

## DoD completes extension of TA policy requirement

The Department of Defense (DoD) completed a 90-day extension March 30, 2012, for implementation of a policy requiring schools to have a signed DoD Tuition Assistance (TA) Program Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in order to participate in the TA program.

The 90-day extension, from Dec. 30, 2011, to March 30, 2012, allowed the DoD to work with stakeholders to address issues associated with the Memorandum.

The Memorandum is intended to ensure that Service members have the widest variety of choices for their continued education. It codifies important educational protections for Service members and government oversight in the form of an agreement between the educational institutions and the Department.

Beginning in November 2011, the American Council on Education, along with other key stakeholders, wrote letters to Secretary Leon E. Panetta requesting an extension on the Memorandum deadline in order to address concerns they had regarding key elements of the Memorandum. Additionally, in December 2011, 53 Congressional members wrote to the Secretary of Defense also requesting an extension of the Memorandum.

“I am pleased that over the past 90 days we have been able to collaborate with our partners including the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, American Council on Education, National Association of Institutions for Military Education Services and numerous Veteran Service Organizations

and Military Service Organizations,” Robert L. Gordon III, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Military Community and Family Policy) said. “As a result, we have a stronger, clearer Memorandum.”

Some of the key guidelines that the revised Memorandum covers include the following:

- » Prior to enrollment the schools will disclose all policies regarding admissions, transfer of credit, residency requirements, as well as the program costs to including tuition, fees and other charges to the Service member.
- » Prior to enrollment, schools will provide Service members access to an institutional financial aid advisor who will provide a clear and complete explanation of available financial aid to include Title IV, and appropriate loan counseling before offering, recommending, or signing up a student for a school loan.
- » Schools will have in place a policy that bans aggressive marketing and inducements and refrain from aggressively marketing to military students or use inducements to encourage military students to enroll in their school.

The Department is now coordinating the revised Memorandum within the Pentagon. Once coordination is completed, schools will have ample opportunity to review and sign the Memorandum prior to the policy going into effect. The revised Memorandum and the policy implementation date will be announced on the DoD’s MOU Web page at [www.dodmou.com](http://www.dodmou.com).

The Defense Department anticipates the new policy will go into effect during the summer of 2012. Until that time, academic institutions participating in the TA Program will continue to receive tuition assistance, regardless of whether they have signed the original Memorandum with the Department by the original due date of March 30, 2012, or not. Once the new policy goes into effect in summer of 2012, only those schools that have signed a MOU with the Department (either the original Memorandum or the new, revised Memorandum) will be able to receive TA.

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## Education outreach — the evolution continues...

YouTube. Skype. Facebook. Twitter. Flickr. Blog. Podcast. Post. Like. Poke. Tag. The new vocabulary boggles the mind.

Media marketplaces and emerging technologies are rapidly redefining the way the virtual world community engages and satisfies needs. Witness the exponential leaps in industry standards, technology, and information exchanges that have created a new language to determine relevancy and influence of education modalities. Therefore, as the student demographic evolves — morphs — to accommodate their environment, so must the architecture of all information driven products.

The main issue facing DoD Voluntary Education (VolEd) and, subsequently, DANTES is the effective marketing of education programs to a unique population of consumers — Service members of the United States Armed Forces. Whereas, education availability, significance, and relevance is unequivocal — the full potential, impact, and effectiveness of VolEd among this population is diminished, if not crippled, by a fundamental and pervasive disconnect between providers and desired users.

Therefore, DANTES is aggressively exploring new dimensions in innovation and information exchange methodologies to meet this complex challenge. However, it is not enough to just invest and allocate resources to “follow” any specific trend. The keys are to develop the skills and savvy to identify current and then predict future trends, and to obtain the insight, flexibility and proficiency to reallocate dedicated resources to ensure the continuous engagement with our desired audience.

To meet this challenge, Dr. Carol Berry, DANTES Director, has commissioned the staff to create a fertile environment for innovation and collaboration that will manifest new vehicles to achieve mission success. In addition to environment optimization, DANTES personnel have undertaken formal courses in personal and professional development; exercises in critical thinking and process improvement; team building; and skill-set acquisition. These efforts have resulted in dynamic new products such as: Web site redesign; multimedia “pics and vids” creation for publication on social media sites; and electronically delivered testing and information products, to name just a few.

