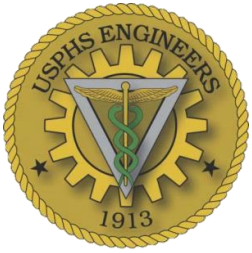


Engineer Professional Advisory Committee

February 2020 Update

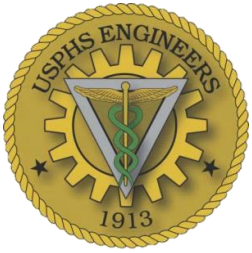


Welcome

- ▶ Welcome to the 2nd meeting of the year!
- ▶ Reminder: we are taking attendance for voting members only
 - ▶ Email EPAC Executive Secretary, LCDR Simpson: Michael.Simpson@fda.hhs.gov



CDR Samantha Spindel,
EPAC Chair

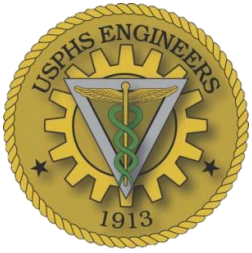


Chief Professional Officer Remarks

- ▶ Happy Engineers Week!
- ▶ Many thanks to our Honored Guests including ADM Giroir, RADM Schwartz, and RADM Hinton for their remarks during our Annual Engineer Awards.
- ▶ Congratulations to CAPT Stephen Martin, PHS Engineer of the Year
CDR Kris Neset, PHS Engineer Responder of the Year
LT Vicky Hsu, RADM Jerrold M. Michael Awardee
- ▶ Congratulations to Agency Engineer of the Year!
 - ▶ CDR Leo Gumapas, NIH
 - ▶ LCDR Travis Spaeth, EPA
 - ▶ LCDR Garrett Chun, NPS
 - ▶ Stephen Glick, FDA



RADM Edward Dieser,
Chief Engineer

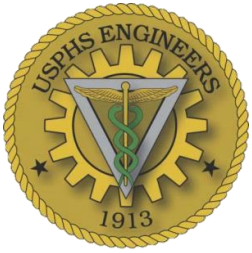


Chief Professional Officer Remarks

- ▶ Thank you to CDR Spindel, LCDRs Simpson, Buck, and Gifford, and LT Sullivan for all they did for this event! Thanks to LCDR Fields, Bandukwala and Hall, and LTJG Price.
- ▶ VERY SPECIAL Thank You to LT Tim Martin - serving as our event lead!



RADM Edward Dieser,
Chief Engineer

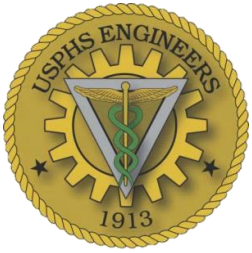


EPAC Chair Remarks

- ▶ Had great discussions with all subcommittee leadership leading up to this meeting
- ▶ Hope you will be delighted and impressed by what's in store for 2020
- ▶ Format for today's meeting: each subcommittee has 4 min. to present their workplans
 - ▶ Please actively listen to all initiatives and jot down questions/comments
 - ▶ We will have time for discussion after all subcommittees have presented
 - ▶ If we do not have time to address your question/comment, please feel free to reach out directly to the subcommittee leadership
 - ▶ If you are interested in getting involved in any of the initiatives described on this call, please reach out directly to the subcommittee leadership



