



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

Meeting Minutes; October 4, 2022



Total Attendance: 205 attendees; 21 excused absences

### Chief Scientist Officer and Executive Board Members

Rank	Name	Role	
CAPT	Sandhu, Sukhminder K.	Chief Scientist Officer	Present
CDR	Shumate, Alice	Chair	Present
CDR	Demissie, Zewditu	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Present
LCDR	Scott, Colleen	Executive Secretary	Present
LCDR	Gallaway, Shayne	Executive Liaison	Present
CAPT	Dee, Deborah	Ex-Officio Chairperson	Present

### Voting Members (SC = Subcommittee)

Rank	Name	Role	
CDR	Bjork, Adam	Policy SC Co-Chair	Present
CDR	Halldin, Cara	Awards SC Chair	Present
CDR	Pesce, John	Deployment Preparedness SC Co-Chair	Present
CDR	Rossiter, Lana	Rules & Membership SC Co-Chair	Present
LCDR	Chen, Debra	Behavioral Health & Wellness SC Chair	Present
LCDR	Edwards, Elizabeth	Website SC Co-Chair	Excused
LCDR	Knipes, Alaine	Category Day SC Co-Chair	Excused
LCDR	Levine, Rebecca	Category Day SC Chair	Present
LCDR	Link-Gelles, Ruth	Website SC Chair	Excused
LCDR	Mitzner, George	Recruitment and Retention SC Chair	Present
LCDR	Morris, Kate	Psychologist Integration SC Chair	Present
LCDR	Muniz-Ortiz, Jorge	Deployment Preparedness SC Chair	Present
LCDR	Mpofu, Jonetta*	Mentoring SC Chair	Present
LCDR	Restrepo, Adriana	Career Development SC Chair	Present
LCDR	Sears, Patrick	Psychologist Integration SC Co-Chair	Present
LCDR	Steele, Matthew	Policy SC Chair	Present
LCDR	Thompson-Paul, Angela	Visibility SC Chair	Present
LCDR	Wang, Theresa	Science SC Chair	Present
LCDR	Zucco, Julia*	Recruitment and Retention SC Co-Chair	Present
LT	Ejike-King, Lacreisha*	Visibility SC Co-Chair	Present

\*Pending official Voting Member appointment by Surgeon General

## Non-Voting Liaisons

Rank	Name	Role	
CAPT	Scheckelhoff, Mark	AMSUS Liaison	Present
LCDR	Iturriaga, Luis	SOAGDAG Liaison	Present
LCDR	Lin, Michelle	JOAG Liaison	Present
LCDR	Shaw, Kelly	ICAC Liaison	Present
LCDR	Zucco, Julia	COA Liaison	Present
LCDR	Zwald, Marissa	CCWIAB Liaison	Present
LT	Ejike-King, Lacreisha	PACE Liaison	Present

