



Scientist Professional Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, November 3, 2009

1100 – 1300 (Eastern Time)

Toll Free Numbers: USA 1-877-691-9937

Participant Passcode: 4549026

Participants

SciPAC Executive Sub-committee 2009/10 Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	X, if present
CAPT	Sharon Williams-Fleetwood	CPO	X
CDR	Diana Bensyl	Chair	X
LCDR	Matthew Newland	Vice Chair/ Rules and Membership	X
CDR	Timothy Nelle	Secretary	X
LCDR	Sally Hu	Awards/COF Liaison	X
CDR	Rachel Avchen	Ex-Officio	X
CAPT	Martin Sanders	Awards Co-Chair	
CDR	Karon Abe	Career Development	
LCDR	Tegan Boehmer	Category Day	X
CDR	Daphne Moffett	Historian	
CDR	Boris Aponte	Mentoring	X
LCDR	Wei Guo	Policy Review	X
CAPT	Michael Murry	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness/PSYPAG Liaison	X
LCDR	Paul Seo	Recruitment, Retention and Readiness Co-Chair	X
LCDR	Yi Zhang	Science	X
CAPT	Christine Benally	Visibility	X
LCDR	James Kenney	Visibility Co-Chair	X
CDR	Danice Eaton	Website	X
LCDR	Judy Facey	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	X
CDR	Sara Newman	COA Liaison	X
LCDR	Maleeka Glover		
Dr.	Monique Mansoura	Civilian Service Liaison	

Non-voting Members

Non-voting Scientist Participants

Participant	Agency
CAPT Joseph Despina	FDA
CAPT John Hayes	IHS
CAPT Adekoya Nelson	CDC
CAPT Doug Thoroughman	CDC
CDR William Albrecht	EPA
CDR Raymond Droby	IHS
CDR Elvira Hall-Robinson	OCCFM
CDR David Laird	FDA
CDR Amy Park	DOD
LCDR Rob Belde	DIHS
LCDR Chekeshia S. Clingman	FDA
LCDR Shane Davis	CDC
LCDR Dianna Densmore	CDC
LCDR David Hess	DOD
LCDR Rona LeBlanc	FDA
LCDR Matthew Murphy	CDC
LCDR Ryan Novak	CDC
LCDR Michael Smith	FDA
LCDR Jackie Sram	FDA
LCDR John Stansberry	NIH
LCDR Robin Toblin	BOP
LCDR Jon Eric Tongren	USAID
LCDR Fei Xu	FDA
LT Jennifer Adjemian	BOP
LT Jennifer Bodart	DOD
LT Jessica Cole	FDA
LT Jeffery Goodie	USUHS
LT Vanessa Jarquin	CDC
LT Sara Lowther	CDC
LT Loren Rodgers	FDA

1) Call to Order and Welcome, CDR Diana Bensyl

EMAIL: timothy.nelle@fda.hhs.gov for roll call

2) Report from the CPO, CAPT Williams-Fleetwood

- A huge thanks to CDR Sara Newman and the DC area officers for the wonderful Meet and Greet on October 20th. CAPT Williams-Fleetwood appreciated getting the opportunity to meet and talk with the officers in attendance. She was also very appreciative that RADM Mishoe and RADM Canton were able to attend, coin her, and say a few kind and inspiring words.
- The Final FY2009 Basic Readiness percentages for each category were provided to the CPOs. The Scientist category shined with a 94.10%. Again, thanks to all scientists that helped to get us to this level. Keep it up!

- Check your emails for an outstanding job opportunity that CAPT Williams-Fleetwood shared via our list serve on November 1. It is for an epidemiologist position with the Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine in Europe which starts January 1, 2010. Send an email to CAPT Williams-Fleetwood if you're interested.
- New Surgeon General, Dr. Regina Benjamin, was confirmed last week.
- CPOs scheduled to meet with Dr. Koh (ASH) on Thursday November 12.
- Congratulations are in order for the inaugural "Scientist Officer" newsletter. A special thanks to CAPT Benally and the great Scientists on the Newsletter Team of the Visibility Committee as well as those wonderful Scientists that submitted articles to make this happen. CAPT Williams-Fleetwood looks forward to contributing to the next issue, as do other Scientists.

3) Report from the Chair, CDR Diana Bensyl

- Reminder to get COERs in, promotion materials to OPF, and maintain readiness.
- Be aware Direct Access must now be used for documenting some readiness activities. Make sure your information is correctly entered and do not wait until the last minute to try to use the system to document your readiness status. There are glitches still. See report from Billet Transformation Liaison for more info.

