



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** ®  
Galveston District

# News Release

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Release No. 011002  
Jan. 29, 2010

## Galveston District budget analyst accepted into Syracuse University Master's program

by Courtney Brodbeck  
Galveston District Public Affairs

Attitude, dedication, imagination and a strong work ethic are vital qualities a Defense Comptroller Program participant must possess. Those qualities are the skills that Mark Williams excels in as a Galveston District employee and former Department of the Army intern.

Williams, a budget analyst in Resource Management at the Galveston District, is one of 32 military and civilian employees nationwide, who has, been accepted into the program at the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University in New York.

The DCP allows Williams to earn both a Master of Business Administration degree and Executive Master of Public Administration degree as well as a position at the Pentagon as a financial management analyst.

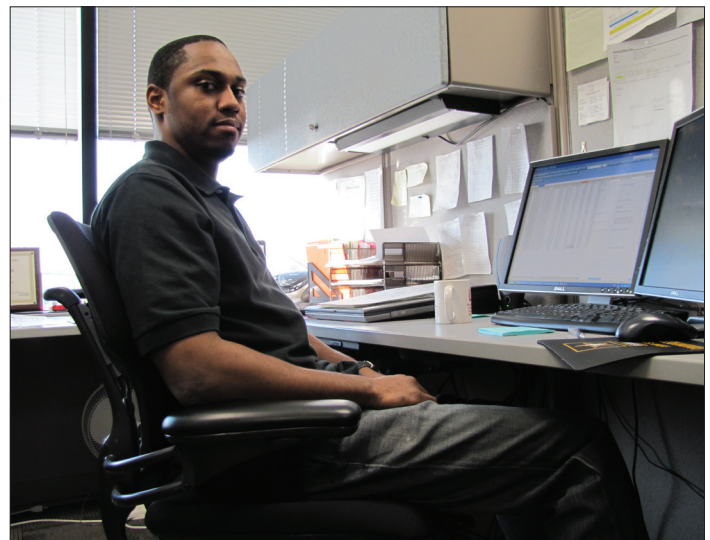
"Taking 60 graduate credits in 14 months is very hard work and these qualities are essential for success," said David B. Berg, director, Executive Education and Defense Programs.

The ambitions of the program are to provide students with essential tools of private and public sector business practices and the ability to analyze and develop public policy. This represents a unique collaborative venture between Syracuse University and the Department of Defense, Berg said.

Williams, who joined the Corps June 1, 2006, is one of several DA interns around the Galveston District. He applied for the program after receiving his bachelor's degree from Texas Southern University with a major in mathematics and a minor in business administration. Williams was given the opportunity not only to work for the Galveston District but do rotational assignments at the Corps' Southwestern Division in Dallas and headquarters in Washington.

"I wanted to do the DA intern program because it provided hands-on training opportunities and helped lay down the groundwork for future development and advancement," Williams said. "My supervisors in Resource Management, Beverly Martin and Selma Hampshire, were instrumental in my professional growth and fully supported me in what I wanted to do."

The DA intern program is an essential source for recruiting, training and educating new talent at the Corps,



*Mark Williams, a budget analyst with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, was one of 32 military and civilian employees nationwide accepted into Syracuse University's Defense Comptroller Program at the university's Whitman School of Management in New York.*

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said Beverly Martin, Chief of Resource Management at Galveston District. The program takes individuals from entry level positions to positions of mid-level management while giving them on-the-job training and formal classroom instruction, typically lasting from 18 to 24 months. Many of the Army's senior-level civilian leaders are the product of the intern program such as Martin, who worked at Fort Polk, La., as a budget analyst.

"It was the best decision I ever made; the DA intern program is a win-win situation for both the employee and the employer," Martin said. "It gives the employee the opportunity to see if they like working for the federal government and it allows the employer to observe the employee and see if they have the attributes we need as our future leaders."

Williams will leave the District in May 2010 and begin the DCP the first week of June. He is thankful for being given the opportunity to work for the Corps and looks forward to what the next chapter of his life holds.

"Interns are like any group you get, you have some who are self-motivated and you have some that are good workers but don't look for growth in their job," Martin said. "I can honestly say that Mr. Williams is one of the few interns I've had who has looked for growth. He loves a challenge and wants to be a contributing member of the team and he has been. We will miss him a great deal, but are thankful for the contributions he has made to the Corps."

Martin encourages individuals seeking an internship to be flexible enough to take advantage of all opportunities because the knowledge gained from both students and employers is beneficial to the growth of the Corps.

"These are bright young people we're getting out of college and they have some good ideas. We need to take advantage of that, and as an older work force we need to pass on everything we know," Martin said.