



American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC)

Report for Fiscal Year 2010-2011



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ABOUT ASMC

ASMC is the professional society of choice for DoD financial management professionals. The society was founded in 1948 in San Antonio Texas and has evolved to include all DoD and Coast Guard financial management personnel. The national headquarters in Alexandria Virginia serves a growing professional society comprised of accounting and finance, auditing, budgeting, comptrollership, cost analysis, information management, financial management, management analysis, manpower management program analysis, resource management and supporting activities. ASMC operates worldwide through a network of individual chapters and conducts a variety of training events each year.

MISSION

ASMC promotes the education and training of members of the Defense financial management community and supports the development and advancement of the profession of military comptroller ship. The society sponsors research, professional certification and provides programs to keep members abreast of current issues and encourages the exchange of best techniques and approaches.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 2010/2011 Years of Introspection and Innovation

ASMC is on the move! I am seeing many promising results from the initiatives that ASMC has undertaken. Last year we took action to increase the ASMC membership base, and by reaching out, we have risen to a membership level of 19,500, and we're growing! Last year we promised more and better training opportunities by capitalizing on emerging technologies. We have begun to accomplish this through an online version of the Armed Forces Comptroller journal and the creation of an ASMC Learning Center on our website and by an aggressive program of audio seminars priced within the means of all our chapters, all of which carry significant amounts of continuing professional education (CPE) credits.

We have continued the quest for quality education through the successful triennial review of the Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Course's college credit recommendations (both undergraduate and graduate levels) by the American Council on Education, and we have been favorably reviewed by the Defense Acquisition University. Finally, once again our Professional Development Institute (PDI) has been granted CPE credit for Certified Public Accountants under the auspices of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy.

Encouraging as these reflections are on the quality of ASMC's programs by these nationally recognized agencies, we must go further in our quest for quality training and education for our members. This past year the National Executive Committee commissioned a total management review of everything that ASMC does. This review included not only an in-depth look at the headquarters structure and operations and ASMC's existing programs but also a survey of chapter presidents and the membership at large. The survey results have been incorporated into a new ASMC strategic plan that will result in our being a more responsive and modern organization capable of growth and with enough flexibility to meet our members' needs and expectations. Details of the strategic plan are contained in this report. We have also been examining the ways we can increase the quality of the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) Certification Program from its excellent current state to a recognized, world-class program, with none better anywhere.

As always, I invite your thoughts both positive and negative. Please call me at (800) 462-5637, or email me at Tucker@asmconline.org any time. We will continue to make ASMC your professional organization of choice. Oh yes, stop by and pay a visit. The doors of 415 North Alfred Street Alexandria, Virginia, are always open.



Alvin Tucker
ASMC Executive Director

Alvin Tucker CDFM-A, CPA, CGFM
ASMC Executive Director



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2010-11

Professional Development Institutes 2010/2011

The major ASMC-sponsored professional development events each year are the national Professional Development Institutes (PDIs), which were conducted in Orlando, Florida, in 2010 and in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 2011. A number of pre-conference events were conducted, including CDFM certification review classes, computer skills classes, and a unique speed mentoring event attended by over 100. The military services and Defense Finance and Accounting Service each conducted a full day of training for their personnel, and over 100 technical workshops rounded out the week of training. In all, approximately 115,000 continuing professional education (CPE) credits were earned in each of the PDI's technical workshops. CPEs earned at the PDI are recognized by the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy as meeting the rigorous standards for the Certified Public Accountant continuing education requirement.

Armed Forces Comptroller Journal Online

Beginning with the Summer 2010 issue, ASMC members were able to sign in and read the journal online. This is a members-only benefit. The most recent four issues are now kept online and are complete with a quiz for which CPE credit is awarded upon successful completion.

ASMC Learning Center

In addition to the journal online is a video service that displays workshops from the last two PDIs. During each PDI, selected high-visibility workshops are videotaped for inclusion in the PDI online library. These are later edited and made available at no cost to ASMC members and others who could not attend the PDI or who wish to review or refresh their understanding of financial management matters. Many of these lectures have short examinations and can be used to satisfy requirements for CPE credits for a variety of financial management certifications.

Membership and Certification

Membership in the Society continued to grow throughout the year; the current total is over 19,500. This is an increase of about 1,500 members and is attributed to more timely follow-up enabled by ASMC's automated notification system and the convenience of a new online membership renewal process. The certification program also remained extremely active throughout the year. Activities included an in-depth review of all holders of the CDFM designation to ensure that only CDFMs who have actively maintained their current status are counted. Accompanying this review was the implementation of more stringent policies to ensure that CDFMs maintain their active status. Over 5,400 members now hold the basic CDFM, and over 1,000 members have earned the CDFM-A (Acquisition).

