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SPOTLIGHT: REFLECT AND APPRECIATE YOUR PERSONAL JOURNEY— THEN PRESS ON

by Maj March Seregon, HQ AMC/FMAO

As I share a snapshot of my story, one word that resonates is **perseverance**. My goal was always to command a team of Airmen and the topic of finance had a gravitational pull on me. Now as a Financial Management Leadership Program (FMLP) officer working at Headquarters Air Material Command Financial Management (HQ AMC/FM), it is humbling to reflect on where my Air Force journey began over 19 years ago.

The story begins in 2003 with a kid who just graduated high school thinking to himself “what’s next?” Later that summer, my friend Thomas said, “You should just join the AF with me.” A few months later, I was an Airman Basic at Basic Military Training (BMT) embarking on a 4-year enlistment. I believe there are a handful of defining moments that come in one’s life and the decision, though small it may seem at the time, can have lasting effects. This was one of those moments.

The structure of the military was an instant fit; furthermore, with 9/11 fresh in my mind, it provided a sense of purpose and belonging to a higher calling—our nation’s defense. Throughout my enlistment as a maintenance troop, I attended a local community college during my off-duty time. Then, I applied for an Air Force Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) program and was selected by the University of Southern California’s Detachment 60. During my time as an enlisted troop and in ROTC, I envisioned a career as an officer leading Airmen, to make a difference for those who may share a similar pathway as I. However, after discussions with my commander, I decided to compete for one of the limited pilot candidate spots.

Upon commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in December of 2009, I journeyed to Laughlin Air Force Base (AFB), Texas, to begin undergraduate pilot training. After earning my pilot wings



Maj March Seregon's final T-6 flight while assigned to Laughlin AFB, TX; pictured are his children, as they meet him after he lands in Uvalde, TX (Photo Credit: Ms. Christina Seregon, June 2020)

SPOTLIGHT: REFLECT AND APPRECIATE YOUR PERSONAL JOURNEY—THEN PRESS ON *(cont.)*



in 2011, I spent most of 2012 in Afghanistan flying intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions as the pilot of an MC-12W. This experience was a monumental point early in my aviation career, as we provided overwatch to our forces and coalition partners on the ground, I felt a sense of pride and fellowship.

In 2013, I transitioned to the C-17A where I flew mobility missions for the next two years. Flying mobility enabled me to travel constantly and see new places, but, for me, I felt something was missing. My wife, Christina, was a great support system and through our conversations, I realized that Lieutenant Seregon was missing what “Senior Airman Seregon” had set out to do, which was to lead Airmen. In that moment in 2014, as I reflected, I realized where I aspired to go with my career. This vision provided much needed clarity. Fortunately, I was selected for instructor pilot duty in the T-6A and returned to Laughlin AFB, where I was able to lead our next wave of aviators.

While at Laughlin AFB, I learned about the Financial Management Leadership Program (FMLP) via a MyPers email in 2018. Vividly, I recall the excitement of applying and the responses from a few pilot colleagues. Many questioned my desired path and a few suggested that I don’t pursue FM and to instead focus on returning to my major weapons system. Blocking out the negativity, I applied anyway; however, I was not selected. Undeterred, I applied again the following year, where I was again not selected for the program. At this point, it was almost time for my next Permanent Change of Station (PCS) and my commander suggested that my best option might be to return to my airframe, that a non-traditional career path was improbable. Fortunately, I was as stubborn as ever and determined that leading Airmen was my calling. Christina’s support was equally important. She made it clear that she and our kids (then two and three years old) were 100% supportive of any decision I made. I scoured **MyVector** seeking leadership opportunities, when I stumbled across a position that stood out to me: Director, Contingency Response Formal Training Unit. The commander, then—Lt Col Nathan Bump, shared my passion for leadership. He advocated for and took a chance on getting me hired despite my lack of contingency response experience. The job was exactly what I needed. In an instant, I was responsible for leading operations for more than 200 Airmen, enabling me to hone my leadership style through practical application. Furthermore, by being at the United States Air Force Expeditionary Center (USAF EC), I gained a greater insight into the higher-level strategic objectives by being plugged into Agile Combat Employment, multi-capable Airmen, and the USAF Expeditionary Operations School’s (EOS) training missions. Overall, the assignment was a blessing as all the practical application, mentorship, and exposure to strategic objectives enabled me to expand a vital toolbox—my leadership toolbox.


