson of Pickerington Central High School and Kwame Minnis of Linden McKinkley STEM Academy.

BIG awarded the scholarships with the goal of helping the students receive a college education. Promoting scholarship and knowledge in area youth is one the ways the Columbus BIG chapter furthers its membership objectives of scholarship, community service, professional growth and development and networking.

DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell K. Williams, a member of the local BIG



DLA PHOTO BY RACHEL KOCIN

Pictured at the May 23 Columbus Area Chapter of Blacks in Government scholarship awards ceremony are (from left) BIG chapter president Monica Oliver, scholarship recipients Jordan Robinson, Josabeth Martin and Kwame Minnis and DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell K. Williams.

chapter, spoke to the scholarship recipients at the awards luncheon. He praised the students for working so hard to achieve their goals and challenged the scholars to continue to stay focused as they journey through their college careers and beyond.

This year marks the 30th year that the Columbus Area Chapter of BIG has been active. In its infancy, the

local chapter began with only 28 dues-paying members, but it now is one of many chapters that make up the Great Lakes Midwest Region V, which covers Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. The regional membership roster has more than 450 active members and the national BIG organization has more than 10,000 members and 277 chapters both in the United States and overseas.

The Columbus chapter of BIG is open to all individuals who serve as a government employee in any capacity, whether at the city, county, state or federal level of service in the Columbus metropolitan area.

The local chapter is dedicated to making a positive impact on the individuals under its realm of influence, whether it is through college scholarships, participating in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure or funding college bus tours for high school students.

Information available online at www.bignet.org/regional/columbus.area/index.htm.

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Fiscal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nity, logisticians must also focus on the changing budget landscape and find ways to increase efficiency while maintaining performance, Carter said.

“Two things are clear,” he said. “First, we’re not going to have the ever-increasing budgets of the post-9/11 decade. This is going to feel very different to a group of government and industry managers and congressional overseers who have grown accustomed to a circumstance in which they could always reach for more money when they encountered a managerial or technical problem or a difficult choice. Those days are gone for all of us. The second thing is, the president, the secretary of defense and the taxpayer are going to expect us to make every dollar we do get count.”

Hale said to expect anemic growth in the defense budget in the near future. The U.S. economy’s sluggish growth will make it difficult to maintain current funding, he said.

“There’s a rule of thumb that says you need a 2 to 3 percent growth (in the national economy) to maintain current forces,” Hale said, warning that there may be zero growth in the DoD budget because of the current economic climate.

“My guess is we’ll end up with something like zero growth,” he continued. “Even a constant budget will be a challenge to implement.”

Lessons learned during past defense buildups and drawdowns indicate DoD typically cuts procurement first when it wants to save money, said David Berteau, senior advisor and director of the Defense Industrial Initiative Group at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

“On the logistics end, it’s a whole

lot harder. We don’t know how to turn off demand for services, whether that’s people, repairs or product support. Demand generates the requirement much more than turning the spigot on and off,” he said.

While the need for support from suppliers will remain strong, Berteau pointed out that there will be more room for competition in the future, especially as more firms are willing to bid low for defense contracts.

“One of the hardest things for a procuring contracting officer to write is the memo that says, ‘I went with the more expensive person for the following reasons.’ So while you’re going to have plenty of opportunity to bid on work, you’re going to have an enormous challenge both on the government side and on the company side in justifying the best value to go forward.”

Berteau predicted the next two years will be a demanding time.

“We’re a little bit out of synch in terms of years because of the budgets are coming down before the troop levels come down but not before supply dollars come down,” he said.

Daniel Gordon, administrator of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, said the White House has three priorities to increase efficiency and improve the quality of services.

The first is to rebuild and strengthen the federal acquisition workforce, Gordon said. During the past 15 years, that workforce has been reduced and needs to be rebuilt, he said. Also, the existing workforce needs to be trained better and the contracting community needs to use a collaborative approach, especially in large acquisitions.

“We have to have training that is relevant, that is timely and that is accessible to our acquisition workforce,” Gordon said.

The second priority is to increase responsibility in spending, Gordon said. Between 2001 and 2009, feder-

al acquisition spending increased by 12 percent a year, he said, which was “completely unsustainable.”

Those increases have stopped, but the government needs to do more to restrain its spending, he said.

“Whatever you’re buying, whether it’s an (information technology) system or a weapons system or services, we have got to find ways to buy less and buy smarter,” he said.

The third priority is rebalancing the government’s relationship with contractors, Gordon said. The government is working now to define the line between what work should be done by federal employees and what should be done by contractors, he said.

Shay Assad, director of defense pricing for the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, focused on efficiencies being sought in acquisition processes and personnel.

Assad described that work force’s goal of adding 10,000 new personnel. He said about 5,600 have been hired across experience levels: interns, journeymen and senior logisticians. Training that work force appropriately will be important.

“Each acquisition professional should be able to say, ‘I understand the deal that I just negotiated. I did OK by the taxpayers,’” he said. “If they can do both of those things, that’s where we need to be.”

Assad also focused on the importance of competition in the acquisition cycle. He said competition is what drives innovation.

“We want to make sure we are providing you the opportunity to compete on a level playing field. America is at its very best when it competes,” he said. “That’s what we’re trying to achieve.”

