



Commissioned Corps of the US Public Health Service Scientist Professional Advisory Committee



Meeting Minutes; March 5, 2019

Via Webex meeting: [Join Webex meeting](#)

Or via phone: 1-210-795-0506; 1-877-465-7975; [Global call-in numbers](#)

Access code: 901 276 235

Total Attendance: 114

Chief Scientist Officer and 2018–2019 SciPAC Executive Board Members

Rank	Name	Role	
CAPT	Eckert, John	Chief Scientist Officer	Present
CAPT	Thomas, Jennifer	Chair	Present
CDR	Rodgers, Loren	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair Ex Officio Chairperson; Recruitment and Retention	Present
CDR	Toblin, Robin	Subcommittee Co-Chair	Present
LCDR	Shumate, Alice	Executive Secretary	Present
LCDR	Wilken, Jason	COF Liaison	Present

Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	
CDR	Barbour, Kamil	Visibility Subcommittee Chair	Present
CDR	Chiaruttini, Jessica	Policy Subcommittee Co-Chair	
CDR	Dee, Deb	Category Day Co-Chair	Excused
CDR	Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne	Website Subcommittee Chair	Excused
CDR	Kenney, James	Awards Subcommittee Chair	Excused
CDR	Huang, David	Science Subcommittee Co-Chair	Excused
CDR	Rossiter, Lana	Mentoring Subcommittee Chair	Excused
CDR	Zhou, Eric	Category Day Chair	Excused
LCDR	Bjork, Adam	Policy Subcommittee Chair	Present
LCDR	Blessington, Tyann Irvin-Barnwell,	Career Development Subcommittee Chair	Present
LCDR	Elizabeth	Readiness Subcommittee Chair	Present
LCDR	Jamoom, Eric	Science Subcommittee Chair	Present
LCDR	Leshin, Jonathan	Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee Chair	Present
LCDR	Ou, Oliver	Career Development Subcommittee Co-Chair	Present
LCDR	Pesce, John	Mentoring Subcommittee Co-Chair	Present

Non-voting Liaisons

Rank	Name	Role	
CAPT	Sanders, Martin	COA Liaison	
CDR	Cua, Eduardo	PSYPAG Liaison	
CDR	Halldin, Cara	CCWIAB Liaison	Present
CDR	Perez, Cesar	MOLC Liaison	Present
LCDR	Iturriaga, Luis	SOAGDAG Liaison	Present
LCDR	Jeisy Scott, Victoria	JOAG Liaison	Present
LCDR	Odom, Erika	PACE Liaison	Present

Participation by Non-voting Scientist Officers: CAPT Karon Abe; CAPT Rachel Avchen; CAPT Marco Bennett; CAPT Jon Daugherty; CAPT Joseph Despina; CAPT Laura Draski; CAPT Jeffrey Goodie; CAPT Rosa Key-Schwartz; CAPT Mary Lawrence; CAPT Ryan Novak; CAPT Margaret Riggs; CAPT Michael Smith; CAPT Armen Thoumaian; CDR Matthew Breiding; CDR Sharyn Brown; CDR Dan-My Chu; CDR Minglei Cui; CDR Judy Facey; CDR Theodore Garnett; CDR Wei Guo; CDR Brian Harcourt; CDR Emily Jentes; CDR Sara Lowther; CDR Andrea Mccollum; CDR Mark Miller; CDR Lara Misegades; CDR Cria Perrine; CDR Kenneth Phillips; CDR Anne Purfield; CDR Luz Rivera; CDR Erin Sauber-Schatz; CDR Nadra Tyus; CDR Jeremy Wally; CDR Angela Williams; CDR Lauren Zapata; CDR Yi Zhang; LCDR Neil Bonzagni; LCDR Virginia Bowen; LCDR Israel Cross; LCDR Zewditu Demissie; LCDR Denise Duran; LCDR Amy Freeland; LCDR Rory Geyer; LCDR Natasha Hollis; LCDR Brooke Hoots; LCDR Keisha Houston; LCDR Gwendolyn Hudson; LCDR Shane Jack; LCDR Jean Ko; LCDR Rebecca Levine; LCDR Matthew Lozier; LCDR Shiny Mathew; LCDR Jonetta Mporfu; LCDR Jorge Muniz-Ortiz; LCDR Rashid Njai; LCDR Eduardo O'Neill La Luz; LCDR Mary Puckett; LCDR Leslie Rivera-Rosado; LCDR Colleen Scott; LCDR Alison Sheehan-Laufer Halpin; LCDR Pilgrim Spikes; LCDR Matthew Steele; LCDR Scott Steffen; LCDR Angela Thompson-Paul; LCDR Esra Toussaint; LCDR Tyson Volkmann; LCDR Shondelle Wilson-Frederick; LT Francis Annor; LT Jennifer Beauregard; LT Jonathan Burgos; LT Angela Coulliette-Salmond; LT Jessica Dunn; LT Lacreisha Ejike-King; LT Leora Feldstein; LT Dianca Finch; LT Robert Gahl; LT Michael Gallaway; LT Alesha Harris; LT Kathleen Hartnett; LT Ana Lauer; LT Jamie Mells; LT Julie O'Donnell; LT Jaymin Patel; LT Nazia Rahman; LT Hilda Razzaghi; LT Erica Rose; LT Amy Schuh; LT Kelly Shaw; LT Taneshia Shelton; LT Dantrell Simmons; LT Tanesha Tutt; LT Teresa Wang; LT Carrie Whitworth; LT Lindsay Womack; LT Lauran Woodard; and LT Marissa Zwald

