
GAO Management News

Vol. 40, No. 22, August 12-23, 2013

20 Auditors Graduate from 2013 International Fellows Program

On July 18, Comptroller General Gene Dodaro congratulated 20 auditors from 15 countries graduating in this year's GAO's International Auditor Fellowship Program. The graduation ceremony marked the end of an intensive 16-week training program designed to strengthen the ability of supreme audit institutions (SAIs) to fulfill their missions and to enhance accountability and governance worldwide (see *Management News*, [Vol. 40, No. 9, February 11-22, 2013](#) and [Vol. 40, No. 18, June 17-July 1.](#))

For over 30 years, more than 520 officials from the SAIs of 104 countries have graduated from this program; many have gone on to become auditors general or hold other senior government positions.



International Auditor Fellows, Class of 2013: (Back row left to right) Marcio Pacheco (Brazil), Damulak K.D. (Nigeria), Darius Cosmas (Tanzania) Patrick Habimana (Rwanda), Abdulla Juma Al Zaffin (United Arab Emirates), Khanamporn Philapurana (Thailand), Thandeka Zondi (South Africa), Attila Horcsin (Hungary), Alphonso Malambo (Zambia), Karim Selemani Mwinyimbegu (Tanzania), Satish Sethi (India), and Richard Nyachieo (Kenya). Front row: Ye Qin (China), Elizabeth Odede (Kenya), Vinita Mishra (India), Joseph Hirya (Uganda), CG Gene Dodaro (center), Enas Abdullah Al-Sharafi (Yemen), Abbey O. Emmanuel (Nigeria), Danah Alfarhan (Kuwait) and Thabi Nkosi (South Africa).

SPEL Managing Director Helen Hsing thanked the participants and encouraged them to modernize the accountability profession internationally to better meet the challenges of the 21st century.

To prepare themselves for that task, the fellows have taken part in classroom and independent study of performance and financial auditing

and related subjects, as well as a full range of leadership topics. They also visited federal, state, and local offices, among other activities.

Fellow Joseph Hirya of Uganda spoke on behalf of his colleagues as he extended his thanks to the more than 280 GAO staff members who contributed to the success of the program by serving as instructors, mentors, or sponsors, or working behind the scenes.

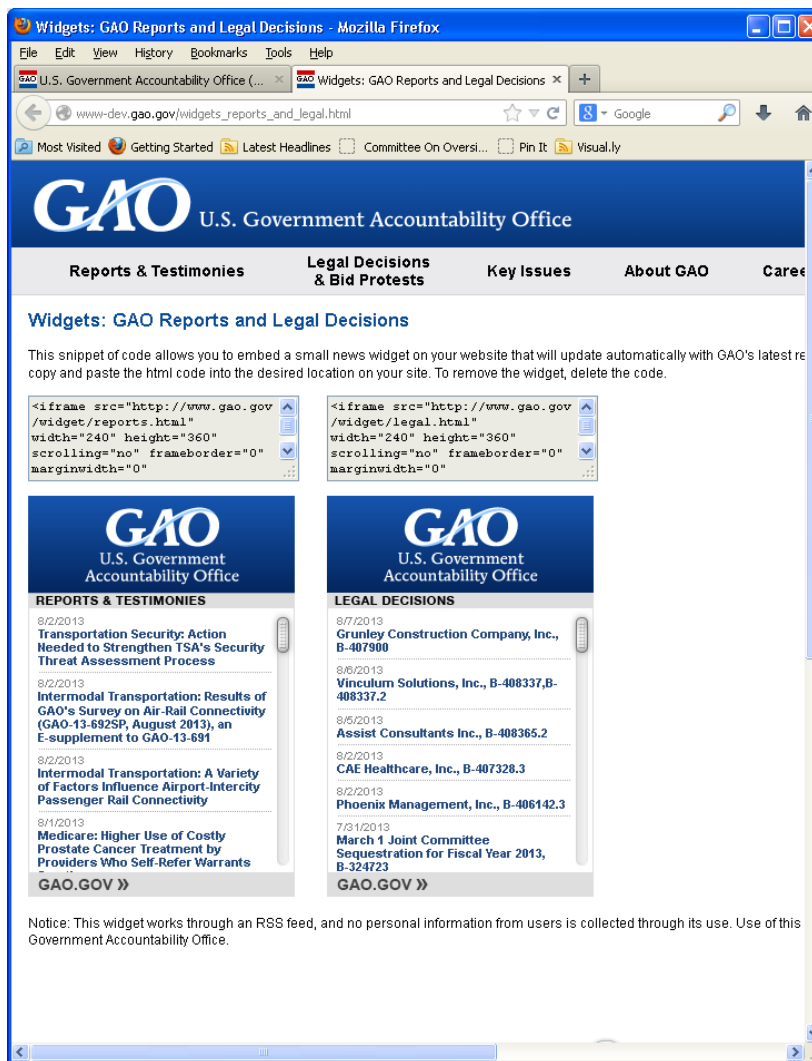
This year's graduates include –by country- Marcio Pacheco (Brazil), Ye Qin (China), Attila Horcsin (Hungary), Vinita Mishra (India), Satish Sethi (India), Elizabeth Odede (Kenya), Richard Nyachieo (Kenya), Danah Alfarhan (Kuwait), Abbey O. Emmanuel (Nigeria), Damulak K.D. (Nigeria), Patrick Habimana (Rwanda), Thabi Nkosi (South Africa), Thandeka Zondi (South Africa), Darius Cosmas (Tanzania), Karim Selemeni Mwinyimbegu (Tanzania), Khanamporn Philapurana (Thailand), Joseph Hirya (Uganda), Abdullah Juma Al Zaffin (United Arab Emirates), Enas Abdullah Al-Sharafi (Yemen), and Alphonso Malambo (Zambia).

