

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service



Office of the Surgeon General
Rockville MD 20857

MINORITY OFFICERS LIAISON COUNCIL (MOLC)

Date/Time: Tuesday, January 26nd 2016, 1400- 1600 EST

Teleconference Call: 1-857-232-0476 and Passcode: 815530, Leader Code: 3969

Attendance	Name	Position	Rank	CMAG	Agency
Present	Hamet Touré	Chair	CDR	BCOAG	FDA
Present	Valerie Marshall	Chair	LCDR	BCOAG	FDA
Present	Vladimir Tirado	Vice-Chair	LCDR	HOAC	BOP
Present	Guillermo Aviles-Mendoza	Vice-Chair	CDR	HOAC	ASPR
Present	Eric Zhou	Secretary	LCDR	APAOC	NIH
Present	Khang Ngo	Secretary	CDR	APAOC	USCG
Present	Dodson Frank	Liaison	LCDR	AI/ANCOAG	HIS
Absent	Randy Saria	Liaison	CDR	AI/ANCOAG	HIS
Present	David Warner	Past Chair and JAOC liaison	CDR	AI/ANCOAC	USCG
Present	David Laird	Past Chair	LCDR	AI/ANCOAC	FDA

Present	Kofi Ansah	COA Liaison	CDR	BCOAG	FDA
Present	Helena Mishoe	Senior Advisor	RADM	BCOAG	NIH
Absent	Postelle Birch-Smith	Advisor (pending)	CAPT	BCOAG	FDA
Absent	Beverly Dandridge	Advisor (pending)	CAPT	BCOAG	Homeland Security
Present	David Lau	DCCPR/RedDog /AMSUS	CAPT	APAOC	Homeland Security

*Excused Absence

o **Call to Order**

- LCDR Marshall called the meeting to order at 1402.

I. Introduction

- LCDR Marshall welcomed officers to the first Minority Officers Liaison Council meeting of 2016 and acknowledged CDR Hamet Touré as one of the 2016 MOLC Chairs.
- She thanked the former chairs, CDR Laird and LCDR Warner and past BCOAG MOLC Representatives, CDR Goodrich-Doctor and CDR Ansah, for their guidance in transitioning to the 2016 MOLC term.
- The objective of MOLC is to advise and provide consultation to the Surgeon General on issues relating to relating to minority officers in the USPHS.

II. Roll Call

- LCDR Zhou conducted the roll coll. A quorum was present.

III. Meeting Minutes

- The December meeting minutes were not ready for approval. The minutes will be circulated and approved either prior to or at the February meeting.

IV. Introduction of MOLC Officers

- Each officer present on the call introduced themselves.

Chair	CDR	Hamet Touré (FDA)	BCOAG
Chair	LCDR	Valerie Marshall (FDA)	BCOAG
Vice-Chair	LCDR	Vladimir Tirado (BOP)	HOAC
Vice-Chair	CDR	Guillermo Aviles-Mendoza (ASPR)	HOAC
Secretary	LCDR	Eric Zhou (NIH)	APAOC
Secretary	CDR	Khang Ngo (USCG)	APAOC
Liaison	LCDR	Dodson Frank (HIS)	AI/ANCOAG
Liaison	CDR	Randy Saria (HIS)	AI/ANCOAG
Past Chair	CDR	David Laird (FDA)	AI/ANCOAC
Past Chair	LCDR	David Warner (USCG)	AI/ANCOAC
DCCPR/RedDog/ AMSUS	CAPT	David Lau (US Homeland Security)	Sr. Advisor

V. Account Balance

- As of January 20, 2016, the MOLC account balance is \$1,269.57.
- These funds will be allocated to purchase coins and with other endeavors as needed.

