

JUNIOR OFFICER ADVISORY GROUP (JOAG)
 UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE



Junior Officer Advisory Group
U.S. Public Health Service
 Voting Membership Planning Meeting
 March 12, 2010
 1400-1500 EST
 SUMMARY DOCUMENT

I. Roll Call

LCDR Jamie Mutter:

Voting Membership					
Attendance	Rank	Last Name	First Name	OPDIV	Category
✓	LCDR	Bair-Brake	Heather	CDC	Veterinarian
✓	LCDR	Ball	Harvey	DHS	Therapist
✓	LCDR	Bell	Carlos	FDA	HSO
✓	LCDR	Constantine	Amy	FDA	HSO
Excused Absence	LT	Coriz	Christina	NIH	HSO
✓	LCDR	Dailey	Alex	IHS	Engineer
✓	LCDR	Denkinger	Blakeley	FDA	Dietitian
Excused Absence	LCDR	Feda	Jessica	BOP	Therapist
Excused Absence	LCDR	Glover	Maleeka	CDC	Scientist
Excused Absence	LCDR	Janisko	Thomas	ASPR	HSO
✓	LCDR	Kozlosky	Merel	NIH	Dietitian
✓	LCDR	Maycock	Brett	DHS	HSO
✓	LCDR	Mody	Rajal	CDC	Physician
✓	LCDR	Mutter	Jamie	CDC	EHO
Excused Absence	LCDR	Ngo	Diem-Kieu	FDA	Pharmacist
✓	LCDR	Palmer	Corey	HRSA	HSO
Excused Absence	LCDR	Rice	Morrisa	HRSA	HSO
✓	LT	Taxera	Martin	IHS	Nurse
✓	LCDR	Toblin	Robin	BOP	Scientist
Excused Absence	LCDR	Waples	Yvette	FDA	Pharmacist
✓	LT	Williams	Scott	IHS	Dentist

II. Executive Committee Reports

Ex-Officio Report

LCDR Maleeka Glover

- No report submitted

Chair Report

LCDR Diem-Kieu Ngo

- The Welcoming Committee will be contacting VMs to schedule JOAG participation at future OBC graduation ceremonies (if they have not done so already).
- We are in communication with CAPT Freund about having a JOAG representative on a new Training and Career Development Steering Committee. I am waiting for further details and instructions from CAPT Freund before putting a call for volunteer out on the listserv. I asked for two JOAG rep spots but my request was declined for good reasons so I will not pursue that further. More details to come.
- LCDR Corey Palmer and LCDR Alex Dailey briefed the PAC Chairs Group this month on JOAG's recruitment initiatives; they can provide more details during the R&R report.
- All VMs should let LCDR Ngo know if they are planning to attend the COF Symposium in San Diego or not, and to keep her posted if their status changes. The JOAG General Meeting and Meet and Greet is on Sunday, May 23 at 6 PM. Please plan to arrive on Saturday or early Sunday to ensure you are not delayed. This General Meeting will replace the June General Meeting so please remove the June General Meeting date from your calendars. We will try to get a polycon in the meeting room at the hotel so that VMs who are not in attendance can dial in. However, if you are in San Diego, you are expected to be in attendance (and not dial in from your hotel room!). Uniform will be service khaki.
- I am still waiting for confirmation of VADM Benjamin's attendance at our April General Meeting and at the General Meeting at COF.
- Informal request was sent to CAPT Coppola regarding the dress code for the two community service projects in Atlanta; waiting for a response from him before I submit the proposals for OSG approval.

Vice Chair Report

LCDR Blakeley Denkinger

- The deadline for submitting applications to become a JOAG voting member is Friday, March 19, 2010. Please encourage junior officers in your committees that exhibit leadership skills and initiative to submit an application.

Chair-Elect Report

LCDR Carlos Bell

- No update at this time

Financial Liaison Report

LCDR Alex Dailey

- \$2, 132.93 is the current balance of the account.
- Approval of funding request for recording device for Communications and Publications Committee for about \$60.
- Pending deposits of \$125 and \$40 for various sales.
- EC website update – coordinating with LT Coriz on this website update.
- Reminder for VMs to submit funding requests for USPHS Symposium activities.

Executive Secretary Report

LCDR Jamie Mutter

- No update at this time.

III. Committee and Liaison Reports

Committee & Workgroup Reports

Awards Committee: LCDR Merel Kozlosky & LCDR Morrissa Rice

- The most recent Awards Committee meeting took place on 1 MAR and the next meeting will take place on 5 APR. The Awards Committee meetings will take place on the first Monday of each month at 1200 Eastern Time unless a different announcement is made.
- The deadline for nominations for the JOAG awards (Junior Officer of the Year Award, JOAG Excellence Award, and the VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration Award) was 22 FEB. A total of 40 nominations were received, including 26 for the Junior Officer of the Year Award, 9 for the JOAG Excellence Award, and 5 for the VADM Richard Carmona Inspiration Award. Our Award Leads are currently leading the efforts to de-identify and review the nominations. The Award Leads are LCDR Ayoub Suliman for the Junior Officer of the Year Award, LCDR Tracy Branch for the JOAG Excellence Award, and LCDR Melissa Burns for the VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration Award. There was discussion this year with the JOAG EC on how to de-identify nominations. It was decided to proceed with the same procedures that have been used in the past for de-identification.
- The recommendations for the awardees of the JOAG awards will be forwarded to the JOAG Executive Committee for concurrence around 16 APR. They will then be forwarded to the Office of the Surgeon General for concurrence. The awards will be presented at the 2010 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium which will take place 24-27 MAY in San Diego, CA.
- The Junior Officer Recognition Ad-hoc Subcommittee is working to increase recognition of junior officers within PACs and other advisory groups. This subcommittee will develop a survey or list of questions to gather information on what junior officer awards and recognition efforts are already in place in PACs and other advisory groups. This survey will be distributed to the JOAG category and other liaisons so they can obtain input from these groups.
- An Awards Guidance Ad-hoc Subcommittee has been formed to update a previously created awards guidance document. The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to junior officers and their supervisors on understanding and submitting nominations for Commissioned Corps honor and unit awards. The goal is for the document to be submitted to the JOAG Executive Committee for final approval and possible posting on the JOAG website in the future.
- Proposals for a USPHS Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal and USPHS Longevity of Service Award are currently being reviewed by the JOAG Executive Committee. After the review, feedback will be provided to the Awards Committee regarding any revisions to be incorporated before the proposals are submitted through the chain of command.
- JOAG voting members who log 30 or more “days” of active JOAG participation are eligible to be considered for the Special Assignment Award (SAA). The Awards Committee Co-Chairs are currently reviewing JOAG Activity Logs from voting members to determine if we have sufficient voting members having completed the 30 day requirement to put forth a package to the OSG for endorsement of the Special Assignment Award for those voting members at this time.
 - LCDR Toblin asked what proportion of 20 Voting Members were needed in order to put the award through. LCDR Kozlosky stated that at least 10 Voting Members look like they qualify at first glance. Once the Awards Committee tells the JOAG EC how many Voting Members do qualify, the JOAG EC will determine if the recommendation for the Special

Assignment Award will be put forth. It looks very likely that the JOAG EC will put forward the recommendation.