After a year at the USAF EC, I began thinking about the FMLP again and potentially giving it one last shot. This time my environment was amazing, my entire leadership chain supported the vision I possessed for my career and valued what I could bring to the fight as a squadron commander. Luckily, the FM career field boasts several rockstars, and I had kept in touch with one of them, then—Maj Lisa Kempker who was on the FM Officer Assignment Team when I first applied. Lisa put me



Maj Seregon and his family at his farewell from the USAF Expeditionary Center, NJ in June 2022

SPOTLIGHT: REFLECT AND APPRECIATE YOUR PERSONAL JOURNEY—THEN PRESS ON *(cont.)*



in touch with an FM senior leader who provided great mentorship and feedback. In 2021, I submitted my application... “one last time” and I was selected! I guess the saying is true, “Third time’s a charm.” What is also true though, is the fact that it is important to never give up on your dreams and to keep fighting each day because “today might be the day.” The amazing crew at HQ AMC/FM have been wonderful to work with and learn from so far. I’m excited to continue to learn and to compete for a summer of 2024 squadron command position. Anyone reading this article, don’t hesitate to reach out via email if I can be of any assistance to you or your team. 

About the Author

Maj March “NASCAR” Seregon is an instructor pilot who was selected for the prestigious Financial Management Leadership Program, and as part of this fellowship, he is currently serving as a Command Budget Analyst for Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, IL.

Mr. Richard Weathers, Thank you.

"RETIREMENT IS NOT THE END OF THE ROAD. IT IS THE BEGINNING OF THE OPEN HIGHWAY." - UNKNOWN

After 44 years of combined federal government service, Mr. Richard Weathers has decided to retire and set his sights on continued community service and spending more time with his family.

Mr. Richard “Rich” Weathers culminates his career as the Associate Director, Financial Management and Comptroller Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. A natural born leader, Mr. Weathers fulfilled leadership roles while serving in the military from 1976-2006 and continued to lead as a civilian from 2009 to present. During his military career, Mr. Weathers served at all echelons of command and finished his military career as the first Wing Commander at the 38th Combat Support Wing in Ramstein Germany. As a civilian, Mr. Weathers’ jobs ranged from Senior Financial Advisor to Senior Advisor to the Commander.

From the beginning, Mr. Weathers remained committed to the professional and personal development of others. He chaired the Civilian Corporate Board and promotion panels for senior civilian positions within Air Force Network Integration Center and orchestrated civilian professional development and professional education boards to include a myriad of Profession Military Education training opportunities, promotions, and hirings. Mr. Weathers has made a huge impact on the Financial Management community, while serving as a leader, mentor, coach, and advisor.

We wish Mr. Weathers all the best as he continues to devote time to his wife, Osepia, his children, grandchildren, and the community. **Mr. Weathers, thank you for a job extremely well done. We are grateful for your contributions to our people and our community.**

About the Author

1Lt Hannah Murray is the Executive Officer to the Director, Financial Management and Comptroller, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, IL.



Mr. Richard Weathers retirement

This Bot is FIAR

by Mr. Kenn Bowens, Mr. Chance Glascock, Ms. Caroline Lamz, Mr. Michael Wertz, and Ms. Sara Connolly-Somich, SpOC



Move over, ChatGPT, there's a new bot in town.


