



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 02 Septmeber 2014  
1200-1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573  
Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Yes            |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Awards Subcommittee Co-Chair                             | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Yes            |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Co-Chair                      | Yes            |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Dobmeyer, Anne       | PSYPAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Newman, Sara         | COA Liaison  | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Yes            |

### Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

| Rank | Participant               | Agency | Present |
|------|---------------------------|--------|---------|
| CAPT | Adekoya, Nelson           | CDC    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Benally, Christine J.     | HHS    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Brett, Kate               | CDC    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Crago, David              | BOP    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Golden, John              | DoD    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Murry, Michael            | BOP    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Newman, Sara              | NPS    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Seaton, Mark              | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Bennett, Marco            | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Chu, Dan-My T.            | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Davidson, Bryan           | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Dee, Deborah              | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Dobmeyer, Anne C.         | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Frazer, Nicole            | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Hu, Sally                 | NIH    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Laird, David              | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Newland, Matthew          | HRSA   | Yes     |
| CDR  | Pauli, Ingrid             | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Sekulic, Kenneth          | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Streeter, Emily           | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Thomas, Jennifer Dolan    | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Xu, Fei                   | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Yip, Fuyuen               | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Zhang, Yi                 | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Alves, Gelio              | NIH    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Barbour, Kamil            | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Blessington, Tyan         | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Cunningham, Timothy       | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Daniels, Heidi            | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Demissie, Zewditu         | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Facey, Judy               | EPA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | France, Anne Marie        | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Geissler, Aimee           | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Green, Seth               | DoD    | Excused |
| LCDR | Hatch, Arlin              | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Hoffman, Kelsy            | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Hollis, NaTasha           | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Huang, David              | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth | ATSDR  | Yes     |
| LCDR | Ko, Jean                  | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Lu, Xiaowu                | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Maddox, Charlene          | NIH    | Yes     |

|      |                             |      |     |
|------|-----------------------------|------|-----|
| LCDR | Miller, Mark                | EPA  | Yes |
| LCDR | Nichols, Erin               | CDC  | Yes |
| LCDR | O'Neill, Eduardo            | CDC  | Yes |
| LCDR | Pamboukian, Ruiqing         | FDA  | Yes |
| LCDR | Parker, Erin                | CDC  | Yes |
| LCDR | Pulliam, Sara               | DoD  | Yes |
| LCDR | Rossiter, Lana              | FDA  | Yes |
| LCDR | Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.      | CDC  | Yes |
| LCDR | Scheckelhoff, Mark          | DHS  | Yes |
| LCDR | Sircar, Kanta               | CDC  | Yes |
| LCDR | Steele, Matthew             | FDA  | Yes |
| LCDR | Toussaint, Esra             | CDC  | Yes |
| LCDR | Tyus, Nadra                 | HRSA | Yes |
| LCDR | Vagi, Sara                  | CDC  | Yes |
| LCDR | Blackburn, Tajah            | DHS  | Yes |
| LT   | Cleck-Derenick, Jessica     | FDA  | Yes |
| LT   | Crarey, Emily               | FDA  | Yes |
| LT   | Francia, Charlotte          | BOP  | Yes |
| LT   | Hickey, Andrew              | OHA  | Yes |
| LT   | Hudson, Gwendolyn           | FDA  | Yes |
| LT   | Jamoom, Eric                | CDC  | Yes |
| LT   | Johnson, Jonetta            | CDC  | Yes |
| LT   | Kebker, Eric                | DoD  | Yes |
| LT   | Kembi, Folasade             | CDC  | Yes |
| LT   | Laufer, Alison              | CDC  | Yes |
| LT   | Leshin, Jonathan            | EPA  | Yes |
| LT   | Mathew, Shiny               | FDA  | Yes |
| LT   | Mells, Jamie                | CDC  | Yes |
| LT   | Muniz Ortiz, Jorge          | USDA | Yes |
| LT   | Rivera Rosado, Leslie       | FDA  | Yes |
| LT   | Shumate, Alice              | CDC  | Yes |
| LT   | Thompson-Paul, Angela       | CDC  | Yes |
| LT   | Wilson-Frederick, Shondelle | HHS  | Yes |
| LT   | Zucco, Julia                | CMS  | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Email LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- Welcome everyone to the first call of the new operational year.
- There is no new information on a new Surgeon General (SG); this will likely remain the case until after elections are held.
- Dr. Howard Koh has left as the Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH) at the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) with no word on his replacement; Dr. Wanda Jones is now

the acting ASH and the new acting deputy ASH is Rosemarie Hensen. The Office of the Surgeon General (OSG) is very optimistic about working with them.

- RADM Lushniak has put out an initiative to improve tobacco control; related efforts will be led by the SG and run out of the OSG. The SG has also continued with strong work on the call to action to prevent skin cancer.
- There are no updates on the Ebola outbreak except that we have personnel currently deployed, with possible future deployments on the horizon.
- The OSG has heard from officers that there are concerns about turning PHS Officers into athletes; we just want to reiterate that the intent of increasing opportunities for fitness as a group is for fun, similar to those who partake in the PHS ensemble. This is a grassroots effort to promote fitness.
- The OPF fax line is down with no date currently identified for repair; if you need to fax stuff in, please keep checking for new information.
- It is soon expected that there will be an open recruitment period for Scientists wanting to join PHS coming up; please keep an eye on the CCMIS website and you should see it pop up shortly, likely with a 1-2 week period where they will accept applications into a pool and will have in-person interviews.
- There will be no Officer Basic Course (OBC) in September; they are hoping to have a mid-level officer course.
- COERs on track to be available 1 October 2014.
- The Commissioned Corps and OSG are happy with the current trend to be able to move forward with a lot of various initiatives; please email me with any questions you might have.
- If you did not get promoted, be sure to look at your documents to see if you received a letter saying why you didn't get promoted in case it was an administrative error.

### **3) Report from the Chair: CDR Nisha Robbins**

- We have new subcommittee chairs and co-chairs (each introduced themselves on the call).
- I am excited to introduce myself as the new Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Chair. I am a Clinical Psychologist with 17 years of active duty, the first 7 of which were Navy. Several duty stations to include Immigration Health Services in Miami, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Fort Knox Army hospital, and now, she is at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth.
- CDR Robbins stated that one focus this year will be to review and revise each of the SOPs for the Scientist category. Each subcommittee will be tasked with reviewing their SOP. Another focus will be on incorporating RADM Lushniak's Call to Action into the Scientist category (skin cancer prevention) and also PHS Athletics into our work.
- The OSG Awards reported that awards are being processed very quickly and then being sent to DCCPR for inclusion into officer's records. They have a turnaround time of 3 days in many cases.
- We have a new Scientist Creed and this will be sent out via the Listserv with more discussion on it next call. Many thanks to the Visibility Subcommittee for their hard work on this new initiative!

### **4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Matthew Murphy**

- Nothing to report.

### **5) Secretary: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 93 Scientist Officers attend September's monthly SciPAC meeting.

- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- Also as reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

**6) COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- I will be meeting soon with the outgoing COF liaison, CDR Danice Eaton, to transition duties.

**7) Subcommittee Reports**

**a) Awards:** CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Alfredo Sancho

- A call for nominations for the Scientist Responder of the Year Award will be sent out this month.
- Myself, CDR Sancho (Co-Chair), and LCDR Maddox are planning a transitional meeting.
- The End of the Year report was completed and submitted.
- The subcommittee provided comments on the proposed Mentor of the Year award to the Mentorship subcommittee.
- The Subcommittee will continue the review of the Standard Operating Procedures and provide updates as needed.

**b) Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chair: CDR Mark Clayton

- OBC:
  - LT Dana Brauman (BOP, NY) attended the August 2014 OBC class.
  - The September OBC roster has not been released yet.
- Presentation:
  - CDR Mary McCormick, Acting Chief, Officer Support Section and Promotion Coordinator Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel & Readiness, will give a presentation after the October SciPAC call on preparing for the promotion process. LCDR Matt Steele will facilitate this presentation.

**c) Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: LCDR Robin Toblin

- The 2015 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held 18-21 May 2015 at the Sheraton, Atlanta, GA.
- The first meeting of the 2015 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium planning committee will be held on 10 September 2015. We will be setting up a meeting for SciPAC members who are interested in participating on the Category Day Subcommittee later this month. Details will be sent out by e-mail when a date is selected.

**d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France

- The mentoring subcommittee has made 4 recent matches and has several requests from potential mentees for new matches. The subcommittee is recruiting new mentors and looking for senior officers to volunteer to support junior officers. Any interested officers should email LCDR Cole ([Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov)).

**e) Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen

- There were no policy documents for the subcommittee to review in August.

**f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo

- Recruitment:
  - There are no current activities, as recruiting has been closed to scientists for the past couple of years; we hope to have an increase in activity now that recruiting will open to scientists soon. Last activity was working with OCCO to ensure that all boarded officers had assignments before their 1662s expired.
- Retention:
  - The subcommittee is currently working on a survey addressing officer retention and reasons for separation. The survey is undergoing review.
- Readiness:
  - The subcommittee gets monthly breakdowns of the Category's readiness (% basic qualified, not qualified, or exempt), and provides this information to SciPAC leadership, and the category, during monthly calls. The Subcommittee also reaches out to officers identified as not basic qualified, to assist them with attaining/ documenting basic readiness. Officers desiring assistance should email CDR Frasca ([dominic.frasca@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:dominic.frasca@fda.hhs.gov)) or LCDR Qiao Bobo ([qiao.bobo@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:qiao.bobo@fda.hhs.gov)). Officers should email LCDR Kamil Barbour ([iykl1@cdc.gov](mailto:iykl1@cdc.gov)) for additional information.
  - As the President's Challenge is currently being phased out as a means of satisfying annual PFT requirements, SciPAC (and other categories) are implementing the "PACE" PHS APFT Certificate of Excellence"). Officers completing a qualifying APFT (Level 1 or better); officers increasing their APFT level, or officers reaching APFT Level 4, receive a certificate, signed by OSG, for their eOPF.
  - The category is also collecting officer deployment vignettes (Agency or OFRD- sponsored), for publication. Officers interested in submitting, please email CDR Frasca ([dominic.frasca@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:dominic.frasca@fda.hhs.gov)) or LCDR Qiao Bobo ([qiao.bobo@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:qiao.bobo@fda.hhs.gov)).

**g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy

- An email will be sent to current subcommittee members to discuss continued participation in the subcommittee.
- Future subcommittee work may focus on the review of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

**h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- The Science & Practice Team will host a seminar on Effective Presentations by CDR Julie Chodacki (HSO psychologist) on 16 September 2014 at 1200 EST.
- The Bibliography Team continues to merge all of the team members' databases and hopes to release the updated Bibliography in EndNote in the near future.
- The National Prevention Strategy (NPS) Team is writing the manuscript for a commentary on Scientists' roles in the NPS.

**i) Visibility:** LCDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green

- The creed was approved! Big thanks to LCDR Green and LCDR Bonzagni.
- Many officers deployed for the Unaccompanied Children (UC) mission. CDR Yi Zhang just made a presentation on her deployment to UC mission in her office's all hands meeting. An FDA Newsletter will have an article on her deployment experience soon. She is planning to have an article for our SciPAC Newsletter as well.
- Scientist officers LCDR Steffen, LT Pesce, and LT Wu participated in the inaugural event for the PHS Athletics Initiative, the Annapolis ten-miler. These Scientist officers along with several officers from different categories increased visibility of the Corps by setting up a

table at the race Expo and by running the race in PHS gear. The event was coordinated by LCDR Bornemann. An article is being submitted about the event for the upcoming newsletter.

- **Newsletter:**
  - Articles submitted for consideration will be sent soon to editorial board members for review, so be on the lookout for an email.
  - The next issue of the newsletter will be published this month (September).
  - We are starting a new recurring column soon, led by our own CDR Michael King, regarding fitness, and that will include tips about how to prepare to transition from the President's Challenge to the required Annual Physical Fitness Test (APFT) and with tips for officers at various levels of ability about how they can improve their fitness.
  - To submit an article to the newsletter, please use our Article Submission email address: [SciPACNews@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:SciPACNews@fda.hhs.gov) .
  - If you have any questions about an article or the newsletter, or if you'd like information about how to join the SciPAC Newsletter subcommittee, you can use the same submission email address or contact any of the lead editorial team members:
    - CDR Deborah Dee, Editor-in-Chief: [DDee@cdc.gov](mailto:DDee@cdc.gov); 770-488-5556
    - LCDR Seth Green, Associate Editor-in-Chief: [sgsg5348@gmail.com](mailto:sgsg5348@gmail.com)
    - LCDR Neil Bonzagni, Assistant Editor-in-Chief: [Neil.Bonzagni@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Neil.Bonzagni@fda.hhs.gov); 718-662-5612
    - LCDR Anne Purfield, Layout Editor: [aip4@cdc.gov](mailto:aip4@cdc.gov); 404-639-2359

**j) Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram

- The newly designed SciPAC Website went live on 10 August 2014. If you haven't had a chance to check it out yet, please do so at [www.usphs-scientist.org](http://www.usphs-scientist.org) (same URL as before).
- Since installing a website usage tracking plug-in on 13 August 2014, we have had 387 visitors and 840 visits to the website through the start time of the SciPAC call on 2 September 2014.
- The new website was developed by the Health Services Officers (HSO) Information Technology Professional Advisory Group (IT PAG) using WordPress. The Website Subcommittee will gradually take over responsibility for updating and maintaining the website, but this will require some time and training of the Website Subcommittee members. We will use the pending updates related to the new Executive Board, voting membership, and subcommittee roles as a training opportunity and hope to have that information updated by the end of September. We appreciate your patience during this transition.
- **Call for members:** Scientist Officers who are experienced in using WordPress and are interested in joining the Website Subcommittee should contact CDR Boehmer at the email address provided below.
- We request that new Subcommittee Chairs and Co-Chairs look over and become familiar with their respective Subcommittee's webpage on the new website. In the next month or two, we will request a formal review and provide an opportunity to update information.
- Please send website update requests to CDR Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)).
- Also, please send feedback, questions, and comments on the new website to CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) and CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)).

**8) Liaison Reports**

- COA: CAPT Sara Newman

- Congratulations to our own LCDR Tracy Powell who will serve on the COA strategic planning committee to help draft the 2015-2019 plan for COA with members of the executive board of COA.
  - Executive Director of COA, Jim Currie, met with the Acting Assistant Secretary of Health, Dr. Wanda Jones, to discuss the Commissioned corps and cooperation between her office and COA. They will have a follow up meeting in September.
  - The COA has identified a new contractor to develop a new COA website and will work closely with the Corps through the Board of Directors to create the site.
- JOAG: LCDR Qiao Bobo
    - The JOAG Job Shadowing Program is transitioning from limited time enrollment to open enrollment starting 25 August 2014. We're accepting nomination forms for junior officers interested in shadowing a senior officer, and senior officers willing to serve a one-day commitment to help junior officers explore future professional opportunities. For more information, please contact LCDR Joanna Gaines ([iym2@cdc.gov](mailto:iym2@cdc.gov)).
    - The JOAG Journeyman Series will discuss the upcoming AMSUS (Association of Military Surgeons of the United States) Conference and USPHS involvement. CDR David Lau, CDR Malaysia Gresham, LT Cody Thornton and LT Angelica Chica will be presenting on 12 September 2014 from 1300-1400. Call in: 1-213-342-3000; Participant Access Code: 6904646
- PSYPAG: CDR Anne Dobmeyer
    - Results from the PsyPAG professional development needs survey (investigating factors that contribute to billet/PHS satisfaction) were discussed by CDR Satterfield on the last PsyPAG call. Overall, 43 psychologists responded, 54% outside of PHS DoD MOA. The majority (83%) are mostly or completely satisfied with current job situation. Approximately two-thirds are planning to change billets over the next 5 years (38% plan to stay in their current job over the next 5 years). Ideas were shared regarding how PsyPAG could help with career development. Weekly job listings are viewed as extremely helpful.
    - Board Certification Special Interest Group: July meeting – presentation from CDR Jeffrey Goodie regarding tips on successfully navigating board certification process. Upcoming meetings: 27 August and 22 October 2014.
    - The PsyPAG Psychologist Speaker Series continues on our bimonthly calls. In August, our speaker was LCDR Joel Nelson, who provided an update on the DoD/PHS MH MOA.
    - The PsyPAG Prescribing Psychologists SIG: Developing paper and/or presentation regarding contributions of prescribing psychologists within the PHS. Interested psychologists can contact CDR Anthony Tranchita ([anthony.tranchita.1@us.af.mil](mailto:anthony.tranchita.1@us.af.mil)).
    - The next PsyPAG meeting is on 1 October 2014 @ 1200 EST. The dial-in number is: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573) Participant Passode: 2214354.
    - 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 Sara Pulliam ([sara.pulliam@us.af.mil](mailto:sara.pulliam@us.af.mil)).

9) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- Nothing to report.

10) Closing Remarks: CDR Nisha Robbins

- None to report.

**NOTE: Next meeting Tuesday, 07 October 2014 @ 1200-1300 EST**



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**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

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| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
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| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Yes            |
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| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Yes            |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Co-Chair                      | Yes            |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Dobmeyer, Anne       | PSYPAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Newman, Sara         | COA Liaison  | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Yes            |

### Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

| Rank | Participant               | Agency | Present |
|------|---------------------------|--------|---------|
| CAPT | Adekoya, Nelson           | CDC    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Avchen, Rachel            | CDC    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Blanck, Heidi             | CDC    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Daugherty, Jon            | FDA    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Murry, Michael            | BOP    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Abe, Karon                | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Bennett, Marco            | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Bhagwat, Aditya           | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Clingman, Chekesha S.     | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Davidson, Bryan           | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Dee, Deborah              | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Eaton, Danice             | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Frazer, Nicole            | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Hu, Sally                 | NIH    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Pauli, Ingrid             | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Seo, Paul                 | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Sharma, Andrea            | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Stansberry, John          | NIH    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Streeter, Emily           | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Thomas, Jennifer Dolan    | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Xu, Fei                   | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Zapata, Lauren B.         | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Barbour, Kamil            | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Blessington, Tyan         | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Cui, Minglei              | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Demissie, Zewditu         | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Facey, Judy               | EPA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Geissler, Aimee           | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Green, Seth               | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Henderson, Tamara         | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth | ATSDR  | Yes     |
| LCDR | Nichols, Erin             | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Odom, Erika               | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Parker, Erin              | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Parks Brown, Sharyn       | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Perrine, Cria Gregory     | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Phillips, Kenneth         | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Powell, Tracy             | HHS    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Purfield, Anne            | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Rossiter, Lana            | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Toussaint, Esra           | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Tyus, Nadra               | HRSA   | Yes     |

|      |                             |       |     |
|------|-----------------------------|-------|-----|
| LCDR | Walters, Matthew            | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Zhou, Eric                  | NIH   | Yes |
| LT   | Cleck-Derenick, Jessica     | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Crarey, Emily               | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Francia, Charlotte          | BOP   | Yes |
| LT   | Hickey, Andrew              | OHA   | Yes |
| LT   | Irving, Shalon              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Jeisy Scott, Victoria       | NCIRD | Yes |
| LT   | Johnson, Jonetta            | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Kebker, Eric                | DoD   | Yes |
| LT   | Kembi, Folasade             | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Lucas, Neali                | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Mells, Jamie                | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Rivera Rosado, Leslie       | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Shiny, Mathew               | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Slayton, Rachel B.          | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Villarreal, Sara            | DoD   | Yes |
| LT   | Wilson-Frederick, Shondelle | HHS   | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Email LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- We have a team on the ground to assess the situation for Ebola. There are many questions left to be answered before we will receive more guidance on next steps and how to proceed.
- DCCPR is compiling and filling lists of potential candidates for Ebola-related missions, though they still need to work out issues and concerns related to resources, etc... We are highly aware of the questions that remain and how different this situation is. CDC has already deployed numerous people who are back and have provided feedback on the situation there, including the medical surveillance/mental health needs upon return. This is a work in progress moving forward and patience is appreciated.
- When deployed officers return from Ebola-related missions, they are on medical monitoring for 21 days upon return for fever, etc... If officers end up under quarantine or in a situation where their mobility/contacts are limited upon return from deployment, we should be prepared in Atlanta and DC to help support these officers. This is not to take the place of any DHHS efforts. If an officer is interested in helping with this and you are probably not going to deploy, please email me or Nisha your name and contact information. This would be to assist them with household-related tasks, and is just a low-key added asset. We will not do anything proactive unless asked by the Office of the Surgeon General to do so.
- As an added note, an officer is NOT obligated to notify us if they go into isolation as they have medical privacy. Again, officers are only on a 21 day watch as they are considered low-risk exposures due to protective measures being taken. They are, however, asked to avoid mass transit.

**3) Report from the Chair:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- There was interesting information on National Public Radio (NPR) today about the Ebola crisis and there was mention of USPHS presence and setting up the 25 bed hospital to care for other healthcare workers. We are seeing more discussion of USPHS and how we can serve the United States with our knowledge, skills, and abilities. These are exciting times for the Corps!
- Mr. McElligott, deputy executive director of the Commissioned Officers Association (COA), is asking for any Scientists working in the field of climate change and its impact on health to consider presenting for the Public Health Research Day at University of Maryland day on 9 April 2015. Email me with your interest: [nisha.robbsins@med.navy.mil](mailto:nisha.robbsins@med.navy.mil)
- Flu shot reminder! Remember that this is required for the 1 January and 1 April 2015 readiness checks. You have until the end of December to get it into your record.
- Direct Access: Please make sure all of your information is updated here so that DCCPR has accurate information as they look at officers for potential deployments.
- Thank you to our subcommittees for sending their goals for this year. Please begin your work on editing and revising your SOPs.

**4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Matthew Murphy**

- Nothing to report.

**5) Secretary: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 78 Scientist Officers attend October's monthly SciPAC meeting.
- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email ([Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov](mailto:Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov)).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- Also as reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

**6) COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- The current SciPAC account balance is \$2,016.37.

**7) Subcommittee Reports**

**a) Awards: CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson**

- Please welcome CDR Bryan Davidson as the new Co-Chair for the Awards Subcommittee. If you need to reach him, his email is: [bryan.davidson@us.af.mil](mailto:bryan.davidson@us.af.mil).
- A call for nominations for the Scientist Responder of the Year Award was sent out via email in September as well as a reminder email last week. Nomination packages are due on 20 October 2014. Nominations should be submitted electronically to CDR Bodart at [jennifer.bodart@us.af.mil](mailto:jennifer.bodart@us.af.mil). If officers are unable to submit their nomination material electronically they should contact CDR Bodart for other arrangements. Please consider submitting a package on any Scientist Officers who've had an impact on emergency preparedness, disaster response, or contributed to local, national, or international public health threats during the previous fiscal year. It's a great way to recognize the hard work folks are doing.
- The Awards Subcommittee has been actively working with the Website Subcommittee to update information on the website for the Scientist Responder of the year. That

information should be posted shortly and will contain details on the requirements for the nomination package.

- We had an overwhelming interest in officer's willing to assist with the Awards Subcommittee. Thank you to everyone who responded. CDR Davidson and I will be sending an email out shortly to those selected.

**b) Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie

- Officer Basic Course (OBC):
  - There was not an OBC in September.
  - No Scientists are scheduled to attend the October OBC.
- Training Presentation:
  - CDR Mary McCormick, Acting Chief, Officer Support Section and Promotion Coordinator Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel & Readiness, will give a presentation after the SciPAC call today on preparing for the promotion process. LCDR Matt Steele will facilitate this presentation. CDR McCormick's PowerPoint was distributed by LCDR Adjemian through the listserv on 30 September 2014 along with the October agenda.
- CV Review Service:
  - The Career Development Subcommittee is accepting CV's for review for officers that are up for promotion next year. If an officer wants their CV reviewed, they should e-mail it in a Word document to the Career Development Subcommittee leadership by 27 October 2014. Senior officers are also needed to help review CV's and we would greatly appreciate help with this important project. Two e-mails were sent through the listserv regarding the CV review process this morning with the e-mail addresses for CDR Clayton, LCDR Demissie and CDR Smith.
- CV Survey:
  - A survey on the CV review process and CV format will be distributed through the listserv. We are requesting that every scientist completes this short survey.

**c) Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: LCDR Robin Toblin

- Thank you to all who have volunteered to assist with the Category Day Planning Subcommittee. We have had an overwhelming response to the call for volunteers for the Category Day Planning Subcommittee. At this time, we have all of the members that we need to accomplish the work of the Subcommittee and can no longer accept new members.
- The 2015 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held 18-21 May 2015 in Atlanta, GA. Category Day this year will be on Tuesday, 19 May 2015. The symposium will be held at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel. Registration and reservation information has not been released yet. Please monitor the symposium website (<http://symposium.phscof.org/>) for updates.
- The theme for the 2015 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium is "Public Health Diversity: Succeeding in a Flatter World." The focus of this year's Symposium will be on the challenges and distinctive solutions that practitioners face and apply in addressing the public health needs of diverse places, populations, and problems as these issues become more interconnected and interdependent daily. The objectives of the plenary and track sessions will be to build knowledge of the systemic considerations in public health practices necessary to effectively protect, promote and advance the health of our nation in a global community.
- There will be a Category Day Subcommittee Planning meeting on Friday, 10 October 2014. Dial-in information has been sent out via the listserv.
- The call for Category Day abstracts will be going out shortly. The deadline for abstract submissions will be COB on Friday, 14 November 2014. If there are any questions, concerns about making deadlines, etc..., please contact the Abstract subgroup lead (CDR Deb Dee;

[gdq7@cdc.gov](mailto:gdq7@cdc.gov)) or CDR Satterfield ([William.satterfield@dha.mil](mailto:William.satterfield@dha.mil)) as soon as possible to avoid delays.

- If you have any ideas you would like to share regarding this year's Category Day, please do not hesitate to share them with CDR Satterfield, LCDR Toblin, or any member of the Category Day Subcommittee.

**d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France

- We received 2 new requests for mentors and matches are being coordinated.
- The Mentoring Resource Guide developed last year was submitted to the executive board for review and we are awaiting comments.
- The Mentor of the Year Award is being revised based on comments received previously from leadership.
- We will be contacting mentor/mentee pairs to update the mentoring agreements and receive feedback on how the process is working. Feel free to proactively email [Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov) with your updated agreement (<http://usphs-scientist.org/subcommittees/mentoring/>) or any comments on your experience.
- We are planning a face-to-face mentoring event (TBD) to be held in conjunction with the 2015 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium.
- We are currently recruiting additional mentors; please email [Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov) if you are available to serve as a mentor.

**e) Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen

- Congratulations to LCDR Carrie Nielsen who has been selected as the co-chair for the Policy Review Subcommittee for the 2014-2015 year.
- A call for new subcommittee members was sent out and officers were selected to join the subcommittee. These officers have already been contacted by email.
- There were no policy documents for the subcommittee to review in September.

**f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo

- Readiness statistics are currently unavailable, as OCCO/ OFRD are occupied for the foreseeable future with Ebola's mission support.
- All officers are urged to check their readiness. If one encounters difficulties achieving or documenting readiness, please contact the RR&R Subcommittee ([Dominic.frasca@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Dominic.frasca@fda.hhs.gov); [qiao.bobo@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:qiao.bobo@fda.hhs.gov)) for assistance.
- The Subcommittee will convene a planning meeting to discuss new and ongoing projects later this week; this will be reported on in greater depth at the November meeting.

**g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer

- Thank you to all of the officers who agreed to serve another year on the Rules and Membership Subcommittee.
- Welcome CDR Tegan Boehmer as Co-Chair for the Rules and Membership Subcommittee.

**h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- The Bibliography Team is expecting to post the Scientist bibliography by the end of 2014. They will be asking for updates to the bibliography at the start of 2015.
- The Journal Club and Science & Practice Teams are working on identifying speakers for SciPAC.
- The National Prevention Strategy (NPS) Team is continuing to prepare the manuscript for a commentary on Scientists' roles in the NPS. So far 4 out of 7 sections of the paper are complete.

- The Web team is finalizing content for 3 science subcommittee pages; they are planning to continue to support SciPAC website.

**i) Visibility:** LCDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green

- We are working with the Website Subcommittee to have the new Scientist Creed added to SciPAC website.
- LCDR Iram Hassan has joined the Scientist Newsletter to manage the official email for newsletter submissions: [SCIPACNews@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:SCIPACNews@fda.hhs.gov)
- In this link you will find a video with CAPT Riggs in the background, increasing the visibility of Scientist officers: <http://video.foxnews.com/v/3827623996001/cdc-training-workers-to-fight-ebola-in-west-africa/> . Thank you to LT Pesce for finding this piece to share!
- The annual call for newsletter team members will go out via the listserv on behalf of Editor-in-Chief, CDR Deb Dee, in the next week.
- We clarified the role for active newsletter team membership, which includes contributing at least 2 items to the newsletter. Please call in for more details.

**j) Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram

- The Health Services Officer (HSO) Information Technology Professional Advisory Group (IT PAG) has provided three one-hour WordPress training sessions to five volunteer Website Subcommittee editors: CDR Wei Guo, CDR Danice Eaton, LCDR Kanta Sircar, LT Oliver Ou, and LT Ameer Schwitters.
- In September 2014, we had 785 visitors and 3,262 visits to the Scientist Category website.
- Since the last SciPAC call, the following updates were made to reflect the new executive board and voting membership:
  - Updated the executive, membership, and subcommittee pages.
  - Uploaded the August OBC graduation photo, new merchandise order form, minutes from the September 2014 meeting, consolidated minutes from 2013-2014 operational year, and a generic agenda for the 2014-2015 meetings.
  - Added new content to the Responder of the Year Award page regarding the call for nominations, which can be accessed from an announcement on the home page.
- Call for new members: The Website Subcommittee is seeking 1-2 new members to assist with developing content for a few remaining webpages. Technical skills are not required. If you are interested, please contact CDR Boehmer at the email address provided below.
- Please send feedback and website requests to CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) or CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)).

**8) Liaison Reports**

- COA: CAPT Sara Newman
  - Nearly 800 officers responded to the survey eliciting input from the Corps on priorities COA should focus on for its 2015-2019 strategic plan. Results from the survey can be found in the COA Chair's article in the Oct Frontline.
  - A story in the 22 September Army Times quoted a Pentagon spokesman as saying that the Defense Department would “send and staff [emphasis added] a 25-bed field hospital to Monrovia, Liberia,” as part of the US anti-Ebola effort. That 25-bed hospital will actually be staffed by Commissioned Corps officers—not Defense personnel—so COA Executive Director, Jim Currie, sent a correctional letter to the editor of Army Times within an hour after seeing the story. The letter can be found on the COA website at [http://www.coausphs.org/documents/Letter to Army Times re Liberia Hospital Sep 2014.pdf](http://www.coausphs.org/documents/Letter%20to%20Army%20Times%20re%20Liberia%20Hospital%20Sep%202014.pdf)

- The Coalition for Health Funding ran the following piece in its newsletter, based on COA's submission to them:
  - Secretary Activates Public Health Service Response Teams: “HHS Secretary Burwell has activated response teams from the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service to respond to the Ebola outbreak in Liberia. They will coordinate with DoD, USAID, WHO, and international partners. PHS officers will staff a 25-bed hospital in which they will care for health workers who become ill from Ebola and provide technical assistance and logistical support. PHS officers have already been working in West Africa as part of the CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service activities of tracing Ebola contacts. As America's Health Responders, the PHS Commissioned Corps, led by RADM Boris Lushniak, has decades of experience with domestic and international health crises. They will be a linchpin between the defense-led U.S. response and nondefense partners. Thank you to the Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service for keeping us up to speed!”
- COA Deputy Director, John McElligot, has been named to the Veterans Committee of The Military Coalition
- JOAG: LCDR Qiao Bobo
  - The JOAG operational year for 2014-2015 started 1 October 2014. We will have new volunteer opportunities in the new operational year.
  - Junior officers—if you are interested in getting more involved in JOAG, please sign up for the listserv at the JOAG website.
  - The next JOAG General Member Meeting will be held this Friday, 11 October 2014, from 1300-1500 EST. The meetings are normally held on the second Friday of every other month. Dial-in Number: (626) 677-3000; Passcode: \*210076.
- PSYPAG: CDR Anne Dobmeyer
  - Voting for next year's PsyPAG Executive Committee (Chair-Elect and Secretary) will occur in the upcoming months. Nominations to the PsyPAG Executive committee are due 31 October 2014.
  - The PsyPAG Psychologist Speaker Series continues on our bimonthly calls. In October, our speakers included a panel that discussed information on upcoming Mental Health (MH) deployments for Ebola. Speakers: CDRs Tranchita, Goodie, Dobmeyer, and CAPT Formanski.
  - PsyPAG is initiating an online document-sharing account for resources/information on MH deployments related to Ebola.
  - In September, PsyPAG hosted, in conjunction with SciPAC's Science Committee, a “Science and Practice Series” speaker, CDR Julie Chodacki, who spoke on the topic “Introduction to Professional Presentations”.
  - The Board Certification Special Interest Group has an upcoming meeting: 22 October 2014 @ 1200 EST.
  - The Prescribing Psychologists Special Interest Group is working on gathering data on impact of prescribing psychologists in the PHS and other uniformed services. They developed a survey and hope to share the results at professional meetings.
  - The next PsyPAG meeting is on 3 December 2014 @ 1200 EST. This will be our final meeting for 2014. The dial-in number is: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573) Participant Passcode: 2214354.
  - 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 Sara Pulliam (sara.pulliam@us.af.mil).

