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**Graduate School USA’s W. Edwards Deming Award**

**Celebrates Excellence in Government Training**

***2013 Nominations Now Open; Winners Will Join Other Change Agents***

**WASHINGTON, March 5, 2013 –** Graduate School USA is now accepting nominations for its 2013 W. Edwards Deming Award. The award is presented annually to a government organization that demonstrates transformative training excellence, and it recognizes those who have pursued training and development that measurably improves the organization’s performance and impacts its mission. The award’s namesake is the renowned Dr. W. Edwards Deming, who taught at the School for 20 years and is known as the father of Total Quality Management.

Here’s what winning the Deming Award has meant to previous winners:

“The Deming Award served as our ‘Underwriters’ Laboratory’ stamp of approval,” said Stephen E. Cricchi, Director, Integrated Systems Evaluation, Experimentation and Test Department, Naval Air Systems Command. “It validated our training efforts on a grander scale outside our own Navy perspective and enabled us to gain recognition within the DoD.”

 “Winning the Deming Award provided visibility for us and for this transformative training within the Social Security Administration as well as with other agencies,” said Patricia Jones, Executive Director of the Office of Appellate Operations, Social Security Administration. “We are currently working with the Canadian government’s Pension Plan Disability Program, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the North Carolina Department of Revenue. Without the recognition received from the Deming Award, we wouldn’t have been this extensive in our reach.”

“The Deming Award substantiated and validated the direction we had taken with our training approach,” said Tim Harvey, Chief, Park Facility Management Division, National Park Service. “To receive this national recognition was a great testament to the work we are doing.”

Their full stories can be read [here](http://graduateschool.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=132&Itemid=&utm_source=GS&utm_medium=pressrelease001&utm_content=demingstories&utm_campaign=2013demingnom).

To nominate your organization, visit [graduateschool.edu/deming](http://graduateschool.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=136&Itemid=492&utm_source=GS&utm_medium=pressrelease001&utm_content=deming&utm_campaign=2013demingnom) for eligibility, criteria, and nomination forms. The submission deadline is March 25, 2013, 5:00 p.m. Eastern.

**About Graduate School USA**

Dedicated to providing relevant learning opportunities in public service, Graduate School USA has served the DC metro community since 1921. An independent, nonprofit, accredited educational institution, the School is dedicated to academic excellence and lifelong learning. Services include individual assessments, career-related courses, certificate and degree programs, continuing education, and distance learning. Graduate School USA has recently expanded its mission to reflect a greater emphasis on preparing the residents of the District of Columbia for long-term careers. More information can be found at [graduateschool.edu](http://graduateschool.edu/?utm_source=GS&utm_medium=pressrelease001&utm_content=gstext&utm_campaign=general).

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