VI. MOLC History and Overview of Objectives

History

- In 1989, President George Bush nominated Antonia Novello to be the 14th Surgeon General of the United States. As the first woman and the first Hispanic to be appointed to this post, she was acutely aware of the importance of close communication between the Office of Surgeon General and PHS racial and ethnic minority officer groups. She envisioned a coalition of minority groups that would serve as a liaison to the Surgeon General.
- The MOLC evolved from RADM Novello's vision of a minority group that would serve as a liaison to the Surgeon General.
- MOLC was created through a 1990 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Office of Surgeon General and the Commissioned Officer Minority Groups. The MOLC was to be comprised of four groups:
 - American Indian, Alaska Native Commissioned Officer Advisory Committee (AI/ANCOAC)
 - Asian Pacific American Officer Committee (APAOC)
 - Black Commissioned Officers Advisory Group (BCOAG)
 - Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee (HOAC)
- To ensure that each group had an equal voice, the MOU outlined a yearly rotation of the positions of responsibility in MOLC ensuring each group would have an equal chance to represent MOLC as a whole.

Overview of Objectives

- The MOLC serves in a resource and advisory capacity to assist in the development, coordination, and evaluation of activities related to ethnic minority officers it represents in the PHS with specific objectives:
 - Identifying and facilitating resolution of issues of concern as they relate to the MOLC ethnic minority officers.
 - Assessing PHS personnel needs and assisting in meeting these needs through activities in recruitment, training, utilization and recognition of ethnic minority officers.
 - Developing position papers, statistical reports and/or guidelines where appropriate, in order to advise and comment on matters relating to the personnel issues of ethnic minority officers.
 - In 2014, MOLC developed the 2014 Demographic Report, which showed the racial and ethnic diversity of the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

VII. Proposed Chair Goals

- Input is needed from MOLC to develop the goals for this year. The following goals are proposed.
 - Conduct one activity with the Office of Minority Health
 - Foster collaboration between CMAGs
 - Revise/update the Charter and Bylaws

VIII. Timeline of Events

- CDR Touré noted that LCDR Marshall created a timeline of major events and deadline to facilitate MOLC business in 2016 and ensure the MOLC Voting Membership is informed. The timeline is a work in progress. MOLC representatives are welcome to provide feedback about the timeline and suggest additions. During the call, it was suggested that the document be updated with Minority Heritage information.
- Major events and deadlines were discussed during the meeting.
- The Chairs wish to update the MOLC Website (Chair message and leadership sections) by early February.

IX. Abbreviated Reports

1. AI/ANCOAC Report -

Subcommittee Reports:

A. Awards

Five awards to be presented in CMAG-email sent, please read over. Need a picture in uniform of official being nominated as well as a 300 word limit on bio. Please adhere to timelines.

- ##### **B. Bylaws/Charter: No Report**-still looking for a Chair. Due for a review of the by-laws this year.

- C. **Communication:** End of year reports requested to be posted to website from subcommittee chairs.
- D. **Cultural:** Will be sending out a survey to identify individuals for cultural participation at the Symposium/Anchor and Caduceus dinner.
- E. **Fundraising:** Fundraising regarding t-shirts. Intertribal Designs to create a design.
- F. **Membership:** Emails sent to members whose terms ended in 2016 as well as emails to members that were eligible to reapply. Advertising for nominations to begin in 2016. Motion made to vote in the three advocates, previously mentioned in Chair report.
- G. **Mentoring and Career Development & Recruitment and Retention:** Chair still open.

2. APAOC Report - LCDR Zhou

- APAOC held its first monthly meeting on Jan. 20, 2016. The new APAOC leadership completed a survey to identify the gaps and opportunities to better serve its members, the survey received about 27% response rate. The results will be published in the APAOC Newsletter
- The leadership also conducted a meeting on Jan. 19 to discuss the results of the survey, adjusted its process based on comments provided by its members.
- APAOC would like to reserve a booth/table during COA Symposium in 2016. We were thinking of obtaining at booth either on May 17th or 19th. Please let us know the complete procedure and the timeframe the booth can be obtained for either of the days mentioned above

3. BCOAG Report - LCDR Marshall

BCOAG held its first Executive Committee and Voting Membership meetings on January 6 and 8, 2016, respectively. BCOAG held its first General Body meeting on Thursday, January 14. During this meeting, BCOAG Committees presented their leadership and provided a brief overview of their purpose. The BCOAG Chair, LCDR Nadra Tyus, presented the 2016 Chair goals. Those are to:

1. Develop a plan to encourage broader participation of officers (new, current, and retired)
2. Ensure the Surgeon General is aware of BCOAG activities
3. Collaborate more with the other CMAGs throughout the year
4. Create a venue for broader discussions of relevant public health and career development topics.