Certification-Related Training

Certification-related training during 2010-2011 included 126 centrally (DoD) funded Enhanced Defense Financial Management

Training Courses (EDFMTCs), 46 open-enrollment or client-sponsored courses, and 20 Module 4-Acquisition courses. The EDFMTCs are noteworthy, since they are given both in the Continental United States and overseas as needed. The course has been reviewed by teams of university professors on behalf of the American Council on Education and is recommended for three semester hours of academic credit at the upper-division baccalaureate level or at the graduate level, provided certain conditions are met. A new system of grading this course for the purpose of academic credit recommendations has been implemented. This is a strong endorsement of the quality and academic rigor of the course. Module 4-Acquisition is a two-day intensive review of Defense policy and procedures for major weapons system acquisition and provides a good overview of the field. The course has received excellent evaluation from participants and has an excellent track record in preparing candidates for the examination.

Certification CPE Audits

As in most certification programs, each CDFM has a requirement to complete at least 80 hours of continuing professional education every 24 months. When members renew their certificates, which is required every 24 months, they self-certify that they have completed an appropriate number of hours of CPE. ASMC headquarters selects approximately five percent of these for a detailed audit and requires members to submit documentary evidence of their accomplishments.

Chapter Websites

Having a presence on the web is becoming increasingly important to our ASMC chapters. ASMC headquarters is working with chapters to establish and maintain their own unique websites at no cost to the chapter. All chapters are given the structure for a basic home page and a page for leadership information. They may then supplement the site as desired.

Audio Courses

ASMC sponsored five audio courses this year. Audio courses are provided to chapters for a minimal fee to cover costs, and there is no limit on the number who can participate. Subject matter experts lecture through speaker phones, and charts are provided to chapters ahead of time to be shown during the lecture. There is always time left for questions from participants and points clarified. The subjects this year included budget status of the services, fiscal law, leadership, and chapter management. More than 4,200 persons participated.

Mini-PDIs

These are chapter and regional training events organized by chapters and supported by speakers from ASMC headquarters. Some are two- and even three-day events, but a majority are one-day in length. The major objective of mini-PDIs is to provide training opportunities for those who may not have been able to attend the national PDI. The mini-PDIs conducted overseas in Europe and in Hawaii for the Far East use many of the same subject matter experts as the national PDI and are extremely valuable in keeping those stationed in distant places current in their professional knowledge. In 2010, ASMC chapters conducted 38 mini-PDIs.



Awards

ASMC has an active awards program to encourage excellence in financial management and has implemented an online process for award nominations. These awards are normally given at the national PDI during a session where a maximum number of members are attending. At the chapter level, awards are given for best chapter (by size) community service, best newsletter, a memorial award in the name of Mr. Neil Ginetti for continuing education, and a Five-Star Chapter award. Forty-five chapters attained five-star recognition this year, which is indicative of excellent chapter management. Additionally, there are many national scholarships presented, a number of member continuing education grants, achievement awards in all areas of financial management, an essay award, and a corporate award for the corporation providing the most notable support to ASMC. The Distinguished Corporate Award in 2010 went to Vanguard Advisors, LLP (meritorious award was given to First Commercial Bank), and in 2011 the Distinguished Corporate Award went to Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union.

ASMC Chapters—Good DoD Citizens

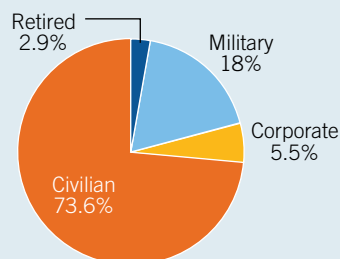
ASMC chapters are the backbone of the ASMC structure. They organize monthly luncheons with technical speakers, organize annual mini-PDIs, and provide networking opportunities and leadership opportunities for the volunteers who manage them. ASMC chapters are good citizens of their respective installations in several ways. They provide a resource for those who wish to improve their professional skills and to study for financial management certification. They provide a problem-solving network among the professionals in a given geographic area so that financial management personnel have contacts to help them resolve tough issues. Chapters facilitate audio training for learning skills, earning CPE credits, and certification training study groups for test preparation. Equally important are the community services ASMC chapters perform. These range from providing locally supported scholarships to deserving high school graduates and education grants to members. Examples of other community service activities include supporting local homeless shelters, supporting local animal shelters, providing needed supplies for local schools, supporting local food banks (one chapter, Crown of Maine, follows the harvester through potato fields and collects missed potatoes for the local food bank) and supporting veterans and old soldiers' homes. Another chapter sponsors an annual holiday dinner at the Walter Reed Army Hospital Fisher House, complete with Santa and holiday songs. These services are not only beneficial to the community but also to the members who provide them. All are a key part of developing a professional community.

