



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Huntsville Center Contracting graduates four interns

By Debra Valine

During a town hall meeting Aug. 19, four Center Contracting interns received certificates marking the completion of their three-year intern program.

John Mayes, director, Center Contracting, John Teetsov, Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting-Winchester, and Lynn Harper, deputy PARC, presented the certificates to Marta Anerton, Richard Locklair, Jordan Miller and Kenneth Salter.

Employees marking service milestones and others receiving their contracting officer warrant certificates were also recognized.

The intern program prepares individuals to assume positions as journeymen contracting specialists. Interns are given the opportunity to gain experience through on-the-job training and formal classroom training. They are rotated through different teams within the Contracting Directorate to add meaningful skills related to the procurement of services, supplies, construction, oversight and policy, and pre-award functions.

In some cases, they were also afforded the opportunity to fulfill rotational assignments outside of Huntsville Center at Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other districts.

Upon completion of the program, each individual has obtained Level 2 Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act certification in Contracting.

“We want to make sure you are trained up so that when you graduate, you will be able to complete procurements from start to finish,” Mayes said. “You will be able to award a real procurement; it is more than a task order.”

“The intern program is one of the ways we try to enhance our work force with innovative new minds,” said Lillian Fox, the intern program coordinator.

“We take the time to train them up to become journeyman procurement people. People form impressions using the power of three 10s: people make an assessment from 10 feet away, again at 10 inches away, and finally people formulate their overall impression of you based on the first 10 words that come out of your mouth,” Fox said.

“These four interns fulfilled that first impression through their hard work and dedication over the three-year internship.”

To be eligible for the intern program, candidates must have a bachelor’s degree in any discipline, 24 hours in business-related courses such as accounting, finance, management, economics, marketing, contract law, higher level mathematics such as calculus, etc., and a 2.5 GPA.

“This is the third formal intern graduation,” Fox said. “Prior to these four individuals we have graduated seven personnel. In 2009, there were three graduates. In 2010, we graduated four. The four this year makes 11. We have 33 remaining interns within Contracting.”

Anerton started in the administrative career while working on her bachelor’s degree and transitioned to an intern position upon completion of the degree. She has worked on the Pre-Award, Center Support and Energy teams. She currently supports Planning and Programming, Ranges and Military Construction.

During her time as an intern, Anerton assisted with the implementation of the Quality Management System for Mayes and Mr. Kim Denver, director, National Contracting Command. She was 100 percent accurate with the government purchase card on contract actions with no interest and a zero balance each month. She wrote work instructions for the Business Operations Branch, Utilizing Reverse Auction Contracting.

Anerton also attended the annual Society of American Military Engineers conference, received a Commander’s Coin for above and beyond customer service, participated in seven Source Selection Boards, and received accolades from instructors for professionalism displayed while a Corps intern.

Locklair interned with the Furniture and Electronic Security Systems teams. He currently supports the Medical Repair and Renewal Program.

While an intern, Locklair completed all classes for Level 3 DAWIA Certification, and displayed a great deal of flexibility by working for nine different contracting officers.

“He jokingly boasts that he did so without causing any of them to lose their warrants or go to jail,” Fox said.

Locklair also won “CT’s Got Talent” for a creative poem recited by his alter ego named BO CEFMS, and played on the championship volleyball team “Contract Killers” at the annual awards day picnic.

Miller started as a SCEP student (PD2 System Administrator functions and Business Operations Branch responsibilities) in 2005.

Miller was part of the Business Operations Branch and Facilities Reduction Program while an intern and was also the first to serve as the special projects officer.

He completed rotational assignments at Headquarters, USACE, Baltimore District and Fort Lee, Va. He currently supports the Business Operations Branch.

Miller led the initiative to implement the Paperless Contract File System across the National Contracting Organization.

He was recognized as the Intern of the Year across the NCO at the 2011 Excellence in Contracting Awards Program. He was a component of the improvement initiatives at the Baltimore District.

He established the foundation for the Special Projects Officer position and the CT Future Leadership Program, which provides a single intern with opportunities to lead and interface with senior management for a period of one year.

Salter completed the intern program by working with the Files Room, Business Operations Branch, Center Support and the Furniture teams.

He currently works with the Facilities Reduction Program awarding task orders off of multiple award task order contracts and single award task order contracts.

Salter proved himself during the intern program by his ability to survive the Furniture Teams’ heavy workload.

He saved government resources (time and money) on the Furniture team by initiating process improvements such as posting solicitation information on an FTP site rather than disseminating that information via overnight mail. The process was readily implemented by the Furniture Team.

Salter completed a two-week developmental assignment to Washington, represented the government on site visits for the FRP and Pre-Award teams, and exercised options for the FRP team.

“Some people say three years as an intern and you still need some seasoning,” Locklair said as he presented his fellow graduates with a bottle of Tabasco Sauce.

“Some people still need seasoning after 30 years. I say if you have been at Huntsville Center for one year and have lived through year-end, you are seasoned.”

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