The 2016 BCOAG initiatives are the following:

1. Support the Surgeon General's walking initiatives and coordinate at least six walks
2. Use the NOLA Mission, BCOAG's annual mission in New Orleans, as a model to conduct additional smaller missions across the nation
3. Develop a mechanism to interact with BCOAG retired officers on a more consistent basis.

Additional notes:

- BCOAG sent a call for nominations for its three annual awards.
- BCOAG invited Dr. Camara Jones, President of the American Public Health Association, to conduct a Webinar on Health Disparities during BCOAG's February General Body Meeting. BCOAG will disseminate the Webinar announcement broadly.
- This year, BCOAG has a newly created Committee, the 3R's Committee, The Recruitment, Retention, and Readiness Committee.

4. HOAC Report – CDR Bonilla

- No report for January.

5. COA Liaison Report - CDR Ansah

- COA continues to work and advocate for the interests of PHS officers. Recent example is COA's work resulting in the extension of military-level discounts by Disney Parks to PHS officers.
- COA Board of Directors meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 1/27/16.

7. MOLC Liaison Report: LCDR

- No report at this time

8. JOAG Report – LCDR Warner

Updates from JOAG Liaison: last JOAG General Meeting 11DEC15.

1. Next JOAG General Meeting will be 12FEB16
2. The Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG) Membership Committee is excited to announce an upcoming Meet and Greet (M&G) for the month of January. We invite officers in the area to attend. Wednesday, January 27, 2016: New York City, Time: 12:00pm-12:50pm EST, Location: 42-09 28th St, 14th Floor, Room 14-30, Queens, NY (if you plan to attend in person, please RSVP directly to LCDR Neil Vora at nvora@cdc.gov), Security: Please bring your government issued ID card (such as a Driver's License) (Individuals are required to show a government ID to gain access to the building) For remote participants: Conference Number: 866-213-1863, Participant Code: 5593457, Topic: "Regional Incident Support Teams (RISTs)", Speaker: CDR Pete Lenahan
3. The JOAG Communications and Publications Committee (CPC) Uniform Subcommittee is developing a PHS trivia question bank. These snippets of information will be included in the "With Pride and Distinction" newsletter to be shared with all junior officers. Email your trivia questions and answers directly to the JOAG Uniform Subcommittee Chair Co-

Leads LCDR Donna Chaney (DChaney@cdc.gov) and LCDR Theresa Grant (TAGrant@cdc.gov).

4. JOAG Public Health and Community Service Committee, Uniformed Service Community Service Projects Subcommittee, and USPHS volunteers as we participate with the U.S. Navy and other uniformed service volunteers in the annual “Wreaths Across America Clean-Up” event. Wreaths Across America is a national wreath laying ceremony that honors veterans by placing a wreath on veterans’ graves. Volunteers are picking up the wreaths that were laid for our nations veterans. Volunteers will be picking up wreaths from an assigned area of Arlington National Cemetery and/or the grounds of the Pentagon. Assigned area will be announced when determined.

Location:

Arlington National Cemetery

1 Memorial Drive

Arlington, Virginia 22211

Date and Time: Saturday January 30, 2016 from 0800 EST to completion

Uniform of the Day: Operational Dress Uniform (ODUs)

This event is open to junior and senior officers. The names of volunteers must be submitted to LT Gail Tarlton by close of business on January 27, 2016.

