

ASMC News



American Society of Military Comptrollers -Utah Chapter

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ASMC Mission Statement: To provide professional development and promote ethical behavior in all aspects of Defense Financial Management.

President's Message - Unleash the Power of Your Network Ms. Winnie Ochoa

In any given ASMC-sponsored event, encouragement to expand and enrich your network is often preached by the presiding executive board. One of the benefits we offer those who are actively engaged in DoD FM industry-based events such as ASMC luncheons and conferences is the opportunity to network.

Networking does not come naturally for many, and even possesses a negative connotation correlated to an image of the overeager associate who zips around the room, passing out business cards, shaking hands a bit too vigorously, and spouting off excerpts of his resume with the (at times desperate) hope it impresses someone. It is time to set this record straight.

Simply put, networking is the art of building relationships. It is putting yourself out there and embracing the chance of forging genuine connections with your colleagues. At the very least, instances to "put a face to a name" present themselves. There is something to be said of communicating through e-mail, telephone, or instant messaging with someone you've looked in the eyes

and with whom you've shaken hands. Our dealings with others in sister organizations across the installation, or even across the Air Force and Department of Defense, progress from being merely transactional, but morph into an exchange in which both parties are driven from the desire to help each other succeed. Connections facilitate the stage for reciprocal assistance.

Building a network sets the stage for a meaningful collaboration of ideas, further enriching your knowledge base. It also gives you the opportunity to offer a different perspective to others seeking your expertise; in turn, developing a noteworthy reputation of yourself in your industry. Professional connections may present a potential mentor or mentee, with whom you can seek or provide career advice and support. This could open career paths you may not have normally entertained.

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ASMC Engage Communities

to stay in-the-know!



January Meeting Highlights

During our January Chapter Meeting, Col Kieran Keelty, 748 SCMG/CC provided a briefing on 'Return to Readiness'. Col Keelty discussed how the current strategic setting in the world affects Air Force Supply Chain Management and mission readiness.

The US is engaged in various struggles with Peoples Republic of China and Russia. Much of this takes place in the INDOPACOM (the Indo-Pacific area, formerly PACOM). These are not blatant military struggles, but consist of semi-military, cyber, economic, diplomatic and media operations aimed at diminishing or disrupting US capabilities in the area. These countries want to disrupt US capability without raising alarm and therefore enticing the US to respond.

This competition involves a fusion of military and commercial sectors where our adversaries attempt to weaponized commercial activities. What does this look like?

- ♦ Cornering rare earth element markets
- Weaponized mergers and acquisitions
- Pressuring companies to transfer tech as part of doing business
- ♦ Exploiting scientific, academic or business networks to access tech
- ♦ Controlling ports
- ♦ Exploiting DoD commercial supply chains with counterfeit parts

What does this matter to the AF—Supply Chain Management—or you? USINDOPACOM and PACAF must develop counter-strategies. Things like Agile Combat Employment (ACE) and focusing on effectiveness over efficiency. However being more agile and predictive rather than responsive is resource intensive. Support plans need to be both resilient/redundant and agile/intelligent—anticipating demand versus responding to issues. Along with these requirements, Supply Chain Management is dealing with an aging portfolio of weapons systems/parts—97% of the items managed by 448 SCMW were fielded between 1950-1980. Funding constraints paired with real world events effect day-to-day AF operations and require hard decisions about where limited funds will be used.

A huge thank you to Col Keelty for providing such an interesting and informative briefing!



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We are still looking for Board Members to fill the Programs, Publicity and Webmaster vacancies!

Please consider volunteering today!



DoD Financial Management (FM) Certification Program By Kelly Pearson

As we embark on another year, we make our tra- ings, here are some other options for meeting ditional resolutions which we usually break or forget by the end of February. There is one you will not forget mostly because it is a condition of employment - but also you do not want to be scrambling to complete the 60 CET's by the end of the year! Although we have two years to complete, we often wait until the end of the year, then panic to upload our monthly training or meetings we attended.

Don't panic too much, the DoD FM Certification Program policy document (DoDI 1300.26) states that DoD organizations are responsible for ensuring all FM members are provided the opportunity to complete the requirements of the Certification Program during normal duty hours to the greatest extent possible within workload and funding constraints. Work with your supervisors to develop a plan to meet your certification requirements.

The primary purpose of the program is to establish a framework to guide DoD FM professional development. A second purpose is to provide a consistent, disciplined mechanism to ensure appropriate training and development in key areas such as audit readiness, decision support, career development and leadership. Now more than ever the DoD needs a well-trained financial workforce to solve constant budget challenges and to be a key enabler for achieving auditable financial statements.

There are many ways to obtain CET's, monthly training (I CET), my personal favorite attending ASMC meeting (I CET), attending PDI (2 or 3 per class), attending Regional PDI (5 CET). These alone are about 60 CET's! If you're unable to attend the Regional PDI or monthly ASMC meetyour CETs.