## 9) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- Nothing to report.

**10) Closing Remarks: CDR Nisha Robbins**

- None to report.

**NOTE: Next meeting Tuesday, 04 November 2014 @ 1200-1300 EST**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 04 November 2014  
1200–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573  
Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Yes            |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Yes            |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Chair                         | Excused        |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Dobmeyer, Anne       | PSYPAG Liaison   | Excused        |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Newman, Sara         | COA Liaison  | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Excused        |

**Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers**

| <b>Rank</b> | <b>Participant</b>    | <b>Agency</b> | <b>Present</b> |
|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| CAPT        | Adekoya, Nelson       | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Avchen, Rachel        | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Barrett, Drue         | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Benally, Christine J. | IHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Brett, Kate           | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Daugherty, Jon        | FDA           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Golden, John          | DoD           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Nelle, Timothy        | FDA           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Newman, Sara          | NPS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Thoroughman, Doug     | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Abe, Karon            | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Bhagwat, Aditya       | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Carroll, Dianna D.    | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Davidson, Bryan       | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dee, Deborah          | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Eaton, Danice         | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Frazer, Nicole        | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Newland, Matthew      | HRSA          | Yes            |
| CDR         | Sharma, Andrea        | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Streeter, Emily       | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Temenak, Joseph J.    | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Alves, Gelio          | NIH           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Bjork, Adam           | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Cui, Minglei          | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Cunningham, Timothy   | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Daniels, Heidi        | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Demissie, Zewditu     | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Facey, Judy           | EPA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | France, Anne Marie    | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Green, Seth           | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Halldin, Cara         | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Miller, Mark          | EPA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Nielsen, Carrie       | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | O'Neill, Eduardo      | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Parks Brown, Sharyn   | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Purfield, Anne        | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Rossiter, Lana        | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Steele, Matthew       | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Taylor, Eboni         | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Toussaint, Esra       | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Tyus, Nadra           | HRSA          | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Walters, Maroya       | CDC           | Yes            |

|      |                             |       |     |
|------|-----------------------------|-------|-----|
| LCDR | Yard, Ellen                 | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Zhou, Eric                  | NIH   | Yes |
| LT   | Cleck-Derenick, Jessica     | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Cross, Israel               | CMS   | Yes |
| LT   | Hudson, Gwendolyn           | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Jamoom, Eric                | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Jarvis-Durham, Lisa         | CMS   | Yes |
| LT   | Jeisy Scott, Victoria       | NCIRD | Yes |
| LT   | Kebker, Eric                | DoD   | Yes |
| LT   | Lucas, Neali                | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Miller, Leigh Ann           | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Muniz Ortiz, Jorge          | USDA  | Yes |
| LT   | Shumate, Alice              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Wilson-Frederick, Shondelle | HHS   | Yes |
| LT   | Wright, Marcienne           | ASPR  | Yes |
| LT   | Zucco, Julia                | CMS   | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Email LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- Our first USPHS Ebola Response team of 65 people is on the ground; everyone is safe and accounted for. They will be opening the unit soon to begin receiving patients.
- They are in the process of putting together a roster for the second deployment wave of officers. At this time there is not a list yet or information on the timing of when the list will be compiled; it is still in the works. The second team will deploy approximately in mid-December, and a third team will be assimilated for a mid-January deployment. There may be a new survey monkey distributed to obtain updated availability data. There is also additional guidance about hardship and separation pays, which require at least 30 days in country to kick in. If on an agency deployment, please contact the agency liaison to ask questions there first.
- There has been a lot of discussion about the Direct Access submission cut-off on 18 December 2014. Unfortunately it is beyond our control as the Coast Guard is doing the conversion of their pay system that week. Make sure you get everything into Direct Access before then if you are up for promotion in this coming cycle.

**3) Report from the Chair:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- CDR Dunbar was slated to speak today about recruitment but he had a family emergency and was called away. He will speak on the next call. We do have the Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness (DCCPR) opening the window for Epidemiologists to apply on 6 and 7 November 2014 this week.
- We have been discussing fundraising on the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Chair call. The last discussion was that we are able to put out information about selling items such as t-shirts and coins, but we cannot sell them on government property. The group is checking to see if someone pays for an item online, for example, can we then distribute that paid for item on government property. More to come.

- The PAC Chair call solicited information about what each PAC is doing for its members on promotion preparation. We do review of CVs for officers, but also that our Career Development subcommittee had created a survey as well. Please complete this survey as it will allow our PAC Leadership to get your input on the current format of the CV, what should be changed or added, and what do you think about how we review CVs. The survey will go out again on the Listserv and should be done by 10 November 2014.
- DCCPR has put out a memo on the Commissioned Corps Management Information System (CCMIS) website regarding commissioning certificates being sent out to officers. An officer who was on active duty in the Reserve Corps is now Regular Corps. This certifies the officer's appointment in the USPHS by the President of the United States. The certificate will be mailed to the address on file in Direct Access.
- DCCPR has also informed us that both the social media aspects of the Corps and the Call Center for recruitment are now back under Recruitment after a contract ended.
- RADM Lushniak has stressed that while most officers will not deploy to Africa, we are all obligated to ensure that we stay well-informed with correct information from agencies such as the CDC and NIH. Remember, the blue ODU is the deployment uniform, so if you have not obtained your correct uniform, please do so---always be ready!

**4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Matthew Murphy**

- No updates to report.

**5) Secretary: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 75 Scientist Officers attend November's monthly SciPAC meeting.
- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- Also as reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

**6) COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- The current SciPAC account balance is \$2,016.37.

**7) Subcommittee Reports**

**a) Awards:** CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson

- The Awards Subcommittee received 3 nominations in response to the call for the Scientist Responder of the Year Award.
- The Awards subcommittee is in the process of forming an awards selection team (judging committee) to review and rank the nomination packets.

**b) Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie

- CV review service:
  - The Career Development Subcommittee has received and distributed 42 CV's for review. Each CV will be reviewed by two Senior Officers. Reviewer feedback is due to the officer by 19 November 2014.
- CV survey:

- A survey on the CV review process and CV format was distributed through the listserv. Through last Saturday, only 70 officers have completed the survey and we would like every scientist to complete the survey by 10 November 2014.
- **Officer Basic Course (OBC):**
  - No Scientists attended the October OBC.
  - The OBC is not scheduled to occur in November.
- **Other Items:**
  - SciPAC handbook
    - The Scientist Officer Handbook has been updated with new chapters on COERs, Promotions, and Training as well as a new PowerPoint slide deck that includes guidance on how to write Commissioned Corps awards.

**c) Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: LCDR Robin Toblin

- The 2015 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held 18-21 May 2015 in Atlanta, GA. Category Day this year will be on Tuesday, 19 May 2015. The symposium will be held at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel. Hotel reservations can now be made through the USPHS Symposium website at <http://symposium.phscof.org/>. Registration is anticipated to open in mid-November; registration rates are posted on the website. Please monitor the website for further updates.
- The Category Day Subcommittee Planning met on Friday, 31 October 2014 to review subgroup progress.
- Keynote Speaker Subgroup: The group is trying to identify someone who can give a big picture overview of the Ebola response and our role. The group is currently reviewing potential candidates for keynote speaker and will ranking the candidates later this week. The group will then reach out to the top candidates to determine availability and willingness to speak.
- Abstract Subgroup: The deadline for abstract submissions will be COB on Friday, 14 November 2014. If there are any questions, concerns about making deadlines, etc..., please contact the Abstract subgroup lead (CDR Deb Dee). Three abstracts have been received so far.
- Panel Discussion Subgroup: The panel discussion subgroup is currently working to identify panel members. The topic for this year's panel discussion is the interface between Federal and State agencies with regard to public health.
- Social Subgroup: The social subgroup is working on two different social events, one during the evening following the Category Day educational activities and another networking opportunity to be held during the time the Category Day meeting room is being prepared for lunch. More details on both events will be provided as they become available.
- It was suggested that officers in the Atlanta area might be willing to provide accommodations for officers attending the conference that may not be funded for hotel.

**d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France

- There are 58 active member matches within SciPAC and in the last month we had 4 requests for mentors. We currently have 5 pending matches and need additional O-5 and O-6 mentor volunteers. Please email [Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov) if you are able to serve as a mentor. The mentor of the year award has been revised to address the executive committee's comments and will be forwarded along for final approval soon. The mentoring subcommittee is looking for additional volunteers to take the lead on some new initiatives and help out with existing projects. Please email [Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov) if you are interested in getting involved.

- e) **Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen
- There were no new policies to review.
- f) **Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo
- Recruiting:
    - The Office of Commissioned Corps Operations’ (OCCO) CDR Dunbar was unable to join the call today, but plans to participate in the December 2014 SciPAC call, where he will update on recruiting policies/ activities as related to the scientist category.
    - RRR has re-reviewed and updated its Facebook template “Scientists’ Best Kept Secrets”; it is undergoing final review, and will be ready by December.
  - Retention:
    - RRR is re-reviewing the interview poll questions, has recruited subcommittee members to analyze raw data once the poll is released
  - Readiness:
    - Latest readiness statistics: as of 1 October 2014, 89% of Scientists officers meet basic readiness.
    - Scientists experiencing difficulty meeting, maintaining or documenting basic readiness may contact CDR Frasca, or LCDRs Bobo or Cole ([Dominic.frasca@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Dominic.frasca@fda.hhs.gov); [giao.bobo@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:giao.bobo@fda.hhs.gov); [jessical.cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jessical.cole@fda.hhs.gov) ) for assistance.
    - RRR is currently creating a new workgroup “Health Promotion Team”, under CDC’s LCDR Anne Purfield ([aip4@cdc.gov](mailto:aip4@cdc.gov)). The Health Promotion Team’s focus is as follows:
- g) **Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer
- No updates to report.
- h) **Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CDR Ryan Novak
- Journal Club Team: Tuesday, 9 December 2014 from 1200-1300 EST with our very own, CDR Maleeka Glover. CDR Glover has been working intimately on the Ebola response at CDC. Announcement along with the identified article forthcoming.
  - Science & Practice Teams are working on hosting speakers for SciPAC.
  - Bibliography Team: currently have over 1,200 references, and expect to post the Scientist bibliography by the end of 2014. They will be asking for updates to the bibliography at the start of 2015.
  - The National Prevention Strategy (NPS) Team is continuing to prepare the manuscript for a commentary on Scientists roles in the NPS. So far 4 of the 7 sections of the paper are complete.
  - We are recruiting a few new members for our Journal Club Team and Science & Practice Teams. If interested in joining please email CDR Jeffrey Goodie (email: [jeffrey.goodie@usuhs.edu](mailto:jeffrey.goodie@usuhs.edu))
- i) **Visibility:** LCDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green
- To be added.
- j) **Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram
- In October 2014, there were 1,009 visitors and 3,971 visits to the Scientist Category website.
  - Since the last SciPAC call, the following updates were made to the website: (1) added Co-chair information for Mentoring and Policy Subcommittees; (2) posted the “Top Ten Tips for Promotion Success” presentation slides from the October Career Development seminar; (3) posted four revised chapters of the Scientist Officer Handbook (COER, Training, Award write-ups, and Promotion); and (4) posted 2013–2014 SciPAC Annual Report. All of these

new documents can be linked to from the Announcements section on the Home page or by navigating through the Publications or Presentations menus on the left side of the webpage.

- I'd like to welcome three new subcommittee members: LT Victoria Scott (CDC), LT Shondelle Wilson-Frederick (DHHS, Office of Minority Health), and LCDR Scott Phillips (FDA).
- Please continue to send feedback and website requests to CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) or CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)).

## 8) Liaison Reports

- COA: CAPT Sara Newman
  - Our executive director, Col Jim Currie, has been active on the Hill and working with the media to increase visibility, understanding and support for the Corps. See the COA website to find COA media communications: <http://www.coausphs.org/news.cfm>
  - The Board of Director's strategic planning subcommittee including two scientists members (LCDR Tracy Powell and CAPT Sara Newman) had a retreat this October to synthesize findings from the survey released to all officers and draft an initial plan.
  - Members of COA can get a 30% discount on the new book Surgeon General's Warning: How Politics Crippled the Nation's Doctor <http://www.ucpress.edu/book.php?isbn=9780520272293>
  - Call now to reserve your hotel room for the COA conference. Hotel rooms are filling up quickly!
  - See this month's COA Frontline to read the only story in the media you'll read that describes the work that our officers did in south Texas to support the unaccompanied children mission.
- JOAG: LCDR Qiao Bobo
  - The Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG) is requesting nominations for the VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration award to be presented at the annual USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, from 18-21 May 2015. The JOAG VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration Award recognizes an active duty or retired senior officer at the rank of O-5 or above in the USPHS Commissioned Corps who exemplifies outstanding leadership by example, mentorship and empowerment of junior officers, unwavering support of the Commissioned Corps and its mission, and overall inspiration and motivation to the PHS community. Nominations are only accepted from junior officers (at the rank of O-4 or below in the USPHS Commissioned Corps). If you know any outstanding senior officers deserving the recognition of these awards, please see the attached documents for details. You can also contact JOAG Awards Committee Co-Chair LCDR Chinyelum Olele ([Chinyelum.Olele@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Chinyelum.Olele@fda.hhs.gov) <<mailto:Chinyelum.Olele@fda.hhs.gov>> ) or the JOAG Award Lead listed below for nomination details. Nominations are due to the appropriate JOAG Award Lead listed below no later than COB on 21 November 2014. Send nominations or questions for the VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration Award to: LCDR Sara Azimi-Bolourian (Email: [sara.azimi-bolourian@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:sara.azimi-bolourian@samhsa.hhs.gov); Phone: 240-276-2708).
  - The next Journeyman Speaker Series Seminar is scheduled for next Friday, 14 November 2014 at 1300 EST. LT Megan Hayden and Ms. Michelle Brazil from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will speak about "Improving Health Care Through the Rulemaking Process". Please send any questions you have for LT Megan Hayden and Ms. Michelle Brazil to JSS Co-Chair LCDR Ashley Burns at [Ashley.Burns@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Ashley.Burns@fda.hhs.gov). Please note the new call-in number: 1-860-970-0300; Passcode: 6904646
- PSYPAG: CDR William Satterfield

- The election for the 2015 PsyPAG Chair Elect and Secretary positions is currently underway. The suspense for voting is EOD on 30 November 2014. The results of the election will be reported at the next PsyPAG Meeting, which is scheduled for 3 December 2014 @ 1200 EST. The dial in number for the PsyPAG meeting is the same as for the SciPAC Meeting.
- PsyPAG continues to take an active role in identifying and disseminating information related to mental health factors related to the Ebola response and currently, there are two psychologists supporting Operation United Assistance in Liberia.