CDR Samantha Spindel,
EPAC Chair



Awards Subcommittee

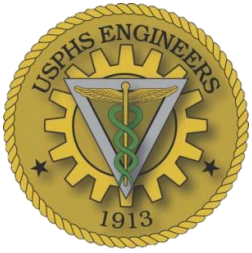
- ▶ Awards Review Board (February Cycle-Villforth, Lynch, Burgess, ELIT, SAME Awards)
 - ▶ Update-Nomination period closed on Feb. 10th. Chair/Vice Chair summarized all nominations and reported to the EPAC Chair the nomination metrics on Feb. 12th.
 - ▶ Some awards received little or no nominations. Requested deadline extension to CPO through EPAC Chair.
 - ▶ Nomination Period Extended to February 28th.
 - ▶ Encourage nominations and nominate deserving individuals or teams!
 - ▶ Shorter than normal review period for Awards subcommittee.
- ▶ Strategic Initiatives Team (Lead: LCDR Travis Sorum)
 - ▶ Goals: Update Award Nomination Packets, Examine EOY/NSPE Award Nomination Process, Update Rubrics as needed, Create Review Team Criteria.
 - ▶ Volunteers may be needed based on requirements of Team Lead.
- ▶ SOP Initiative (Lead: LCDR Abbas Bandukwala)
 - ▶ Initiative was tabled in 2019 but plan to finalize in 2020. 50% draft SOP complete.
- ▶ Awards Communication Initiative (Lead: TBD-Need Volunteer for 2020)
 - ▶ Review Awards Portion of EPAC Website, Update POC Listing with Agencies, Update Award Selections on Website, draft recognition documents and award write-up tools.



CDR John Kathol,
Chair



CDR Matthew
Mergenthaler, Vice Chair



Career Development Subcommittee

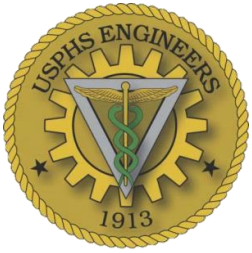
- ▶ PE Licensure Fact Sheet
 - ▶ OSG approved. Small comments to be addressed
 - ▶ Once cleared will post to EPAC webpage and send with Engineering Announcements
- ▶ USPHS Symposium Speed Mentoring
 - ▶ CDR Kurt Kesteloot volunteered to lead the event
 - ▶ Still working on the overall logistics (time, room space, etc.)
- ▶ Mentoring Resources
 - ▶ Approved to upload. May take time to show up (OSG review)
 - ▶ Please review and use the documents in your mentoring pairs. Provide feedback
- ▶ CDS Webpage
 - ▶ Approval from EPAC chair to remove the text filled CDS page
 - ▶ Working with team lead to implement a smoother interface. Have a draft from last year



LCDR Omobogie Amadasu, Chair



CDR Eric Hanssen, Vice Chair



Events Subcommittee

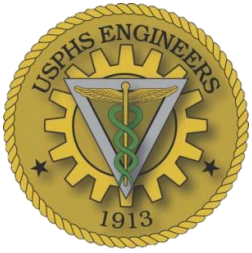
- ▶ E-Week Awards Ceremony (FDA, February 13, 2020)
 - ▶ Success! ASH and DSG in attendance. Appreciate the E-Week Planning Team!
 - ▶ We will be having an after action report (Successes/Opportunities for Improvement).
- ▶ SAME - JETC (Walter E. Washington Convention Center, DC, May 27-29, 2020)
 - ▶ Located in DC and encourage all DMV engineers to attend. NPS mall tour.
 - ▶ No USPHS submission was accepted. Very competitive this year.
- ▶ COF Symposium "Cat Day" (Renaissance Hotel Glendale, AZ, June 15-18, 2020)
 - ▶ All abstracts have been submitted. Presentations need to be reviewed by OSG/CPO.
 - ▶ Co-sponsorship between COF and CCHQ. Need volunteers!



LCDR Derrick Buck,
Chair



LCDR Michael Gifford,
Vice Chair



Information Subcommittee

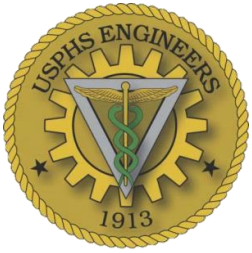
- ▶ Content Management
 - ▶ Up to date on website requests
 - ▶ Assignment of website sections to specific group for review (attachment)
 - ▶ Submit update requests to EPAC-POSTINGS@LIST.NIH.GOV
 - ▶ [Anonymous Feedback](#) section on website
- ▶ Newsletter
 - ▶ Deadline for new articles is Feb 29th
- ▶ Combined Category Newsletter
 - ▶ On hold