The Headquarters Space Operations Command (HQ SpOC) Financial Operations and Accounting Team has implemented a new Robotic Process Automation (RPA) bot to provide oversight and monitoring controls in the Department of the Air Force (DAF) accounting system. As a result, the bot supports accurate financial records, good stewardship, and the Financial Improvement and Audit Remediation (FIAR) compliance efforts.

The HQ SpOC Financial Operations and Accounting Team developed the bot when trying to solve a complex problem: residual balances in the accounting system that had

remained on the books even when closed in the contracting system. If contracts were not manually closed/de-obligated in the accounting system, they appeared as open and active. Active contracts with remaining dollar values or zero-dollar values create major inaccuracies within the accounting system. Thus, contract statuses were not always accurately reflected in the accounting system. An aged contract past the appropriation lifecycle still reflected in the accounting system records presents an audit compliance issue. The bot resolved many of these issues. Its automation is more efficient, accurate, and supports FIAR.

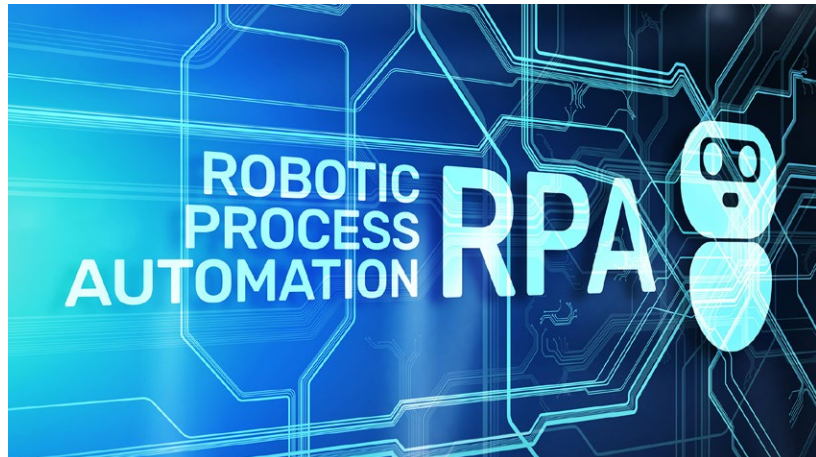
The new bot improves the existing process. It is much more efficient than the manual method of reviewing SpOC contracts. From September 2018 to present, 927 SpOC contracts were reviewed manually. Since the bot's testing stage began in June 2022, the bot has reviewed over 5K SpOC contracts. Once a contract is closed in the contracting system, the contracting officer electronically uploads a Department of Defense (DD) Form 1594, *Contract Completion Statement*, into Electronic Data Access (EDA). However, the DD Form 1594 doesn't always close residual balances in the accounting system. This bot has potential to be scalable throughout the DAF and DoD with an adjustment to what is the equivalent of an Air Force site code. The bot searches document numbers (standard throughout DoD) and uses EDA and Wide Area Workflow within the Procurement Integrated Enterprise Environment. A subject matter expert (SME) triggers the bot which automates repetitive, manual activities and mimics actions performed on a desktop or browser, such as mouse clicks. It records and plays back these actions in real time. Even better, the bot does not disrupt underlying systems because the bot works on the presentation layer of existing applications. The bot also provides an audit trail, making it easy to monitor progress and resolve issues more quickly.

Developing the RPA bot required intensive research. The contract SME worked with the Air Force District of Washington, Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management Operations, and Air Force Financial Systems Office Digital Management Automation System team at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, to build the bot and embed it within the existing process to identify closed contracts never reconciled in the accounting system. The bot even highlighted additional discrepancies in the accounting system, though process completion continues to be dependent on the Defense Finance and Accounting Service de-obligating lines of accounting.

The bot can be programmed to follow specific workflows and rules, thereby reducing human error, particularly around work that requires accuracy and compliance, like regulatory standards. By taking on these tasks, the bot can free up the bandwidth of its human teammates so they may focus on higher-value analysis work across the organization, increasing overall productivity. For more information on this process, please contact **Mr. Chance Glascock**. 

