

Engineer Professional Advisory Committee

August 2020 Update

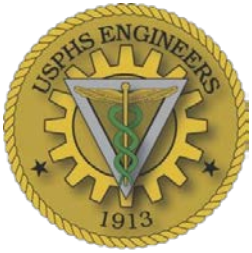


Chief Professional Officer Remarks

- ▶ Comments will be provided during meeting



RADM Edward Dieser,
Chief Engineer



EPAC Chair Remarks

- ▶ RADM Dieser and I are still discussing mid-year EPAC reports. Feedback and suggestions for consideration are forthcoming.
- ▶ Certificates for Virtual Category Day were sent out last month. Please contact LCDR Fred Kelly if you have any questions.



CDR Samantha Spindel,
EPAC Chair



CDR Deb Cox,
EPAC Vice Chair



Awards Subcommittee

- ▶ Awards Review Board (February Cycle-Villforth, Lynch, Burgess, ELIT, SAME Awards)-COMPLETE for 2020
 - ▶ All awardees were notified by RADM Dieser at the end of July. Award Ceremony pending COVID-19.
 - ▶ Awardees:
 - ▶ RADM John C. Villforth Leadership Award-CAPT David Harvey (IHS)
 - ▶ RADM Ian K. Burgess Outstanding Young PHS Engineer Award (Corps)-LCDR Timothy Martin (FDA)
 - ▶ Roger H. Lynch Outstanding Young PHS Engineer Award (Civilian)-Ms. Caitlin Caldwell (IHS)
 - ▶ Robert C. Williams ELIT Award (PEER Reviewed)-LCDR Michael Shahan/Dr. William Randolph Reed (CDC)
 - ▶ Robert C. Williams ELIT Award (OPEN Category)-LCDR Hanniebey Wiyor (FDA)
 - ▶ SAME Hollis Medal-CDR Brad Cunningham (FDA)
 - ▶ SAME Green Medal-LT Chaolong Qi (NIOSH)
 - ▶ SAME Cumming Plaque-California Area Indian Health Service Sanitation Facilities Construction Emergency Response and Recovery Team (IHS)
- ▶ Awards Strategic Initiatives Team: LCDR Travis Sorum)
 - ▶ Nomination Forms and Summary documents have been drafted for the EOY, EROY, and Michael's Awards.
 - ▶ Next Step: Submit to EPAC Chair/CPO for Review (August)
- ▶ SOP Initiative (Lead: LCDR Abbas Bandukwala)
 - ▶ Updated draft of SOP has been completed.
 - ▶ Next Step: Submit to EPAC Chair/CPO for Review (August)



CDR John Kathol,
Chair



CDR Matthew
Mergenthaler, Vice Chair



Career Development Subcommittee

- ▶ Hosted Monthly Conference call
 - ▶ Adjusted the work plan, focus on outreach message on new promotion policies
 - ▶ PE Civil review books available, Free contract tracing training through John Hopkins
- ▶ CPO Fact sheet
 - ▶ Currently in development awaiting feedback from CPO
- ▶ Biomedical Initiative
 - ▶ Scope creep. Must meet with team lead and review objectives
- ▶ Honor the late CAPT (ret) Gladys Rodriguez
 - ▶ Comments received will finalize and post to EPAC website
- ▶ Mentoring Program
 - ▶ Mid-year check-in with Mentors/Mentees & mid-year reporting request out this week
 - ▶ Development of database
- ▶ Database of Online Engineering Master's Programs
 - ▶ In search of Survey Monkey account to release survey