CAPT Josh Simms,
Chair



LCDR Garrett Chun,
Vice Chair



Public Health Engineering Practice Subcommittee

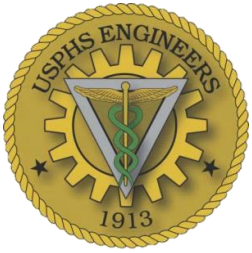
- ▶ Meetings 3rd Thursday of the month at 2pm
 - ▶ Discuss workgroup activities
 - ▶ Open for engineers to bring questions, challenges, and projects that may help with daily workload
- ▶ 3D Print Masks
 - ▶ Submitted article to The Military Engineer on 2/15/2020 for consideration in May/June 2020 issue
 - ▶ Working on refinements to inverse mold to host on NIH 3D print exchange
 - ▶ Possible collaboration with Dental PAC for 3D printing mouth for supporting oral health lesson plan in advance of Surgeon General report. Looking for workgroup volunteers
- ▶ Engineering Standards
 - ▶ Submitted draft report for review by PHEP Leadership for accessing Engineering Standards
 - ▶ Workgroup will address comments and will discuss a format to present findings to EPAC
- ▶ Engineering Library/Competency
 - ▶ Partnering with Readiness to build a engineer skill database for vetted skills and a library of engineer reference documents on an online portal
 - ▶ Planning to host on either a Max.Gov or APAN
 - ▶ Need a SharePoint to host Access database for skill database



CDR Leo Gumapas,
Chair



CDR James Coburn,
Vice Chair



Readiness Subcommittee

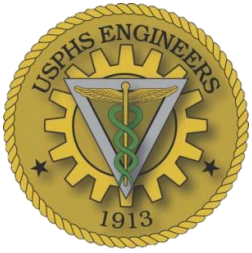
- ▶ Deployment Readiness Support: Improve Engineer Readiness
 - ▶ Initial planning stage, defining scope, and identifying next steps
 - ▶ Request recent engineer readiness data for analysis
- ▶ Readiness Training and Education: Training Curriculum
 - ▶ Ongoing
 - ▶ Challenges/problems/request for feedback
- ▶ Information Management/Engineer Booklet: Engineer Deployment Narrative
 - ▶ Submitted combined stories to date for review
 - ▶ Establish protocols for review and vetting the narratives
 - ▶ Get narratives on the website
 - ▶ Facilitate submission of narratives for all officers through a form on the website



CDR Frank Chua,
Chair



CDR Sean Bush,
Vice Chair



Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee

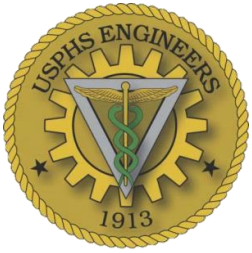
- ▶ Updating SOP - Target date for draft SOP April 2020
- ▶ Updating Engineering Handbook - Working with Career Development Subcommittee to identify the Scope of work.
- ▶ Updated R&R Workplan for 2020
- ▶ R&R will now meet once every two month.



LCDR Praveen KC,
Chair



LCDR Fred Kelly,
Vice Chair



Rules Subcommittee

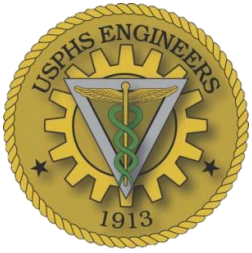
- ▶ Subcommittee SOPs - LCDR Palo
 - ▶ CDS SOP finalized Dec 2019 https://dcp.psc.gov/OSG/engineer/career_development.aspx
 - ▶ CDRs Griff Miller and Stacey Yonce are the co-leads working with LT Melissa deVera for this effort. Please submit your SOP schedule timeline to the co-leads to provide them an estimate of when you will be requesting a review. This step is required prior to submitting SOPs for EPAC vote.
- ▶ Voting Member Selection - CDR Cox
 - ▶ LCDRs Abbas Bandukwala and Diana Wong are the co-leads for this initiative to define the selection process and submit it to be included in the Rules subcommittee SOP.
 - ▶ Establish criteria to permit voting member to abstain from an EPAC vote.
 - ▶ If you have suggestions, please send them to the co-leads and copy me.
- ▶ EPAC Bylaws Update
 - ▶ CDR Greg Ault is the team lead to resolve outstanding recommendations from the 2019 Bylaws Update that were presented at the Dec 2019 EPAC meeting.
- ▶ Certificates of Participation
 - ▶ LCDR Mary Millner is the team lead to develop a template including signature level.



