



Acquisition Research Program:  
Creating Synergy for Informed Change



# Graduate Student Acquisition Research Program (ARP)

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# ARP Mission

The NPS Acquisition Research Program, in collaboration with universities, think tanks, industry, and government, creates a stream of relevant information on acquisition policies and management processes, with viable recommendations for improvement.



# ARP Purpose

The purpose of the program is to stimulate and support unclassified scholarly research in academic disciplines that bear on defense acquisition workforce and acquisition management, policy research and provide unclassified and non-proprietary findings suitable for publication in open scholarly literature.



# ARP Goals

- Position NPS as a **recognized leader** in defense acquisition research.
- Establish NPS acquisition research as an **integral part of policy-making** for Department of Defense (DoD) officials.
- Create a **stream of relevant information** concerning the performance of DoD Acquisition policies with viable recommendations for continuous process improvement.
- **Prepare the DoD workforce** to participate in the continued evolution of the defense acquisition process.
- **Collaborate** with other universities, think tanks, industry and government in acquisition research.



# Annual \$4M Program Portfolio

## Graduate Student Research

- Supports 60-80 graduate students each year.
- Provides: topics, travel funding, professional editing and transcription services to graduate student researchers.

## Faculty Research at NPS

- Supports 30 faculty in multiple disciplines across campus engaging in 15-20 research projects annually.

## Grants to Other Universities / Think Tanks

- Supports 15 grants each year.



# The Future of ARP

Graduate Student involvement in research ensures that the future acquisition workforce is prepared with the intellectual skills and practical knowledge needed for success.



# Big “A” Defined

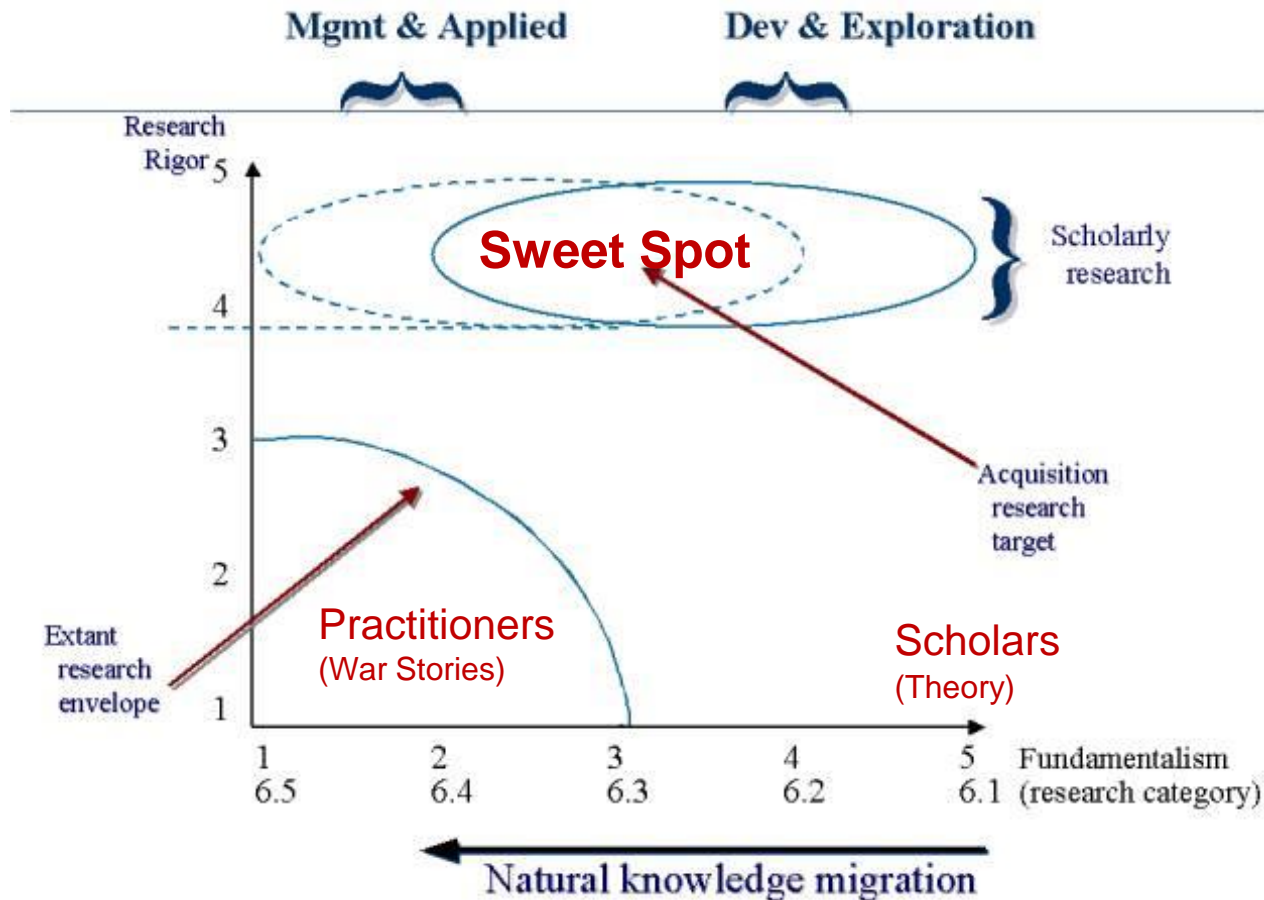
The phrase “defense acquisition management & policy research” refers to investigations in all disciplines, fields, and domains that

