



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 6, 2011
1100-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2010/11 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Yes
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Yes
LCDR	Boehmer, Tegan	COF Liaison	Yes
CDR	Aponte, Boris	Mentoring Chair	Yes
CDR	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Yes
CAPT	Bensyl, Diana	Mentoring co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Breiding, Matt	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Chair	Yes
LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Nicole Frazer	Policy Review Chair	Excused
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Yes
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Yes
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Yes
CDR	Newland, Matthew	Ex-Officio	Yes
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Yes
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science Chair	Yes
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Yes
LCDR	Xu, Fei	Awards Co-Chair	Yes
Other SciPAC Roles held by Nonvoting Members			
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	Yes
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	Yes
CDR	Schobitz, Richard	PSYPAG Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Toblin, Robin	JOAG Liaison	Yes

Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Adekoya, Nelson	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Murry, Michael	BOP	Yes
CAPT	Nelle, Timothy	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Thoroughman, Doug	CDC	Yes
CDR	Ayala, Carma	CDC	Yes
CDR	Dobmeyer, Anne C.	DoD	Yes
CDR	Draski, Laura	OS	Yes
CDR	Dutton, Samuel S.	DHS	Yes
CDR	Glover, Maleeka	CDC	Yes
CDR	Newman, Sara	NPS	Yes
CDR	Schneider, Diana	ICE	Yes
CDR	Schuyler, Donna	BOP	Yes
CDR	Seo, Paul	FDA	Yes
CDR	Stansberry, John	NIH	Yes
CDR	Zhang, Yi	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Adjemian, Jennifer	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Cui, Minglei	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Davidson, Bryan	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Demby, M. Lela	BOP	Yes
LCDR	Demissie, Zewditu	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Garnett, Theodore	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Geissler, Aimee	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Hatch, Arlin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Hess, David	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Highsmith, Keisher	HRSA	Yes
LCDR	Jentes, Emily	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Lowther, Sara	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Nielsen, Carrie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Parks Brown, Sharyn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Purfield, Anne	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Satterfield, William	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Schobitz, Rick	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Sharma, Andrea	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Sloop, Sue L.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Spikes, Pilgrim	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	CDC	Yes

LT	Cole, Jessica	FDA	Yes
LT	Gieraltowski, Laura	CDC	Yes
LT	Henderson, Tamara	FDA	Yes
LT	Huang, David	CDC	Yes
LT	Hudson, Naomi	CDC	Yes
LT	Rivera, Luz	FDA	Yes
LT	Steele, Matthew	FDA	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
- Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- I hope everyone had a wonderful Labor Day weekend and were not much affected by the recent VA/DC area earthquake and stormy weather throughout the US.
- Billets:
 - Multidisciplinary billets have launched with the first two waves of agencies, including CMS, BOP, HRSA, ACF, AHRQ, CIA, DHS, DOC, DOD, EPA for a total of 583 officers. 261 of the 583 officers have selected their billet titles and some officers have completed their position-specific information, had their billets reviewed by their supervisors and reviewing officials. The schedule for the remaining agencies are FDA (week 3), then IHS, Interior, Justice, NIH, OS, PSC, SAMHSA (week 4), and then CDC and ATSDR (week 5).
 - Category-specific billets are being reviewed by the category and the agencies. As a category we saw the majority of our billets remain the same grade although we did have a good number of increases and some decreases. The category review will cover all category-specific billets. In addition, we are working with the agencies during this review to ensure consistency.
- 2012 Promotion Eligibility: Officers eligible for the 2012 promotion cycle will be notified this week via email messages. Eligibility will also be publicized through E-Bulletin and Gov Delivery.
- New DCCPR (Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness) Director selected: RADM Scott Giberson, the current Chief Professional Officer for the Pharmacy category, was selected as the new Director, effective September 1, 2011. We wish to congratulate RADM Giberson on his new position and look forward to his leadership in that capacity.
- National Prevention Strategy: Our category will identify ways that our officers are contributing to the NPS. The CPOs agreed that our categories will use a similar template to demonstrate these contributions. More to come on this topic.
- T&E POM: On our August call we discussed the Personnel Operations Memorandum posted this summer which places limits for permanent grade on appointment to no more than 17 years of training and experience for Medical and Dental category candidates and 9 years of T&E for all other professional category candidates. We also discussed that this is a temporary fix to reduce the impact of constructive credit. We discussed concerns regarding the potential impact of this POM on the Scientist category as well as the Corps. To explore the potential impact, I am obtaining data to review our T&E as a category. More to come on this topic.

- 2012 PHS Scientific and Training Symposium: Planning for next year's symposium is about to get underway. CDR Matthew Murphy is going to serve as our category lead for this planning. We look to hearing more from him as planning gets underway.
- The 2012 Armed Forces Public Health Conference (June 4-8) is now soliciting abstracts through October 25. More details to follow on the listserv.

3) Report from the Chair: CDR Karon Abe

- The new executive board is in place effective Sept 1, 2011 with 6 voting members added on for a new term. Please check out the Scientist website for the list of names of your voting membership and contact information.
- The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requested a comprehensive management review of the Commissioned Corps focusing on three areas:
 - The development of an accountability structure that identifies which office is responsible for each component of the Commissioned Corps operations;
 - The creation of a system for tracking and supporting officers; and
 - The implementation of a revised billet system.
- We are all feeling the effects of these changes as well as from the new appointment standards that affect Scientist Officers. We as a PAC want to hear your opinions and perspectives. When doing so, it is important for us to use our chain of command—email respective subcommittee chairs, myself, or CAPT Williams-Fleetwood.
- Regarding the furlough status of officers, discussions are continuing on this topic at high levels. There is both a legal and policy interpretation of the furlough status of USPHS officers and these are being debated.
- Leadership is also aware of the Senate Bill 679 that streamlines the process of bringing on new CADs by eliminating the need for senate confirmation. This process is not on parity with DOD. It still needs to be passed by the House of Representatives
- The executive board has met to do some strategic planning for the SciPAC. As we move forward, we want to be sure that we are maintaining our core functions (e.g., our CV reviews, our readiness) but at the same time we want to look to where we can strengthen our PAC, better defining who we are as Scientists in the USPHS, how we as Scientists contribute to the public health needs of the country, and how best we can deliver that message. To that effect, we are strategically prioritizing areas to focus on. We want to address the new appointment standards and look at how we as Scientist can support the SG National Prevention Strategy initiative. As we put these thoughts to paper, we will be sharing these ideas with the category for input. This could be great opportunity for our category. We will need your help, your experience, and knowledge.

4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- It is an honor to serve as Vice Chair for 2011-2012, and I look forward to working with CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood and the rest of the Executive Board, as well as all scientist officers.
- There are a number of cross-cutting activities that will be implemented in 2011-2012. There will be opportunities for officers to get involved, so stay tuned.
- Welcome to 1 new Call to Active Duty Scientist officer, LT Michelle Rodriguez.

5) Subcommittee Reports

- a. **Awards:** LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu
- No report.
- b. **Career Development:** LCDR Charlene Sydnor; LCDR Michael Smith
- SciPAC's Career Development Subcommittee is now offering its Curriculum Vitae (CV) reviewing service. This service is open to officers who are eligible for 2012 promotion. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please email your CV by OCTOBER 1, 2011 to LCDR Charlene Sydnor at sydnorc@od.nih.gov and please include "CV Review 2012" in the subject line.
 - We encourage officers to review our 2012 Scientist Benchmarks as well as our sample CV which can be found under the Career Development Subcommittee website at: <http://usphs-scientist.org/careerdev.htm>.
 - Our team is also looking for senior officers (O-5/O-6) to help review CV submissions. A primary and a secondary reviewer will be assigned to each CV. Reviewing officers should provide written and/or verbal feedback to the officer within three (3) weeks of receipt of the CV.
 - There will be an OBC Open House on Thursday, September 15th, 2011. We will be sending a representative from SciPAC to greet scientist officers and to answer any questions regarding the PAC.
 - The next OBC graduation is scheduled for Friday, September 23rd, 2011. There are 6 scientists graduating this month. We will be sending a representative from SciPAC to present the graduates with a letter and CPO coin and to take a picture with the new Scientists for postage on the SciPAC website.
 - We are continuing to finalize the OBC and Training sections of the SciPAC Handbook. We hope to have the revised versions posted onto the website soon.
 - We are planning to have a training session in either October and/or November. The training topic will be covering either "Promotions" or "Post-911/GI Bill Transferability".
 - We are looking for volunteers to serve on the Career Development Subcommittee. If you are interested in serving as a CV reviewer or you are stationed in the DC/MD/VA area and want to serve as a representative of SciPAC at OBC graduation or you would like to update the SciPAC handbook or you would like to help organize trainings that may be of interest to the PAC, then please join the Career Development Subcommittee. Please email LCDR Charlene Sydnor at sydnorc@od.nih.gov regarding your interest.
- c. **Category Day:** LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian
- There were no updates regarding next year's USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium as the location and date has not yet been set.
 - The subcommittee welcomes LCDR Jennifer Adjemian as co-chair for this year's Category Day subcommittee.
- d. **Mentoring:** CDR Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner
- The mentoring sub-committee welcomes CAPT Diana Bensyl along with CDR Mark Methner as Co-Chair, and CDR Angela Smith as new member.
 - The main projects for the year are:

- Analysis and Interpretation of Survey Results: At the present time, an analysis of the data from the recently conducted survey is being completed, which will be narrated by a report of the significant findings. These findings will lead to the restructuring of the mentoring program and to the development of the necessary tools and activities.
 - Development of a One-Page Resource Material: Since the next promotion cycle is nearing, an easy to use one-page reference information sheet to help mentors in addressing the needs of their mentees is being developed at the present time.
 - Mentors-Mentees List Update: The sub-committee is updating the status of all the existing mentor-mentee matches. Contact will be made by email or phone with the purpose of updating all necessary or missing information.
 - PHS-wide Mentoring Whitepaper: It was discussed that the PHS-wide mentoring workgroup led by the Engineering Category requested SciPAC representation for the development of a “whitepaper” on the status of all PHS mentoring activities. LCDR Sancho is representing the Scientist Category on this workgroup and submitted a draft of the section assigned to our Category.
- e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- The Chair of Policy Review Subcommittee, CDR Nicole Frazer is on leave today. The Co-chair, LCDR Minglei Cui, gave an update for Policy Review Subcommittee.
 - The Subcommittee received no requests for policy document review during August 2011.
 - The Subcommittee will be reviewing Committee membership in September.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- I would like to thank CDR Sally Hu for agreeing to serve as co-chair of the subcommittee this year.
 - In August, 93.2% of scientists were basic qualified. A reminder to all scientist officers, but particularly the 24 who were not basic qualified, the next OFRD review will be September 30, 2011. Now is a good time to review your readiness checklist to see if you have anything that will expire in the next three months and get those issues resolved (e.g., a license renewal, a PPD or BLS expiring).
 - CAPT Williams-Fleetwood mentioned previously Personnel Operations Memorandum 11-005 related to the T & E cap for non-medical and dental officers. Previous RRR co-chairs conducted a survey of SciPAC members related to this issue and are working on a compilation of the responses. They plan to finish the compilation in the next week or two and will then present it to SciPAC leadership.
- g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak
- No report.
- h. **Science:** LCDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CDR Rachel Avchen
- We are currently discussing the goals and priorities for the science subcommittee for 2011-2012. One focus will be on reviewing the National Prevention Strategy (NPS) and indentifying ways to highlight the contributions of scientist officers to activities that align with the goals of the NPS.

- The subcommittee also is exploring various outlets for promoting the good work of scientist officers, such as in publications in Frontline or the Scientist newsletter.
- We are continuing discussions with CDR Abe and once priorities are finalized we will issue a call for subcommittee members. Please be on the lookout for ways to get involved.

i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- The latest Scientist newsletter is now posted! Please visit the SciPAC website at www.usphs-scientist.org and click on "newsletter" to the left to see the newsletter. Thank you to editors CDR Ayala and LCDR Silvio along with the Editorial Board for their wonderful efforts.
- If you are interested in serving as a co-editor of the Scientist newsletter, please email CDR Robbins (Danisha.l.robbins@amedd.army.mil) or CDR Ayala (cia1@cdc.gov). Similarly, if you are interested in serving as a co-chair for the Visibility subcommittee or would like to serve on this subcommittee, please email CDR Robbins.
- The Visibility subcommittee welcomes articles that Scientists may wish to write on topics related to our work as Scientists. Please also let us know if there are new sections you would like to see in your newsletter!

j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley

- Thanks to CDR Eaton, our prior Chair, and CAPT Striley, our long term co-chair.
- Website subcommittee had an orientation meeting for new members last week. We discussed our responsibilities, work plans, and procedures, in reference to our SOP.
- We will have our first subcommittee meeting next week. We currently have 6 members, we have received some requests already to join the subcommittee, and we are currently working on them. We are proposing to expand our horizon to reach out for content, not just wait for requests. We would like to actively go out and find information that is of interest to Scientist officers. This new content would be posted to the website after going through certain approval procedures.
- We welcome suggestions from all PAC members.

6) Liaison Reports

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- We launched the multidisciplinary billets. Your contacts in case you need assistance are your Agency Liaison and CAPTs Bailey and Freund (byron.bailey@hhs.gov and eugene.freund@hhs.gov). If you need help go through the agency liaison, but also do not hesitate to contact LCDR Facey (facey.judy@epa.gov). FDA will be launched this week or next.
- You can expect the following timeline:
 - After you receive the initial e-mail, you will have 2 weeks to complete the first step.
 - Following the initial step, you will receive another e-mail with information on how to complete the billet, and you will have 21 days to complete this step.
- Please meet with your supervisor and complete your billet information on time because this is being done on a very short time frame.
- The multidisciplinary billets launch will roll out as follow:
 - Week 1 (8/25/2011) : CMS, BOP and HRSA

- Week 2: ACF, AHRQ, CIA, DHS, DOC, DOD, EPA
- Week 3: FDA
- Week 4: IHS, Interior, Justice, NIH, OS, PSC, SAMHSA
- Week 5: CDC, ATSDR

b. **COF:** LCDR Tegan Boehmer

- As of September 1, 2011, our balance is \$2852.62.
- We have an inventory of 89 coins and 51 T-shirts.
- If you are interested in purchasing official USPHS Scientist category coins or T-shirts, please email me at tboehmer@cdc.gov.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- The Commissioned Officers Association Board had our annual meeting in August to set our agenda for the next year. One of our main objectives for this year is to enhance Corps participation in the National Prevention Strategy to support the SG's efforts and hope to involve many officers in this effort. More on this soon.
- The Trust for America's Health just put out a new report "Remembering 9/11 and Anthrax: Public Health's Vital Role in National Defense."
- While the report does not explicitly address the role of PHS Commissioned Corps officers, several of the contributors are current or former PHS officers. More importantly, the report does emphasize a message that COA has been delivering – the fundamental importance of protecting public health in the providing for our national security. That role forms an essential basis for having a uniformed corps of public health warriors.
- This report is one example that makes a case for the Corps' expansion and increased role in emergency preparedness and response.
- Feel free to contact me for copies of the report. Sara_newman@nps.gov
- Please check out the article in this month's Scientist Officer Newsletter titled "Commissioned Officers Association COA Update" with a synopsis of this past fiscal year's highlights of issues/challenges faced by the Corps and COA's role in those issues and also how to become more active to support the Corps.

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Robin Toblin

- Journeyman Series: Preparing for Promotion in PY2012 and Beyond by CAPT Angela Mtungwa on Friday, 9 September at 1300 EDT; Call in: 1-213-342-3000; Access Code: 864814
- JOAG Meet and Greets are being held in Anchorage, Baltimore, Raleigh/Durham and Atlanta. Contact LCDR Toblin for more details (robin.l.toblin@us.army.mil).
- JOAG donated four junior officer scholarships for next year's COF symposium
- The JOAG operational year turns over on 1 October 11; LCDR Scott Steffen will be the new SciPAC liaison for JOAG: scott.steffen@fda.hhs.gov
- Call for volunteers for JOAG committee members will come out at the end of the month - this is a great way to network with junior officers across the country and OPDIVs and to develop leadership skills through the many opportunities afforded by JOAG

- Sign up for the JOAG listserv: <https://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/wa.exe?SUBED1=JOAG&A=1> to receive the call for volunteers for committees and details on various events and phone meetings such as the Journeyman series

e. **PSYPAG:** CDR Richard Schobitz

- The last PsyPAG meeting was held on August 3rd. This meeting featured CAPT Sharon Fleetwood-Williams (CPO for Scientists) and CAPT John Lopez, Jr. (who is the Director, Office of Special Population Health, Bureau of Primary Health Care, Health Resources and Service Administration, HHS) who provided advice on the promotion process from their perspectives of having served on promotion boards.
- PsyPAG is forming an American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) board certification support/mentoring group as part of our Professional Development Committee efforts. This group will be led by LCDR Tony Satterfield.
- PsyPAG is continuing to work with the Scientist Category and HSO Category CPOs to advance the special pays platform. We appreciate the Scientist Category Leaderships support in this area!
- PsyPAG is further developing the role of the APA liaison and will be sending a survey to our PsyPAG members asking for their input. We have selected our 2012 liaison, LT Luz Rivera, so she can overlap with current liaison, LCDR Dave Hess, and further develop the role.
- The new Chair for our COA committee is CDR Sam Dutton. CDR Dutton is working on actions for next year's meeting.
- The next PsyPAG meeting is scheduled for October 5th, at noon eastern. The call in number for that meeting is 1-877-691-9937, and the passcode is 4549026.

7) **Other Business, Questions, Comments**

- None.

8) **Closing Remarks:** CDR Karon Abe

- During the previous SciPAC year (2010-2011), each subcommittee submitted an SOP. LCDR Jackie Sram edited each SOP to ensure standard formats across the SOPs. CDR Abe has sent each subcommittee chair the final, edited SOP to initial and return. Once all are received, they will be posted on the SciPAC website.

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, October 4, 2011 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
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CDR	Schobitz, Rick	DoD	Yes
CDR	Sharma, Andrea	CDC	Yes
CDR	Spears, Ross	CDC	Yes
CDR	McGruder, Henraya	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Adjemian, Jennifer	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Bodart , Jennifer	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Carroll, Diana D.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Colborn, James	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Davidson, Bryan	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Dee, Deborah	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Goodie, Jeffrey L.	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne J.	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Jentes, Emily	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Myers, Todd	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Nielsen, Carrie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Parks Brown, Sharyn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Pauli, Ingrid	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Purfield, Anne	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Sancho, Alfredo	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Satterfield, William	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Sloop, Sue L.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Spikes, Pilgrim	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Thomas, Jennifer Dolan	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Toussaint, Esra	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Wally, Jeremy	FDA	Yes

LCDR	Wise, Matt	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Zhou, Eric	NIH	Yes
LT	Cole, Jessica	FDA	Yes
LT	Garrett, Tiana	CDC	Yes
LT	Hassan, Iram R.	FDA	Yes
LT	Henderson, Tamara	FDA	Yes
LT	Houston, Keisha	CDC	Yes
LT	Huang, David	CDC	Yes
LT	Parker, Erin	CDC	Yes
LT	Perrine, Cria Gregory	CDC	Yes
LT	Rivera, Luz	FDA	Yes
LT	Yard, Ellen	CDC	Yes

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2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- Billets: Multidisciplinary billets are now in progress with all agencies. At this time, 81% of the officers have selected their standard billet titles. Therefore, the remaining 19% officers in multidisciplinary billets need to initiate the process by taking that first step. Officers failing to initiate the process by 14 days from the date they received the “step 1” email are in violation of POM 11-006 (Personnel Operations Memorandum signed the SG, June 2011). Officers that are in violation of this POM are subject to administrative actions. As for the overall progress, most officers are at the step 2 where the billet form needs to be filled in and returned.
- Category-specific billets are being reviewed by the Category and the agencies.
- 2011 COER: On-line COERs will be available October 5. New features for the 2011 COER will include more space for the raters comments and a more streamlined process (officer→rater↔officer→reviewing official→eOPF). Emails were sent Monday (10/3) announcing the availability of the COER website (on CCMIS click Services tab and then COER Information). The COER process needs to be completed by mid-November.
- T&E: On previous calls we discussed POM 11-005, “Entry Grade on Appointment to the Corps”, which places limits on training and experience for most professional category candidates coming into the Corps at 9 years. Many concerns were shared regarding the impact of this POM on the Category and on the Corps. Per our discussions, the Recruitment, Retention and Readiness Subcommittee compiled your concerns and forwarded them to me. During our previous discussions I mentioned that I would take a look at our T&E to try to gauge the potential impact on the Category. I determined that the average T&E for our category is above 9 years and further supports our concerns regarding the potential impact on the Category. Currently, this information has been shared with the CPO Board and discussions are on-going. I will keep you updated on this topic.
- National Prevention Strategy: Each Category is developing their NPS implementation plans, due December 1. The CPO Board will review the plans for each Category and then use them to construct a Corps-wide implementation plan by the end of January/February 2012. The Science Subcommittee is the lead on this effort and welcomes your assistance. More to come on this topic.

- Strategic Planning: The category has initiated a strategic planning effort. The intent of this effort is to think through short and long-term directions for SciPAC, as well as, the role of our Scientists in building key partnerships towards the overall promotion of science and protection of health. The Executive Board has initiated a Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Challenges (SWOC) effort. More to come on this topic.
- 2012 PHS Scientific and Training Symposium: Planning for next year's symposium is underway. It will be held in the DC metro area on the College Park campus of the University of Maryland. An abbreviated conference schedule is being discussed. Plans are also underway for a first time Women's Leadership Course prior to the Symposium. CDR Matt Murphy is our category lead for the Symposium planning and may have more details to share later on the call.
- New CPO: I wish to welcome CAPT Terri Clark, NIH, as the new Chief Professional Officer for the Veterinary Category effective October 1. We look forward to working with her and wish to thank CAPT Hugh Mainzer, CDC, for his efforts as the former CPO.
- New SciPAC Member: I am happy to welcome Dr. Paul Meechan, Director of the Office of Safety, Health and Environment, CDC, as our new civil service member of the SciPAC. We look forward to working with him in this role.

3) Report from the Chair: CDR Karon Abe

- Dr. Paul Meechan was approved to be our civil servant voting member a couple of weeks ago. He is currently the Director of the Office of Safety, Health, and Environment at CDC. Before that, he worked 7 years at Merck & Co as the Assoc. Director for Global Research Safety and Compliance. Welcome to the SciPAC, Dr. Meechan.
- RADM Giberson is the new Director of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness, and no longer the PAC Chair liaison. The new PAC Chair liaison will be CAPT Gaustad, the current CPO for the Therapist PAC. He is currently working in White River, AZ as a chief clinical therapist with the White Mountain Apaches. He looks forward to working with the PAC.
- The Multi-disciplinary billets have rolled out to officers in most agencies by now.
- Once the multidisciplinary billets are completed, all billets will be uploaded to Direct Access on February 20th. After Feb 20th, new billets will be created in direct access. All officers receiving new personnel orders will receive billets in the new system.
- The 2012 promotion will not be affected by the new billet system.
- National Prevention Strategy
 - I am putting in extra plug in for the science subcommittee for volunteers to help write the white paper for our category that will show how we as scientist officer support the National Prevention Strategy. Please go the NPS document and review the seven priority areas. If you work in any of these areas, please consider volunteering - <http://www.healthcare.gov/prevention/nphpphc/strategy/report.pdf>.

4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- We have one new CAD to report. Welcome to LCDR Eric Zhou.