**9) Other Business, Questions, Comments**

- Nothing to report.

**10) Closing Remarks: CDR Nisha Robbins**

- None to report.

**NOTE: Next meeting Tuesday, 02 December 2014 @ 1200–1300 EST**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 02 December 2014  
1200–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573  
Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Yes            |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | No             |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Yes            |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | No             |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Chair                         | Yes            |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Dobmeyer, Anne       | PSYPAG Liaison   | Excused        |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Newman, Sara         | COA Liaison  | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Yes            |

### Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

| Rank | Participant               | Agency | Present |
|------|---------------------------|--------|---------|
| CAPT | Avchen, Rachel            | CDC    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Benally, Christine J.     | IHS    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Golden, John              | DoD    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Lotz, William Gregory     | CDC    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Murry, Michael            | BOP    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Newman, Sara              | NPS    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Thoroughman, Doug         | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Beckstead, David          | IHS    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Bennett, Marco            | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Bhagwat, Aditya           | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Chu, Dan-My T.            | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Clingman, Chekesha S.     | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Davidson, Bryan           | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Dee, Deborah              | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Highsmith, Keisher        | HRSA   | Yes     |
| CDR  | Hu, Sally                 | NIH    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Xu, Fei                   | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Bjork, Adam               | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Cui, Minglei              | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Cunningham, Timothy       | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Daniels, Heidi            | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Demissie, Zewditu         | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | France, Anne Marie        | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Green, Seth               | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Huang, David              | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth | ATSDR  | Yes     |
| LCDR | Lu, Xiaowu                | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Maddox, Charlene          | NIH    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Miller, Mark              | EPA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Myers, Todd               | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Nielsen, Carrie           | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Odom, Erika               | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Pamboukian, Ruiqing       | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Parker, Erin              | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Parks Brown, Sharyn       | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Perrine, Cria Gregory     | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Purfield, Anne            | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Rivera, Luz               | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Rossiter, Lana            | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Scheckelhoff, Mark        | DHS    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Sircar, Kanta             | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Tate, Jacqueline          | CDC    | Yes     |

|      |                         |       |     |
|------|-------------------------|-------|-----|
| LCDR | Walters, Matthew        | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Yard, Ellen             | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Cleck-Derenick, Jessica | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Francia, Charlotte      | BOP   | Yes |
| LT   | Hudson, Gwendolyn       | ACF   | Yes |
| LT   | Irving, Shalon          | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Jamoom, Eric            | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Jarvis-Durham, Lisa     | CMS   | Yes |
| LT   | Jeisy Scott, Victoria   | NCIRD | Yes |
| LT   | Kembi, Folasade         | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Leshin, Jonathan        | EPA   | Yes |
| LT   | Lozier, Matt            | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Mells, Jamie            | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Muniz Ortiz, Jorge      | USDA  | Yes |
| LT   | Rivera Rosado, Leslie   | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Villarreal, Sara        | DoD   | Yes |
| LT   | Wilken, Jason           | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Miller, Leigh Ann       | CDC   | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Email LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- Happy holidays to everyone! Please remember to keep everyone who is deployed in mind. The holidays can be a stressful time, so keep an eye out for each other.
- This is a reminder that Direct Access will be shutting down early this year starting 18 December 2014. This does not affect the COER but does impact vaccinations, medical information, etc...
- The roster for the Ebola Response Team 2 has been developed; as of yet there is no definitive roster for team 3, and no plans yet for a team 4. This will likely go on for longer with the need for teams 3 and 4, but that is currently unknown.
- There was a brief but successful open period for the Scientist category, and they were overwhelmed with responses. This is now the new recruitment system moving forward.

**3) Report from the Chair:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- A few weeks ago, we sent out a call for officers at the request of CDR Kenney. While they may have filled the need, I want to make sure Scientists are aware and may want to send an email expressing interest. The need is for officers to work in the Laboratory at the PHS Ebola Treatment Field Hospital outside Monrovia, Liberia. The officers would go through the CDC training in Aniston, Alabama as part of the 2 month deployment. This training was for early December, but if you are interested, email LCDR Elizabeth Lybarger ([Elizabeth.Lybarger@hhs.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Lybarger@hhs.gov)) or for more info about the duties, contact CDR Kenney ([James.Kenney@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:James.Kenney@fda.hhs.gov)).
- The Officer Basic Course (OBC) will happen on 7-19 December 2014, but no Scientists are in this OBC class. There will not be an OBC in January.

- The issue of fundraising was discussed on the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) Chair call; the latest word is that NO financial transactions can occur on federal property except for gift giving (like a coin). So, neither purchasing nor delivery can occur on federal property.
- The Monrovia Medical Unit Team 1 has established an APO mailbox to receive care packages and other morale and welfare items for general use or consumption by team members:

USPHS CARES  
 USPHS MMU Team  
 Unit 86010, Box # (525)  
 APO AE 09847-9997

- Two of our mental health teams, MHT-2 and SAT-2, created “Operation Care Package” as a way to support our deployed officers. They will assemble care packages to send to Liberia as long as we have officers over there. A PayPal account has been established to collect donations for the care package items and shipping supplies.
  - That site is: <https://www.paypal.com/us/home>
  - Follow the directions here:
    - Sign in, then select “Send money to family or friend” (if you do not choose this, fees will be assessed and all of the money will not be donated to the fund).
    - Send to email account: [usphsoperationcare@yahoo.com](mailto:usphsoperationcare@yahoo.com)
    - You can also send a check to CDR Malaysia Gresham at: 2111 Jefferson Davis APT 910S Arlington, VA 22202. She is working with other officers to assemble the care packages and get them shipped.
- Don’t forget: Direct Access will be offline from 18 December 2014 through 4 January 2015 while the Coast Guard upgrades their system. This will NOT affect access to your OPF. However, you will not be able to address issues such as medical evaluations, security clearances, awards, licensure updates, immunization entries, or check your readiness compliance.

#### 4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Matthew Murphy

- President Obama is very aware of USPHS contributions during the Ebola response.
- As a result of the Monrovia Medical Unit (MMU), the roles of USPHS have been clarified so that USPHS can: 1) deploy to international soil and treat patients, and 2) deploy for a prolonged period of time. This is important information that could shape potential future USPHS roles.
- The MMU is treating healthcare responders in West Africa and positively impacting the global response. The USPHS mission is not under the Department of Defense and is treated as an independent responder with our own specialty. There is a wide definition being provided of the types of health care providers that can be treated at the MMU, including responders, UN security guards, ambulance drivers, etc...
- At this point, the MMU Mission will not extend beyond 6 months. There will be up to 4 rotations in the field with the second team arriving 11 December 2014. On the Surgeon General’s (SG) call, the efforts of officers that have deployed through other agencies—CDC, NIH, ASPR, etc...—as well as officers involved with the domestic response were acknowledged for their efforts.
- USPHS leadership is aware of the stigma when returning back to the U.S. and a formal HHS policy is being developed.

- As part of the continued fitness initiatives, the SG is participating in the [RAGBRAI | The Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa](#) next July 2015, which is a week-long bike ride across Iowa.

**5) Secretary: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 76 Scientist Officers attend November's monthly SciPAC meeting.
- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- Also as reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

**6) COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- The current SciPAC account balance is \$2,016.37.

**7) Subcommittee Reports**

**a) Awards:** CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson

- The Awards subcommittee is in the process of reviewing and ranking the nomination packets. The winner will likely be announced during the January meeting.

**b) Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie

- CV review service:
  - The Career Development Subcommittee facilitated the review of 43 CV's this year; the CV's have been reviewed and comments were sent to the officers. Thank you to all the Senior Officers who reviewed CV's this year.
- OBC:
  - No Scientists are scheduled to attend the December OBC.
  - OBC is not scheduled to occur in January.
- CV survey:
  - LCDR Erika Odom will present the results of the survey regarding the CV review process and CV format, the highlights are listed below.
  - 88 scientists (primarily epidemiologists) participated: 54% junior and 45% senior officers.
  - A majority of participating officers (51%) do not believe the CV format should be changed, however, most would like to see more detailed examples of exceptional CVs. Officers also have questions regarding where collateral activities (certificates/letters of participation, etc.), non-peer reviewed documents (e.g., white papers, fact sheets, other educational materials, etc.), and TDYs should be listed.
  - Although most respondents believed that pre-PHS professional experience should NOT be limited in the CV, there were comments that suggested that after junior promotions (O-3, O-4) some guidance on previous professional experience should be offered.
  - 34 of 88 (39%) officers served as CV reviewers in the past 3 years. Most respondents gave positive responses about the process. Some suggestions for improvement included: sending thank you letters to reviewers, having the process begin earlier, and clearer guidance around coordinating primary and secondary reviewer feedback.

- 41 of 87 (47%) officers submitted their CV for review in the past 3 years. Most respondents' feedback about the review process was positive. Some suggestions included: figuring out a way to resolve conflicting advice, holding a teleconference about feedback, starting the review process earlier in the year.
- As a next step, the Career Development Subcommittee will review the survey results in more depth and develop a CV guidance revision plan to the SciPAC leadership.

**c) Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: LCDR Robin Toblin

- Abstracts for main conference sessions are due on 22 December 2014: <http://symposium.phscof.org/speaker-information> .
- Conference registration is now available (<http://symposium.phscof.org/registration/119-registration> ) as are hotel reservations ( <http://symposium.phscof.org/accommodations> ).
- Junior officer scholarships are available to Officers at the O-3 rank and below; the deadline is 15 March 2014 (<http://symposium.phscof.org/registration/119-registration>).
- The keynote speaker will be CAPT Jennifer McQuiston, a CDC spokesperson, who will speak about risk communication as it relates to the Ebola outbreak.
- The discussion panel will focus on the relationship between federal and state agencies and the speakers will be RADM Nicole Lurie (cabinet-level department), CAPT Aaron Fleischauer (state agency), and LCDR Sara Vagi (federal agency).
- After a competitive selection process, seven speakers have been confirmed to speak on science and programmatic topics. There will also be an additional panel featuring Scientist officers involved in the Ebola response through both USPHS and their respective agencies.
- The Social Team will meet on 17 December to discuss networking and social opportunities.

**d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France

- Two matches were made in November and there are 4 pending mentees that we are looking for a mentor for. Please consider participating as a mentor and email [Jessica.cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.cole@fda.hhs.gov) if you are available to mentor a junior scientist officer.
- During the 2015 COA/COF Symposium, a face-to-face mentoring event will be held. The date is TBD.
- All mentors with an active mentoring agreement as of 31 July 2014 should have received a thank you letter from CAPT Sanders.

**e) Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen

- There were no policy documents for the subcommittee to review in November.

**f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo

- Recruitment:
  - There were no new additions. CDR Dunbar gave a detailed overview of the recruitment process now in place Corps-wide.
- Retention:
  - LCDR Thomas's workgroup has reviewed the draft survey, and will forward it to the executive board; it is currently on hold pending LCDR Thomas's return from Africa.
- Readiness:
  - Our category's readiness currently stands at 54%. Corps-wide readiness (as of 1 December 2014) ranged from 33%-57%. A review of the breakdown of the Scientist category readiness shows that the majority of the "not qualified" are for administrative items, such as missing Basic Life Support certification, missing flu shots, etc... Note that Direct Access is shutting down 18 December 2014. Officers are urged to review their readiness status, and correct any deficiency before the Direct Access shutdown.

- g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer
- The subcommittee is currently reviewing the SciPAC promotional benchmarks. If changes are suggested we will send a revised version to the voting membership for comments and approval. If approved, the new benchmarks will be presented to the SciPAC executive board.
- h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CDR Ryan Novak
- Please join us for the SciPAC Science Committee's next Journal Club call on Tuesday, 9 December 2014 from 1200-1300 EST.
  - You can join the meeting via Adobe Connect and Conference line. (Details below).The December Journal Club call will address the current Ebola response from a CDC perspective. Our Subject Matter Expert will be SciPAC's very own CDR Maleeka Glover. CDR Glover is the At-Risk/Vulnerable Populations Lead at CDC's Office of Infectious Diseases, Office of the Director, Influenza Coordination Unit. The article to be discussed is entitled: "Ebola Virus Disease in West Africa – The First 9 months of the Epidemic and Forward Projections".
  - Questions for the presenter can be sent to LCDR Nadra Tyus ([ntyus@hrsa.gov](mailto:ntyus@hrsa.gov)) by Thursday, 4 December 2014. All are welcomed to attend this call. You may also forward this information to other PHS colleagues that are interested in this topic.
  - The Science & Practice Teams are working on hosting speakers for SciPAC
  - The Bibliography Team is continuing to develop the bibliography.
  - The National Prevention Strategy (NPS) Team is continuing to prepare the manuscript for a commentary on Scientists roles in the NPS.
- i) Visibility:** LCDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green
- Individual visibility events are continuing (David Laird presented four posters)
  - The next newsletter is almost ready for review.
  - We are working on an Ebola-related contribution to the next All-PAC newsletter. Please email LCDR Loren Rodgers ([lrodders@cdc.gov](mailto:lrodders@cdc.gov)) to let me know of any Scientists officers that were (or will be) involved with the Ebola response, domestically or internationally. I (Loren) currently know about the following scientist officers who were or will be soon deployed: CDR Anthony Tranchita, CDR Jennie Thomas, CDR James Kenney, CDR Matt Murphy, LCDR Anne Purfield, LCDR Danielle Barradas, LCDR Jen Adjemian, LCDR John Pesce, LCDR Loren Rodgers, LCDR Qiao Bobo, LCDR Robin Toblin, LT Jonetta Johnson, and LT Leigh Ann Miller.
- j) Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram
- In November 2014, there were 1,048 visitors and 2,792 visits to the Scientist Category website.
  - Since the last SciPAC call, we posted both the October and November 2014 minutes.
  - We welcome LCDR Ellen Yard (CDC) to the Website Subcommittee.
  - We held a Website Subcommittee meeting on 20 November 2014 to discuss new standard operating procedures for addressing website update requests and reviewing/maintaining the website.
  - We are in the process of developing a "Website Update Request" form for SciPAC Subcommittee Chairs and members to use when submitting a request to the Website Subcommittee.
  - In January 2015, we will be requesting that Subcommittee Chairs and Executive Board members conduct an in-depth review of their respective web pages.

- Please continue to send feedback and website requests to CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) and CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)).

## 8) **Liaison Reports**

- COA: CAPT Sara Newman
  - RADM Boris Lushniak was selected for the COA Health Leader of the Year Award (HLOY) and will receive this recognition in Atlanta, Georgia at the USPHS Symposium. The HLOY award is the most prestigious award presented by the Association.
  - If you have not seen the numerous letters and appeals made by our COA Executive Director, Jim Currie, advocating for the Corps and enhancing Corps visibility, take a moment to see: <http://www.coausphs.org/legis.cfm>
  - See some great stories in Frontline this month, including:
    - A legislative update describing RADM Lushniak's report to Congress on 18 November 2014 on the Ebola response
    - A year in review that summarizes the major USPHS events, public health issues and efforts of COA to support the Corps.
    - A lively and informative article by our COF Chair, RADM Bob Williams
  - If you would like to be an active participant in COA National, please contact me to get involved on one of our subcommittees working to enhance corps visibility, improve branches, PHS public relations and legislative issues impacting public health and the commissioned corps. [saraneuman55@gmail.com](mailto:saraneuman55@gmail.com).
- JOAG: LCDR Qiao Bobo
  - The deadline for the JOAG nominations for the VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration award is extended to 19 December 2014. The award recognizes an active duty or retired senior officer at the rank of O-5 or above in the USPHS who exemplifies outstanding leadership. Only junior officers can nominate the senior officers.
  - The next Journeyman Speaker Series Seminar will be presented by our own Scientist Officer CAPT Daphne Moffett who is stationed in Tanzania. She will talk to us about her experience with the Ebola response on Friday, 9 January 2014 at 1300 EST. Call-in info will be provided at the beginning of January.
  - The next JOAG general meeting will take place next Friday 12 December 2014. All junior officers are welcome to participate.
    - Call-in information: 626-677-3000; Passcode: \*210-076
  - For the next couple months, LCDR Cara Halldin will provide the JOAG updates while I am deployed as part of the PHS Ebola Response team to Liberia.
- PSYPAG: CDR William Satterfield
  - To be added.