Excused Absences of Non-voting Scientist Officers: CDR Jennifer Adjemian; CDR Qiao Bobo; CDR Joanna Gaines; CDR Sanny Northbrook; CDR Sara Vagi; LCDR Folasade Kembu; LCDR Leigh Ann Miller; LCDR Julia Zucco; LT Brett Forshey; LT Carolyn Herzig; LT Patrick High; LT Michelle Hughes; LT Ruth Link-Gelles; and LT Emily Ussery

- **Call to Order and Welcome:** CAPT Jennifer Thomas
- **CPO Report:** CAPT John Eckert

- Thanks to officers at the White Oak FDA campus for the warm welcome today, and for hosting some of us for the SciPAC meeting in person. RADM Orlandi unfortunately had to send his regrets, as he was delayed during travel, but hopes to join us in April.
 - Happy Mardi Gras to all, and Laissez les bon temps rouler! I'm sorry to have missed the Mardi Gras parties but hope everyone had a good time.
 - DCCPR—soon to become Commissioned Corps Headquarters—plans to start rolling out new software that will provide an online secure communication system, and also add functionality for surveys. SciPAC has been asked to provide a tiger team to test this software, and we expect to do a beta test of the survey function using the State of the Scientists survey, including data capture and longitudinal analysis tools. Thanks to all who are helping with this testing; I'm proud that SciPAC has been asked to do it, and of everyone who is stepping up.
- **Chair Report:** CAPT Jennifer Thomas
 - Thank you to officers who helped to plan and who could attend the Mardi Gras party this weekend at my house – it was really a fun time!
 - PHS Symposium
 - CDC's Integrated Conference Approval Portal or "ICAP" list was released last week. For CDC officers, this means that if you are on it, you can register for Symposium with program support.
 - A big thank-you to Scientist Officer CDR Deb Dee who, in her role as CDC Commissioned Corps Liaison, worked with agency leadership to expand the number of officers who could be listed on the ICAP list for PHS Symposium and therefore be eligible for program support to attend.
 - If a subcommittee's chair and co-chair(s) are unable to attend a PAC call, please provide LCDR Shumate with a substitute reporter from your subcommittee.
 - Today's presentation will be an analysis of the 2018 Scientist Deployment Skills Inventory Survey, presented by LCDRs Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell and Tyann Blessington on behalf of the Readiness SC. The presentation will begin no later than 12:40 pm.
- **Vice Chair Report:** CDR Loren Rodgers
 - Proud of all our officers have been doing. ECMCS shows us leading from the front.
 - Helping coordinate EB review of other documents. Will hear about those from our SCs.
 - Gearing up for Voting membership. Haven't sent out call yet, but start thinking about it if you are interested. Call will come out in late March.
- **Executive Secretary Report:** LCDR Alice Shumate
 - Thanks for everyone's help as we adjust to the new meeting attendance reporting methods. Please remember to report meeting attendance or absences using the new instructions provided on the meeting invite.
 - If you need the standing meeting invitation for any reason, please email me a request at wii5@cdc.gov.
 - A reminder for those of you who have selected to receive a digest from the listserv: you will not receive attachments or meeting invitations sent out via the listserv if you have selected to receive a digest version instead of individual listserv postings (the "regular" subscription type). You can access full messages and attachments by logging in to the

listserv at list.nih.gov and navigating to the “usphs-scientist” list. You can not receive meeting invitations sent directly to the listserv unless you have a regular subscription type. For problems or questions about the listserv, please email me (wii5@cdc.gov).

