



2018 Annual Awards Program

Celebrating the Association's 23rd Anniversary

Recognizing

Excellence in Distance Learning

Awards Sponsor



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About the FGDLA

Vision. To be the premier professional Association supporting distance learning in the Federal Government

Purpose and Goals. The purpose of the Association is to promote the development and application of distance learning (DL) for education and training, primarily within the federal sector.

- **Facilitate** the exchange of information regarding the current application of and potential further uses for DL in the Federal Government.
- **Guide** the appropriate application of DL in the Federal Government through the sharing of best-practices, and fostering research in DL theory & practice.
- **Develop** opportunities for the Federal Government in partnering with industry and academia.
- **Lead** efforts to promote federal interagency cooperation and collaboration.
- **Advocate** the use of DL for training and education within the Federal Government, and provide recognition of outstanding achievements

History of the FGDLA. The FGDLA has a long and rich history with its roots originating at the 1993 TeleCon Conference and the parent organization, the United States Distance Learning Association, which granted the FGDLA charter in 1995. For the past two decades, the FGDLA has been a leading advocate of distance learning in the Federal Government.

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Individual Awards

Pillar Award: In recognition for outstanding service or significant contribution to the FGDLA by an individual not affiliated with the Federal Government.

Tony Bardo, Assistant Vice President, Government Solutions, Hughes Network Systems

Tony's long and distinguished service in supporting the Association's distance learning initiatives has been exemplary. Particularly, his enthusiastic and unrelenting support of the annual Government Learning & Technology Symposium exemplifies the spirit and ideals of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association.

Pioneer Award: In recognition of an individual for demonstrating initiative and leadership in the development and implementation of distance learning in the Federal Government.

Alan Schreck, Knowledge Management Officer, Army National Guard Business Transformation Office

Alan's implementation of distance learning and knowledge management tools throughout the Department of Defense (DoD) is well recognized. Specifically, his efforts resulted in a centralized suite of self-service learning technologies, an integral component of the learning solutions milSuite, the Defense Department's Enterprise Social Network.

Available to all DoD Common Access Card (CAC) users, milUniversity empowers trainers, teachers, and organizational leads to create online courses and present learning content in an organized, searchable format. Intended as complimentary capabilities, classrooms and libraries provide both the ability to deliver online courses that includes quizzing, tracking, and certification with a mechanism for storing learning materials and content for post training self-study.

Alan's continued efforts, professionalism, and enthusiastic support of distance learning supporting the Army National Guard embody the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association.

Hall of Fame: In recognition of an individual who has made significant contributions in promoting and developing distance learning supporting the Federal Government.

Paul Thurkettle, e-Learning Programme Manager, Allied Command Transformation, NATO

Since the creation of Allied Command Transformation in 2003 to support NATO's transformation into the future, Paul has led NATO in adopting technology for education and training. This was evidenced when he introduced a NATO-owned e-Learning delivery capability, as well as creating an online course production facility to support the NATO Command and Force Structure.

Pau's leadership in promoting distance learning was recognized when you became chair of the NATO Individual Training and Education Development working group, and the NATO Partnership for Peace Consortium Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) working group.

Over the years, Paul have greatly elevated the adoption and expansion of distance learning technology throughout NATO by organizing an annual e-Learning conference where best practices are discussed, demonstrated, and advocacy advice provided.

Paul's continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning for the Federal Government at NATO's Allied Command Transformation exemplifies the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association.

Organizational Awards

Innovation Award: In recognition of an organization for demonstrating excellence in the *innovative* use of technology in the development and delivery of distance learning in the Federal Government

***Executive and Organizational Development Leadership Institute,
Office of the Comptroller, Currency Leadership Institute,
U.S. Department of the Treasury***

The Office of the Comptroller (OCC) Continuous Leadership eXperience (CLX) program utilizes an innovative microlearning approach that supports engagement, reinforces effective leadership practices while enhancing learning agility.