## 9) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- Nothing to report.

## 10) Closing Remarks: CDR Nisha Robbins

- None to report.

**NOTE:** Next meeting **Tuesday, 06 January 2015 @ 1200–1300 EST**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 06 January 2015  
1200–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573

Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Yes            |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Yes            |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Chair                         | Yes            |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Dobmeyer, Anne       | PSYPAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Newman, Sara         | COA Liaison  | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Excused        |

**Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers**

| <b>Rank</b> | <b>Participant</b>        | <b>Agency</b> | <b>Present</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| CAPT        | Adekoya, Nelson           | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Barrett, Drue             | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Benally, Christine J.     | IHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Brett, Kate               | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Crago, David              | BOP           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Golden, John              | DoD           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Lawrence, Theresa         | HHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Murry, Michael            | BOP           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Newman, Sara              | NPS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Riggs, Margaret           | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Thoroughman, Doug         | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Bennett, Marco            | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Chu, Dan-My T.            | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Davidson, Bryan           | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dee, Deborah              | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dobmeyer, Anne C.         | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dutton, Samuel S.         | DHS           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Eaton, Danice             | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Elson, Diana              | ICE           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Frazer, Nicole            | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Guo, Wei                  | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Hu, Sally                 | NIH           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Kenney, James             | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Streeter, Emily           | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Thomas, Jennifer Dolan    | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Xu, Fei                   | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Yip, Fuyuen               | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Barbour, Kamil            | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Blessington, Tyann        | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Cui, Minglei              | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Cunningham, Timothy       | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Demissie, Zewditu         | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | France, Anne Marie        | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Garnett, Theodore         | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Green, Seth               | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Halldin, Cara             | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Hatch, Arlin              | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Huang, David              | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth | ATSDR         | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Maddox, Charlene          | NIH           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Miller, Mark              | EPA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Myers, Todd               | DoD           | Yes            |

|      |                             |       |     |
|------|-----------------------------|-------|-----|
| LCDR | Nichols, Erin               | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Nielsen, Carrie             | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Odom, Erika                 | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Parker, Erin                | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Perez, Cesar                | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Perrine, Cria Gregory       | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Pulliam, Sara               | DoD   | Yes |
| LCDR | Rossiter, Lana              | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Steele, Matthew             | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Steffen, Scott              | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Tate, Jacqueline            | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Tian, Nancy                 | ASPR  | Yes |
| LCDR | Toussaint, Esra             | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Tyus, Nadra                 | HRSA  | Yes |
| LCDR | Walters, Matthew            | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Yard, Ellen                 | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Crearey, Emily              | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Cross, Israel               | CMS   | Yes |
| LT   | Francia, Charlotte          | BOP   | Yes |
| LT   | Halpin, Alison              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Hoots, Brooke               | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Irving, Shalon              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Jamoom, Eric                | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Jarvis-Durham, Lisa         | CMS   | Yes |
| LT   | Jeisy Scott, Victoria       | NCIRD | Yes |
| LT   | Johnson, Jonetta            | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Kebker, Eric                | DoD   | Yes |
| LT   | Kembi, Folasade             | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Leshin, Jonathan            | EPA   | Yes |
| LT   | Mathew, Shiny               | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Merrill, Rebecca            | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Puckett, Mary               | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Scott, Colleen              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Shumate, Alice              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Villarreal, Sara            | DoD   | Yes |
| LT   | Wilken, Jason               | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Wilson-Frederick, Shondelle | HHS   | Yes |
| LT   | Zucco, Julia                | CMS   | Yes |
| LT   | Miller, Leigh Ann           | CDC   | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Email LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders**

- Nothing to report.

**3) Report from the Chair: CDR Nisha Robbins**

- We now have our 19<sup>th</sup> Surgeon General of the United States, Dr. Vivek Murthy. He was born in England and moved to Miami when he was 3 years old. He received his education from Harvard and then the Yale School of Medicine; he has completed a residency in Internal Medicine. Dr. Murthy also holds an MBA in health care management from Yale. VADM Murthy takes over for RADM Boris Lushniak, who has served for the past 18 months as the interim Surgeon General. Yesterday, Dr. Murthy sent out an email to the Corps, providing his background, highlighting some of the hard work done by the Corps, and thanking Dr. Lushniak for his dedicated work over the past 18 months. We look forward to Dr. Murthy's leadership and more information will be posted as it comes available.
- I have created both a Facebook page and a Facebook Group for our PAC. These sites are in their infancy and will continue to develop; I will work with the Executive Board on the management of the page and the group. Several other PACs are on Facebook and use it as another way to pass information to its members in a timely fashion. Please search for USPHS Scientists if you are on Facebook and request to join the group if you would like to do so.
- Our first Healthy Scientists Bulletin has come out on the Listserv and I want to thank LCDR Anne Purfield for this strong work. Anne is leading this group under the Recruitment, Retention, and Readiness subcommittee.
- We did not have a Surgeon General's (SG) meeting last month as that time was used for a holiday event and a call was not held. The next SG meeting will be this month and more information will be passed on at our next call.
- On behalf of our Chief Professional Officer (CPO), CAPT Martin Sanders, I would like to congratulate our winner of the 2015 Scientist Responder of the Year. CDR James Kenney has been selected for 2015 and goes on to become our nominee for the 2015 Commissioned Corps Responder of the Year for his career contributions in emergency response at the local, national and international levels. Specifically, CDR Kenney demonstrated dedication to the mission of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) by successfully responding to three national emergencies/special events while maintaining his normal duty workload during Fiscal Year 2014. This includes providing support and leadership during the President's State of the Union Address, the District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency's (HSEMA) Functional Exercise, which simulated a Category 2 hurricane impacting the National Capital Region (NCR), and in writing the Health and Human Services (HHS) 2014 Support Plan for an Ebola Virus Disease Incident Occurring in the U.S. for the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response's (ASPR) Office of Emergency Management's Division of Planning (OEM-DP). As a result of his work related to Ebola, CDR Kenney volunteered and was selected to lead the diagnostic laboratory operations in the U.S. Military Field Hospital in Liberia. Additionally, beginning in 2013, he has served as the Deputy Team Captain for the Regional Incident Support Team for the NCR (RIST-NCR). These are just a few of the accomplishments that led to the selection of CDR Kenney as our Scientist Responder of the Year. Congratulations CDR Kenney!

**4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Matthew Murphy**

- Nothing to report.

**5) Secretary: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 93 Scientist Officers attend January's monthly SciPAC meeting, which is the highest attendance of the operational year.

- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- Also as reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

#### 6) **COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- The current SciPAC account balance is \$2,016.37.

#### 7) **Subcommittee Reports**

##### a) **Awards:** CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson

- Congratulations to CDR Kenney and thank you to our Awards Subcommittee for their hard work for the in the selection process.
- A call for nominations for the Junior and Senior Scientist of the Year Awards will be sent out by the end of the month. Nominations are being sent out earlier this year as a result of the Symposium being one month earlier. Please consider submitting a package; it's a great way to recognize the hard work folks are doing.
- CDR Davidson's and my email have changed. My new email is [jennifer.bodart@dha.mil](mailto:jennifer.bodart@dha.mil) and CDR Davidson's new email is [Bryan.Davidson@med.navy.mil](mailto:Bryan.Davidson@med.navy.mil).

##### b) **Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie

- No Scientists attended the December Officer Basic Course (OBC).
- OBC is not scheduled to occur in January.

##### c) **Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: LCDR Robin Toblin

- Registration for the 2015 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium is now open. Early Bird registration rates are available through 31 March 2015. Discounted rates are available for presenters.
- The room block at the Sheraton Hotel has sold out. Reservations at the government/conference rate are now available at the Marriott Marquis.
- Details about the Symposium, including registration and hotel information, can be found at the Symposium website at <http://symposium.phscof.org/?view=featured>.
- The deadline for abstract submissions has now passed; we have been told that a call for posters will be forthcoming.
- The Scientist Category Day agenda is now set and presenters have been notified. If for some reason you have not been notified, please contact CDR Satterfield or LCDR Tobin immediately.
- The agenda includes a keynote presentation by CAPT Jennifer McQuiston on the critical role of communications in the Ebola response, 7 abstract presentations, and two panel discussions, one on relationships between Federal and State governments and one on Scientist involvement in the Ebola response missions.
- Individuals who have been selected to present during Category Day should be receiving an e-mail notification from the conference planners soon with instructions for completing the required information in the Agenda Management System. The deadline for this is near the

end of January, so it will be important to get this information into the system as quickly as possible when the notification comes out.

**d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France

- We are waiting to hear back on the timing for the face to face mentoring event to be held at the symposium.
- One new mentor-match was made in December and there are still several mentees waiting for a mentor.
- If you are available to be a mentor, and currently aren't matched or are interested in being a mentor to additional scientist officers, please email LCDR Jessica Cole ([Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov)) .

**e) Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen

- There were no policy documents for the subcommittee to review in December.

**f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo

- The Retention Survey should be forwarded to the SciPAC Executive Board for review/ approval by the end of the month.
- The Healthy Scientists Bulletin (January 2015) has launched its first issue via the SciPAC listserv today. Topics included in this issue include: Research Review, Healthy Tips, DC Regional Activity Coordinators, Atlanta Regional Activity Coordinators, and Fitness Buddy Mentoring. The Point of contact for the Healthy Scientists Bulletin is LCDR Anne Purfield ([aip4@cdc.gov](mailto:aip4@cdc.gov)).

**g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer

- Nothing to report.

**h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- Science Subcommittee's Journal Club Team:
  - CDR Glover gave a wonderful presentation on the Ebola Response on 9 December 2014; approximately 15 Officers were on the call.
  - Future journal club discussions calls will include the following topics:
    - February: LT Oliver Ou (USDA), Healthy Eating/U.S. meat system and food safety
    - April: LT Shalon Irving (CDC), Healthy Communities
    - June: Jonetta L. Johnson(CDC), Chronic disease among women of reproductive age and maternity
    - August: LT Mike Lowe (CDC), Tobacco-free Living
- Please join us for the SciPAC Science Committee's next Science & Practice Series topic on Tuesday, 20 January 2015 from 1200-1300 EST.
  - Call-in Number: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573) Participant Passcode: 2214354
  - All are welcomed to attend this call. You may also forward this information to other PHS colleagues that are interested in this topic.
- The Bibliography Team is continuing to develop the SciPAC bibliography.
- The National Prevention Strategy (NPS) Team is continuing to prepare the manuscript for a commentary on Scientists roles in the NPS.

**i) Visibility:** LCDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green

- Newsletter content will be submitted to leadership (CAPT Sanders and CDR Robbins) for review this week and will be published soon thereafter.
- We are accepting submissions for the next issue and have a new submission email address:

[scipacnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:scipacnewsletter@gmail.com) .

- SciPAC poster planning has been started; LCDR Gelio Alves is leading this.

**j) Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram

- In December 2014, there were 1,534 visitors and 3,283 visits to the Scientist Category website.
- We have drafted a revision of the Website Subcommittee standard operating procedures and “Website Update Request” form for SciPAC Subcommittee Chairs and members to use when submitting a request to the Website Subcommittee.
- In the next few weeks, we will send a request to Subcommittee Chairs and Executive Board members to conduct an in-depth review of their respective web pages.
- We encourage Officers to visit our new Scientist website and send us feedback on their experience.
- Please continue to send feedback and website requests to CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) and CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)) .

**8) Liaison Reports**

- COA: CAPT Sara Newman
  - The COA Board of Directors had finalized, approved and released a 2015-2019 strategic plan for COA now available for your review at [http://www.coausphs.org/docs/news/COA\\_StrategicPlan\\_2015-2019.pdf](http://www.coausphs.org/docs/news/COA_StrategicPlan_2015-2019.pdf) .
  - The priority areas of focus for COA over the next 5 years are Membership, Visibility, Advocacy and Branches.
  - The COA has already reached out to the Office of the Surgeon General to offer our support for a formal welcome to our new SG and to provide opportunities for him to get to know his officers.
- JOAG: LCDR Cara Halldin
  - The JOAG voting membership application process will begin soon. Scientist liaison position is open for application this year. A solicitation for applications will begin at the end of January.
  - The next Journeyman Speaker Series is Friday, 09 January 2015 at 1300 EST on the “USPHS Ebola Response, special emphasis: Epi Response in Sierra Leone”. We are honored to have CAPT Dan Beck, DCCPR, Director of Readiness and Deployment Operations Group and CAPT Daphne Moffett, Associate Director for Science, CDC-Tanzania to provide an overview of the USPHS response to date and dive deep into our work in Sierra Leone (which is the country seeing the largest number of cases).
  - The next General Member Meeting: Friday, 13 February 2015; 1300 – 1500 EST.
- PSYPAG: CDR William Satterfield
  - The new PsyPAG Operational Year began 1 January 2015.
  - CDR Satterfield will be replacing CDR Anne Dobmeyer as the PsyPAG Liaison to SciPAC.
  - CDR Meghan Corso is the 2015 PsyPAG Chair, LCDR Robin Toblin is the 2015 Chair Elect, and LCDR Seth Green is the 2015 Secretary.
  - The next PsyPAG Meeting is scheduled for 4 Feb 2015 at 12:00 ET; dial-in number is the same as for the SciPAC call (1-866-782-0573 Pass code: 2214354).

**9) Other Business, Questions, Comments**

- Nothing to report.

**10) Closing Remarks: CDR Nisha Robbins**

- None to report.

**NOTE:** Next meeting **Tuesday, 03 February 2015 @ 1200–1300 EST**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 03 February 2015  
1200–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573  
Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Yes            |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Yes            |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Chair                         | Yes            |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Dobmeyer, Anne       | PSYPAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Newman, Sara         | COA Liaison  | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Excused        |

**Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers**

| <b>Rank</b> | <b>Participant</b>        | <b>Agency</b> | <b>Present</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| CAPT        | Adekoya, Nelson           | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Benally, Christine J.     | IHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Hayes, John Mosley        | IHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Lawrence, Theresa         | HHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Murry, Michael            | BOP           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Bennett, Marco            | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Chu, Dan-My T.            | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Clingman, Chekesha S.     | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dobmeyer, Anne C.         | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dutton, Samuel S.         | DHS           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Elson, Diana              | ICE           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Frazer, Nicole            | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Sharma, Andrea            | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Thomas, Jennifer Dolan    | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Xu, Fei                   | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Yip, Fuyuen               | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Zapata, Lauren B.         | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Zhang, Yi                 | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Blessington, Tyann        | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Cunningham, Timothy       | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Demissie, Zewditu         | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Garnett, Theodore         | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Green, Seth               | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Halldin, Cara             | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Hoffman, Kelsy            | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth | ATSDR         | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Maddox, Charlene          | NIH           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Nichols, Erin             | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Odom, Erika               | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Parks Brown, Sharyn       | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Powell, Tracy             | HHS           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Pulliam, Sara             | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Purfield, Anne            | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Rivera, Luz               | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Rossiter, Lana            | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Steele, Matthew           | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Tate, Jacqueline          | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Tian, Nancy               | ASPR          | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Toussaint, Esra           | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Walters, Maroya           | CDC           | Yes            |
| LT          | Benbassat, Danny          | SAMHSA        | Yes            |
| LT          | Creary, Emily             | FDA           | Yes            |

|    |                       |      |     |
|----|-----------------------|------|-----|
| LT | Cross, Israel         | CMS  | Yes |
| LT | Francia, Charlotte    | BOP  | Yes |
| LT | Halpin, Alison        | CDC  | Yes |
| LT | Hudson, Gwendolyn     | ACF  | Yes |
| LT | Irving, Shalon        | CDC  | Yes |
| LT | Jarvis-Durham, Lisa   | CMS  | Yes |
| LT | Kebker, Eric          | DoD  | Yes |
| LT | Kembi, Folasade       | CDC  | Yes |
| LT | Lucas, Neali          | FDA  | Yes |
| LT | Muniz Ortiz, Jorge    | USDA | Yes |
| LT | Patel, Monita         | CDC  | Yes |
| LT | Scott, Colleen        | CDC  | Yes |
| LT | Shiny, Mathew         | FDA  | Yes |
| LT | Shumate, Alice        | CDC  | Yes |
| LT | Slayton, Rachel B.    | CDC  | Yes |
| LT | Thompson-Paul, Angela | CDC  | Yes |
| LT | Wilken, Jason         | CDC  | Yes |
| LT | Zucco, Julia          | CMS  | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Email LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- The new Surgeon General (SG), RADM Murthy, has come on board and been quite active. He seems very eager to learn about the Corps and advocate for us, and recently participated on the monthly CPO call. He has embarked on a listening tour, traveling to many states, and visiting with officers at regional sites and various OPDIVs.
- The Ebola mission continues. The Corps is trying to get additional teams/rosters together. At this time there is no definitive news on when the mission will end. The third team is heading out shortly and the roster for a 4<sup>th</sup> team is being generated, but beyond that is unknown what the next steps will be.
- Promotion boards will start meeting soon. If you are up for promotion, be sure to stay basic ready, as flags that occur now can negatively impact you.
- There are no updates on the new Annual Physical Fitness Test (APFT). Preliminary new guidelines will roll out on 1 July 2015. If you pass the President's Challenge before 1 July 2015, you will still be good for a year after that.
- Thanks to those officers who are reviewing the SciPAC promotion benchmarks.
- For those officers who faxed in materials to their eOPF for promotion, they have now indexed all documents that were received prior to 31 December 2014. Keep an eye on your eOPFs and make sure everything is in there that should be.