About the Authors

Mr. Kenn Bowens, Mr. Chance Glascock, Ms. Caroline Lamz, Mr. Michael Wertz, and Ms. Sara Connolly-Somich work in the Headquarters Space Operations Command, Resource Management and Special Programs Directorate, Financial Operations Division (HQ SpOC/DCG-S/S8F) at Peterson Space Force Base, CO.





Enhancing and Advancing Your Civilian Career through a Career Broadening Assignment

by Ms. Helen King, AFPC

GOAL
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Have you heard of the Financial Management (FM) Career Broadening Program?

The Career Broadening Program is a 36-month program that allows participants to build functional competencies, leadership, and strategic perspective outside their typical career path and allows leadership a way to guide individuals into experiential, growth-oriented assignments. The positions are centrally managed by the Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC) and administered by the FM Career Field Team (CFT). As a former career broadener myself, I think every FMer should complete a career broadening assignment once in their career. But don't just take my word for it!

I sat down with former career broadeners to capture their thoughts on this unique opportunity and career experiences.

Adam Bruya: Civilian Pay Analyst for United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM), Scott Air Force Base, Illinois

S. Nicole James: Engine Room Team Lead, Headquarters Air Combat Command/FM Analysis (HQ ACC/FMA) Joint Base (JB) Langley-Eustis, Virginia

Jennifer Sherbert: FM Specialist, Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center/Resource Management Directorate Operations Branch (AFIMSC/RMC) JB San Antonio (JBSA)-Lackland, Texas



PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT YOUR CAREER BROADENING ASSIGNMENT. WHAT WAS THE POSITION TITLE, LOCATION, AND ASSIGNMENT TIMEFRAME?

A ADAM: I was a Career Field Administrator for the FM CFT at AFPC JBSA-Randolph, Texas. I supported Force Development programs and Human Resource (HR) actions from August 2019 to May 2022.

NICOLE: My career broadening assignment was at HQ ACC/FMA as a Budget Analyst from November 2019 until July 2022. I spent 18 months in the Engine Room and a little over a year in Funds Control.

JENNIFER: I served as a JBSA/AFIMSC FM Specialist from July 2018-July 2020. I worked on the Travel Team of Resource Management Directorate Financial Support Branch and then on the Quality Assurance team.

DID YOU COMPLETE ANY SPECIALIZED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES OR WORK ON SPECIAL PROJECTS WHILE SERVING IN YOUR CAREER BROADENING POSITION?

A ADAM: I attended the Developing a Team Leader course and completed my HR Certification Level 1. I was also part of the testing team for MyVector to improve processes for the rollout of the annual Civilian Development call.

NICOLE: I happened to be in the "right place at the right time" to help transition ACC from the Air Force Budget Execution Analysis Tool to FMSuite 2.0. I attended training with Secretary of the Air Force (SAF) systems experts in early 2020 and the drafted ACC's plan for how to use the new system. I worked with ACC wing and tenant units to provide their analysts system access, coordinated SAF-led training, and gathered ACC-specific requirements for the

Enhancing and Advancing Your Civilian Career through a Career Broadening Assignment *(cont.)*



requirements build. I also worked with Air Staff analysts at the major command (MAJCOM) level to complete our Execution Plan Budget Obligations Governing Execution Year (also known as BOGEY) spread across the wing- and directorate-level requirements. It was a massive undertaking and required constant communication amongst the SAF systems team, the MAJCOM directorates, the ACC/FMA analysts, and the wing-level analysts. However, it was incredibly rewarding and laid the groundwork for a successful Fiscal Year 2021 execution year for ACC.

JENNIFER: During my tenure, I was fortunate to be a part of a special project that was looking at technology to automate computation of Permanent Change of Station vouchers. I was also part of a planning committee for the Financial Services Office conference.

HOW HAS YOUR CAREER BROADENING ASSIGNMENT INFLUENCED YOUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAREER?

