

Federal Acquisition *Insight*



Featuring the Latest Acquisition Workforce News and Events Visit us online at www.fai.gov November 2006

From the Desk of the Director: Karen Pica

Welcome to the start of a new fiscal year! We hope some of the new FAI initiatives will help you during your work day. From the new training courses in FY07 to the new online training registration system, we've implemented some changes in how we manage your training and hope you find them useful. We're also working on some ways to help you apply for your Federal Acquisition Certification in Contracting and are completing work on the recommendations for Federal Acquisition Certification for Program and Project Managers. FAI will be offering the full suite of contracting certification courses (including CON 353) in FY07, with many of the courses already underway and the CON 353 offerings coming in January. FAI will once again be offering the popular performance-based contracting team training starting in January 2007. Through our partnership with the Defense Acquisition University, there are many new seminars and training courses you can take to achieve your continuous learning points or recommend to your contracting, program management, or COTR colleagues. As DOD transitions to a new contracting certification curriculum, be assured FAI will continue to offer the current courses required under FAC-C through 2007 and will be looking to transition to the new courses in 2008. For more information, contact your Acquisition Career Manager (ACM). If you have any suggestions for us, please either contact your agency ACM or visit our website at www.fai.gov to provide feedback.

The New 2007 JWOD Catalog Is Here!

By Stephanie Lesko,
Public Affairs Specialist, JWOD

The new Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program Catalog for 2007 is the federal customer's reference guide to JWOD preferred source items with descriptions and ordering instructions for 3000 SKILCRAFT® and other JWOD products.

For information on how to obtain your copy, visit www.fai.gov/november06news.asp

GSA Celebrates the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program during National Disability Employment Awareness Month

By Stephanie Lesko

"All of our citizens should have the opportunity to live and work with dignity and freedom. Every October, we observe National Disability Employment Awareness Month, to recognize the talents, skills, and dedication of disabled Americans who are a vital part of our workforce." – President George W. Bush

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GSA Celebrates the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program during National Disability Employment Awareness Month Cont'd

Congress designated National Disability Employment Awareness Month as a time to increase the public's awareness of the contributions and skills of American workers who are blind or severely disabled, and to highlight the specific employment barriers that exist today that need to be addressed and removed. The Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program uses National Disability Employment Awareness Month as a time to recognize the contributions of JWOD employees, who are blind or have other severe disabilities, whose efforts support the missions of various federal agencies. It is also a time to recognize the Program's federal customers who help the JWOD Program meet its employment mission by purchasing products and services provided by participating nonprofit agencies.

To learn more about commemorating the JWOD program, visit www.fai.gov/november06news.asp

Acquisition Frontiers: Blazing New Trails



That's the theme for the Federal Acquisition Conference and Exposition (FACE) 2007, to be held June 19-20, 2007. That's right...FACE is back, and we've added something for everyone! For the first time, this year's conference will offer new sessions for several members of the acquisition workforce and will provide "toolkits" for you to use back at your office.

For more information, read the full article at www.fai.gov/november06news.asp

The Office of Federal Procurement Policy and the Chief Acquisition Officers Council Announce the Acquisition Management Award 2006

The 2006 award was presented on November 9, 2006, to the Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for its valuable support to TSA's acquisition community.

For more award information, see www.fai.gov/november06news.asp

Frequently Asked Questions

By Chris Nelson, Contractor, FAI

- Q. Once my Continuous Learning Module course registration has been approved, how do I launch the course?
- A. Go to <https://learn.dau.mil>, enter your Username and Password, then click the Login button. You will then see the course you selected and an area that you can click to begin the course.

To view the entire answer, visit www.fai.gov/november06news.asp

What's New in Training?

The following new modules are now available on the Continuous Learning Center at www.fai.gov. Select the "Continuous Learning" link from the *Quick Picks* section:

- Earned Value and Financial Management (CLB 018)
- Independent Logistics Assessment (CLL 020) – 3 CLP
- Science and Technology (CLM 034) – 4 CLP
- Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health (CLM 035) – 4 CLP

The latest modules are always listed in the "News" section.

Bellevue and DAU Top the Lists in Leadership Excellence

By Chrissy Packard, Contractor, FAI

Both Bellevue and DAU captured top honors in *Leadership Excellence* magazine's rankings of leadership development programs. The magazine, which covers leadership development, managerial effectiveness, and organizational productivity, has issued these rankings for the past 22 years based on seven categories: vision, involvement, measurement, curriculum, delivery, reach, value, and impact on the organization. The results are based on a survey of 600 U.S.-based organizations known for their excellence in developing leaders. These responses, along with interviews, site visits, and publishing experience in the field, determine the 100 best Leadership Development programs in North America.

Bellevue University, a strategic partner of FAI, ranked number 15, in a tie with Vanderbilt University, in the "Education/Universities/Schools of Management and Business" category. They shared the honors with other top universities such as Harvard, UCLA, USC, MIT, and Duke. This continues to validate Bellevue University's position in the marketplace as an educational provider committed to helping employers achieve outcomes aligned with their business strategy.

For the full article, visit www.fai.gov/november06news.asp

FAI, DAU, & Park University Enter Into Partnership

By Chrissy Packard, Contractor, FAI

FAI, DAU, and Park University signed a Memorandum of Understanding endorsing their partnership on September 12th. The partnership allows for Park University to establish degree-oriented and certificate courses that focus on purchasing and contracting in order to support the FAI and DAU goals of attracting, developing, and retaining a high-caliber acquisition workforce. It also provides an opportunity for federal employees to enroll in courses offered by Park University, with FAI- and DAU-certified course credits counting toward Park University degrees or certificate programs.

For the full article, visit www.fai.gov/november06news.asp

GSA Presents the 2006 Ida M. Ustad Award for Excellence in Acquisition

By Bev Cromer, Office of the Chief Acquisition Officer

The General Services Administration is pleased to announce that the recipient of this year's Ida M. Ustad Award for Excellence in Acquisition is Ms. Barbara Gerace, Contracting Officer, US Army, Research Development and Engineering Command Acquisition Center, White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico.

For more information on this year's winner, visit www.fai.gov/november06news.asp

What's New at FAI.gov?

By Chrissy Packard, Contractor, FAI

A lot! FAI's website has recently undergone a facelift. The FAI website has a new layout and FAI's online courses have been transitioned to a new platform as part of our partnership with the DAU. This new platform offers all the FAI and DAU online learning modules in one location for you. Also, electronic registration for classroom and online training is now available via the FAI Training Application System, which is accessed from the "Register for Courses" link under the *Quick Picks* section. Search functionality will be coming soon. If you haven't seen the new look, visit www.fai.gov. Below is a peek at the new Home page.



FAI.gov's New Home Page

www.fai.gov