**3) Report from the Chair:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Congratulations to the Mentoring Subcommittee Chair, LCDR Jess Cole, and the Mentoring subcommittee for the development of our first Mentor of the Year Award. Mentees who would like to submit the name of their mentor for the award should contact the Mentoring

Subcommittee.

- We have submitted the benchmark changes to the CPO for review. CDR Robbins would like to thank the voting members and the Executive Board for their thoughtful comments on the Benchmarks and we look forward to the final version going to the Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness (DCCPR) very soon.
- We heard from our new SG, Vice Admiral Vivek Murthy, and he recently went to Aniston, AL to send off the 3<sup>rd</sup> group of PHS Officers to Liberia. It was great to hear VADM Murthy say that he wants everyone to know who we are, all over the United States! The areas of focus for the SG include obesity, tobacco use, and mental health.
- The Commissioned Corps Management Information System (CCMIS) website has been revised and updated significantly! There are fewer clicks to get the same info as before. Please review it and send feedback via the link on the website.
- Direct Access is back online! As you know, the faxing of documents into the eOPF is behind. As of the day of this call, they are indexing submissions up to 21 December 2015.
- CDR Nathan Epling is the new Chair of the PAC Chairs and one initiative for this year is to emphasize identifying ways in which our categories work together on public health; how do we support each other? We want to show that the PACs work together in many ways, creating a strong Commissioned Corps. If you have ideas or see how this works in your workplace, send them to CDR Robbins: nisha.robbs@med.navy.mil

**4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Matthew Murphy**

- Nothing to report.

**5) Secretary: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 93 Scientist Officers attend January's monthly SciPAC meeting, which is the highest attendance of the operational year.
- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- There have been several important announcements distributed through the listserv recently, so please make sure that you are signed up to receive those emails.
- Also as reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

**6) COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- The current SciPAC account balance is \$2,050.89.

**7) Subcommittee Reports**

**a) Awards: CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson**

- A call for nominations for the Junior and Senior Scientist of the Year Awards were sent out to the listserv yesterday. Nomination packages are due on 27 February 2014. Nominations should be submitted electronically to CDR Bodart at Jennifer.j.bodart.mil@mail.mil. If officers are unable to submit their nomination material electronically please contact CDR Bodart for other arrangements. Please consider submitting a package on any Scientist Officer whose professional career and work performance have resulted in significant contributions to the health of the Nation and to the mission of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS). One award recognizes the career

achievement of a senior-level officer, and one is to acknowledge the contributions of a junior-level officer.

**b) Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie

- OBC:
  - OBC was not scheduled for January.
  - LT Jorielle Brown (SAMHSA, Rockville, MD) is scheduled to attend the February OBC.
- Training workgroup:
  - Pending approval from CDR Robbins, there will be a presentation after the April SciPAC call from Jim Currie, the COA Executive Director, about current issues affecting the Commissioned Corps. LCDR Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell will facilitate the presentation.
- CV Workgroup:
  - The CV Workgroup met on 22 January 2015.
  - The Workgroup has submitted a proposal regarding CV guidance and CV review process changes to the SciPAC Chair for Executive Board approval.

**c) Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: LCDR Robin Toblin

- Thank you to all of our Category Day presenters for completing their information in the Agenda Management System. We are now complete with regard to our agenda requirements.
- Registration is now open; early bird registration rates are available through 31 March 2015.
- Continue to monitor the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium website for information on call for posters.
- The Social Planning subgroup is currently working to identify a venue. More information will be coming soon.

**d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France

- A new SciPAC Award for a Mentor of the Year was approved. This award is given to an active duty Scientist Officer at the rank of O-4 and above to recognize an outstanding mentor in the Scientist Category. The nominations for this award will come directly from the mentees and additional information on the application process and deadlines will be sent through the list serve.
- 2 new matches were made in January; 1 pending match remains.
- If you are available to be a mentor please email LCDR Jessica Cole ([Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov))

**e) Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen

- There were no policy documents for the subcommittee to review in January.

**f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo

- Recruiting:
  - The RR&R subcommittee is developing a tracker to keep records of potential Scientist applicants who cannot be processed until the next open recruiting period for scientists occurs.
- Retention:
  - The SciPAC Executive Board has cleared the Retention Survey, and it will be released to

the group shortly.

- Readiness:
  - No new updates. The Readiness and Deployment Operations (RedDOG—formerly known as “OFRD”) Group states that readiness statistics were not ready at the beginning of the month due to Direct Access downtime, but should be available mid-February.
  - The “Deployment Vignettes” initiative is to be restarted once the bulk of officers have returned from Liberia missions.
- Healthy Scientists:
  - This program is currently up and running. The group requests that new activities be submitted for inclusion in the newsletter; contact information was included in the February healthy Scientists Bulletin.
  - Thanks to all who provided helpful comments/suggestions. If any Scientist officers would like to contribute, share an activity, or lead an activity, they can contact any of the Healthy Scientists Group members. Their contact information can be found in the February Healthy Scientists Bulletin.

**g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer

- ..

**h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- Journal Club Team (CDR Glover and LCDR Tyus)
  - Upcoming presentation: Healthy Eating/U.S. meat system and food safety
    - Presented by LT Oliver Ou (USDA), Tuesday, 24 February 2015, 1200 EST
    - Call-in Number: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573); Participant Passcode: 2214354
    - Lehotay et al. Development and validation of a streamlined method designed to detect residues of 62 veterinary drugs in bovine kidney using ultrahigh performance liquid chromatography –tandem mass spectrometry. *Drug Test. Analysis* 2012, 4 (Suppl. 1), 75–90. (PMID: 22851364)
- Science and Practice Team (LCDRs Cunningham and Powell)
  - Upcoming presentation: "Public Speaking: The Key to PHS Success"
    - As Scientist Officers, we are often responsible for ensuring the mission at our agencies are accomplished by making the tough decisions in coordinating and planning. CDR John Stansberry will speak about how mastering the skill of public speaking has enhanced his PHS career.
      - When: Tuesday, 17 March 2015, 1200 EST
      - Call-in Number: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573); Participant Passcode: 2214354
- NPS team (LCDR Ko)
  - We are completing commentary for the *American Journal of Public Health*. The lead authors plan to have a working draft of the commentary by mid-March.
- Biography and Publications Team (CDR Sharma)
  - We are formatting the final document; here is the summary of what we have thus far.
    - From 2010-2013, SciPAC officers:
      - Published an average of 261 manuscripts annually
      - Published an average of 14 book or book chapters annually
      - Published an average of 38 government reports annually
      - Gave an average of 240 presentations annually (i.e., conferences, universities, webinars, partner groups, agency trainings, etc...)
- Web Team (LCDR Parker)
  - We are reviewing the Science subcommittee webpages.

- i) **Visibility:** LCDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green
  - LCDR Alves is working with a team of fellow scientist officers on the category poster for the PHS Symposium in May.
  - There are no other updates at this time.
  
- j) **Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram
  - In January 2015, there were 1,491 visitors and 2,041 visits to the Scientist Category website.
  - Subcommittee Chairs and Co-Chairs will be contacted by a member of the Website Subcommittee this week about conducting a review of their respective web pages. Please respond by Thursday, 19 February 2015.
  - Please continue to send feedback and website requests to CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) and CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)).

## 8) **Liaison Reports**

- COA: CAPT Sara Newman
  - The Board of Directors will have an opening for a scientist officer to serve in a 3 year term beginning in July 2015. Please consider nominating yourself for this important leadership opportunity. You can find the nomination form on the COA website at <http://www.coausphs.org/>. The deadline to submit is 6 March 2015. Please contact Sara Newman ([saranewman55@gmail.com](mailto:saranewman55@gmail.com)) for more information.
  - Our COA executive directors met with the new SG on 14 January 2015 to discuss what COA is and what it does to support the commissioned corps and the OSG. The directors made the SG an honorary member of the COA.
  - The COA has established a new award for COA to honor members of congress who demonstrate support for public health and the commissioned corps.
  
- JOAG: LCDR Cara Halldin
  - Applications for the 2015-2017 JOAG Voting Members were distributed last week. If you did not receive a copy please email LCDR Cara Halldin ([challdin@cdc.gov](mailto:challdin@cdc.gov)). The Scientist liaison position is open for application this year, along with four at-Large positions. We'd like to encourage anyone who is interested in serving in a leadership role with JOAG to apply. The Scientist liaison is an important position which serves to update JOAG of SciPAC activities and also update the SciPAC membership of junior officer activities. Applications are due 6 March 2015.
    - If you are interested in applying and have questions, the JOAG Membership Committee will be hosting a Q&A session on Wednesday, 11 February 2015, from 1300-1400 EST. This call will cover general responsibilities/duties, as well as try to answer any questions you may have about the application process. The call-in number is (712) 432-0933 and the access code is 674654#.
  - The next General Member JOAG Meeting: Friday, 13 February 2015; 1300–1500 EST; Call in: 626-677-3000 Passcode: 791-9605#
  
- PSYPAG: CDR William Satterfield
  - The call for nominations for PsyPAG's Early Career Psychologist Achievement and Senior Career Psychologist Achievement Awards will be sent out via the listserv on 5 February 2015. The suspense for nominations will be 6 March 2015. The award recipients will be announced during the PsyPAG Call on 1 April 2015. The awards will also be presented at the 2015 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium in May for recipients who attend.
  - The next PsyPAG call is scheduled for 4 February 2015 at 1200 EST; the dial-in number and

passcode are the same as the SciPAC call.

**9) Other Business, Questions, Comments**

- Nothing to report.

**10) Closing Remarks: CDR Nisha Robbins**

- None to report.

**NOTE:** Next meeting **Tuesday, 03 March 2015 @ 1200-1300 EST**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 03 March 2015  
1200–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573

Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Excused        |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Yes            |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Chair                         | Yes            |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Dobmeyer, Anne       | PSYPAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Newman, Sara         | COA Liaison  | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Yes            |

**Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers**

| <b>Rank</b> | <b>Participant</b>        | <b>Agency</b> | <b>Present</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| CAPT        | Adekoya, Nelson           | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Barrett, Drue             | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Benally, Christine J.     | IHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Draski, Laura             | OS            | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Hayes, John Mosley        | IHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Lawrence, Theresa         | HHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Massoudi, Mehran          | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Riggs, Margaret           | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Troiano, Richard          | NIH           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Bennett, Marco            | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Bhagwat, Aditya           | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Carroll, Dianna D.        | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dee, Deborah              | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Frazer, Nicole            | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Guo, Wei                  | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Hu, Sally                 | NIH           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Kenney, James             | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Streeter, Emily           | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Xu, Fei                   | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Blessington, Tyann        | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Cunningham, Timothy       | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Daniels, Heidi            | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Facey, Judy               | EPA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | France, Anne Marie        | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Green, Seth               | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Halldin, Cara             | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Hollis, NaTasha           | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth | ATSDR         | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Ko, Jean                  | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Maddox, Charlene          | NIH           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Miller, Mark              | EPA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Nielsen, Carrie           | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Odom, Erika               | 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        | Powell, Tracy             | HHS           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Purfield, Anne            | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Rivera, Luz               | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.    | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Steffen, Scott            | FDA           | Yes            |

|      |                             |       |     |
|------|-----------------------------|-------|-----|
| LCDR | Tian, Nancy                 | ASPR  | Yes |
| LCDR | Vagi, Sara                  | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Yard, Ellen                 | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Zhou, Eric                  | NIH   | Yes |
| LT   | Francia, Charlotte          | BOP   | Yes |
| LT   | Halpin, Alison              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Hickey, Andrew              | OHA   | Yes |
| LT   | Jamoom, Eric                | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Jarvis-Durham, Lisa         | CMS   | Yes |
| LT   | Jeisy Scott, Victoria       | NCIRD | Yes |
| LT   | Johnson, Jonetta            | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Kembi, Folasade             | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Lozier, Matt                | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Lucas, Neali                | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Mells, Jamie                | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Rivera Rosado, Leslie       | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Scott, Colleen              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Shiny, Mathew               | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Shumate, Alice              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Thompson-Paul, Angela       | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Villarreal, Sara            | DoD   | Yes |
| LT   | Wilson-Frederick, Shondelle | HHS   | Yes |
| LT   | Wright, Marcienne           | ASPR  | Yes |
| LT   | Zucco, Julia                | CMS   | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Email LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- The Surgeon General (SG) is still on the listening tour.
- There have been several job vacancies recently posted to the listserv, so be sure to look at those announcements if that is of interest to you.
- Promotion year 2016 benchmarks have been moved forward to the Division of Commission Corps Personnel and Readiness (DCCPR). There were not any major changes or anything out of the ordinary. The 2015 promotion boards will be meeting in April.
- With the transition in SG office, several Chief Professional Officers (CPOs) are still serving in an acting role; recruitment for new CPOs for those categories in transition will be initiated shortly.
- There will be a new flag policy for the Corps soon. Up until now, the Corps has looked at O-7 Officer promotions in multi-step process. Their billet had to be approved for O-7 or O-8, then they were evaluated by an admiral board, and were either promoted or not. Many O-7/8 billets that are currently on the books are not filled. Some billets are mandated to be a flag billet. Change in flag policy will make this a more transparent/regular process. For instance, there was not a flag board in last 3 years and they seemed to occur sporadically. Now there will be one every year. The job, billets and person will all be considered by same board on a yearly

basis. There are approximately 20 officers who are O-6s in O-7/8 billets. Soon, there will no longer be so many empty O-7/8 billets, but instead these positions will be labeled with O-6/flag-ready billet status; so, theoretically we could have more. Flag officers are limited to 1% of the Corps (~67-70 officers).

- At this time, there is nothing major coming up on the SG schedule.

**3) Report from the Chair: CDR Nisha Robbins**

- At the time of this SciPAC call, the OPF system cannot be accessed. The Division of Systems Integration (DSI) is performing emergency maintenance on the system.
- For those up for promotion, the Commissioned Corps Management Information System (CCMIS) website indicates that all faxed documents sent in up to 31 December 2014 have been placed in the officer's OPF. CDR Mary McCormick ([phspromotions@hhs.gov](mailto:phspromotions@hhs.gov)) can be contacted if there is something missing; however, that deadline for that was 18 February 2015. You may still try to email for more information.
- We are continuing to develop our Scientist group on Facebook. If you are a Scientist who would like to be included in the group, just send a request to join the group. Search for USPHS Scientists and you should see the group. I want to encourage our group to share pertinent or interesting information using this site.
- Thank you to the voting members and the members of the Executive Board for working on revisions to our Scientist Benchmarks. These were submitted to the CPO last month and we will standby for any word from DCCPR.
- The PAC Chairs heard from CAPT Eric Shih, Acting Director of the DSI, who gave a solid overview of many upcoming changes. These include being paid twice a month and our leave system being handled in Direct Access instead of COLTS.
- I would like for our PAC to use webinar to host a meeting and more information will be coming on this issue.