CDR Deb Cox,
Chair



LCDR Matt Palo,
Vice Chair



Engineer Category Strategic Plan Subcommittee

Background

- ▶ Tasked by Chief Engineer to examine Engineer Category Strategic Plan
- ▶ Current Plan Last Revised July 2005

Current Work

- ▶ Reviewing July 2005 and input provided in 2017 COF Conference

Future Work

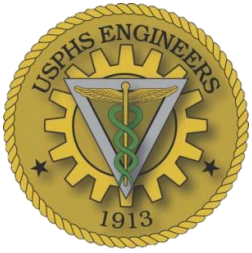
- ▶ Develop plan outline & seek input from EPAC Voting Members Jul/Aug
- ▶ Draft plan for EPAC Voting Member Review Nov/Dec



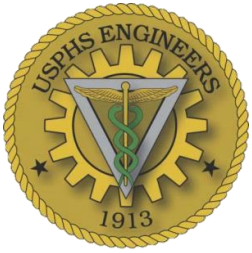
CAPT David Harvey,
Chair



CDR Sam Russell,
Vice Chair

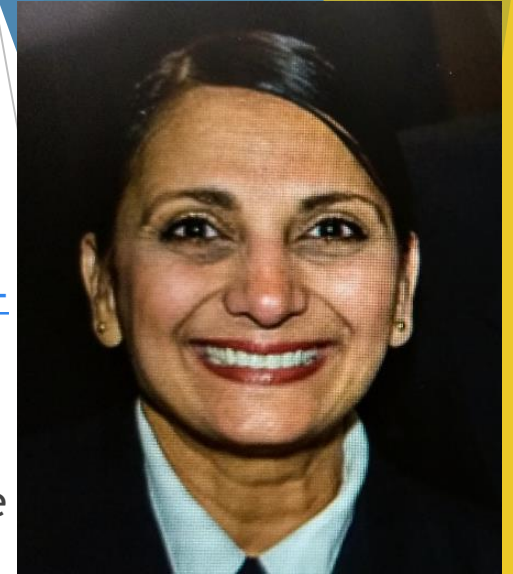


General Discussion and Questions

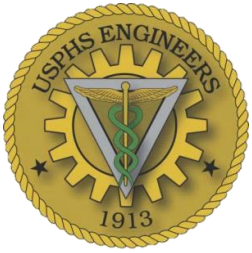


Commissioned Corps Women's Issues Advisory Board Update

- ▶ PHS Expectant Parents Resource Guide is updated and posted on CCWIAB website
https://dcp.psc.gov/OSG/ccwiab/documents/USPHS-Resource-Guide-for-Expectant-Parents_version-2.0_CLEAN-12-20-19.pdf
- ▶ Officers are reluctant to seek Mental Health. CCWAIB has been tasked by DSG and Medical Affairs Branch with helping draft information dissemination regarding mental health care for all officers.
- ▶ PACE has asked CCWIAB to help them review and develop outreach content. Requested feedback re challenges/problems.
- ▶ Cervical Cancer Screening white paper was developed at the end of last year to align pap smear with the 5 year physical. With great time, PHU is more in alignment with the professional guidance/recommendation.
- ▶ Maintain Fitness for Pregnancy and Post-Partum Resource Guide are both being worked on and at gathering information stage.
- ▶ Female footwear option and hair regulations policy proposal are pending status with CCHQ
- ▶ Anti-Harassment Committee is newly formed and will focus on prevention recourse/training
- ▶ Next Meeting March 4 @ 1200-1300 Eastern. Please let me know if you are interesting in a committee or want to take the next call. I can forward you the invite and provide minutes from late meeting to see all the work tasks.
- ▶ Last year on CCWAIB of three year term. If interested in being the engineer voting member next year, please consider joining this year as non voting member and helping with a committee.