Our steadfast commitment is to provide quality education opportunities for the men and women of the Armed Forces. As we continue to improve our products and champion the cause for VolEd, we encourage feedback from those most affected by our efforts - YOU! If you have thoughts or comments that may help improve our cause, connect with us via:

### Facebook

[www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD](http://www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD)

### Web site

[www.dantes.doded.mil](http://www.dantes.doded.mil)

### E-mail or phone

[www.dantes.doded.mil/Homepage/Contact Us.html](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/Homepage/Contact%20Us.html)

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## Distance Learning Readiness Self-Assessment

Are you new to distance learning? Do you wonder how your skills stack up against the optimal for success in distance learning? The DANTES Distance Learning Readiness Self-Assessment (DANTES DLRSA) was developed to help prospective distance learners self-assess their readiness for distance learning. Check it out at [www.dantes.doded.mil/DANTESHomepage.html](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/DANTESHomepage.html).

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## DoD TA policy extension completed

Continued from page 1

Institutions that have signed or are in the process of signing the original Memorandum will not have to re-sign nor make changes to the document.

“Even though more than 2,070 institutions of higher learning have already signed the Memorandum, it is the Department’s intent to ensure our Service members have the widest variety of choices for their continued education,” Gordon said.



## DANTES Catalog of Nationally Accredited Distance Learning Programs

New school affiliated with DANTES:



### Ultimate Medical Academy

Department of Military & Veteran Affairs  
3101 W. Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd., Suite 200  
Tampa, FL 33607  
813-470-9925

Toll Free: 888-205-1001

Fax: 813-387-7595

E-mail: [bbraggs@ultimatemedical.edu](mailto:bbraggs@ultimatemedical.edu)

Internet: [www.ultimatemedical.edu](http://www.ultimatemedical.edu)

Accreditation: Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools

Associate Degrees in

- » Health Information Technology
- » Health Sciences
- » Healthcare Management
- » Medical Billing and Coding
- » Pharmacy Technician
- » Spa Management

## 2012 DANTES Distance Learning Catalogs available

DANTES has distributed the 2012 Distance Learning Catalogs on CD-ROM, available to education services personnel.

To order extra copies, e-mail [DANTESdl@navy.mil](mailto:DANTESdl@navy.mil). Provide your name, title, Service, installation, office mailing address, DANTES ID number, and quantity. There is a limit of

five CDs; however, if you need more than five, let us know and we will try to accommodate you.

You may also access the catalogs on line at [www.dantescatalogs.com/](http://www.dantescatalogs.com/).



## Distance Learning Catalog - your secret weapon

story by Maj. A. J. Anthony Borowski, U.S. Army

As a young officer in 2005, I was interested in obtaining a graduate degree to pursue future promotions as well as expand my knowledge in strategic thinking and application.

Although some graduate information was obtained during my visit to the education center, the biggest gain in my educational knowledge came when I turned to senior leaders within the unit asking for their direction and recommendation.

It was through the BDE Operations Sergeant Major that I learned about DANTES and the Distance Learning Catalog. He presented how to access this comprehensive site and I was surprised at how clear and user friendly it was to review the various degree levels. As we further dug into the numerous degree concentrations, I was pleased at how easy it was to navigate through the Catalog and that hyperlinks were provided to each specific program. Once in the specific degree field, the Catalog provided a concise list of information such as prerequisites and costs.

This real time feedback generates peace of mind allowing potential students to make sound decisions of whether such a degree is right for them. After much research in selecting an instruction based on my needs, I contacted the university representative to gain a full perspective of the college's reputation and accreditation. Within a day, after providing transcripts and a two page paper on why I want to apply to the college, I was accepted into the program.

Through diligence and perseverance, I received my Master of Science degree last year. It took a total of five years (part-time) due to managing work (three deployments), school, moving three times, and family.

Also, I maintained a 4.0 GPA, opening the door to be inducted in the National Honor Society (Phi Kappa Phi). This would have been too hard to obtain if I had maintained a full class load each semester.