**Participation by Non-Voting Scientist Officers:** RADM Theresa Lawrence, CAPT Aditya Bhagwat, CAPT Andrea Sharma, CAPT Anne Purfield, CAPT Danice Eaton, CAPT Anne Marie France, CAPT Jacqueline Tate, CAPT James Kenney, CAPT Jennifer Bodart, CAPT Jennifer Thomas, CAPT Joseph Despina, CAPT Judy Facey, CAPT Julie Chodacki, CAPT Kenneth Sekulic, CAPT Marco Bennett, CAPT Matthew Wise, CAPT Michael Smith, CAPT Qiao Bobo, CAPT Renee Calanan, CAPT Richard Schobitz, CAPT Robin Toblin, CAPT Sara Newman, CDR Adrienne Goodrich-Doctor, CDR Alicea Candido, CDR Angela Williams, CDR Brian Harcourt, CDR Carrie Nielsen, CDR Cesar Perez, CDR Charlene Maddox, CDR Cria Perrine, CDR Danielle Barradas, CDR Dianna Carroll, CDR Eduardo O'Neill La Luz, CDR Ellen Yard, CDR Emily Streeter, CDR Eric Zhou, CDR Erin Parker, CDR Fei Xu, CDR Frances (Lisa) Belcher, CDR Geoffrey Wu, CDR Heather Scobie, CDR James Tyson, CDR Jason Wilken, CDR Jean Ko, CDR Jeff Showalter, CDR Jeremy Wally, CDR Joanna Gaines, CDR John Stansberry, CDR Kamil Barbour, CDR Keisher Highsmith, CDR Kenneth Phillips, CDR Lara Misegades, CDR Leigh Ann Miller, CDR Luz Rivera, CDR Mark Miller, CDR Maroya Walters, CDR Matthew Lozier, CDR Matthew Newland, CDR Meghan Reilly, CDR Michelle Tsai, CDR Minglei Cui, CDR Nadra Tyus, CDR Nancy Tian, CDR NaTasha Hollis, CDR Neal Kimble, CDR Peter Thomas, CDR Robert Burns, CDR Sara Vagi, CDR Seth Green, CDR Sharyn Parks Brown, CDR Tegan Boehmer, CDR Tenaya Watson, CDR Theodore Garnett, CDR Tyson Volkmann, LCDR Adelaida Rosario, LCDR Amy Freeland, LCDR Andrea Battle, LCDR Angela Coulliette-Salmond, LCDR Asha Ivey-Stephenson, LCDR Ashleigh Murriel, LCDR Brooke Hoots, LCDR Carolyn Herzig, LCDR Christine Brady, LCDR Dantrell Simmons, LCDR Eboni Galloway, LCDR Erica Rose, LCDR Folasade Kembu, LCDR Francis Annor, LCDR Gina Masessa, LCDR Ginny Bowen, LCDR Gwendolyn Hudson, LCDR Hilda Razzaghi, LCDR Iman Martin, LCDR Iram Hassan, LCDR Jason Caballero, LCDR Jaymin Patel, LCDR Jessica Tomov, LCDR Jorielle Houston, LCDR Juan Lacayo, LCDR Julie O'Donnell, LCDR Kari Schlessinger, LCDR Kathleen Hartnett, LCDR Keisha Houston Jenkins, LCDR Kelsy Hoffman, LCDR Kimberly (Shay) Litton-Belcher, LCDR Leslie Rivera-Rosado, LCDR Marilyn Park, LCDR Marisa Hast, LCDR Mary Puckett, LCDR Michelle Hughes, LCDR Nazia Rahman, LCDR Neali Lucas, LCDR Nicholas Buhr, LCDR Oliver Ou, LCDR Patrick High, LCDR Pilgrim Spikes, LCDR Rhondie Tait, LCDR Rudolph Francin, LCDR Sharoda Dasgupta, LCDR Shiny Mathew, LCDR Tajah Blackburn, LCDR Tyann Blessington, LCDR Vanessa Goosen, LCDR Victoria Jeisy-Scott, LCDR Xiaowu Lu, LT Amanda Hott, LT Ana Lauer, LT Andres Wong Sam, LT Anna Chard, LT Anthony Powell, LT Beth Rubenstein, LT Brent Huber, LT Brett Dodd, LT Bryan Galvez, LT Carrie Whitworth, LT Catharine (Cate) Pritchard, LT Charles (CJ) Helm, LT Christine Kim, LT Dianca Finch, LT Emmanuel Jeffrey, LT Florence Kanu, LT Gabriella Wuyke, LT Hana Kim, LT Jazmin Reed, LT Jessica Jacobs, LT Jia Yin Leo, LT Jin Qin, LT Jueichuan (Connie) Kang, LT Kerui Xu, LT Kindra Stokes, LT Kristin Marks, LT Lauren Woodard, LT Leigh Ellyn Preston, LT Lillian Smith, LT Lindsay Womack, LT Marilyn Wolff, LT Marsha Samson, LT Megan Mickum, LT Megan Peck, LT Michael Krage, LT Michelle Johnson, LT Nang Thu Thu Kyaw, LT Neil Milan, LT Nicholas Wiese, LT Olubukola Banmeke, LT Peter DeJonge, LT Phillip Salvatore, LT Prince Awuah, LT Pushpa (Suresh) Jayasekara, LT Robert Gahl, LT Sean Griffing, LT Shannon York, LT Sophia Ajoku, LT Stephanie Pitts, LT Tia Rogers, LT Tiffany McCain, LT Yasmin Ogale, LT Ying Lin, LTJG Jonathan Burg

**Excused Absences of Non-Voting Scientist Officers:** CDR Dan-My Chu, CDR David Huang, CDR Emily Jentes, LCDR Israel Cross, LCDR Jessica Dunn, LCDR Brett Forshey, LCDR Eric Jamoom, LCDR Jonathan Leshin, LCDR Leora Feldstein, LCDR Amy Schuh, LCDR Matthew Stuckey, LCDR Scott Steffen, LCDR Stephanie Rutledge, LCDR Tanesha Tutt, LCDR Yoran Grant-Greene, LT Nicholas Deputy, LT Njere English, LT Ruth Oni

**Key Abbreviations:**

CAD = Call to Active Duty

CCHQ = Commissioned Corps Headquarters

COB = close of business

CPO = Chief Professional Officer

DSG = Deputy Surgeon General

EB = Executive Board

EIS/LLS = Epidemic Intelligence Service / Laboratory Leadership Service

LOA = Letter of Appreciation

OBC = Officer Basic Course

OSG = Office of the Surgeon General

OY = Operational Year

POC = Point of Contact

PY = Promotion Year

SC = Subcommittee

SOP = Standard Operating Procedures

VM = Voting Member(s)

**Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Alice Shumate**CPO Report:** CAPT Sukhminder K. Sandhu

- There was a CCHQ Wellness Session held last week, which provided updates about COERs, practice hours, and preparation for the next promotion cycle. CAPT Sandhu found the session helpful, including the Q& A sessions. Recordings will be made available on CCMIS for those unable to attend.
- COERS are now open, please review the email from CCHQ for information on deadlines.
- CAPT Sandhu expressed her thoughts to those impacted by the hurricanes and encouraged officers to support each other.
- CAPT Sandhu provided a presentation on the State of the Category and the Scientist Category PY 2022 Temporary Promotion Results, please see PDF of the presentation shared with the meeting minutes.