5) Subcommittee Reports

a. Awards: LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- A call for nomination packets for the Scientist Responder of the Year was posted on the Scientist list-serve at 11:13 on 04 October. This call included award criteria and nomination requirements. If there are any questions regarding the nomination process - please contact LCDR James L. Kenney at james.kenney@fda.hhs.gov or LCDR Fei Xu at fei.xu@fda.hhs.gov.

b. Career Development: LCDR Charlene Sydnor; LCDR Michael Smith

- COER: The 2011 COER will be available in the secure section of the CCMIS website on October 5th. Information about the COER is available on the CCMIS website under the services tab. Officers are encouraged to review the information on the CCMIS website for the 2011 COERS.
 - CV Review: 32 CV's were received by the October 1st deadline and these will be sent to the primary and secondary reviewers by the end of the week. The reviewers were asked to send comments on the CV within three weeks to the officer submitting the CV.
 - OBC:
 - Six Scientists graduated from the September OBC class, LCDR Sydnor and LCDR Smith attended the graduation ceremony as representatives of SciPAC and presented a letter from the CPO and the Scientist coin to these officers.
 - A picture was taken of these officers and sent to CDR Guo to upload to the SciPAC website.
 - Two Scientist officers will be attending the October OBC.
 - The Career Development subcommittee is still looking for volunteers to attend future OBC graduation ceremonies and open houses. A listserv announcement will be sent out with additional information by COB October 7th.
 - SciPAC Handbook: No revisions this month.
 - Training Session:
 - After today's call, there will be a presentation from CDR Angela Mtungwa, promotion coordinator from OCCO, the title of her talk will be "Promotion Preparation for 2012." Slides for this presentation were distributed through the listserv on September 28, 2011.
 - The committee is trying to coordinate a future training session on the Post 9/11 GI bill.
- c. **Category Day:** LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian
- The USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held June 19th – 21st at the Univ. of Maryland, College Park Campus.
 - There will be a different format for the conference. The conference will start Tuesday evening and end the following Thursday night.
 - The Scientist category day will be on Thursday this year instead of Tuesday.
 - More conference details and deadlines will be forthcoming.
 - Please keep an eye out for abstract submission information that will likely be sent out later this month via the listserv.
- d. **Mentoring:** CDR Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner
- Update of Mentors-Mentees List. Mentors are being contacted by members of the mentoring sub-committee in order to update the mentoring related information. We will also be contacting mentees soon. Please respond to the emails or return the phone calls to help us expedite the process.
 - Analysis and Interpretation of Survey Results. Results will be summarized on a slide presentation and presented to the Executive Board and to the CPO.

- One-Page Resource Material. This one page tool will be shared with Scientist officers and will contain key aspects for mentors and mentees to consider in their relationship.
- e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- In September, we finalized our committee membership and our committee members reviewed our SOP.
 - We had no policies for review in September.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- As of October 1st, 87.1% of scientists were basic qualified. The breakdown by rank is as follows:
 - 52.6% of O-3 officers were basic qualified
 - 92.3% of O-4 officers were basic qualified
 - 88.2% of O-5 officers were basic qualified
 - 87.4% of O-6 officers were basic qualified
 - A reminder to all scientist officers to check your OPF if you are not sure whether you are basic qualified and to address any unmet readiness criteria.
 - With the recent change in leadership the RRR Subcommittee has revised the Facebook Response Plan with new names and updated contact information. For those not familiar with the Facebook Response Plan, it is a process that spells out how to provide a quick response to a public inquiry posted to the PHS Facebook page should there be an inquiry that relates to our category.
- g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak
- No report.
- h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CDR Rachel Avchen
- We had a kick-off meeting on 10/3/11. It was a very good turn out; we have many enthusiastic volunteers. The Science subcommittee has been tasked with a hugely significant project with a short timeline. The project is to develop a white paper to demonstrate how Scientist officers are actively supporting the seven strategic priorities discussed in the Surgeon General's National Prevention Strategy (NPS), which was rolled out in June 2011. All categories have been tasked to develop such a white paper. We have been given a due date of December 1st, 2011. We continue to welcome additional subcommittee members to help with this project.
 - The success of our white paper will depend on the content. Because our category has many diverse disciplines, our contributions to the NPS priorities will be multi-faceted. Even if officers are not as interested in actively developing the white paper, we ask for you to consider submitting information on the impact of your work, even if you feel that contribution does not specifically fit with the NPS priorities. The seven NPS strategic priorities are:
 - Tobacco Free Living
 - Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use
 - Healthy Eating
 - Active Living

- Injury and Violence Free Living
- Reproductive and Sexual Health
- Mental and Emotional Well-being
- Please review the NPS for detailed descriptions at <http://www.healthcare.gov/center/councils/nphpphc/strategy/report.pdf>.
- We will follow up with an email via the listserv. Any officers interested in joining the subcommittee or wanting to submit content information can contact LCDR Jacqueline Sram or CDR Rachel Avchen.

i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- CDR Robbins introduced the new co-chair for Visibility. LCDR Ted Garnett, Ph.D. is a Microbiologist with the FDA. His location in Rockville, Maryland will allow him to attend the many visibility events in the Metro D.C. area.
- October 14th at 1400 will be the Newsletter Team and Editorial Board teleconference. CDR Ayala and LCDR Silvio will host that meeting.
- Any news-worthy articles or photographs? Please send them to CDR Ayala at cia1@cdc.gov for consideration in the Scientist Newsletter.
- CDR Robbins will be organizing a Visibility subcommittee teleconference in the next two weeks for the members and any new potential members.

j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley

- We had our first meeting on September 8, 2011. Our committee members are: CAPT Striley, CAPT Hayes, CDR Eaton, CDR King, CDR Guo, and LT Barbour.
- We have updated the SciPAC's website, and provided information and links for all subcommittees. We also completed meeting minutes archiving for easy access.
- We have completed all tasks on schedule, and are working on updating the Scientist Category information on USPHS website.
- Please visit our website and provide your feedback. Thanks.

6) Liaison Reports

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- The multidisciplinary billets have been launched for all Agencies.
- Feb 12, 2012 is the deadline for which all billets have to be completed.
- After all the billets are processed, they will be populated into Direct Access.

b. **COF:** LCDR Tegan Boehmer

- As of October 4, 2011, our balance is \$2902.62.
- We have an inventory of 84 coins and 51 T-shirts.
- If you are interested in purchasing USPHS Scientist category coins or T-shirts, please see the order form on the home page of the SciPAC website or email me at tboehmer@cdc.gov.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- On September 27th the COA Executive Director, CAPT (ret) Farrell sent DHHS Inspector General a letter requesting his review of the legality of furloughing PHS officers in the event of a government shutdown. A copy of the letter is also available on the COA website

(<http://www.coausphs.org/>). The position of the COA is that PHS officers, like sister services, should not be subject to furlough during a government shutdown and that the department cannot legally furlough officers without pay. COA continues to keep the pressure on HHS regarding this issue.

- Do you want to have an impact on the Corps at the national level? Please contact Sara Newman at sara.david@verizon.net or call at 202-513-7225 if you are interested/available to serve on new forming committees with the COA Board of Directors.

d. JOAG: LCDR Scott Steffen

- JOAG began its operational year on October 1. I encourage all junior officers to join the list serve if you have the rank of O-1 to O-4.
- The first JOAG General Membership Meeting is this Friday, October 14 from 1300-1500. Call in number: 218-936-4700, passcode 791-9605
- We have coins and merchandise available for purchase. Please contact me if you are interested (scott.steffen@fda.hhs.gov).
- Officers should be receiving letters of appreciation for their committee work the past year. Please let me know if you haven't received yours by the end of October.
- I encourage all officers to read the JOAG journal. The fall issue should be released soon. The JOAG journal can be accessed from the JOAG website (www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/joag/).

e. PSYPAG: CDR Richard Schobitz

- The PsyPAG American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) Board Certification mentoring group has begun working to support officers interested in obtaining board certification
- PsyPAG has surveyed our membership on the role of the APA liaison position. The results of the survey are being tallied and will be used to shape the role of the individual in this position
- The next PsyPAG meeting is 5 Oct at noon eastern time. The call in number and password is the same as you used for this call: 1-877-691-9937; Passcode: 4549026. The topic of the meeting is Readiness and Deployment.
- The DoD SIG continues to meet & the new DoD/PHS Program manager, LCDR Joel Nelson, has joined the meetings

7) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- None

8) Closing Remarks: CDR Karon Abe

- None

9) Special Seminar: "Promotion Preparation for PY 2012"

Presenter: Angela Mtungwa, M.S.
CDR, U.S. Public Health Service
Office of Commissioned Corps Operations
Div. of Commissioned Corps Officer Support

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, November 1, 2011 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, November 1, 2011
1100-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2010/11 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Yes
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Yes
LCDR	Boehmer, Tegan	COF Liaison	Excused
CDR	Aponte, Boris	Mentoring Chair	Excused
CDR	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Yes
CAPT	Bensyl, Diana	Mentoring co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Breiding, Matt	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Chair	Yes
LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
CDR	Nicole Frazer	Policy Review Chair	Excused
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Yes
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Yes
Dr.	Meechan, Paul	Civil Service Representative	Yes
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Yes
CDR	Newland, Matthew	Ex-Officio	Yes
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Yes
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science Chair	Yes
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Excused
LCDR	Xu, Fei	Awards Co-Chair	Yes
Other SciPAC Roles held by Nonvoting Members			
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	Yes
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	Excused
CDR	Schobitz, Richard	PSYPAG Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	JOAG Liaison	Yes

Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Benally, Christine J.	HHS	Yes
CAPT	Brett, Kate	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Draski, Laura	OS	Yes
CAPT	Hottenstein, Omar	DoD	Yes
CAPT	McLaughlin, Michael A.	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Nelle, Timothy	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Thoroughman, Doug	CDC	Yes
CDR	Bhagwat, Aditya	DoD	Yes
CDR	Bennett, Marco	FDA	Yes
CDR	Davidson, Bryan	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dobmeyer, Anne C.	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dutton, Samuel S.	DHS	Yes
CDR	Methner, Mark	CDC	Yes
CDR	Schneider, Diana	ICE	Yes
CDR	Stansberry, John	NIH	Yes
CDR	Zapata, Lauren B.	CDC	Yes
CDR	Zhang, Yi	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Adjemian, Jennifer	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Carroll, Diana D.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Clayton, Mark	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Cui, Minglei	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Dee, Deborah	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Gardner, Tracie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Garnett, Theodore	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Geissler, Aimee	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne J.	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Hatch, Arlin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Ivey, Asha Z.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Nielsen, Carrie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Pamboukian, Ruiqing	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Perrine, Cria Gregory	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Purfield, Anne	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Rodgers, Loren	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Sancho, Alfredo	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Sloop, Sue L.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Spikes, Pilgrim	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Tate, Jacqueline	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Thomas, Jennifer Dolan	CDC	Yes

LCDR	Toussaint, Esra	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Vagi, Sara	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Wally, Jeremy	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	CDC	Yes
LT	Hassan, Iram R.	FDA	Yes
LT	Henderson, Tamara	FDA	Yes
LT	Hollis, NaTasha	CDC	Yes
LT	Huang, David	CDC	Yes
LT	Iuliano, A. Danielle	CDC	Yes
LT	Ko, Jean	CDC	Yes
LT	Parker, Erin	CDC	Yes
LT	Rivera, Luz	FDA	Yes
LT	Steele, Matthew	FDA	Yes
LT	Yard, Ellen	CDC	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
- Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- Billets – About 50% of the multidisciplinary billets have been completed by officers and are under review by supervisory and reviewing officials. All officers must have completed step 1 within 14 days of receiving the e-mail requesting them to start the billets process. Failure to do so can result in an administrative flag being placed in an officer's file.
- T&E Limits – CAPT Williams-Fleetwood is working with the CPO of the Veterinary category to compile concerns and submit a coordinated response through the CPO board to the OSG.
- Policy Vetting and Communication – RADM Giberson is working to have a more open communication of policies. Proposed new policies will be shared initially with senior leadership for comment prior to being sent out for general comment and/or implemented.
- 2012 Promotions – 2012 promotion eligibility is in the secure area of the CCMIS website.
- Strategic Planning/National Prevention Strategy (NPS) – All categories are working on drafting a NPS implementation plan and these will be combined to develop a PHS-wide implementation plan. CDR Abe and CDR Sram will present on the status of this effort after today's call. We welcome your input and support.
- Question: LCDR Mark Clayton – if your billet changed and you are up for promotion this year, will this be reflected in the PIR? Answer: there is a 2-year grace period if there is a billet change (downgrade) and it will not be changed in the PIR during that time. New billets will not go into Direct Access until next year.

3) Report from the Chair: CDR Karon Abe

- Senior Officer Advisory Group –The HSO category is developing a Senior Officer Advisory Group (SOAG) to help promote senior officer mentorship, leadership, training, and communication. Stay tuned.
- Promotion Guidelines 2013 – This month all the PAC Chairs will be reviewing the promotion guidelines for 2013—primarily precepts 1, 4, and 5 that address all categories (2 & 3 are category specific). It is important that Benchmarks are updated to be consistent with new Commissioned Corps policies.

- Flu Vaccination – Remember to get your immunizations and fax it to MAB.

4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- No report

5) Subcommittee Reports

a. **Awards:** LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- We are still accepting nomination packets for the Scientist Responder of the Year. Currently we have received one nomination packet and expect to receive more before the deadline of 04 November 2011.

b. **Career Development:** LCDR Charlene Sydnor; LCDR Michael Smith

- COER:
 - The Online Annual COER was due to the Rater by 19 October 2011;
 - The Online Annual COER is due to the Reviewing Official by 2 November 2011; and
 - The completed COER must be in the officer's eOPF by 16 November 2011.
- CV Review:
 - If officers submitted a CV for review but have not received comments to date, please contact LCDR Charlene Sydnor or LCDR Mike Smith via email. Sydnorc@mail.NIH.gov or Michael.smith2@fda.hhs.gov.
- OBC:
 - One Scientist graduated from the October OBC class. LCDR Ted Garnett and LCDR Mike Smith attended the graduation ceremony as representatives of SciPAC and presented a letter from the CPO and a Scientist coin to this officer.
 - A picture the Scientists attending the OBC graduation was sent to CDR Wei Guo and uploaded to the SciPAC website.
 - 5 Scientist officers will be attending the November OBC.
- SciPAC Handbook:
 - We are revising the COER section of the handbook to reflect the revisions that were made to the COER this year; additional information will be provided at a later date.
- Training Session:
 - We are working on scheduling future training sessions on the Post-9/11 GI Bill and the awards process; updates will be provided during future SciPAC teleconferences.

c. **Category Day:** LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian

- The USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held 19-21 June in the Washington DC area.
- The "Call for Abstracts" for Scientist Category Day presentations has been sent out. Please see the "Call for Abstracts" for more details. [Attach "Call for Abstracts" to e-mail when minutes are distributed]
- Deadline for all abstracts is 11:59 PM on 2 December 2011.

d. **Mentoring:** CDR Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner

- The one page document on mentor/mentee responsibilities will be disseminated very soon. We will also soon disseminate a contract for the mentor and mentee when new relationships are established.
 - The first part of the update of the mentoring records is almost complete and we will be continuing with the mentors at the O5 rank. Thanks to all who have provided an update. Please respond in a timely manner when you are contacted.
 - Requests for mentoring can continue to be sent to CAPT Diana Bensyl (ZQG6@cdc.gov), CDR Boris Aponte (boris.aponte@AHRQ.hhs.gov), or CDR Methner (MMM5@cdc.gov).
 - We are in need of O-5 and O-6 officers who have time and interest to mentor a junior officer, please email CAPT Diana Bensyl (zqg6@cdc.gov) for more information.
- e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- The Chair of the Policy Review subcommittee was asked to review an “applicant processing document” for the CPO and completed that action. No other policies were received for review in October.
 - We sent out a request to previous members to determine if they want to remain on the Policy Review subcommittee. If you are a previous subcommittee member and you did not receive an e-mail and you would like to remain on the subcommittee, please e-mail CDR Frazer (nicole.frazer@tma.osd.mil) or LCDR Cui (minglei.cui@fda.hhs.gov) .
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- The readiness numbers for October were not available in time for this call. We will report those, and hopefully the numbers for November, during next month’s call.
 - The committee recently received a request from the Science subcommittee to calculate a breakdown of disciplines within the Scientist category. LCDR Ruiqing Pamboukian of our subcommittee has responded to this request and is in the process of calculating those numbers, which we plan to report during next month’s call as well.
 - Because of the shortage of human resources, OFRD won’t be able to update officers’ readiness status at the end of this year. In addition, officers’ readiness status is not available on the direct access site because of the same reason. We strongly recommend that officers, especially those eligible for promotion in the 2012 cycle, take full responsibility to meet all readiness requirements all the time so that whenever the OFRD readiness updating process is resumed you will be fine.
 - In addition, the officers who have met all requirements of FMRB, but have not received it, please mention in your CV that you have met all requirements for this OFRD award and your FMRB is pending at OFRD.
- g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak
- Nothing to report.
- h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CDR Rachel Avchen
- Science subcommittee created 7 sub-groups aligned with the NPS priority areas.
 - Summary drafts were received on 31 October 2011; the final draft will be submitted to the CPO on 1 December 2011.
 - Sub-group reports will be presented during the presentation at the end of today’s call.

- Officers conducting work relevant to any of the NPS priority areas who have not already been contacted can submit their information to the Co-Chairs.

i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins, LCDR Ted Garnett

- The SciPAC newsletter will be coming out 16 January 2012. Please submit any article ideas to CDR Ayala (cia1@cdc.gov) or CDR Robbins (Danisha.L.Robbins@US.ARMY.MIL).
- Thanks to LT Erin Nichols for her recent visibility work at the APHA conference in Washington, DC where she provided recruitment materials on USPHS.
- Thanks to LCDR Sara Tartof for representing USPHS at a Chicago high school this week where she provided a talk on safe sex education.

j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley

- All requests for updates have been completed.

6) Liaison Reports

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- Multidisciplinary billets have been launched for all categories. The multidisciplinary billets are managed by the Agency Liaisons, however, if you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at facey.judy@epa.gov or 703-305-5450.

b. **COF:** LCDR Tegan Boehmer

- As of November 1, 2011, our balance is \$2902.62.
- We have an inventory of 84 coins and 51 T-shirts.
- Thanksgiving is just a few weeks away! Consider purchasing a SciPAC coin or T-shirt as a way to say “thanks” to your hard-working colleagues! Cost is \$10 per coin or T-shirt.
- To place an order, print and mail the order form located on the SciPAC website homepage or send an email to LCDR Boehmer at tboehmer@cdc.gov.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- Nothing to report.

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Scott Steffen

- The Journeyman series will be presenting a seminar about Applying for Awards by CAPT Ross Spears. The presentation will be on Friday, 4 November 2011 at 1300 EST. The slides are available at http://www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/JOAG/index_files/Meetings_JourneymanSeries.htm. Please submit any questions by COB on Wednesday, 2 November 2011 to amay@cdc.gov.
 - Call in: 213-342-3000 (this is a toll line); Code: 864814.
- The next Journey Series presentation is set for 13 January 2012. The topic of this presentation is the Post-9/11 GI Bill.
- The **Get Fit-Stay Fit** webpage was designed to encourage junior officers to stay motivated and to provide useful physical fitness and nutrition information. The Communications & Publications Committee (CPC) is working with the Inter-Services Collaboration (ISC), Physical Training Subcommittee to post Health and Fitness Tips on the JOAG Website. In collaboration with the ISC, Physical Training Subcommittee, CPC presented the first

installment of the health and fitness information announcements on the JOAG Website. To view the Get Fit-Stay Fit webpage please go to the Junior Officer Resource Webpage, on the JOAG Website. Tips will be posted quarterly.

- The **JOAG Recorder** is an officer that records meetings, seminars, and educational sessions to make information available to junior officers who are unable to attend these events. Recordings are also available to junior officers who would like to refer back to the recorded information. JOAG meetings are available for this operational year as they were successfully recorded. Audio Recordings are available 'on demand' by emailing LCDR Hiren Patel at Hiren.Patel@fda.hhs.gov.
- If anybody has pictures relevant to JOAG and would like to share them please send them to joag.usphs@gmail.com.
- The next JOAG General Membership Meeting is this Friday, 9 December from 1300-1500. Call-in number: 218-936-4700, passcode 791-9605.

e. **PSYPAG:** CDR Richard Schobitz

- PsyPAG continues to work with CAPT Williams-Fleetwood to produce a white paper on special pays. Thanks Ma'am for your support with this.
- The PsyPAG American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) Board Certification mentoring group is continuing to meet. Next meeting is 23 November 11. Call-in number is the same as the one you used today.
- PsyPAG is working to develop a breakout session at the end of Category Day at the next USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium.
- A call for nominations for PsyPAG chair elect and secretary has come out. The deadline for nominations is 14 November 11. Please email CDR Nikki Frazer (Nicole.Frazer@tma.osd.mil) if you are interested in nominating/self-nominating and did not receive the email calling for nominations.
- The next PsyPAG meeting is 7 December 11 at noon Eastern. The call-in number and password is the same as you used for this call. Call-in number: 1-877-691-9937; Passcode: 4549026.

7) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- Nothing to report.

8) Closing Remarks: CDR Karon Abe

- Nothing to report.

9) Priority Areas of SciPAC – CDR Karon Abe, CDR Jackie Sram

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, December 7, 2011 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, December 6, 2011
1100-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2011/2012 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Yes
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Yes
LCDR	Boehmer, Tegan	COF Liaison	Yes
CDR	Aponte, Boris	Mentoring Chair	Yes
CDR	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Excused
CAPT	Bensyl, Diana	Mentoring co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Breiding, Matt	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Chair	Yes
LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
CDR	Nicole Frazer	Policy Review Chair	Yes
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Yes
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Yes
Dr.	Meechan, Paul	Civil Service Representative	Yes
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Yes
CDR	Matthew Newland	Ex-Officio	Excused
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Yes
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science	Yes
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Yes
LCDR	Xu, Fei	Awards Co-Chair	Excused
Other SciPAC Roles held by Nonvoting Members			
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	Yes
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	Excused
CDR	Schobitz, Richard	PSYPAG Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	JOAG Liaison	Yes

Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Brett, Kate	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Ching, Pamela	CDC	Yes
CAPT	DeBruyn, Lemyra	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Murry, Michael	BOP	Yes
CAPT	Nelle, Timothy	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Thoroughman, Doug	CDC	Yes
CDR	Bennett, Marco	FDA	Yes
CDR	Clingman, Chekesha S.	FDA	Yes
CDR	Dobmeyer, Anne C.	DoD	Yes
CDR	Laird, David	FDA	Yes
CDR	Methner, Mark	CDC	Yes
CDR	Seo, Paul	FDA	Yes
CDR	Sharma, Andrea	CDC	Yes
CDR	Zapata, Lauren B.	CDC	Yes
CDR	Zhang, Yi	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Adjemian, Jennifer	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Bodart , Jennifer	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Calanan, Renee	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Clayton, Mark	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Colborn, James	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Cui, Minglei	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Dee, Deborah	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Demissie, Zewditu	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Freeland, Amy L.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Garnett, Theodore	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Goodie, Jeffrey L.	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne J.	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Hatch, Arlin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Iuliano, A. Danielle	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Lowther, Sara	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Lu, Xiaowu	HHS	Yes
LCDR	Pamboukian, Ruiqing	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Parks Brown, Sharyn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Pauli, Ingrid	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Samy, Raghu	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Sancho, Alfredo	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Satterfield, William	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.	CDC	Yes

LCDR	Sloop, Sue L.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Tate, Jacqueline	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Toblin, Robin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	CDC	Yes
LT	Cole, Jessica	FDA	Yes
LT	Cunningham, Timothy	CDC	Yes
LT	Houston, Keisha	CDC	Yes
LT	Huang, David	CDC	Yes
LT	Hudson, Naomi	CDC	Yes
LT	McDaniel, Dawn	CDC	Yes
LT	Miller, Mark	EPA	Yes
LT	Rivera, Luz	FDA	Yes
LT	Steele, Matthew	FDA	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
- Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- I hope everyone enjoyed some time with their family and friends during the Thanksgiving Holiday.
- Appreciation letters: I will be sending out appreciation letters to officers involved in 2010-2011 SciPAC activities by the end of this week. Thanks for all that you do to support the Category and the Corps. If you do not receive a letter, please send an e-mail to CAPT Williams-Fleetwood and copy CDR Abe.
- Billets: Multidisciplinary billets are approaching process termination dates. At the last report, over 95% of the officers have selected their standard billet titles. Category-specific billets are being reviewed by the Category and the agencies.
- National Prevention Strategy (NPS): Thanks to the officers on the Science Subcommittee that worked to pull together a draft NPS document for our category by the deadline. We are reviewing the draft and will forward it to the CPO Board. The CPO Board will review the plans for each Category and then use them to construct a Corps-wide implementation plan by the end of January/February 2012. More to come on this topic.
- Commissioned Corps Application Process Change (Focus on Existing Applicant Pool): An email went to all Corps officers on 1 December 2011 describing a process change for applications. Currently there are over 1,200 applicants in various stages of the application process. Applications will be accepted from all categories through 31 December 2011. To manage the current volume of applications, efforts will be focused on professions, groups and positions of identified need. Starting 1 January 2012, and until further notice, the Corps will only accept new application packets for: Physicians and Dentists, CDC EIS candidates forwarded to USPHS from the agency, IHS Pharmacy Residency candidates that have been forwarded from the agency, USUHS candidates forwarded to USPHS from the program, DOD Wounded Warrior Initiative applicants (psychiatrists, psychologists, psychiatric nurse practitioners and licensed clinical social workers) and student programs (Junior and Senior COSTEP). We should remain hopeful that this current process change will address the existing applicant pool situation. We should also keep in mind that in addition to having Scientist applicants in the existing applicant pool, we should

continue to receive Scientist applicants in 2012 within the professions and groups criteria. There will be informational sessions (webinar, conference calls, etc.) to explain the new process. Please visit the CCMIS website (<http://dcp.psc.gov/ccmis/>) for updates on the application process, a schedule for these informational sessions and FAQs.

