

**Physician Assistant Professional Advisory Group  
U.S Public Health Service  
Thursday, Nov 29, 2012  
2000-2100 EST**

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>OPDIV</b>
Present	LCDR	Klimp	Scott	DOD
Present	CDR	Valdez	Janet	NIH
Present	CAPT	Carter	George	NIH
Present	LCDR	Sluss	Rodney	DHS
Present	LCDR	Futch	Michael	DIHS
Present	CDR	Hager	Paul	IHS
Present	CDR	Bryant	Anthony	BOP
Present	LCDR	Goldstein	Daniel	BOP
Present	LCDR	Been	Candace	IHSC
Present	CAPT	Cole	Gary	IHS
Present	LCDR	Smith	Stephen	FDA
Present	CDR	Pelkey	Michelle	NOAA
Present	CDR	Keller	Stephen Christopher	IHS
Present	LT	Sanchez	Tracy	IHS
Present	LT	McLellan	James	IHSC
Excused	CDR	Morris	Joe	DHS
Excused	LCDR	Van Horn	Pieter	BOP
Excused	LCDR	Thompson	Jasen	DHS
Excused	LCDR	Licata	Paul	FDA
Absent	CDR	Rivero	Josef	BOP
Absent	LCDR	Reid	James	BOP
Absent	LCDR	Zagula	Matthew	IHS
Absent	LT	Witter	Lee	BOP

**New members in attendance:** LCDR Danielle DiDonna, LCDR Brian Burt, LCDR Jerry Forster, LCDR Holli Olson

**Guests:** LT Baker, LCDR Collins, LCDR Karen Forbes

## Physician Assistant – Professional Advisory Group November 29, 2012 Minutes

### **Chair Report/ LCDR Scott Klimp**

PAPAG Chair report:

I would like to thank each of the PAPAG members for their efforts over the past year. I understand things were a bit disrupted with our change in leadership but we continued to move forward ready to meet new objectives. After reviewing individual requests and looking over our current and future needs on the PAG, I have made committee assignments for the next year. Our new members will be asked to join the committees where they have the most interest, with plans to move into a leadership role as we transition. Certificates of appreciation were completed for current voting members and were sent by e-mail; please let me know if you did not receive this.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

#### **Awards Subcommittee/ CAPT George Carter**

Folks up for promotion are reminded to have all promotion documents, including letter of appreciation or thank you letters in OPF by 12/31/2012. Additionally anyone who has been nominated for an award but has not yet received award can indicate in OPF that they were nominated and awaiting agency approval. Good Luck.

#### **Communications Subcommittee/LCDR Rodney Sluss**

Website updates submitted with Roster, Awards and minutes. Survey Monkey produced for revised ByLaw possible changes

#### **Membership Subcommittee/LCDR Futch**

We accepted 10 new voting members, one applicant had to decline Mike Futch's term ends December 2012, Tracy Sanchez will take over as the committee chair At the last teleconference Mike Futch clarified for the group the reason the PAPAG acceptance letter is standard template is because in years past after members received a personalized letter for their eOPF then participation in meetings would decline. Now we use a template acceptance letter and at the end of each year active members will receive a personalized certificate from the committee president for their OPF. It was also brought to our attention that the number years on the standard template only reflected a 2 year term as opposed to a 3 year term. Tracy Sanchez will amend this.

#### **Policy and Procedure Subcommittee/ LCDR Paul Hager**

No new information to pass.

#### **Professional Development Subcommittee/ CDR Anthony Bryant**

For those who were not able to attend the presentation, "Developing a Curriculum Vita (CV) with Impact", presented by CAPT Bonfiglio, the presentation was recorded and can be obtained through the HSPAC Career Development Subcommittee. CAPT Bonifiglio has also offered her notes from the presentation for any who may want them. For information on the recorded presentation, or the notes. contact LCDR Deidre Washington-Jones, HSPAC Career Development Subcommittee Chair at:

[dWASHINGTON-JONES@Hrsa.gov](mailto:dWASHINGTON-JONES@Hrsa.gov).