LCDR Omobogie Amadasu, Chair



CAPT Eric Hanssen, Vice Chair



Events Subcommittee

- ▶ Chief Engineer's Quarterly Meeting (Virtual - September 24, 2020)
 - ▶ Senior Officer Panel + Quarterly Town Hall. Be on the lookout for a save-the-date.
 - ▶ Lead: LT Drew Katherine.
- ▶ AMSUS (Gaylord Nation Resort and Convention Center, MD, Dec. 6-10, 2020)
 - ▶ Now offering hybrid (in person/online) participation. Registration opens September 15th.
 - ▶ Lead: LCDR Michael Simpson, Co-Leads: LCDR Michael Tollon, LCDR Hanniebey Wiyor.
- ▶ E-Week (National Park Service HQ, DC, Feb. 2021)
 - ▶ Lead: LT David Sullivan.
- ▶ COF Symposium (Renaissance Hotel Glendale, AZ, June 21-24, 2021)
 - ▶ Soliciting for abstracts later this year.
 - ▶ Lead: LCDR Fred Kelly, Co-Lead: LCDR Matthew Palo, Lead-on-Deck: LCDR Michael Gifford.
- ▶ SAME - JETC (Oregon Convention Center, OR, May 18-21, 2021)
 - ▶ Lead: CDR Benjamin Marnell.



LCDR Derrick Buck,
Chair



LCDR Michael Gifford,
Vice Chair

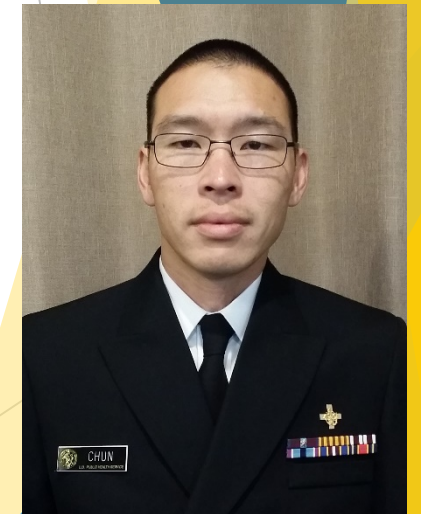


Information Subcommittee

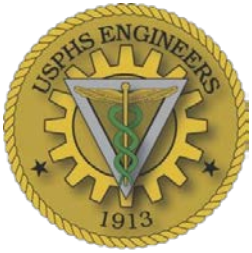
- ▶ Content Management
 - ▶ All updates to the website made: new SAME awardees listed, minor updates, vacancy announcements
 - ▶ Assembled a group composed of officers from various agencies to beta test a new HHS platform.
 - ▶ Submit update requests to EPAC-POSTINGS@LIST.NIH.GOV
 - ▶ No new submissions through the Anonymous Feedback section on website
- ▶ EPAC Newsletter
 - ▶ Fall 2020 articles due August 31
 - ▶ One article has been received for the Fall 2020 EPAC Newsletter.
- ▶ APAN SharePoint Site for EPAC
 - ▶ OSG has asked to discontinue use of Google Drive
 - ▶ The EPAC SharePoint is set up as an alternative site
 - ▶ Please contact garrett_chun@nps.gov if your subcommittee has a need of this



CAPT Josh Simms,
Chair



LCDR Garrett Chun,
Vice Chair



Public Health Engineering Practice Subcommittee

- ▶ Deployer and OPDIV Skill and Needs Workgroup
 - ▶ Collaborating with Career Development and Readiness Subcommittee to develop a prototype by October EPAC Meeting
 - ▶ Developing a database and standard operating procedures
 - ▶ Contact LCDR Wandersee - michael_wandersee@fws.gov
- ▶ Article Publications
 - ▶ PHEP is always available to review articles, reach out to CDR James Coburn - James.Coburn@fda.hhs.gov



CDR Leo Gumapas,
Chair



CDR James Coburn,
Vice Chair



Readiness Subcommittee

- ▶ Deployment Readiness Support: Improve Engineer Readiness
 - ▶ Survey questions for Readiness Survey updated and will be sent out to EPAC Chair by 8/20.
- ▶ Readiness Training and Education: Training Curriculum
 - ▶ No updates
- ▶ Information Management/Engineer Booklet: Engineer Deployment Narrative
 - ▶ COVID19 Narratives
 - ▶ Received 18 stories to date and will be reviewing for 508 compliance.
 - ▶ Anticipate posting narratives by 8/20.