1. Are involved in the acquisition of products and/or services for national defense, or;
2. Could potentially be brought to bear to improve defense acquisition.

It includes but is not limited to acquisition and procurement policy; contract, supply chain, cost, project, logistics or engineering management; acquisition workforce; public budgeting and finance; outsourcing; performance measurements; collaboration; small business; human systems integration; and more.



# Acquisition Research Space



DOD Research Scale applied to hard sciences





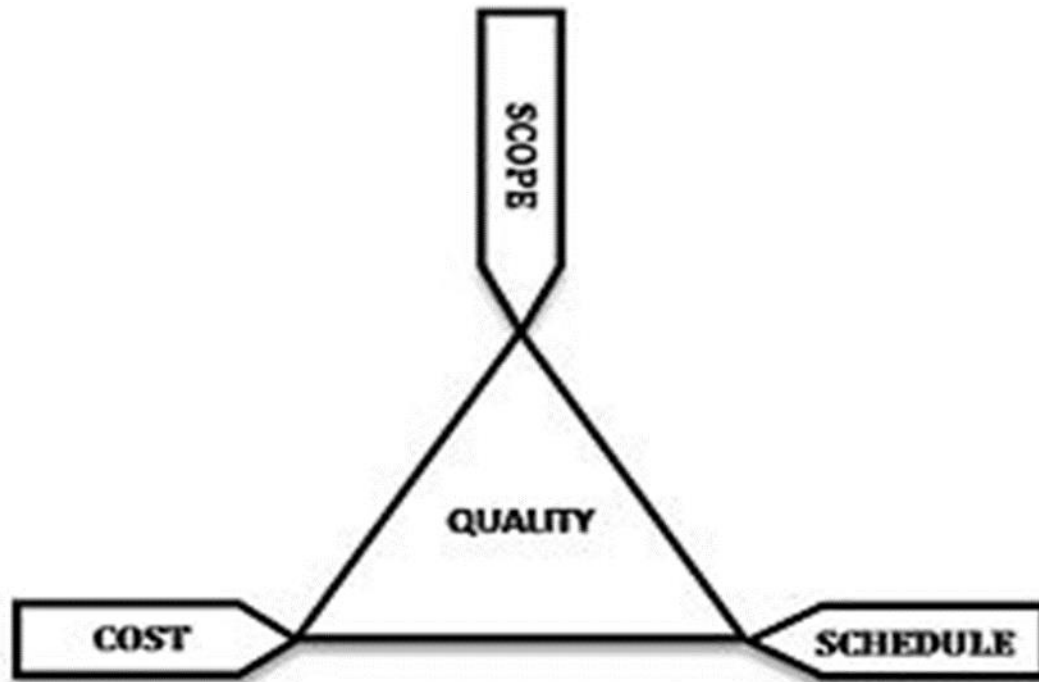
# How does the Graduate Student ARP work?