- The plan is to put forth the Special Assignment Award every 6 months.
- LCDR Bell asked that if the award was submitted in April, would it be submitted in time to be presented to the officers at the COF Symposium? LCDR Kozlosky stated that she would look into the turn around time for the award once it is submitted.
- The Website Transformation Ad-hoc Subcommittee is working to create the Awards Committee section of the JOAG website.

COF Planning Committee: LCDR Heather Bair-Brake and LT Scott Williams

- The Program Coordination subcommittee has decided to hold the JOAG social on Wednesday, May 26th at 8:00pm in Quinns restaurant located in the Conference Center hotel. The restaurant has several food and beverage choices and has a patio outside. The subcommittee was able to get an announcement in the JOAG spring newsletter. The event is open to all officers. Officers will be responsible for purchasing their own food and drinks.
- The Program Coordination Subcommittee is also working hard to figure out a plan for the Meet and Greet to be held on Sunday evening, May 23rd from 6-8pm in the conference hotel. The contract this year specifically states that we are not able to bring in outside food. Subcommittee chair, David Schwab came up with an idea of making welcome gift bags for all of the Meet and Greet attendees. The gift bags would contain snacks, a flyer for the social, a tourism map of San Diego and other JOAG promotional items.
 - LCDR Toblin asked if officers could bring in their own food to the JOAG general meeting in June. LCDR Bair-Brake stated that officers can bring in their own food during the meeting.
 - It was mentioned that the COF Planning Committee could set up a stand across the street to hand out food before the meeting.
- LCDR Blakeley Denkinger, our EC liaison, is attempting to contact the Sheraton Catering manager to further negotiate food.
- LCDR Denkinger mentioned that she might be able to get advertising for the JOAG Meet and Greet and the JOAG Social on the COA website. LCDR Denkinger will coordinate this with COA.
- The Volunteer Subcommittee is still waiting to hear if any other Committees need volunteers to help with the conference.

Communications & Publications Committee (CPC): LT Christina Coriz

- Our next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2010 at 1400EST.

Development Committee: LCDR Thomas Janisko

- Development committee reports that we will have final merchandise recommendation to the EC by late next week.
- We are in the process of scheduling officers for the Development Committee booth at the COF Conference.
- We continue to collect funny / serious t-shirt slogans with an end date of 26 MAR. Interested parties should submit slogans to john.diehl@hhs.gov.

Inter-Services Collaboration Committee: LCDR Brett Maycock

- The Inter-Services Committee had a meeting on March 9, 2010.
- The Transitional Assistance Program (TAPs) Subcommittee continues to codify a white paper based on the data they collected about the TAPs programs across the county. The focus of the white paper is to provide recommendations for the Commissioned Corps on how to utilize the TAPs programs as a venue for recruiting new Commissioned Corps officers, from other uniformed services. LCDR David Lau will send a draft to the Inter-Services Committee general membership for review and feedback. Once this has been completed, the final draft will be sent to the JOAG EC for their review and then onto OCCO.

- The TAPs Subcommittee is looking for someone to take the lead on future projects. LCDR David Lau has indicated that he will act in a supporting capacity (Co-Chair) to any officer interested in taking on the Chair position. If interested, please contact LCDR Brett Maycock at Brett.Maycock@dhs.gov or LCDR David Lau at David.Lau@dhs.gov.
 - LCDR Bell asked if the TAPs lead has to be prior service. LCDR Maycock said the officers do not have to be prior service.
- The Community Services Subcommittee and its officers in the Atlanta region have put together a proposal to partner with Fort McPherson/Fort Gillem's Child and Youth Services Center in providing 3-5 PHS officer volunteers to support a Fishing Rodeo, at Stephens Lake, Fort Gillem, Georgia. The Fishing Rodeo targets children aged 12 and under in a half day of fishing fun. The event will take place from 0800 – 1200 on Saturday, April 24, 2010. Officers that volunteer for this event will wear a modified uniform: PHS T-shirt and ball cap. Once approved by the OSG, a request for volunteers will be sent out to officers in the Atlanta region.
- The Community Services Subcommittee and its officers in the Atlanta region have put together a proposal to partner with Fort McPherson/Fort Gillem's Child and Youth Services Center in providing 10 PHS officer volunteers to support the annual Spring Fest, at Fort McPherson, Georgia. The Spring Fest PHS volunteers will be responsible for assisting with setup, clean-up, food service, and any assistance/direction to the children during their half day of the Spring Fest event. Activities at the event include: games, educational tables/exhibits, inflatable bouncers/jumpers, and an egg hunt. This event will take place on April 3, 2010, from 1000 – 1400 at the Hedekin Parade Field, Fort McPherson, Georgia. Officers that volunteer for this event will wear a modified uniform: PHS T-shirt and ball cap. Once approved by the OSG, a request for volunteers will be sent out to officers in the Atlanta region.
- The Community Services Subcommittee has put together a proposal to partner with the US Air Force (USAF) and US Navy (USN) to support a Potomac River Cleanup, on Bolling Air Force Base, in the Washington D.C. area. PHS volunteers will help remove debris from the shoreline of the Potomac River in the area around the Bolling Air Force Base. The cleanup will take place on Saturday, April 10, 2010 from 0800 to 1200. Officers that volunteer for this event will wear a modified uniform: PHS T-shirt and ball cap. The JOAG Inter-Services Committee approved the proposal and it will be forwarded to the JOAG Executive Committee for their review. Once approved by the JOAG EC, a request for volunteers will be sent out to officers in the Washington, D.C. area.
- The Physical Fitness memo is with the JOAG EC and is still being reviewed.
- The next Inter-Services Committee meeting will be held on April 13, 2010, from 11:30 – 12:30 EST.

Membership Committee: LCDR Robin Toblin

- New York and Atlanta held successful meet and greets prior to the February JOAG meeting. Other officers interested in hosting one in their city for the April meeting should contact LCDR Toblin at rtoblin@bop.gov.
 - New York had their own call line and of the 8 people who attended the meeting, 4 of them had not been involved with JOAG before.
 - Tucson, Seattle, DC and Raleigh are also interested in hosting a meet and greet.
 - LCDR Toblin is going to try and get a Subcommittee lead for this initiative.
- CAD Anniversary project has been approved by the EC and is forming a Subcommittee now.
- A Q&A session about voting membership was held and 42 officers were on the line. Applications are due on Friday, March 19 to rtoblin@bop.gov. Applications can be found on the JOAG website.
 - Please encourage officers who might be good voting members to apply for voting membership.
 - By the end of the month, the committee anticipates having all of the paperwork together, confirming activities and on the HHS Portal.
 - Beginning of April, the nomination packages will be submitted to the VMs. VMs will then have 4 weeks to score the nomination packages.