5. The JOAG Officer Health and Fitness Promotion Team (OHFP Team), under the newly established JOAG Readiness and Deployment Work Group, is looking for volunteers to assist on the development of a Federal Employee Wellness Facility Log. The purpose of this project is to create a resource log for PHS officers to inform them of fitness facilities and offerings available at their duty stations. Interested Officers: Please contact the OHFP Team lead LCDR Catherine Beer, catherine.beer@fda.hhs.gov and Project leads LCDR Ashlee Januszewicz, ashlee.Januszewicz@fda.hhs.gov and LT Lysette lysette.deshields@fda.hhs.gov as soon as possible, but ideally before January 31 2016. They will likely be taking in volunteers all year long.
6. JOAG is looking to provide updates on available awards from the different CMAGs to publish, received BCOAG and AIANCOAC’s awards but still waiting for APAOC and HOAC. I will be forwarding to JOAG at the end of this week for the next JOAG General Meeting.
7. JOAG - Call for Nominations for Voting Members
The Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG) requests nominations for eleven (11) open positions for Voting Membership for the 2016-2018 term. JOAG is the voice for junior officers in the Commissioned Corps, and is responsible for advising the Surgeon General on matters that affect junior officers. Voting Members serve as the leadership of this organization. Each category is represented by one Voting Member with an additional nine at-large members for a total of 20 Voting Members. The JOAG Executive Committee is elected from within the Voting Membership. Current Voting Members select incoming Voting Members based upon published criteria. The Voting Membership

term is two years and begins on October 1st. If you know a motivated and dedicated junior officer, please encourage them to self-nominate for the following open slots:

Engineer Liaison
Environmental Health Officer Liaison
Health Services Officer Liaison
Nurse Liaison
Therapist Liaison
Physician Liaison
At-Large Member (5 openings)

Requirements: You must be an active duty junior officer (T-O4 and below) and you must not be eligible to pin-on T-O5 (Commander) prior to July 1, 2018. If you wish to have your eligibility checked in advance of submitting a nomination, please contact LCDR Quynh Nguyen at QuynhT.Nguyen@fda.hhs.gov

<<mailto:QuynhT.Nguyen@fda.hhs.gov>> and no later than Friday, January 29, 2016 with rank, last name, first name, PHS Number, and employee ID to ask for an eligibility check

8. The Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG) is requesting nominations for the following two awards to be presented at the annual USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium to be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, from May 16-19, 2016. JOAG Excellence Award & JOAG Junior Officer of the Year Award, 2016 Call for Award Nominations Deadline: February 12, 2016.

The JOAG Excellence Award recognizes a non-voting junior officer at the rank of O-4 or below in the USPHS Commissioned Corps, who is an active participant of JOAG, for demonstrating outstanding, dedicated effort, leadership ability, and commitment to JOAG through active committee or workgroup participation. Self-nominations welcome.

The JOAG Junior Officer of the Year Award recognizes an active duty junior officer at the rank of O-4 or below in the USPHS Commissioned Corps who has made a significant contribution to the overall mission of the U.S. Public Health Service. Self-nominations welcome.

If you know any outstanding junior officers deserving the recognition of these awards, please see the JOAG Awards page for additional details including the nomination forms here: <https://dcp.psc.gov/osg/JOAG/awards.aspx> You can also contact JOAG Awards Committee Co-Chair Co-Chairs LCDR Jonathan Whitehart (Jonathan.Whitehart@hhs.gov) and LCDR Abraham Marrero (yimg6@cdc.gov) or the JOAG Awards Leads listed below for nomination details. Nominations are due to the appropriate JOAG Award Lead listed below no later than COB on February 12, 2016.

Send nominations or questions for the JOAG Excellence Award to:
LCDR Christopher Egelebo, Email: christopher.egelebo@fda.hhs.gov
Phone: 240-402-8625

Send nominations or questions for the Junior Officer of the Year Award to: LCDR Evan Wearne

Email: Evan.Wearne@fda.hhs.gov <mailto:Evan.Wearne@fda.hhs.gov>

Phone: 301-796-7531

9. The Outreach Committee is pleased to announce the launch of the JOAG online store, including our new, updated core values coin! Check our new online store and place your order online at: <http://mkt.com/usphs-joag>.
10. The Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG) is now LIVE on TWITTER, so follow us @PHS_JOAG!

9. DCCPR/RedDog Readiness/AMSUS Update – CDR Lau

DCCPR Updates

CCHQ Survey - RADM Trent-Adams oversaw the Tiger Team surveying and researching the needs for the transition.