My experience using the Distance Learning Catalog to finish my degree was not only challenging but also rewarding, expanding my knowledge and ability to achieve future goals. Every day I communicate the importance of a college education and how easy it is to obtain using DANTES and their Distance Learning Catalog. Each Service provides the means to get an education but it takes leaders to encourage others to stick with it, to better themselves and those they cherish in their everyday lives.

## FY12 DEPH 3rd Quarter update available April 1

The Third Quarter update of the FY12 DANTES Examination Program Handbook (DEPH, Parts I and II) will be available online April 1 to DANTES testing personnel with access to the Test Control Officer (TCO) Portal located at <https://dantestcoportal.prometric.com/Login/Login.aspx>.



Users can view, search and download the DEPH, as well as the calendar of national test dates for FY12 and other forms used by TCOs.

## Ft. Belvoir NTC grand opening

The grand opening ceremony for the first Army National Testing Center (NTC) in the National Capital Region was held March 5, 2012, at the Barden Education Center, Ft. Belvoir, Va. The NTC, where DANTES-sponsored exams are offered, is supported by Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA). NOVA will administer the DSST and CLEP exams, which are free (one-time only) to Service members, eligible family members and DoD Acquisition Workforce Personnel. All other personnel must pay a fee to test. The NTC also administers NOVA distance learning tests and English and math placement exams.



Pictured above (l-r): Col. John Strycula, Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander and Dr. Sam Hill, the Provost of the Woodbridge Campus of Northern Virginia Community College.

In conjunction with the NTC grand opening, an Education Fair was held in the auditorium. Representatives from schools throughout the United States were available to discuss their degree programs, enrollment procedures, military and civilian assessment of previous credit, financial assistance, how to use GI Bill benefits to pay tuition and much more. NOVA also hosted a catered luncheon for all attendees.

### Mystery Quote:

"Reading builds the educated and informed electorate so vital to our democracy"

If you know who said this, let us know at [pubs@navy.mil](mailto:pubs@navy.mil).

The first correct responder will get his or her name published in the next DIB.

Sal Valeo, SMSgt, USAFR  
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ  
was the first to identify the author of last month's quote as Horace Mann.

Great job!

## Reference Publications

### CORNER

*Free Application for  
Federal Student Aid  
(FAFSA)*

(previously DANTES Stock #2404)  
online or .pdf ONLY  
[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)



## Changes to federal student aid programs

As a result of recent legislative changes, there are new requirements for the federal student aid programs effective with the 2012-2013 school year (July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013).

The following are some of the changes:

### Students without a high school diploma

No longer eligible for federal student aid by passing an approved test or completing at least six credit hours or 225 clock hours of postsecondary education. Student must have a high school diploma or GED if enrolling in higher education for the first time on or after July 1, 2012 in order to be eligible for federal student aid.

### Expected Family Contribution

Expected Family Contribution number will be “zero” if the family income does not exceed \$23,000 (previously \$32,000). (Note: when applying for FAFSA an Expected Family Contribution number is assigned, used to determine federal student aid eligibility.)

### Graduate and professional students no longer eligible for subsidized loans

As of July 1, 2012, graduate and professional students cannot receive federal subsidized loans, but are still eligible for up to \$20,500 unsubsidized loans each year.

### Direct subsidized loans – no interest subsidy during the six-month grace period

After a student is no longer enrolled in a college program at least half time, there is no longer an interest subsidy provided during the six month grace period. Payments may not be required during the grace period, but interest continues to accrue.

### Duration of eligibility of Pell Grant Program

Pell Grant eligibility is now a total of 12 semesters or the equivalent. All eligibility for additional Pell Grants ends 2012-2013 school year.

### No more repayment incentives from U.S. Department of Education

As of July 1, 2012, the Department of Education may only offer interest rate reductions to Direct Loan borrowers and only if the borrower agrees to have payments automatically electronically debited from their bank account.

For further information on these changes and how they may affect you, contact your financial aid administrator at your school, or call 1-800-4-FED-AID.