3) Report from the Chair: CDR Karon Abe

- RADM Lushniak had positive feedback about the USPHS Commissioned Corps when visiting with leadership in the Department of Justice and other federal agencies. The common feedback was that Commissioned Corps officers were doing a great job and that working with Commissioned Corps officers guarantees a high level of professionalism.
- We need photos of Scientist officers in action to be used in a recruiting pamphlet. Please send high-resolution photos and captions to CDR Abe (kga4@cdc.gov) by Friday 9 December 2011.
- Last month there was a call for nominations to serve on the Commissioned Corps Women's Issues Advisory Board-Breastfeeding. CAPT Williams-Fleetwood has sent forward the nominations. If you submitted a nomination, please stand by.

4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- Six Scientists received their Call to Active Duty (CAD) in October and November. Welcome!

5) Subcommittee Reports

a. **Awards:** LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- The Awards Subcommittee's assigned judging committee is in the process of reviewing and ranking nomination packets for the Scientist Responder of the Year. Our judging committee is on track for submitting our Scientist Responder of the Year nominee's packet in time for the COA Responder of the Year deadline.
- The Scientist Officer selected for this distinguished award will be announced at the annual USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium in Washington D.C., during the Scientist Category Luncheon.

b. **Career Development:** LCDR Charlene Sydnor; LCDR Michael Smith

- **Promotions:** Officers up for promotion should ensure that all required documents are submitted to their eOPF before 31 December 2011. The original Reviewing Officer Statement (ROS) must be submitted to your liaison with an original wet signature from your reviewing officer.
- **CV Review:** The CV reviewing process was a success. Over 30 officers had their CV reviewed this year. If officers submitted a CV for review but have not yet received comments, please email LCDR Charlene Sydnor (Sydnorc@mail.NIH.gov) or LCDR Mike Smith (Michael.smith2@fda.hhs.gov).
- **Officer Basic Course (OBC):**
 - Two scientist officers, LT Jess Cole and LT Michelle Rodriquez, attended the November OBC Open House as SciPAC representatives to provide guidance to new scientist officers.
 - Five Scientists graduated from the November OBC class, LCDR Charlene Sydnor and LCDR James Kenney attended the graduation ceremony as representatives of SciPAC and presented a letter from the CPO and the Scientist coin to these officers.

- A picture of the November OBC class will be sent to the website team for posting. Additionally, an article regarding the November OBC graduation will be submitted to the Scientist Newsletter.
 - There will be an OBC open house event for new CADs this Thursday, December 8th. LCDR Mark Clayton and LCDR Ruiqing Pamboukian will be attending this event.
 - Four Scientist officers are scheduled to attend the December OBC. LCDR Mike Smith and LCDR Anne Purfield will be attending the graduation ceremony as representatives of SciPAC and will present a letter from the CPO and the Scientist coin to these officers.
 - **SciPAC Handbook:** There are no updates on the Handbook at this time.
 - **Training Session:** We have a training session scheduled on the PHS awards process after the January SciPAC teleconference. LCDR Adriana Meyer-Alonzo, Acting Awards Coordinator in OCCO, has agreed to give this presentation. Slides will be provided as the presentation date nears.
- c. **Category Day:** LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian
- Reminder that the 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held 19-21 June 2012 at the University of Maryland with Scientist Category Day being held on Thursday 21 June 2012.
 - A list of local hotels for the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium is available on the Symposium website (<http://www.phscofevents.org/>) if you would like to call and make a reservation.
 - Thank you to everyone who submitted abstracts for the 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium Scientist Category Day. The Category Day subcommittee will be scoring the abstracts with all personal identification information removed, and participants will be notified in December.
- d. **Mentoring:** CDR Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner
- We thank all the members of the sub-committee for their hard work and accomplishments during the year.
 - Two documents have been developed recently and will soon be disseminated. These documents have been prompted by the findings from the mentoring survey distributed to Scientist officers during the summer 2011. A one page quick reference guide for mentors will be disseminated via the Listserv and sent directly to all registered and active mentors. A second document is a formal agreement form to be completed by mentors and their mentees, and will be sent for completion in early January.
 - An initial phase of an effort to verify the status of all registered mentor/mentee assignments (for O-6 mentors), led by CAPT Bensyl, has been completed. This has allowed us to update mentor and mentee contact information, identify mentors availability to take on additional assignments, and determine if existing assigned pairs still have an active mentoring relationship. A second phase of this effort will include mentors at the O-5 rank and will be initiated early in the year.
 - The sub-committee is currently working on a report on the findings from the Scientist mentoring survey distributed during the summer 2011.

- If you are an O-5 or O-6 officer with some time to commit to mentoring a junior officer or if you are a junior officer seeking a mentor, please email CAPT Diana Bensyl (dbensyl@cdc.gov).
- e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- There were no policies to review in November.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- The basic readiness numbers for scientist officers as of 1 November 2011 are:
 - Overall: 86.4%
 - O-3: 47.4%
 - O-4: 90.3%
 - O-5: 88.2%
 - O-6: 88.2%
 - The basic readiness numbers for scientist officers as of 1 December 2011 are:
 - Overall: 86.7%
 - O-3: 45.0%
 - O-4: 91.1%
 - O-5: 89.9%
 - O-6: 88.2%
 - Everyone should have received an email last night from CAPT Dan Beck of OFRD reporting a number of important issues related to readiness:
 - While basic readiness is no longer included within the promotion precepts, it is still a promotion requirement. Those not meeting basic readiness standards as of 31 December 2011 and 31 March 2012 will be removed from promotion consideration.
 - OFRD will be emailing officers who are not projected to be Basic Ready as of 31 December 2011, so keep an eye out for those emails.
 - OFRD has developed a new web-based readiness assistance form to communicate with OFRD directly about any questions/concerns you may have related to readiness. It is located at http://ccrf.hhs.gov/ccrf/readiness_assistance_form.htm.
- g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak
- Nothing to report.
- h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CDR Rachel Avchen
- CDR Avchen and I want to express our enormous thanks and appreciation to the Science subcommittee members for their extensive efforts in working on our SciPAC NPS white paper. In less than two months the individual workgroups reached out to our category, gathered content information, pulled from their own work contributions, put together responses to the Surgeon General's NPS priorities, were subjected to rounds of editorial changes, and managed to maintain our timeline. The resulting document is evidence of the breath of impact and contributions we, Scientist Officers, make to public health, and this is only based on responses to the seven NPS priorities.

- We experienced a delay in finalizing our document, due to last minute decisions relating to the need for CDC clearance. With CAPT Williams-Fleetwood's and CDR Avchen's help, we identified the required level of CDC clearance and are in the process of obtaining it.
- We also want to express our thanks to all the officers who submitted content information for this paper. We included as much as we reasonably could into the various topics.

i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins, LCDR Ted Garnett

- There are many Visibility members to be recognized for great efforts recently! LT Erin Nichols recruited at the APHA conference and is now co-chairing the TAPS initiative; LCDR Amy Freeland is mentoring a middle school robotics team on Food Safety; LCDR Sara Tartof recently spoke to high school students in Chicago; LCDR Tracie Gardner is increasing visibility through the Atlanta COA branch. She is also doing a TB Awareness Walk in March and is seeking other PHS officers who want to volunteer.
- Last week, CDR Robert Williams conducted a PHS recruitment seminar for graduate students at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.
- Welcome to our newest Visibility member, LT Yoran Grant. She is a new EIS officer with CDC and is stationed in the Springfield, IL area. LT Grant recently represented PHS on a panel discussion for World AIDS Day 2011.

j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley

- The mother of a high school student sent an email to the website subcommittee requesting information about the USPHS and the scientist category. This is a reminder about how useful the scientist website is, and how many people it reaches.

6) **Liaison Reports**

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- This has been a very busy year as far as billets are concerned. As a category we have done a great job getting our officers through the billet process. I would like to take this time to thank CAPTs Pamela Ching and Kevin McGuinness and CDR Matthew Newland for all their hard work in assisting officers during the billet process. I would also like to thank CAPT Williams-Fleetwood for her guidance and hard work in helping to assure that all scientist officers start and complete the first steps of the billet process in the allotted time.

b. **COF:** LCDR Tegan Boehmer

- As of 1 December 2011, our balance is \$2902.62.
- We have an inventory of 84 coins and 51 T-shirts (size S, M, and L).
- LCDR Fuyuen Yip will fill in as the COF Liaison for LCDR Boehmer while she is on maternity leave during January – March 2012.
- Coins and T-shirts cost \$10 each. To place an order, either: 1) mail-in the order form located on the SciPAC website homepage or 2) send an email to LCDR Yip at fyip@cdc.gov.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- No report

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Scott Steffen

- JOAG is looking for officers to serve on an Ad Hoc committee created to work on events/activities that support activities of the OSG. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact LCDR Damon Smith (Damon.Smith@HHS.GOV).
- The next Journeyman series is on the Post-9/11 GI Bill and is scheduled for 13 January 2012.
- This month is the 10-year anniversary of JOAG. There is interest in holding a special celebration around COA, which may require some volunteers.
- If you are not receiving attachments from the JOAG listserv, you need to change from the “digest” option to the “regular” option. Go to <https://list.nih.gov>.
- Earlier this year, the OSG concurred and signed off on JOAG’s USPHS Commitment to Service Award Proposal. No further details have been released at this time.
- The Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness sent out a new FAQ document about the changes to the application process.
- If anybody has pictures relevant to JOAG and would like to share them, please send them to joag.usphs@gmail.com.
- The 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held 19-21 June 2012 at the University of Maryland. The theme is **Prevention Strategies for a Healthy Nation: Building on the Basics of Public Health**.
- The next JOAG General Membership Meeting is this Friday, 9 December 2011 from 1300-1500. The call-in number is: 218-936-4700. The passcode is: 791-9605.

e. **PSYPAG:** CDR Richard Schobitz

- PsyPAG will hold its final meeting of the year tomorrow 7 December 2011 at noon eastern. The call in number is 1-877-691-9937 and the passcode is 4549026.
- This will be the final meeting Chaired by CDR Nikki Frazer. Effective 1 January 2012 LCDR Jeff Goodie will take over as chair of PsyPAG.
- The focus of tomorrow’s meeting will be to discuss accomplishments for the year and progress toward our action items. We will also discuss our focus going in to the new year, which will likely include continued work on advocacy issues, including special pays, billet transformation, and a call for a re-examination of the POM that lowered the cap on T&E for new accessions.
- CDR Nikki Frazer will move into the role of PsyPAG/SciPAC liaison effective 1 January 2012.

7) Other Business, Questions, Comments

a. **SciPAC Listserv Guidelines: CDR Danice Eaton**

- The SciPAC Executive Board has developed a rules and guidelines document for use of the SciPAC listserv. These guidelines will help ensure 1) a standard process for posting and approving messages for distribution and 2) messages distributed are useful and relevant to Scientist officers. Please review this document prior to posting messages to the SciPAC listserv. The SciPAC Listserv Rules and Guidelines document is available at http://www.usphs-scientist.org/documents/SciPAC_listserv_guidelines.pdf.

8) Closing Remarks: CDR Karon Abe

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, January 3, 2011 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, January 3, 2012
1100-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2011/2012 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Yes
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Excused
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Yes
LCDR	Boehmer, Tegan	COF Liaison	Excused
CDR	Aponte, Boris	Mentoring Chair	Excused
CDR	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Yes
CAPT	Bensyl, Diana	Mentoring co-Chair	Excused
LCDR	Breiding, Matt	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Chair	Yes
LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
CDR	Nicole Frazer	Policy Review Chair, PSYPAG Liaison	Yes
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Yes
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Yes
Dr.	Meechan, Paul	Civil Service Representative	Yes
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Yes
CDR	Matthew Newland	Ex-Officio	Yes
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Excused
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science	Yes
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Yes
LCDR	Xu, Fei	Awards Co-Chair	Yes
Other SciPAC Roles held by Nonvoting Members			
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	JOAG Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	Acting COF Liaison	Yes

Participation by Other Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Adekoya, Nelson	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Ching, Pamela	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Daugherty, Jon	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Draski, Laura	OS	Yes
CAPT	Hayes, John Mosley	IHS	Yes
CAPT	Hendricks, M. Thomas	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Nelle, Timothy	FDA	Yes
CDR	Bennett, Marco	FDA	Yes
CDR	Chu, Dan-My T.	FDA	Yes
CDR	Clingman, Chekesha S.	FDA	Yes
CDR	Davidson, Bryan	DoD	Yes
CDR	Fleischauer, Aaron	CDC	Yes
CDR	Laird, David	FDA	Yes
CDR	Methner, Mark	CDC	Yes
CDR	Schneider, Diana	ICE	Yes
CDR	Seo, Paul	FDA	Yes
CDR	Zapata, Lauren B.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Bodart , Jennifer	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Clayton, Mark	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Colborn, James	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Cui, Minglei	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Dee, Deborah	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Demissie, Zewditu	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Gardner, Tracie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Geissler, Aimee	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Goodie, Jeffrey L.	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne J.	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Hatch, Arlin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Iuliano, A. Danielle	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Jentes, Emily	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Lu, Xiaowu	FDA	Yes
LCDR	McCollum, Andrea	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Myers, Todd	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Nielsen, Carrie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Parks Brown, Sharyn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Purfield, Anne	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Rossiter, Lana	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Samy, Raghu	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Sloop, Sue L.	CDC	Yes

LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Thomas, Peter	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Toblin, Robin	DoD	Yes
LT	Gaines, Joanna	CDC	Yes
LT	Garrett, Tiana	CDC	Yes
LT	Henderson, Tamara	FDA	Yes
LT	Houston, Keisha	CDC	Yes
LT	Huang, David	CDC	Yes
LT	McDaniel, Dawn	CDC	Yes
LT	Nichols, Erin	CDC	Yes
LT	Parker, Erin	CDC	Yes
LT	Rivera, Luz	FDA	Yes
LT	Rodriguez, Michelle	FDA	Yes
LT	Sharp, Tyler M.	CDC	Yes
LT	Steele, Matthew	FDA	Yes
LT	Tian, Nancy	EPA	Yes
LT	Yard, Ellen	CDC	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
- Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- Welcome: Wishing everyone a Happy New Year!
- Billets: Multidisciplinary billets have reached the process termination dates and are undergoing agency review.
- National Prevention Strategy (NPS): We are reviewing the draft NPS-Scientist Category document and will forward it to the CPO Board this month. The CPO Board will review the plans for each Category and then use them to construct a Corps-wide implementation plan by the end of January/February 2012. More to come on this topic.
- Commissioned Corps Application Process Change to Focus on Existing Applicant Pool: Starting January 1, 2012, and until further notice, the Corps will only accept new application packets for: Physicians and Dentists, CDC EIS candidates forwarded to USPHS from the agency, IHS Pharmacy Residency candidates that have been forwarded from the agency, USUHS candidates forwarded to USPHS from the program, DOD Wounded Warrior Initiative applicants (psychiatrists, psychologists, psychiatric nurse practitioners and licensed clinical social workers) and student programs (Junior and Senior COSTEP). The application process change is being implemented to help process the overwhelming number of applications that currently exist. In addition to having Scientist applicants in the existing applicant pool, we will continue to have new Scientist applicants with the application process change. Please visit the CCMIS website for updates on the application process, a schedule for informational sessions, and FAQs.
- Atlanta-Area Announcements:
 - All Hands Meeting: There will be an All Hands Meeting with the Deputy Surgeon General on Friday, 27 January 2012 at 1330 on the CDC Roybal Campus. If you wish to submit any questions that we can share for RADM Lushniak to address, please send them to CDR Abe (KAbe@cdc.gov) by 17 January 2012.

- Atlanta-Area Anchor and Caduceus Dinner: The Atlanta COA is sponsoring the Fifth Annual Anchor and Caduceus Dinner on Saturday, January 28th. RADM Lushniak will be the Keynote Speaker.

3) Report from the Chair: CDR Karon Abe

- Priority processing: Last month, there was a question regarding whether DCCPR knew of the applicant breakdown by category and there was a comment that Scientist Officers could volunteer to help process Scientist applications. These issues did come up during the PAC Chairs call. DCCPR is in the process of identifying applicant categories in the existing applicant pool. This information will be shared with CPOs and PAC chairs once it is compiled.
- Operational Dress Uniform (ODU): No policy or regulation changes have taken place regarding any changes from the current BDU to the Coast Guard Operational Dress Uniform (ODU).
- Promotion Benchmarks 2013: PAC Chairs made recommendations for the 2013 promotion benchmarks. Most of these were word smithing-type recommendations. These recommendations will go to the CPO board for approval.

4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- SciPAC Strategic Partnerships Initiative: We are continuing to work with our Civil Service liaison, Dr Paul Meechan, to explore potential external strategic partnerships for SciPAC. In December, a Partnership Workgroup was formed to further discuss these partnerships. Our next meeting will be 4 January 2012. We welcome input from Scientist Officers on the role and scope of these partnerships, as well as suggestions for potential organizations to partner with. Please forward any suggestions to CDR Ryan Novak (bnk4@cdc.gov).

5) Subcommittee Reports

a. Awards: LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- Nothing to report.

b. Career Development: LCDR Charlene Sydnor; LCDR Michael Smith

- Officer Basic Course (OBC):
 - Four Scientists graduated from the December OBC class, LCDR Lana Rossiter (FDA), LT Sara Wright (DoD), LT Matthew Walters (FDA) and LT Eboni Taylor (CDC/EIS). LCDR Rossiter was a squad leader and her squad was chosen as the honor squad out of eight squads. LT Wright was the OBC Unit Commander out of 44 officers.
 - LCDR Mark Clayton and LCDR Ruiqing Pamboukian, attended the December OBC Open House as SciPAC representatives to provide guidance to new scientist officers.
 - LCDR Anne Purfield and LCDR Mike Smith attended the graduation ceremony as representatives of SciPAC and presented a Scientist coin to these officers, a letter from the CPO was mailed to each of the officers who attended the December OBC.
 - A picture of the December OBC class will be sent to the website team for posting.
 - The Career Development subcommittee is in need of additional volunteers to serve as SciPAC representatives at upcoming OBC open house and graduation events. An announcement calling for volunteers will be sent via the SciPAC listserv in the near future.
- SciPAC Handbook: There are no updates to the SciPAC Handbook at this time.
- Training Session: The January training session on the PHS awards process has been tentatively rescheduled to after the April SciPAC teleconference.

c. Category Day: LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian

- The Category Day subcommittee is planning to organize a database to create a list of officers who may want to share hotel rooms or officers who may be willing to host another officer in their home for a few days. Further details will be released closer the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium.
- d. **Mentoring:** CDR Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner
- A one-page quick reference guide for mentors and mentees was recently disseminated via the SciPAC Listserv and is available at [http://www.usphs-scientist.org/documents/mentoring%20 quick reference page.pdf](http://www.usphs-scientist.org/documents/mentoring%20quick%20reference%20page.pdf).
- e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- No new policies were received for review in December.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- We have not yet received the basic readiness numbers for January. These numbers will be provided during next month's call. We recommend you check your basic readiness status if you are unclear on your status.
 - CAPT Williams-Fleetwood earlier described the new limitations with regard to the processing of new USPHS applications. The Recruitment, Retention, & Readiness Subcommittee has recently communicated with several prospective Scientist officers regarding miscellaneous recruitment questions. One prospective officer was connected to us via the network we setup on the PHS Facebook page to respond to scientist-related questions. We anticipate receiving questions regarding the new priorities for applicant processing and are ready to do so.
- g. **Rules and Membership: CDR Ryan Novak**
- Nothing to report.
- h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CDR Rachel Avchen
- The subcommittee was given a break during December.
 - The Scientist NPS white paper was submitted to the SciPAC Executive Board and CPO and then subsequently to the CPO Board. We responded to various editorial comments during December. In addition, we secured final clearance for the white paper from each of the relevant CDC Divisions.
 - We will re-convene the subcommittee soon and discuss the next steps and projects for the subcommittee.
- i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins, LCDR Ted Garnett
- The next SciPAC newsletter will be released in January.
- j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley
- We continue to receive inquiries off of our website from the public about being a Scientist in the USPHS. This is a reminder that our site is view by, and useful to, many.

6) Liaison Reports

- a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey
- Nothing to report.

b. **COF:** LCDR Fuyuen Yip

- LCDR Fuyuen Yip is filling in as the COF Liaison for LCDR Boehmer while she is on maternity leave during Jan–Mar 2012.
- As of 1 January 1 2012, our balance is \$3022.62.
- We have an inventory of 73 coins and 50 T-shirts (size S, M, and L). Coins and T-shirts cost \$10 each. To place an order, either: 1) mail-in the order form located on the SciPAC website homepage or 2) send an email to LCDR Yip at fyip@cdc.gov.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- No report

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Scott Steffen

- JOAG is looking for Ad Hoc committee members to work on events/activities to support activities of the OSG. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact LCDR Damon Smith (Damon.Smith@hhs.gov).
- The next Journeyman series is on the Post-9/11 GI Bill and is scheduled for 13 January 2012 from 1300-1400.
- The 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held 19-21 June 2012 at the University of Maryland. The Conference theme is "Prevention Strategies for a Healthy Nation: Building on the Basics of Public Health."
 - A COF Symposium Pre-Conference Event will be held at the FDA White Oak campus.
 - The JOAG Social/10-year Anniversary Celebration will be on 20 June 2012 between 1900-2100.
 - The JOAG Meet & Greet will be held on 20 June 2012 from 0800-0915 at the Stamp Union on the University of Maryland campus.
 - If you are interested in volunteering to assist with these JOAG activities, please contact LT Elizabeth Thompson (Elizabeth.thompson@fda.hhs.gov) or LCDR Michelle E. Arena (michelle.arena@cms.hhs.gov).
- The Fall issue of the JOAG Journal has been sent out via the JOAG listserv. To join the listserv go to <https://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/wa.exe?SUBED1=JOAG&A=1>.
- For those interested in recruitment events, the January Career Fairs List was generated and sent out via the JOAG listserv. Please note that due to recent announcements from DCCPR regarding decreased acceptance of certain professions that certain efforts (i.e. the Transitional Assistance Program, or TAPS) will be put on hold until further notice.
- Volunteer opportunity: any junior officer interested in volunteering at the Officer Basic Course (OBC) Open House or Graduation should contact either LCDR Danso (Benjamin.danso@fda.hhs.gov) or LCDR Scott Steffen (scott.steffen@fda.hhs.gov).
- If anybody has pictures relevant to JOAG and would like to share them please send them to joag.usphs@gmail.com.
- The next JOAG General Membership Meeting is this Friday, 10 February 2012 from 1300-1500. The call-in number is 218-936-4700 and the passcode is 791-9605.

e. **PSYPAG:** CDR Nicole Frazer

- The PsyPAG positions rotate on a calendar year. CDR Nicole Frazer is the new PsyPAG liaison for 2012. The new 2012 PsyPAG executive team includes: LCDR Jeff Goodie (2012 Chair), CDR Anne Dobmeyer (Chair-elect) and LCDR William "Tony" Satterfield (Secretary).