A **ADAM:** Ever since I started my civilian career, I had heard about the Career Broadening Program, but once I came to the CFT, my eyes were opened to all the opportunities available to civilians to develop and grow in their careers. Now, I share my career journey with those around me and encourage them to take advantage of this amazing opportunity.

NICOLE: In 2019 when I arrived at ACC from the budget office at Hill Air Force Base under Air Force Materiel Command, I thought I knew a lot about being a budget analyst. My eyes were opened very quickly, and I realized, in the grand scheme of things, just how small my expertise was. As far as my development and career goes, I am even more in love with being a budget analyst than I was before. I have expanded my knowledge and experiences and still believe I am in the right career field. Further—I love teaching others what I have learned. And now that I am a team lead and supervisor, I want to continue to develop those in my circle of influence in any way I can. I am not sure where my career will take me next, but I look forward to future challenges and know that I can be successful even if it is learning something completely new in this vast finance career field.

JENNIFER: Although I did not get to rotate as much as I would have liked into different FM sections, I was able to network and work with different teams and support various functions such as the Mission Support Group summit and Installation and Mission Support Weapons and Tactics conference. I was also able to outpace at two years and secure a permanent position on the Quality Assurance team at AFIMSC.

WHAT IS ONE PIECE OF ADVICE YOU WOULD OFFER TO SOMEONE INTERESTED IN PURSUING A CAREER BROADENING ASSIGNMENT OR RECENTLY STARTING ONE?

A **ADAM:** For someone interested in the Career Broadening Program, **I say jump in and go for it!** Don't let fear hold you back because it is a wonderful experience. If you are just starting your career broadening assignment, keep in mind it is a developmental program, so it is common to not know everything right away. Just be a sponge and take it all in.

NICOLE: Go in with an open mind! **Dig in, try and learn on your own, and ask as many questions as you can.** Never be ashamed of not knowing something if you are putting in the effort to learn.

JENNIFER: Talk to as many people as possible, ask if there is a training plan available so you know what to expect and what different sections you will get exposure to. Volunteer for projects and ask for more work if you feel like you are not really progressing in your learning. **Keep an open mind and be flexible.**

Want to learn more about the FM Career Broadening Program? You can find out more, including our estimated future hiring plans, at the following links at the [myPers website](#) and [FM CFT milsuite page](#). 

About the Author

Ms. Helen King is a Career Field Administrator on the Civilian Financial Management Career Field Team, at the Air Force Personnel Center Joint-base San Antonio-Randolph, TX.



DEAMS VISION: The Next Transaction

by Mr. Todd Baker, DEAMS FMO

The Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System (DEAMS) vision is “The Next Transaction... continue to increase the use of DEAMS by providing the procedures, functionality, and training to accurately process the Air Force’s next financial transaction.”

The DEAMS Functional Management Office (FMO) Deployment and Training and Agile Development Teams continue to turn vision into reality.

DEPLOYMENT AND TRAINING TEAM

With both formal and on-the-job training completed for most Pacific Air Forces “West” bases in February, the Deployment and Training Team has only two more locations to visit to complete Air Force-wide training for miscellaneous payments processing. When the team completes training to the Republic of Korea in April 2023 for users at Osan and Kunsan Air Bases, they will conclude a three-year effort, reaching approximately 3K users at more than 170 locations.

Basic Miscellaneous Payments training is offered virtually monthly via Teams to anyone new to the process. For seasoned professionals interested in brushing up their skills, the quarterly virtual Miscellaneous Payments Experienced User courses are offered

over the course of 4 days, 1100-1300 EST each day, with a different topic daily. Class schedules can be found on the [Financial Management Systems Training Calendar](#).