4) Report from Vice Chair, LCDR Matthew Newland

- Nothing new to report

5) Subcommittee reports

a) **Awards**, CDR Sally Hu, Co-chair: CAPT Martin Sanders

- Received multiple nominations for The 2009 Scientist Responder of the Year Award. Applications are currently under review. The subcommittee will provide recommendations to SciPAC chair by the end of this month.
- Currently working on an SOP for the award selection process. Will forward it to the Rules and Membership subcommittee for review and then to the SciPAC voting members for approval.

b) **Career Development**, CDR Karon Abe

- No Report

c) **Category Day**, LCDR Tegan Boehmer, Co-Chair: LCDR Matt Murphy

- Received a disappointing response to Scientist Category Day call for abstracts. The deadline to submit a Category Day abstract has been extended to Friday, Nov 6. Please consider submitting an abstract this week.
- The Category Day committee is considering having a panel session on a career development or leadership topic. If you have an idea or if you are interested in presenting on a panel session, please send an email to LCDR Tegan Boehmer (tboehmer@cdc.gov)

d) **Mentoring**, CDR Boris Aponte; Co-Chair: CDR Mark Methner

- Thanks to all the volunteers who have joined the Mentoring subcommittee

e) **Policy Review**, LCDR Wei Guo, Co-Chair: LCDR Ryan Novak

- Commented on six policies in very short time period. Thanks members of our subcommittee for their prompt response and hard work.

f) **Recruitment, Retention, and Readiness**, CAPT Michael Murry, Co-Chair LCDR Paul Seo

- There have been no new announcements on implementation of the new Associate Recruiter Program.
- As of the beginning of Nov 2009, our category had a total of 292 scientist officers on board
 - 33 Officers are listed as exempt
 - 17 Officers listed as “not qualified” as follows: O6=10, O5=1, O4=5, O3=1
 - Not including exempt officers our, category is 93.4% qualified!

g) **Rules and Membership**, LCDR Matthew Newland

- The Rules and Membership Subcommittee is in the process of updating the SciPAC Charter and SOP. They are striving to make the language consistent with both documents. One specific area is updating language with regard to the treasury. They are also working with the Awards Subcommittee to include language about membership, nominations, and selection process. They should have a draft ready by the end of this calendar year.
- New Calls to Duty:
 - LCDR Bhagwat
 - LCDR David Hess
 - LCDR Sue Sloop
 - LT Jessica Cole
 - LT Jeffery Goodie
 - LT Andrew Lloyd

h) **Science**, LCDR Yi Zhang

- Three additional officers have joined the Science subcommittee.
- Will be drafting an article to be included in Public Health Report.

i) **Visibility**, CAPT Christine Benally, Co-Chair LCDR James Kenney

- The first issue of the Scientist Officer newsletter was released this month. Thanks to the newsletter team!
- The Visibility subcommittee is currently preparing the next edition which is schedule to be issued January 2010. If you would like to contribute, please contact CAPT Benally (Christine.Benally@hhs.gov)

j) **Website**, CDR Danice Eaton

- Nothing new to report.

6) **Liaison Reports**

a) **Billet Transformation Review**, LCDR Judy Facey

- Everyone (especially those who are up for promotion) should log into their Direct Access account and review your information.
- Corrections for the following must be entered into Direct Access (as they cannot be entered on the OFRD website anymore):
 - Supervisory updates (under Supervisory Information)
 - APFT results (Under Physical Fitness)
 - ACLS/BLS updates (Under My Job Preferences)
 - Deployment roles (Under My Job Preferences)
- OFRD and OCCO will use information on the OFRD and Direct Access websites to determine Basic Readiness status. Thus, Direct Access will be used for promotions this year.

b) **COF Liaison**, LCDR Sally Hu

- Our current balance as of October 31, 2009 is \$2194.28. We have an inventory of 180 coins and 68 T-shirts.

c) **COA**, CDR Sara Newman

- Nothing new to report.

d) **JOAG**, LCDR Robin Toblin

- JOAG committees are just getting started as the new fiscal year has just begun. This is a great way to get involved with JOAG and meet other junior officers.
- Two initiatives JOAG will explore this year are collaborating with the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) to recruit future officers and to engage in "Forward Thinking," a long term strategic planning effort.

e) **PSYPAG**, CAPT Michael Murry

- PsyPAG elected officers for the new year. Two PHS Scientist Officers were elected to the executive board:
 - President: LCDR Rick Schobitz
 - Secretary: LCDR Robin Toblin
- Believe this is the first time both positions have been held by Scientist officers!
- Four PHS psychologists were featured in the November issue of the American Psychological Association "Monitor." This is probably the most widely read publication for psychologists, so this is a very high visibility article about psychologists serving in the corps. Kudos to CAPT Stacey Williams, CAPT David McIntyre, CDR Amy Park, and CAPT Rafael Salas.

7) Other:

a) OCCO Representative: CDR Elvira Hall-Robinson:

- The Direct Access for Dummies document available, it describes:
 - How will Direct Access be used for by officers,
 - How the Corps will use Direct Access and
 - The 3 phases for Direct Access
- Waiting for the Force Management Policy CC43.4.2 to be signed by the Secretary that changes the 2800 regular corps to 4000. This is holding up assimilation process.
- Web Migration Project: If the POC for the SciPAC has changed, please send their POC information to Diahann Williams (Diahann.Williams@hhs.gov)
- The SciPAC Web site can be moved to USPHS.gov free of charge. If interested, Website Chair please contact Diahann Williams
- The Blanket Memorandums of Agreement (BMA s) between the USPHS and Walter Reed Army Medical Center and U.S. Army – Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center has been signed which mean officers can apply for jobs and be detail to them.

8) **Closing Remarks**, CDR Diana Bensyl

NOTE: Next meeting: December 1, 2009; 1100-1300