CDR Frank Chua,
Chair



CDR Sean Bush,
Vice Chair



Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee

- ▶ Due to no new information on current applicants from CCHQ, R&R is currently on standby mode
- ▶ Recruitment Presentation
 - ▶ R&R is developing a survey to collect information for an Engineer Category recruitment presentation
- ▶ R&R SOP
 - ▶ Reviewed by Rules Committee. Comments have been addressed.
- ▶ COSTEP Open Window
 - ▶ CCHQ sent out an email on 08/11/2020 stating the COSTEP window will remain open through September 30, 2020



LCDR Praveen KC,
Chair



LCDR Fred Kelly,
Vice Chair



Rules Subcommittee

- ▶ Proposal for new EPAC Voting Members to serve from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023 has been sent to current voting members.
 - ▶ Votes are due by August 24th
- ▶ Now is the time for Voting Members to think about running for Chair-Elect in 2021 and Chair in 2022.
- ▶ Rules SOP is posted on our website
 - ▶ Great job to all Subcommittees submitting SOPs for format review.
 - ▶ Look forward to SOPs being finalized and posted on subcommittee websites



CDR Deb Cox,
Chair



LCDR Matt Palo,
Vice Chair



Strategic Planning for Engineering Subcommittee

- ▶ CDR Russell will begin work planning and mapping the process of updating the Engineer category strategic plan
- ▶ This will include more volunteers to support this effort, but will require input over workplan from the CPO
- ▶ Steps to be taken over the next month:
 - ▶ Meet with CPO
 - ▶ Draft Workplan and set milestone targets
 - ▶ Assess resource needs for volunteers for report during September EPAC meeting



CAPT David Harvey,
Chair



CDR Sam Russell,
Vice Chair

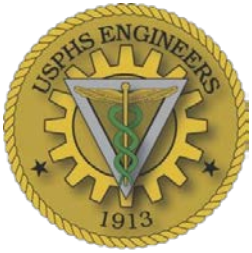


Certifiable Skills Update

- By PHEP Deployer and OPDIV Skill and Needs Workgroup



LCDR Michael
Wandersee



Background

- ▶ PHEP undertook the creation of a database for certifiable skills used by Engineering Officers
- ▶ Skills database generated based on previous PHEP work and investigations
 - ▶ Current effort is focused on providing a process for capturing, vetting, and tracking skill sets
- ▶ Skills tied to OPDIVs and PHS mission.
 - ▶ Currently not looking at job functions with OPDIVs
- ▶ Database being tied to other subcommittee work, for example mentoring
 - ▶ Career Development for matching mentor/mentee based on skills
 - ▶ Readiness to generate lists of skills to meet Deployment Missions needs
 - ▶ Ongoing work that will impact outside of EPAC for providing a process and mock-up of a system to track skills
- ▶ All screenshots of documents are working drafts



Categorizing Skills – Benchmark Validation

- ▶ Skills are labeled as benchmark or non-benchmark
- ▶ Benchmark skills meet a high level of standard
- ▶ Non-benchmark skills are included and seen as added value for OPDIV and/or PHS
- ▶ Skills can be technical or administrative

GENERAL INFORMATION				OBTAINING SKILL (REQUIRES 2)				MAINTAINING SKILL (REQUIRES 1)		WHO RECONIZES THE SKILL? (REQUIRES 1)		OPDIV/PHS BENEFIT (REQUIRES 1)									
Certifying Company/Agency Acronym	Certifiable Skill	Subcategory	Benchmark Skill Requirements Met?	Training Provided by Federal Government	Training Provided by Federal Government Partner	Maximum Possible Certification REQUIRED: Certification has a Test/Exam	CEU/PDU/EQUIVALENT REQUIREMENT	BIENNIAL EXAM OR MORE FREQUENT	STATE EMS	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	PHS	IHS/ANTHC	DOI	FDA	NIOSH	CDC	CMS	NIH	EPA	DOD	ASPR
FAI	FAC-COR	Level I	Yes	X		X	X			X	X	X	X		X					X	
FAI	FAC-COR	Level II	Yes	X		X	X			X	X	X	X		X					X	
FAI	FAC-COR	Level III	Yes	X		X	X			X	X	X	X		X					X	
FAI	FAC-P/PM	Entry Level	Yes	X		X	X			X	X	X	X		X					X	
FAI	FAC-P/PM	Mid Level	Yes	X		X	X			X	X	X	X		X					X	
FAI	FAC-P/PM	Senior Level	Yes	X		X	X			X	X	X	X		X					X	
PMI	PMP	n/a	Yes			X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X				X	X	