- The PsyPAG DoD Special Interest Group (SIG) will continue on a bimonthly basis on the third Wednesday of the month beginning on 18 January 2012. The dial-in number is 877-691-9937 and the passcode is 4549026.
- The next PsyPAG meeting is 1 February 2012 and the dial-in number is 877-691-9937 and the passcode is 4549026.

7) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- None.

8) Closing Remarks: CDR Karon Abe

- None.

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, 7 February 2012 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 7, 2012
1100-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2011/2012 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Yes
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Yes
LCDR	Boehmer, Tegan	COF Liaison	Excused
CDR	Aponte, Boris	Mentoring Chair	Yes
CDR	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Excused
CAPT	Bensyl, Diana	Mentoring co-Chair	Excused
LCDR	Breiding, Matt	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Chair	Yes
LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
CDR	Nicole Frazer	Policy Review Chair, PSYPAG Liaison	Yes
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Excused
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Excused
Dr.	Meechan, Paul	Civil Service Representative	Yes
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Excused
CDR	Matthew Newland	Ex-Officio	Excused
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Yes
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science	Yes
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Excused
LCDR	Xu, Fei	Awards Co-Chair	Yes
Other SciPAC Roles held by Nonvoting Members			
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	Excused
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	JOAG Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	Acting COF Liaison	Yes

Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Benally, Christine J.	HHS	Yes
CAPT	Draski, Laura	OS	Yes
CAPT	Hendricks, M. Thomas	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Lawrence, Theresa	HHS	Yes
CAPT	Murry, Michael	BOP	Yes
CAPT	Nelle, Timothy	FDA	Yes
CAPT	O'Connor, Ralph	CDC	Yes
CDR	Bennett, Marco	FDA	Yes
CDR	Bhagwat, Aditya	DoD	Yes
CDR	Davidson, Bryan	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dobmeyer, Anne C.	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dutton, Samuel S.	DHS	Yes
CDR	Glover, Maleeka	CDC	Yes
CDR	Methner, Mark	CDC	Yes
CDR	Schneider, Diana	ICE	Yes
CDR	Schuyler, Donna	BOP	Yes
CDR	Seo, Paul	FDA	Yes
CDR	Spears, Ross	CDC	Yes
CDR	Stansberry, John	NIH	Yes
CDR	Zhang, Yi	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Adjemian, Jennifer	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Bodart, Jennifer	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Dee, Deborah	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Demissie, Zewditu	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Frasca, Dominic	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Garnett, Theodore	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Geissler, Aimee	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne J.	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Hatch, Arlin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Myers, Todd	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Nielsen, Carrie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Odom, Erika	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Pamboukian, Ruiqing	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Parks Brown, Sharyn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Perrine, Cria Gregory	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Purfield, Anne	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Qiao, Bobo	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Rossiter, Lana	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Samy, Raghu	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.	CDC	Yes

LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Spikes, Pilgrim	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Thomas, Jennifer Dolan	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Thomas, Peter	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Toblin, Robin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Wally, Jeremy	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Zhou, Eric	NIH	Yes
LT	Cole, Jessica	FDA	Yes
LT	Cunningham, Timothy	CDC	Yes
LT	Garrett, Tiana	CDC	Yes
LT	Houston, Keisha	CDC	Yes
LT	Huang, David	CDC	Yes
LT	Nichols, Erin	CDC	Yes
LT	Parker, Erin	CDC	Yes
LT	Rivera, Luz	FDA	Yes
LT	Rodriguez, Michelle	FDA	Yes
LT	Taylor, Eboni	CDC	Yes
LT	Tian, Nancy	EPA	Yes
LT	Wright, Sara	DoD	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
- Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- OSG Strategic Planning Conference: The Office of the Surgeon General is holding a one-day strategic planning conference today (2 February 2012) in Washington D.C entitled, “Bridging the Chasm of Health Disparities in Underserved Communities: A Federal Agency Collaboration.” This collaboration event is designed to foster interagency collaboration and discuss innovative ways to eliminate health disparities while strengthening health infrastructure.
- Billet Review Process: The multidisciplinary billets and the category-specific billets have been completed and reviews are being finalized.
- National Prevention Strategy (NPS): Our Scientist NPS draft was forwarded along with those from other categories to the OSG through the CPO Board. In our NPS document we describe the various levels of contributions that our Scientist Officers are making in support of the Surgeon General’s National Prevention Strategy. Again, I would like to thank CDRs Sram and Avchen for their leadership and all the Scientist Officers who contributed to our NPS draft. The Categories look forward to receiving OSG recommendations on the next steps.
- Commissioned Corps Application Process Change to Focus on Existing Applicant Pool: As mentioned on our January call, the process for the Corps to accept select new application packets effective 1 January 2012 is in progress and will continue until further notice. The application process change is being implemented to help process the overwhelming number of applications that currently exist. Since our last call, I verified that we have a large number of Scientist applicants in the current pool of applicants and we will continue to have Scientist

applicants with the new application process. Please continue to visit the CCMIS website for updates.

- Deputy Surgeon General (DSG) Visit to Atlanta: There was a CDC All-Hands Commissioned Corps Meeting with the DSG, RADM Boris Lushniak, on Friday (1/27/12). He spoke on change and how the Corps has to be prepared to meet the public health needs now and in the future and about the need for the Corps to be more efficient. It was a good opportunity for Atlanta-area officers to meet with our DSG and get his responses to a multitude of questions. That weekend the Atlanta COA Anchor and Caduceus Dinner was held and was equally great. RADM Lushniak served as the Keynote Speaker. It was great to see everyone there and a fun time was had by all.
- Association for Military Surgeons United States (AMSUS) 2012-2013: Scientist representatives are needed to assist with the planning effort for the 2012 and 2013 AMSUS conferences. If you are interested, please contact LCDR Angela Steele and LT Yoran Grant. USPHS is the co-sponsor for the 2013 AMSUS conference. Thanks LCDR Steele and LT Grant for taking on this responsibility and we look forward to hearing updates as the AMSUS conference planning progresses.
- Women's Leadership Training: For the first time, A Women's PHS Officers Leadership Course will be held at this year's COA meeting. It will be held from 1300-1800 EST on Monday (6/18) and Tuesday (6/19) from 0900-1330 EST in the same location as the COA meeting, the University of Maryland's campus. In addition, there will be a CPO preconference session open to all officers entitled "PHS Career Planning" from 1330-1630. The session will conclude in plenty of time for officers to attend the COA Anchor and Caduceus Dinner that evening.

3) Report from the Chair: CDR Karon Abe

- OFRD is undergoing some restructuring related to deployment and "how best to serve the underserved" due to funding challenges.
 - Future calls for deployment may be based on skill-set/SME of individual officer rather than activating full teams.
 - The Recruitment, Readiness, and Retention subcommittee will provide information on how SciPAC will respond to this potential change. The subcommittee is undertaking an initiative to promote Scientist Officers for deployment when requests are made.
- RADM Lushniak came out to CDC on 27 January 2012 and spoke to officers during a Commissioned Corps All-Hands meeting. Overall, RADM Lushniak's reflections on 2011 were positive, despite uncertainties in the year. Topics discussed included:
 - Post-9/11 GI Bill transferability: It took an act of Congress for USPHS to be on parity with other services in transferring educational benefits to our spouses or children, but it happened.
 - Priority applicant processing: The applicant processing change was based on the influx of applications and the requested needs of the agencies. For the Commissioned Corps to remain relevant, we need to understand that the USPHS is changing.
- In light of the changing climate, the SciPAC Executive Board has tasked the Policy subcommittee to make some recommendations in two main areas: 1) what changes should the Scientist category consider in light of the overall needs of the USPHS to remain relevant and 2) what touchpoints/agencies/partnerships are Scientist Officers already engaged in that we need to leverage or make more visible so our impact on public health is made more clear?
- These recommendations will be discussed/expanded among the Executive Board, with a goal of selecting recommendations to incorporate into the strategic plan for implementation.

4) **Report from Vice Chair:** CDR Ryan Novak

- As part of an ongoing effort to foster external partnerships specific to and/or advantageous to our Category, our Civil Service liaison Dr. Paul Meechan and myself convened a meeting of the SciPAC Partnership Workgroup on 4 January 2012. We actively discussed the possible role and scope of these partnerships. A priority action item from our meeting was to conduct a survey of Scientist Officers to identify the various organizations our category officers interact with professionally. Since that call, we were able to gain access a full version of SurveyMonkey, the tool is in final revision, and once finalized a link to the survey will be distributed via the SciPAC listserv. The information collected from this survey will provide a critical foundation to our working group deliberations and ultimately the recommendations sent forward to our CPO. We would appreciate your cooperation in completing the survey to ensure that the information we collect represents the membership and activities of our diverse category. The working group also welcomes input from Scientist Officers. Please forward any suggestions to CDR Ryan Novak (bnk4@cdc.gov).
- Two new Scientist Officers were called to active duty in December 2011: LCDR Lana Rossiter (FDA) and LT Matthew Walters (FDA). Welcome!

5) **Subcommittee Reports**

a. **Awards:** LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- The Awards Subcommittee would like to congratulate LT Joanna Gaines (CDC) for being selected as the Scientist Responder of the Year. CAPT Williams-Fleetwood submitted Dr. Gaines' nomination packet to CAPT Beck for the 2011 Commissioned Corps Responder of the Year.
- On behalf of the Awards Subcommittee, we want to thank everyone who submitted a nomination packet and personally thank the judging committee for their time, effort and contemplation during this tough selection process.
- The Awards Subcommittee will be posting a call for Sr. and Jr. Scientist of the Year Nominations in the middle of this month. Interested Officers should begin putting together their nomination packets.

b. **Career Development:** LCDR Charlene Sydnor; LCDR Michael Smith

- OBC: No Scientists graduated from the January 2012 OBC class. Three scientist officers are currently attending the February 2012 OBC class, Nadra Tyus (HRSA), Eduardo O'Neill La Cruz (CDC) and Caitlin Hamill (FDA).
- SciPAC Handbook team (led by LCDR Zewde Demissie): The team is reviewing the CV guidelines for consistency with the scientist category benchmarks. Preliminary comments have been provided by the team and are under review.

c. **Category Day:** LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian

- Nothing to report.

d. **Mentoring:** CDR Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner

- The mentoring subcommittee is currently drafting a report summarizing results from the needs assessment survey recently conducted.

- e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- There were no new policies to review in January 2012. The Committee will begin work on brainstorming future directions for the Scientist category for the Strategic Plan per CDR Abe.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- As of 1 January 2012, there are a total of 321 Scientist Officers
 - 44 Officers listed as “exempt”
 - 18 Officers listed as “not qualified” as follows: O6=9, O5=7, O4=2
 - Not including exempt officers, our category is 93.5% qualified
 - As of 1 February 2012, there are a total of 320 Scientist Officers
 - 44 Officers listed as “exempt”
 - 18 Officers listed as “not qualified” as follows: O6=9, O5=7, O4=2
 - Not including exempt officers, our category is 93.5% qualified
 - As a reminder, please check your OPF to determine whether you are basic qualified and to identify any unmet readiness criteria that need addressed.
 - An email was sent out last week on the SciPAC listserv describing an alternative avenue for identifying Scientist Officers for potential deployment. On occasion CAPT Williams-Fleetwood receives deployment requests for one or more Scientist Officers. To facilitate these requests, and to select an officer with the skills most appropriate for the mission, we have developed a spreadsheet that collects relevant officer information. This spreadsheet was attached to the email. If you are interested in being deployed, officers should complete the spreadsheet and send a copy of their CV summary sheet to LCDR Dominic Frasca of our subcommittee, who will be compiling the information. (Thank you, LCDR Frasca!) Please contact LCDR Frasca (Dominic.Frasca@fda.hhs.gov) or LCDR Matthew Breiding (dvi8@cdc.gov) if you have any questions.
- g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak
- Nothing to report.
- h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CDR Rachel Avchen
- As CAPT Williams-Fleetwood announced, the CPO Board compiled category-specific responses to the National Prevention Strategy, and then forwarded the compilation to the Deputy Surgeon General, RADM Lushniak, for review.
- i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins, LCDR Ted Garnett
- Thank you to LCDR Angela Steele for volunteering to be the Scientist Officer AMSUS representative for both the 2012 and 2013 AMSUS conferences. Thanks also to LT Yoran Grant for offering to serve as well; she will serve as a backup/addition.
 - Our Scientist newsletter will be coming out on 9 February 2012 and will be distributed via the Scientist listserv.
 - LCDR Scott Steffen and LCDR Ted Garnett are both working on visibility/recruitment efforts. They will be attending Johns Hopkins Public Health School on 2 March 2012 and the Science & Engineering Festival in Washington D.C. on 28-29 April 2012.

- CDR Hu, LCDR Xu, LCDR Zhou, LCDR Pamboukian, and LCDR Cui participated in a great visibility event, the Lunar New Year Community Outreach in Gaithersburg, MD on 29 January 2012. Great work by all!

j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley

- The Website Subcommittee received a request to add a link to a third party website. We kindly denied the request as the website was not relevant to our mission. However, this request demonstrates our website is quite visible in the public health community. Thanks to all subcommittee members for the hard work.
- We do not have any unfulfilled tasks. The Newsletter of January-Feb has been posted at http://www.usphs-scientist.org/newsletter_archive.htm.

6) Liaison Reports

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- Nothing to report.

b. **COF:** LCDR Fuyuen Yip (Acting Liaison for LCDR Tegan Boehmer)

- LCDR Fuyuen Yip is filling in as the COF Liaison for LCDR Boehmer while she is on maternity leave during January - March 2012.
- As of February 1, 2012, our balance is \$3022.66.
- We have an inventory of 73 coins and 50 T-shirts (size S, M, and L).
- Coins and T-shirts cost \$10 each. To place an order, either: mail-in the order form located on the SciPAC website homepage or 2) send an email to LCDR Yip at fyip@cdc.gov.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- No report.

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Scott Steffen

- A tentative topic for the Journeyman series on the Policy Changes since the Healthcare Reform Act is scheduled for 9 March 2012 from 1300-1400.
- The Fall issue of the JOAG Journal is now available on the JOAG website.
- For those interested in recruitment events, the February Career Fairs list was recently distributed via the JOAG listserv. Please note that due to recent announcements from DCCPR regarding decreased acceptance of certain professions that certain efforts (i.e. TAPS) will be put on hold until further notice.
- Volunteer opportunities:
 - Any junior officer interested in volunteering at the Officer Basic Course (OBC) Open House or Graduation should contact either LCDR Danso (Benjamin.danso@fda.hhs.gov) or LCDR Scott Steffen (scott.steffen@fda.hhs.gov).
 - The 2012 National Health Promotion Summit is looking for 6 to 10 Junior Officers to serve as volunteers. The registration fees for all volunteers will be paid. The conference is in DC on 11-12 April 2012. If you are interested please contact LCDR Damon Smith (damon.smith@hhs.gov) by COB 15 February 2012
- If anybody has pictures relevant to JOAG and would like to share them, please send them to joag.usphs@gmail.com.

- JOAG award nomination packages are (due Friday, 16 March 2012). Nomination packages can be found on the JOAG website http://www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/joag/index_files/Awards.htm. Nominations are being accepted for:
 - Junior Officer of the Year
 - JOAG Excellence Award
 - VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration Award
- JOAG has put together a survey to gather ideas for PHS merchandise ideas. The survey can be completed through Survey Monkey. At the end of the survey, there will be a box for suggestions. I invite you to participate.
- Lastly, if you are a Junior Scientist Officer involved in JOAG and would be interested in being the topic of our next JOAG Spotlight for the SciPAC newsletter, please send your nomination to LCDR Scott Steffen at scott.steffen@fda.hhs.gov.
- The next JOAG General Membership Meeting is this Friday, 10 February 2012 from 1300-1500. The call in number is: 218-936-4700 and the passcode is: 791-9605.

e. **PSYPAG:** CDR Nicole Frazer

- PsyPAG was fortunate to have many active members step forward to lead our multiple committees, co-chairs, and liaison positions for 2012.
- We are continuing to work with CAPT Williams-Fleetwood, CDR Abe, and CPAB to encourage special pay parity with our DoD colleagues.
- We are working with the HS PAC on their Best Kept Secrets brochure for behavioral health professionals, which is a project we began participation in last year.
- We have started a new Science committee to enhance our membership's awareness of new and relevant behavioral health science and opportunities for presentations and attendance at scientific conventions.
- The next PsyPAG DoD Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting is on 21 March 2012 (dial-in #: 877-691-9937, passcode: 4549026). The next PsyPAG meeting is 4 April 2012 (dial-in #: 1-877-691-9937, passcode: 4549026).

7) **Other Business, Questions, Comments**

- None.

8) **Closing Remarks:** CDR Karon Abe

- None.

9) **Post-call Presentation (To Begin at Noon): CAPT (ret) Jerry Farrell, Executive Director of the Commissioned Officers Association**

- CAPT Farrell spoke about the following issues:
 - COA's perspective of current status of the Corps.
 - What is COA doing to strengthen the status of the Corps?
 - What are things COA cannot do to help officers?
 - What can officers do to strengthen the status of the Corps?

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, March 6, 2012 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 6, 2012
1100-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2011/2012 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Yes
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Yes
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CDR	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Yes
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LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
CDR	Nicole Frazer	Policy Review Chair, PSYPAG Liaison	Excused
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Excused
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Yes
Dr.	Meechan, Paul	Civil Service Representative	Yes
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Yes
CDR	Newland, Matthew	Ex-Officio	Yes
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Yes
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science	Excused
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Yes
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CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	JOAG Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	Acting COF Liaison	Yes

Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Benally, Christine J.	HHS	Yes
CAPT	Hendricks, M. Thomas	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Hottenstein, Omar	DoD	Yes
CAPT	Kimsey, C. Dexter (Bo)	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Nelle, Timothy	FDA	Yes
CDR	Bennett, Marco	FDA	Yes
CDR	Davidson, Bryan	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dobmeyer, Anne C.	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dutton, Samuel S.	DHS	Yes
CDR	Glover, Maleeka	CDC	Yes
CDR	Newman, Sara	NPS	Yes
CDR	Saydah, Sharon	CDC	Yes
CDR	Stansberry, John	NIH	Yes
CDR	Zhang, Yi	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Adjemian, Jennifer	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Bjork, Adam	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Bobo, Qiao	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Calanan, Renee	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Carroll, Diana D.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Clayton, Mark	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Cui, Minglei	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Demissie, Zewditu	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Garnett, Theodore	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Geissler, Aimee	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne J.	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Hatch, Arlin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Ivey, Asha Z.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Lu, Xiaowu	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Pamboukian, Ruiqing	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Parks Brown, Sharyn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Purfield, Anne	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Rossiter, Lana	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Samy, Raghu	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Sancho, Alfredo	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Satterfield, William	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Spikes, Pilgrim	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Streeter, Emily	DoD	Yes

LCDR	Tate, Jacqueline	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Thomas, Jennifer Dolan	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Toblin, Robin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Vagi, Sara	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Wally, Jeremy	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	CDC	Yes
LT	Cole, Jessica	FDA	Yes
LT	Cunningham, Timothy	CDC	Yes
LT	Hollis, NaTasha	CDC	Yes
LT	Huang, David	CDC	Yes
LT	Ko, Jean	CDC	Yes
LT	McDaniel, Dawn	CDC	Yes
LT	Nichols, Erin	CDC	Yes
LT	Rodriguez, Michelle	FDA	Yes
LT	Steele, Matthew	FDA	Yes
LT	Tian, Nancy	ASPR	Yes
LT	Tyus, Nadra	HRSA	Yes
LT	Walters, Matthew	FDA	Yes
LT	Wright, Sara	DoD	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
- Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- Leadership Training: “Leadership in the 21st Century-Empowering Women Officers in the US Public Health Service,” will be offered as a preconference session prior to the 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium. The main goal of the course is to inspire women PHS officers and give them the necessary skills and background to be great leaders in the PHS. Participants will learn about leadership tools (theoretical/practical) that can be implemented in any setting and have opportunities to discuss and practice essential leadership skills. Officers will also get an opportunity to directly interact with senior PHS and military leaders. The CPO’s Career Planning session, which is open to all officers, is scheduled immediately following the leadership training. If you are interested in attending these preconference sessions, please register at <http://www.phscofevents.org/Agenda/PreConDetails12.cfm#WomenLead>
<http://www.phscofevents.org/agenda/PreConDetails12.cfm#CPOCareer>
- Billets: New billets system data has been uploaded into Direct Access but has not been launched. The new billets system will not be launched until the conclusion of the 2012 promotion cycle. Therefore, this data is not currently in the officer’s Promotion Information Reports (PIR). The clarification on this matter has been shared through our listserv and states that the “Assignment History” in the PIR is not the grade associated with the officer’s new billet but the current pay grade of the officer. The section of the PIR associated with the billet grade is entitled “Current Assignment.” However, this information has not been changed to reflect billet grade associated with the billets transformation.

- Uniform: Wearing of the Battle Dress Uniform (BDU) will be phased out. Around May, a Personnel Operations Memorandum (POM) is expected to be issued with all the specifications for the wearing of the Operational Dress Uniform (ODU). Officers will have a year from the POM date to obtain the ODU. The ODU is the NOAA version. More to come.

3) Report from the Chair: CDR Karon Abe

- Global Health Campaign Medal & Global Health Initiative Service Medal: Questions on eligibility are listed in the POM 12 -004, 12-005 and PPM 09-002, 09-003
- Assistance with Processing of Corps Scientist Applicants: The category is still seeking information for opportunities to help with the application process for Scientists. Once we receive information on requirements and time commitments, we will send out the request for DC-based officers who are willing to volunteer.

4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- The SciPAC Partnership Survey was released this week via the SciPAC Listserv. The deadline to complete the SciPAC Partnership Survey is Friday 11pm EST (2300 hrs) 23 March 2012. We would appreciate your cooperation in completing the survey to ensure that the information we collect represents our Category membership and activities—thanks to the 42 officers who have already logged in and completed. Please feel free to contact CDR Ryan Novak (bnk4@cdc.gov) with any questions.
- Three new Scientist Category Officers were called to active duty in February. Welcome.

