

## Naval Acquisition Development Program participants cross finish line

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Naval Acquisition Development Program graduates David Regan, John Austerman, Curtis Brooks and Robert Anderson are flanked on the left by Stephanie Souders, Naval Acquisition Development Program (AIR-6.0C) functional manager; and on the right by Toni L. Meier Logistics Management Integration (AIR 6.6) director; Roy Harris, Aviation Readiness and Resource Analysis Department (AIR 6.8) director; and Tracy Moran, Industrial and Logistics Maintenance Planning/Sustainment Department (AIR 6.7) director. (U.S. Navy photo)

**NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND, PATUXENT RIVER, Md.** -- Four members from NAVAIR's Logistics and Industrial Operations (AIR 6.0) who successfully completed the Naval Acquisition Development Program (NADP) celebrated with a ceremony Sept. 17 in Building 446 at Naval Air Station Patuxent River.

The graduates - David Regan, John Austerman, Curtis Brooks and Robert Anderson - will now take their places as permanent NAVAIR/NAWCAD employees.

"These four should be proud to sit in the graduation seats," said Roy Harris, Aviation Readiness and Resource Analysis Department (AIR 6.8) director, who presided over the ceremony. "The program is not easy. It's challenging. You had to lean on senior people to help you get through the program, learn about the command and do your jobs. Now, because of all the things you have learned, you are the experts and the asset for others to tap into. You should be very proud of your accomplishments."

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The NADP participants said the program was indeed challenging but that having the right mentors at each one of their rotations made going through the program a great experience.

“Being at NAVAIR has become more of a family and not a job,” Anderson said. “Everyone is willing to mentor you, and everyone is willing to work with you.”

Created to promote the growth of entry-level professionals in finance, contracting, logistics, science and engineering, the NADP entry-level program is comprised of AIR 6.0 employees with no more than three years of experience in the Department of the Navy.

“The goal of the program is to provide a structured, systematic career development process that equips highly qualified and talented entry level employees with opportunities for rapid advancement, regular promotions, systematic development and career broadening assignments,” said Stephanie Souders, Naval Acquisition Development Program (AIR-6.0C) functional manager.

Currently, the NADP has 69 participants at Pax River and 142 nationally. Anderson, Austerman and Brooks have each accepted positions at Pax River. Regan will continue his NAVAIR career at Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, with the Joint Strike Fighter Program.

NADP does a lot of great things for the command, Harris said. “It allows us to pull people in from various backgrounds, and that is invaluable to the future of competency and this command. It gives us the ability to tap into college grads and also people with prior military service – like today’s graduates.”

For more information about the NADP, contact Stephanie Souders at 301-757-8416.