



JOHN J. HIGBEE

Director, DAU Mission Assistance/Knowledge Repository

A 1974 graduate of the United States Naval Academy and a career nuclear submariner, Mr. Higbee served on seven attack and ballistic missile submarines, culminating in command of USS VON STEUBEN (SSBN 632) (GOLD).

As a Navy Acquisition Professional, Mr. Higbee served as: Combat System Design Manager, VIRGINIA Class Submarine Program; Deputy PM/Tech Dir, Submarine Regional Warfare Program; Program Manager, Undersea Weapons Program; and Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (C4I/EW/Space). He retired from the Navy as a Captain in 2002.

He then served as Professor, Program Management at Defense Acquisition University. In addition to his duties as Course Manager for the Executive Program Manager's Course and the Program Manager's Skills Course, he served on multiple Service/Defense/Federal and international teams. These included leading the development of a robust metrics system (Probability of Program Success) for acquisition programs, and working in Canberra with the Australian Defence Material Organization, helping develop improved processes for acquirer training, certification and management.

Mr. Higbee also served as Director, DAU Executive Programs, and Dean, Defense Systems Management College. In those positions, he fundamentally revised DAU Executive Programs to support advanced Program Management competencies, and oversaw the development and production of the first comprehensive requirements professional curriculum in DoD.

In January 2008, he was selected as a career member of the Senior Executive Service and became the Director, Acquisition Program Management Division (APMD) for the Department of Homeland Security. In that billet, he was responsible for departmental acquisition policy; managing the departmental governance process for over 80 major DHS programs across all DHS components and directorates, and providing in-process support to the DHS acquisition workforce. During his tenure, APMD developed and implemented the first viable Departmental acquisition policy and process, and initiated effective Departmental acquisition governance via an innovative Acquisition Review Board process.

In October 2010, Mr. Higbee became Director, DAU Mission Assistance. In that position, he established and improved multiple university-wide processes for Mission Assistance; improved communication and coordination between the DAU business units providing Mission Assistance; led the DAU-wide team that defined DAU's future knowledge management vision (and action plan), and began action plan implementation; led design, construction and implementation of Better Buying Power 1.0 department-wide training; innovatively restructured DAU's library as a 21st century knowledge repository; and assumed responsibility for DAU's virtual knowledge assets (including the Defense Acquisition Portal and the Acquisition Community Connection).

Mr. Higbee holds a Bachelor of Science (majoring in Physics) from the United States Naval Academy, and a Master of Science in Engineering (emphasis in Engineering Management) from the Catholic University of America. He is also a graduate of the DAU Advanced and Executive Program Management Courses, the Cornell University Executive Development Program, and the Federal Executive Institute.

His personal awards include the David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award (1996); the Defense Acquisition Executive Certificate of Achievement (Packard runner-up) (1999); the DAU Superior Civilian Service Award (2008); the DHS Secretary's Team Excellence Award (2008); the DHS Outstanding Service Medal (2010); and various personal and unit awards from his Navy service.