



## Quarterly Accomplishments Abound Thanks to Staff Dedication

With each quarter, the Professional Development Business Unit continues to reach new heights towards their ultimate mission of building a comprehensive training and certification program for all state buyers and purchasing officers. Last quarter, under the auspices of Chief Learning Officer Dr. Mirna Barker, the group trained 453 students, updated 3 courses, and created 2 procurement courses, not including the new trainings on Team Georgia Marketplace.

Training for Team Georgia Marketplace started the second week of October for pilot groups from the Department of Human Resources (DHR), the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC), and the Department of Administrative Services (DOAS). We expect training to continue up to the January 20, 2009 system launch. Preliminary reviews of the training events have been very positive.

Training on the eQuote Phase III enhancements has been well attended. Since the release of the eQuote Phase III enhancements in September of this year, Professional Development staff has trained 115 students on the use of eQuote. Moreover, more eQuote classes have been scheduled to accommodate the influx of students anticipated with the **new requirement** that all state entities use eQuote by November 2008.

Such training accomplishments were made possible through the partnership and dedication of the Professional Development staff. The members of this business unit have the following responsibilities:

- **Melanie Spencer** is the Procurement Training Coordinator. She schedules training classes, coordinates training materials, and coordinates registration and cancelations. Melanie also oversees all training communication, meaning she maintains all the training information on the website, coordinates staff training announcements and monitors the [training@doas.ga.gov](mailto:training@doas.ga.gov) email box.
- **Maria Gibbons** and **Mary Zirock** are Procurement Training Specialists. They teach State Purchasing Division (SPD) and state purchasing representatives State policies, procedures, and procurement applications.
- **Iris Gathing** and **Gayle Porster** are also Procurement Training Specialists. They teach State Purchasing Division (SPD) and State Procurement representatives how to use the Team Georgia Marketplace application.

[Learn more](#) about the Professional Development staff. ■