- **COF Liaison Report:** LCDR Jason Wilken
 - PAC expenses were \$97.26 in February. The current SciPAC balance is \$2343.29.
 - PAC funds come from sale of merchandise and donations at social events. Any officer interested in hosting a social event should contact Visibility Chair CDR Kamil Barbour (iyk1@cdc.gov).
 - Reminder to all subcommittees, funds are available to support PAC activities. Contact LCDR Jason Wilken (jason.wilken@cdph.ca.gov) for details.
 - Email scipacmerchandise@gmail.com for information on esprit de corps items.

- **Subcommittee Reports**
 - **Awards:** CDR James Kenney; Co-chair: LCDR Nancy Tian
 - The Awards SC appreciates the time and commitment of the nomination packet review board members during their review process that selected CDR Sara Vagi as our Responder of the Year Congratulations, CDR Vagi!
 - The Awards SC also appreciates the time and effort the SOTY, JOTY and MOTY nomination packet review board members spent in ranking the outstanding nomination packets received for these awards. The Awards SC is still in the process of confirming the winner for each award and the winners could be announced as early as the next SciPAC meeting.
 - The Awards Tracking Team is doing its diligence in tracking the status of SciPAC group awards. With this said, if one is uploaded into your eOPF, please notify the Awards SC so it can be finalized in our award tracking system. In addition, the nominator should notify the Awards SC if a narrative has been rejected or returned for revisions.

 - **Career Development:** LCDR Tyann Blessington; Co-Chairs: LCDR Oliver Ou, LCDR Rory Geyer
 - The Training Team is planning their next training presentation, which will be on “Uniform Wear” and is scheduled to occur during the April SciPAC Meeting.
 - The CV/Officer Statement (OS) Review Team and Promotion Specific Mentoring effort have distributed Letters of Appreciation to all reviewers and mentors. These efforts are also collecting and compiling reviewer comments on the new 2018 CV guidance.
 - The Promotion Panel Team is updating the previous year’s promotion process survey questions; changes are based on feedback from last year.
 - The Subcommittee Website Liaison, CDR Sukhminder Sandu, is working with the SciPAC Website Subcommittee to update the Subcommittee website page.
 - The SOP Team has updated Subcommittee Team descriptions and will be working with the Team and Subcommittee Leads to complete a new updated SOP for submission to Leadership.
 - The Job List Team is continuing to send out weekly job lists and is interested in receiving officer feedback including successful job matches from this effort. Please

email the Subcommittee leads (Tyann.Blessington@fda.hhs.gov; Rory.Geyer@fda.hhs.gov; Oliver.Ou@fsis.usda.gov) if you have comments and feedback.

- Many of the Career Development Teams are either planning for new activities in the spring; Scientist Officers interesting in joining the Career Development Subcommittee should email the Subcommittee leads (Tyann.Blessington@fda.hhs.gov; Rory.Geyer@fda.hhs.gov; Oliver.Ou@fsis.usda.gov) and we can provide you with a list of the exciting opportunities.
- **Category Day:** Chair: CDR Eric Zhou; Co-Chair: CDR Deb Dee
 - Thanks for all the hard work of Category Day Planning leadership. Everything is moving smoothly for the Category Day;
 - For SciPAC leadership including Chairs and Co-chairs of subcommittees, please submit your official or activity photo of your choice to CDR Tracy Powell (ysa9@cdc.gov) at your earliest convenience.
- **Mentoring:** CDR Lana Rossiter; Co-Chairs: LCDR John Pesce, CDR Cara Halldin
 - Mentor Matching: During February, there were 88 active agreements, two mentee request for mentor, no mentor applications, two new matches, and five pending agreements.
 - Mentor Outreach Team: The team is currently identifying additional topics for the next Mentor Outreach Publication.
 - SOPs: No Updates
 - Category Day: The team is preparing an interactive workshop that will address the value of mentoring and professional development. The workshop will provide examples of four scenarios for four different levels in officers' careers. Additional information will be distributed through the listserv in the coming weeks.
 - Agency Specific Advisers: The team sent an email asking for Agency Specific Advisers to for SciPac membership distribution with a good response. Once the team is able to process the responses they will be reaching out to officers who would like to connect with officers in an agency different from their own.
 - Mentoring Guidebook- Guidebook revisions are ongoing.
 - We are always looking for mentors. If you are a senior officer and are not currently mentoring a junior officer, or feel that you could take on an additional mentee, please email LT Shayne Gallaway (lnx7@cdc.gov) or LT Patrick High (Patrick.High@samhsa.hhs.gov) for an application. Also, if you are an O-6 officer willing to mentor an O-5 officer, please email the matching team as we do have requests from O-5 officers looking for mentorship.
- **Policy:** Chair: LCDR Adam Bjork ; Co-Chair: CDR Jessica Chiaruttini
 - Policy Development Team: Policy covering awards for SciPAC-related activities has been approved by the EB and will be distributed and posted soon. This was a joint effort between the Policy and Awards SCs.
 - Policy Review Team: Developed a summary of 2018 tax changes that was distributed via the SciPAC listserv on Feb 28. Thank you to LT Lauren Woodard for leading this

effort.