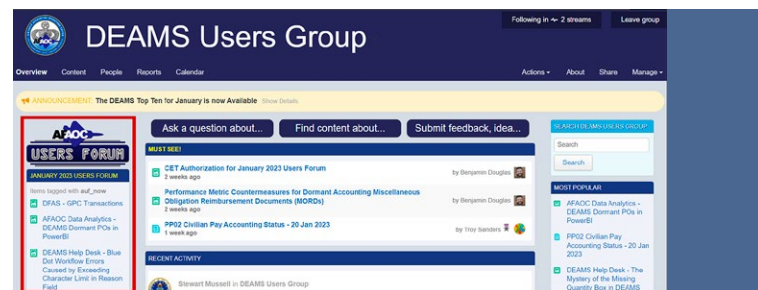
The team recently began deploying DEAMS to users at the United States Space Force’s Space Development Agency (SDA) in the National Capitol Region. Using a blend of on-site training, followed by dedicated virtual support, the team will return to the SDA in March to support their new users. This deployment is expected to increase the total obligations in DEAMS for Fiscal Year 2023 by \$1B.

The Air National Guard pilot program to transition open obligations from the General Accounting and Finance System (GAFS) and the Integrated Accounts Payable System (IAPS) to DEAMS continues to make progress. The team reviewed processes for Government Purchase Cards (GPC), Military Interdepartmental Purchase Requests, Miscellaneous Obligation Reimbursement Documents, and Contract processes, and developed standardized training plans and checklists. These efforts resulted in the definition of standardized, repeatable processes to be applied across all commands, which will in turn drive consistent results as remaining legacy transactions are transitioned to DEAMS.

AGILE DEVELOPMENT: TREASURY DIRECT DISBURSING

DEAMS will enable Treasury Direct Disbursing (TDD) payments for the remaining pool of domestic vendors on 18-19 February 2023. DEAMS Users who process miscellaneous payments for United States Dollar Vendor Pay transactions will see a difference in the Payment Method field in DEAMS. GPC, Household Freight, and Commercial Airlift payments have already been enabled and are successfully processing with TDD.

When this system release becomes active, the [Payment Method](#) field in DEAMS will show either “Electronic” or “Check” based on the supplier code. Users should not alter this text unless they are processing another type of payment



DEAMS User Group front page




DEAMS VISION: The Next Transaction *(cont.)*

(i.e., Standard Form (SF) 1081, local manual, etc.). Manual intervention by Defense Finance and Accounting Service will be required to process payments if the field is incorrectly changed.

Also note, the **Pay Group** field will now auto populate based on account type. As with the **Payment Method** field, do not alter this text unless you are processing another type of payment (i.e., SF 1081, local manual, etc.).

This update does not impact base-level disbursing operations (i.e., Cashier Cage).

DEAMS job aids and training materials have been and continue to be updated to reflect these changes. For more information on the TDD process and previously released capabilities, refer to the DEAMS system release notes **20220619_Release_R11.1** and **20220718_Release_R10_4&R11.1.2** on the **DEAMS Outreach Portal**.

Additional details and messaging on TDD will be published in the **DEAMS Users Group**, on the **DEAMS Outreach Portal**, and on other communication channels. Please email questions or comments on this article to the **DEAMS Strategic Communications Team**, or post them on the **DEAMS Users Group**. 

Are You Taking Advantage of the AFAOC Monthly Users Forum?

by Ms. Jeannette Beer, AFAOC

Imagine a magical service delivering timely, relevant financial management (FM) systems information and education just a few clicks away and available within your schedule. Sounds nice, right? Luckily, Air Force Accounting Operations Center has you covered with the Monthly Users Forum in the **DEAMS Users Group on milBook!** Maybe this is the first you've heard of these forums, or you're already aware of them and could use a refresher—either way, there's something here for everyone to enhance your daily Air Force FM systems operations.

WHAT IS THE USERS FORUM?

Here's the formal description from the **AFAOC Monthly Users Forum Fact Sheet**: "AFAOC Users Forums provide useful information on trending Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System (DEAMS) and legacy FM Systems topics each month, developed by subject matter experts (SMEs), and delivered in video or blog format. Users have the flexibility to review materials at their own pace, on their own schedule, and can ask questions in the DEAMS Users Group, or formulate questions to ask during dedicated live discussion sessions."