Categorizing Skills

- ▶ The two data sources allow for officers looking to transfer or further their career
- ▶ Datasheet is meant to provide enough information to officers to get started

Date of Last Change	Administrative/Technical Skill	Type of Engineer	Tier Level of Certification	Certifying Company/Agency	Certifying Company/Agency Acronym
12/31/2020	Administrative	Multiple	Benchmark	Federal Acquisition Institute	FAI
12/31/2020	Administrative	Multiple	Benchmark	Federal Acquisition Institute	FAI
12/31/2020	Administrative	Multiple	Benchmark	Federal Acquisition Institute	FAI
12/31/2020	Administrative	Multiple	Benchmark	Federal Acquisition Institute	FAI
12/31/2020	Administrative	Multiple	Benchmark	Federal Acquisition Institute	FAI
12/31/2020	Administrative	Multiple	Benchmark	Federal Acquisition Institute	FAI
12/31/2020	Administrative	Multiple	Benchmark	Project Management Institute	PMI
12/31/2020	Technical	Multiple	Benchmark	Occupational Safety and Health Administration	OSHA
12/31/2020	Technical	Multiple	Non-benchmark	Occupational Safety and Health Administration	OSHA
12/31/2020	Technical	Multiple	Non-benchmark	Occupational Safety and Health Administration	OSHA
12/31/2020	Technical	Multiple	Non-benchmark	Occupational Safety and Health Administration	OSHA
12/31/2020	Technical	Civil	Benchmark	National Council of Examiners and Engineering and Surveying	NCEES
12/31/2020	Technical	Civil	Benchmark	U.S. Green Building Council	USGBC

Certifiable Skill	Subcategory	Engineer Focus	Link(s)	Note(s)
FAC-COR	Level I	Project Manager	https://www.fai.gov	Contracting Officer's Representative
FAC-COR	Level II	Project Manager	https://www.fai.gov	Contracting Officer's Representative
FAC-COR	Level III	Project Manager	https://www.fai.gov	Contracting Officer's Representative
FAC-P/PM	Entry Level	Project Manager	https://www.fai.gov	Program and Project Managers
FAC-P/PM	Mid Level	Project Manager	https://www.fai.gov	Program and Project Managers
FAC-P/PM	Senior Level	Project Manager	https://www.fai.gov	Program and Project Managers
PMP	n/a	Project Manager	https://www.pmi.org	Project Management Professional
HAZWOPER	40 hour	Disaster	https://www.osha.g	n/a
Construction Safety	10 hour	Construction	https://www.osha.g	n/a
Construction Safety	30 hour	Construction	https://www.osha.g	n/a
Confined Spaces	n/a	Facility Management	https://www.osha.g	n/a
SE	n/a	Project Manager	https://ncees.org	Structural Engineer; Offered through multiple states
LEED	AP	Project Manager	https://www.usgbc	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design



STANDARD CERTIFIABLE SKILLS REQUEST FORM
PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING PRACTICE SUBCOMMITTEE
CERTIFIABLE SKILLS VERSION: AUGUST 4, 2020

TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE REQUESTOR	
1. Do you want to approve <input type="checkbox"/> or remove <input type="checkbox"/> or modify <input type="checkbox"/> a certifiable skill?	
2. Is the skill an administrative <input type="checkbox"/> or a technical <input type="checkbox"/> certifiable skill?	
3. Certifiable Skill and any subgroup:	4. Certifying Company/Agency
5. Certifying Company/Agency Acronym	6. What type of Engineer would benefit? (can put multiple)
7. What type of Engineer focus is this skill?	8. Which OPDIV(s) would benefit?
9. Provide a brief description for your request and pertinent link(s):	

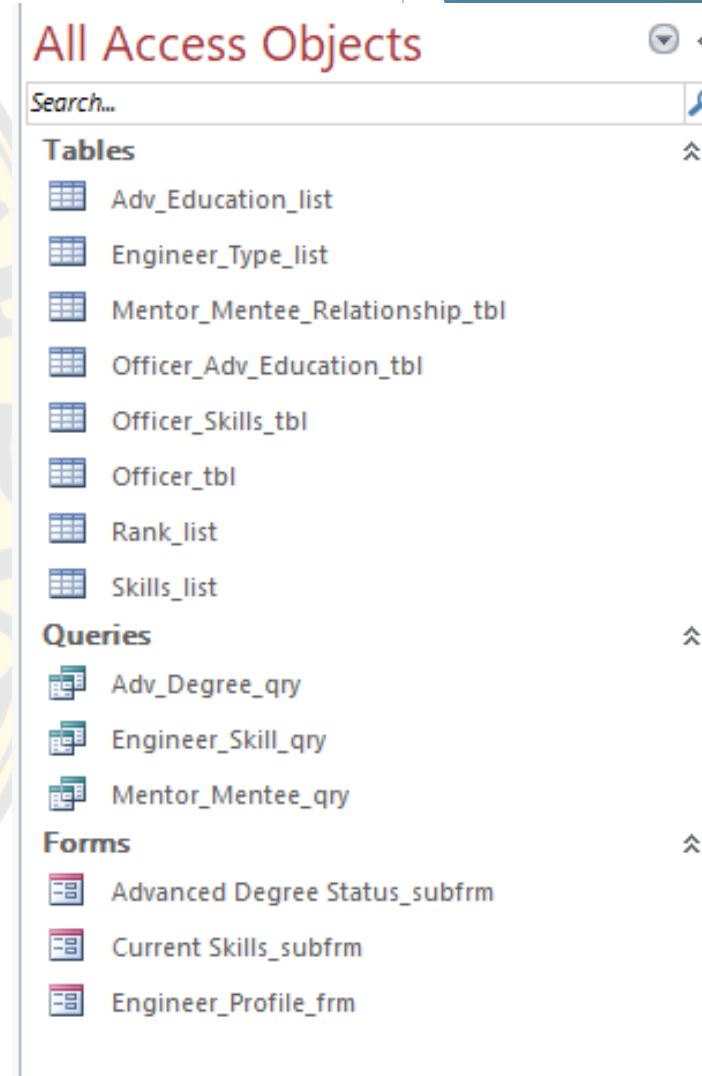
Requestor

Date



Access Database

- ▶ PHEP has worked with other subcommittees to create an access database
- ▶ Allows for sorting and matching
- ▶ Powerful tool that can be used for deployments, hiring, mentoring, and much more





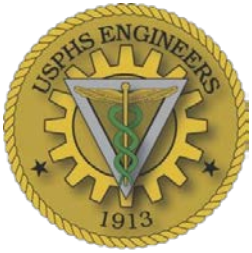
Moving Forward

▶ Ongoing

- ▶ Complete certifiable skills database and SOPs (December 2020)
- ▶ PHEP will continue to work with other Subcommittees to enhance the database Access file
- ▶ Currently, CCHQ calls officers to verify self-reported skills for future missions
 - ▶ Process has potential for providing updated and vetted lists on USPHS Engineers that possess needed skills
- ▶ Database will assist with deployments, promotions, officer development, and hiring agencies