For more information on the International Auditor Fellowship Program, go to [SPEL's Intranet page](#), or contact Pam Sands, Program Manager, 202-512-5796 or David Fox, International Program Specialist, 202-512-2571.

GAO Offers Widgets for Reports and Legal Decisions

On July 29, GAO offered its latest technical tool to the public for accessing GAO reports – two widgets. A widget is a software application that allows a website to interface with another.

GAO's two widgets allow users to share recent GAO reports and legal decisions on their own web pages. The widgets – one for reports, another for legal decisions – will automatically provide participating web pages with up-to-date GAO content.



CG Gene Dodaro commented in an agency press release on GAO's continuing efforts to use technology, "GAO strives to provide policymakers and the public with timely access to our findings, conclusions, and recommendations. In another step forward to achieving that goal, those who follow GAO's work will now be able to set up automatic feeds of our latest work."

To install a widget, site administrators, webmasters, and bloggers will need to add a little code to their site. For more information about widget code for GAO reports and legal decisions, see http://www.gao.gov/widgets_reports_and_legal.html.

The widget effort is the most recent in a series of GAO initiatives to communicate our work through different channels, including a [Twitter](#) account, a [Facebook](#) page, live streaming [video web chats](#), [podcasts](#), and [iPhone](#) and [Android mobile applications](#).

From Here and There

Another Novel by Alleman



Former GAO analyst Arleen Alleman has published another novel in her series about Mick Clayton, the intrepid GAO manager. Her fourth novel titled Alternate Currents and is available on Amazon. The author says it is a timely, topical, and poignant story set in Seattle, involving domestic partnerships, surrogacy, and child abduction. For more on Alleman and her novels, go see <http://www.tinyurl.com/c54h4u9>.

Arrivals and Departures

Welcome to recently hired GAO employees:

ASM: Jenny Chow, Amanda Parker, Christopher Zbrozek

DCM: Jonathan Harmatz

EWIS: Kirby Hayes

FMA: Nadine Ferreira, Matthew Frideres, Jeanette Owens, Rebecca Perkins, Ricky Perry Jr., Elizabeth Sodipo, Monasha Thompson

FMCI: Daniel McKenna

GC: Barbara Galimore-Williams

HC: Pamela Dooley, Sylvia Diaz Jones (Atlanta)

HCO: Adelle Dantzer

HSJ: Sara Margraf, Lisa Moore, John Sheehan, Laurani Singh, Joseph Som-Pimpong, Michael Tropauer (Atlanta)

IAT: John R. Ball

IT: Lisa Hardman

NRE: Danny Baez, Vaughn Baltzly, Diantha Garms,

SI: Deirdre Duffy

SPEL: Amy Condra

Good luck to recently retired GAO employees:

ARM: Richard Krashevski

ASM: Bruce Fairbairn (Dayton)

CPI: John Finedore

FMBO: Stephen Balsam

IT: Tonia Brock Brown (Atlanta)

NRE: Mary Colleen Welch (Denver)

Goodbye and best wishes to employees leaving GAO:

ARM: Patrick Dudley

CPI: Leslie Kirsch

EWIS: Keira Dembowski

FMA: Roshni Agarwal (Dallas), Kerry Porter

FMCI: Julianne Stephens Dieterich (Chicago)

HC: Tanya Barbour, Thomas Walke

HCO: Allison Powell

HSJ: Christian Montz

IAT: Heather Hampton

ISTS: Arthur Taylor

NRE: Stephen Carter (Atlanta), Mary Colleen Welch (Denver)

SI: David Rostein Bobruff (Boston)

Job Market

GAO is seeking applicants for the following positions. Detailed information may be found at [USAjobs](#).