First - what counts as a CET? Great question!

- FM and Leadership courses, symposiums or training event s (such as our Regional PDI on 20 Feb)-CET hours: Total hours of course/ symposium/training event -Example: Speaker briefing at local ASMC meeting was I hour = I CET, This year the Regional PDI is 5 CET. More information contact Tawna Sandberg, DSN 777-9783
- Courses or training used to satisfy continuing professional education requirements for any of the 20 approved FM-related Test-Based Certifications (e.g., CDFM, CPA)-CET Hours: Unit-for-unit (e.g., I CET = I CET)
- Courses or training used to satisfy continuing professional education for Acquisition (DAWIA) certifications (e.g., I CLP = I CET)
- Courses listed in FM myLearn e-catalog (including OUSD(C)-developed web-based training)-CET hours: Number of aligned hours listed as shown in FM myLearn
- Academic FM and Leadership courses-CET hours: I semester hour course = 15 CETs; I quarter hour = 10 CETs

Remember, you may not use past education and training to meet CET requirements once you have earned the initial certification. Don't try to take the same class every two years and expect it to count!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 19 March—Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwiches Community Service Project 3:00 PM—Building 1580, Conference Room Supports Ogden Homeless Shelter
- 9 April—Burrito Project 5:00 PM—Rico Foods, SLC
- I May 3rd Annual ASMC Golf Tournament
- II May—Early Careerist Leadership Panel Q&A Brunch 9:00 AM—Panel will tentatively include—Daysha Tello, Crystal Rasmussen, Tris Peraza, Bill Howell, Melody Chase, James Davis, Kevin Brown
- 12 May (Tentative) Primary Children's Tel-a-thon
- 26-27 June—Air Show (Food Booth)

Your Utah Chapter needs you!!

Do you enjoy Facebook? Instagram? We are looking for a Social Media POC to keep our Facebook page up to date - Contact a Board Member if you're interested!

ASMC Alignment with DoD FM Certification

The DoD Authorization Act FY2012 empowers the Secretary of Defense to "prescribe professional certification and credential standards" for the defense financial management community. The CDFM is one of the DoD-approved test-based certifications recommended for FM Certification Levels 2 and 3. For a crosswalk of how ASMCS training courses align to the DoD FM Certification Program check out the link below:

https://asmconline.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/DoD-FMCP-Course-Alignment-Summary-Oct-2019.pdf

ASMC Member Spotlight



Briefly describe your career path.

I enlisted in the Air Force in 1995, and was stationed at McClellan AFB,CA; McGuire AFB, NJ; Kunsan AB, Korea; Elmendorf AFB,AK; McConnell AFB, KS; Camp Eggers Afghanistan; and then retired as Master Sergeant from Nellis AFB, NV in 2015. It was a wonderful sometimes scary time serving in the Air Force. Although I spent time away from my family, I would not change one moment. It has been a pleasure to serve our great country being part of something much bigger than myself, taught me how to belong in a team, and as you move forward you teach others how to do the same— watching the Airman grow into our future, knowing I had some small part in shaping the outcome has been my privilege.

After retirement, I worked with the Navy in the CV-22 Osprey Acquisitions program. Working with the Navy gave me experience in how other services approach FM. Although we all work towards the same goals, we get there on a different path. I then accepted an OO-ALC RA position in Working Capital Funds and later moved on to 75 CPTS ALO where I am currently a certifying official.

Throughout my career, I have worked in military pay, travel pay, DTS, QA, special actions, civilian pay, most of my time was spent in budget and ALO, about 15 years. Within that time, I have seen many changes in the systems, and various updates to our career field. I received my CCAF degree in 2003, Accounting Degree in 2014 and FM Certification 2015.

What are your future goals?

My short term goal is to complete my CDFM, I am only one test away for completion!

Long term, I would like to learn more about each of the funds Hill AFB manages, from WCF to FMS, ICBM, reimbursement and everything in between! There are excellent mentors within the FM community and throughout the base. I plan to use the resources available to me to learn about each of these funds, and how they are managed at the AF level. Although I have been in AF FM for over 20 years, I still have a lot to learn! I want to be the Airman that

helps shapes our future!

How has ASMC helped in developing your career?

I have been a member of ASMC since 1996 I have also been introduced to mentors throughout the base providing me with guidance to broaden my career. As a member, I have met others I would not have normally met, such as Program Managers and Auditors. Getting to know how these other careers fit into expanded FM has knowledge and has enabled me to gain insight in the direction of the AF. Also, a very important piece is the PDI held yearly in various locations. This has been instrumental with not only going to the classes, learning what is new and upcoming in our field, but to get to know people outside of Hill AFB. During the last PDI, I had lunch with the Director of DFAS and the GAO Director simply because they happen to sit at the same table as me! I gained insight had great conversations with everyone at the table and much to my surprise, they were interested in what I had to say, little me from Hill AFB. I would have never had this opportunity in any other setting, I am grateful I was able to meet them and the 20 minute conversations we had changed my view on a few

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DoD FM Certification Program, cont'd

Don't wait until Dec 20th to attempt to complete the necessary training, you will only grumble to yourself about why you waited! Let this year be different. This year, you will plan, update the information and take the classes necessary to achieve the CET's needed before the end of December.