CCHQ Transition – RADM Joan Hunter Lead; CAPT Sophia Russell serving as Senior Advisor; CDR Anitra Johnson also on team

CCHQ:

1. Staffing HQ Appropriately – Another 30 FTEs staffing/some to RedDOG
2. Overall Funding – Lots of Ebola Lessons learned ; Corps and ASPR Aware; trying to get us back on track with Funding
3. Management Review – organizing our Uniformed Service; consolidated chain of command; organizational structure in USPHS for Corps HQ

CC Operational side – How to best manage a uniformed service.

ADM Giberson will be leading a new strategic workgroup => strategic vision for corps as a uniformed service => develop a fundamental doctrine for the Corps. Establishment of a 5 year plan ; hope to have it by the end of the year.

CAPT Helgeson discussed some CCHQ vacancies – send the names up if you know of any well qualified officers who are interested.

RADM Joan Hunter and RADM (Ret.) Boris Lushniak attended an IDF (Israel Defense Force) national disaster conference. Great collaboration and possibly leading to future USPHS collaboration opportunities.

OSG Updates

06 JAN 2016 SG at White House - Opening Remarks to White House; to make public housing smoke free –announced with HUD Secretary Castro

2016 Corps Calendar Available

All encouraged to attend OBC pinning and graduation ceremony Feb/March

CPO selections ongoing at OSG

New Flag Officer Training – 11 New Flag Officers

RedDOG will be very much involved in the CC reorg; RedDOG will be re-structured also Had O-6 opening for RedDOG Training Coordinator but really is the preparedness Coordinator for the Corps. They can extend deadline if needed.

Also have O-4/O-5 Response Officer position.

Recruitment – Nurse Application window open in January – fielded thousands of calls; ends at the end of the month.

Currently 138 open 1662's; currently working on EIS and student training/COSTEPS

JRCOSTEPS selections likely selection this week

Awards: 254 individual Ebola Awards received and processed; moving onto processing the group awards

Policy: Probation has been extended to 3 years/36months; Retroactive to last 3 years for all officers who had CADs.

Leave Processing => make sure e-mails are correct as it's now electronic.

Not using DA to process payroll currently; Still using legacy system; Will be going to bi-month system in 3-6 months. Resolving an accounting issue.

Additional announcements:

RADM Brady's Promotion Ceremony rescheduled

CPO Board – Opioid Project workgroup currently ongoing

Dental – PHS has been under a separate contract for care and have been eligible to go to non-MTF dentists for dental care; previously were asked not to go to MTF due to lack of capacity – now encouraged go back to MTFs because they have capacity. CAPT Michael Arnold POC

CPO Chair/Liaison – RADM Pam Schweitzer

Chair of PAC Chairs – CDR Mitchell Holliday; CDR Jessica Feda – Secretary

JOAG – JOAG Award of Excellence and JOAG Jr. Officer of the Year award nomination period is open and submissions encouraged.

APR 17-24 - enter National Parks Free ; Apr 24 is Park Prescription Day

BOP Nurse Executive Leadership Training stood up – RADM Dunwoody

Engineer of the Year Awards Ceremony – 26 FEB 2016 @ 5600 Fishers lane Awards Ceremony; Engineers POC CAPT Daly

RedDOG Report

All MAB submitted documents i.e. Physical Exams and Immunization submitted by 31 DEC 2015 have been entered into Direct Access by 15 JAN 2016. Documents submitted after 31 DEC 2015 are still being processed and may not have shown up in DA yet. If you submitted medical documents to MAB on or before 31 DEC and they are not listed in your DA, you need to F/U with MAB.

State of the Union deployment – went well.

May still need to support San Bernardino – MHTs and SATs

Thru March 2016 – Heightened state of Alert – Team Leaders to forward deployable Rosters on Mon and Friday to RedDOG

Flint, Michigan => Lead in drinking water

- MHT, SAT, APHT/environmental support; Clinical support – similar to DC in 2004 with lead in water. For DC PHS helped with blood draws for the kids.
- State of Emergency declared by POTUS for Flint, MI – Does not engage National Response Framework and funding is different as a Federal Disaster declaration

- HHS is the lead agency; Dr. Karen DeSalvo and ADM Lurie were in Michigan meeting with Governor and Mayor of Flint. ; CAPT Denis and CAPT Jamaal Gwathney also assisting with assessment; more to come.