**Calling all writers and camera-bugs!**

**Ed Centers - do you have a VoEd-related story to share with other education professionals? If so, DANTES is waiting to hear from you.**

Send submissions to [pubs@navy.mil](mailto:pubs@navy.mil).

### April in U.S. history:

**2, 1513:** Spanish explorer Ponce De Leon sighted Florida and claimed it for Spain

**4, 1968:** Civil Rights leader Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King shot and killed by a sniper

**6, 1917:** Congress approved U.S. to enter into WWI

**9, 1865:** Civil War ended as General Lee surrendered to General Grant in Appomattox

**9, 1866:** Civil Rights Bill of 1866 passed by Congress

**11, 1968:** Civil Rights Act of 1968 signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson

**11, 1970:** Apollo 13 began 5 day ordeal after an oxygen tank exploded, cutting moon mission short; Astronaut John L. Swigert uttered famous words: “Houston, we’ve had a problem here”

**12, 1861:** Civil War began as Confederate troops opened fire on Fort Sumter, S.C.

**12, 1945:** President Franklin D. Roosevelt died suddenly at Warm Springs, Georgia

**13, 1743:** Thomas Jefferson, 3rd U.S. President, born

**14, 1865:** President Abraham Lincoln shot and mortally wounded at Ford’s Theater

**18, 1906:** San Francisco Earthquake struck at 5:13 a.m.

**19, 1995:** A massive car-bomb explosion destroyed entire side of a nine story federal building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 persons, including 19 children

**23, 1791:** James Buchanan, 15th U.S. President, born

**24, 1800:** The Library of Congress established

**27, 1822:** Ulysses S. Grant, 18th U.S. President, born

**28, 1758:** James Monroe, 5th U.S. President, born

**30, 1789:** George Washington became the first U.S. President



## WW12 Team SPIRIT Trivia #9

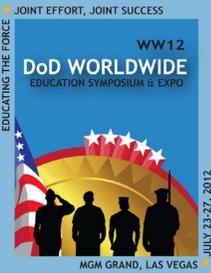
Congratulations once again to Jose Velazquez and Team Coast Guard. Mr. Velazquez was the first to correctly answer that DLRSA stands for the DANTES Distance Learning Readiness Self-Assessment.

The Coast Guard remains a strong front-runner (sounds like election year lingo), but second place has changed hands almost every month since the competition began. Remember, both the 1st and 2nd place trivia finishers will claim event points that lead to the overall Team SPIRIT trophy. So, play smart! There are only three monthly questions left to claim.

The point standings as of March 20, 2012:

- » 1620 USCG
- » 860 Navy
- » 650 Army
- » 560 Air Force
- » 330 USMC
- » 130 National Guard

The overall theme for WW12 is Educating the Force--Joint Effort, Joint Success. A "joint effort" is just what attendees will see when numerous, thought-provoking topics that cover five broad learning tracks are presented by an impressive team of WW12 speaker experts. Choosing which sessions to attend will present quite a challenge.



JOINT EFFORT, JOINT SUCCESS  
WW12  
DoD WORLDWIDE  
EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM & EXPO  
EDUCATING THE FORCE  
JULY 23-27, 2012  
MGM GRAND, LAS VEGAS

## WW12 DoD WORLDWIDE EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM & EXPO

### Trivia Question #9

According to the DoD Worldwide Web site at [www.ww2012.com](http://www.ww2012.com), how many breakout sessions are currently scheduled to be presented at the symposium?

Submit answers to [dantesww@navy.mil](mailto:dantesww@navy.mil). First correct answer wins 150 points and subsequent answers earn 10. Visit the WW12 Web site for complete [contest rules](#).

## Meet the speaker. . . A monthly preview of WW12 speakers



Joe Pace, Ed.D.

Dr. Pace is an internationally recognized organizational psychologist, educator, speaker and author. He presents seminars and workshops in the areas of student retention, faculty development, corporate cultural alignment, and personal and professional achievement. His background in teaching, psychology, and business aides him to deliver research-based information to a global audience from students and faculty, to corporate executives.