1. Select Team Members (if applicable)
2. Select Topic
3. Select Advisors
4. Prepare and submit your MBA Project / Thesis Plan and IRB checklist to Python
5. ARP Application ([see sample](#))
  - a. Once your plan is approved/signed; download it from Python for your ARP Application Packet
  - b. Complete the ARP Advisor Endorsement Form
  - c. Get a DTS Travel Estimate (if applicable)
  - d. Write a cover email and attach 1) approved project plan; 2) travel estimate; 3) IRB checklist; and 4) ARP advisor endorsement form, in a single PDF.



# Manage Research, Scope & Stakeholder Expectations

## Project Management Triple Constraint



One Side Cannot Change without Affecting the Others



# Quality Research : ARP Covers Costs

Acceptance into ARP graduate student research program will provide the following at no cost to you;

- Travel funding (if needed)
- Professional editing (when you complete three (3) chapters and again when all chapters are complete).
- Transcription support for digital recordings.



# Program Expectations

1. Produce a quality publishable research report (Public Release, Unlimited Distribution)
2. Meet ARP milestones and stay on schedule
3. Set a goal to complete your thesis/MBA project 2 months prior to graduation
4. Present a poster of your final results or planned research at the 16th Annual Acquisition Research Symposium's Student Research Poster Show on May 8, 2019 from 1645 – 1845. Posters are Due: April 17, 2019
  - a. June graduates will present their final results poster.
  - b. December graduates will present their topic/planned research poster.