- The Membership Committee will be planning a 1 hour meeting to go over candidates, hopefully the first half of April.
- The Membership Committee is still considering ways to allow VM to make comments about applicants.
- LCDR Maycock inquired as to how many applications the Membership Committee currently has. LCDR Toblin currently has 2 applications.
- Last year, there were 20 applications and the year before that, there were 40 applications.
- LCDR Bell asked about the status of the transcripts for the Voting Membership call. LCDR Toblin does not know the status of the transcripts, but she has been directing officers to get the audio file from LT Hiren Patel.
- LCDR Bell also suggested that LCDR Toblin send out a reminder email on the listserv Monday.
- Members are working on refining the SOP and mission statement of the committee.

Policy and Procedures Committee (P&P): LCDR Carlos Bell

- **JOAG Charter Subcommittee:** Lead: LT Aaron Long
 - The subcommittee has reviewed and made recommendations to update the JOAG Charter.
 - The Charter is currently with me (LCDR Bell) for review before it's submitted to the EC for review.
 - Once Charter has been reviewed and approved by the EC, it will be sent to the OSG for final approval.
 - Although, we have to update our Charter every three years, the majority of the changes should be made to the By-laws and SOPs and not to the Charter. The revisions to the Charter are not very significant.
 - If any VMs would like to look at the Charter, please contact LCDR Bell.
- **JOAG Bylaws Subcommittee:** Lead: LT Damon Smith
 - LT Damon Smith submitted his revisions to LCDR Bell two weeks ago. LCDR Bell will be able to look at these revisions this next week
 - Look out for an email regarding the By-law changes. LCDR Bell will be using Survey Monkey. There are about 8-9 revisions.
- **SOPs Subcommittee:** Lead: LCDR Tammy White
 - The Subcommittee has revised/reformatted each Committee SOP.
 - As of last night, all Committee Chairs should have received the updated SOP.
 - Please use the email when updating the SOPs.
 - As previously discussed:
 - Committee SOPs will only include language specific to the Committee.
 - Each SOP was also split into 3 Articles (Article I: Mission, Article II: Responsibilities, and Article III: Procedures)
 - Article I: Mission – this statement should be the same as found in the By-laws. If your committee feels this language needs to be changed, please send LCDR Bell and email so this can also be reflected in the By-laws.
 - The general language will only be included in the JOAG General SOP, and will be revised by the Executive Committee on a yearly basis.
- **PPC Website Subcommittee:** Lead: LCDR Shary Jones
 - The Subcommittee is working on finalizing the PPC webpage on the JOAG Website.
- **“Take a Junior Officer to Work” (TJOW) Survey:** Lead: LCDR Robyn Bent
 - Survey used to gauge interest in developing a shadowing program.
 - Survey is now closed. Over 800 officers took the survey (~70% JO, ~30% SO)
 - Subcommittee is working on analyzing the data collected.
 - Findings and recommendations will be summarized into report and submitted to the EC for review.
- **The JOAG Strategic Plan:** Lead: LT Christopher Jones
 - The Subcommittee is working on finalizing the comments from the Voting Members and the Subcommittee members.

- Final draft is being prepared and will be submitted to the EC for review and approval.
- **Membership Satisfaction Survey:** Lead: LCDR Djenaba Joseph
 - The Subcommittee continues to work on developing the Membership Satisfaction Survey.
 - Hope to have a rough draft ready for EC review before the end of March.

Professional Development Committee (PD): LCDR Harvey Ball & LCDR Rajal Mody

- Last PD Committee meeting was March 9, 2010.
- Career Pyramid
 - The Pyramid and complement text have been revised by LCDR Maycock and LCDR DeBarros and have been submitted to JOAG EC for review/approval. The next step is to get PAC Chairs to review this before it is posted to the JOAG website. A recommendation was made that LCDR DeBarros and/ or LCDR Maycock present the Pyramid to the PAC Chairs, and stress that the Pyramid is designed to be very general, and not tailored to any one specific category.
- JOAG Newsletter
 - Topics for articles discussed on the March publications subcommittee call included: AMSUS, “a day in the life of an Aide-de Camp”, and on potential leadership training opportunities in OPDIVs, in PHS, and with the DOD. No leads for these potential articles have been identified as yet.
- Journeyman Series
 - RADM Michael Milner, RHA Region 1, and Chair of the HSOPAC. RADL Milner will speak on the topic of “billet creep” in March.
 - A panel discussion centered on the topic of balancing demands of OPDIVs with one’s billet is scheduled for May. Two speakers are confirmed at present.
 - LT Hudson has created a tracking tool for this series that has been sent to the EC for review
 - The committee is seeking new enthusiastic officers to maintain the high quality coordination of the series and to assist LT Heidi Hudson with coordinating and leading future Journeyman Series calls.
 - New topic ideas include a panel discussion on deployment opportunities
- Professional Development Survey
 - The survey team has completed a preliminary analysis of responses obtained during the one week period that the survey was open to Professional Development Committee members. 35 PD Committee members responded to the survey, however, it was heavily skewed toward CDC officers and the HSO PAC. The survey will be opened for another week to get responses from officers in all categories and OPDIVs.
- Uniform Inspection Booth
 - LT Skip Payne and team members have finalized a proposed schedule for the booth and has forwarded this to the COF Planning Committee.
 - Team members have tested out the Rackbuilder software and it appears to correctly order how awards should be worn.
- Mentoring
 - LCDR Arceneaux led the first Mentoring subcommittee call on February 26, 2010.
 - Putting together advice on how the HHS mentoring program can be useful for PHS officers.
 - Develop guidance for supervisors on how they can best mentor officers about the annual COER.
- Universal email
 - There is continued interest in looking into the possibility of a universal email for all USPHS officers. LCDR Ball is spearheading this.
- Next PD committee meeting: 13 April 2010, 10:30 - 11:30 EST
Dial-in Number: 712-451-6175