Pace, along with The Pacific Institute Founder Lou Tice, are authors of the best selling textbook, "Thought Patterns for a Successful Career", used in over one thousand Colleges and Schools world-wide. Currently, he serves as Chairman of the Board--Global Education, for The Pacific Institute and is an educational and psychological consultant for numerous colleges and organizations throughout the United States and Canada. Pace can also be seen weekly on the nationally syndicated television show "The Daily Buzz".

# FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR



HMCM (FMF/SW) David Acuff  
Senior Enlisted Advisor

Many of our military Service members have been told recently that it is time to “go home!” Service draw-downs, Enlisted Review and Officer Continuation Boards have unfortunately become “force-shaping” tools generating “pink-slips” for thousands of Service members.

This, coupled with our nation’s financial difficulties and high unemployment, has many Service members rightly concerned about their futures. Currently, unemployment for veterans ranges from 9 percent overall, and 26 - 30 percent for Iraq- and Afghanistan-era veterans ages 18-24, according to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. All of us know someone we have served with who is experiencing these hardships... are you soon to be one of them?

The reality is our Armed Services are reducing personnel in response to congressional mandated budget cuts and targeted reduction of military spending. As Lt. Col. Stanley (Reserve Component Advisor) and I have said in past articles, “the handwriting is on the wall!” What can you do to help those Service members you lead? What can you do to help yourself? Hopefully, you are investing your off-duty time in education and credentialing. Doing so enables you to speak from experience and helps set you as an example for others to follow. A college education or credential can help your immediate career, promotion opportunities and place you in a better position for future civilian vocations.



## Don't know where to start?

First, schedule a visit with an education counselor either personally or virtually. Also, do someone a favor; take a buddy or the person you’re mentoring with you (what a gift!).

Second, if you are unsure what interests you or what you’re best suited for, make an appointment with an ESO to take an assessment/interest inventory (i.e. DISCOVER).

Third, if your vocation of interest requires a college degree or a vocational credential then seek advice to determine which school programs may be best suited for you. You’ll also want to request a military service transcript reflecting American Council of Education (ACE) recommended military college credit for services schools and training already completed.

Fourth, visit DANTES Web site ([www.dantes.doded.mil](http://www.dantes.doded.mil)) to identify exams you can take (DSST/CLEP) to reduce required credit transfer for school. These tests are provided free to Service members the first time they are taken and can significantly reduce the amount of college credit needed to achieve an education goal.

Finally, register for Tuition Assistance. Keep in mind that you must have an approved education plan, and you may want to choose a school that maximizes DSST/CLEPs and recommended ACE military credits to achieve your degree.

In closing, this column affords a unique opportunity to reach out to my fellow enlisted Service members concerning VolEd and DANTES programs. If you have a success story with military VolEd that you would like to share, send it to me and maybe you’ll see it published in this forum. Also, if there is an opportunity to attend events or speak to enlisted personnel at your military installation please let me know, I would appreciate an invite. Until next time, keep up with DANTES on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD](http://www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD) or contact me at [ea@navy.mil](mailto:ea@navy.mil). I would enjoy hearing from you.

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## Other VolEd news in the world...

Navy streamlines advanced education for senior enlisted Sailors  
[www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story\\_id=65792](http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=65792)

Seps, Taps class gets makeover  
[www.dvidshub.net/news/84639/seps-taps-class-gets-makeover](http://www.dvidshub.net/news/84639/seps-taps-class-gets-makeover)

Air Force spouses could see tuition assistance cuts  
[www.stripes.com/news/air-force-spouses-could-see-tuition-assistance-cuts-1.171009](http://www.stripes.com/news/air-force-spouses-could-see-tuition-assistance-cuts-1.171009)



Lt Col Eurydice Stanley  
Reserve Component Advisor

## The drawdown is HERE...Are you ready? Prepare & DIVERSIFY!

The drawdown officially started for the Army March 1, but the other Services have been notifying personnel for months that they will no longer continue to serve. I received an e-mail from an Education Service Officer overseas who had just

tried to assist a very emotional Service member in full battle gear who had just been told he only had two weeks left in the Navy. The frustration and betrayal that he felt will be replayed at least 100,000 times as notifications continue.