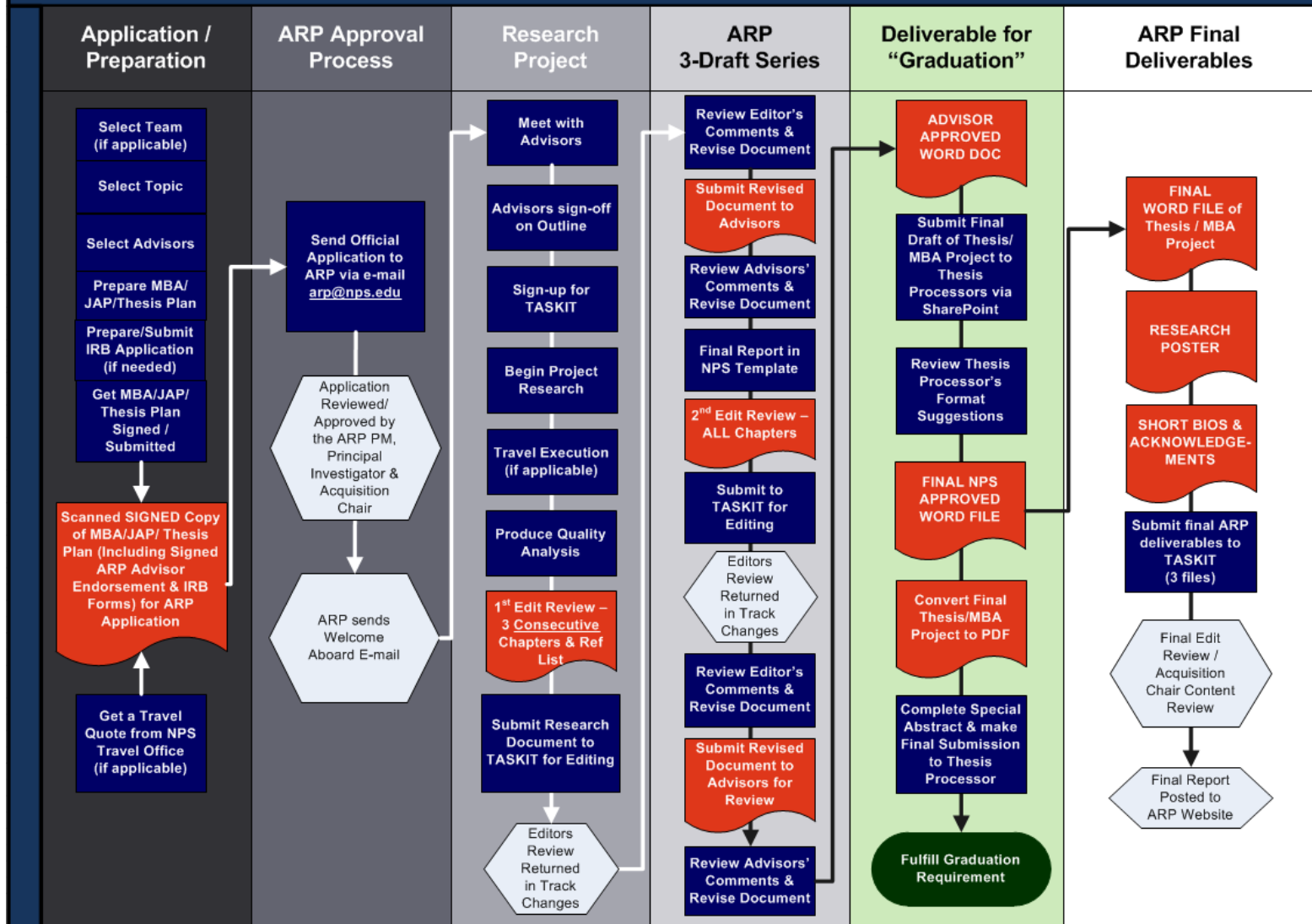


# ARP Timeline & Milestones

General Timeline & Milestones					
Milestone	Graduating Class				
	June 2019	September 2019	December 2019	March 2020	June 2020
1. Topic/Planned Research Poster Submitted to TaskIt by:	NA	17 Apr 2019	17 Apr 2019	NA	NA
2. ARP Application Submitted to <a href="mailto:arp@nps.edu">arp@nps.edu</a> by:	26 Nov 2018	25 Feb 2019	31 May 2019	26 Aug 2019	25 Nov 2019
3. Travel Complete (if applicable)	11 Jan 2019	12 Apr 2019	12 Jul 2019	11 Oct 2019	10 Jan 2020
4. Data Collection Complete	25 Jan 2019	26 Apr 2019	29 Jul 2019	1 Nov 2019	24 Jan 2020
5. 3 Chapter ARP Edit Review Submitted to TaskIt by:	25 Feb 2019	24 May 2019	26 Aug 2019	13 Dec 2019	24 Feb 2020
6. Final ARP Edit Review Submitted to TaskIt by:	29 Mar 2019	28 Jun 2019	27 Sep 2019	15 Jan 2020	30 Mar 2020
7. Symposium Poster Submitted to TaskIt by:	17 Apr 2019	NA	NA	NA	16 Apr 2020
8. NPS Research Completed	26 Apr 2019	26 Jul 2019	28 Oct 2019	10 Feb 2020	27 Apr 2020
9. Initial Draft – Research Report to Thesis Processing by:	3 May 2019	16 Aug 2019	8 Nov 2019	25 Feb 2020	2 May 2020
10. Final ARP Deliverables: Report & Poster	24 May 2019	26 Aug 2019	25 Nov 2019	2 Mar 2020	22 May 2020
11. Final Draft – Research Report to Thesis Processing by:	31 May 2019	13 Sep 2019	6 Dec 2019	13 Mar 2020	30 May 2020
12. Graduation	14 Jun 2019	27 Sep 2019	20 Dec 2019	27 Mar 2020	12 Jun 2020



# Graduate Student Acquisition Research Program (ARP)\_REV 9



ACQUISITION RESEARCH PROGRAM  
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & PUBLIC POLICY  
NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL



# Deliverables

1. Submit final WORD copy of your research report, and
2. Submit a poster of your research methodologies and findings. (ARP provides the template and has samples for review.)



# Join Us for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Acquisition Research Symposium

- [Date: May 8-9, 2019](#)
- Location: Embassy Suites Monterey Bay Seaside
- Keynote Speaker: The Honorable Ellen M. Lord, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (A&S)
- Event Details: [www.researchsymposium.com](http://www.researchsymposium.com)

