



Athens State and DAU Forge Strategic Partnership for Career Training Program

Athens State University and the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) has entered into a Strategic Partnership to create a collaborative relationship for the purpose of offering professional development programs and curriculum targeting the Department of Defense Acquisition workforce and potential future members of that workforce.

Athens State President Dr. Bob Glenn and DAU Dean of South Region Campus, James L. McCullough signed the agreement at a special ceremony scheduled for September 14 at Athens State's main campus.

Athens State University currently serves as the bachelor's degree granting institution of the Alabama Community College system. The Defense Acquisition University is the United States Department of Defense's corporate university that trains and enables military and civilian personnel in the fields of acquisition, federal contracting, technology, and logistics, including Senior Service leadership and program management. This is the initial collaboration between the two universities to create educational professional development opportunities for current and future members of the acquisition workforce.



"Essentially, this will be a strategic alliance that benefits both our students and the Department of Defense," states Vice President for Academic Affairs Denver Betts. "We will be producing graduates who are career-ready for immediate integration into the defense industry. The programs we will put into place will streamline the employee training process and therefore provide a seamless transition from school desk to work desk."

A Memorandum of Understanding was first developed to define the structure through which programs can be supported, and is specifically designed to allow a maximum transfer of credit and an easy transition for students. The memorandum will be reviewed annually, and both institutions will designate individuals to serve as a liaison for the purposes of monitoring the agreement.

The Strategic Partnership defined under the Memorandum of Understanding is scheduled to begin with the Spring Semester 2012.

For more information regarding the Athens State / DAU partnership visit www.athens.edu/DAU, or contact Dr. Charles Roberts at 256-216-5387 or Charles.Roberts@athens.edu. Office hours M-F 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.