Recruitment & Retention Committee (R&R): LCDR Jessica Feda and LCDR Corey Palmer

- The Recruitment and Retention Committee currently has five primary subcommittees and initiatives: the COSTEP Connection Program, Alumni Contacts Initiative, Career Fairs Information Subcommittee, Publications Subcommittee, and the Online Career Resources Initiative.
- The Recruitment and Retention Committee's leadership is as follows:
 - **Co-Chairs:** LCDR Corey Palmer and LCDR Jessica Feda
 - **Secretary:** LTJG Brittany Laymon
 - **Committee Recorder:** LT Chinyelum Umejei
 - **Committee Website Coordinator:** LTJG Daveta Bailey
 - **COSTEP Connection Program Lead:** LCDR Tara Cozzarelli and LT Joel Hustedt
 - **Career Fairs Information Subcommittee Lead:** LCDR John Kathol
 - **Recruitment and Retention Publications Subcommittee Lead:** LT Shani Smith
 - **Online Career Resources Initiative Lead:** LT Romerl Elizes and LT Sherene Brown Cora
 - **TAPs Initiative Lead:** LCDR David Lau (In Transition)
- R&R Committee Mission: To increase the number of junior officers within the commissioned corps.
- **Missions and updates:**
 - **COSTEP Connection Program:** This workgroup serves to coordinate preceptors with junior COSTEPs to enhance the COSTEPs overall experience and their knowledge of career benefits with the Public Health Service. The COSTEP Connection Program has drafted a proposal for the COSTEP Non-Select Contact Pilot. The purpose of this initiative is to make contact with COSTEP applicant who qualified but were not selected for a COSTEP position due to various reasons, such as limited billets, funding and resources. The primary objective is to encourage COSTEP non-selects to pursue a career within the USPHS. DCCR has finished its initial review of the draft and now recommended changes are being made. Upon completion, the document will be sent to CAPT Coppola for his review and then back to the JOAG Executive Committee for further review. In addition, the CCP subcommittee will develop the training PowerPoint presentation for the training sessions. As far as PACs contacting non-selects, DCCR does not provide lists of non-selects to any of the PACs. Some PAC chairs and CPOs may have access to DCCR's database and can access contact information for non-selects. A real concern for DCCR is the accuracy of the information because the information that PAC chairs and CPOs have access to may not be as accurate as the information DCCR has. Therefore, DCCR still wants us to include those non-selects who might be part of an individual PAC's outreach efforts because DCCR has no way of tracking these individuals. DCCR proposed sending the list of non-selects in two waves, the first one during April and the second one during August. This will help to distribute the volume of non-select communications so that our volunteers are not overwhelmed.
 - **The R&R Publications Subcommittee:** This subcommittee was designed to publish articles on the R&R Committee's operations and PHS recruiting in the JOAG Journal. To date, this workgroup has published a number of articles. The subcommittee is currently working on an article idea to highlight new developments Career Fairs Information Subcommittee: Their goal is to compile and disseminate a list of career fairs throughout the academic year at many colleges and universities. In addition, they update and monitor the Career Fairs Resources Guide which is a very informative and interactive guide to constructing and successfully recruiting at a career fair booth. Recently, the March Career Fairs list was disseminated on the JOAG listserv and April Career Fairs list will be coming soon. Please see the JOAG website for the current list. The April 2010 list is the last of the school year. The subcommittee is working diligently to provide future lists well in advance to allow officers scheduling time. The subcommittee hopes to have the September 2010 list available 3 months in advance. The updated Career Fairs Resources Guide is under DCCR review and will then be submitted to the JOAG Executive Committee.
 - **The Alumni Contact Initiative** is currently in development stages, but it has unlimited potential. They are working to devise a program that would capitalize on junior officer alumni contacts and allow a personal, yet free targeted recruiting effort. They have devised template letters which could easily be modified by each officer to email to their alumni

university counselor, career counseling office, professors, student body listserv, and etc. The Alumni Contact Initiative has received approval from Division Commissioned Corps Recruitment (DCCR) on their general template. Due to transitioning of contractors, there was a slight delay in DCCR working with its contractors to polish it up and brand the template with the PHS logo and color code it. A complete proposal on how this Initiative will proceed has been reviewed by the R&R Co-Chairs and forwarded to the JOAG Executive Committee (EC) for review. Once the EC completes its review, it will be sent to DCCR for review.

- The Online Career Resources Initiative was originally designed to post free PHS career advertisements on job posting websites, and it could be especially useful if the advertisements were posted on discipline specific websites. Recently, new Co-Leads were appointed over this Initiative. DCCR is very supportive of this program and is working on designating a contact person for this initiative.
- The R&R Publications Subcommittee: This subcommittee was designed to publish articles on the R&R Committee's operations and PHS recruiting in the JOAG Journal. To date, this workgroup has published a number of articles. The subcommittee is currently working on an article idea to highlight new developments in USPHS recruiting to add transparency to this process. We feel this is critical as "every officer is a recruiter" and should understand the process and new developments to include the electronic call to duty and the recruitment call center. In addition, we are hoping that this subcommittee could serve to disseminate our committee information through the JOAG liaisons to each of the PACs recruiting subcommittees to enhance communication. The latest updates from the R&R Committee to each of the PAC recruiting subcommittees were sent forth to each JOAG PAC liaisons.
- TAPs Initiative: This initiative is a collaboration between the R&R Committee and the Inter-Services Committee. This initiative serves to discern the possibility of PHS officers recruiting at our sister-services TAPs programs. TAPs are transitional assistance programs that all exiting service members are required to attend. The TAPs Initiative has determined which TAPs programs that would be amenable to having PHS officers speak or leave printed materials. They are also working on a proposal to enact the program.
- **Other Updates:**
 - The Recruitment and Retention Committee Co-Chairs had our quarterly with DCCR leadership (CAPT Coppola and CDR Pryor) to discuss and coordinate efforts on March 4th. There will be a special meeting scheduled to conduct a presentation on current updates in the recruiting process and the application/boarding process. In preparation for the meeting, a survey was designed and sent out the R&R Committee to compile a list of questions for the presentation. CDR Pryor will conduct the presentation. Hopefully, it can be scheduled in the next week or so. The projected completion date for the Associate Recruiter Program was June 1, 2010.
- **Items Pending Review:**
 - COSTEP Survey : Being reviewed by the JOAG Executive Committee
 - COSTEP Non-Select Proposal: Completing edits from DCCR to send to CAPT Coppola
 - Alumni Contacts Proposal: Submitted to the JOAG Executive Committee for review
 - Career Fairs Resources Guide: Being reviewed by DCCR
- The next R&R Committee meeting is **March 17th** at 1230-1330 EST. Call-in number 1-906-481-2000; Passcode: 833928.

Welcoming Committee: LCDR Amy Constantine & LCDR Yvette Waples

- The Welcome Letter, JOAG Brochure, and link to website were distributed via email to **37** newly commissioned officers in the month of February 2010.
- The JOAG Welcoming Committee (WC) Website Subcommittee is in the initial phase of gathering ideas for content.
- LT Stephen Chang will be the JOAG WC POC for the 508 Compliance Working Group.
- Revisions and updates to the New Officer's Guide are complete. The guide has been submitted to the WC EC liaison for distribution to the EC for review and approval.