So, what does all that mean? That means that every month* our AFAOC teams, along with our partners at Defense Finance Accounting Service, provide in-depth, digestible content you can apply to DEAMS and legacy FM systems. The videos and blog posts share process walkthroughs, step-by-step instructions, tips, tricks, and breaking updates, with the option to ask questions, provide feedback, and crowd-source with your FM peers. If you're more of the teleconference type, we also provide live Question and Answer calls using Microsoft Teams where you can speak directly with our SMEs to get the answers you need.





Are You Taking Advantage of the AFAOC Monthly Users Forum? (*cont.*)

Did I mention you can earn Continuing Education and Training (CET) credits by reviewing all the material for any given month? That's right, just review each post that month and fill out the CET Authorization Form to earn CET(s).

WHAT KIND OF TOPICS ARE COVERED?

Our SMEs cover a wide range of topics applicable to legacy and DEAMS users, from FM Suite, LeaveWeb, Government Purchase Card (GPC) transactions, Reimbursements, Journal Vouchers, Reports, and so much more. Let's look at a couple of the posts that have recently been receiving the most attention.

- **Advana Support** – The AFAOC Legacy Help Desk shows how they can **add roles to users' existing accounts in Advana**.
- **DEAMS Dormant Purchase Orders (POs) in the Data Analytics PowerBI Application** – Mr. Josh Johnson, AFAOC Data Analytics, **walks through the DEAMS Dormant POs module in Microsoft Power Business Intelligence (PowerBI)** for customers to review and validate Dormant Miscellaneous Obligation Reimbursement Documents (MORDs) set for systemic deobligation. For more information on this process, refer to the January 2023 issue of this newsletter or visit the **DEAMS Outreach Portal**.
- **GPC Reallocations** – Ms. Brandy Dickinson, AFAOC Field Support, provides an overview on **how to identify and research errored GPC reallocations in DEAMS** including validation checks, how to locate errors, the most frequent errors, and systems used during research.

Of course, that's only a small smattering of what's available with these Users Forums. Visit the **DEAMS Users Group** regularly for more...more topics, more content, and more assistance!

* To clarify, that's *almost* every month. We take a break for Fiscal Year End closeout in September and the holidays in December. 

AFIPPS Update

by Ms. Gwendolyn Boyson, SAF/FMF

The tremendous efforts of our Air Force Integrated Personnel and Pay System (AFIPPS) team continue during the Payroll Reconciliation Testing (PRT) phase of the AFIPPS program. PRT working groups meet daily to

discuss progress and corrective actions required for handling identified issues. The AFIPPS Integrated Test Team holds monthly meetings to assess issues that were found and fixed during the PRT, which places AFIPPS in a better position for the Qualification Test and Evaluation phase.


One effort the AFIPPS team is currently focused on is costing validation, more specifically, identifying variances or missed lines of accounting. Service components have provided costing information for earnings, deductions, employer liabilities, and for balancing lines of accounting. This information has been reviewed and validated for Standard Financial Information





AFIPPS Update *(cont.)*

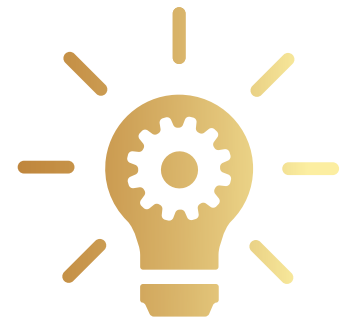
Structure compliance. While this data remains behind the scenes it is very important for budget, accounting, program managers, reporting, and interface partner purposes.

In addition to the costing validation, the AFIPPS team is working to incorporate the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) system requirement changes, as per Departments of Defense and Air Force guidance, into the requirements being worked by our system integrator. These changes include new leave types and Basic Needs Allowance. Additionally, the AFIPPS team has already received the FY23 NDAA and is reviewing it to determine what new requirements are needed. With these changes, we will ensure AFIPPS is aligned with and up to date with the most recent Personnel and Military Pay policies when the system goes live in January 2025. 