**4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Matthew Murphy**

- No updates to report.

**5) Secretary: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 84 Scientist Officers attend this month's SciPAC meeting.
- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email ([Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov](mailto:Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov)).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- As reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

**6) COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- No updates to report.

**7) Subcommittee Reports**

**a) Awards: CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson**

- The deadline for nominations for the Junior and Senior Scientist of the Year and Mentor of the Year Awards were extended to Friday 6 March 2015. Nominations should be submitted electronically to CDR Bodart at [Jennifer.j.bodart.mil@mail.mil](mailto:Jennifer.j.bodart.mil@mail.mil). If officers are

unable to submit their nomination material electronically please contact CDR Bodart for other arrangements. Please consider submitting a package on any outstanding Scientist Officer.

- Once the nomination deadline passes, the Awards subcommittee will begin forming an awards selection team (judging committee) to review and rank the nomination packets.

**b) Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie

- OBC:
  - LT Jorielle Brown (SAMHSA, Rockville, MD) attended the February OBC.
  - OBC in not scheduled for March.
- Training workgroup:
  - There will be a presentation after the April SciPAC call from Jim Currie, the COA Executive Director, about current issues affecting the Commissioned Corps. LCDR Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell will facilitate the presentation.

**c) Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: LCDR Robin Toblin

- Agendas for the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium are now posted to the Symposium website. The Category Day agendas are also posted, although in draft form. The final should be posted soon. The Scientist agenda is mostly accurate, although there will be some edits to the final version.
- The call for posters is still open. The deadline for poster submissions is Friday, 6 March 2015.
- The Tuesday 19 May 2015 evening social will be at Ormsby's at 6:00 PM with an area for Scientist officers and plenty of games to play! Visit <http://www.ormsbysatlanta.com/> for more information. The social team is also planning a networking event for the 1145-1230 break in the schedule for officers interested in participating.
- The committee is reviewing the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).
- We have asked the Symposium planners about times and rooms for a mentoring session.
- JOAG has an Officer Room Share/Car Share Program. The POC for that program is LCDR Tricia Booker ([tricia.h.booker.mil@mail.mil](mailto:tricia.h.booker.mil@mail.mil)). Here are the steps to accessing the tool:
  - To access the online tool click here:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Akhy3CsG18QadHg2Y3diZ24tR1VsbnpSO TJGUW92Unc&usp=sharing#gid=0>  
<<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Akhy3CsG18QadHg2Y3diZ24tR1VsbnpSO TJGUW92Unc&usp=sharing>> (You may need to access this link from a non-work computer due to some Agency network settings).
  - Once the link is open, click on the first empty cell under Column A.
  - Once the Column A cell is highlighted, click on the arrow to the right of the cell to pull up drop down options. From the drop down click on "Looking for a roommate" or "Have a room to share" to indicate your room need or "Looking for a car pool" or "Have a car to share".
  - Enter your name, email address, phone number and other pertinent information listed on the spreadsheet. This information will be used by other officers to get in touch with you or vice versa.
  - Once you have identified a roommate or car pool, please remove your information from the spreadsheet.

- d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France
- The Mentor of the Year call for nominations went out on the list serve the week of 20 February 2015 and applications are due this Friday 6 March 2015. Please note that the nomination process requires a mentee to nominate their mentor and no self-nominations are permitted. Please nominate any worthy mentors that you have.
  - There is one pending mentee with unique circumstances. We're looking specifically for an O-6 officer stationed at CDC and any help is greatly appreciated. If you are available to help this officer please email LCDR Cole at [Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov).
  - All mentors have now been contacted to update their mentoring application and we are working on building a comprehensive database of the characteristics of our mentors. If you think you should be listed as a mentor but aren't currently matched or are interested in starting or renewing as a SciPAC mentor please email LCDR Jessica Cole at [Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov).
- e) Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen
- There were no policy documents for the subcommittee to review in February.
- f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo
- Recruitment:
    - We are continuing to maintain the new database of potential scientist applicants, pending the next open period.
      - Revisions/updates to the "Best Kept Secrets" document ongoing.
  - Retention:
    - Nothing to report.
  - Readiness:
    - Readiness and Deployment Operations Groups (REdDOG) updates were delayed from last month. The latest updates have the Scientist category at ~90% meeting basic readiness. Note that the end of March will be the last readiness check before the cutoff for the promotion cycle.
      - Officers requesting assistance obtaining/documenting basic readiness should contact the RRR subgroup.
    - The current plan is to have a combined Ebola/Monrovia Medical Unit (MMU) Deployment story from all collected vignettes.
    - The Healthy Scientists group remains interested in obtaining additional fitness ideas (activities, healthy recipes, etc), and is currently soliciting ideas for a "fitness buddies" program.
- g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer
- The Scientist Category Benchmarks have been reviewed by the Rules and Membership Subcommittee with revisions sent to the SciPAC voting membership for review and approval. Comments from the voting membership were reviewed by the SciPAC Executive Board and incorporated into a final version. The final version of the Scientist Category Benchmarks has been submitted to DCCPR for approval.
- h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CDR Ryan Novak
- Science and Practice Team (LCDRs Cunningham & Powell)
    - "*Public Speaking: The Key to PHS Success*"
      - As Scientist Officers, we are often responsible for ensuring the mission at our agencies are accomplished by making the tough decisions in coordinating and planning. CDR

John Stansberry will speak about how mastering the skill of public speaking has enhanced his PHS career.

- When: Tuesday, March 17th, 1200 EDT
- Call-in Number: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573); Participant Passcode: 2214354
- Journal Club Team (CDR Glover & LCDR Tyus)
  - LT Shalon Irving (CDC)
  - Healthy Communities
    - April 2015
    - Call-in Number: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573); Participant Passcode: 2214354
- NPS team (LCDR Ko)
  - We are completing commentary for the *American Journal of Public Health*. The lead authors plan to have a working draft of the commentary by mid-March.
- Biography and Publications Team (CDR Sharma)
  - We are formatting the final document, and setting up an email account for submissions.
- Web Team (LCDR Parker)
  - We are reviewing the Science subcommittee webpages.

**i) Visibility:** LCDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green

- The SciPAC poster is going through clearance, and should be ready for submission to the COF symposium shortly.
- We are planning on releasing a small newsletter issue in Mid-March.

**j) Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram

- In February 2015, there were 1,437 visitors and 2,301 visits to the Scientist Category website.
- Thank you to all the Subcommittee Chairs and Co-Chairs who responded to our request to review subcommittee-specific information on the website and provide updates.
- Since the last SciPAC call, the Website Subcommittee has: conducted minor updates such as rank and e-mail address changes requested by Subcommittee Chairs, posted January and February 2015 minutes, posted a revised Career Development Subcommittee SOP, and added announcements on the Home Page regarding the due date for Senior, Junior, and Mentor of the year nominations and acknowledging CDR Kenney as the 2015 Scientist Responder of the Year.
- We also posted a new “Website Change Request” form on both the Website Subcommittee and Contact Us pages. We would like people to begin using this form when requesting updates to the website that involve new content, major revisions, or posting of presentations, documents, or photographs. Minor updates (e.g., rank or e-mail address changes) can be e-mailed to the Website Subcommittee Chair and Co-chair without using the form.
- We encourage Subcommittee Chairs and SciPAC members to be more proactive in reaching out to the Website Subcommittee with requests to post information on the website (e.g., seminars, journal clubs, awards, Category Day events) that is typically only disseminated via the Scientist Category listserv. We hope this will help make the Scientist Category website more timely and relevant to our officers and encourage more use of the website. Please check out: <http://usphs-scientist.org>.
- Please continue to send feedback and website change requests to both CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) and CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)). CDR Boehmer will be on maternity leave through early June.

## 8) Liaison Reports

- COA: CAPT Sara Newman
  - The COA Board voted this week to end the agreement with the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) under which COA has paid \$20,000 per year since 2010 for our members to have electronic access to Public Health Reports. The subscription was disabled today on the COA Members' link because the cost far outweighed the benefit. Many officers already have access to Public Health Reports through their agencies.
  - Do not forget to self-nominate for a seat on the COA National Board of Directors. A Scientist seat is open and nominations are due 6 March 2015! <http://www.coausphs.org/index.cfm>
  - CAPT Sara Newman, as COA Chair, will present the COA's newest Public Health Leadership Award next week to Senator Dick Durbin for his outstanding commitment to tobacco control legislation. Senator Durbin has been a huge leader in tobacco control. He led the effort to ban smoking on planes and in 2009 he co-sponsored the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act and he is now working on issues related to the control of e-cigarettes, especially in youth.
  
- JOAG: LCDR Qiao Bobo
  - I would like to remind junior officers that the deadline for self-nominations for JOAG voting membership and the JOAG scientist liaison position is this Friday 6 March 2015. I strongly encourage anyone who is interested in serving in a leadership role with JOAG to apply. As the current JOAG Scientist Liaison and a JOAG voting member, I have valued the experience and found it very rewarding over the last two years. This is a great opportunity to contribute to the organization and enhance your leadership skills. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. My e-mail address is [qiao.bobo@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:qiao.bobo@fda.hhs.gov).
  - The next JOAG Journeyman Speaker Series (JSS) will be held Friday 13 March 2015 at 1300-1400 EST. CAPT (Ret.) James E. Knoblen will talk about Uniformed Service Officership & Protocol for PHS Officers. Many of you may have the book titled "Public Health Service Officer's Guide: Protocol and Service Standards". The book is written by CAPT Knoblen. Call in: 1-860-970-0300; Passcode: 6904646. Please send any questions you have to JSS co-leads LCDR Burns at [Ashley.Burns@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Ashley.Burns@fda.hhs.gov) or LCDR Neelam at: [nghiya@cdc.gov](mailto:nghiya@cdc.gov).
  
- PSYPAG: LCDR Seth Green
  - The 2015 Annual Psychologist Awards is currently underway for PsyPAG's Early Career Psychologist Achievement and Senior Career Psychologist Achievement Awards. The suspense for nominations will be 6 March 2015. The award recipients will be announced at the next PsyPAG Call on 1 April 2015. The awards will also be presented at the 2015 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium in May for recipients who attend.
  - The next PsyPAG Call is scheduled for 1 April 2015 @ 1200 EST at the same dial-in number as the SciPAC call.

## 9) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- Nothing to report.

## 10) Closing Remarks: CDR Nisha Robbins

- Nothing to report.

**NOTE:** Next meeting **Tuesday, 07 April 2015 @ 1200–1300 EST**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 07 April 2015  
1200–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573  
Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Excused        |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | No             |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Yes            |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | No             |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Chair                         | Yes            |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Dobmeyer, Anne       | PSYPAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Newman, Sara         | COA Liaison  | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Excused        |

**Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers**

| <b>Rank</b> | <b>Participant</b>        | <b>Agency</b> | <b>Present</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| CAPT        | Adekoya, Nelson           | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Benally, Christine J.     | IHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Ching, Pamela             | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Daugherty, Jon            | FDA           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Draski, Laura             | OS            | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Lotz, William Gregory     | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Newman, Sara              | NPS           | Excused        |
| CAPT        | Thoroughman, Doug         | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Abe, Karon                | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Carroll, Dianna D.        | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Chu, Dan-My T.            | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Clingman, Chekesha S.     | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Daniels, Heidi            | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Davidson, Bryan           | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dee, Deborah              | CDC           | Excused        |
| CDR         | Dobmeyer, Anne C.         | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Elson, Diana              | ICE           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Hu, Sally                 | NIH           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Kenney, James             | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | McCollum, Andrea          | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Pauli, Ingrid             | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Stansberry, John          | NIH           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Streeter, Emily           | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Thomas, Jennifer Dolan    | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Bjork, Adam               | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Calanan, Renee            | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Cunningham, Timothy       | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | France, Anne Marie        | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Garnett, Theodore         | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Green, Seth               | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Halldin, Cara             | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth | ATSDR         | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Kebker, Eric              | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Ko, Jean                  | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Nichols, Erin             | CDC           | Excused        |
| LCDR        | Nielsen, Carrie           | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Odom, Erika               | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Parker, Erin              | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Parks Brown, Sharyn       | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Perrine, Cria Gregory     | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Powell, Tracy             | HHS           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Purfield, Anne            | FDA           | Yes            |

|      |                             |       |         |
|------|-----------------------------|-------|---------|
| LCDR | Steffen, Scott              | FDA   | Yes     |
| LCDR | Tate, Jacqueline            | CDC   | Yes     |
| LCDR | Tyus, Nadra                 | HRSA  | Yes     |
| LCDR | Zhou, Eric                  | NIH   | Yes     |
| LT   | Cross, Israel               | CMS   | Yes     |
| LT   | Francia, Charlotte          | BOP   | Yes     |
| LT   | Halpin, Alison              | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Hickey, Andrew              | OHA   | Yes     |
| LT   | Hoots, Brooke               | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Irving, Shalon              | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Jarvis-Durham, Lisa         | CMS   | Yes     |
| LT   | Jeisy Scott, Victoria       | NCIRD | Yes     |
| LT   | Johnson, Jonetta            | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Kembi, Folasade             | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Lozier, Matt                | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Lucas, Neali                | FDA   | Yes     |
| LT   | Mells, Jamie                | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Merrill, Rebecca            | CDC   | Excused |
| LT   | Muniz Ortiz, Jorge          | USDA  | Excused |
| LT   | Scott, Colleen              | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Shumate, Alice              | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Thompson-Paul, Angela       | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Wilken, Jason               | CDC   | Yes     |
| LT   | Wilson-Frederick, Shondelle | HHS   | Yes     |
| LT   | Wu, K. Geoffrey             | FDA   | Yes     |
| LT   | Zucco, Julia                | CMS   | Yes     |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Email LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- Expect to hear more from the Office of the Surgeon General (OSG) on strategic health initiatives that are developing.
- Regarding the Ebola mission, Team 4 will be the last team to deploy through PHS to Liberia, and will close out the Monrovia Medical Unit (MMU).
  - RADM Scott Giberson and the SG will also be traveling back to the MMU to assist with the operation.
- There are no major new policies. The new flag grade promotion policy is now on the Commissioned Corps Management Information Website.
- There has also been more progress on the transition of moving many processes over to Direct Access. Soon, pay will be moving to a twice per month system.
- Summer whites are now authorized.

**3) Report from the Chair:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Mr. Jim Currie, Executive Director, Commissioned Officers Association (COA) presented to the PAC on current COA activities. We would like to thank COL (ret.) Currie for his outstanding presentation today!
- The PAC Chairs continue to work on migration of our websites over to HHS servers. CDR Dwayne Jarman is leading this task and has been put in contact with our Website Subcommittee leads.
- The Division of Systems Integration (DSI) continues to work on transitioning some aspects of officer administration moving to the Direct Access system; this is slated to occur by January 2016. The biggest changes will be our leave system moving to DA along with our pay, which will become twice a month.
- Benchmark changes have been submitted and there are several changes. One of the bigger changes is in the Career Progression and Potential section. Current benchmarks read that Programmatic Mobility, including TDYs and Details, are considered more important than geographic mobility. This wording was deleted and the factor now says “Mobility (programmatic or geographic). Then, in the columns, there are no changes made. For instance, the benchmark if you are up for temporary O-6 says “3 or more during a career (combined programmatic and/or geographic moves). We also added a separate section in here for Collateral Duties. The wording for this benchmark is “documented participation of significant or meaningful involvement in  $\geq 1$  organizational collateral duty/activity at the local/institutional level.” As you increase in rank, that number goes up to 2 and then 3.