RedDOG - now as the ability to directly update list in Direct Access concerning Response Team rosters. Team Leaders to forward up any corrections needed for their team

CAARE Mission - Care Center in Raleigh, NC – was a strong success/over 80 PHS officers supported. Dr. Burnum (founder and director) passed away recently; was there for 25th anniversary of CAARE; mission led by CAPT Dandridge.

We are supporting recent surge in Unaccompanied Children ; Surge has been larger this year than historically; 85% of capacity in DEC for ACF; now at capacity; 7 related missions to date – Engineers from APHT supporting mission by inspecting structures to approve for housing; more to come

Pharmacy Cache Rehab recently in Alaska and Fredrick; Region 9 rehab also;

Ebola - West Africa – CDC and NIH officers were deployed – on a hiatus currently with no officers deployed due to Ebola Free declaration.

Remote Area Medical (RAM) training mission during OKC COA - in Durant, OK => Sat/Sun 14/15 – a CHASM type training opportunity.

Future training and participation activities: PACOM, SOUTHCOM, NORTHCOM

- in discussions with Navy - possibly supporting Pacific Partnership (PACOM and USNS Mercy) and Continuing Promise (SOUTHCOM and USNS Comfort) humanitarian missions in the future ;
- NORTHCOM - to support training opportunities with Mexico and other countries - behavioral health and other Government activities.
- Also in discussion NG Bureau concerning state partnership training programs; Also looking at TX – Operation Lone Star and also AZ training

From: Gammarano, Thomas [mailto:thomas.gammarano@HQ.DHS.GOV]

Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 3:03 PM

To: List HOAC

Subject: Special Call for Bilingual Behavioral Health Professionals - Mission in Mexico

Importance: High

***** THIS MESSAGE IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION. PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THE SENDER OR THE LISTSERV. CONTACT INFORMATION IS PROVIDED IN THE EMAIL AND/OR ATTACHMENTS.*****

22 January 2016

Good Morning HOAC Officers:

NORAD-NORTHCOM received a formal request from the Government of Mexico, Proteccion Civil to host 2 behavioral health trainings. NORTHCOM forwarded the request to the USPHS and as a result, the Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee (HOAC) has been asked to submit a list to the Readiness & Deployment Operations Group (RedDOG) of Bilingual Officers who meet the requirements for the mission. As many of you know, we have an active roster but would like

to ensure that those folks who have not had the opportunity to submit their information can do so. Below we indicate the details of this mission:

The mission requires 5-6 Officers to deploy to Mexico. The trainings will take place April 4-8 in Central Guanajuato and during the first week in May in Acapulco. We need the following:

2 Officers familiar with child/family aspects

2 Officers familiar with working with First Responders

1-2 Officers to augment the training with trauma/treatment

All costs will be covered by NORTHCOM. Officers will receive deployment credit for this mission.

Please note if you are interested please send an email to LCDR DeGrange, Elizabeth.degrange@hhs.gov and I, Yvonne.santiago@hhs.gov, so we can include you on the active HOAC roster by no NLT 29 January 2016. Also note if you are volunteering for this trip, preference will be given to officers who have taken the Language Proficiency Testing, the National CLAS Standards Course for Disaster Preparation and Emergency Response. You must also meet all basic readiness requirements. Please visit <https://cccdpcr.thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/> to take the course. Note: you will be asked to submit a certificate of completion prior to deployment.

Last Name

First Name

Rank

PHS SERNO/Empl ID

Agency

Category

Deployment Team

Deployment Role

Discipline/Specialty

Language(s) Spoken

DLPT Score

Proficiency Level

Email

Alternate email

Past UC Mission Deployment: Location

Past UC Mission Deployment: Date Served

Availability for this mission

Once RedDOG selects the officers for the mission, the request for supervisory approval will come from CAPT Waterman/CAPT Beck.