- **Next Welcoming Committee Call:**
****Tentative Date****
 April 2, 2010 (2 – 3 PM)
 Call in number: (712) 432-0111
Participant Access Code: 228673 #

Liaison Reports

COF Board: LCDR Blakely Denkinger

- The COF Scientific and Training Symposium will be held on May 24-27, 2010 in San Diego, California. Registration for the event is now open. We will be having a JOAG general membership meeting and meet and greet on Sunday, May 23rd as well as a JOAG social on Wednesday, May 26th. We would really like to have as many JOAG voting members at these events as possible. COF is working with HHS to get approval for 850 officers to attend the conference. If you are not funded to go by your agency, there are ways to cut the cost that you will be paying out-of-pocket to attend. The San Diego branch of COA has developed a roommate matching Evite. The link to the Evite was sent out over the listserv last week. In addition, the COF gives junior officer, civil servant, and student scholarships. The scholarship money is applied towards the cost of registration. Information about applying for one of the scholarships can be found at:
<http://www.phscofevents.org/registration.cfm>.
- On March 2, 2010 the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in Hui vs. Castaneda, an important case for PHS Commissioned Corps officers. The central question in the case is "Does 42 USC Section 233(a) make the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) the exclusive remedy for claims arising from medical care and related functions provided by Public Health Service personnel?" COA submitted a "Friend of the Court" brief supporting the positions of the petitioners, PHS officers, that the FTCA does, in fact, protect Commissioned Corps officers from personal lawsuits for actions performed in the line of duty. Without such protection, as clearly recognized by Congress in Title 42, Corps officers would be at risk for malpractice lawsuits wherever they are assigned. A COA representative attended the hearing and reported that although a decision was not handed down, the Justices appeared to be sympathetic to the USPHS.
- The COA is encouraging PHS officers to write to their U.S. Senators and Representatives about transferability of the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill benefits and then share their letters with COA Government Relations Director, Judith Rensberger at jrensberger@coausphs.org.
- U.S. Representative Carol Shea-Porter, Democrat from New Hampshire, has signed on as a co-sponsor of H.R. 3657, the House bill that would extend G.I. Bill transferability to the PHS Commissioned Corps and the NOAA Corps. The popular two-term Congresswoman, who represents her state's First Congressional District (Manchester, Dover, and surrounding areas), signed on to the bill on 3/2/10.
- The COA Legislation and Benefits Committee is looking for stories about individuals that were thinking of joining the USPHS, but decided not to after finding out that they could not transfer their post 9/11 G.I. Bill benefits to their dependents. They are also looking for stories about individuals that have left the USPHS because of this issue or that were directly impacted by the issue in some way. If you know of someone with such a story, you may contact Judith Rensberger (jrensberger@coausphs.org).
- On 3/1/10, the Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service issued a policy paper calling for a more independent and strengthened Office of the Surgeon General as well an enhanced PHS Commissioned Corps. The COA paper builds on growing concerns in the public health community about the future capacity of the public health workforce. The paper can be viewed at:
<http://www.coausphs.org/docs/news/Crisis%20in%20the%20Public%20Health%20Workforce.pdf>

HOSA Workgroup: LT Samuel Schaffzin

- LCDR Bell provided edits to the JOAG HOSA Workgroup Charter and submitted the finalized product to the EC.
- We are in the process of rescheduling the originally scheduled workgroup call on March 4th, due to a scheduling conflict for the workgroup chair.
- LCDR Bell (EC liaison to the workgroup) introduced himself to the participating workgroup members and outlined his role as liaison. He shared the EC's vision for the workgroup and fielded questions.
- Karen Koeninger, Associate Director of HOSA, was a guest participant. She provided a brief update on the "state of HOSA", shared recent successes, current challenges/needs, etc. She expressed her support for the work of the JOAG HOSA Workgroup and agreed to help with next steps in piloting a mentorship program.
- **Deliverables and Next Steps:** Apply EC feedback and finalize charter; draft criteria for junior officer screening and participation; create a JOAG HOSA presentation template for junior officers; consider long term tracking mechanisms for the initiative; develop call for letters of interest for mentors; work with HOSA leadership to identify 5-7 pilot locations to target.

MOLC: LCDR Nicole D. Gaskin-Laniyan

- OSG is seeking nomination for exceptional candidates to attend the 117th Interagency Institute for Federal Health Care Executives training to be held at the Key Bridge Marriott in Arlington, VA. The course dates are from 12-23 April and the tuition is \$1928 plus hotel if not local. Participants should be at the O-5 or O-6 level (or civil service equivalent). There is no central funding for this course so candidates must be able to secure tuition and travel/hotel if appropriate from their OPDIV/STAFFDIV. There are 4 allocated slots. Interested candidates must submit their C.V. to CDR Gregory Davis (Gregory.Davis@hhs.gov) at OSG. The deadline has been extended until 05 March.
- A list of current and future MOLC/minority group activities has been sent to OSG on February 16, 2010. MOLC plans to submit an updated list on a quarterly basis. RADM Robert Williams expressed appreciation for keeping OSG informed about our activities.

OCCFM: LCDR Kyle Lyons

- **OPHS Mission Statement:** "Mobilizing Leadership in Science and Prevention for a Healthier Nation."
- **OPHS Focus:** Prevention, Health Equity and Healthy People 2020.
- Launched a study of the new revised Commissioned Officers' Effectiveness Report (COER) with a random sample of officers. The purpose of this study is to get a sense of issues that may require special attention as the Corps prepares to launch the new revised COER in 2010. Data is expected to be collected by the end of the month.
- OCCFM has convened a Medical Advisory Panel with representatives from the Office of Commissioned Corps Operations, the Office of Commissioned Corps Support Services (Medical Affairs Branch), and the Office of Force Readiness and Deployment to review medical policies and make recommendations. This panel is expected to complete its initial work in early July.
- Working with the Physicians Policy Advisory Committee to identify issues affecting retention among medical officers. The current phase of the project consists of focus groups to be hosted during the months of February and March. The Medical category has experienced a dramatic decrease over the past 20 years and is currently at half its former strength.
- Commissioned Corps Systems meeting held and the group expressed concerns that the Corps needs written commitment that the Coast Guard indeed plans to provide payroll services for Corps retirees as early as the beginning of Fiscal Year 2011.
- The recent snow emergency delayed the Corps COPS10GDB system Security Test and Evaluation (ST&E) efforts. The final ST&E meeting for COPS10GDB is scheduled for 19 February.