LT Caitilin HAMILL	10-Feb-2012	FDA, Senior Regulatory Mgmt Officer
LCDR Eduardo ONEILL	10-Feb-2012	CDC, Public Health Advisor
LT Nadra TYUS	10-Feb-2012	HRSA, Public Health Analyst

5) Subcommittee Reports

a. **Awards:** LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- The Awards Subcommittee put out a call for Junior and Senior Scientist of the Year Award Nomination packets on 16 February 2012. So far we have received one nomination packet and a few questions regarding the nomination packet requirements. Another call for nomination packets will be going out on the Scientist Listserve this afternoon, the deadline for the receipt of nomination packages is Friday, 16 March 2012.

b. **Career Development:** LCDR Charlene Sydnor; Co-Chair: LCDR Michael Smith

- Officer Basic Course (OBC):
 - Three Scientists graduated from the February OBC class, LCDR Eduardo O'Neill, (CDC, Squad Four Leader), LT Nadra Tyus, (HRSA) and LT Caitilin Hamill, (FDA). LT Jess Cole, (FDA) attended the graduation ceremony as a representative of SciPAC and presented a letter from the CPO and the Scientist coin to these officers.
 - LCDR Adrienne Goodrich-Doctor attended the February OBC Open House as a SciPAC representative to provide guidance to the new scientist officers.
 - A picture of the February OBC class was sent to the website team for posting.
 - Three Scientist officers are scheduled to attend the March OBC, Kelsy Smith (Hoffman, FDA), Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell (ATSDR) and Eric Kebker (Dod).
- SciPAC Handbook team (led by LCDR Zewde Demissie): The team is continuing to review the CV guidelines for consistency with the scientist category benchmarks. The team expects to have their comments to the Executive Board by mid-April 2012.

- Training Session: We have a training session scheduled on the PHS awards process after the April SciPAC teleconference, LCDR Adriana Meyer-Alonzo, (Acting Awards Coordinator, OCCO) has agreed to give this presentation. Slides will be provided as the presentation date nears.
- c. **Category Day**: LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian
- The USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium Scientist Category Day will be held Thursday, 21 June 2012. One change from previous years is that there will not be 1-day rates available unless you are a speaker due to the shortened conference schedule. Current registration rates for COA members are as follows:
 - Early bird rate if scheduled by April 17th: \$295
 - By June 5th: \$395
 - Additional conference information is available at the USPHS Symposium website: <http://www.phscofevents.org/>
- d. **Mentoring**: CDR Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner
- The mentoring subcommittee has drafted a report summarizing the results of the mentoring survey that recently was conducted. The report should be finalized by this Friday. Once finalized, it will be submitted first to CDR Abe and CAPT Williams-Fleetwood for review and approval. After that, the report will be disseminated to the Category. The mentoring subcommittee will give a short presentation summarizing the survey results during Category Day at the 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium. The report will set the work and the path for the mentoring committee not only for this year, but for upcoming years.
- e. **Policy Review**: CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- There were no new policies to review in February.
 - The Subcommittee has been working on brainstorming future directions for the Scientist category for the Strategic Plan and developing a whitepaper on this topic.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness**: LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- As of the beginning March 1, 2011, there are a total of 323 Scientist officers on board
 - 27 Officers listed as “exempt”
 - 39 Officers listed as “not qualified” as follows: O6=22, O5=7, O4=9, O3-1
 - Not including exempt officers, our category is 86.8% qualified
 - There was a big jump from last month in the number of “not qualified” officers (from 18 to 39) and a big decrease in the number of officers listed as “exempt.” These unusual changes may reflect a change in status for many of those who were listed as “exempt” and are now listed as “not qualified.” We have asked OFRD for reasons Scientist Officers are listed as “not qualified,” but have not yet received a response. All Scientist Officers should check their OPF to be sure they are basic qualified. Any outstanding issues must be addressed before the readiness check at the end of this month. Those who are currently up for promotion, but are not “basic ready” at the end of this month, will be removed from promotion consideration.
 - As you know, sometimes CAPT Williams-Fleetwood receives a deployment request for one or more Scientist officers. To facilitate this request and identify appropriate officers, our

subcommittee developed a spreadsheet to capture relevant information; the spreadsheet was distributed last month on the SciPAC listserv. If you are interested in being deployed, please send the completed spreadsheet and a copy of your CV to LCDR Dominic Frasca (Dominic.Frasca@fda.hhs.gov) or LCDR Matthew Breiding (dvi8@cdc.gov).

g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak

- No activity this month to report.

h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CDR Rachel Avchen

- Nothing to report

i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins; Co-Chair: LCDR Ted Garnett

- Thanks to LCDR Steffen and a few other PHS officers who reached out to over 50 students at a recent recruiting event at Johns Hopkins. Also thanks to LT Erin Nichols who will be talking about opportunities within PHS when presenting to an undergraduate course soon. If you have articles or family pictures for the newsletter, please send them to CDR Robbins (Danisha.L.Robbins@US.ARMY.MIL) and CDR Ayala (cia1@cdc.gov).

j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley

- We continue to receive requests to link our website to other websites, indicating the visibility of our site. The newsletter is up, so please take a look at http://www.usphs-scientist.org/newsletter_archive.htm.

6) Liaison Reports

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- Nothing to report on billet transformation.

b. **COF:** LCDR Fuyuen Yip (Acting Liaison for LCDR Tegan Boehmer)

- As of March 1, 2011, our balance is \$3342.62.
- We have an inventory of 43 coins and 48 T-shirts (size S, M, and L). Coins and T-shirts cost \$10 each. To place an order, either: 1) mail-in the order form located on the SciPAC website homepage or 2) send an email to LCDR Yip at fyip@cdc.gov.
- LCDR Fuyuen Yip is filling in as the COF Liaison for LCDR Boehmer while she is on maternity leave during Jan–Mar 2012.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- COA Frontline, March issue – You can read about issues affecting Corps. There is a critical article on the public health science track and COA's struggle to keep that alive. See our Chair, CDR Abe's article on the importance of physical activity at work as part of the National Prevention Strategy. The COF Symposium will occur this year in the DC metro area and registration is now open. You can stay updated on issues related to the Corps on the COA website, and in Frontline (if you are a member). You can renew your COA membership online!

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Scott Steffen

- The Journeyman series is scheduled for 03/09/2012 (1300-1400) the title of the presentation is “**Healthcare Reform Act (Transformation Update).**”

Call in: 1-213-342-3000

Pass code: 6904646

- The Winter issue of the JOAG Journal was just released, so please look for it on the JOAG website soon.
- For all Junior Officers interested in becoming voting members, the application package was sent out via the listserv on 02/22/2012. Applications must be received by COB 03/30/2012. There will be a Q&A session regarding Voting Membership duties and the application process. This session will be recorded and transcribed.

Date and Time: March 7, 2012, from 1200-1300 EST.

Number: 218-936-4700

Passcode: 7919605

For more questions on this session or anything related to voting membership, please contact the Membership Committee Co-Chair, LCDR Irene Chan at Irene.Chan2@fda.hhs.gov

- For those interested in recruitment events, the March Career Fairs List was generated and sent out via the JOAG listserv. Please note that due to recent announcements from DCCPR regarding decreased acceptance of certain professions that certain efforts (i.e. TAPS) will be put on hold until further notice.
- Volunteer opportunities:
 - Any junior officer interested in volunteering at the Officer Basic Course (OBC) Open House or Graduation should contact either LCDR Danso (Benjamin.danso@fda.hhs.gov) or LCDR Scott Steffen (scott.steffen@fda.hhs.gov).
 - A recent announcement for the following volunteer opportunities for the March OBC were recently released:

Date: Sunday, March 11, 2012

Times: 0600 – 0800

Uniform of the Day: Khaki

Need: Four officers to assist with Officer Check-in & Uniform Inventory

Volunteers must be knowledgeable about both Male and Female Uniform Components

Report to: Holiday Inn Gaithersburg, 2 Montgomery Village Avenue, Rockville, Maryland

Date: Sunday, March 11, 2012

Times: 0730 – 1130 (2 officers) and 1100 – 1500 (2 officers)

Uniform of the Day: Khaki

Need: For each of the two shifts will need Two Officers, one to shuttle officers between the training facility in an official 15 passenger van and the other to escort students through NMMC. Volunteers must be knowledgeable about both Male and Female Uniform Components.

Report to: Holiday Inn Gaithersburg, 2 Montgomery Village Avenue, Rockville, Maryland

Date: Friday, March 16, 2012

Times: 0700 – 1000

Uniform of the Day: Service Dress Blue (SDB)

Need: Three Officers to assist with uniform inspections and pinning ceremony

Report to: Holiday Inn Gaithersburg, 2 Montgomery Village Avenue, Rockville, Maryland

Date: Saturday, March 17, 2012

Times: **Time To Be Determined (TBD)**, Point of Contact LCDR Selena Ready (Selena.Ready@fda.hhs.gov) and LCDR Cesar Perez (cesar.perez@fda.hhs.gov)

Uniform of the Day: **PT gear**

Need: **Three Officers to assist with monitoring Annual Physical Fitness Test (APFT). Drivers for two official 15 passenger vans to drive officers to Montgomery County Community College, Rockville Campus and back to Holiday Inn Gaithersburg**

Report to: **Holiday Inn Gaithersburg, 2 Montgomery Village Avenue, Rockville, Maryland**

Date: **Friday, March 23, 2012**

Times: **0700 - 1300**

Uniform of the Day: **Service Dress Blue (SDB)**

Need: **Three Officers to assist with OBC - Graduation**

Report to: **Holiday Inn Gaithersburg, 2 Montgomery Village Avenue, Rockville, Maryland**

All interested officers should contact LT Kevin Kunard (Kevin.kunard@hhs.gov) by COB March 9, 2012. Officer can also email me and I can forward the email to them.

- JOAG awards (due Friday, March 16, 2012). Nomination packages can be found on the JOAG website http://www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/joag/index_files/Awards.htm.
 - **Junior Officer of the Year**
 - **JOAG Excellence Award**
 - **VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration Award**

For any questions pertaining to these awards please contact LCDR Krueger (liatte.krueger@fda.hhs.gov) or LCDR Chadwick (Benjamin.chadwick@ihs.gov).

- There will be a Meet & Greet on the White Oak campus on March 03/20/12. Please bring your USPHS ID.

Tuesday, March 20, 2012: Maryland Region

Time: *12:30 PM – 1:30 PM Eastern Daylight Time*

Location: Food and Drug Administration, White Oak Campus
10903 New Hampshire Ave
Building 2, Conference Room 2047E
Silver Spring, Maryland 20993

- The next JOAG General Membership Meeting is this Friday, April 13 from 1300-1500. Call in number: **218-936-4700, passcode 791-9605**

e. **PSYPAG:** LCDR Jeff Goodie (for CDR Nicole Frazer)

- We are continuing to work with CAPT Williams-Fleetwood, CDR Abe, and CPAB to encourage special pay parity with our DoD colleagues.
- We are continuing work with the HS PAC on their Best Kept Secrets brochure for behavioral health professionals.
- We will be soliciting applications for Psychologist of the Year soon.
- The next PsyPAG DoD Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting is on March 21, 2012, @ 1200 EST dial-in #: 877-691-9937, Passcode: 4549026.
- The next PsyPAG meeting is April 4, 2012 @1200 EST and the dial-in # is: 1-877-691-9937, Passcode: 4549026.

7) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- An announcement calling for officers to volunteer to judge local science fairs recently was distributed on the SciPAC Listserv. This is a great experience, and only takes 5-6 hours of your time. Please consider volunteering!
- Regular Corps Ribbon: A question was raised on the call about whether officers who have not received notification of their assimilation can begin wearing the regular corps ribbon given that new CADs are authorized to wear the ribbon upon completing OBC. We have received the clarification below. Questions can be directed to CDR Clifton Reckley (Clifton.Reckley@hhs.gov), the assimilation coordinator prior to ACA.
 - All newly commissioned officers are being called to duty in the Regular Corps, as the Reserve Corps is nonexistent at this time (a consequence from Affordable Care Act - ACA). All students graduating from OBC are authorized to wear the Regular Corps ribbon as their orders specifically call them into the Regular Corps.
 - Officers who are waiting for their call to the Regular Corps are not authorized to wear the Regular Corps ribbon until they receive their Regular Corps Orders, which is “right around the corner.”

8) Closing Remarks: CDR Karon Abe

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, April 3, 2012 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, April 3, 2012
1100-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2011/2012 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Yes
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Yes
LCDR	Boehmer, Tegan	COF Liaison	Yes
CDR	Aponte, Boris	Mentoring Chair	Yes
CDR	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Excused
CAPT	Bensyl, Diana	Mentoring co-Chair	Excused
LCDR	Breiding, Matt	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Chair	Yes
LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
CDR	Nicole Frazer	Policy Review Chair, PSYPAG Liaison	Yes
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Yes
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Excused
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Yes
Dr.	Meechan, Paul	Civil Service Representative	Excused
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Yes
CDR	Matthew Newland	Ex-Officio	Yes
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Excused
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science	Yes
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Yes
LCDR	Xu, Fei	Awards Co-Chair	Yes
Other SciPAC Roles held by Nonvoting Members			
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	Excused
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	JOAG Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	Acting COF Liaison	Yes

Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Benally, Christine J.	HHS	Yes
CAPT	Daugherty, Jon	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Massoudi, Mehran	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Murry, Michael	BOP	Yes
CAPT	Nelle, Timothy	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Spears, Ross	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Thoroughman, Doug	CDC	Yes
CDR	Barnes, Vincen	BOP	Yes
CDR	Bennett, Marco	FDA	Yes
CDR	Chu, Dan-My T.	FDA	Yes
CDR	Clingman, Chekesha S.	FDA	Yes
CDR	Fleischauer, Aaron	CDC	Yes
CDR	Hunter, Christopher L.	DoD	Yes
CDR	Laird, David	FDA	Yes
CDR	Methner, Mark	CDC	Yes
CDR	Seo, Paul	FDA	Yes
CDR	Zhang, Yi	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Adjemian, Jennifer	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Bobo, Qiao	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Bodart , Jennifer	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Bonzagni, Neil	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Carroll, Diana D.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Clayton, Mark	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Dee, Deborah	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Demissie, Zewditu	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Gardner, Tracie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Garnett, Theodore	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Geissler, Aimee	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Jentes, Emily	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Lowther, Sara	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Lu, Xiaowu	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Northbrook, Sanny Chen	CDC	Yes
LCDR	O'Neill, Eduardo	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Pamboukian, Ruiqing	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Pauli, Ingrid	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Rossiter, Lana	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Samy, Raghu	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Spikes, Pilgrim	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Tate, Jacqueline	CDC	Yes

LCDR	Vagi, Sara	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Zhou, Eric	NIH	Yes
LT	Cole, Jessica	FDA	Yes
LT	Hoffman, Kelsy	FDA	Yes
LT	Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth	ATSDR	Yes
LT	Nichols, Erin	CDC	Yes
LT	Parker, Erin	CDC	Yes
LT	Rivera, Luz	FDA	Yes
LT	Rodriguez, Michelle	FDA	Yes
LT	Steele, Matthew	FDA	Yes
LT	Tian, Nancy	ASPR	Yes
LT	Tyus, Nadra	HRSA	Yes
LT	Wright, Sara	DoD	Yes
	Muniz Ortiz, Jorge	EPA	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
 - Please email CDR Eaton of your attendance. We track attendance for two important reasons 1) attendance data are reviewed when an officer applies for a voting member position; 2) we need to make sure we have a large enough bridge line capacity. Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- Retirement: RADM Chris Halliday, our Chief of Staff, is retiring in May after 24 years of service to the Corps. We want to wish him all the best in the next phase of his career as the Dean of the A.T. Still University, Missouri School of Dentistry and Oral Health, Kirksville, Mo.
- Surgeon General’s Report: On March 8th, “Surgeon General’s Report, Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults” was released. This report provides further scientific evidence of the addictive nature of nicotine. It also indicates the younger individuals are that start smoking, the more likely they are to become addicted and the more heavily addicted. I urge each of you through your visibility efforts in your communities to please continue to educate our youth and do what you can to help prevent children from using tobacco. No educational effort is too small.
- Billets: Officers and supervisors were sent emails in mid-March which included the final official billet (position) resulting from the Billet Collection System process (6,000+). There are an additional 400+ billets (including CADs and transfers) that are being worked on so that they can also be completed and uploaded into Direct Access.
- Appointment Boards: On behalf of the Category, I want to thank all of our Senior Scientists that serve on the Scientist Category Appointment Board. The Board is meeting at a greater frequency to address our current number of applicants. Your dedication to the Category and the Corps is truly appreciated.
- Alternate Work Schedule Policy: This policy is being drafted to allow for greater flexibility. More to come.

- “Deemed Regular Corps”: DCCPR will start to issue personnel orders in April appointing officers that were active duty in the Reserve Corps at the date (23 March 10) of the enactment of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to the Regular Corps. Once the personnel orders for appointing officers to the Regular Corps are processed, the orders for permanent grade promotions for 2010 and 2012 will be processed. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Deemed Regular Corps provision of the ACA were posted as an addendum to the Bulletin on the web today.

3) **Report from the Chair:** CDR Karon Abe

- Recruitment Pamphlet: The Scientist Best Kept Secrets pamphlet is posted online on our website. Thank you for the officers who submitted photos. We had to select photos of officers in uniform. This pamphlet can be used as a recruiting tool and will be updated annually. I will be getting color copies made and will send those on to the visibility subcommittee for distribution.
- Chain of Command: Leadership again encourages officers to communicate through appropriate channels (SciPAC, CPO). In the recent past officers have broken ranks and written HHS directly and this is not productive during a time when we are already under a microscope.
- Scientist Category Relevance and Visibility: The Executive Board is currently discussing the implementation of the recommendations for the Scientist Category relevance and visibility document set by the Policy subcommittee. More to come.

4) **Report from Vice Chair:** CDR Ryan Novak

- SciPAC Partnership Survey: The SciPAC Partnership Survey closed this past Friday. Thanks to the officers that took the time to complete this short survey. A preliminary look suggests that the results will be representative of the category based on agency and rank. Data cleaning and analysis is ongoing. The information from this report will be considered by the Partnership WG and will form the basis of recommendations of priority partners for our Category.
- Three new Scientist Category Officers were called to active duty in March. Welcome.
 - LT ERIC KEBKER 04 March 2012 DOD
 - LT KELSY HOFFMAN 09 March 2012 FDA
 - LT ELIZABETH IRVIN-BARNWELL 09 March 2012 CDC

5) **Subcommittee Reports**

a. **Awards:** LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- The Awards Subcommittee received a larger than normal response to our request for nomination packets for the Junior and Senior Scientist Officer of the Year Award. The assigned judging committee is now in possession of these nomination packets and is in the process of reviewing and ranking each candidate.
- On behalf of the SciPAC Awards Subcommittee I would like to thank those Officers who took time out of their busy day to nominate a fellow Scientist for these prestigious awards, those Scientists who self-nominated, and the judging committee who has taken on the daunting task of reviewing and ranking such a large number of nomination packets.

b. **Career Development:** LCDR Charlene Sydnor; Co-chair: LCDR Michael Smith

- Officer Basic Course (OBC):

- Three Scientists graduated from the March OBC class, LT Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell (ATSDR-CDC), LT Kelsy Hoffman (FDA) and LT Eric Kebker (DoD). LT Irvin-Barnwell was the leader of Squad two. LT Hoffman was a member of the honor squad.
- LCDR Raghu Samy represented SciPAC at the March OBC Open House and provided guidance to new scientist officers.
- LCDR Eric Zhou and LCDR Mike Smith attended the graduation ceremony as representatives of SciPAC and presented Scientist coins and letters from CAPT Williams-Fleetwood to the graduates.
- A picture of the Scientist officers participating in and attending the March 2012 OBC graduation was sent to CDR Wei Guo for posting on the SciPAC website.
- Four Scientist officers are scheduled to attend the April OBC, these officers are: Sarah Angstman (IHS), Deanna Beech (DoD), Shane Eynon (DoD) and John Pesce (NIH).
- SciPAC Handbook (led by LCDR Zewde Demissie):
 - The team is continuing to review the CV guidelines for consistency with the scientist category benchmarks. The team expects to have their comments to the Executive Board by mid-April 2012.
- Training Session:
 - There will be a presentation after today's SciPAC teleconference on the Commissioned Corps Awards program by LCDR Adriana Meyer-Alonzo, the Acting Awards Coordinator, Office of the Commissioned Corps Operations. This presentation will start at 11:45 am, unless the speaker is unavailable then, in that case, it will start at noon using the same call-in information. The presentation slides were provided in an e-mail dated 27 March 2012 from CDR Eaton.

c. **Category Day:** LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian

- The 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held 19-21 June 2012 (Tuesday-Thursday) at the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland with the Scientist Category Day being held Thursday, 21 June 2012.
- The Scientist Category Day Agenda will include:

9:00-9:15	Introductory Remarks
9:15-10:15	RADM Ali Khan (Keynote Speaker)
10:15-10:45	Integrating the Nation's Food Testing Laboratories for Emergency Response
10:45-11:15	USPHS Community Health and Service Missions (CHASMs)
11:15-Noon	Break
Noon-1:30	Lunch (awards, SciPAC leadership updates, mentoring subcommittee updates, Surgeon General visit)
1:30- 2:30	USPHS Panel: Discussion of Careers After Retiring from the Corps
2:30-2:45	Break
2:45-3:15	The Association of Meal Practices and Snack Availability with Fruit and Vegetable Intake among High School Students — United States, 2010
3:15-3:45	Rickettsia Parkeri Infection Detected by Polymerase Chain Reaction Amplification from Eschar Swab Specimens: A Novel Diagnostic Approach for a Rare Condition.
3:45-4:00	Break

4:00-4:30	Characteristics of Fatal Abusive Head Trauma Among Children in the USA— 2003-2007: An Application of the CDC Operational Case Definition
4:30-5:00	RIST-NCR: the Perfect Combination of Leadership and Deployment for Scientist Officers
5:00-5:15	Closing Remarks
5:30	USPHS Conference Closing Ceremonies
6:00-8:30	Scientist Category Social at Hard Times Café in College Park, MD

- For officers interested in sharing a hotel room, opening your home to visiting officers, or staying at an officer's home in the DC area, please enter your information into the following Google document database sponsored by DC COA:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/cc?key=0Akhy3CsG18QadHg2Y3diZ24tR1VsbnpSOTJGUW92Unc>
- Special thanks and acknowledgment of the Category Day Subcommittee members for all of their work:
 - LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Co-chair)
 - LT Mark Miller
 - LCDR Mark Clayton
 - LCDR Deborah Dee
 - LCDR Danielle Iuliano
 - LCDR Stephanie Rutledge
 - LCDR Robin Toblin
 - LCDR Stephanie Rutledge
 - LCDR Sara Vagi
 - CDR Samuel Dutton
 - CDR Margo Riggs
 - CDR John Stansberry
 - CAPT Mehran Massoudi (Senior Advisor)

d. **Mentoring:** CDR Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner

- On March 21st, the mentoring subcommittee submitted a report to the SciPAC Chair that laid out results and recommendations from the category-wide survey. This report sets the ground for the focus of the subcommittee for the next 2-3 years. By the end of this year, the subcommittee will be developing new processes for matching Mentors and Mentees. At the present time, the Mentor-Mentee Agreement project is being implemented.
- Mentor-Mentee Agreement: The SciPAC Mentoring Subcommittee is in the process of making changes to the Mentoring Program to better assist our officers. We are asking that all officers that were paired with a mentor through the SciPAC Mentoring Program contact their mentor to discuss and complete the NEW SciPAC Mentorship Agreement Form (form available at SciPAC website). If you were not assigned a mentor through the program but have identified your own mentor (within the Scientist Category) we also encourage you to work with that officer to complete the agreement so that your mentoring relationship is on file. Officers are asked to return the completed SciPAC Mentorship Agreement Form to LCDR Adrienne Goodrich-Doctor by email (goodrichdoctoaj@niaid.nih.gov) or by fax (301-480-5752) by COB, April 20, 2012. You can also contact LCDR Goodrich-Doctor for questions.

e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui

- There were no new policies to review in March.
 - The Committee did complete a task to examine future directions for the Scientist category for relevance and visibility. We submitted a whitepaper to the SciPAC Executive Board and met with the Board members on 26 March 2012 to review the recommendations.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- As of the beginning of April 2012, there are a total of 327 Scientist officers on board
 - 28 Officers listed as “exempt”
 - 39 Officers listed as “not qualified” as follows: O6=22, O5=7, O4=10
 - Not including exempt officers, our category is 87.0% qualified
 - These numbers are relatively unchanged from last month when we noted that there had been a significant increase in Scientist officers deemed as exempt, with the number more than doubling from the previous month. Despite attempts to identify whether this represents a change in how readiness is calculated, or perhaps simply a glitch in the database from which we run these numbers, the reason for this change remains unclear. However, the solution for officers remains unchanged and that is to check you readiness status and attempt to identify the reason why you do not qualify. If it is unclear why you are unqualified OFRD has set up a web-based Readiness Assistance Form (http://dcp.psc.gov/ccmis/ofrd/readiness_assistance_form.htm).
- g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak
- There was no subcommittee activity this past month.
 - The 2012 call for SciPAC voting membership will be released next month.
 - Officers may recall that in 2011 the Rules and Membership subcommittee submitted a proposal that was approved by the SciPAC Executive Board to have five current voting members extend their current term by one year so that we can restore the balance of voting membership turn over each year— 6/6/7 slots every three years (see minutes from May 2011). This year there will be 7 slots for the nomination board to consider.
 - Becoming an officially appointed member of the SciPAC is an important Commissioned Corps activity that can open up opportunities to participate in Category and Corps initiatives.
 - Keep an eye out for this communication on the listserv early next month.
- h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CDR Rachel Avchen
- Nothing to report.
- i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins; Co-chair: LCDR Ted Garnett
- There is a volunteer effort at USA Science and Engineering Festival at the end of this month (April 28-29) SciPAC and DC COA will have a booth in the exhibit area. We are seeking volunteers for this event. Contact LCDR Ted Garnett theodore.garnett@fda.hhs.gov if you are interested.
- j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley
- Nothing to report.