V/R,

LT Yvonne M. Santiago & LCDR Elizabeth DeGrange

HOAC Deployment Subcommittee Co-Chairs

Association of Military Surgeon of the United States (AMSUS) Report

- 2016 AMSUS will be 29 NOV – 02 DEC 2016 at the Gaylord Hotel in National Harbor, MD. This will be the conference location for the next 4 years thru 2019.

- RADM Trent Adams will be working closely with us in 2016 in planning and activities
- 2015 AMSUS Conference a strong success. Congratulations to the AMSUS Award Winners: USPHS MMU Teams received the AMSUS Operational Medicine Award and AMSUS Humanitarian Response Award. See AMSUS Website and COA Website for pictures of the AMSUS Awards. RADM Sylvia Trent-Adams presented the awards to USPHS.
- Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) participation and session was stood up at AMSUS in 2015. Strong success. Had over 150 HOSA students attending; USPHS hosted HOSA; RADM Giverson presented; HOSA will be actively engaged for 2016 and beyond. Working closely with JOAG HOSA Committee
- USPHS AMSUS Committee will be initiating planning meeting beginning in FEB 2016. Many participation and volunteer opportunities.
- AMSUS Awards are now listed in the JOAG Comprehensive Awards guide – a very good comprehensive guide
- The Joint Humanitarian Operations Course (JHOC) will again be available free at AMSUS for those registered and paying. This disaster response course is taught by USAID/OFDA and it taken by all the COCOMS....NORTHCOM, SOUTHCOM, EUCOM, PACOM, AFRICOM, etc....great networking opportunities with international partners and combatant commands, especially in the tabletop exercise parts.
- Battlefield Acupuncture Course will be available again in 2016 – receive certification thru US Air Force. There is also an advanced course available at Andrews AFB for free;
- AMSUS abstract review opportunities along with serving on the AMSUS Awards Committee to review awards submissions
- Podium Presentation and Poster Presentation opportunities.

o **New Business – CDR Toure**

- o **Motion approved;** CDR Hamet Toure as the Chair for the Charter and Bylaw Subcommittee (7 out of 8 votes).
- o **Motion approved (by email):** The MOLC luncheon at the 2016 COA Annual Meeting will be from 12:00-1300 on May 17, 2016, Tuesday in Oklahoma City. (7 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstain/No response)
- o **Motion discussed:** To have each CMAG donate 5 CMAG coins, and \$200 for the MOLC Award Ceremony.
- o **Motion discussed:** Whether AMSUS representative should be a MOLC position.

X. Nominations for Subcommittees

The MOLC Chairs called for volunteers to lead the Subcommittees. MOLC Subcommittees must be chaired by a MOLC Voting Member.

- In 2016, the Vice-Chairs (HOAC) will lead the COF Symposium Planning Subcommittee

- The Liaisons (AI/ANCOAC) will lead the MOLC Website and Minority Health Subcommittees
- Commander Touré volunteered to lead the Charter and Bylaws Committee. A motion for CDR Touré to serve as Chair was moved and properly seconded. The motion carried after no further discussion
- The Voting Membership agreed that the Liaisons (AI/ANCOAC) should attend COA meetings and play an active role alongside CDR Ansah. CDR Ansah will provide meeting details to AI/ANCOAC MOLC representatives
- The creation of an AMSUS MOLC representative in the Charter and Bylaws was discussed. The respective liaisons will discuss the creation of this new position with their CMAGs

XI. HSPAC Volunteer

- LCDR Marshall volunteered to attend the February HS PAC meeting, scheduled for February 5, 2016, to represent MOLC and provide an overview of the functions of the Minority Officers Liaison Council

XII. MOLC Coins

- CDR Touré informed the MOLC Voting Membership that MOLC approved the order of five coins from each CMAG in 2015. The Total order will cost around \$200 plus shipping. The coins will be given to speakers at MOLC events.

Adjournment

- CDR Hamet Touré adjourned the meeting at 1605.