Resource Training Center (RTC) Update

The RTC's recent updates are listed below:

FMF Critical Task List - This new daily reporting tool was created for comptroller squadron (CPTS)-level Financial Management Financial Operations (FMF) offices. This Microsoft Excel “app” uses multiple technologies to create 9 FMF reports (e.g., Station Gains, Assignment Mismatches, Open Payments, etc.). This app saves the daily annotations and notes made by financial management (FM) technicians as they work their reports. As data is refreshed, notes are saved in the app, allowing technicians to manage and track work in a single spreadsheet.




Units should watch the [tutorial video](#) to assist with implementation and change management activities.

Comptroller Access Guide (CAG) - Dual Access Roster - This new product/tool enables Quality Assurance Managers (QAM) to track system accesses of comptroller personnel. QAMs can work with their Terminal Area Security Officer to ensure all system accesses are properly documented, justified, and approved. Specifically, this satisfies #1.06 of the Quality Assurance Management Internal Control Toolkit (MICT) checklist.

Leave Recon Tool - This revised tool incorporates the 19 January 2023 LeaveWeb system update. CPTS users will need to redownload this tool to capture the updates. App updates and notifications are always published on the FICS 2.0 homepage.

Robotic Process Automation (RPA) Webpage - Looking for a list of all FM bots with a brief description? As the FM RPA Center of Excellence (CoE), Digital Management Automation System develops and sustains FM bots. Use the new RPA Webpage to explore their portfolio of 39 bots using three filters: Development Status, Systems Involved, and Operational Level.

MICT Search Function - Search the portfolio of on-the-job training and tools by mapping products to the 11 base-level MICT checklists. Use the “MICT Checklist” dropdown filter to find training and tools. 



Ready, Set, GROW!

Get a head start on your 2023 Continuing Education and Training (CET) requirements! Check out the resources below for ways to get your CET credits.

- myLearning: <https://lms-jets.cce.af.mil/>
- Skillport/e-Learning: <https://usafprod.skillport.com>
- JKO: <https://jkodirect.jten.mil/Atlas2/page/desktop/DesktopHome.jsf>
- FICS including MAAWS: <https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/FICS>
- myFMHub Spotlights: <https://www.myfmhub.hq.af.mil/index.cfm?event=spotlights>
- Becker CPE: <https://www.becker.com/us-airforce>



Upcoming Training Opportunities



AIR FORCE INSTITUTE FOR TECHNOLOGY

DAS 101 - Introduction to Data Analytics

Details: This course provides Airmen with an introduction to data analytic terms and concepts. Students are shown how to acquire data, conduct basic analysis, and leverage data to better inform data-driven decision making.

Enrollment Information: Click [here](#) for registration information.

DAS 201 - Fundamentals of Data Analytics

Date: Start in March 2023

Details: Designed for Air Force personnel as a foundational hands-on course, students use data analytics to solve case-based problems in a laboratory environment. Students will gain a basic understanding of conducting statistical analysis using Microsoft Excel and study several representative case studies use data analytics to describe, diagnose, and predict various operations management challenges.

Enrollment Information: Click [here](#) for registration information.

Primary Audience: E5 - E9, O1-O5, and GS-05 - GS-14 (or equivalent)

DEFENSE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (DRMI)

Introduction to Budgeting Concepts

Date: 5 March 2023 - 17 March 2023

Details: Participants develop an understanding of public budgeting best practices, how the execution phase of a resources management system should link to strategic plans, and actions and outputs required to successfully formulate, execute, and evaluate budgets.

Primary Audience: E5 - E9, O1-O5, and GS-09 - GS-15 (or equivalent)

Additional Information: Click [here](#) for DRMI's Course area.

Check out more training opportunities at [myFMHub](#).