The theme of this edition of the Defense Acquisition Research Journal is “Growing Pains,” an apt description of the problems that many defense acquisition programs face with cost and schedule.

The first research paper in this issue, “Software Productivity Trends and Issues” by David M. Tate, examines recent trends in defense software supply, demand, and productivity to estimate the severity of capacity bottleneck, then briefly discusses potential long-term actions available to the Department of Defense to mitigate that bottleneck. In the second article, “Analysis of Military Construction Cost Growth in USAF Major Defense Acquisition Programs,” the authors Capt Emily E. Angell, USAF, Edward D. White, Jonathan D. Ritschel, and Alfred E. Thal, Jr., use descriptive and inferential statistics to identify cost growth of military construction at the programmatic level, and describe how they change over time. The findings of this study may help determine allocation of resources in developing cost estimates. The third article is “Inflation and Price Escalation Adjustments in Estimating Program Costs: F-35 Case Study” by Stanley A. Horowitz and Bruce R. Harmon. It illustrates the importance of basing estimates of future program prices on historical price increases of similar systems. The authors
caution that in the case of tactical aircraft, using general inflation rates to predict future aircraft prices is likely to lead to serious underestimates of future cost.

This issue’s Current Research Resources in Defense Acquisition focuses on Acquisition Reform. It contains descriptions of several key resources, along with links to the DAU Knowledge Repository sites.

The featured reading in this issue’s Defense Acquisition Professional Reading List is *To Provide and Maintain a Navy: 1775–1945* by CAPT Richard L. Wright, USN (Ret.), and reviewed by Brad Martin.

**Dr. Larrie D. Ferreiro**  
*Chairman and Executive Editor*  
*Defense ARJ*
From the Assistant Editor
Emily Beliles

The Managing Editor asked me to share a few words of advice to prospective authors who hope to get published in the Defense Acquisition Research Journal (ARJ). While I am not a subject matter expert by any means, I do have some experience with what types of articles fare well in the review process.

Firstly, take a look at the Research Agenda—this issue includes quite a few updates. See whether your article fits within the purview of the Defense ARJ. You might want to reach out to one of the POCs listed on the Defense Acquisition University Research website and ask for their feedback on your article before you submit it.

Secondly, carefully read our Guidelines for Contributors, which is included at the end of every issue and available on our website as well. Ask yourself whether your article meets the requirements. Does it qualify as research? Does it involve the creation of new knowledge? Is it relevant to the Defense acquisition workforce? Does it meet all the critical characteristics of empirical research articles?

Finally, take care to submit all of the required documents listed on the submission checklist posted on our website. This includes ensuring that your article is formatted correctly and that your citations and references comply with the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association style guide (6th edition). Even small errors can slow down your submission process and unnecessarily delay your article from being processed.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any further questions about prospective articles. I wish you the best of luck in getting your work published and hope to see your article come across my desk soon.