**Chair Report:** CDR Alice Shumate

- Congratulations to the Scientists who pinned on a new rank on October 1.
- Hurricane season is in full swing; our thoughts are with all of those affected including officers and their loved ones in the communities that have been affected. Additionally, a number of Scientist officers have been placed on alert or deployed. Please support one another and take care of yourselves during this busy deployment season. I encourage Subcommittee leaders to check in with one another regarding their deployment months and make a plan for communication and leadership in the event of deployments.
- Announced a new cross-cutting leadership role in the PAC: we have created a DEIA officer position responsible for promoting the principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility within the PAC. This position will work to improve and enhance efforts to increase involvement by and support of Scientist Officers and ensure that opportunities are accessible for all, and that all are supported by our programming, including, but not limited to, agency representation, sex, race/ethnicity, discipline, etc. CDR NaTasha Hollis

has been selected as our inaugural DEIA Officer, and will officially sit within Rules and Membership Subcommittee but coordinate with all Subcommittees and work closely with PAC leadership as we develop this important work. Please reach out to [CDR Shumate](#) or [CDR Hollis](#) with any questions.

**Vice Chair Report:** [CDR Zewditu Demissie](#)

- Update provided under the Rules and Membership SC report.

**Executive Secretary Report:** [LCDR Colleen Scott](#)

- **Attendance:** If you connect to the meeting via Zoom and see your full name listed in the Zoom ‘participants’ window, you do NOT need to report attendance separately. If you dial in to the meeting only via phone, if your full name does not register in Zoom, or if you have an excused absence to report, please report your attendance via email [LCDR Colleen Scott](#) with the email subject line “SciPAC Meeting Attendance.”
- Over the last few OYs, we have grown and expanded our PAC activities and reporting. We now have 25 separate reporting entities providing an update during our monthly calls. We want each entity; whether SC Leadership, Liaison, or an EB leader; to have time to provide their verbal report. To do this, we need all verbal reports to be kept to two minutes at a maximum; sharing only the most important or time sensitive bullets of the written report. PAC members can then refer to the minutes for the comprehensive report.
  - To ensure PAC members have meeting minutes as soon after the meeting as possible, SC leadership and Liaisons may receive clarifying questions from the EB when needed, but the mass review of minutes will no longer be part of the process.
- Congratulations to CAPT Anne Marie France, LCDRs Megan Peck and Tia Rogers for pinning-on new ranks October 1, 2022.

**Executive Liaison Report:** [LCDR Shayne Gallaway](#)

- The EB is nearly finished reviewing all SOPs and documents submitted during OY22 and the start of OY23. If your SC has been waiting for feedback or approval on any document for more than one month, please communicate that directly to the Executive Liaison so we can ensure we are not missing any.
- Thanks for all SC input on the updated SciPAC organizational chart. This will be shared and posted to the webpage in the future.
- In the near future, the Executive Liaison will be reaching out to all SC Chairs to provide additional information about ways to help facilitate review and approval of any documents, materials, and other products they would like to disseminate to the PAC.

**Subcommittee Reports**

- **Awards SC:** [CDR Cara Halldin](#); Co-Chair(s): [LCDR Mary Puckett](#), and [LT Ana Lauer](#)
  - Thank you to all our returning and new SC members. At this time all positions on our SC roster have been filled. Thank you to everyone who volunteered!
  - A reminder when developing nominations for USPHS Honor Awards for SciPAC-related work: please refer to the [Honor Awards Policy for SciPAC Activities](#) and allow for several weeks of review and revisions. Because several levels of review are

needed prior to submission to CCHQ, it is critical to submit nominations well before the 13th month following completion of the activity in order to ensure the nomination is approved and signed within the time outlined in current USPHS Honor Award guidelines.

- **Behavioral Health & Wellness SC:** [LCDR Debra Chen](#); Co-Chair(s): [LCDR Gina Masessa](#), and [LCDR Sharoda Dasgupta](#)
  - Please consider joining our team and help establish a new SC from the ground-up! Reach out to the Chair or Co-Chairs (names and contact info above) if you are interested.
  - All of the teams now have leads/co-leads and the SC will be having its first meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022.
  - LCDR Chen provided an overview of the new SC and its plans for the year; please see attached presentation.
  
- **Career Development SC:** [LCDR Adriana Restrepo](#); Co-Chair(s): [CDR Nancy Tian](#)
  - **Promotion Guidance Team:** Twenty-five Scientist officers volunteered for the SciPAC CV Example Workgroup. The workgroup has completed deidentifying 5 CVs received from officers who were recently promoted to the O-4 to O-6 ranks. The deidentified CVs were shared with the promoted officer for their review and approval. Afterwards, the CV examples will be sent to SciPAC leadership. The Promotion Guidance Team anticipates the CV examples will be distributed to Scientist officers in mid-October. For additional information, please email [CDR Gelio Alves](#) and [LCDR Tyann Blessington](#).
  - **Benchmarks Assessment & Guidance Workgroup:** On September 7, 2022, the SciPAC Benchmarks Guidance document was distributed to Scientist officers via the email listserv. The guidance document was developed by a team of senior Scientist officers within SciPAC's Career Development and Policy SCs. It was developed following a review and interpretation of the "2022 Promotion Benchmarks for All Categories" document issued by CCHQ. This guidance document is intended to assist Scientist officers in interpreting the factors within each of the four promotion precepts, providing examples and strategies that may be useful to officers when preparing promotion documents. This guidance can also assist with developing short- and long-term goals for career advancement. For additional information, please email [CDR Gelio Alves](#) and [LCDR Tyann Blessington](#).
  - **Promotion Panel Initiative Team:** The Promotion Panel Initiative Team completed their webinar entitled, "Preliminary Findings from the 2022 Scientist Officer Promotion Survey" on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 from 1200-1300 ET. More than 80 PHS Officers were in attendance. Thank you to the Team for their hard work and to everyone for their support. Previous 2017 and 2018 analyses can be found on the [SciPAC Career Development webpage](#). For more information please email [CDR Nadra Tyus](#), [LCDR Neil Bonzagni](#), and [LT Taneshia Knight](#).
  - **Scientist Officer Handbook Team:** EB approved the updated 4 sections of the Handbook (Awards, COA Involvement, Mobility, Training), which will be published on the SciPAC website. For more information, please email [CDR Tamara Henderson](#) and [LCDR Amy Schuh](#).