6) Liaison Reports

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- Nothing to report.

b. **COF:** LCDR Tegan Boehmer

- As of April 1, 2012, our balance is \$3346.62.
- We have an inventory of 43 coins and 47 T-shirts (size S, M, and L).
- SciPAC donated one Medium T-shirt to be used as a door prize for the FDA USPHS Commissioned Corps Awareness Day on April 17, 2012.
- There is new policy regarding shipping costs for purchases of SciPAC merchandise. Unfortunately, we will no longer be able to offer free shipping. We will be shipping merchandise using the US Postal Service and the purchaser will be responsible for paying for shipping. Because shipping costs will vary depending upon the type and quantity of items purchased, please contact LCDR Boehmer for shipping cost prior to mailing in your payment. Effort will be made to keep shipping costs at a minimum (e.g., Flat Rate Priority Mail boxes and envelopes are a great deal for shipping multiple coins).
- Thank you to LCDR Fuyuen Yip for filling in as the COF Liaison while I was on maternity leave.
- Coins and T-shirts cost \$10 each. To place an order, complete the order form located on the SciPAC website homepage and contact LCDR Boehmer for shipping cost. Phone: 770-488-3714 or E-mail: tboehmer@cdc.gov

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- No report

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Scott Steffen

- 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium
 - CPR training will be available at the conference.
 - Please be aware that there are scholarships available for Junior Officers to help pay for their attendance to the conference. The funds for these scholarships are raised by the selling of JOAG merchandise during OBC or other events.
 - The JOAG 10 year anniversary will be celebrated at this year's COF conference. As a part of this celebration, JOAG is creating a poster commemorating this anniversary and making a video. If anyone has photos from past JOAG events, please contact me and I can forward them to the group.
 - There will not be a Surgeon General's 5K this year. In substitution, an APFT will be held on June 20th from 0600-0800. (This event is free.) Officers can register for the APFT on the COF website (<http://phscofevents.org/>).
 - Volunteer opportunities:
 - A call for volunteers for community service will be sent out through the JOAG Listserv. The effort will be held at New Hope Academy on 17-18 June 2012.
 - A call for volunteers to assist as session moderators at the training symposium will be issued in the future.
- The next Journeyman series is scheduled for 11 March 2012 (1300-1400) the title of the presentation is TBA (call in: 1-213-342-3000; passcode: 6904646).

- For all Officers in the DC metro area, there will be an FDA PHS Awareness Day on Tuesday, 17 April 2012 from 1100-1300. It will be held in Campus Building 31 in the Great Room. It is a great way to meet other officers at the FDA and a great opportunity for officers outside the FDA to get information about potential positions. A variety of groups will be represented at this event. In addition, JOAG will be hosting a Uniform Inspection Booth.
- There will be a Meet and Greet on 13 April 2012 from 1230-1300, which will be in conjunction with the JOAG general meeting at 1300-1400. The details are provided in the minutes. The meeting will be held Tower Building off of Wootton Parkway. Officers must bring their CAC card and are responsible for parking.
 - Friday 13 April 2012: Washington DC and the DC Metro Area
 - Time: 1230 - 1300 (EDT), JOAG General Meeting 1300-1500 (EDT)
 - Location: 1101 Wootton Parkway – Tower Building
Tower Building Training Room
A-side, Plaza Level
Rockville, MD 20852
 - Parking: There is a visitor's lot in front of the building which costs \$8 for 4 hours and there is street metered parking.
 - Security: Please bring your uniformed services (CAC) or work ID card.
- The next JOAG General Membership Meeting is this Friday, 13 April 2012 from 1300-1500. Call in number: 218-936-4700, passcode 791-9605

e. **PSYPAG:** CDR Nicole Frazer

- We are continuing to work with CAPT Williams-Fleetwood, CDR Abe, and the Compensation Policy Advisory Board to encourage special pay parity with our DoD colleagues.
- We solicited applications for Psychologist of the Year which were due 30 March 2012.
- The next PsyPAG DoD Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting is on 16 May 2012, @ 1200 EST (dial-in #: 877-691-9937, passcode: 4549026).
- The next PsyPAG meeting is 6 April 2012 (dial-in # is: 1-877-691-9937, passcode: 4549026).

7) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- None

8) Closing Remarks: CDR Karon Abe

- None

9) Post-Call Presentation: "The Commissioned Corps Awards Program." Speaker: LCDR Adriana Meyer-Alonzo, the Acting Awards Coordinator, Office of Commissioned Corps Operations

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, May 1, 2012 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, May 1, 2012
1100-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2011/2012 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Yes
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Yes
LCDR	Boehmer, Tegan	COF Liaison	Yes
CDR	Aponte, Boris	Mentoring Chair	Yes
CDR	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Excused
CAPT	Bensyl, Diana	Mentoring co-Chair	Excused
LCDR	Breiding, Matt	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Chair	Yes
LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
CDR	Nicole Frazer	Policy Review Chair, PSYPAG Liaison	Yes
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Excused
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Yes
Dr.	Meechan, Paul	Civil Service Representative	Excused
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Excused
CDR	Matthew Newland	Ex-Officio	Yes
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Yes
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science	Yes
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Excused
LCDR	Xu, Fei	Awards Co-Chair	Yes
Other SciPAC Roles held by Nonvoting Members			
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	JOAG Liaison	Yes

Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Brett, Kate	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Daugherty, Jon	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Hendricks, M. Thomas	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Massoudi, Mehran	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Murry, Michael	BOP	Yes
CAPT	Spears, Ross	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Thoroughman, Doug	CDC	Yes
CDR	Bennett, Marco	FDA	Yes
CDR	Chu, Dan-My T.	FDA	Yes
CDR	Clingman, Chekesha S.	FDA	Yes
CDR	Davidson, Bryan	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dobmeyer, Anne C.	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dutton, Samuel S.	DHS	Yes
CDR	Glover, Maleeka	CDC	Yes
CDR	Laird, David	FDA	Yes
CDR	Schneider, Diana	ICE	Yes
CDR	Schuyler, Donna	BOP	Yes
CDR	Sharma, Andrea	CDC	Yes
CDR	Zapata, Lauren B.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Adjemian, Jennifer	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Bobo, Qiao	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Bodart , Jennifer	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Bonzagni, Neil	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Carroll, Diana D.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Clayton, Mark	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Cui, Minglei	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Dee, Deborah	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Demby, M. Lela	BOP	Yes
LCDR	Frasca, Dominic	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Garnett, Theodore	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Goodie, Jeffrey L.	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne J.	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Hatch, Arlin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Iuliano, A. Danielle	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Pamboukian, Ruiqing	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Perrine, Cria Gregory	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Rossiter, Lana	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Samy, Raghu	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Satterfield, William	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Spikes, Pilgrim	CDC	Yes

LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Tate, Jacqueline	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Toblin, Robin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Vagi, Sara	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Zhou, Eric	NIH	Yes
LT	Cole, Jessica	FDA	Yes
LT	Gaines, Joanna	CDC	Yes
LT	Garrett, Tiana	CDC	Yes
LT	Grant, Yoran	CDC	Yes
LT	Hassan, Iram R.	FDA	Yes
LT	Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth	ATSDR	Yes
LT	Kebker, Eric	DoD	Yes
LT	McDaniel, Dawn	CDC	Yes
LT	Miller, Mark	EPA	Yes
LT	Rivera, Luz	FDA	Yes
LT	Steele, Matthew	FDA	Yes
LT	Tian, Nancy	ASPR	Yes
LT	Tyus, Nadra	HRSA	Yes
LT	Wright, Sara	DoD	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
- Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- **“Deemed Regular Corps”:** Reminder that DCCPR will start to issue personnel orders in April appointing officers that were active duty in the Reserve Corps at the date (23 March 2010) of the enactment of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to the Regular Corps. Once the personnel orders for appointing officers to the Regular Corps are processed, which may take a few months, the orders for permanent grade promotions for 2010 and 2012 will be processed. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Deemed Regular Corps provision of the ACA are posted as an addendum to the Bulletin on the web.
- **Uniform:** Reminder that wearing of the Battle Dress Uniform (BDU) will be phased out. Around May, a Personnel Operations Memorandum (POM) is expected to be issued with all the specifications for the wearing of the Operational Dress Uniform (ODU). Officers will have a year from the POM date to obtain the ODU. The ODU is the NOAA version.
- **Billets:** All officers are receiving personnel orders as a step in the process of the billet/position transformation. Officers will notice the changes to their Promotion Information Report (PIR). Changes to the PIR will continue until September 2012 (see the Billet/Position Message sent to all officers for more details).
- **COF Meeting:** No information is available yet on the waiver for approving agencies to cover meeting-related expenses. The early bird registration is extended until 4 May 2012. Many officers are registering for the conference at their own expense.

- Applications: Good progress continues on the existing applicant pool for the Corps. Cohort 1 consisting of 300+ officers are all professionally boarded and await Senate confirmation. Cohort 2 of 500+ officers should all be professionally boarded by the end of April or early May. In another month the remaining officers should be professionally boarded and will await Senate confirmation.
- NPS: The CPOs received feedback from the OSG on our draft National Prevention Strategy implementation plans. We will determine the appropriate next steps for our category.

3) **Report from the Chair:** CDR Karon Abe

- National Incident Support Teams/Regional IST Teams: The current team leads are rolling off in June. If you are interested in one of these positions, please contact the current Team Lead.
- Uniforms: Salt and pepper uniforms may be brought back. This is not an official announcement. Stay tuned for more information.

4) **Report from Vice Chair:** CDR Ryan Novak

- Nothing to report.

5) **Subcommittee Reports**

a. **Awards:** LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- Nothing to report.

b. **Career Development:** LCDR Charlene Sydnor; Co-chair: LCDR Michael Smith

- OBC:
 - Three Scientists graduated from the April OBC class: LT John Pesce (NIH), LT Sarah Angstman (IHS) and LT Shane Eynon (DOD). LT Pesce was the Executive Officer of the class.
 - LT Jess Cole attended the April OBC Open House as a SciPAC representative to provide guidance to new scientist officers.
 - LCDR Mark Clayton and LCDR Mike Smith attended the graduation ceremony as representatives of SciPAC and presented Scientist coins and letters from CAPT Williams-Fleetwood to these officers.
 - A picture of the Scientist officers participating in and attending the April 2012 OBC graduation was sent to CDR Wei Guo for posting on the SciPAC website.
 - Three Scientist officers are scheduled to attend the May OBC, these officers are: Madeline Maysonet-Gonzalez (BOP), Sara Villarreal (DOD) and Juliana Zucco (CMS).
- SciPAC Handbook
 - The team is continuing to review the CV guidelines for consistency with the scientist category benchmarks. The timeline for submitting comments has been pushed back. The team expects to have their comments to the Executive Board by mid-May 2012.
 - The Career Development Subcommittee will begin reviewing the 2013 Category Benchmarks this month for any edits that should be applied to the 2014 Benchmarks.
- Training Session: There are no training sessions scheduled for the near future. If someone has a topic they would like to have discussed, please e-mail LCDR Charlene Sydnor (sydnorc@od.nih.gov) or LCDR Mike Smith (Michael.Smith2@fda.hhs.gov).
- Top 10 Tips for New Officers: A group of officers is updating this list that will be handed out at OBC open houses and/or graduation events. This list will also be added to the "Officer Resources" section of the Scientist category website. Officers working on this revised

document include the following: LT Kelsy Hoffman, LT Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell, LCDR Zewditu Demissie, LCDR Charlene Sydnor and LCDR Mike Smith.

- c. **Category Day:** LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian
- Reminder that the 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held 19-21 June 2012 at the University of Maryland with Scientist Category Day that Thursday, 21 May 2012. Please refer to the USPHS Symposium website <http://www.phscofevents.org/> for registration and additional information.
 - The Scientist category social will be held that Thursday night at Hard Times Café from 5:30 – 8:00 PM immediately following Scientist Category Day and the USPHS Symposium closing ceremonies. The address is 4738 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD. Carpooling will be arranged during category day from the conference for people without vehicles. ALL officers are welcome! Even if you are unable to attend the USPHS Symposium please join us for the scientist category social.
- d. **Mentoring:** CDR Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner
- We continue to collect the mentor/mentee contract agreement documents. Officers are asked to return the completed SciPAC Mentorship Agreement Form to LCDR Adrienne Goodrich-Doctor by email (goodrichdoctoaj@niaid.nih.gov) or by fax (301-480-5752). During the upcoming weeks, the committee member will start following-up on those. The document is posted on the SciPAC website at [http://www.usphs-scientist.org/documents/activities_content/Mentor-MenteeAgreement\(March21-2012\).pdf](http://www.usphs-scientist.org/documents/activities_content/Mentor-MenteeAgreement(March21-2012).pdf). For questions you can contact LCDR Goodrich-Doctor.
 - The Subcommittee will be making a very short presentation on the results from the mentoring survey and plans for the future at lunch time during Category Day at the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium.
 - The Subcommittee thanks all officers who have recently volunteered to serve as mentors. We continue to accept volunteers.
 - Officers interested in being assigned a mentor or becoming a mentor should contact CAPT Diana Bensyl (zqg6@cdc.gov), CDR Methner (mmm5@cdc.gov), or CDR Aponte (Boris.Aponte@AHRQ.hhs.gov).
- e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- There were no new policies to review in April.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- We have not received the basic readiness numbers for May. I will report on these numbers, and the numbers for June, during next month's call.
 - All officers should check their basic readiness. If you have any questions, or need any help in securing basic readiness standards, feel free to contact LCDR Matthew Breiding (dvi8@cdc.gov) or someone else on the committee. We will be happy to assist you.
- g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak
- The 2012 call for SciPAC voting membership with nomination form has been released via the listserv. This year there will be 7 slots for the nomination board to consider. Becoming an officially appointed member of the SciPAC is an important Commissioned Corps activity that can

open up opportunities to participate in Category and Corps initiatives. Commissioned Corps and Civil Service scientists interested in serving are encouraged to self-nominate. Interested individuals should submit a one-page cover letter describing interest and SciPAC activities, a current curriculum vitae summary page, and completed SciPAC self-nomination form signed by the officer and their supervisor. Please direct any questions to CDR Novak (bnk4@cdc.gov).

h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CDR Rachel Avchen

- All officers are encouraged to list their USPHS affiliation in professional publications and presentations.

i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins; Co-chair: LCDR Ted Garnett

- LCDR Ted Garnett participated in the USPHS exhibit booth at the 2012 USA Science and Engineering Festival last weekend (28-29 April 2012) where over 20 officers volunteered (including 8 scientist officers).
- LCDR Fuyen Yip along with LCDR Gardner and LCDR Boehmer volunteered in the annual TB Awareness Walk on 24 March 2012.
- LT Erin Nichols represented Scientists well when she gave 2 lectures to undergraduate classes at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA and presented at the annual Fed CASIC conference in Washington, DC. She provided information on USPHS as a whole.
- The next edition of the Scientist Newsletter is coming out soon, but e-mail CDR Robbins (Danisha.L.Robbins@US.ARMY.MIL) or CDR Ayala (CAyala@cdc.gov) with any articles to submit or photos as those are always welcome.

j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley

- All requests to add new information or update information on the SciPAC website have been addressed.

6) Liaison Reports

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- I have received a number of emails and phone calls about the documents that have been added to Officers eOPF. On 16 April 2012, CDR Karon Abe sent an email to the Scientist ListServe title "Billet-Positions Message" with an attached document that addresses the recent personnel orders. I implore all officers to read this document. If after reading the document you still have question(s), please do not hesitate to contact me at facey.judy@epa.gov.
- I would like to thank CAPTs Kevin McGuinness and Pamela Ching and CDR Matt Newland for all their hard work in assisting the Scientist category through the billet process. A special thank you to CAPT Williams-Fleetwood who has worked tirelessly (sometimes late into the night) to help us resolve a number of issues.

b. **COF:** LCDR Tegan Boehmer

- As of 1 May 2012, our balance is \$3346.62.
- We have an inventory of 33 coins and 47 T-shirts (size S, M, and L).
- We have ordered an additional 300 coins which will be received by the end of May.
- As mentioned last month, SciPAC will no longer be able to offer free shipping for merchandise orders. However, officers attending the USPHS Scientific and Training

Symposium can pick-up items in person without incurring shipping expenses. Scientist coins and t-shirts will be available for purchase during Scientist Category Day. If you would like to pick-up a large order of either coins or t-shirts at the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium, please let LCDR Boehmer know in advance so we make sure to bring enough merchandise.

- The Executive Board is considering adding an additional merchandise item to sell as a fund-raising endeavor for SciPAC. Please let LCDR Boehmer know if you have any ideas for new items (general USPHS or Scientist category-specific) or would like to offer your design skills in developing graphics for new merchandise.
- Coins and T-shirts cost \$10 each. To place an order, complete the order form located on the SciPAC website homepage and contact LCDR Boehmer for shipping cost. Phone: 770-488-3714 or E-mail: tboehmer@cdc.gov.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- No report

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Scott Steffen

- 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium
 - Please be aware that there are scholarships available for Junior Officers to help pay for their attendance to the conference. The funds for these scholarships are raised by the selling of JOAG merchandise during OBC or other events.
 - There is a room share program for out of state officers, which can be located at the following link.
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Akhy3CsG18QadHg2Y3diZ24tR1VsbnpSOTJGUW92Unc>
 - The JOAG Social/10 year anniversary will be Wednesday 20 June 2012 at the Stamp Student Union from 1930-2130. As a part of this celebration, JOAG is creating a poster and video commemorating this anniversary. This event is a great networking opportunity and will provide an overview of the 10 years of JOAG. A nominal fee of \$10-\$15 (not confirmed) will be collected and food will be provided. The uniform for this event will be civilian casual dress. An email containing further information and how to RSVP will be sent soon.
 - There will not be a Surgeon General's 5K this year. In substitution, the 1st Annual Officer Fitness Challenge will be held on 20 June from 1830-2030 at the Kehoe Track. Information about this event has been sent out via the listserv earlier today. Officers must register for this event (<http://pfsapft2012.eventbrite.com>). APFT T-shirts will be available for purchase before and during the symposium.
 - There will be a Community outreach project on Monday 18 June 2012 at the New Hope Academy and Charles Carroll Middle School in Prince George's County.
 - There will be a uniform inspection booth during the symposium. Any Junior officers interested in volunteering at the booth should contact LCDR Skip Payne at skip.payne@hhs.gov.
- For all FDA Junior Officers, a FDA PHS pilot shadowing program will be starting soon on the White Oak Campus. Further information will be distributed soon.
- Over 38 nominations were received for this year's JOAG awards. Presently, applications are being de-identified in preparation for review.

- The Winter edition of the JOAG Journal was distributed through the JOAG listserv. The Spring edition is presently being edited and is anticipated to be released within the next couple of weeks.
- The next two Journeyman series is scheduled for 11 May 2012 and 13 June 2012 (1300-1400) the titles of the presentations are TBA.
 - The call in number is 1-213-342-3000. The pass code is 6904646.
- The next JOAG General Membership Meeting is this Friday 8 June 2012 from 1300-1500. The call in number is 218-936-4700. The passcode is 791-9605.

e. **PSYPAG:** CDR Nicole Frazer

- We are continuing to work on special pays. Our PsyPAG Chair, LCDR Jeff Goodie, attended the Compensation Policy Advisory Board (CPAB) meeting on 18 April 2012 with CAPT Williams-Fleetwood to continue to discuss the special pays issue.
- This year PsyPAG established a Science committee to promote the exchange of scientific information and psychologist involvement in presentations and publications. The committee recently distributed to the PsyPAG membership a list of 18 conferences attended by Psychologists and abstract submission due dates. The committee has also been working to develop a PsyPAG vita that lists recent publications and conference presentations by PsyPAG members.
- We are expecting the announcement of the Psychologist of the Year shortly.
- We are planning a lunch for psychologists at the COA conference on Wednesday, 20 June 212 @ 1200. More details to follow.
- To learn more about PsyPAG members can go to: <http://usphs-hso.org/?q=pags/psypag>
- If you are a psychologist and would like to join PsyPAG please contact: LCDR William "Tony" Satterfield (william.satterfield@tma.osd.mil).
- The next PsyPAG DoD Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting is on 16 May 2012, @ 1200 EST dial-in #: 877-691-9937, Passcode: 4549026.
- The next PsyPAG meeting is 6 June 2012 and the dial-in # is: 1-877-691-9937, Passcode: 4549026. The guest speaker will be CAPT John Golden from the DoD Deployment Health Clinical Center.

7) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- None

8) Closing Remarks: CDR Karon Abe

- None

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, June 5, 2012 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 5, 2012
1100-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2011/2012 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Yes
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Yes
LCDR	Boehmer, Tegan	COF Liaison	Yes
CDR	Aponte, Boris	Mentoring Chair	Yes
CDR	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Yes
CAPT	Bensyl, Diana	Mentoring co-Chair	Excused
LCDR	Breiding, Matt	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Chair	Yes
LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
CDR	Nicole Frazer	Policy Review Chair, PSYPAG Liaison	Yes
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Yes
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Yes
Dr.	Meechan, Paul	Civil Service Representative	Yes
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Yes
CDR	Newland, Matthew	Ex-Officio	Excused
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Excused
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science	Yes
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Yes
LCDR	Xu, Fei	Awards Co-Chair	Yes
Other SciPAC Roles held by Nonvoting Members			
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	Excused
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	JOAG Liaison	Yes

Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Hendricks, M. Thomas	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Massoudi, Mehran	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Murry, Michael	BOP	Yes
CAPT	Nelle, Timothy	FDA	Yes
CDR	Bennett, Marco	FDA	Yes
CDR	Bhagwat, Aditya	DoD	Yes
CDR	Clingman, Chekesha S.	FDA	Yes
CDR	Davidson, Bryan	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dobmeyer, Anne C.	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dutton, Samuel S.	DHS	Yes
CDR	Glover, Maleeka	CDC	Yes
CDR	Seo, Paul	FDA	Yes
CDR	Stansberry, John	NIH	Yes
CDR	Zhang, Yi	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Adjemian, Jennifer	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Bobo, Qiao	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Bodart , Jennifer	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Clayton, Mark	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Garnett, Theodore	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Geissler, Aimee	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Goodie, Jeffrey L.	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne J.	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Hatch, Arlin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Ivey, Asha Z.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	McCollum, Andrea	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Pamboukian, Ruiqing	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Parks Brown, Sharyn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Perez, Cesar	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Purfield, Anne	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Satterfield, William	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Spikes, Pilgrim	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Streeter, Emily	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Tate, Jacqueline	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Toblin, Robin	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Vagi, Sara	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Wally, Jeremy	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Zhou, Eric	NIH	Yes

LT	Cole, Jessica	FDA	Yes
LT	Henderson, Tamara	FDA	Yes
LT	Huang, David	CDC	Yes
LT	Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth	ATSDR	Yes
LT	Kebker, Eric	DoD	Yes
LT	Miller, Mark	EPA	Yes
LT	Pesce, John	NIH	Yes
LT	Rivera, Luz	FDA	Yes
LT	Steele, Matthew	FDA	Yes
LT	Tian, Nancy	ASPR	Yes
LT	Wright, Sara	DoD	Yes
LT	Zucco, Julia	CMS	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
- Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- Deemed Regular Corps Paperwork: The issuance of personnel orders has been delayed due to IT issues. These are the orders for officers that were active duty in the Reserve Corps at the date (23 March 2010) of the enactment of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to the Regular Corps. Once the personnel orders for appointing officers to the Regular Corps are processed, the orders for permanent grade promotions for 2010 and 2012 will be processed. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are available on the web.
- Uniforms: The issuance of the POM with the specifications for wearing the Operational Dress Uniform (ODU) has been delayed due to uniform stock issues. Reminder that Officers will have a year from the POM date to obtain the ODU.
- CO-STEP: Orders have been cut.
- 2012 Promotion Results: We are expecting the results to be released mid-June.
- Community Health and Service Missions (CHASM): A Community Health and Service Mission is planned for July 1-9 with the Indian Health Service at the Rosebud Mission.
- 2012 Scientist Awards: We are happy to congratulate the following Scientist officers as our category award recipients. LT Seth Green (DOD) was selected as the Junior Scientist Officer of the Year and CAPT Mark Eberhardt (CDC) was selected as our Derek Dunn Memorial Senior Scientist Officer of the Year. We appreciate their contributions to public health and their commitment to serve.

3) Report from the Chair: CDR Karon Abe

- Priority Application Process: At the monthly PAC Chairs meeting, CDR Thomas Pryor, from the NursePAC, gave an update on the priority application process. He is coordinating a “Call to Active Duty” team of volunteer officers. Thus far this team has processed 100% of the back-logged applications and around 90% of these have been professionally boarded. They are communicating with applicants to help them find an agency position. CDR Pryor will be initiating meetings with the Chairs of 3Rs subcommittee from every PAC.
- New Policies on Leave: Please review the policies on leave on the USPHS website.

4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- Two new Scientist Category Officers were called to active duty in May. Welcome to LT Madeline Maysonet-Gonzalez and LT Julia Zucco.

5) **Subcommittee Reports**

a. **Awards:** LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- The Awards Subcommittee is very happy to congratulate CAPT Mark Eberhardt and LT Seth Green on their selection as the 2012 Senior and Junior Scientist of the Year, respectively. Their contributions to public health were exemplary and demonstrated their commitment to the public health of the nation.

b. **Career Development:** LCDR Charlene Sydnor; Co-chair: LCDR Michael Smith

- OBC:
 - Three Scientists graduated from the May OBC class, LT Sara Villarreal (DOD), LT Madeline Maysonet-Gonzalez (BOP) and LT Julia Zucco (CMS).
 - LCDR Mark Clayton and LCDR Raghu Samy attended the May OBC Open House as a SciPAC representative to provide guidance to new scientist officers.
 - LCDR Charlene Sydnor and LCDR Ruiqing Pamboukian attended the graduation ceremony as representatives of SciPAC and presented Scientist coins and letters from CAPT Williams-Fleetwood to these officers.
- SciPAC Handbook:
 - The Career Development Subcommittee will begin reviewing the 2013 Category Benchmarks this month for any edits that should be applied to the 2014 Benchmarks.
 - There are several updates from the SciPAC Handbook Team:
 - The team has submitted comments to LCDR Sydnor regarding the CV guidelines. LCDR Sydnor is reviewing the comments and will reach out to the Executive Committee regarding those edits in the near future.
 - Team members have edited the “Top Tips for Scientists.” The team received comments regarding the document from CDR Abe and CDR Eaton, which they are reviewing. The Team plans to have the document finalized by August in advance of the August OBC.
 - The team has reviewed the “Honor and Integrity” section of the SciPAC handbook. There were no content changes.
 - The team has updated the “Awards” section of the SciPAC handbook, which is currently under review by LCDR Sydnor.
 - The team is currently editing other sections of the SciPAC handbook including “Getting involved with COA” and “Uniforms.” Training sessions – send ideas to LCDR Sydnor or LCDR Michael Smith.
- Training Session:
 - There are no training sessions scheduled for the near future, if someone has a topic they would like to have discussed, please e-mail LCDR Charlene Sydnor (sydnorc@od.nih.gov), or LCDR Mike Smith (Michael.Smith2@fda.hhs.gov).

c. **Category Day:** LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian

- The USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held June 19th – 21st at the Univ. of Maryland, College Park Campus in the Stamp Student Union.
 - Conference registration is now closed and currently no on-site registration is available.
 - If you are unable to attend the conference, you are still welcome to join the Scientist social on Thursday evening (contact is Robin Toblin) at Hard Times Café from 6:00 – 8:30 at 4738 Cherry Hill Rd, College Park, MD. The phone number is (301)474-8880. This will be for dinner and drinks (informal with no uniforms needed).
- d. **Mentoring:** CDR Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner
- The SciPAC Mentoring Sub-committee is sponsoring a Meet and Greet session at the upcoming USPHS Symposium. This will be an opportunity to meet face to face with your mentor or mentee, to hear from the experiences of other officers, and for new officers to meet Senior officers. We hope to see you on Wednesday, June 20th, from 1:15 PM – 3:15 PM, at the Harriet Tubman room located in the Stamp Student Union.
 - LCDR Alfredo Sancho will be making a presentation at Category Day on the results from the survey conducted by the sub-committee, and the proposed and ongoing programs.
 - During the upcoming days, members of the sub-committee will be following-up on those mentees that have not submitted their contract agreements with their mentors. This document, although not mandatory, is strongly recommended as a tool to formalize and provide structure to the working relationships of mentors and mentees.
- e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- The Committee reviewed the Personnel Operations Memorandum on Discipline for Uniform Issues and a Frequently Asked Questions document in May.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- As of 1 June 2012, there are a total of 329 Scientist officers on board
 - 31 Officers listed as “exempt”
 - 29 Officers listed as “not qualified” as follows: O6=19, O5=6, O4=4
 - Not including exempt officers, our category is 92.0% qualified
 - A reminder to all scientist officers to check your OPF if you are not sure whether you are basic qualified and to address any unmet readiness criteria. If you have any questions, or need any help, in securing basic readiness standards feel free to contact myself (dvi8@cdc.gov) or someone else on the committee and we will be happy to assist you.
 - In January, an email was sent out to all SciPAC officers on the SciPAC listserv describing an alternative avenue for scientist officers to potentially be deployed. On occasion CAPT Williams-Fleetwood receives deployment requests for one or more scientist officers and in order to facilitate these requests, and to select an officer with the skills most appropriate for the mission, we developed a spreadsheet that collects relevant officer information. As an update, as of late May we had 33 officers who have expressed interest by sending in their information. If you have not sent in your information and are interested in this type of deployment officers should contact myself (dvi8@cdc.gov) or LCDR Dominic Frasca (Dominic.Frasca@fda.hhs.gov) of our subcommittee. LCDR Frasca is the officer who has been compiling this information.

g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak

- There was an excellent response to the 2012 call for SciPAC voting membership. Officers submitting a complete application should have received a confirmation email from me. As a reminder this year there will be 7 slots for the nomination board to consider. The nomination board will meet later this month, and the approved nomination package will be forwarded to the SG by CAPT Williams-Fleetwood for final approval in July. Please direct any questions to CDR Novak (bnk4@cdc.gov).

h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CDR Rachel Avchen

- Nothing to report.

i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins; Co-chair: LCDR Ted Garnett

- A manuscript CDR Laird co-authored was accepted for publication in the Journal Applied and Environmental Microbiology. The title of the article is "Temperature-dependent Survival of Hepatitis A Virus during Contaminated Onion Storage."
- PHS officers in the Atlanta area volunteered for Project Open Hand on June 3rd. The volunteer effort was organized by LCDRs Yip and Boehmer.
- The May/June newsletter will be available in a few weeks.

j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley

- All website update requests have been completed.

6) **Liaison Reports**

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- Nothing to report.

b. **COF:** LCDR Tegan Boehmer

- As of June 1, 2012, our balance is \$2499.08.
- We have an inventory of 315 coins and 45 T-shirts (S, M, and L).
- Our purchase of 300 Scientist coins was received on May 24, 2012.
- REMINDER: Officers attending the USPHS Symposium Scientist Category Day can purchase or pick-up SciPAC merchandise without incurring shipping expenses. If you know in advance that you would like to purchase Scientist coins and/or t-shirts at the USPHS Symposium, please let LCDR Boehmer know in advance so we make sure to bring enough merchandise.
- The Executive Board is considering adding an additional merchandise item to sell as a fund-raising endeavor for SciPAC. So far, I have received suggestions for a USPHS water bottle and USPHS athletic/running t-shirt and shorts. Please let LCDR Boehmer know if you have any ideas for new items (general USPHS or Scientist category-specific) or would like to offer your design skills in developing graphics for new merchandise.
- Coins and T-shirts cost \$10 each. To place an order, complete the order form located on the SciPAC website homepage and contact LCDR Boehmer for shipping cost. Phone: 770-488-3714 or E-mail: tboehmer@cdc.gov.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- No report

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Scott Steffen

- 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium
 - 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium
 - The JOAG Social/10 year anniversary will be Wednesday 20 June 2012 at the Stamp Student Union from 1930-2130. A nominal fee of \$10 will be collected and food will be provided. The uniform for this event will be civilian casual dress or uniform of the day. Please rsvp by June 8, 2012 for this event using the following link, phs.joag@gmail.com. Officers will get an email response about how to pay for the social. Officers can pay either by PayPal or check sent to LCDR Johnson.
 - LCDR Johnson is looking for some officers to run the JOAG merchandise booth. Please contact her directly if you are interested at Glendolynn.Johnson@fda.hhs.gov. Any officers interested in purchasing JOAG merchandise can also contact LCDR Johnson directly.
 - They are still looking for Traffic Flow volunteers from 07:00-09:00 AM for Thursday, 21 June 2012. All interested officers should contact CDR Arena at michelle.arena@cms.hhs.gov.
 - Uniform Inspection, LT Payne will be asking JOAG to put out an announcement for volunteers for the Uniform inspection booth (UIB). This year is very important as we are in the midst of a uniform change (BDU to ODU) and the event occurs in the Greater DC area where uniform wear and inter-service mingling are the norm.
- The next edition of the JOAG Journal will be distributed shortly through the JOAG listserv.
- The next Journeyman series is scheduled for 13 July 2012 (1300-1400), which will be a discussion of the AMSUS (2012 conference, the overall organization, and volunteer opportunities). The call in number is: 1-213-342-3000. The passcode is: 6904646.
- The next JOAG General Membership Meeting will be at the COF Symposium. There will be no conference line, so please attend in person. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, 20 June 2012 from 0800-0915 in the Jimenez room.

e. **PSYPAG:** CDR Nicole Frazer

- We are excited to announce that the Psychologist of the Year is CDR Christopher Hunter.
- We are continuing to work on special pays with the Compensation Policy Advisory Board (CPAB) in coordination with CAPT Williams-Fleetwood and CDR Abe.
- Thanks to the efforts of our new Science sub-committee we are tracking publications by psychologists, and so far in 2012 there have been 4 peer-reviewed articles published or accepted for publication in 2012 by PHS Psychologists
- Psychologists are meeting for lunch at the COA conference on Wednesday, 20 June 2012 @ 1200 at Adele's
- To learn more about PsyPAG members can go to: <http://usphs-hso.org/?q=pags/psypag>
- If you are a psychologist and would like to join PsyPAG please contact: LCDR William "Tony" Satterfield (william.satterfield@tma.osd.mil).
- The next PsyPAG DoD Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting is on 18 July 2012, @ 1200 EST dial-in #: 877-691-9937, Passcode: 4549026.

- The next PsyPAG meeting is 6 June 2012 and the dial-in # is: 1-877-691-9937, Passcode: 4549026. The guest speaker will be CAPT John Golden from the DoD Deployment Health Clinical Center.

7) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- None.

8) Closing Remarks: CDR Karon Abe

- I look forward to our next call, Tuesday, July 3rd!

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, July 3, 2012 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, July 3, 2012
1100–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2011/2012 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Excused
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Yes
LCDR	Boehmer, Tegan	COF Liaison	Yes
CAPT	Aponte, Boris	Mentoring Chair	Excused
CAPT	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Excused
CAPT	Bensyl, Diana	Mentoring co-Chair	Excused
LCDR	Breiding, Matt	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Chair	Yes
LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
CDR	Frazer, Nicole	Policy Review Chair, PSYPAG Liaison	Excused
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Yes
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Excused
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Excused
Dr.	Meechan, Paul	Civil Service Representative	Yes
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Yes
CDR	Matthew Newland	Ex-Officio	Yes
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Yes
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science	Yes
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Excused
LCDR	Xu, Fei	Awards Co-Chair	Yes
Other SciPAC Roles held by Nonvoting Members			
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	Yes
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	JOAG Liaison	Excused

Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Adekoya, Nelson	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Daugherty, Jon	FDA	Yes
CAPT	Draski, Laura	OS	Yes
CAPT	Kimsey, C. Dexter (Bo)	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Massoudi, Mehran	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	CDC	Yes
CDR	Bennett, Marco	FDA	Yes
CDR	Bhagwat, Aditya	DoD	Yes
CDR	Bodart , Jennifer	DoD	Yes
CDR	Clayton, Mark	DoD	Yes
CDR	Frasca, Dominic	FDA	Yes
CDR	Glover, Maleeka	CDC	Yes
CDR	Goodie, Jeffrey L.	DoD	Yes
CDR	Newman, Sara	NPS	Yes
CDR	Seo, Paul	FDA	Yes
CDR	Yip, Fuyuen	CDC	Yes
CDR	Zhang, Yi	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Barbour, Kamil	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Bobo, Qiao	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Carroll, Diana D.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Cui, Minglei	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Demby, M. Lela	BOP	Yes
LCDR	Demissie, Zewditu	CDC	Yes
LCDR	France, Anne Marie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Hatch, Arlin	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Huang, David	CDC	Yes
LCDR	McDaniel, Dawn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Nielsen, Carrie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Odom, Erika	CDC	Yes
LCDR	O'Neill, Eduardo	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Parks Brown, Sharyn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Perrine, Cria Gregory	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Rivera, Luz	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Rossiter, Lana	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Satterfield, William	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Sircar, Kanta	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Spikes, Pilgrim	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Wally, Jeremy	FDA	Yes
LT	Cole, Jessica	FDA	Yes

LT	Hoffman, Kelsy	FDA	Yes
LT	Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth	ATSDR	Yes
LT	Ko, Jean	CDC	Yes
LT	Pesce, John	NIH	Yes
LT	Rodriguez, Michelle	FDA	Yes
LT	Walters, Matthew	FDA	Yes
LT	Wright, Sara	DoD	Yes
LT	Zucco, Julia	CMS	Yes
	Nwankwo-Igomu, Amaka	HRSA	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
- Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- Combined with PAC Chair Report

3) Report from the Chair: CDR Karon Abe

- Promotions: A big congratulations to those officers who were successfully promoted! Officers are authorized to wear their new rank on/after their eligible date of promotion by order of a newly issued Personnel Order. Those results have been posted on the DCP website at <http://dcp.psc.gov/ccmis/>.
- Recently Boarded Officers Seeking Jobs: We are trying to identify a way to help officers who have been boarded in our category, but still need to identify a job position. We are coordinating our efforts with the Call to Active Duty team to see if we can circulate CVs and send out job postings directly to these individuals.
- Visibility Initiative: The Executive Board has been working on a webpage to implement some of the recommendations from the Policy subcommittee white paper on visibility of Scientist officers (visibility outside of the category). This webpage will highlight and inform our officers about the areas under the HHS strategic plan, the NPS, and the priority areas where Scientist officers do their work. It will also provide recommendations for individual officers to increase the visibility of their work and outlines the current visibility activities within our category.

4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- Nothing to report.

5) Subcommittee Reports

a. **Awards:** LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- Nothing to report.

b. **Career Development:** LCDR Charlene Sydnor; Co-chair: LCDR Michael Smith

- OBC
 - One Scientist graduated from the June OBC class, LT Luz Rivera (FDA).
 - LCDR Scott Steffen and LCDR William Satterfield attended the graduation ceremony as representatives of SciPAC and a picture of the Scientist officers participating in

and attending the OBC graduation event was sent to CDR Wei Guo for posting on the SciPAC website. LCDR Smith delivered a Scientist coin and letter from CAPT Williams-Fleetwood to LT Rivera.

- The July OBC has been canceled.
 - Handbook
 - The Career Development Subcommittee will begin reviewing the 2013 Category Benchmarks for any edits that should be applied to the 2014 Benchmarks.
 - There are several updates from the SciPAC Handbook Team:
 - The team has submitted comments to LCDR Sydnor regarding the CV guidelines. LCDR Sydnor is reviewing the comments and will reach out to the Executive Committee regarding those edits in the near future.
 - Team members have edited the “Top Tips for Scientists.” The team received comments regarding the document from CDR Abe and CDR Eaton, which they are reviewing. The Team plans to have the document finalized by August in advance of the August OBC.
 - The team has reviewed the “Honor and Integrity” section of the SciPAC handbook. There were no content changes.
 - The team has updated the “Awards” section of the SciPAC handbook, which is currently under review by LCDR Sydnor.
 - The team is currently editing other sections of the SciPAC handbook including “Getting involved with COA” and “Uniforms”.
 - Training Session
 - There are no training sessions scheduled for the near future, if someone has a topic they would like to have discussed, please e-mail LCDR Charlene Sydnor (sydnorc@od.nih.gov), or LCDR Mike Smith (Michael.Smith2@fda.hhs.gov).
- c. **Category Day:** LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian
- There were over 50 scientists in attendance for a successful 2012 Scientist Category Day at the 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium.
 - A sincere thanks to all the Scientist Day presenters and participants! Also, my great appreciation to all those who contributed their efforts to the planning of category day including: Co-chair LCDR Jennifer Adjemian, the entire Scientist Day Planning Subcommittee, CDR Karon Abe, and CAPT Williams-Fleetwood.
- d. **Mentoring:** CAPT Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CAPT Mark Methner
- No report.
- e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- The Policy Review Subcommittee reviewed the telework policy in June.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- As of 1 July 2012, there are a total of 334 Scientist officers.
 - 41 Officers listed as “exempt”
 - 29 Officers listed as “not qualified” as follows: O6=19, O5=6, O4=4
 - Not including exempt officers, our category is 90.1% qualified.

g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak

- Thirteen officers submitted an application for SciPAC voting membership. All applications were reviewed and 7 nominees were selected to put forward for OSG approval, which we hope to receive by the end of July.

h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CAPT Rachel Avchen

- We have a proposal in development to collect a list of publications, of scientific reports or policy documents, authored or co-authored by Scientist officers. Such a list will continue to demonstrate the wealth and breadth of work performed by our officers. This information will also be used to support the development of a new topic on Scientist Officer visibility for our Scientist Category web site as described earlier by CDR Abe. The process for submission of your publication information is being defined. Please look out for a notice from our Scientist listserv with the submission instructions.

i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins; Co-chair: LCDR Ted Garnett

- CDR Stansberry, LCDR Zhou, and LT Pesce along with other Scientists officers recently hosted a USPHS Commissioned Corps uniform symposium at NIH.
- LT John Pesce will be creating a registry of schools that are in need of Science Fair judges. If you know of schools in your area, please email LT Pesce at: john.pesce@nih.gov
- The latest edition of the SciPAC newsletter was released in June. Many thanks to CDR Ayala and the entire SciPAC newsletter committee for their great work.

j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley

- The latest edition of the SciPAC newsletter has been posted to the SciPAC website at www.usphs-scientist.org.
- The Website Team has completed all requests for posting to the website.
- The Website Team received the Visibility Subcommittee proposal to include publication list on website.
- Some Corps-related websites are now being hosted on the HHS website (e.g., JOAG). This may be in our future.

6) **Liaison Reports**

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- Nothing to report.

b. **COF:** LCDR Tegan Boehmer

- As of 1 July 2012, our balance is \$2514.08.
- We have an inventory of 301 coins and 37 T-shirts (8 Large, 24 Medium, and 8 Small).
- Thank you to the officers who supported SciPAC by purchasing merchandise at Category Day last month. We sold 12 coins and 6 T-shirts.
- T-shirts are ON SALE! Purchase one of the remaining Scientist T-shirts for \$8 each or 2 for \$15 (see above for available sizes). To place an order, complete the order form located on the SciPAC website homepage and contact LCDR Boehmer for shipping cost prior to submitting your payment. Phone: 770-488-3714 or E-mail: tboehmer@cdc.gov.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- The 47th annual USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium set a new record of attendance with 1200 attendees.
- The PHS Music Ensemble performed at the National World War II Memorial 2012 Summer Concert held at the National World War II Memorial in Washington DC. For just the second time in history, the medley of service songs closing out the concert included all seven of the Uniformed Services marches.
- In an effort to protect Commissioned Corps Officers who currently have no whistleblower rights, the COA has been working vigorously with members of congress to introduce legislation. This behind the scenes work has resulted in S3187, Enrolled Bill S. 3187 Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act- (section 1129, page 126) in which the Senate and House have passed a bill to move the Commissioned Corps under the protection of the Military Whistleblower Protection Act. The bill is now awaiting Obama's signature!
- The estate of the late CAPT Robert Lathrop bequeathed \$620,000 to the Commissioned Officers Foundation (COF).
- Help COA find our lost members! See the list of lost members published in Frontline every month. COA's current membership is under 60% of all Commissioned Corps Officers.
- In mid-July COA and COF's welcomes its first Deputy Executive Director. John McElligott comes to COA/ COF from the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) where he has been a public health policy analyst and student of the office of PHS Surgeons General.