Transition emphasis grows as the drawdown impacts more Service members. According to Army Times, the primary target for drawdown has been personnel who have been in trouble, overweight or can't pass the PT test, but there are countless instances such as this one of personnel who have been notified who have had exemplary careers, yet they are still given a digitech pink slip. And we soon may not be alone. Our partners across the pond are considering a similar action. British Soldiers recently visiting DANTES to review the Troops to Teachers program noted that they are considering a drawdown as well.

Words cannot fully express how serious our current situation is within the Department of Defense, but I remain encouraged each time I am advised of personnel actively creating options, remaining flexible and adapting to our new environment. What should you do during turbulent times? Diversify!

Case in point, Sgt. 1st Class Rawle Munro, Office of the Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (OSD-RA) Human Resources NCOIC, recently attended a "Functional Academic Skills Training" (FAST) course to increase his ASVAB scores and his options for promotion and future career opportunities. Although he is a recent college graduate with a degree in psychology, he recognizes room for improvement. A very sharp Soldier, Munro was recently nominated by OSD-RA as a candidate for the 2011 OSD Senior Enlisted Member of the Year and is awaiting the release of the E-8 promotion list from NGB, he's keeping his options open. "By taking the FAST class and achieving 110 and above, it provides the advantage of reclassifying

into another MOS, but more importantly, it increases my professional development," said Munro.

Munro has more than 21 cumulative years of Service in the National Guard, and almost 16 years Active Federal Service and represents one of the many Service members who, if drawn down, would be eligible if offered early retirement at a reduced rate. Although he's hopeful that won't be the case, he's considering possible civilian employment vocations. "I'm getting ready to start my Master's soon and will use my tuition assistance (TA). I'm considering a degree in Homeland Security or IT, areas that are projected to boom in the future and are of interest to me."

Munro opted to take the FAST class four hours a day for three weeks, but DANTES offers the Online Advanced Skills Course (OASC) ([www.dantes.doded.mil](http://www.dantes.doded.mil)) that will do the same thing. OASC provides remediation of basic academic skills in English and math, and you can take the course at your own pace. There are currently 71 interactive lessons presented in numerous forms online available in OASC. The average course can be completed in 20-30 hours.

OASC has proven to be extremely effective to more than 68,000 Service members and over 12,000 family members. Of the Army Soldiers participating in a structured pilot, 81 percent saw scores high enough to change their MOS – which, during these times, could extend their military career. The average General Technical score was increased was 11.57 points!

The warnings are over. The drawdown officially is here. Empower yourself through preparation! Take time for your future, utilize the resources on DANTES' Web site and make a viable plan for your future!

Contact me at [rca@navy.mil](mailto:rca@navy.mil). Want educational motivation? Follow me on Twitter@LTCPhDUCan2.



To have the  
DANTES Information  
Bulletin (DIB) sent  
monthly to your e-mail,  
click on the icon or send  
an e-mail to  
[pubs@navy.mil](mailto:pubs@navy.mil).

## DANTES was busy in March...



Feb. 27 - March 2 (above): DANTES personnel attended the Franklin Covey "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" training. Lots of good information and professional/life skills. If you ever get a chance to attend, you should take it. Then you can have your own 'talking stick'!



Feb. 1 - March 8 (left and below)

DANTES losers are winners! Amidst ever-tightening budgets, twenty-six DANTES team members decided to tighten their own belts by participating in a base-wide "Biggest Loser" weight loss competition, pitting 5-member teams against each other to lose the biggest percentage of weight during a 6-week period. The competition included weekly informational sessions on exercise and nutrition in addition to challenging exercise classes such as yoga, weight training, aerobics, and juggling (yes, juggling).

DANTES teams came up with clever names like "Weight No More," "4 Chicks and a Duck," "Weapons of Mass Reduction," and "Mission SlimPossible." Luncheons offered healthier options, lunch runs to fast food restaurants decreased, bulletin boards posted the latest healthy tips, and pedometers were clicking off additional steps in the halls and offices. While competing during food-centric events like Super Bowl weekend, Mardi Gras, and Valentine's Day, DANTES team members stayed focused and counted calories, steps, and pounds lost.