- **Promotion Document Review Team:** The Promotion Documents Team is running the Promotion Document (CV/OS) review service for promotion year 2023. Information was sent on September 27 about where to submit these documents. If you would like to have your CV or OS reviewed, please submit them by October 5. If you would like to serve as a reviewer, you can also notify the Promotion Documents Team by October 5. For more information, contact [CDR Michelle Rodriguez](#).
- **Administration & Communication Team:** The Administration & Communication Team provides administrative and communication support to the SC. If you have website questions, please contact [CDR Theodore Garnett](#), the SC Website Liaison. For other administrative and communication questions, please contact [LT Robert Gahl](#), the SC Secretary, as well as SC Chair & Co-chairs.
- **Category Day SC:** [LCDR Rebecca Levine](#); Co-Chair(s): [LCDR Alaine Knipes](#), [LCDR Alesha Harris](#), and [LCDR Folasade Kembi](#)
  - Meetings
    - Last leadership meeting: September 22, 2022, 1:00 PM
    - Last team leads meeting: August 25, 2022, 1:00 PM
    - Last COF meeting: September 21, 2022, 1:00 PM
    - Next leadership meeting: October 6, 2022, 12:00 PM
    - Next team leads meeting: October 27, 2022, 1:00 PM
    - Next COF meeting: October 12, 2022, 1:00 PM
  - The [2023 USPHS Symposium](#) will be held May 8-11 in Tulsa, Oklahoma; Category Day will be on Wednesday, May 10, 2023. We hope to see you there!
  - The Chair and Co-Chairs have been busy determining team lead positions for the new OY, as well as collecting responses from volunteers (thank you!) and assigning them to teams. We hope to have everything finalized by the end of the first week in October.
  - The abstracts team has been preparing a timeline and readying the call for abstracts for Category Day 2023, which we expect send out in early October. Please consider submitting an abstract for 2023!
  - The Category Day Evaluation team hopes to have an opportunity to share findings from the day's evaluation with the rest of the PAC in the new OY.
  - Appreciation:
    - LOAs have been prepared for all Category Day presenters and SC members and are awaiting signatures from SciPAC leadership.
    - The SC would like to send challenge coins to the two Keynote Speakers to appreciate their excellent contribution to the event. This is being discussed with the EB.
    - The SC has been in touch with the EB about the way forward for a Category Day Unit Commendation.
  - The Category Day SOP was received back from the SciPAC EB in mid-September. Revisions based on the most recent feedback are underway.
- **Deployment Preparedness SC:** [LCDR Jorge Muñiz Ortiz](#); Co-Chair(s): [CDR John Pesce](#), [LCDR Jason Caballero](#), [LCDR Adelaida Rosario](#)
  - **Next SC meeting:** October 18, 2022.
  - **Readiness Reporting:** As of October 1st, 2022, we have 407 Regular Corps Scientist