- General Update: We also sent out (on Feb 12, via the SciPAC listserv) a helpful FAQ prepared by Commissioned Corps HQ about medical separations and retirements.
- **Readiness:** LCDR Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell; Co-Chairs: LCDR Angela Thompson-Paul, LCDR Rebecca Levine
 - For Readiness Reporting, the Readiness SC did not received readiness information for December or January.
 - The Readiness Mentoring Workgroup will not be receiving individual information regarding basic readiness. This will result in a realigning of some workgroup's roles and responsibilities.
 - The Response Narratives workgroup is continuing to collect and recognize fellow Scientist officers' deployments on the SciPAC website. Many thanks to the SciPAC website team for uploading the two most recent posts, which feature CDR Kenneth Phillips and LT Patrick Sears' deployment experiences for Hurricane Florence in 2018. If you have recently deployed and would like to be featured, please contact LT Teresa Wang at yxn7@cdc.gov.
 - In this month's Healthy Scientist Bulletin, you'll find a special feature from the Health Optimization workgroup on staying hydrated and healthy recipes to help maintain your nutrition goals. We also have a reminder of who is on call this month and athletic events taking place around DC, Atlanta, and other duty stations. If you have anything you'd like to feature in a future issue, please contact LCDR Mary Puckett at xdg6@cdc.gov.
 - The Health Optimization workgroup invites officers to join us in "Forming Healthy Habits in 2019" by learning about and participating in the healthy challenge we present each month in the Healthy Scientist Bulletin. These monthly challenges are meant to help us with the persistence and accountability needed to make positive health changes. Last month we focused on Core Strength. This month we're focusing on Hydration and tracking adequate water intake. If you'd like to participate, just track your daily water intake by whatever means you prefer (apps or a paper-based method) and submit your weekly totals every Friday via this Google Doc: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScDRESeNck_bO0pAqapCTzbu3LOyVqDDxj59YwYQi6NKUvRMw/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1. We welcome ideas for healthy challenges for upcoming months or feedback regarding these challenges! Please email LCDR Angela Thompson-Paul at eup4@cdc.gov with ideas, comments, and questions.
 - The Fitness Achievement Workgroup awarded three certificates in January.
 - The Response Preparedness Workgroup continues to plan seminars for the operational year. The next seminar is planned for the March SciPAC call and will be on the Scientist Officer Deployment Skills survey.
 - If you recently deployed (last few months) or are currently deployed, please send LCDR Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell (jcx0@cdc.gov) an email so that we can include your accomplishment in our monthly highlights.
- **Recruitment and Retention:** LCDR Jonathan Leshin; Co-Chairs: CDR Robin Toblin, LT Debra Chen

- Bottom Line Up Front
 - We are looking for additional officers to be present at the Open House and Graduation for new Officer support. Please contact CDR Mark Scheckelhoff (mark.r.scheckelhoff.mil@mail.mil) to participate or see an upcoming announcement to the listserv
 - Many thanks to LCDR Nancy Tian, who presented the February 22 seminar on awards with CDRs James Kenney and Danielle Iuliano. Our next seminar, scheduled for March 22, is on navigating life changes, such as getting married and adding a child to your family, presented by LCDRs Ellen Boundy and Michelle Dynes.
 - If you are an officer looking to separate in the next few months, please contact CDR David Huang to complete a separation survey (ihw4@cdc.gov)
- Resources: no updates this month
- Interested Applicant
 - Drafted and submitted language regarding Scientist Category recruitment to be included on the SciPAC website to the Website Subcommittee
 - Set up a meeting for next week with PsyPAG Recruitment Chairs to devise a plan for reaching out to clinical psychologists to do recruitment presentations at universities/hospitals
 - Created SciPAC recruitment business cards to be used at recruitment presentations; will apply for funds and send for printing soon
- New Recruit
 - Leads for new recruit cohorts have been identified. Orientation of these leads will be March 19th.
- OBC Engagement
 - One Scientist attended the Feb/March OBC.
 - We are looking for officers to be present at the Open House and Graduation for new Officer support.
- Peer Support Network
 - Two new officers were matched with 2 peer mentors.
 - One additional new officer is awaiting a match pending confirmation of information by the new officer.
 - A listserv request for additional midlevel officers may be coming soon to provide support for incoming EIS officers.
- New CAD Seminars
 - Many thanks to LCDR Nancy Tian, who presented the February 22 seminar on awards with CDRs James Kenney and Danielle Iuliano. Our next seminar, scheduled for March 22, is on navigating life changes, such as getting married and adding a child to your family, presented by LCDRs Ellen Boundy and Michelle Dynes.
 - If you are a junior officer interested in leading a seminar for new officers or a senior officer available to answer questions, please email LT Erica Rose, nqx4@cdc.gov, or LT Kathleen Hartnett, iul9@cdc.gov.
- EIS