- Initiated the Commissioned Officers Leave Tracking System (COLTS) replacement project by contacting the Leave Tracking stakeholders and asking for a kick-off meeting. The Commissioned Corps Payroll (CCP) system developers will demonstrate the Leave Tracking module in CCP to the Office of Commissioned Corps Operations (OCCO) to see how well the software fits with the current leave tracking business process. OCCO has already expressed concern over the requirement to track the supervisors for each officer in the Corps.
- Reprioritized development work schedules due to limited programming resources. At present, there are enough resources available to work on two critical programming projects over and above regular maintenance and bug fixing activities. Both critical programming projects are to support the electronic Call to Active Duty (eCAD) migration; parts of the Applicant PreScreen and Training and Experience modules need to be modified so that the modules support the current Call to Active Duty business process.
- In the next few weeks, will refocus IT resources on addressing issues arising from the Certification and Accreditation of its four IT systems. This means that other Information Technology projects will experience delays. Affected projects include: eCAD migration, COLTS replacement, Service Level Agreement development, security forms processing, and Change Request management.
- **Policies under development – See <http://dcp.psc.gov/eccis/>**
 - **Awaiting Review and Signature from the ASH:**
 - (5 CCIs): Professional Licensure and Certification (With OGC); Category Specific Appointment Standards (With OGC); General Appointment Standards (With OGC); Award of Military Decorations, Special Uniform Situations.
 - (2 CCDs): Health Professions Special Pays; Allotments.
 - **Awaiting Review and Signature from Office of the Secretary:**
 - (3 CCDs): Force Management; Deployment Readiness; Promotions.
 - **Returned to OCCFM:**
 - (1 CCI): Substance Abuse.
- **Blanket Memorandums of Agreement (BMAs) - Details to non-HHS organizations:**
 - **Draft review stage:**
 - BMAs: NOAA; NNMCM; BOP; USDA; USMS; CG; DoD/TMA; EPA.
- **Legislative:** Post 9/11 GI Bill amendments submitted for approval.
- **Top Challenges:**
 - Addressing budget questions and questions related to potential reorganization.
 - Defining OCCFM's/Corps role in the context of the new OPHS mission statement.
 - Continuing to work on assuring that HHS provides consistent numbers to OMB regarding Corps strength and projections.
 - Complaints regarding the cessation of Assignment Incentive Pay (AIP) and the fact that certain officers were unable to have their requests processed.
 - Correcting misinformation regarding details.
 - Closure of government due to weather conditions.
- **Major Meetings, Conferences and Events:**
 - Attended the Engineer Professional Advisory Committee (EPAC) meeting and updated the EPAC on the Assimilation and Appointment Standards policy statuses.
 - Participated in meetings between the Compensation Branch and the Direct Access implementation team. The new billet (position) system in Direct Access needs to be able to satisfy pay data requirements from the Compensation Branch. Better coordination between the Compensation Branch and the Direct Access team is imperative to the success of the Direct Access migration project.
 - Participated in teleconference call on 25 January with Program Support Center IT staff to discuss alternative method for Web site update requests to improve tracking/efficiency.
 - Participated in IPCG/Transformation meeting via teleconference call on 26 January.
 - Participated in electronic Call to Active Duty (eCAD) implementation meeting on 26 January.
 - Participated in HHS Violence Against Women Steering Committee meeting on 26 January.

- Participated in meeting on 28 January with Director of OCCFM and WFPPD staff members to discuss current status/issues re: Associate Recruiter Program and Recruiter Badges.
- Participated in teleconference call on 29 January with GovDelivery staff to discuss launch of services scheduled to begin in early February
- Participated in meeting with Director of OCCFM on 29 January to discuss current status of marketing/recruitment efforts related to CDC's Quarantine Officers Program.
- Participated in teleconference call with Veterinarian PAC Web Site Subcommittee to discuss current process for posting requests at USPHS.gov.
- Facilitated and participated in teleconference call with Booz | Allen | Hamilton (contractor) to discuss current issues/proposed resolutions re: USPHS.gov Web site.
- Participated in African American History Month Planning Committee meeting on 2 February.
- Participated in meeting on 2 February with RMISD, DCCR, PSC and Booz | Allen | Hamilton (contractor) re: contractor's access to USPHS.gov source code to maintain and make updates to the Web site.
- Participated in the Military Advisory Panel meeting on 2 February and 16 February.
- Participated in the Department of Defense's Health Professions Incentive Working Group meeting on 18 February.
- **Staffing Update:** N/A
- **Congressional Inquiries:** N/A
- **Other Departmental Activities:**
 - Currently reviewing draft proposals for the National Defense Authorization Act. One proposal involves raising the age limit for appointment in the Armed Forces. HHS will need to seek independent legislation to parallel this proposal. The Appointment Standards Working Integrated Project Team recommended that the age limit be raised.
 - Reviewed a recommendation that civil service employees of the Department of Homeland Security be granted Combat Zone Exclusion status when assigned to a war zone. Noted that Corps officers are seeking this exclusion as well.
- **FOIA Requests:** N/A

OCCO: LCDR Mary McCormick

- **Division of Commissioned Corps Recruitment**
 - The DCCR Call Center has been receiving over 2000 contacts/month, via phone & email combined.
 - DCCR has posted advertisements on both the Facebook & Monster websites.
 - DCCR has been conducting focus group surveys with both DOD staff regarding their perception of the PHS officers who've been hired there & also with the PHS officers assigned to DOD.
 - The COSTEP selections for this year have been completed. There are 104 Senior COSTEPs; 25 have 1662's completed so far. There are 126 Junior COSTEPs; 29 have 1662's completed so far.
- **Division of Commissioned Corps Assignments**
 - PHS has been receiving more applications for some categories than is needed at this point in time. Applicants who fall into this category will receive a "Needs of the service" letter, indicating that their services are not needed at this time.
- **Division of Commissioned Corps Officer Support**
 - **Promotions** – Promotions Boards for this cycle are meeting now.
 - **Assimilation** – Assimilation boards are expected to convene in May.
- **Division of Commissioned Corps Training and Career Development**
 - DCCTCD has secured the necessary funding to conduct an OBC in July; the dates will be 11 – 24 July 2010. This has been posted on the DCCTCD section of the CCMIS webpage.

- The Transitional Officer Basic Course (TOBC) should be piloted in late spring. This course is being designed for officers who did not complete BOTC/IOTC and are not eligible to attend OBC, but would still like the opportunity to complete the training.

OFRD/OSG/OS: LT Damon Smith

- No Report submitted

Uniform Advisory Committee Liaison: LCDR Gene Gunn

- No update at this time

Dental Category: LT Scott Williams

- The list of nominees for the Chief Dental Officer position is almost ready to be presented to the Surgeon General. After the list is presented, the Surgeon General will make a decision regarding the number of candidates that she will interview.
- The SGLI memorandum has been prepared. The per officer assessment is \$88.07. The assessment has increased dramatically due to the wars currently being fought. All uniformed service members are impacted by the increased assessment.