Hill AFB POC's are ready to answer your questions and can assist with the sometimes confusing pieces of which tracks to choose, how to upload and where to find additional resources.

POC for FM Certification Matthew Dittmer (<u>matthew.dittmer@us.af.mil</u>)

Links to FAQ's and References

Important LinksLMS Quick Start Guide: http://go.usa.gov/3ABC4 Job Aids: https://fmonline.ousdc.osd.mil/LMS/LMS-Job-Aids.aspx

CET Resources https://go.usa.gov/xXqxM

Online training - https://fmonline.ousdc.osd.mil Civilian Career Roadmap https://go.usa.gov/xNpqb

Competencies – Financial Management https://go.usa.gov/3GuFP

Competencies - Leadership https://go.usa.gov/cXZSB

Course Search - Academic http://go.usa.gov/cmAs3

Course Search - Training https://go.usa.gov/cVEbk

DoD Instruction 1300.26 https://go.usa.gov/xNsFD

CET Resources https://go.usa.gov/xXqxM

FM myLearn http://go.usa.gov/BbaW

Civilian Career Roadmaps https://go.usa.gov/xNpqb

Handbook (FM Certification Program Information) http://go.usa.gov/xWHTm

Interactive Learning History Worksheet (iLHW) http://go.usa.gov/cmgHW

Job Aids http://go.usa.gov/373F4

LinkedIn Discussion Group https://linkedin.com/groups/6503683

LMS Three-Step Process http://go.usa.gov/3H4mW

Professional Development for FMs https://go.usa.gov/xNpqZ

DFMC Program User Guide https://go.usa.gov/xV7MK

Tools/Templates/Forms https://go.usa.gov/3Glgc

Web-Based Courses List (OUSD(C) developed) https://go.usa.gov/xPbqq

https://comptroller.defense.gov/External-Links/FMCert

https://comptroller.defense.gov/Portals/45/documents/FMCertProgram/Standard DoD FM Briefing.pdf



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Which ASMC programs/offerings have helped the most?

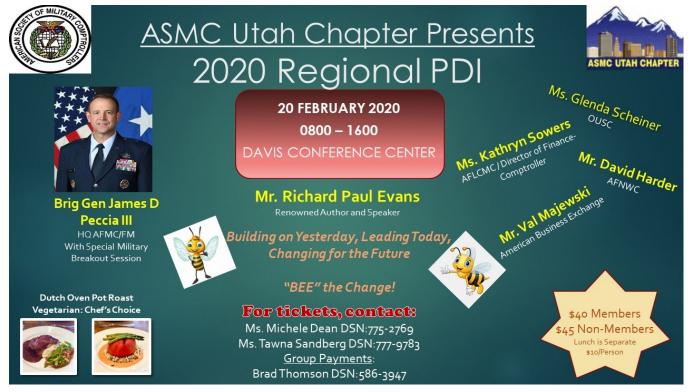
I have received financial assistance from ASMC to complete my Accounting degree! I have also been the recipient of several scholarships and I had the privilege to write several packages for Airman who have won scholarships from AFMC! I believe the scholarships have been the most beneficial to me and other Airman financially, however the program that has helped me the most is the monthly meetings. These meetings offer an opportunity to get to know the local FM community, to network, mentor and be mentored!

If you could pass along one piece of advice to ASMC Early Careerists, what would it be?

Unlike some civilian organizations, we are held to a higher standard, we are expected to back fill the military as they deploy, and we are held accountable for what we do and how we do it. As part of government FM, we are a small piece of something much bigger, and there is an indescribable internal ethic that drive you to be better! The professional development offered through ASMC provides an opportunity to grow not only in your FM growth but in your personal life, as you meet people that mentor you and people you mentor. And put more money in your TSP!

President's Message continued from Page I

Networking isn't a means to claw one's way to the top, but rather an instrument to foster growth and human connection. Your Utah Chapter is hosting its annual Regional Professional Development Institute month, an event in which hundreds of our colleagues from Hill Air Force Base, the Utah Air National Guard, and even some from neighboring states will participate. We have speakers from our industry leaders eager to share their knowledge with you. Take advantage of this opportunity and meet a few new people who may possibly assist you in unleashing the power of your network!







Col Kieran Keelty, 748 SCMG/CC Crystal Toupin, President-Elect 8 January 2020