Counseling Psychologist, PE-1515-2B/2B, closes 8/13

Senior Operations Research Analyst, PE-1515-2B/2B, closes 8/15

Mark Your Calendar
August 14

EWIS Summer Series Presents: *New Realities: Adapting to Changes in the Economy, Technology, and Populations*

Learn how changing realities affect marriage retirement security and benefits to special populations, such as Native American veterans and English language learners. This is the final installment in EWIS's 2013 Summer Series.

Logistics: Wednesday August 14 12-1pm ET, Room 5Q30 & VTC to EWIS field offices

August 20-21

Cholesterol: Full Lipid Profile and Glucose Screenings

The GAO Wellness and Fitness Center will be offering Cholesterol: Full Lipid Profile and Glucose screenings on Tuesday, August 20 and Wednesday, August 21 in the fitness center.

The finger stick test measures Total Cholesterol, HDL, LDL, Triglycerides, TC/HDL Ratio and Glucose levels using a Cholestech calibrated analyzer. Screenings will be held from 7:30am to 9:30am and two appointments can be scheduled every 10 minutes. Participants receive their results within 5 minutes. The cost is \$26 payable by cash, check, or credit card (no AMEX or Discover). Please sign up online at <http://screenings.itwell.com/screenings/>, username is GAO and password is screenings (the log in information is the same for all participants).

*Participants are asked to fast before the cholesterol screening. Fasting for 8 hours prior to the screening will give the most accurate test results for LDL, triglyceride and glucose levels as they can be affected by the food one eats.

August 21

Sole Healing Reflexology

The GAO Wellness and Fitness Center will be offering Reflexology on Wednesday, August 21, 1-7pm. The 30-minute sessions cost \$40 (cash or check). Please sign up online at <http://screenings.itwell.com/Screenings/index.aspx>, username: GAO, password: screenings and reserve your session

Recent Reports, Testimony, and Legal Products

Public GAO products—reports, testimony, and legal decisions and opinions—are available on GAO’s [web site](#) as they are released. In addition, you may sign up for [daily e-mail alerts](#) about issued products. You may also subscribe to Twitter alerts for [reports](#) and [legal products](#). Use the [search engine](#) to locate older products.

Navy Shipbuilding: Significant Investments in the Littoral Combat Ship Continue Amid Substantial Unknowns about Capabilities, Use, and Cost. (121050)

GAO-13-530, July 22. [podcast included]

VA Education Benefits: Student Characteristics and Outcomes Vary across Schools. (131151)

GAO-13-567, July 25.

U.S. Postal Service: Opportunities to Increase Revenue Exist with Competitive Products; Reviewing Long-Term Results Could Better Inform Promotions Decisions. (544181)

GAO-13-578, June 25.

Aviation: Status of DOT’s Actions to Address the Future of Aviation Advisory Committee’s Recommendations. (540254)

GAO-13-657, July 25.

Public Transit: FTA’s Process for Overseeing Compliance with Federal Civil Rights Requirements Incorporates Key Federal Practices. (542213)

GAO-13-697R, July 25.

Missile Defense: Precision Tracking Space System Evaluation of Alternatives. (121143)

GAO-13-747R, July 25.

Military Readiness: Opportunities Exist to Improve Completeness and Usefulness of Quarterly Reports to Congress. (351821)

GAO-13-678, July 26.

Farm Programs: USDA Needs to Do More to Prevent Improper Payments to Deceased Individuals. (361397)

GAO-13-503, June 28.

Insurance Markets: Impacts of and Regulatory Response to the 2007-2009 Financial Crisis. (250677)

GAO-13-583, June 27.

Grant Workforce: Agency Training Practices Should Inform Future Government-wide Efforts. (450965)

GAO-13-591, June 28.

Status of the Department of Education's Inventory of Its Data Collections. (131220)

GAO-13-596R, June 28.