- Waiting on finalized rosters for the 2018 and 2019 classes of EIS officers. All other action on hold until then.
- Separation Survey
 - No new updates this month
 - If you are or know an officer planning to separate in the next few months, please contact CDR David Huang at ihw4@cdc.gov.
- **Rules and Membership:** CDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: CDR Dan-My Chu
 - Wrapped up R&M SC SOP
 - Working on R&R SC SOP
- **Science:** LCDR Eric Jamoom; Co-Chairs: CDR David Huang, LCDR Ginny Bowen
 - SoS Team submitted an abstract to 2019 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium, and is awaiting decision on acceptance. Poster is on using 2018 SoS survey results to provide information about the Scientist Category. SoS survey is currently under review with SciPAC leadership and is expected to go live within the next 2 weeks.
 - Research and Practice Team is in the process of evaluating SMEs to present for the Seminar Series on a variety topics around the SG priorities/WHO Global Threats to the PAC. The Team is aiming for our first Seminar Speaker in April.
 - SG Priorities Team is in the process of identifying SMEs for Communities of Practice to help identify SMEs across the SG Priorities/WHO Global Threats. They have developed a google forms to go live in May to help inform this process.
- **Visibility:** CDR Kamil Barbour; Co-Chairs: LCDR Colleen Scott, LT Ruth Link-Gelles
 - ATL Socials
 - Mardi Gras party at the home of CAPT Jennie Thomas on Saturday, March 2 was a great success. In total, there were over 40 adults and children in attendance. Guests enjoyed hurricane drinks, beads, king cake, and great comradery. A big thank you to CAPT Thomas for hosting!
 - Atlanta Socials Team is planning their next Trivia Night for March 27th. Trivia starts at 7:30pm. Announcement was distributed via the SciPAC listserv on Feb 25th.
 - DC Socials
 - The Mardi Gras party at the home of CDR Qiao Bobo on Saturday, March 2 was also a great success. There were at least 25 attendees. This party included a great assortment of food, drinks, decorations, and countless New Orleans beads. Guests had a wonderful time. A big thank you to CDR Bobo for hosting!
 - USPHS Symposium Event 1: Battle of the USPHS Commissioned Corps Categories Blood Drive
 - Which USPHS Category has the most heroes? The one with the most blood donations on Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at the USPHS Symposium.
 - The SciPAC Visibility SC is hosting the Battle of the USPHS Commissioned Corps Categories Blood Drive to increase the awareness of genetic blood disorders, such as sickle cell disease.
 - Admiral Giroir has made it a priority to increase the life expectancy of sickle cell

patients by 10 years in 10 years. Sickle cell disease is a genetic blood disorder that can lead to pain crises caused by clusters of cells that block or reduce red blood flow. These crises may result in patients needing frequent blood transfusions. Will you join the battle? Scientists are the best category! Let's support this critical HHS priority and win this "friendly" Corps-wide competition.