Reminder: Keep aware of approaching deadlines concerning promotional criteria. Check the promotion check list for important dates and deadlines.

#### **Readiness Subcommittee/ LCDR Goldstein**

Shortly after the September 2012 PAPAG meeting, I volunteered to help CDR Josef Rivero with the readiness subcommittee. October 01, 2012 was the most recent quarterly readiness check for USPHS officers. We have been waiting to receive a list from DCCPR of HSO physician assistants who were found to be NOT basic ready. We have contacted LCDR Brett Maycock, who is the readiness subcommittee Chair for the HS-PAC, and he has not received a list of HSO Officers' names.

LCDR Maycock mentioned there has been a delay in receiving this information from DCCPR because of activities related to Super Storm Sandy. As soon as LCDR Maycock receives the list from DCCPR he will forward the names of the physician assistants who were NOT basic ready to us. CDR Rivero and I will then contact these PAs and see what we can do to make sure they are basic ready before the next quarterly check. We hope to have some data to present during the January 2013 PAPAG meeting.

#### **Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee/ LCDR Pieter Van Horn**

No updates.

#### **Welcoming Subcommittee**

LCDR Candace Been and LCDR Paul Licata will take over the position. No new updates.

#### **Ad Hoc COF Subcommittee/ LCDR Been**

The first meeting was held a couple of weeks ago. Committee is looking for ideas for round tables and PAPAG breakout session.

#### **Ad Hoc AMSUS Subcommittee/ CAPT Cole**

The **AMSUS** Executive Director and its Board of Managers regret to inform you that we find it necessary to postpone the AMSUS 118th Annual Continuing Education Meeting. Due to unexpected circumstances beyond our control, we have been unable to secure the attendance of a sufficient number of military and federal health professionals to go forward with the meeting at this time. The AMSUS legacy of excellence will be sustained and we will present a continuing series of future meetings as soon as circumstances permit. We will work closely with our members, exhibitors, corporate sponsors, and other stakeholders to resolve the many administrative details related to this postponement. We thank you for your continued support.

The back story behind this is Veteran's Administration clamped down on all non-essential travel to include CME after they had a Conference that was full of excess. Top leadership was fired or reprimanded for improprieties on the heels of the GSA Conference scandal.

Next year, CDR Josef Rivero has agreed to take over planning responsibilities and in tradition he will ask the PAPAG Chair for this privilege and collaborate with the chair for a deputy. Next year's AMSUS will be hosted in Seattle.

## **Liaison Reports**

### **JOAG/ LCDR Pieter Vanhorn**

Nominations for:

-JOAG JUNIOR OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD

-JOAG EXCELLENCE AWARD

-JOAG VADM RICHARD H. CARMONA INSPIRATION AWARD

Are now open, Nomination Deadline: Monday, January 28, 2013

Send nominations or questions for the Junior Officer of the Year Award to:

LT Sara Azimi-Bolourian

Email: [sara.azimi-bolourian@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:sara.azimi-bolourian@samhsa.hhs.gov); Phone: 240-276-2708

Send nominations or questions for the JOAG Excellence Award to:

LCDR Mathilda Fienkeng

Email: [Mathilda.fienkeng@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Mathilda.fienkeng@fda.hhs.gov); Phone: 301-796-3692

Send nominations or questions for the VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration Award to:

LCDR Shannon Hill

Email: [Shannon.Hill@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Shannon.Hill@fda.hhs.gov); Phone: 240-276-8650

The JOAG Communications and Publications, Uniform Subcommittee is pleased to present the seventh volume of the uniform announcement entitled, "With Pride and Distinction".

The uniform announcement was created to compliment the JOAG Journal "Uniform Corner" article. It is our hope that these resources will educate and assist junior officers on the appropriate wear of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps uniform. Officers will be able to view these resources on the JOAG website, Junior Officer Resources section, under 'Uniform Corner'

[http://www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/JOAG/resources\\_withpride.aspx](http://www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/JOAG/resources_withpride.aspx) (PLEASE note: this is a change to the previous website link).