NOAA: Overview of the Strategy, Execution, and Evaluation Budgeting Process. (361451)

GAO-13-649R, June 28.

Medicare: Ownership Status of Inpatient Prospective Payment System Hospitals That Qualify for Payment Adjustments. (291147)

GAO-13-667R, June 27.

Critical Infrastructure Protection: DHS Could Strengthen the Management of the Regional Resiliency Assessment Program. (441086)

GAO-13-616, July 30.

Transportation Security: TSA Could Strengthen Monitoring of Allegations of Employee Misconduct. (441066)

GAO-13-624, July 30.

Overstay Enforcement: Additional Actions Needed to Assess DHS's Data and Improve Planning for a Biometric Air Exit Program. (441119)

GAO-13-683, July 30. [podcast included]

Department of Veterans Affairs: Available Data Not Sufficiently Reliable to Describe Use of Consulting Services. (121090)

GAO-13-714R, July 30.

Justice Grant Programs: DOJ Could Improve Decision-Making Documentation and Better Assess Results of DNA Backlog Reduction Program Funds. (441083)

GAO-13-605, July 31.

Defense Acquisitions: DOD Efforts to Adopt Open Systems for Its Unmanned Aircraft Systems Have Progressed Slowly. (121075)

GAO-13-651, July 31.

Federal Vehicle Fleets: Adopting Leading Practices Could Improve Management. (541098)

GAO-13-659, July 31.

Drug Compounding: Clear Authority and More Reliable Data Needed to Strengthen FDA Oversight. (291105)

GAO-13-702, July 31. [podcast included]

Army Logistics: Container Handling Equipment Requirements, Contracts, and Inventory. (351754)

GAO-13-719R, July 31.

Information on Defective Drywall. (250704)

GAO-13-735R, July 31.

Medicare: Higher Use of Costly Prostate Cancer Treatment by Providers Who Self-Refer Warrants Scrutiny. (290972)

GAO-13-525, July 19. [podcast included]

International Regulatory Cooperation: Agency Efforts Could Benefit from Increased Collaboration and Interagency Guidance. (450962)

GAO-13-588, August 1.

Transportation Security: Action Needed to Strengthen TSA's Security Threat Assessment Process. (441108)

GAO-13-629, July 19.

Intermodal Transportation: A Variety of Factors Influence Airport-Intercity Passenger Rail Connectivity. (540248)

GAO-13-691, August 2.

Intermodal Transportation: Results of GAO's Survey on Air-Rail

Connectivity (GAO-13-692SP, August 2013), an E-supplement to GAO-13-691. (540264)

GAO-13-692SP, August 2.

Congressional Testimony

Navy Shipbuilding: Significant Investments in the Littoral Combat Ship Continue Amid Substantial Unknowns about Capabilities, Use, and Cost, by Paul Francis, ASM, before the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee, House Armed Services Committee. (121164)

GAO-13-738T, July 25.

Information Technology: OMB and Agencies Need to More Effectively Implement Major Initiatives to Save Billions of Dollars, by David Powner, IT, before the Government Operations Subcommittee, House Oversight

and Government Reform Committee. (311292)
GAO-13-796T, July 25.

Transportation Security: TSA Could Strengthen Oversight of Allegations of Employee Misconduct, by Steve Lord, FAIS, before the Oversight and Management Efficiency Subcommittee and Transportation Security Subcommittee House of the House Homeland Security Committee. (441169)
GAO-13-756T, July 31.

Coast Guard: Observations on Progress Made and Challenges Faced in Developing and Implementing a Common Operational Picture, by Steve Caldwell, HSJ, before the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. (441172)
GAO-13-784T, July 31.

DOD's POW/MIA Mission: Capability and Capacity to Account for Missing Persons Undermined by Leadership Weaknesses and Fragmented Organizational Structure, by Brenda Farrell, DCM, before the Military Personnel Subcommittee, House Armed Services Committee. (351855)
GAO-13-810T, August 1.

Critical Infrastructure Protection: DHS Needs to Improve Its Risk Assessments and Outreach for Chemical Facilities, by Steve Caldwell, HSJ, before the Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies Subcommittee, House Homeland Security Committee. (441176)
GAO-13-801T, August 1.

Press Release

GAO Offers Widgets for Audit Reports, Legal Decisions, July 29.

Legal Decisions and Opinions

Bid Protest Decisions

Vinculum Solutions, Inc., B-408337, B-408337.2, August 5.