- For additional information, contact LCDRs Shondelle Wilson-Frederick and Israel Cross.
 - USPHS Symposium Event 2: Health Expo at Surgeon General's 5K.
 - We will have two booths: 1) one represented by CDR Luz Rivera with a focus on grieving and suicide prevention and 2) a booth represented by LCDR Ou with a focus on Food Safety.
 - SciPAC Poster
 - Abstract entitled "The USPHS Scientist Category: Partnerships to Enhance Science and Respond to the Opioid Overdose Epidemic" was submitted to the Symposium. A big thank you to LT Julie Odonnell for leading this effort.
 - Lead author: LT Julie Odonnell. Co-authors: LCDR Colleen Scott, CDR Kamil Barbour, LT Ruth Link-Gelles, LT Teresa Wang, Vikram Krishnasamy
 - Publications Team
 - The Manuscript Highlights Team is still compiling 2018 manuscripts with a target deadline of end of March. They will then be compiling and analyzing the data to share with the Bibliography team and the rest of SciPAC
 - Twitter Team
 - Twitter Team communicated with the OS Privacy & Data Protection Division in the Office of the Chief Information Officer at Health and Human Services.
 - Twitter Team drafted and revised TPWA/PIA for "U.S. Public Health Service Scientist Professional Advisory Committee Program Support Center Twitter"
 - Twitter Team sent draft TPWA/PIA by OS Privacy & Data Protection Division in the Office of the Chief Information Officer at Health and Human Services for review on 3/4/2019.
 - Facebook Team
 - 147 members currently. Photos of both ATL and DC Mardi Gras events have been posted to the SciPAC Facebook Page. This month we've used it to promote the DC and Atlanta area Mardi Gras parties, encourage participation in the PHS Modernization Survey, and celebrate publications by Scientist Officers.
 - SciPAC Fist Bump Team: no updates
 - Newsletter Team: no updates
 - History Team: no updates
- **Website:** CDR Adrienne Goodrich-Doctor; Co-Chairs: LCDR Xinzhi Zhang, LCDR Iram Hassan
- The Subcommittee met on February 26, 2019 to review accomplishments and the status of all activities.
 - The Subcommittee completed the first step of the Website Update process.
 - This step included review of the SciPAC Website and 10 other PAC websites. The special projects team completed this review and their consolidated feedback

which included suggestions on what to remove, update, and add as well as other idea for improving the site was provided to Website Liaisons to share with Subcommittee Leadership for consideration as they develop change requests for the website. Also, during this step individual Subcommittees and other responsible parties reviewed specific pages on the website to determine what changes need to be made. All change requests were due by March 1, 2019. If you have not submitted a request and still wish to do so, please work through your Website Liaison to contact LCDR Iram Hassan at Iram.Hassan@fda.hhhs.gov and LT Kelly Shaw at nrb7@cdc.gov.

- The next steps will be to prioritize the requests and to begin making the needed changes to the website. Major changes will be shared with the EB for approval.
- The Website Subcommittee develops a website metrics report annually. This operational year we will revisit the analyses conducted as well as the design of the report to ensure that it is informative and useful to PAC leadership. We will also develop written procedures for the metrics report to assist with training and to ensure that the analyses can be repeated and are consistent.
- To date: 25 website change requests were completed; 2 requests are pending
- Next Subcommittee Meeting: April 23, 2019; 1200-1300

- **Liaison Reports**

- **COA:** CAPT Martin Sanders

- Nothing to report.

- **PSYPAG:** CDR Eduardo Cua

- Nothing to report.

- **JOAG:** LCDR Victoria Jeisy Scott

- If you would like to get involved in JOAG, there are multiple opportunities to volunteer, including:
 - JOAG Junior Officer Career Enhancement Booth (JOCEB) Workgroup is seeking volunteers for the 11th Annual FDA U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Awareness Day on May 2, 2019 from 1100-1400.
 - JOCEB will provide junior officers at the rank of LCDR/O4 and below with resources and advice on career and professional development. Information will be available on: opportunities and resources available from each of the JOAG committees, including: JOAG Job Shadowing Program, JOAG Peer to Peer Network, JOAG Professional Development Book Club, and other training and educational materials related to policy, health promotion/fitness and deployments. The JOCEB will also provide officers with information on how to purchase JOAG merchandise.
 - For the available dates/times and to sign up for a slot with the JOCEB, please visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054BA9AD23AAF58-11th>
 - For more details about volunteering at the JOAG Junior Officer Career Enhancement Booth please contact LCDR Mandy Kwong (mandy.kwong@fda.hhs.gov) and LT Yen Phan (Yen.Phan@fda.hhs.gov)