Dietitian Category: LCDR Blakeley Denkinger

- The next D/N PAC meeting will be held on March 31, 2010 at 1300 EST. Call-in information will be sent out via the listserv prior to the call.

EHO Category: LCDR Jamie Mutter

- EHOPAC will be offering mentoring sessions this year for Environmental Health Officers attending the 2010 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium in San Diego. If you are interested, EHOPAC senior leadership will match you with an EHO senior officer attending the conference. Your matched senior officer will provide you 30 minutes of counseling the morning of Monday 24 May 2010 that will include a CV evaluation and specific guidance on career planning. If you would like to participate in a mentoring session or if you have any questions, please email LCDR Carrie Oyster (Carolyn.J.Oyster@uscg.mil) or LCDR Jill Shugart (Jill.Shugart@hhs.gov) by **COB 15 March 2010**.
- The Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC) sponsors four awards to honor outstanding Public Health Service environmental health professionals. The four awards that are open for nominations are the John C. Eason, the Edward (Ted) Moran, the John G. Todd, and the Thomas C. Crow. Commissioned Officers and Civil Service personnel are eligible for the awards. Please see the Awards and Recognition Subcommittee page at ehopac.org for additional information on eligibility. You may follow the link: http://ehopac.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=5&Itemid=2 For additional information, contact CDR Scotty Hargrave, Chairman of the EHOPAC Awards and Recognition Subcommittee at (214) 253-4930 or via e-mail at scotty.hargrave@fda.hhs.gov.
****Nominations must be submitted to CDR Hargrave by close of business April 2, 2010.**

Engineer Category: LCDR Alex Dailey

- The next EPAC meeting will be held on Thursday, March 25, 2:00-3:30 PM EDT.

HSPAC Category: LCDR Brett Maycock

- The HSPAC is seeking new members for a 3-year term beginning January 1, 2011. The HSPAC provides advice to the Surgeon General (SG) and the Health Services Chief Professional Officer (CPO) on professional and personnel issues related to the Health Services category. Selections are based on the nominee's commitment to public health activities and specified criteria in the HSPAC Charter (e.g., organizational, discipline, gender, minority representation), are made by the HSPAC and approved by the SG. HSPAC members are expected to obtain the necessary agency support to attend six scheduled meetings per year. With permission of the HSPAC Chair, members stationed

outside of the Washington DC area, may participate in up to five of these meetings via teleconference. A member is required to participate in one HSPAC meeting in person in Maryland or DC. Attending the COA conference can be substituted to meet the requirement of participating in one meeting in person. A self-nomination form (which includes a space for supervisory approval) is attached and can also be found on the HSPAC Web page at:

http://www.usphs-hso.org/pac/subcommittees/membership/pac_nomination.shtml

Interested officers should complete the self-nomination form and send it along with a current curriculum vitae (including a summary sheet) and a cover letter describing how your specific experience and expertise will benefit the HSPAC. Retired HSO working in a civil service capacity are encouraged to apply. The completed package must be submitted via e-mail (email is preferred; submit a scanned file of the signature page), mail, or fax by **June 30, 2010**, to:

CDR Todd Alspach

Chair, Membership Subcommittee, HSPAC

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Division of Laboratory Systems

Laboratory Practice Standards Branch

12 Executive Park Dr., NE, MS F-11

Atlanta, GA 30329

Phone: 404-498-2758

Fax: 404-498-2215

Email: talspach@cdc.gov

- The HSPAC is calling for nominations for the **“Stanley J. Kissel Jr. Award for Outstanding Health Services Professional of the Year.”** The nominee must have made a significant impact on public health, on either a national level or local population. Nominations must also include evidence of leadership in the achievement(s) being cited, and must describe how the officer serves as a role model to others. Furthermore, the nominations must demonstrate how the accomplishments are above and beyond their usual duties and responsibilities of the nominee per their billet or job description. Nominations must be received by **March 19, 2010**.
- The HS-PAC is also inviting nominations for the **“Joseph Garcia Jr. Award for Outstanding Junior Officer of the Year.”** This award will go to a junior health service professional who made a significant contribution to the advancement of the nation’s public demonstrated leadership in their work, and show involvement in health-related professional or community organizations or activities. Commissioned corps officers from the Health Services category and equivalent civil service professionals, excluding current voting members of the 2010 HS-PAC, are eligible for these awards. Nominations must be received by **March 19, 2010**. The award will be presented in May at the 2010 U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Scientific and Training Symposium in San Diego, CA. Nominations that do not follow the correct format will not be reviewed. Award criteria and nominations forms for either of these awards may be obtained from the HS PAC webpage at <http://www.usphs-hso.org> or by contacting: CDR Travis Fisher at travis.fisher@ihs.gov (406)275-4904. Current voting members of the HS PAC are not eligible to receive this award. All Nominees must meet and maintain Readiness Standard throughout the year.
- The Healthcare Administration Professional Advisory Group (HAPAG) is pleased to announce a call for nominations for the **Excellence in Healthcare Leadership Award**. This award recognizes a Health Services Officer (HSO) who has demonstrated outstanding accomplishments and has 8 to 10 years of healthcare management or public health administration experience in the Commissioned Corps, of the United States Public Health Service. Nominations must include how the officer exhibited exceptional leadership ability and service, while substantially advancing the health of the Nation through innovative and strategic solutions, as well as significantly impacting the mission of the Corps. Self nominations will not be considered. Nominations must be received by **March 19, 2010, Close of Business (COB)**. Please send nominations to:

LCDR Brett Maycock

E-mail: Brett.Maycock@dhs.gov

Phone: (202) 212 – 1750

BlackBerry: (202) 525 - 9738

- The Information Technology Professional Advisory Group (ITPAG) is requesting nominations for the Information Technology or Computer Science Specialist of the Year Award to be presented at the annual USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium May 24-27, 2010 in San Diego, California. This award recognizes a non-voting, active duty USPHS Commissioned Officer working in or holding a billet for Information Technology (IT) or Computer Science for their contribution, outstanding leadership and accomplishments that impact the USPHS. **Nominations due March 15, 2008.** Nomination instructions can be found at http://www.usphs-hso.org/pags/itpag/itpag_awards.shtml
- The Health Services Officer (HSO) Basic and Applied Science Professional Advisory Group (BASPAG) newsletter section is now available at http://www.usphs-hso.org/pags/baspag/baspag_newsletters.shtml. The purpose of the BASPAG newsletter is to share information with all Officers of the USPHS, promote the events of BASPAG, serve as a vehicle for networking, and to promote communication between other public health professional disciplines. Officers with any article ideas or suggestions can send these to LCDR Juanika Mainor-Harper at yzm7@cdc.gov.
- The next HS PAC meeting will be held on April 2, 2010, from 1000 – 1500 hours.
- As a reminder to Subscribe or Unsubscribe to the HSO Listserv, please go to <http://RowellAir.com/Listserv/hsolistserv.php>