Assist Consultants Inc., B-408365.2, August 2.

CAE Healthcare, Inc., B-407328.3, February 1.

Phoenix Management, Inc., B-406142.3, May 17.

CEdge Software Consultants LLC, B-408203, July 19.

Great American Forwarders, Inc., B-408000, May 2.

Threat Management Group, B-407766.6, July 3.

Systematic Management Services, Inc., B-407199, B-407199.2, B-407199.3, November 29, 2012.

Emax Financial & Real Estate Advisory Services, LLC, B-408260, July 25.

Lockheed Martin Integrated Systems, Inc., B-408134.3, B-408134.5, July 3.

Lyon Shipyard, Inc., B-407771.2, July 15.

Pillar Systems Corporation, B-408221, July 11.

International Composites Technologies, Inc., B-408199, July 15.

IAP World Services, Inc.; EMCOR Government Services, B-407917.2, B-407917.3, B-407917.4, B-407917.5, B-407917.6, B-407917.7, July 10.

Sevatec, Inc.—Costs, B-407880.3, June 27.

Desktop Alert, Inc., B-408196, July 22.

Appropriations Decisions

March 1 Joint Committee Sequestration for Fiscal Year 2013, B-324723, July 31.

Speakers' Platform

John Mingusk, ARM, Tom Moscovitch, EWIS (Seattle) and Deborah Prescott, EWIS, presented at the Student Financial Aid Research Network Conference in Portland, Oregon on June 21.

Maureen Luna-Long, PI, presented on GAO's report on road pricing (GAO-12-119, January 12, 2012) before the National Congestion Pricing Conference in Seattle, WA, July 9.

Elizabeth Curda, SI, presented SI's reports on implementation of the GPRA Modernization Act (GAO-13-518, June 26) and Performance.gov (GAO-13-517, June 6) and participated in a panel discussion on The Looming

Retirement and Attrition Wave, at the Association for Government Accountants Professional Development Conference in Dallas, TX, on July 17.

Steve Caldwell, HSJ, presented and summarized 10 years of GAO work on maritime security (GAO-12-1009T, September 11, 2012), at a seminar for port security officials, sponsored by the American Association of Port Authorities, Baltimore, MD, on July 17.

Stan Czerwinski, SI, and Frank Todisco, ARM, spoke to the National Academy of Public Administration on state and local government long-term fiscal and pension issues in Washington, DC, on July 24.

Jonathan Kang, Assistant General Counsel, OGC, hosted and was sole presenter of a webinar, titled "An Introduction to Bid Protests at the Government Accountability Office," sponsored by the D.C. Bar Association, August 1.

On the Air

Paul Francis, ASM, discussed the littoral combat ship (GAO-13-530, July 22, and GAO-13-738T, July 25) on the weekly GAO segment on Federal News Radio, July 29.

Daniel Garcia-Diaz, NRE, was interviewed by Fox Business News about farm programs and improper payments to deceased individuals (GAO-13-503, June 28), July 30.

Sharon Pickup, DCM, spoke with Federal News Radio about military readiness and opportunities to improve quarterly reports to Congress (GAO-13-678, July 26), August 1.

Eric Adams, CAO, and Jackie Nowicki, EWIS, were interviewed on GAO's telework policies and experiences as part of an online guide GovLoop is producing on telework in the public and private sectors, August 2.

Stephen Caldwell, HSJ, discussed critical infrastructure protection and DHS' risk assessments and outreach for chemical facilities (GAO-13-801T, August 1) on the weekly GAO segment on Federal News Radio, August 5.

Rebecca Gambler, HSJ, went on Federal News Radio to discuss overstay enforcement and DHS' planning for a biometric air exit program (GAO-13-683, July 30), August 6. Gambler also appeared on Texas Public Radio to discuss HSJ's report on wait times at the US/Mexican border, August 2.

Steve Lord, HSJ, appeared on C-SPAN's Washington Journal, August 3 and on NewsChannel 8, August 7 to discuss TSA oversight of allegations of employee misconduct (GAO-13-756T, July 31).

A daily compilation of media coverage of GAO's work in print, on air and on the Internet may be found on the [GAO Intranet](#).

About Management News

Management News is published biweekly by Public Affairs and distributed by email to GAO employees and by email subscription to GAO retirees. An archive of past issues is located on the intranet. Submit information for publication to [Management News](#). For more information or to suggest a story idea, contact *Management News* Editor [Jennifer Ashley](#), 202-512-4490.