- Uniform Inspection Booth (UIB) is seeking volunteers for the 11th Annual FDA U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Awareness Day on May 2, 2019 from 1100-1400.
 - Do you have knowledge about uniforms and would like to help officers? If so, volunteering to staff the Uniform Inspection Booth (UIB) during the 2019 PHS Awareness Day on May 2nd is a great way to do so, while helping JOAG. Materials and guidance will be provided. Please note: We seek a balance of male and female officer volunteers at each shift. Volunteer orientation calls are TBD, but will take place sometime in late April. Junior Officers (O4 and below) only please. FDA Officers only please.
 - For the available dates/times and to sign up for a slot with the UIB, please visit: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054BA9AD23AAF58-2019>.
 - For more details about volunteering at the JOAG Uniform Inspection Booth, please contact LCDR Annetta Laura (mov6@cdc.gov) and LCDR Carlos Gonzalez-Mercado (Carlos.GonzalezMercado@fda.hhs.gov)
- The Communications and Publications Committee is seeking volunteers for the following roles:
 - Section 508 Compliance Editors: Individuals ideally have experience in Section 508 compliance and have performed Section 508 compliance checks on articles/publications.
 - Max.gov Sponsorship Officers: Individuals ideally have the ability to sponsor Max.gov memberships for officers with non-government email addresses.
 - Training is available on a limited basis for those interested in performing these duties. Please email LCDR Christine Corser (Christine.corser@fda.hhs.gov) and LCDR Stephanie Kenez (Stephanie.kenez@fda.hhs.gov) for more information.
- The Membership Committee, Voting Membership Subcommittee is looking for 2 to 3 dedicated volunteers to help in the redaction and application verification of the JOAG Voting Member selection process. The bulk of activities will be in the month of April, though there may be a handful of more requests throughout the remainder of operational year 2019.
 - For more information, please contact the Voting Membership Subcommittee Co-Leads: LCDR Fengyee Zhou (Fengyee.Zhou@ihs.gov) and LCDR Ogochuku Ogoegbunam (Ogochukwu.Ogoegbunam@fda.hhs.gov).
- The Readiness and Deployment Committee is seeking two volunteers to serve as the JOAG Representative on the Corps Readiness and Workgroup (CRew) and Website Coordinator.
 - JOAG CRew: Meetings occur on the last Wednesday of each month from 1300-1400. The goal of the meeting is to discuss Corps readiness. The person will be responsible for providing updates from the meeting that are relevant to junior officers and JOAG. LT Tanesha Tutt, R&D Co-Chair, will support this individual and will serve as an alternate, as well as attend some of the meetings when available.
 - Website Coordinator: Responsible for the following tasks:
 - Coordinate with the JOAG Communications and Publications Committee, Website Subcommittee Lead(s).

- Develop relevant content for webpage.
- Collect all necessary information for a comprehensive update request.
- Clear all updates through the Committee Co-Chair.
- Ensure content complies with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 USC §794d). (The Chair(s) may designate another member for this task; however, the designee must be 508 compliance trained.
- Submit final webpage content to Communications and Publications Committee Website Subcommittee Lead(s), using the Word-based JOAG Website Update Request Form, and should be routed to the individuals identified on the form to update the JOAG website.
- Journeyman Speaker Series will occur this Friday, March 8th at 1300 EST. LCDR Joy Mobley Corcoran will be presenting on Mental Health Initiatives: Awareness of Healthy Minds during Stressful Times.
 - Conference Call Dial-in: 1-302-202-1106
 - Conference Code: 825385
- JOAG has established the Officer Room/Ride Share Program to assist junior officers with either: (1) finding a roommate, which can help offset the cost of housing in a hotel or at a local officer's home, and/or (2) finding a carpool to the Symposium. The Room/Ride Share Program connects fellow officers who are looking to split the cost of a room, provide a room to a fellow officer at no cost, and/or carpool options.
 - Note: Officers on official government travel with their room paid by a travel order cannot benefit financially from sharing a room.
 - Click here: [Room/Ride Share Sign-up Sheet](#)
- JOAG Communications & Publications Committee (CPC) is soliciting articles to be featured in the 2019 Spring Edition of The Junior Officer Chronicles (JOC).
 - Submissions are due on 15 March 2019
 - When emailing your article please include "JOC Spring 2019" then Article Title and First Author's last name (e.g. JOC Spring 2019 Recent Deployment Smith) in the subject line of the message.
 - All articles should be submitted to: kgz4@cdc.gov and roseline.boateng@ihs.gov.
 - A reviewer will be assigned to your article and may contact you for edits or further clarification.
 - We are also calling for nominations for the Junior Officer Spotlight Feature of the JOC
 - Do you know a junior officer that has a unique duty station? Is the officer a super star at work? Do they work tirelessly to support community endeavors, or just have a story to tell? We want to hear from you! Submit the officer's name and a short (50 words or less) narrative on why you think this officer's story should be shared. Submissions should be sent to: kgz4@cdc.gov and roseline.boateng@ihs.gov. All submissions will be reviewed and one junior officer will be selected and showcased in the 2018 Spring Edition of the JOC.
- To subscribe, unsubscribe, or change your email address for the JOAG listserv, click [here](#) for meet and greet information, newsletters, APFT events, and helpful tips for Junior Officers.