- officers and 6 Ready Reserve officers. 9 Regular Corps officers are not qualified (2.3%) and 18 Regular Corps, and 5 Ready Reserve officers are exempt. Which brings us to a total of 97.7% Regular Corps officers that are basic ready (the denominator being 389 when we eliminate the exempt officers from the calculation). From the 9 officers that are not qualified, 3 are CDR and 6 are CAPT. If you are having trouble with being basic ready, please reach out to the DPSC and we will do what we can to help get your issues worked through. Please contact LCDR Jorge Muñiz Ortiz or CDR John Pesce for more information.
- The SC had the first operational meeting Tuesday September 20<sup>th</sup> where we brainstormed various activities and events for this OY.
  - LOAs for OY 2021-2022 have been signed and distributed. Thank you again to all volunteers who helped make 2021-2022 a great OY. Hopefully we can continue the success this OY with returning and new volunteers.
  - We would like to remind officers of the CPO Fitness Challenge and the REP! PHS-wide fitness programs. Last OY 6 officers were recognized with certificates of appreciation. This OY two officers have already been recognized with certificates of appreciation.
  - We would like to point officers to emails dated 9/20, 9/21, and 9/23 from HQ regarding Deployment Safety Academy for Field Experience (D-SAFE) Webinar Series, Region 3 Deployment Role Training, and practice hours, respectively.
  - As always, we encourage officers to visit the RDB home page often for updates on readiness information (<https://dcp.psc.gov/RedDOG/default.aspx>). We also want to encourage officers to revisit the May 11<sup>th</sup> email from CCHQ regarding the new deployment structure. If any officer has any questions regarding the information, please let any officer of the SC leadership know.
- **Mentoring SC:** LCDR Jonetta Mpfou; Co-Chair(s): LCDR Patrick High, and LCDR Michelle Hughes
    - **Most recent meeting:** September 26, 2022
    - **Next meeting:** October 24, 2022
      - Thank you to all of the officers who have remained on the SC for the new OY and to those who have volunteered to take on new roles within the SC.
      - Any officers interested in volunteering for the Mentoring SC should do so as soon as possible. SC leadership will be meeting in the coming week to finalize and assign volunteer opportunities and roles.
  - **Policy SC:** LCDR Matthew Steele; Co-Chairs: LCDR Adam Bjork, and LT Lauren Woodard
    - **Policy Watch:**
      - On Wednesday, September 21, 2022, the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) reported that approximately 15,000 community pharmacies will leave the TRICARE retail pharmacy network as of October 24, 2022. Impacted beneficiaries will receive a letter from Express Scripts with a list of alternative in-network pharmacies. After October 24, 2022, beneficiaries who continue to fill prescriptions at departing community pharmacies will pay the full retail price for the medication. Walgreens and CVS remain in-network, as do

many grocery store pharmacies and smaller chains. Network pharmacies also can be found using this [online search tool](#).

- On Tuesday, September 27, 2022, the Commissioned Officers Association (COA) sent out notification that the United States Senate released Continuing Resolution language, H.R. 6833. In this bill, Section 302 contains language which extends the authorization for a Commissioned Corps Officer of the USPHS to accumulate excess annual leave. This bill is expected to pass the Senate and House and must be signed into law by President Biden by September 30th for the provision to take effect. If the provision is signed into law, CCHQ will provide further updates.
- **Policy Development:**
  - The Policy Review and Development teams stand ready to assist any SCs that plan to develop policies in the coming OY.
- **Psychologist Integration SC:** LCDR Kate Morris; Co-Chair(s): LCDR Patrick Sears
  - POC for officers who want to get involved: [LCDR Kate Morris](#)
  - **Most recent meeting:** August 15, 2022
  - **Next meeting:** October 17, 2022
  - We are working to stand up a board certification support program.
  - We continue to work with leadership to address issues related to practice hours, non-license eligible psychologists and the upcoming changes in promotion categories.
- **Recruitment and Retention SC:** LCDR George Mitzner; Co-Chair(s): LCDR Julia Zucco, and LCDR Jorielle Houston
  - **Resources:** Currently updating the SciPAC Welcome Letter for OBC attendees.
  - **Interested Applicant:** Any Scientist interested in carrying out a recruitment activity (e.g., delivering a presentation at their alma mater or a professional organization) will receive coordination, support, and presentation materials from our Team. The Scientist will then complete an after-action report.
    - CCHQ has opened accessions to ALL Scientists!
    - If you are interested in conducting a recruitment activity, please reach out to [CDR Angela Williams](#) and [LCDR Kelsy Hoffman](#).
- **OBC Engagement:**
  - The OBC 140/13 Open House was held in person September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 – thank you LT Elizabeth Johnson for representing SciPAC. Please welcome our newest Scientists:
    - [LT Sabrina Schatzman](#) – CDC
    - [LT Megan Lee Mickum](#) – CDC
    - [LT Daniel Nguyen](#) – CDC
    - [LT Sergio Rodriguez](#) – CDC
    - [LT Kelly Chapman](#) – CDC
    - [LTJG William Valiant](#) – Ready Reserve Region 8
  - The OBC Engagement Team is also pleased to announce that we will start inviting Scientists to attend OBC graduation to provide recognition, support, and fellowship to new CAD Scientists.
  - If you are interested in representing SciPAC at a future OBC Open House and/or