Corporate Partners

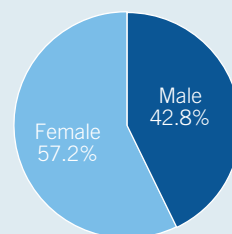
ASMC gets corporate support for its activities. Corporations lend time and resources to national and chapter training events and sponsor a variety of activities to help keep costs to members down. A full list of ASMC's corporate members may be found at www.asmonline.org/asmc-corporate-members.

DEMOGRAPHICS - 2010

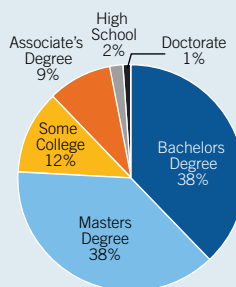
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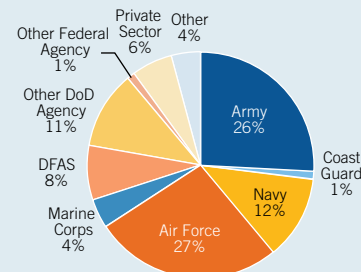
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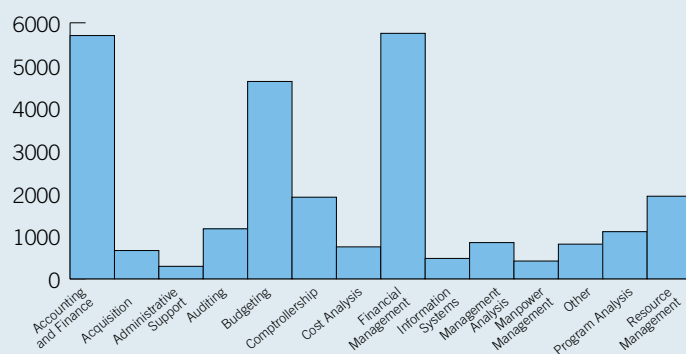
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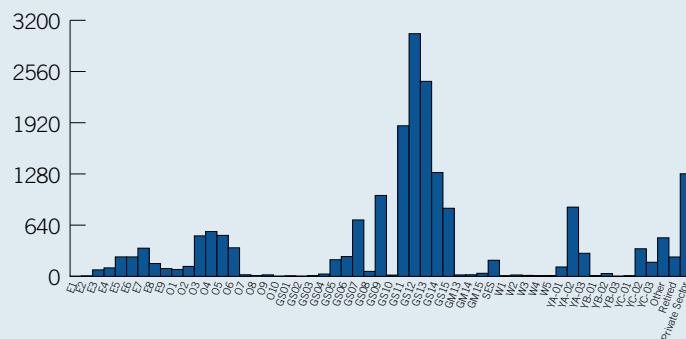
EMPLOYER



CAREER FIELD



GRADE RANK





WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS

A strategic plan has been developed and approved as a result of the management review. The plan covers the next five years and is intended to keep ASMC doing the things that it does well, improve on others, and add some new capabilities in marketing, outreach, education, and training. The plan is based on the official estimate of the Defense financial management workforce at 58,000 and on information from member surveys of the value of ASMC and what members would like it to provide.

The five-year plan contains a number of ambitious goals:

- Raise membership from the current level of 19,500 to 29,000 (50 percent of the financial management workforce)
- Increase the number of CDFMs from 5,400 to 8,700 (15 percent of the financial management workforce)
- Increase PDI attendance to 6,000 annually (includes 2,000 virtual participants) and other education and training offerings to 24 per year.
- Increase Five-Star chapters to 75 from the current level of 45.
- Build a marketing, communications, and publishing capability and extend it outside the immediate DoD financial management community.
- Revise the Constitution and bylaws.

There have been a number of near-term initiatives identified that will begin in the next several months. These include building an improved chapter reporting system to be able to capture all the excellent work at the chapter level; appointing a CDFM examination committee to oversee examination administration, validation, and update; offering a federal appropriations law class; increasing member access to the online learning center; hiring an educator to develop new training programs with increased use of a variety of delivery media; and establishing an annual mid-year regional meeting for chapter presidents. Some of the longer-term initiatives will be development of succession planning at the chapter- and executive-director level, development of a leadership program, and development of a speaker exchange program.



1st Row, L-R – Jennifer Sizemore, Al Tucker, Claudia Carr, Riitta Silverman

2nd Row, L-R – John Raines, Barbara Gibson, Pat Tyler, Jessika Kilgore, James Stewart, Shelly Johnson