Delivered using an innovative flexible calendar strategy, managers are empowered to engage in CLX, anywhere and anytime. This supports OCC's ongoing transformational culture shift, moving from a focus on technical expertise, to one that includes technical competence and leadership capability as a business imperative.

Results of this innovative microlearning strategy revealed 87% of the CLX recipients strengthened their leadership effectiveness, and 83% reinforced a familiar leadership topic to better perform their job by gaining a deeper understanding of leadership skills.

The Executive and Organizational Development Leadership Institute's continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning in the Federal Government exemplify the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association.

Distance Learning Team, Goddard Space Flight Center, NASA

The Distance Learning Team (DLT) at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center created an innovative distance learning strategy that encouraged the migration of traditional face-to-face classrooms to a distance learning environment.

Since NASA's customer base is unfamiliar with online learning, the DLT created a "Distance Learning Road Show" that eased the transition to a distance learning environment. With the launching of an online course entitled "Learning in a Digital

World", the DLT transformed a 2-week, traditional classroom course into a blending learning format. Through meticulous tracking of online registrations and activity, the result has been a thriving program supporting over 200 teachers actively engaged in NASA web seminars and asynchronous interactive activities in a distance learning environment.

The Goddard Space Flight Center Distance Learning Team's continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning in the Federal Government exemplify the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association.

Center for Development of Security Excellence, Defense Security Service

The Center for Development of Security Excellence (CDSE) was established within the Defense Security Service (DSS) and is the premier provider of security education, training, and certification for the Department of Defense (DoD), other federal agencies, and industry under the National Industrial Security Program (NISP).

Education and training are provided to customers through instructor-led courses and a variety of distance learning technologies. The CDSE innovative use of social media promotes their training and education distance learning products. Additionally, the CDSE utilized a variety of video-based media such as the CDSE YouTube Channel, Adobe Connect, and onsite classrooms to support their distance learning applications.

In of FY18, CDSE had over 1.4 million distance learning course completions, and their DoD customers completed, viewed, or downloaded CDSE training products 2,145,267 times.

The Center for Development of Security Excellence continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning in the Federal Government exemplify the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association

Video Production Team, Immunization Services Division, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Video Production Team (VPT) produces innovative video-based content supporting education and training for health care professionals providing immunization services in the United States. The videos are delivered across a variety of delivery platforms including on-demand self-study videos, videos embedded in e-learning modules, and interstitial videos for in-person training and education courses.

The team produced "enhanced videos" with embedded live links into the video allowing learners immediate access to relevant resources and job aids, including "visual articles", videos that bring scientific articles to life through sound and images. During 2017-2018, the team produced 10 videos across delivery platforms culminating in more than 50,000 health care professional receiving continuing education (CE) credit.

The Video Production Team,'s continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning in the Federal Government exemplify the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association

Office of Staff Learning and Development, Paul D. Coverdell Peace Corps Headquarters

The Office of Staff Learning and Development supports the goals of the Peace Corp by developing and delivering training for its worldwide volunteers in providing language training, cross-cultural training, health training, technical training, and safety and security training. To meet the demand of training Peace Corps volunteers in 140 countries, the Office of Staff Learning and Development developed an innovative, distance learning approach in managing its training requirements.

In March of 2018, the Peace Corps launched a new open source, Moodle-based Learning Management System (LMS). The project consisted of migrating two existing but separate Moodle systems into a single integrated LMS. This effort included securing Agency approval, changing service providers, hosting and migration of content, and integration of internal and external systems.

The Office of Staff Learning and Development's continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning in the Federal Government exemplify the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association

Five Star Award: In recognition of an organization for demonstrating excellence in providing enterprise wide distance learning solutions for the Federal Government

Self-Help Online Tutorials (SHOTs), Internal Revenue Service

Utilized existing learning technology to transform a culture shift to transform resources to a distance learning initiative, the Servicewide Self-Help Online Tutorial program (SHOTs) was created. The innovative SHOTs program was created by several organizations within the IRS including the Whistleblower Office, Information Technology, Human Capital Office, Appeals, and is part of the IRS Service wide Knowledge Management site.