CAPT Varsha Savalia,
CCWIAB Liaison



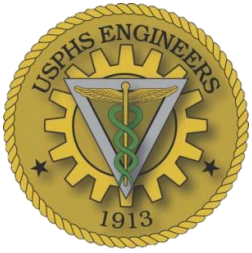
Commissioned Officer's Association Update

- ▶ 55th USPHS Scientific & Training Symposium Update - June 15-18, 2020
 - ▶ Officers can participate and receive funding to attend COF, as a co-sponsorship agreement has been signed
 - ▶ Please review email from DSG. You can use official email and reasonable limited time to participate and organize symposium related tasks.
 - ▶ Permissive TDY is an option if your agency cannot fund you. If your supervisor and agency support your attendance, but cannot provide funding due to financial limitations, and if you are willing to pay your own way, then Permissive TDY is the next option to use. Please review the Permissive TDY policy - this is considered official travel, but at no cost to the government. COA has scholarships for Junior officers for the registration portion.
 - ▶ No group can sell the merchandise at the COF symposium (no fundraising during duty hours)
 - ▶ All presenters and presentations will be vetted by the OSG.
 - ▶ For more information on the USPHS Scientific & Training Symposium, <https://www.phscof.org/symposium.html>
- ▶ Update on search for new Executive Director of COA to replace Col (Ret) Jim Currie
 - ▶ Final interviews for the candidates by the end of March
 - ▶ A replacement hopefully in place by the 2nd week of April



CDR Nikhil Thakur,
COA Liaison





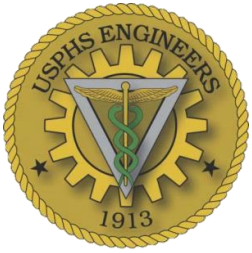
Junior Officers Advisory Group Update

- ▶ Call for Nominations for JOAG Voting Members - Due March 23, 2020
 - ▶ Includes one engineer requested for OY20-21 beginning 10/1/2020, position currently held by LT Tack
 - ▶ Responsibilities for the engineer Voting Member (VM) include serving as JOAG VM, serving as co-chair for one of JOAG's 9 committees, and serving as JOAG-EPAC liaison
 - ▶ For more information, see documents linked below or reach out to LT Tack (Colin.Tack@fda.hhs.gov)
 - ▶ [2020 Call for JOAG Voting Member Nominations.pdf](#)
 - ▶ [2020 JOAG Membership Application Packet.pdf](#)
 - ▶ [2020 JOAG VM FAQ.pdf](#)
 - ▶ [FY20 SO Flyer.pdf](#)
- ▶ JOAG is looking for volunteers for the COF symposium in Phoenix, June 15-18, 2020
 - ▶ Request includes both planning (remotely) and on-site at COF



LT Colin Tack,
JOAG Liaison

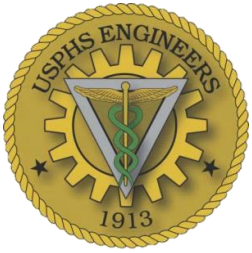




Society of American Military Engineers Update

CDR Steve Sauer,
SAME Liaison





Closing Remarks and Adjourn

- ▶ PHS Engineers Award Ceremony held on February 13
- ▶ Opening Remarks by the Assistance Secretary for Health, Deputy Surgeon General and the FDA Chief Scientist
- ▶ RADM Dieser conducted the awards ceremony
 - ▶ Congratulations to CAPT Martin, LT Hsu, CDR Neset!
- ▶ HUGE Thank you to LT Martin, LCDR Simpson, LT Sullivan, LCDR Buck, and LCDR Gifford for all they did for this event!



CDR Samantha Spindel,
EPAC Chair