▶ Future

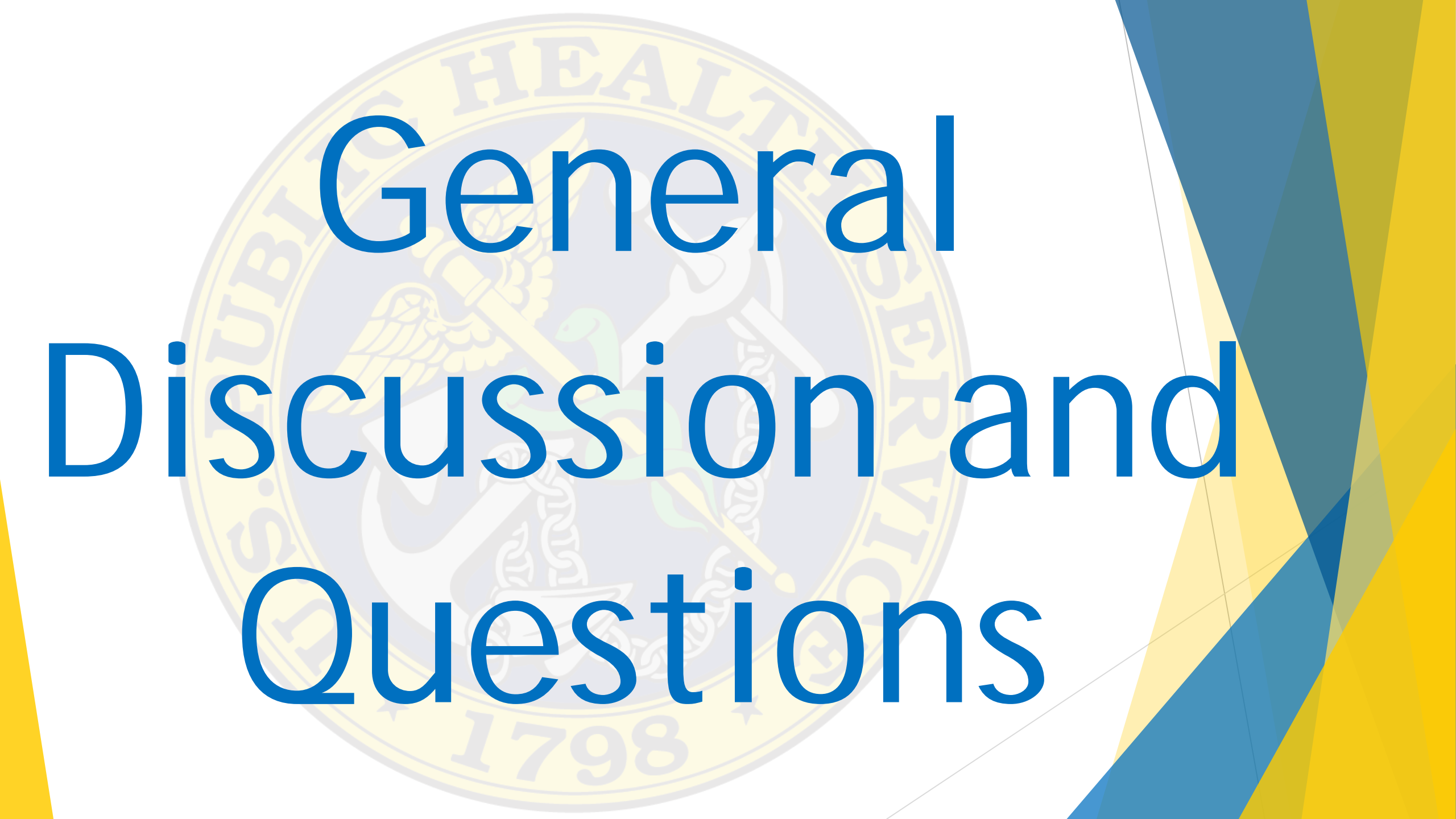
- ▶ Capturing skills outside of the current format and level of experience with vetting
- ▶ Share with other PACs



