

OUR TRANSITIONS AND AWARDS

We now enter a new academic year at DAU and approach a new U.S. Government fiscal year, the first since the COVID-19 lockdown began a year and a half ago. Our return to on-site operations quickens in a time of transformation.

During this time, the magazine's quality continued receiving awards from outside organizations.

In June 2021, the Association of Marketing and Communications Professionals (AMCP) in Dallas, Texas, gave the *Defense Acquisition* magazine two more gold Hermes awards for its issues of March-April 2021 (design) and May-June 2021 (total issue content).

AMCP includes several thousand marketing, communication, advertising, public relations, digital media production, and freelance professionals. AMCP oversees awards and recognition programs, provides judges, and recognizes outstanding achievement and service to marketing and communications.

In July, the magazine won two APEX Awards for Publication Excellence, sponsored by Communications Concepts, Inc., of Williamsburg, Virginia. The awards were for the magazine over all (January-February 2021 issue) and for design and layout (November-December 2020 issue).

The magazine now has won 21 awards in the last six years. Seven were won by the magazine since the onset of the COVID-19 lockdown in March 2020. Five were for issues published during the lockdown, including the four Hermes and APEX awards announced above.

The *Defense Acquisition* staff includes managing editor Benjamin Tyree and graphic artist Ken Salter, who devote most of their working hours to the magazine. The magazine also relies on the production, graphics, and the contributions of other members of DAU's Visual Arts and Press (VAP) team led by Norene L. Johnson. That team includes Debbie Gonzalez and Michael Shoemaker (copy editing and proofreading); Frances Battle (production and press coordination); Nina Austin (online design and placement); Collie Johnson (online-only content aggregation and editing); and *Defense Acquisition Research Journal* editor Emily Beliles and artist Nicole Brate (for additional final reviews).

The awards are a tribute to the work not only of the DAU's VAP staff but also of the many subject-matter professionals—including DAU faculty, military Service members, and industry partners—who write for the magazine.

Congratulations and thanks to our contributors and all who help produce DAU's award-winning publications. Your efforts are recognized and valued. Please continue writing and sharing your lessons learned and new strategies for improving acquisitions in service to our nation's Warfighters.

We also want to hear from you about what you value most in our publication and what you would like to see more of. In the final analysis, you are the most important judges of our efforts. Write to defacqmag@dau.edu. Thanks for all you do.

— *The editor and staff of
Defense Acquisition magazine*