The SHOTs program videos provides microlearning opportunities by sharing short 3 - 5 minute videos of instructional content over time that leads to sustain engagement, reinforcement of effective leadership practices, and enhanced learning agility.

The SHOTs program currently has over 170 videos encompassing 82,000 total views that are 508 compliant and tested thoroughly by usability testing groups. SHOTs videos are Closed Captioned, which is a feature of the application used to create SHOTs.

The IRS continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning in the Federal Government exemplify the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association.

***Enterprise Business Solutions, Office of the Chief Information Officer,
U.S. Department of the Treasury***

The Department of the Treasury Enterprise Business Solutions (EBS) Training team supports the Chief Information Office's mission to improve the efficiency and performance of the Department's information technology (IT) systems and business processes. The EBS Training team provides distance learning support to approximately 200,000 federal users of Treasury's systems and applications.

The EBS team uses a unique blended learning strategy that integrates both asynchronous and synchronous learning environments for their customers. Within this blended learning environment, the facilitator can employ a synchronous webinar supporting basic knowledge acquisition, demonstration videos, and hands-on use of the training database for participant exercise purposes. Similarly, when using an asynchronous online course or similar products, the learner has immediate access to videos, reference materials, as well as access to an onsite training database.

The Enterprise Business Solutions's continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning in the Federal Government exemplify the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association.

Cadet Assessment Event, Commandant of Cadets, U.S. Air Force Academy

The Air Force Academy launched their online learning programs two years ago through their cooperation with the Air Education and Training Command's Enterprise Blended Learning Service. During this time period, the USAFA launched hundreds of courses and training to the Academy staff on how to incorporate new instructional technology into their operation at USAFA using an enterprise-wide Learning Management System (LMS).

Prior to their new LMS, instructors were using different systems that resulted in redundancies and inefficiencies. Through a new consolidated LMS strategy, the efficiency of operations supporting the Academy's enterprise wide learning management system was significantly enhanced.

This enterprise LMS for USAFA helped take them into the future and drive innovation for all of their programs. Today they have over 4,000 cadets online, and are supporting hundreds of courses for both resident and nonresident programs.

The U.S. Air Force Academy's continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning in the Federal Government exemplify the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association.

***Supply Chain Management School, Veteran Affairs Acquisition Academy,
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs***

The Supply Chain Management School (SCMS) training supports Veterans Affairs breakthrough priority to modernize the supply chain through an expansive distance learning strategy. With a training methodology that has expanded from a traditional

classroom environment to distance-based learning, SCMS developed and delivered over 40 virtual course offerings in FY18, resulting in significant resource savings.

During FY 2018, SCMS has satisfied training and development requirements for more than 6,700 VA logisticians. Additionally, SCMS established a strategic partnership with Penn State University's Small College of Business to provide Supply Chain education that complements the VAAA Mission and Vision and provides VA supply chain students with the opportunity to obtain certified training.

The Supply Chain Management School's continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning in the Federal Government exemplify the spirit of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association.

Eagle Award: In recognition of an organization in the Federal Government that demonstrates unique leadership in serving the needs of the federal government distance learning community by providing advocacy, information, networking, and opportunity.

USALearning, U.S. Office of Personnel Management

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) USALearning is dedicated to transforming leaders to better serve the Federal Government through educational courses, certificate programs, and tailored solutions and technology systems. USALearning's innovative services are delivered through e-Learning and classroom settings, provided by USA Learning.

The USA Learning Program is an integral component of Center for Leadership Development. The Program Office offers a wide range of e-Learning products and services, as well as customizable learning management system implementations.

USA Learning supports the development of the federal workforce and advances the accomplishment of agency missions through simplified and one-stop access to high quality e-learning products, information, and services. The USA Learning program is the source for distance learning and online collaboration, and provides customized online learning solutions for federal employees at every career level.

The USALearning's continued efforts and enthusiastic support of distance learning in the Federal Government exemplify the spirit and ideal of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association.