Closing and Questions

- ▶ Special thanks to:
 - ▶ CDR Leo Angelo Gumapas
 - ▶ LCDR Steven Tidwell
 - ▶ LCDR Jacob Dyer
 - ▶ LCDR Abbas Bandukwala
 - ▶ LT Drew Katherine
 - ▶ Everyone who provided comments and previous work

- ▶ Send comments/questions to Michael_Wandersee@fws.gov

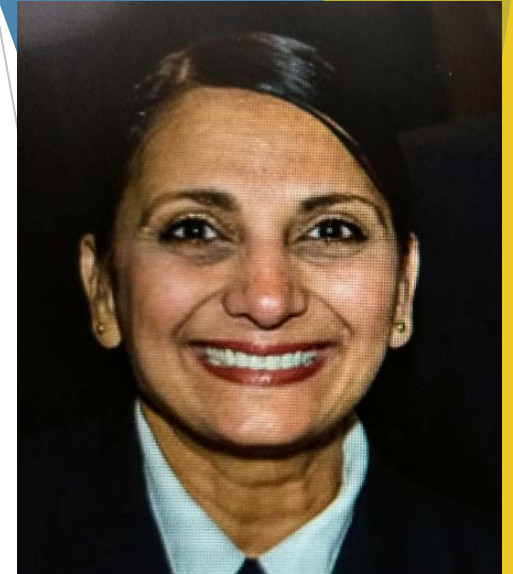


General Discussion and Questions

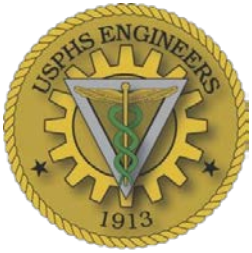


Commissioned Corps Women's Issues Advisory Board Update

- ▶ Previous meetings have been cancelled due to COVID
- ▶ CCWIAB is working on Reported COVID-19 Deployment Challenges among Female Officers and Recommendations Memo.
 - ▶ Challenges: COVID-19 testing, social distancing, support upon returning home, deployment lag time, under-utilization, unique caregiving responsibilities, medical waivers contacted for deployment, billeting and TDY location safety, and redeployment immediate after returning home.



CAPT Varsha Savalia,
CCWIAB Liaison



Commissioned Officer's Association Update

- ▶ Nothing substantive to report this month



CDR Brad Cunningham,
COA Liaison





Junior Officers Advisory Group Update

- ▶ JOAG Virtual Award Presentation is Friday August 14, 1300 - 1400 EDT
- ▶ Congratulations to LCDR Michael Wandersee for being selected as JOAG VM and JOAG/EPAC Liaison for 2020-2022 term!
- ▶ Did you miss the JOAG Deployment Preparation Webinar on Wednesday, July 8, 2020?
 - ▶ You can watch a recording of the webinar here:
<https://community.max.gov/display/HHS/Deployment+Webinar>
- ▶ Two upcoming Meet & Greet Events
 - ▶ Wednesday August 26, 2020 1300 - 1400 MT; Phoenix, AZ
 - ▶ Thursday September 3, 2020 1300 - 1400 MT; Tuba City, AZ



LT Colin Tack,
JOAG Liaison





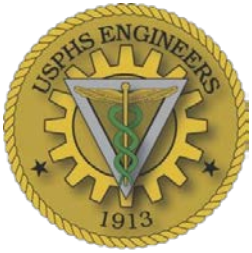
Society of American Military Engineers Update

- ▶ Nothing substantive to report this month



CDR Steve Sauer,
SAME Liaison





Closing Remarks and Adjourn

- ▶ Voting Members - please provide recommendations for spending EPAC funds
- ▶ Voting Members - consider applying for EPAC Chair-Elect
- ▶ Please submit COVID-19 narratives and articles for the newsletter!
- ▶ Please continue to maintain your readiness
 - ▶ Vaccinations are not automatically waived
- ▶ Thank you to all who have deployed!



RADM Edward Dieser,
Chief Engineer



CDR Samantha Spindel,
26 EPAC Chair