- Graduation, please reach out to [LT Elizabeth Johnson and LT Oren Mayer](#).
- **New CAD Seminars:** **\*\*Open to all officers\*\***
    - A Survey of the New CAD listserv to discuss impacts of the 2021-2022 New CAD seminar series and topics for the next OY has been collected and is being analyzed.
    - To receive an invitation for the next seminar or if you would like to brief, please contact [LT Jessica Meeker, LCDR Rudolph Francin, and LT Shara Francin](#).
  - **New Scientist Officer Team:**
    - **\*\*Open to Scientists from all agencies within 3 years CAD and/or at O-3 grade\*\***
    - **Last meeting:** September 16, 2022 where 12 officers met and discussed the new Team Leads and questions from RR Officers.
    - **Next Meeting:** October 21, 2022 at 1200 ET
    - For details, invitation, or to be added to the distribution list, contact [LT Sean Griffing, LT Oren Mayer, LT Jessica Jacobs, and LT Sophia Ajoku](#).
  - **EIS/LLS:** Disseminated their new Resource Document for EIS/LLS fellows to connect with officers for more information regarding commissioning.
  - **Separation Survey:**
    - Any Scientist separating or retiring from service may complete the legacy Separation Survey via the following link on their work or personal device: <https://goo.gl/forms/ObMhp6FQ9HooOfRM2?>
    - The last question will ask for an email or phone number for a Recruitment and Retention SC member to contact you for an *optional* 30-minute phone interview.
      - No July surveys were completed.
    - Please contact [CDR Wade Keckler](#) for questions.
  - **Rules and Membership SC:** [CDR Zewditu Demissie](#); Co-Chair(s): [CDR Lana Rossiter](#); Co-chair: [LCDR Angela Coulliette-Salmond](#)
    - Welcome to LCDR Angela Coulliette-Salmond who has joined the SC leadership team as a Co-chair.
    - Thank you to all of our SC members who have opted to continue their service this OY. We are excited to have you onboard this year. Additional thanks to those who served last OY and have transitioned off. Your work was very much appreciated.
    - The SC has a few leadership and non-leadership openings this OY. Our call for volunteers was distributed with the PAC-wide call for volunteers that was sent to the listserv on 9/20/2022. We hope that some of you will join us and thank you to the volunteers who have reached out already.
    - Thanks to the SC leaders, liaisons, and EB members who have already turned in their draft contributions for the 2021-2022 End of Year report. If you have not yet turned in your report, please do so ASAP. We appreciate your timely submissions so that we can share officer accomplishments with the entire PAC membership.
    - We are in the process of finishing a number of SOP reviews that have been in process with the EB. Thank you for continued efforts to finalize these SOPs. If your SC's SOP is due for an update this OY, we will reach out to the SC leadership.
    - As mentioned in CDR Shumate's report, we are pleased to include the new DEIA (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility) Officer position on our SC. Welcome to CDR Hollis and we look forward to sharing these initiatives with the PAC in the

future.

- **Science SC:** [LCDR Teresa Wang](#); Co-Chair(s): [LCDR Israel Cross](#), and [LCDR Hilda Razzaghi](#)
  - Letters of appreciation for those who served during the previous OY are pending finalization and distribution.
  - New member recruitment is ongoing; please review information based on the team information provided below. If interested, please reach out to [LCDR Teresa Wang](#) by October 14. Pending roster finalization, a Science SC-wide kickoff meeting will be scheduled.
  - **State of the Scientists (SoS)**
    - The team is actively recruiting new members to support the annual SoS survey.
    - The team's summary of key findings for 2021, "The State of the Scientists: Results from the Annual Category Survey" has been submitted to Website SC for posting.
    - The SoS Team's current SurveyMonkey license will expire at the end of February 2023; please reach out to Science SC leadership if interested in coordinating data collection efforts.
  - **Research and Practice Team**
    - The team is actively recruiting new members to coordinate and facilitate webinars on timely topics of research and practice.
    - Please reach out to [CDR Ruiqing Pamboukian](#) and [LT Ying Lin](#) with questions or ideas for future webinars.
  - **Bibliography Team**
    - The team is actively recruiting new members to help compile a list of Scientist officers' scholarly works.
    - The 2021 Bibliography has been submitted to the Website SC for posting.
    - Please reach out to [LT Nicholas Deputy](#) with any questions.
  - **Surgeon General's - Priority Engagement for Evaluation and Research Support (SG-PEERS) Team**
    - The team has developed a Scientist Officer subject matter expert database and will continue to build this out during the current OY. Please reach out to [LT Lindsay Womack](#) and [LCDR Leora Feldstein](#) with any questions or ideas for leveraging the database.
- **Visibility SC:** [LCDR Angela Thompson-Paul](#); Co-Chair(s): [LCDR Tia Rogers](#), and [LT Lacreisha Ejike-King](#)
  - **Newsletter Team:**
    - The Newsletter Team is awaiting final clearance from OSG for the Summer edition before releasing it on our website and listserv. In the meantime, we have a strong team in place for the coming OY and have put out a call for fall newsletter submissions to the SciPAC listserv. Submissions are due by **Friday, October 21, 2022**. Please review our email (distributed 09/29/2022) for details.
    - Please contact newsletter team lead [CDR David Huang](#) for any questions regarding article submissions.
  - **Socials Team:**