The final red-white-and-blue wrap-up event on March 8 announced the winners and included a celebratory walk on the nature trail. DANTES team "4 Chicks and a Duck" came in third place overall with 40 pounds and 5.3 percent body weight lost.

In the end, DANTES team members lost a combined total of 172 pounds and gained a new-found respect for healthy lifestyle changes. And they learned to lose together as a team!! (The 122 base participants' total loss was 511 pounds!)



March 5-6 (above): Visitors from the UK met with the Troops to Teachers (TTT) group and visited a local middle school with TTT participants. Pictured (l-r): Ron Burton, Florida State TTT Manager; Maj. Neil Lewis, UK Ministry of Defense; Dr. Carol Berry, DANTES Director; Dinah Hanlon, UK Grade 7 Training & Development for Schools; Tim Heyes, UK Grade 7 DoE; William McAleer, TTT Program Head; and John Roth, TTT Program Manager.

# Osan's national test center gets a face-lift

story and photos by Louis Vance, 51 FSS/FSDE Education and Training Section Chief

In August 2011, the busy national test center (NTC) at Osan Air Base (AB) was a small room with 3 x 2 tables for testing stations. Military members sat elbow to elbow when testing, with very little space in between.

A work order was submitted and soon base Civil Engineering personnel were busily renovating an old classroom—replacing old, moldy walls and applying a fresh coat of paint. All the hard work paid off because on the last day of the fiscal year, funds were received to refurbish the test center.

Nowadays the busy NTC in PACAF is truly a first-class operation! The Osan AB NTC (run by University of Maryland University College personnel) administered over 1000+ DSST/CLEP exams in FY11 and saved the Air Force an estimated \$900K in tuition assistance dollars.

As a former customer and avid DANTES exam taker, I can attest that the free testing service DANTES provides Military members is immeasurable. Even the recent decision to eliminate free test re-takes due to budget constraints had positive outcomes. Military members are studying for the exams now more than before—and lifting pass rates!



The  
Before



The  
After!

## Oahu Education Fair a success

The USAR Theater Support Group Education Services Office (ESO) sponsored an Oahu (Hawaii) Education Fair on March 3, 2012. Participation was excellent, with 700 military personnel visiting counselors from 22 schools (three from CONUS), the University of Hawaii ROTC, Veterans Affairs, DANTES, and Army Reserve ESO. The event provided direct information about education programs and services to all attendees.



Missed a DIB edition?  
Click [HERE](#) to view archived DIBs.

## CCME 2012 annual awards

The following awards were announced at the annual meeting in February of the Council of College and Military Educators (CCME):

**CCME 2011 President's Award –**  
Louis Martini, Thomas Edison State College

**CCME Lifetime Achievement Award (three award recipients) –**

(1) Dr. James Anderson, retired Chancellor of Central Texas College

(2) Jeff Haycraft, Tuition Assistance Operations Manager Army National Guard

(3) Marcy Shapiro, former Director of the SOCGuard program

**CCME John Brian Service and Leadership Award –**

Ann Hunter, Chief of Navy Voluntary Education

**CCME Institution Award –**

American Military University, accepted by Dr. Wally Boston, President of AMU

**CCME Barry Cobb Award –**

Ramstein Education Office, Ramstein AB, Germany, accepted by Mr. Thomas French.

# TESTING CALENDAR

April 2012

22-28 GRE Subject\*

28 Apr - Praxis

2 May

June 2012

11 LSAT (50 United States, Canada, Caribbean)

12 LSAT (Europe, Middle East, Africa, South America)

25 LSAT (Asia, Australia, New Zealand)

July 2012

21-25 Praxis\*

Notes:

– Overseas test sites send orders six weeks before the test date.

– CONUS test sites send orders four weeks before the test date.

– Contractors ship tests to arrive just before the planned test date.

\*Choose only one day to administer. Submit separate Prometric order forms for GRE Subject and Praxis.

[http://www.dantes.doded.mil/Sub%20Pages/Exams/Docs/exams\\_calendar.pdf](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/Sub%20Pages/Exams/Docs/exams_calendar.pdf)

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