

JUNE 2019

DoD Hosts Early Career Workshop to Serve as Change Initiative Platform for the Acquisition Workforce



The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, the Honorable Ellen M. Lord, hosted the inaugural Early Career Workshop (ECW), June 4-6, 2019. The goal of the workshop is to gain an operational perspective of what is working well, what can be improved, and engage this critical subset of our overall acquisition workforce. The workshop will serve as a change initiative platform for the early career workforce, defined as individuals with one to ten years of civilian experience in the Defense Acquisition Workforce, launching a continuous engagement strategy that purposely involves them in shaping their role in the future of acquisition.

The Early Career Workshop's 19 workshop participants represent the over 38,000 members of the early career acquisition workforce. The participants were "by name" selected by their Service Acquisition Executives and 4th Estate leadership to participate in the workshop. We have heard repeatedly from this critical subset of the acquisition workforce that they want to be heard and they want to play a role in shaping the future of Defense acquisition. The June 2019 workshop and outbrief to the senior leadership afforded them that opportunity. Topics discussed included talent mobility, attracting and retaining talent through work-life balance initiatives, and accountability.



This is only a first step, however, we plan to deliberately engage this sector of the workforce (one of four strategic priorities) through additional workshops and other means. The ECW participants will continue as a cohort and an extension of the USD(A&S) Human Capital Initiatives office to lead change initiatives and to assess broad acquisition reforms.

DoD Acquisition Early Career Workshop Participants

Tony Archie	Air Force
Meghan Farrell	Air Force
Ashley Frisch	Air Force
Liz Furlong	Army
Kathleen Giannetti	DCMA
John Handley	MDA
Kat Hochman	Navy
Shannon Hurt	Navy
Sam Kelly	DISA
Amanda Marge	Navy
Breanna Meierdiercks	Army
Cathleen Smith	USMC
Petrina Stack	SOCOM
Scott Thomas	Air Force
Christopher Vick	DCAA
Amber Weber	Air Force
Jennifer Weiger	Army
Nicki Wilson	Army
Daniel Zaloga	Army

Questions? Please contact the HCI team at HClacqworkforce@hci.mil.