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Scott Steffen (Report given by LCDR Robin Toblin)

- COF Scientific and Training Symposium
 - The last JOAG general meeting was conducted at the 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium. Awards were distributed to non-voting members who demonstrated outstanding dedication to the support of JOAG. The Chief Professional Officers (CPOs) for all the PHS categories and the Deputy Surgeon General Boris Lushniak were in attendance for a brief questions and answer session.
 - The JOAG Social/10-year anniversary was an outstanding success with high attendance from both Junior and Senior officers. Many of the CPOs in addition to Deputy Surgeon General Boris Lushniak and Chief of Staff CAPT Robert DeMartino were in attendance at the social.
- There was a recent announcement from DCCPR that was sent through the JOAG listserv introducing the redesigned USPHS recruitment website. There is an informative two minute introductory video at <http://usphs.gov/newsroom/multimedia/>.
- The next call for articles was sent out for the summer edition of the JOAG Journal. Article ideas need to be submitted by 9 July 2012 and final articles must be received by 6 August 2012.
- The next Journeyman series is scheduled for 13 July 2012 (1300-1400). CDR David Lau and LT Cody Thornton will be focusing on the objectives of the 2012 AMSUS Conference and how Junior Officers can get involved and collaborate with AMSUS officers. An email will be sent out via the JOAG listserv with the conference line information.
- The next JOAG General Membership Meeting will be held on Friday, 10 August 2012 from 1300-1400. Call in: 218-936-4700; Passcode: 791-9605.

e. **PSYPAG:** CDR Nicole Frazer (Report given by LCDR Robin Toblin)

- PsyPAG congratulates psychologist, LCDR Seth Green on winning SciPAC's Junior Scientist of the Year and the 20 psychologists that were selected for promotion.
- CAPT John Golden spoke at our last call in June, and provided helpful guidance and wisdom for our psychologists about promotion.
- We are continuing to work on special pays with the Compensation Policy Advisory Board (CPAB) in coordination with CAPT Williams-Fleetwood and CDR Abe. We will be attending the next CPAB on 18 July 2012.
- Thanks to the efforts of our new Science sub-committee we are tracking publications by psychologists. So far in 2012 there have been 9 peer-reviewed articles and 2 government reports published or accepted for publication by PHS Psychologists
- The Psychologists met for lunch at the 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium.
- To learn more about PsyPAG members can go to: <http://usphs-hso.org/?q=pags/psypag>
- If you are a psychologist and would like to join PsyPAG please contact: LCDR William "Tony" Satterfield (william.satterfield@tma.osd.mil).
- The next PsyPAG DoD Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting is on 18 July 2012, @ 1200 EST dial-in #: 877-691-9937, Passcode: 4549026.
- The next PsyPAG meeting is 1 August 2012 and the dial-in # is: 1-877-691-9937, Passcode: 4549026.
- Happy 4th of July and thinking of psychologists and Scientists that are without electricity.

7) **Other Business, Questions, Comments**

- None.

8) **Closing Remarks:** CDR Karon Abe

- The next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 from 1100–1300 EDT.

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, August 7, 2012 @ 1100–1300 EDT**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, August 7, 2012
1100-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-691-9937
Pass code: 4549026

Chief Scientist Officer and 2011/2012 SciPAC Voting Members

Rank	Name	Role	Present
CAPT	Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon	Chief Scientist Officer	Yes
CDR	Abe, Karon	Chair	Yes
CDR	Novak, Ryan	Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair	Yes
CDR	Eaton, Danice	Executive Secretary	Excused
LCDR	Boehmer, Tegan	COF Liaison	Yes
CAPT	Aponte, Boris	Mentoring Chair	Excused
CAPT	Avchen, Rachel	Science Co-Chair	Yes
CAPT	Bensyl, Diana	Mentoring co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Breiding, Matt	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Chair	Yes
LCDR	Facey, Judy	Billets and Direct Access Liaison	Yes
CDR	Nicole Frazer	Policy Review Chair, PSYPAG Liaison	Yes
CDR	Guo, Wei	Website Chair	Yes
CDR	Hu, Sally	Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Co-Chair	Yes
LCDR	Kenney, James	Awards Chair	Yes
Dr.	Meechan, Paul	Civil Service Representative	Yes
LCDR	Murphy, Matthew	Category Day Chair	Yes
CDR	Matthew Newland	Ex-Officio	Yes
CDR	Robbins, Nisha	Visibility Chair	Yes
CDR	Sram, Jacqueline	Science	Yes
LCDR	Sydnor, Charlene	Career Development Chair	Yes
LCDR	Xu, Fei	Awards Co-Chair	Yes
Other SciPAC Roles held by Nonvoting Members			
CAPT	Moffett, Daphne	SciPAC Historian	Yes
CDR	Newman, Sara	COA Liaison	Excused
LCDR	Steffen, Scott	JOAG Liaison	Yes
LCDR	Yip, Fuyuen	Acting COF Liaison	Yes

Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

Rank	Participant	Agency	Present
CAPT	Adekoya, Nelson	CDC	Yes
CAPT	Spears, Ross	CDC	Yes
CDR	Bennett, Marco	FDA	Yes
CDR	Chu, Dan-My T.	FDA	Yes
CDR	Clayton, Mark	DoD	Yes
CDR	Clingman, Chekesha S.	FDA	Yes
CDR	Davidson, Bryan	DoD	Yes
CDR	Dobmeyer, Anne C.	DoD	Yes
CDR	Fleischauer, Aaron	CDC	Yes
CDR	Frasca, Dominic	FDA	Yes
CDR	Schneider, Diana	ICE	Yes
CDR	Sharma, Andrea	CDC	Yes
CDR	Streeter, Emily	DoD	Yes
CDR	Yip, Fuyuen	CDC	Yes
CDR	Zapata, Lauren B.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Adjemian, Jennifer	NIH	Yes
LCDR	Bobo, Qiao	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Calanan, Renee	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Cui, Minglei	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Dee, Deborah	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Demissie, Zewditu	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Garnett, Theodore	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Iuliano, A. Danielle	CDC	Yes
LCDR	McDaniel, Dawn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Myers, Todd	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Nielsen, Carrie	CDC	Yes
LCDR	O'Neill, Eduardo	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Pamboukian, Ruiqing	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Parker, Erin	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Parks Brown, Sharyn	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Rodgers, Loren	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Rossiter, Lana	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Satterfield, William	DoD	Yes
LCDR	Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Sircar, Kanta	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Smith, Michael	FDA	Yes
LCDR	Spikes, Pilgrim	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Vagi, Sara	CDC	Yes
LCDR	Wally, Jeremy	FDA	Yes

LCDR	Wise, Matt	CDC	Yes
LT	Cole, Jessica	FDA	Yes
LT	Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth	ATSDR	Yes
LT	Kebker, Eric	DoD	Yes
LT	Ko, Jean	CDC	Yes
LT	Steele, Matthew	FDA	Yes
LT	Taylor, Eboni	CDC	Yes
LT	Yard, Ellen	CDC	Yes
LT	Zucco, Julia	CMS	Yes

1) Call to Order and Welcome: CDR Karon Abe

- Email CDR Danice Eaton (Deaton@cdc.gov) for roll call on the day of the call.
- Mute your phones when not speaking (press *6 if you do not have a mute button).
- Do not place the conference call line on hold.

2) Report from the CPO: CAPT Sharon Williams-Fleetwood

- I wish to thank CDR Karon Abe for her outstanding leadership as our SciPAC Chair. She has been instrumental in a number of our successes this past year. I also look forward to the opportunity to work with CDR Ryan Novak as our new PAC Chair. Welcome aboard CDR Novak!
- Promotions: I attended the Atlanta Area Promotion Ceremony held at the CDC Roybal Campus in August and was happy to see all of the officers that received their promotions. We were also privileged to have both the current Surgeon General VADM Regina Benjamin and a former SG, ADM David Satcher, join in the celebration. Again, I'd like to extend my congratulations to all officers that were promoted and challenge you to find new ways to rededicate your leadership in support of your fellow officers, in support of your Corps and, most importantly, in support of meeting the health needs of this nation.
- Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Pinning Ceremony: It was my pleasure to attend the CDC EIS Pinning Ceremony held in July. We have 11 Scientist officers entering into the EIS program. I was happy to meet many of our new EIS Scientist officers.
- Community Health and Service Mission (CHASM): During 1-9 July 2012 there were about 86 Commissioned Corps Officers providing support to the Indian Health Service at Rosebud. Overall, approximately 2,000 patient encounters resulted from this effort. Thanks to all that served on this CHASM opportunity, including the Scientist officers that supported the WIC program efforts!
- Operation Lone Star: During 23-27 July 2012 there were about 29 Commissioned Corps Officers from the Texas area that were able to provide support to this public health outreach effort.
- New Chief of Staff: Please welcome CAPT Robert DeMartino as he joins the leadership team in the Office of the Surgeon General.
- Deemed Regular Corps: The issuance of personnel orders are still experiencing delays due to IT issues. These are the orders for officers that were active duty in the Reserve Corps at the date (23 March 2010) of the enactment of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to the Regular Corps. Once the personnel orders for appointing officers to the Regular Corps are processed, the orders for permanent grade promotions for 2010 and 2012 will be processed. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are available on the web.
- White House Recognition for one of our Scientists: CDR Lauren Zapata (CDC) was one of 96 researchers to be honored with the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE). She received this recognition for her efforts to improve the health of women,

children and families. CDR Zapata, the Scientist Category along with CDCers and a host of others that you have impacted through your efforts are extremely thankful and proud of you!

3) Report from the Chair: CDR Karon Abe

- I just want to thank all the membership and the Executive Board for all their support this year. It truly has been an honor working with you. I welcome CDR Novak, he will do a great job as Chair. He has been a great support and counsel this past year. Thank you.
- Elections: For SciPAC voting members, please submit nominations for Vice-chair, Secretary, and COF Liaison by next Monday, 13 August 2012. We will do a short-turnaround and will distribute the nominees for vote next week.
- Officer Acknowledgments:
 - On 23 July 2012, President Obama today named 96 researchers as recipients of the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers, the highest honor bestowed by the United States Government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers. One of those Scientists honored was our very own CDR Lauren Zapata! Congratulations CDR Zapata.
 - We had 4 officers, CDR Sharma, LCDR Dee, LCDR Lu, LCDR Njai, go on Operation Fortitude to Rosebud, South Dakota. They worked on the Epi/Surveillance team and conducted an environmental survey and HIV survey, and worked on the Rosebud WIC breastfeeding program.
 - Thank you to all the officers who are cycling off the voting membership. CAPT Rachel Avchen, CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Boris Aponte, CDR Wei Guo, CDR Matthew Newland
- Webpage: I sent an e-mail to our Scientist listserv on 6 August 2012 with a link to a new webpage. Briefly, we have been working on identifying ways in which we can extend our visibility beyond our PAC to our leadership and our partners. Part of visibility is making sure that every Scientist Officer understands his/her role in USPHS and what we bring to the USPHS as a category. The webpage was developed to facilitate a standardized way Scientist Officers can demonstrate and promote visibility of their work. http://usphs-scientist.org/documents/Scientist_visibility.pdf
 - Thank you to the Policy, Visibility, 3R, website subcommittee and EB members for your comments and efforts in developing this webpage.
- Training & Education (T&E): We will be revisiting the T&E 9-year cap issue. I will be working with CAPT Williams-Fleetwood on writing out a memorandum outlining the impact of this POM on the category (in terms of experience and expertise) and for the USPHS in terms of work and outcomes.
- Operational Dress Uniform (ODU): The ODU is close to rolling out. Logistically, they are trying to get all uniform parts together so that everything will be available to officers. You will have a year to acquire the uniform once it becomes available.
- AMSUS: The USPHS is encouraging officers to attend the AMSUS, the Society of Federal Health Professions. The Annual Meeting is 11-16 November 2012 in Phoenix, AZ. USPHS is leading the planning in 2013. We have two Scientist representatives who are attending the calls now as we prepare for 2013. Thank you, CDR Angela Steele and LT Yoran Grant. Please email CDR Angela Steele if you are planning on attending in 2012 or 2013 at Angela.j.steele@us.army.mil.

4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- There were 11 new Scientist Officers in the incoming CDC EIS class and this represented the call to active duty for June/July. Welcome.

- As the incoming Chair, I look forward to working with the new and existing PAC members this this coming year.
- I would like to thank the officers completing their service to the Scientist PAC, especially CDR Abe for your leadership this past year—your vision and enthusiasm have inspired us to become a more cohesive and visible Category. Thank you, CDR Abe.

5) **Subcommittee Reports**

a. **Awards:** LCDR James Kenney; Co-Chair: LCDR Fei Xu

- The 2012 SciPAC Awardees, that is CAPT Eberhardt, LT Green and LT Gaines, are now featured on our SciPAC website on the Activities page (<http://www.usphs-scientist.org/awards/2012.html>). I would like to thank CDR Wei Guo, the Chair of the Website Subcommittee, for his hard work and posting their pictures and biographies in a timely manner.

b. **Career Development:** LCDR Charlene Sydnor; Co-chair: LCDR Michael Smith

- OBC
 - The July OBC was canceled.
 - The following two scientists are scheduled to attend the August OBC: LT Erica Medlock-Fitzgerald (duty station is at the BOP in Pollack, LA) and LT Devin Thomas (duty station is at the FDA, in Atlanta, Georgia).
 - There will be an e-mail sent through the SciPAC listserv in the next week soliciting additional volunteers for the Career Development committee to attend future OBC open house and/or graduation events.
- SciPAC Handbook:
 - The Career Development Subcommittee will begin reviewing the 2013 Category Benchmarks for any edits that should be applied to the 2014 Benchmarks.
 - There are several updates from the SciPAC Handbook Team:
 - The team has submitted comments to LCDR Sydnor regarding the CV guidelines. The Team’s comments have been forwarded to CDR Abe for review.
 - The informational document for new scientists entitled “Top Tips for Scientists” has been finalized and added to the Officer Resources section of the SciPAC website (<http://www.usphs-scientist.org/resources.htm>). This document will also be provided to new scientists attending OBC at the open house and/or graduation events.
 - The team has updated the “Awards” section of the SciPAC Handbook, which is currently under review by LCDR Sydnor.
 - The team has edited the “Getting involved with COA” section of the SciPAC handbook, which is currently under review by LCDR Sydnor.
 - Training Session: There are no training sessions scheduled for the near future. If someone has a topic they would like to have discussed, please e-mail LCDR Charlene Sydnor (sydnorc@od.nih.gov), or LCDR Mike Smith (Michael.Smith2@fda.hhs.gov).

c. **Category Day:** LCDR Matt Murphy; Co-chair: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian

- There was no new information to report this month.

- d. **Mentoring:** CAPT Boris Aponte; Co-chairs: CAPT Diana Bensyl, CDR Mark Methner
- We are continuing to collect contracts between mentors and mentees. If you have not filled out the very simple form, we encourage you to do so. CDR Goodrich-Doctor is the point person for this activity.
 - We are always happy to take volunteers, especially those at O-5 and above, who would like to mentor junior officers. And if you need a mentor, please contact CAPT Boris Aponte (boris.aponte@AHRQ.hhs.gov) or CAPT Diana Bensyl (zqg6@cdc.gov).
- e. **Policy Review:** CDR Nicole Frazer; Co-chair: LCDR Minglei Cui
- There were no new policies to review.
- f. **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness:** LCDR Matthew Breiding; Co-chair: CDR Sally Hu
- As of the beginning of August 2012, there are a total of 333 Scientist officers on board
 - 42 Officers listed as “exempt”
 - 28 Officers listed as “not qualified” as follows: O6=18, O5=6, O4=4
 - Not including exempt officers, our category is 90.4% qualified
 - We would like to remind all scientist officers to check your OPF if you are not sure whether you are basic qualified and to address any unmet readiness criteria. If you have any questions, or need any help in securing basic readiness standards, feel free to contact myself (dvi8@cdc.gov) or someone else on the committee and we will be happy to assist you. In consultation with CDR Abe, and after surveying the chairs of other PAC subcommittees that handle readiness issues, the RRR subcommittee will be sending out courtesy emails to Scientist Officers who are noted as being not basic ready in the monthly data we receive. In these emails we will note that an officer is not basic ready and offer to provide assistance in returning to basic ready status. This will only be a one-time email for those officers who were basic ready the month prior and are now designated as not basic ready. The purpose of this email is not to pester you, but simply to offer assistance to individual officers. Our goal is to maintain or bring up our category-level readiness numbers.
 - Earlier this year, an email was sent out on the SciPAC listserv describing an alternative avenue for Scientist Officers to potentially be deployed. On occasion CAPT Williams-Fleetwood receives deployment requests for one or more Scientist Officers. To facilitate these requests, and to select an officer with the skills most appropriate for the mission, we developed a spreadsheet that collects relevant officer information. As an update, as of late July, we had 34 officers who have expressed interest by sending in their information. If you have not sent in your information and are interested in being considered for deployments, officers should contact myself (dvi8@cdc.gov) or LCDR Dominic Frasca (Dominic.Frasca@fda.hhs.gov) of our subcommittee. LCDR Frasca is the officer who has been compiling this information.
- g. **Rules and Membership:** CDR Ryan Novak
- The Rules and Membership subcommittee has been quite busy the last few months reviewing the many quality applications received for SciPAC voting membership. Subcommittee recommendations were submitted for endorsement to CAPT Williams-Fleetwood, and final nominations to the Surgeon General for approval. On August 2, the

Surgeon General approved 7 new members of the Scientist Professional Advisory Committee of the United States Public Health Service.

- LCDR Jennifer Adjemian
- LCDR Tegan Boehmer
- LCDR Mark Clayton
- LCDR Dominic Frasca
- LCDR William Satterfield
- LCDR Alfredo Sancho
- LCDR Michael Smith

h. **Science:** CDR Jackie Sram; Co-chair: CAPT Rachel Avchen

- During the July SciPAC call, we announced our effort to compile a list of Scientist Officer publications. We evaluated the option of an efficient and automated data entry process, such as via our Scientist website. The development of such an entry system appears to need more time than we hoped. We will continue to work on the development of this data entry system. In the mean time, we would like to move forward with compiling our publication list. We will be doing this via a manual process. Please look out for an announcement via our list serve with instructions. We are limiting publications dating back to 2010 January 2010. The POC will be CDR Jackie Sram (jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov).

i. **Visibility:** CDR Nisha Robbins; Co-chair: LCDR Ted Garnett

- Thanks to CDR Ayala for a great job as our Scientist newsletter editor. Next year, LCDRs Loren Rogers and Deborah Dee will serve as Co-Editors for the newsletter.
- Kudos to CDR Anne Dobbmeyer who assisted with USPHS recruiting efforts for psychologists at the American Psychological Association (APA) convention 02-04 August 2012 in Orlando, FL!
- Thanks to LCDRs Zhou and Kenney along with CDR Hu deployed to the Nation's Capitol region for 4th of July to provide medical services during the event.

j. **Website:** CDR Wei Guo; Co-Chair: CAPT Cynthia Striley

- Website subcommittee completed all requests. The new scientist visibility resource page can be accessed from a link on the homepage or directly at http://www.usphs-scientist.org/documents/Scientist_visibility.pdf.

6) **Liaison Reports**

a. **Billet Transformation:** LCDR Judy Facey

- Nothing to report.

b. **COF:** LCDR Tegan Boehmer

- As of 1 August 2012, our balance is \$2501.78.
- We have an inventory of 298 coins and 34 T-shirts (7 Large, 19 Medium, and 8 Small).
- Thank you to the officers who shared suggestions for new USPHS/Scientist merchandise. I will look into the suggestions and make recommendations for the next COF Liaison.
- T-shirts are ON SALE through the end of August! Purchase one of the remaining Scientist T-shirts for \$8 each or 2 for \$15 (see above for available sizes). To place an order, complete the order form located on the SciPAC website homepage and contact LCDR Boehmer for

shipping cost prior to submitting your payment. Phone: 770-488-3714 or E-mail: tboehmer@cdc.gov.

c. **COA:** CDR Sara Newman

- This year's PHS Scientific and Training Symposium was a huge success and registration was twice what COA had anticipated.
- An update from our last meeting. Less than a week after our July SciPAC meeting when I told you all about the Whistleblower Protection having been passed by Congress, President Obama signed it into law (Innovation Act of 2012) which extends the same protections offered to the Armed Services to the PHS.
- TRICARE Prime enrollment fees for uniformed service retirees and their families go into effect on 1 October 2012. Go to the COA website (<http://www.coausphs.org/>) to see what the fees are. Of course active duty service officers and their families have access to TRICARE Prime with no enrollment fees.
- COA and COF are now exploring locations for the 2013 COF Symposium which will most likely be held in the west. I hope to provide an update on this in a month or two.

d. **JOAG:** LCDR Scott Steffen

- The new JOAG website (<http://www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/joag/>) was recently announced. I encourage all officers to visit the website.
- JOAG recently selected the new incoming class of voting members for the 2012-2014 operational year. Please note the current operational year will conclude at the end of September; therefore, numerous volunteer opportunities will be coming available in the next couple of months.
- The next edition of the JOAG Journal will be distributed shortly through the JOAG listserv.
- The September Career fair list has been distributed through the JOAG listerv. Questions or comments can be sent to LT Scott Wiegand at scott.wiegand@ihs.gov or (605)-747-2231, or LCDR Caroline Le at Caroline.Le@fda.hhs.gov or (303)-236-3088.
- The JOAG Development Committee has new JOAG merchandise (T-shirts, water bottles, mugs, mini towels, coins, and coin racks). Specifically, they are promoting the 10 year anniversary JOAG T-shirt. Please contact Glendolynn Johnson (glendolynn.johnson@fda.hhs.gov) if you are interested in buying any items.
- The JOAG Membership Committee is hosting three Meet and Greets on 7 August 2012 from 1200-1300 in the DC, Maryland, and Virginia areas.

Washington D.C.

HHS Headquarters: Hubert H. Humphrey Building

Room 325A

200 Independence Avenue S.W.

Washington, D.C., 20201

Directions: <http://www.hhs.gov/about/hhhmap.html>

(The closest Metrorail Station is Federal Center SW)

Virginia

Fort Belvoir Community Hospital

9300 DeWitt Loop
Rivers Pavilion, 2nd Floor, Room 113
Ft Belvoir, VA 22060
Directions: <http://www.fbch.capmed.mil/patients/directions.aspx>

Maryland
FDA Headquarters: White Oak Building
Building 32, Room 1333
10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20993
Directions:
<http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/WorkingatFDA/BuildingsandFacilities/WhiteOakCampusInformation/ucm241748.htm>

- The next JOAG General Membership Meeting will be on Friday, 10 August 2012 from 1300-1500. Call in: 218-936-4700; Passcode: 791-9605.

e. **PSYPAG:** CDR Nicole Frazer

- We are continuing to work on special pays with the Compensation Policy Advisory Board (CPAB) in coordination with CAPT Williams-Fleetwood and CDR Abe. LCDR Goodie attended the CPAB Meeting on 18 July 2012. The primary focus of that meeting was on Board Certification and which boards qualify for which specialty. The next meeting will likely be in November.
- We have continued to work with the USPHS Recruiting Division on products for Behavioral Health recruiting. One of the products that is now complete is the Best Kept Secret Brochure. Comprehensive information on Behavioral Health can also be found online at: <http://www.usphs.gov/profession/behavioral/>.
 - Many PsyPAG members are featured on the website.
 - If you see errors please email CDR Goodie (Jeffrey.goodie@usuhs.edu)
- The DoD Special Interest Group (SIG) continues to meet and last meeting was on 18 July 2012.
 - As of July we started a guest speaker series to provide information to officers within DoD on various jobs PHS officers are holding, their current role, requirements for that position, career progression, and how they fit into that role as a PHS officer. In addition, the speaker series provides an opportunity to discuss potential future and current vacancies. CDR Aditya Bhagwat was our first speaker.
 - Discussion also centered around promotion ceremonies and the standards, especially for those working in the DoD. Information was forwarded out to those within the DoD SIG.
 - The next PsyPAG DoD SIG meeting is on 19 Sept 2012, @ 1200 EST dial-in #: 877-691-9937, Passcode: 4549026.
- We are currently examining the policy for the Psychologist of the Year award and currently have a request for formal feedback out to the PsyPAG membership.
- The next PsyPAG meeting is 3 Oct 2012 and the dial-in # is: 1-877-691-9937, Passcode: 4549026.

- To learn more about PsyPAG members can go to: <http://usphs-hso.org/?q=pags/psypag>
- If you are a psychologist and would like to join PsyPAG please contact: LCDR William "Tony" Satterfield (william.satterfield@tma.osd.mil).

7) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- No further discussion.

8) Closing Remarks: CDR Karon Abe

- No further remarks.

NOTE: Next meeting **Tuesday, September 4, 2012 @ 1100–1300 EDT**