- **Minority Officers Liaison Council (MOLC):** CDR Cesar Perez
 - The February 2019 Minority Officers Liaison Council (MOLC) meeting took place on February 26, 2019.
 - Some announcement that will be of interest for SciPAC include:
 - All CMAGs are working on getting their corresponding awards nomination announcements out to members in order to have the awards recipient names for the 2019 MOLC Award Ceremony scheduled for this year's symposium. Please look for the award nomination announcements.
 - **Black Commissioned Officers Advisory Group (BCOAG)** is partnering with the Social Work Professional Advisory Group (SWPAG) on a Suicide Prevention Initiative. Officers will work with SMEs to develop program content, establish a training structure, and strategize community implementation. Volunteers are being sought to participate in this initiative. Volunteers should contact LTs Jamillah Bynum AND Charles Helm at Jamillah.Bynum@nih.gov and Chelm@bop.gov.
 - **Asian Pacific American Officers Committee (APAOC)**- Mental Health First Aid Training will be held at 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville MD 20857 on July 18, 2019. This training fulfills 1 of 2 training requirements for the Healthy Minds Initiative. After completion, participants will be certified in Mental Health First Aid. Mental Health First Aid is a nationwide public education program that teaches how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorder. Please visit the following link for registration – <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b084fada82fa5ff2-sign>. The link to the Mental Health First Aid announcement is <https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/>
 - The 3rd APAOC Annual Leadership Summit has been scheduled for October 18, 2019, at the FDA White Oak Campus in Silver Spring, MD. APAOC would like to extend the invitation to all officers. This is an open event to all officers.

- **Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity Advisory Group (SOAGDAG):** LCDR Luis Iturriaga
 - Nothing to report.

- **Commissioned Corps Women's Issues Advisory Board (CCWIAB):** CDR Cara Halldin
 - CCWIAB will co-host a booth with the Women's Leadership Support Group at the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium. Please stop by and learn more about what our group does.
 - CCWIAB membership recently had a discussion with Dr. Simon and LCDR Tarlton at Medical Affairs Branch regarding issues surrounding meeting the weight requirements during the postpartum period and for officers while breastfeeding. This opened a dialog that we hope will continue to help officers meet the USPHS requirements as well as their breastfeeding goals.
 - The Women's Leadership Support Group has developed a new Podcast Series, and would like to announce its podcast, "A Panel Discussion featuring CAPT Cindy Kunkel, CDR Susan Alu, CDR Brittany Keener, CDR Samantha Spindel and CDR Aimee Young." The podcast is Now Available on Max.Gov: [WLSG Podcast](#)

[003_COA_2018_Mar2019\(1\).mp3](#) as well as on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/V75gq4OLMII>. Email forum4femaleofficers@gmail.com with any questions.

- You do not have to be a board member to participate in committee activities. If you are interested in joining a CCWIAB committee or if you have any questions about CCWIAB please contact CDR Halldin (challdin@cdc.gov) or visit CCWIAB's website: <http://dcp.psc.gov/osg/ccwiab/>.
- **PACE:** LCDR Erika Odom
 - National PACE is seeking highlights of your current events occurring in the next several weeks to our PACE National Social Media Coordinator LT Scott Vega (jared.vega@cms.hhs.gov). Any SciPAC officer submitting highlights should also copy LCDR Erika Odom (iyo7@cdc.gov) in your correspondence. Photos of events that promote the Opioid Prevention, Tobacco/e-cig Prevention and Healthy Activity/Eating are HIGHLY encouraged!
 - The PACE Outreach Committee is looking for creative officers who can help develop PACE poster boards for outreach activities. POC: LT Folaremi Adeyemo (Folaremi.adeyemo@fda.hhs.gov) and CDR Christina Thompson (christina.thompson@fda.hhs.gov).
 - PACE Presentation Templates are now available! The Presentation Development Subcommittee is pleased to announce that the PACE presentation templates are now available. Officers interested in developing a PACE presentation must read the instructions document before developing templates. The instructions document explains how to submit the presentation package to PACE for final review and posting to the PACE website. See: <https://community.max.gov/x/rY1EYQ>
 - Join the PACE listserv at <https://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/wa.exe?A0=nps-pace>
 - To join the PACE max.gov site join using your federal email address <https://portal.max.gov/home/sa/group/register/AGY-HHS-USPHS.ACCESS.TO.PACE.GROUP>. If you do not have a federal email (not .gov or .mil), please contact LCDR Leshin (jonathan.leshin@fda.hhs.gov)
- **Presentation on The Scientist Deployment Skills Inventory Survey**
 - Presenters: LCDR Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell and LCDR Tyann Blessington
 - Please see slides attached to the meeting invitation or email LCDR Alice Shumate (wii5@cdc.gov) to request a copy.
- **Closing Remarks:** CAPT Jennifer Thomas
 - Reminder to register for and plan your trip to PHS Symposium, which is May 6-9 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. <https://www.phscof.org/symposium.html> Category Day will be Wed., May 8.

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, 2 April 2019 @ 1200–1300 EDT**

