Welcome

Commissioned Corps Status
- No new information on the hiring pause; however the increased communications between new OSG leadership (RADMs Lushniak and Halliday), OCCO and the CPO Board indicate that we are prepared to respond efficiently once the pause is lifted.
- The PharmPAC members have been proactive with me to also prepare to respond to any OCCO, OCCFM or OSG requests once this happens. As I have indicated in previous CPO reports, please utilize this opportunity to volunteer where possible. It is a great way to get involved and become familiar with the PharmPAC as well as the new infrastructure that will be developed for our Commissioned Corps. Please stay tuned for emails from your PharmPAC Leadership for specific opportunities as they arise.
- OMB Accountability Structure recommendations for the Corps will be discussed via Commissioned Corps Accountability Structure Working Groups. These working groups will be chaired by senior Corps leadership and involve many officers as volunteers. This is a unique opportunity to get involved in groups beyond pharmacy as well as to demonstrate your abilities in facilitation and collaboration. These groups will be intense, however short-lived. Looking at early spring for implementation timeline, thus the involvement may only be for 2 months.

Promotions
- Officers eligible for permanent grade promotion to any grade should ensure all necessary promotion documents are submitted by the deadlines listed in the Promotion Checklist on the Promotion Information page:

COERs
- COERs should be completed and submitted. There continues to be 'expected' questions about utilizing the new COER tool and how it will affect promotions; however OCCO will take a look at this after all evals are in this year. Initial discussions at leadership levels indicate that specific and individual scores MAY not be looked at as intensely this year since scores are coming in with wide spans in grading. Promotion boards will also be alerted to this by all CPOs and focus on narratives where appropriate this year. We will analyze results and compare across Agencies and Categories and improved guidance will occur next year.
Uniform Advisory Committee
• The Uniform Advisory Committee (UAC) continues to meet. Stay tuned updates.

Billets
• Billet reform continues in the pharmacy category. Update from CDR Mike Crockett.

Readiness
• Update from CDR Nate Yale from the PharmPAC Career Development Section.

OBC
• OBC will commence its first class of 2011 on Jan 9.
• New OBC courses are upcoming.
  o Officer Midlevel Course (O-3/O-4 level) -2 pilots in January. Enrollment is through Agency Liaison. Please check the CCMIS for more information
  o Officer Advanced Course (O-4/5 level) and Officer Executive Course (O-5/6 level)
  o OBC Graduation schedule is on CCMIS page: http://dcp.psc.gov/COTA/OBCD.aspx

CPO Initiatives
• I am very pleased to share news that the Federal Pharmacy Chiefs completed their first-ever FEDERAL PHARMACIST VISION. This was a unique initiative that began in the Spring of 2010 and ended Dec 22, 2010. This involved DOD, PHS, and VA pharmacy leads and was supported by APhA and ASHP. We believe the final vision is fairly expansive and inclusive of our wide-reaching roles now and in the near future. This represents an initial success from our growing partnership with the Federal Pharmacy Leads as we advocate for the federal pharmacy sector once again to lead for the profession. Many thanks to the DOD and VA leads for their efforts.

Federal Pharmacist Vision

Federal Pharmacists are essential to health care access and delivery in the United States; recognized as health care providers of patient-centered primary and specialty care, and as trusted public health leaders. As experts in medication use and comprehensive pharmacy services, we promote wellness, prevent and manage disease, ensure patient safety and optimize health outcomes in collaboration with the health care team.

• We have completed the (post-ACA) 2011 Revised Report to the Surgeon General on Supporting Health Reform through Advanced Pharmacy Practice. I will hopefully get a chance to present this to the Surgeon General early in the 2011 calendar year.
• More work between OCCO Recruitment Section and our PharmPAC is being undertaken. OCCO continually recognizes the hard work, innovation and success of our PharmPAC. Congrats to all involved and thanks for ‘stepping-up’.
• I will be able to disseminate a basic CPO strategic plan and logic model in the coming months to help frame some of our future work.
• Lastly, I am working with the IHS, BOP and HRSA on some specific clinical projects that will continue to advance our profession and hopefully position us to have maximal impact within health reform.
• Please continue to utilize LCDR Jones and LT Tsai in my absence or if I am on leave: (Christopher_M._Jones@ondcp.eop.gov, Yiyang.Tsai@fda.hhs.gov)

2010 brought many changes and challenges. I would expect 2011 to be an uplifting year for our Corps.

RADM Scott Giberson
Chief Professional Officer, Pharmacy
U.S. Assistant Surgeon General