- If you have an idea for an in-person or virtual social event, please contact: [LT Lacreisha Ejike-King](#)
- **Publications Team:**
  - The publications team is recruiting for 3 additional team members. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact team lead [LCDR Tia Rogers](#)
- **Twitter Team:**
  - In September 2022, the SciPAC Twitter Team tweeted and retweeted a total of 70 times, and generated 41,232 new impressions, 342 new engagements, 213 new likes and 3,433 profile visits! This brings us to an incredible 295,666 all-time Tweet impressions and 131,874 profile visits since starting in April 2019!
  - Twitter Team is recruiting new members for the 2022-2023 OY! No experience with Twitter is necessary. Please contact Twitter team leads [LT Ian Kracalik](#) and [LCDR Angie Coulliette-Salmond](#) to join, or with Tweet ideas.
  - As always, find us and follow us on Twitter at [@PHS\\_Scientist](#).
- **Facebook Team:**
  - In September 2022, there were 0 views, 0 posts, and 0 expressions on the SciPAC Facebook page.
  - We encourage all officers to share news, events, announcements, or generate a discussion by asking specific questions on the Scientist Officer Facebook. This is an internal page open only to current and retired Scientist Officers. Your post will be reviewed by our Facebook team before being posted. POC: [LCDR Patrick Sears](#).
  - There are currently 194 Facebook members. If you aren't already a member you can [request membership here](#).
- **LinkedIn/Instagram Team:**
  - The team is continuing to review updates on the SOP.
  - Next meeting: 10/04/2022.
  - POC: [LCDR Abby McCabe](#), [LT Brian McAleney](#), [LT Tiffiny McCain](#)
- **Quarterly Highlights Team:**
  - This team will produce a 1-page document each quarter highlighting Scientist accomplishments. This brief, high impact report will be used by SciPAC leadership and sent to HQ to keep Scientist contributions to work, deployments, and other activities known to our leadership.
  - This is a new team being stood up this year. We are recruiting for 1-2 additional team members. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact [LCDR Angela Thompson-Paul](#)
- **Fist Bump Team:**
  - In September, no new Fist Bumps were received.
  - This OY, Fist Bump-related posts on Facebook and Twitter have garnered 2,466 views and 221 impressions, representing a 228% and 134% increase, respectively, compared to last year.
  - The SciPAC Fist Bump Form is available on the website on the [Visibility SC page](#). Please use this form to submit Fist Bump nominations, send completed forms to [LT Kerui Xu](#).

- **Website SC:** LCDR Ruth Link-Gelles; Co-Chair(s): LCDR Elizabeth Edwards, and LCDR Matthew Stuckey
  - Next SC meeting: 10/6/2022 at 11 AM Eastern
  - Current Activities
    - For OY 2022, the SC received 51 update requests; 44 requests are complete and 7 are pending.
    - Jarmanator is now available! We are accepting new website change requests for OY 2023 and continue to clear the backlog of requests received during Jarmanator downtime.
    - Planning continues for a streamlined SciPAC Website, including increased interface with Max.gov, updated resources for Scientists, archiving unused portions of the current site.
  - Website and Visibility SCs continue to collaborate on the update to the SciPAC history webpage; all new content is under reviewed by the SciPAC Chair.
  - SciPAC Website Analytics Report for OY 2022 is shared with SciPAC leadership and Website SC liaisons.
  - Please visit our SciPAC website for additional information on SC activities and monthly meeting minutes: <https://dcp.psc.gov/OSG/scientist/>

## Liaison Reports

- **Association of Military Surgeons of the U.S. (AMSUS):** CAPT Mark Scheckelhoff; Co-Liaison(s): CDR Qiao Bobo
  - **Most recent meeting:** September, 9, 2022
  - **Next meeting:** TBD
- AMSUS 2023 will be at the Gaylord Hotel, National Harbor, MD; 13-16 Feb 2023
  - There will be no virtual platform, it will be an in-person only event
  - *No open Call for Abstracts for lecture presentations and AMSUS cannot accept individual requests to present*
    - **\*\*Open\*\***Poster abstract call only: submission 6 July-15 October—Deadline firm
    - Award nomination process is open (closes October 15, 2022)
    - Lecture abstracts are now being accepted
  - All plenary and breakout sessions are coordinated through federal health leadership offices and their AMSUS teams
  - Need volunteers for AMSUS PHS
- Key takeaways for AMSUS 2023:
  - Keynote Dr. Steven Lieberman, Veteran Health Affairs
  - Theme: Healthcare collaborations: Meeting the Challenges of Today and Tomorrow
  - Offer sessions that have CE/CME (27.5hrs offered)
- Abstracts and Awards are to be submitted to PHS contacts AMSUS (links below) for review in parallel with the official AMSUS submission.
  - [Abstract submission](#)
  - [Award submissions](#)

- **Commissioned Corps Women's Issues Advisory Board (CCWIAB):** LCDR Marissa Zwald
  - Points of contact: LCDR Marissa Zwald and CDR Kiran Perkins (CCWIAB Co-Chair)
  - Last CCWIAB meeting: Wednesday, September 7, 2022
  - Next CCWIAB meeting: Wednesday, October 5, 2022
  - A new CCWIAB ad-hoc working group focused on reproductive healthcare access held a kickoff meeting. The working group will develop a white paper for OSG and CCHQ that compiles potential challenges around reproductive healthcare access, describes implications, and provides recommendations and policy solutions to improve support for officers.
  - CCWIAB's anti-harassment committee met with CCHQ's Corps Care office this month to discuss the annual required anti-harassment training and provide opportunities for improvement.
  - If you have any questions about CCWIAB or the committees' initiatives below, please contact LCDR Zwald, or visit CCWIAB's website.
  