### **BOP/ CDR Anthony Bryant**

No new information at this time. CAPT Brown is still the point of contact for BOP issues until his replacement is named.

### **IHSC/**

No new information

### **IHS/ CAPT Gary Cole**

Conferences and travel related to conferences have been severely curtailed. This includes the National Indian Health Leadership Conference that was to be held in Phoenix that was canceled this week. These conferences are essential for the proper management of our organizations and our excellent contact and networking capabilities. We still need to voice our displeasure in a respectful manner and fight to have these restored.

Many jobs are available. We continue to be shackled by the inability to hire new Commissioned Corps Officers. We seem to be attracting interested officers from other Federal Agencies and I am hoping to tap returning military PA's once downsizing occurs. Perhaps we can get a special dispensation from

Commissioned Corps for underserved transfer as an interim measure. We will be discussing this on a Federal Chiefs meeting on 12/3/12.

Rockville IHS announced today that HHS will not pay for funded moves for GS-12 or below. Commissioned Corps remains unaffected.

I appointed LCDR John Cruz, PA-C as my new Deputy PA Clinical Chief Consultant. LCDR Cruz has done an excellent job this past year of filling in for me and on the PA Position Report. CDR Shawn Taylor has been appointed as Treasurer for our committee.

I am meeting face to face with our PA Recruiter, LCDR Tim McCreary, and PA-C this next week to discuss strategy for recruiting.

#### **FDA/ LCDR Stephen Smith**

Consumer Safety Officer GS 11/12 positions currently available in Salt Lake City, Utah...

Consumer Safety Officer GS 13 in College Park, MD.

Entry level positions are easier to get into at the O-2, O-3 level, more competition with the current economy for the O-4 level.

#### **NOAA/ CDR Michelle Pelkey**

NOAA- There may be several positions open in 2013. The position in Hawaii is on hold, and may not be posted till 2014; however, positions in Norfolk, VA may be coming available in early 2013. Be sure and check the PAPAG website and HSO newsletter.

#### **PHSAPA/ LCDR Pieter Van Horn**

-PHSAPA is now on FACEBOOK! Search Public Health Service Academy of Physician Assistants

-Working on compiling of Pictures and Updates for PHSAPA Website

-Confirmed Agenda at 2013 AAPA Annual Conference in Washington D.C.

-Finished PHSAPA Letterhead and PHSAPA Certificates of Appreciation.

-Working to Further relationship with SAAAPA so that USPHS is more visible to new PA's.

#### **Highlight of the meeting:**

We are privileged to have RADM Elizondo joined us in our November meeting. Informative Q& A sessions. Some of interesting issues include;

Review for retention in board certified compensation changes- no promises that will happen anytime soon

DOD and VA opportunity, pushing at least to educate other folks in PHS and work in TBI and psyche. PAs can take specialty work in psyche. Encouraged to get certified if interested.

Encouraged PAs to take full advantage of the great service, USPHS.

#### **Summary and Status of Action Items:**

Action Item:

1. Update the bylaws- will send survey monkey to all members for approval
2. Oral History Project. Nothing new to report. Thanks to LCDR Billy Collins for volunteering. CAPT Cole will be interviewing CAPT James Portt, PA-C this month as he is retiring on 12/31/12 and will be his first candidate
3. Obtain current readiness status- please see "readiness subcommittee " input

**New Business:**

Looking for input for PA projects for PAG

**Old Business:**

We still have vacant positions for Vice chair, DOD and DIHS liaisons.

**Meeting adjourned at 21:15 hours EST.**

**Next teleconference: January 31, 2013 at 20:00 hrs EST.**

**Call –in number: 1-218-548-3569 Pass code: 778730#**

**Minutes prepared by: CDR Janet Valdez, Secretary**

**Reviewed and approved by: LCDR Scott Klimp, Chair**