Beth Reece, Sara Moore, Tony D’Elia and Jacob Boyer contributed to this story.

Forum offers up new partnering opportunities for small businesses

By Sara Moore
DLA Strategic Communications Office

Small businesses, specifically those owned by service-disabled veterans, had a chance to network with other firms and look for partnership opportunities during the 2011 Defense Logistics Agency Industry Conference and Exhibition in Columbus.

The DLA Land and Maritime Small Business Programs Office sponsored the Capabilities, Partnering and Networking Forum June 28. The “mixed-use” session of briefings and networking was designed to let small businesses showcase their capabilities to other companies and to DLA contracting, requirements and technical personnel, said Vikki Hawthorne, director of the DLA Land and Maritime Small Business Programs Office.

“We’re trying to provide a forum where they could possibly have subcontracting opportunities or partner with other small manufacturers or even have the opportunity to develop mentor-protégé relationships in order to do business with all of DLA,” Hawthorne said.

The forum included presentations from 10 different small businesses, as well as impromptu briefings from other businesses. Between the briefings, many participants talked among themselves and exchanged business cards.

DLA held a similar event at last year’s conference, but it was much more limited and didn’t have a high participation rate, Hawthorne said.

This year’s forum was expanded and marketed more to try to actively engage the small-business community, which is an area on which DLA and Defense Department leaders have been placing emphasis, she said.

Many of the DLA and DoD speakers talked about small businesses and their importance in government acquisition.

Ashton Carter, undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics, said that small businesses serve a vital role in defense logistics.

“A strong, technologically vibrant and financially successful defense industry is in the national interest,” he said. “We need collectively to be stewards of that industry so it remains vibrant for the future.”

Future

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Thompson said those industrial partners were the focus of the event, which he hopes will build off of its predecessor’s success. This year’s event, with the theme “Sustaining Warfighter Support While Reducing Cost,” marks DLA’s second enterprise-wide conference.

“It’s really all about you who represent the industry that supports the armed forces, the Department of Defense and the Defense Logistics Agency. This is our single and primary outreach effort each year with industry,” he said. “We’re hoping to build on the great success we had last year.”

The conference’s agenda included speeches from defense leaders, breakout sessions, networking opportunities and a ceremony honoring DLA Busi-

ness Alliance Award winners. Thompson said his goal for the conference was for attendees to leave with information that will be valuable to them when they return to their workplaces.

“Our goal when this conference wraps up is that you’re going to say, ‘This was one of the most valuable, productive events that I’ve ever attended. I can use what I’ve learned back at my day job, and I’ll be back next year to learn even more,’” Thompson said.

Anniston

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

age and maintenance missions.

During the ceremony, Cline told the new DLA employees how vital they have been, and will continue to be, to ANAD’s mission.

“We depend on you as an organization,” Cline said during the ceremony. “We’ve come to depend on your skills and the warfighters are depending on the finished product.”

ANAD’s sister depot, Tobyhanna Army Depot, went through a similar process last year when 40 of their employees also transferred to DLA.

“At Tobyhanna, the

employees stayed in the same building at the same workstation in the same seats. Nothing changed except their badges,” said George Frye of Tobyhanna.

Gentris Mosley, branch chief of receiving and storage, said that is exactly the way things will work in Anniston.

On April 5, Army Maj. James Godfrey, provisional commander for the organization, arrived. He is a division chief for Army Industrial Support in Columbus, Ohio, and has overseen the transition.

Godfrey said the branch’s employees were “top notch” and he foresees them continuing to work well under DLA.

According to Phillip Dean, chief of the depot’s Integrated Logistics Sup-

port Office, the transfer is the culmination of many years of preparation since the BRAC decision was announced.

“We were told by DLA personnel this was the smoothest of all the Army transfers,” Dean said.

The receiving and storage branch is responsible for receiving material from off depot — mostly tank parts — storing and pulling parts from storage when needed by their customers, the shops in the Nichols Industrial Complex.

“Almost everything that comes onto the depot, if it isn’t going to Bldg. 362, it comes to us,” Mosley said.

To assist employees with the storage and retrieval mission in a timely manner, nine

robots, referred to as Automatic Guided Vehicles, move throughout the building navigated by invisible sensor wires built into the floors.

Material handlers unload trucks, tag the materials and scan them in, separate them into boxes and place them in storage. When items are pulled for delivery to a shop, they are scanned again to account for the time it takes from receipt to delivery.

“Most of the time, if we get a part in on Monday or Tuesday, it is out by Friday,” Mosley said.

Navy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

April 1994. He has logged more than 2,600 flight hours in numerous aircraft, including the T-34, TH-57, H-60 and AH-1W, and has been designated an aircraft commander in all five variants of the Navy’s H-60 Seahawk helicopter.

NRD Ohio is one of 13 Navy Recruiting Districts that make up Navy Recruiting Region East and has its headquarters in Building 10 on the DSCC installation.

It is comprised of almost 300 military and civilian personnel supporting the Navy’s recruiting mission in Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia. With more than 60 offices spanning an area of 85,000 square miles, NRD Ohio recruits and maintains a pool of Delayed Entry Program enlistees exceeding 1,100 at any given time. More sailors are sent to Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill., from NRD Ohio than any other recruiting district each year.

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