- **Commissioned Officers Association (COA):** LCDR Julia Zucco
  - POC for officers who want to get involved: LCDR Julia Zucco
  - **Most recent meeting:** 09/20/22 Board of Directors meeting
  - COA is working on the logistics for the Spiritual Enrichment and Support (SEAS) Community Pilot Project, in which spiritual support would be made for officers particularly during deployments. This is in the early planning phases, so more information will be forthcoming.
  - COF is partnering with Christopher Productions, LLC to produce a documentary on the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) for the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). It will cover the history and role of the USPHS, highlighting aspects of the USPHS Commissioned Corps to help educate viewers about the role that the officers play in the future health of our nation, and the world. Thanks to COF's initial investment and to donations received to date, work on the documentary has begun and filming dates are being scheduled. However, to complete the project and meet the goals for the premiere at next year's Annual Symposium in Tulsa, COF needs to raise an additional \$100,000. If you would like to find out more about this project and where you can help, please check out the documentary webpage on the COF website, (<https://www.phscof.org/documentary/>).
  - We had a record number of lapsed memberships for this beginning of our OY. The Outreach Committee is collaborating with local branches and other committees to remind officers to renew in order to continue the important work of COA, which provides invaluable services to all officers, including successfully advocating for extension of expiring leave.
  
- **IT Chartered Advisory Committee (ICAC):** LCDR Kelly Shaw
  - **Next meeting:** October 4, 2022.
  
- **Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG):** LCDR Xia Michelle Lin
  - Next meeting (new OY): Friday, 10/14/2022, Time: 1300-1400 ET

- Zoom link: <https://fda.zoomgov.com/j/1611869072>
- JOAG Executive Committee Members have been announced:
  - Chair: LCDR Mouhamed Halwani
  - Vice-Chair: LCDR Ubong Akpan
  - Chair-Elect: LCDR Michael Wandersee
  - Co-Secretary: LCDR Xia Michelle Lin
  - Co-Secretary: LT Colin Tack
  - Operations Liaison: LCDR Jackeline Rodriguez
- Meet and Greet virtual event in Houston TX area
  - Topic: Pie's Pearl
  - Speaker: CDR Pieter VanHorn
  - Monday, October 17, 2022; 1400 ET.
  - Meeting Link: [here](#).
- Meet and Greet virtual event in Montana
  - Topic: Innovative Public Health Success
  - Speaker: CDR Dawn Benth
  - Monday, October 17, 2022; 1900 MT (2100 ET).
  - Meeting Link: [here](#).
- The JOAG Communications and Publications Committee published Career and Life Tip – Tips on Leading When You Are Not in Charge – see the JOAG listserv email announcement on 9/12; to be published on the JOAG website.
- JOAG published October's Practicing Wellness – Boundaries, Balance, and Self-Care. See JOAG listserv announcement on 9/26 for the article; to be published on the JOAG website.
- **Prevention through Active Community Engagement (PACE):** LT Lacreisha Ejike-King
  - Last meeting: August 11, 2022; 2:00pm ET
  - Next meeting: October 13, 2022; 2:00pm ET
    - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
    - Meeting ID: 227 453 203 351; Passcode: yhGjFL
    - Audio only: (240) 800-7959; Conference ID: 461728590#
  - LOAs: Officer recognition with LOAs for work done on behalf of PACE/SGET is determined by the 4 leadership bodies: PACE EB, PACE SC Leads, PACE Regional Leads, and SGET leads. LOA calls will go out this fall and LOAs will be issued to officers by the end of November.
  - Officership opportunities
    - The PACE SGET SC is recruiting new volunteers. Volunteers will assist and support SGETs regionally with outreach, report management, recognitions, operations/policy, administrative management and data management. The SGET SC leadership and volunteers assist regional SGET leaders with accomplishing their mission to deliver evidenced-based, public health related educational lessons focused on OSG priorities to local communities that will enable individuals to make informed decisions regarding unhealthy behaviors. If you are interested in volunteering, please send the following information to [CDR Zanethia Eubanks](#)

and [LCDR Jennifer Weekes](#) for consideration by COB Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2022:

- Most recent copy of your CV (Please include any PACE/SGET experience)
- Short interest statement (<500 words)
- A screenshot of your readiness screen showing you are Basic Ready

○ **Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity Advisory Group (SOAGDAG):** [LCDR Luis Iturriaga](#)

- POC for officers who want to get involved: [Luis.Iturriaga.mil@health.mil](mailto:Luis.Iturriaga.mil@health.mil)
  - Most recent meeting: 27 SEPTEMBER 2022 @ 1300 HRS EDT
  - Next meeting: 25 OCTOBER 2022 @ 1300 HRS EDT
- The SOAGDAG Executive Committee is working with the Commissioned Corps Women's Issues Advisory Board (CCWIAB) on feedback for accession standards for the Medical Affairs Branch. Requesting SMEs for inter-sex conditions. Please contact [LCDR Mandap](#) if you are interested.
- The Executive Committee met with FDA civil servant LGBTQ+ representatives and will be working with them on including Commissioned Corps officers in products for Agency staff.
- The SOAGDAG Education and Training SC is searching for volunteers to present for the annual speaker series. Please contact [LCDR Rorabaugh-Irwin](#) if interested.
- The Social SC 2022 Event Calendar was reviewed with the following events scheduled:

Date	Time	Format	Event Type / Theme
October 16, 2022	1500 – 1700 PDT 1800 – 2000 EDT	Virtual	Watch Party
November 4, 2022	1000 – 1100 PDT 1300 – 1400 EDT	Virtual	Book Club
December 10 or 11, 2022	1500 – 1700 PST 1800 – 2000 EST	Virtual	Seasonal Soiree

**NOTE:** Next meeting—Tuesday, **November 1, 2022**; 12:00–1:00pm ET