



*U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps*

# Junior Officer Advisory Group

***JOAG's mission is to provide advice and consultation to the Surgeon General, Chief Professional Officers, Professional Advisory Committees, and other Commissioned Corps groups on issues relating to professional practice and personnel activities affecting junior officers in the USPHS Commissioned Corps.***



## About JOAG

JOAG is a vibrant group of junior officers of the **United States Public Health Service** who seek to enhance their professional experience by involvement in group activities that further JOAG's mission.

JOAG members are junior officers at the rank of LCDR/O-4 and below, who are from each of the PHS categories, PHS agencies, and those non-PHS programs routinely staffed by Commissioned Corps officers. JOAG consists of knowledgeable junior officers who represent a cross section of the interests, concerns, and responsibilities of junior officers.

The JOAG Voting Membership consist of 20 junior officers selected from each of the PHS categories, PHS agencies, and those non-PHS programs routinely staffed by Commissioned Corps personnel. JOAG consists of knowledgeable professionals who represent a cross section of the interests, concerns, and responsibilities of junior officers.

## History

In 1999, the leadership of the Commissioned Corps recognized the critical importance of developing a means for the Corps to obtain advice and consultation from its junior officers in formulating policy and developing career-related programs. RADM Michael Blackwell, Chief of Staff, convened a meeting of select junior officers and formalized the Junior Officer Ad-Hoc Advisory Group (JOAHAG). JOAHAG was charged to develop and implement an advisory group for PHS junior officers. Their first priority was to assess the needs of junior officers and to develop an advisory group. Subsequently, they drafted their Charter and successfully formulated and implemented the Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG). On December 7, 2001, VADM David Satcher, the 16th Surgeon General, officially chartered JOAG.

## Membership

**Everyone is welcome!!!**

Any junior officer at the rank of Lieutenant Commander (LCDR/O-4) or below, who participates in JOAG meetings and serves on one of JOAG's committees or workgroups is considered an active participant and member.

Visit JOAG at

<http://dcp.psc.gov/osg/JOAG/>



**Get Involved.  
Join a Committee!**

*Junior officers interested in volunteering in a committee may contact the Committee Chair directly.*

*Please visit the "Committee" section of the [JOAG Website](#) for more information.*



Please visit JOAG at

<http://dcp.psc.gov/osg/JOAG/>

## JOAG Committees

### *Awards Committee*

Facilitates the awards process and recognizes junior officers for their accomplishments and commitment to PHS.

### *Communications & Publications Committee*

Facilitates the dissemination of Corps-related information to junior officers.

### *Development Committee*

Works with COF to develop merchandise to increase the visibility of the USPHS and foster esprit de corps.

### *Membership Committee*

Facilitates the annual selection of JOAG voting members, and helps to increase the general membership of JOAG.

### *Policy and Procedures Committee*

Establishes guidelines and operating procedures governing JOAG.

### *Professional Development Committee*

Identifies issues, provides advice and guidance, and proposes solutions to promote junior officers as professional, proud and principled Commissioned Corps Officers.

### *Public Health and Community Service*

Promotes public health, enhances visibility of the USPHS and encourages interaction with other uniformed services.

### *Recruitment and Retention Committee*

Works to increase the number of junior officers in the Corps.

### *Symposium Planning Committee*

Oversees JOAG activities and facilitates junior officer involvement at the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium.

### *Welcoming Committee*

Provides and disseminates information to newly commissioned junior officers.