Nurse Category: LTJG Martin Taxera

- No report submitted

Pharmacy Category: LCDR Yvette Waples

- The PharmPAC Awards Committee is requesting nominations for four awards to be presented at the annual USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium to be held in San Diego, CA, from May 24-27, 2010.
- **The U.S. Public Health Service USPHS Award Improving Pharmacy Service or Public Health through Leadership Excellence** is sponsored annually by the George F. Archambault Foundation, through the generous financial support of the Bayer Corporation, to recognize a PHS pharmacist who has improved pharmacy service or public health through demonstrating exceptional leadership accomplishments. The accomplishment cited must have occurred and been completed between March 2008 and February 2010. The award comes with a grant to support the recipient's continued management skills education.
 - This award is targeted on selection of a mid-career individual. For PHS officers this means an officer at the CDR or lower grade at the deadline for nominations. A civil service pharmacist must be a GS-14 or lower at the time of at the deadline for nominations. Eligibility is limited to a pharmacist working in clinical or administrative settings that manages a provision of direct patient care services as well as a pharmacist whose excellence in management improves public's health on a local, regional, or national basis.
 - All nominations and appropriate documentation for the **Archambault Managerial Excellence Award must be received by COB 15 March 2010.**
 - Please send all electronic nominations and requests for additional information or assistance, to:
CDR Brenda Stodart (*for the Archambault Managerial Excellence Award only*)
Administration Section
Phone: 301-796-3102
Email: brenda.stodart@fda.hhs.gov
- **The U.S. Public Health Service Allen J. Brands Clinical Pharmacist of the Year Award** recognizes the achievements of pharmacists in the PHS that provide traditional pharmaceutical services, with primary emphasis on activities accomplished within the past 18 months. All nominations and appropriate documentation must be received by **COB 31 March 31 2010.**
- **The U.S. Public Health Service Mary Louise Andersen Leadership Award (Non-Clinical)** recognizes the achievements of pharmacists in the PHS in nontraditional or administrative roles,

with primary emphasis on activities accomplished within the past 18 months. All nominations and appropriate documentation must be received by **COB 31 March 31 2010**.

- **The U.S. Public Health Service George F. Archambault PHS Career Achievement Award in Pharmacy** recognizes senior civil service (GS-II and above) or commissioned corps (0-5 and above) pharmacists serving under the authority of the PHS, with at least 15 years of PHS service, for outstanding achievements and/or contributions to the pharmacy profession in the PHS. All nominations and appropriate documentation must be received by **COB 31 March 31 2010**.
- Please send all electronic nominations and requests for additional information or assistance to the following:
LT Christopher Jones
Administration Section
Phone: 301-796-3132
Email: christopher.jones@fda.hhs.gov
Details of the award criteria and nomination packets can be found on the award section of the PharmPAC Web site - <http://www.hhs.gov/pharmacy/awardl.html>.
- Please take the time to nominate deserving pharmacists, both civil service and commissioned corps, for these awards.
- Listed below are opportunities for Pharmacy Category officers to be involved in PharmPAC:
 - Administration Section is looking for an officer to serve as the OS agency liaison. If interested, please contact CDR Jennifer Fan (Jennifer.Fan@samhsa.hhs.gov)
 - University Point of Contact (UPOC) is needed for the following pharmacy school: **Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy - new school of pharmacy in Clinton, South Carolina**. If interested, please contact CDR Jeff Mallette (jxmallette@bop.gov).
- Next PharmPAC General Meeting:
01 April 2010, from 1400 to 1530 EST, Surgeon General's Conference Room; Agenda and call-in information will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Physician Category: LCDR Rajal Mody

- No update at this time

Scientist Category: LCDR Robin Toblin

- Junior Scientist Officer of the Year nominations are due this Monday, March 15 to LCDR Sally Hu at hus@mail.nih.gov.
- The Scientist Category will likely be holding a career development breakfast the Monday morning of COF
- DC area officers are meeting to go bowling periodically if you are in the area and would like to join.
- The Psychologist PAG has had one meeting and will hold another on April 7. Junior psychologists should contact LCDR Robin Toblin at rtoblin@bop.gov for more information

Therapist Category: LCDR Jessica Feda

- The TPAC last met on February 26th, 2010
- **Next TPAC meeting: April 23rd, 2010 - 1200 EST**
Call in number: 1-866-705-8612, passcode 9396977.
- The Therapist PAC will be one of the first PACs to transition to the new billet system. Please be watching the listserv as more information will be forthcoming.
- The Therapist PAC is working towards utilizing the HHS portal to share information and files within the PAC. CDR O'Neill-Manrique is working to initiate therapist use of the Portal and devise a plan for its use.
- 2010 COF Symposium will be in San Diego, CA. CDR Sue Newman will Chair the Planning Committee. Any officers interested in serving on the Planning Committee can email CDR Newman at Sue.Newman@fsis.usda.gov. Therapist award submissions were due on February 1st. Award announcements are forthcoming.

JUNIOR OFFICER ADVISORY GROUP (JOAG)
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE



JOAG Voting Member Meeting Agenda
Friday, March 12, 2010 1400-1500 EST
CALL IN NUMBER: (712) 451-6175; PASSCODE: 119302#

III. Roll Call

IV. Executive Committee Reports

Ex-officio	CDR Maleeka Glover
Chair	LCDR Diem-Kieu Ngo
Vice Chair	LCDR Blakeley Denkinger
Chair-elect	LCDR Carlos Bell
Financial Liaison	LCDR Alex Dailey
Secretary	LCDR Jamie Mutter

V. Committee and Workgroup Reports

Awards Committee	LCDR Merel Kozlosky & LCDR Morrissa Rice
COF Planning Committee	LCDR Heather Bair-Brake & LT Scott Williams
Communications & Publications Committee	LT Christina Coriz
Development Committee	LCDR Thomas Janisko
Inter-Services Committee	LCDR Brett Maycock
Membership Committee	LCDR Robin Toblin
Policy and Procedures Committee	LCDR Carlos Bell
Professional Development Committee	LCDR Harvey Ball & LCDR Rajal Mody
Recruitment and Retention Committee	LCDR Jessica Feda & LCDR Corey Palmer
Welcoming Committee	LCDR Amy Constantine & LCDR Yvette Waples

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

VIII. Final Announcements / Adjournment