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# FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Dr. Larrie D. Ferreiro

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The theme for this edition of *Defense Acquisition Research Journal* is “Achieving Dominant Capabilities through Technical Excellence and Innovation,” which is the theme for the 2015 DAU Training Symposium presented by the Defense Acquisition University Alumni Association (DAUAA). The DAUAA sponsors the annual Hirsch Research Paper competition, and the winners of the

award for 2015 are: First Place “The Value of Training: Analysis of DAU’s Requirements Management Training Results,” by Charles M. Court, Gregory B. Prothero, and Roy L. Wood; and Second Place “Increase Return on Investment of Software Development Life Cycle by Managing the Risk—A Case Study,” by William F. Kramer, Mehmet Sahinoglu, and David Ang. We congratulate both teams of winners, who were selected from a competitive field of entrants.

The “Value of Training” article, as the title indicates, posits that classroom training of the type conducted at the Defense Acquisition University noticeably increases a student’s learning, and at the same time lays to rest several long-held assumptions about differences in the learning capability of different demographic groups—inside versus outside the Beltway, time in billet, etc. The “Increase Return on Investment” article examines the use of statistical methods to examine software error rates, allowing a better estimation of the return on investment during the software development life cycle.

Two other articles are included in the print and online editions of this issue: “Manage Toward Success—Utilization of Analytics in Acquisition Decision Making,” by Sean Tzeng and K. C. Chang; and “Does Your Culture Encourage Innovation?” by CDR Craig Whittinghill, USN, David Berkowitz, and Phillip A. Farrington. The article “Manage Toward Success” proposes a statistical methodology called Bayesian analysis to orient the enormous amount of acquisition data and evidence to support decision making. “Does Your Culture Encourage Innovation?” reports the results of a University of Alabama study of the Department of Defense culture at the organizational level, and proposes changes to enable it to communicate and act rapidly, and to innovate.

The paper “DoD Comprehensive Military Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Smart Device Ground Control Station Threat Model” by Katrina M. Mansfield, Timothy J. Eveleigh, Thomas H. Holzer, and Shahryar Sarkani analyzes the cybersecurity vulnerabilities of handheld UAV ground control stations in order to enhance their security and operational environment. The full version appears in the online edition of this *Journal* (Issue 73).

The featured book in this issue’s Defense Acquisition Professional Reading List is Glenn E. Bugos’s *Engineering the F-4 Phantom II: Parts into Systems*, reviewed by Lee Vinsel.

Finally, the *Defense Acquisition Research Journal* masthead continues to evolve. For our Editorial Board, we note that Aude-Emmanuelle Fleurant has departed her position, and we acknowledge her contributions to the *Defense ARJ*. At the same time, we welcome to the Board Dr. William T. Eliason from the Dwight D. Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy. On our Research Advisory Board, we note that Dr. Nayantara Hensel and Mr. Brett B. Lambert have left their positions. We wish them well and thank them for their help.

On a personal note, I am pleased to welcome Dr. Mary Redshaw to the Research Advisory Board. Having left her position at the Defense Acquisition University, where among many other things she served as the Deputy Executive Editor of the *Defense ARJ* and my right hand, she has joined the faculty at the Dwight D. Eisenhower School. I am very glad to still be able to call on her wisdom and experience when needed.