**4) Report from Vice Chair:** CDR Matthew Murphy

- No updates to report.

**5) Secretary: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 75 Scientist Officers attend this month’s SciPAC meeting.
- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov).
- For today’s call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: “SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance”.
- If you are providing a report on today’s call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- As reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

**6) COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- The current SciPAC account balance is \$1,162.98.

**7) Subcommittee Reports**

**a) Awards:** CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson

- We would like to thank everyone who submitted nominations this year. The Awards Subcommittee received 26 nominations for the Junior and Senior Scientist Officer of the Year Awards and the Mentor of the Year Award.
- The awards selection team (judging committee) has been busy reviewing and ranking the nomination packets and the selection process is nearly complete. The winners will be announced at our May call.

**b) Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie

- Officer Basic Course (OBC):

- The OBC was not held in March.
  - There is an OBC in April, but no scientists are attending it.
- Training workgroup:
    - Jim Currie, the COA Executive Director, presented on this call about current issues affecting the Commissioned Corps. LCDR Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell facilitated the presentation.
- c) Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: LCDR Robin Toblin
- Early bird pricing has ended, but registration for the conference is still open. <http://symposium.phscof.org/registration>
  - An exciting free pre-conference schedule has been posted for Sunday, 17 May 2015. <http://symposium.phscof.org/docs/2015Symposium/LeadershipWorkshop-Agenda.pdf>
  - JOAG is offering a room and car share program to reduce costs to officers. <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/ccc?key=0Akhy3CsG18QadHg2Y3diZ24tR1VsbnpSOTJGUW92Unc&usp=sharing>
  - The SciPAC Mentoring committee will offer slots to meet with their mentors on Monday morning and Thursday afternoon of the conference.
  - The draft agenda for Category Day is located here: <http://symposium.phscof.org/agenda/category-day/114-agenda-details/201-sciag>
  - In addition, we will utilize the 45 minute break before lunch to try "speed networking". Look for an email on the listserv soon to sign up.
  - The social will be at Ormsby's at 6:00 pm: <http://ormsbysatlanta.com/>
- d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France
- There are currently 58 active mentoring agreements with two pending mentee requests and one new O-6 mentor. If you are interested in being a mentor or mentee email LCDR Cole ([Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov)). The mentor/mentee application can be found on the SciPAC website at <http://usphs-scientist.org/subcommittees/mentoring/>.
  - Mentor of the year award applications are currently under review and will be presented at Category Day.
  - The SciPAC Mentoring Guidebook was reviewed by SciPAC leadership; the committee is currently revising the document. This Guidebook will provide "best practices" and resources for the SciPAC mentoring program. LCDR Zewde Demissie is the lead for this effort.
  - LCDR Lana Rossiter, with LT Jorge MunizOrtiz and LCDR Cara Halldin, are developing an outreach program to help mentors provide (unsolicited) professional development to their mentees. This outreach will specifically focus on something not directly related to promotions but target an overall professional development/leadership topic applicable to all officers. More information to follow but email LCDR Cole ([Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov)) if you have any ideas on topics or presentation styles.
- e) Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen
- There were no policy documents for the subcommittee to review in March.
- f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo
- Recruiting: LCDR Parks is maintaining the applicant database; we are still getting 1-2 interested potential applicants/month.
  - Retention: The survey is being entered into Survey Monkey; look out for an invitation to

take it shortly. We will need to pare it down from 16 to 10 questions, based on responses after this pilot.

- Readiness:
  - The Readiness and Deployment Operations Group (RedDOG) reported the most recent readiness stats for the Scientist Category: 81.2% (projected, 1 April 2015).
  - The Officer Deployment Vignettes (on Ebola MMU deployments) draft is undergoing internal clearance.
  - The first “Healthy Scientists” bulletin is out, and it includes healthy workout tips, among other items.

**g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer

- We would like to thank everyone on the Rules and Membership subcommittee, SciPAC voting members, the Executive Board, and CAPT Sanders for contributing their ideas and efforts to revise the Scientist benchmarks.

**h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- Journal Club Team (CDR Glover & LCDR Tyus):
  - Tuesday, 21 April 2015 from 1200-1300 EST.
  - LT Shalon Irving (CDC) will be discussing an article that examines food insecurity and its potential impact on hypertension. The article highlights the importance of using a social determinant framework to examine health outcomes.
  - LT Jason Wilken will be moderating.
  - Article and additional details to be sent out to the listserv the week of 13 April 2015.
  - Call-in Number: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573); Participant Passcode: 2214354
- Science and Practice Team (LCDRs Cunningham and Powell):
  - CDR Stansberry will present on public speaking on 17 March 2015.
  - Additional presentations are planned for 21 July, 15 September and 17 November 2015; no presentation will be held in May due to the conflict with the USPHS Symposium.
  - Call-in Number: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573); Participant Passcode: 2214354
- Biography and Publications Team (CDR Sharma):
  - The 2010-2013 Bibliographies will be posted on the SciPAC website in April. There will be directions on how to request edits to these documents.
  - There will be an email coming in April with directions how to submit any works completed in 2014.
- Web Team (LCDR Parker):
  - We will be working with CDR Sharma’s team to post the bibliography.
- NPS team (LCDR Ko):
  - We are completing commentary for the *American Journal of Public Health*.

**i) Visibility:** LCDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green

- We are planning for a Newsletter issue to be released at the end of May. It includes a high-profile article on Scientist Ebola activities.

**j) Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram

- Soon after our March call, CDR Boehmer and family welcomed our next PHS officer-in-training, Rosalind Faye Boehmer. Mom, Baby Rosalind and family are healthy and well. CDR Boehmer will be on maternity leave until June 2015.

- In March 2015, there were 1,935 visitors and 7,871 visits to the Scientist Category website.
- Since the last SciPAC call, the Website subcommittee has posted the February OBC graduation photo, an updated Best Kept Secrets, and the March SciPAC call minutes.
- We ask our Subcommittee Chairs to respond in a timely manner to website update requests. We want to maintain currency on our website and that depends on receiving information from our members.
- Please continue to check out our website (<http://usphs-scientist.org>).
- Please continue to send feedback and website change requests to both CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) and CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)).

#### 8) Liaison Reports

- COA: CAPT Sara Newman
  - No updates to report.
- JOAG: LCDR Qiao Bobo
  - The FDA PHS awareness day event is ongoing now until 1:30 pm. JOAG is hosting a Uniform Inspection Booth at FDA's Commissioned Corps Awareness Day. Please feel free to stop by after this meeting if you are at the FDA White Oak campus.
  - The 2015 USPHS symposium is approaching. JOAG has established the Officer Room Share/Car Share Program to assist junior officers with either (1) finding a roommate, which can help offset the cost of housing, either in a hotel or at a local officer's home or (2) finding an officer to share a ride with. The room share/car share program will help you get in touch with fellow officers who are looking to split the cost of a room, provide a room to a fellow officer at no cost, or share a ride.
    - **Note:** Officers on official government travel with their room paid by a travel order cannot benefit financially from sharing a room.
    - The JOAG Symposium Planning Committee has created a self-sustained, easily accessible online spreadsheet where you can post your interest in a roommate or car mate. The link and detailed instructions were sent out through the SciPAC listserv yesterday.
  - The next JOAG General Meeting will take place this Friday 10 April 2015. All junior officers are welcome to participate. Call-in information: 626-677-3000; Passcode: \*210-076.
- PSYPAG: CDR William Satterfield
  - The recipient for the 2015 Early Career Psychologist Award is LCDR Sara Pulliam and the 2015 Senior Career Psychologist Award recipient is CDR Nicole Frazer.
  - The next PsyPAG meeting is scheduled for 3 June 2015 at 1200-1300EST. The dial-in information is the same as for the SciPAC calls.

#### 9) Other Business, Questions, Comments

- Nothing to report.

#### 10) Closing Remarks: CDR Nisha Robbins

- Nothing to report.

**NOTE:** Next meeting **Tuesday, 05 May 2015 @ 1200–1300 EST**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 05 May 2015  
1200–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573  
Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Yes            |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Yes            |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Chair                         | Yes            |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Dobmeyer, Anne       | PSYPAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Newman, Sara         | COA Liaison  | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Yes            |

**Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers**

| <b>Rank</b> | <b>Participant</b>       | <b>Agency</b> | <b>Present</b> |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| CAPT        | Adekoya, Nelson          | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Avchen, Rachel           | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Barrett, Drue            | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Bensyl, Diana            | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Hayes, John Mosley       | IHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Murry, Michael           | BOP           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Newman, Sara             | NPS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Riggs, Margaret          | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Bennett, Marco           | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Carroll, Dianna D.       | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Chu, Dan-My T.           | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dee, Deborah             | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dobmeyer, Anne C.        | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Elson, Diana             | ICE           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Frazer, Nicole           | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Glover, Maleeka          | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Guo, Wei                 | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Hu, Sally                | NIH           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Kenney, James            | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Streeter, Emily          | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Xu, Fei                  | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Yip, Fuyuen              | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Zhang, Yi                | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Belde, Robert            | BOP           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Blessington, Tyann       | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Calanan, Renee           | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Cui, Minglei             | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Cunningham, Timothy      | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Demissie, Zewditu        | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | France, Anne Marie       | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Garnett, Theodore        | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Geissler, Aimee          | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Green, Seth              | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Halldin, Cara            | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Henderson, Tamara        | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Hoffman, Kelsy           | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Huang, David             | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Ivey-Stephenson, Asha Z. | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Ko, Jean                 | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Maddox, Charlene         | NIH           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Miller, Mark             | EPA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Odom, Erika              | CDC           | Yes            |

|      |                             |       |     |
|------|-----------------------------|-------|-----|
| LCDR | O'Neill, Eduardo            | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Parker, Erin                | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Powell, Tracy               | HHS   | Yes |
| LCDR | Rivera, Luz                 | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Rossiter, Lana              | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Sandhu, Sukhminder          | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Steffen, Scott              | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Tian, Nancy                 | ASPR  | Yes |
| LCDR | Tyus, Nadra                 | HRSA  | Yes |
| LCDR | Vagi, Sara                  | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Walters, Matthew            | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Yard, Ellen                 | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Blackburn, Tajah            | DHS   | Yes |
| LT   | Bowen, Virginia             | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Cleck-Derenick, Jessica     | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Francia, Charlotte          | BOP   | Yes |
| LT   | Halpin, Alison              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Hickey, Andrew              | OHA   | Yes |
| LT   | Hudson, Gwendolyn           | ACF   | Yes |
| LT   | Jarvis-Durham, Lisa         | CMS   | Yes |
| LT   | Jeisy Scott, Victoria       | NCIRD | Yes |
| LT   | Leshin, Jonathan            | EPA   | Yes |
| LT   | Levine, Rebecca             | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Lucas, Neali                | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Mells, Jamie                | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Merrill, Rebecca            | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Pesce, John                 | NIH   | Yes |
| LT   | Rivera Rosado, Leslie       | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Scott, Colleen              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Shiny, Mathew               | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Shumate, Alice              | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Slayton, Rachel B.          | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Thompson-Paul, Angela       | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Wilson-Frederick, Shondelle | HHS   | Yes |
| LT   | Wu, K. Geoffrey             | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Zucco, Julia                | CMS   | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Email LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- We are looking forward meeting those who will be able to attend the COA Symposium this month.

- A CPO call was held discussing strategic issues; the new flag billets and updated Annual Physical Fitness Test (APFT) are moving forward. The Presidential challenge certificate will count through June 2015.
- We are excited to announce this year's SciPAC award winners:
  - Junior Scientist of the Year—LCDR Qiao Bobo
  - Senior Scientist of the Year—CDR Anne Dobmyer
  - Mentor of the Year—CAPT Sara Newman
  - Scientist Responder of the Year—CDR James Kenney

### 3) **Report from the Chair:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Remember: 18-21 May 2015, we will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> annual USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium at the Sheraton Atlanta! Thanks to our Category Day subcommittee for all of their hard work on preparing for this event.
- Commissioned Corps Management Information System (CCMIS) is continuing to be upgraded and expects many updates to occur this month. The Division of Systems Integration (DSI) is busy building a data warehouse for our legacy data. They are clarifying the help desk functions and we should find those to be more accurate and quicker. In general, the website should be with bigger capacity and more efficient.
- The Call Center is now open again and functional for Professional Advisory Committees (PACs) when their 'window' opens for new applicants.
- Award winners were announced!
  - Junior Scientist of the Year: LCDR Qiao Bobo
  - Senior Scientist of the Year: CDR Anne Dobmeyer
  - Mentor of the Year: CAPT Sara Newman
  - Scientist Responder of Year: CDR James Kenney
- Please remember to join the USPHS Scientists group on Facebook! It is a closed group, so just request addition. This is a site where Scientists can share information about the work we do, jobs, articles of interest, etcetera.

### 4) **Report from Vice Chair:** CDR Matthew Murphy

- No updates to report.

### 5) **Secretary: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 95 Scientist Officers attend last month's SciPAC meeting—our best turnout this year!
- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- As reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

### 6) **COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- The current SciPAC balance is \$1,157.03.

### 7) **Subcommittee Reports**

#### a) **Awards:** CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson

- Congratulations to our award winners. This was a very competitive process this year and these individuals are well deserving!

- We would like to thank the awards selection team for all their hard work. These individuals spent at least 12-15 hours reviewing nomination packages this year, which is no small task given this is in addition to their regular duties.
- Also, a special thank you to CDR Rob Belde and LCDR Charlene Maddox who worked behind the scenes assisting with the awards coordination process, and to LCDR Cole and LCDR France, the Chair and Co-Chair of the Mentoring Subcommittee, for their work in completing the Mentor of the Year Award.

**b) Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie

- Officer Basic Course (OBC):
  - There was an OBC in April, but no scientists attended it.
  - The OBC will not be held in May.
- Officer Midlevel Course (OMC):
  - The following four scientists attended the officer mid-level course in March: CDR William (Tony) Satterfield, CDR Emily Streeter, CDR Mike Smith and LCDR Benjamin Silk
- Training workgroup:
  - We anticipate there will be a presentation after an upcoming SciPAC call on the post 9/11 GI Bill. LT Andrew Hickey will facilitate this presentation.
- CV workgroup:
  - The workgroup is currently planning changes to the CV guidance based on new changes to the Scientist benchmarks.

**c) Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: LCDR Robin Toblin

- Category Day is Tuesday, 19 May 2015 starting at 0745 EST. If you have not registered and plan to attend, 11 May 2015 is the last day for standard registration rates. After that day you will have to pay the onsite registration rate which is significantly higher. Also, there is no discounted rate for invited speakers after 11 May 2015. Please visit the Symposium website (<http://symposium.phscof.org/registration>) for further details about registration and rates. We currently have 74 people signed up for Category Day
- Speed Networking (1145-1230 EST)--Talk to esteemed senior Scientist officers during our first-ever speed mentoring event.
- The Category Day Social is scheduled for 1800-2100 EST at Ormsbys (1170 Howell Mill Road). More information about the venue and menus can be found at [www.ormsbysatlanta.com](http://www.ormsbysatlanta.com). Deadline for RSVP: 8 May 2015 - We will send the RSVP form again after the meeting.
- In addition to the Category Day presentations, there are several other presentations that will be given by Scientists throughout the week. An e-mail with a list of these presentations will be sent out via the listserv. We want to encourage everyone to show support for your fellow Scientists by attending these presentations.

**d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France

- Thank you to all of the mentors who recently agreed to become active members again after being contacted by CDR Jeremy Wally. We currently have more active mentors than we have had at any point in the past year! This month we had 3 new requests for mentors and 2 CDC officers were matched. We have an additional 2 CDC mentors waiting for a match and have several potential mentors identified so those matches should be finalized soon. If you are interested in becoming a mentor/mentee please email the request form (<http://usphs-scientist.org/subcommittees/mentoring/>) to LCDR Cole

([Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov)).

- LCDR Anne Marie France and LCDR Anne Purfield have organized several mentoring events for at the Symposium. These events will be held on Monday, 18 May 2015 from 1015-1200 EST at the conference hotel (room TBD). We hope you will join us there! The details are as follows:
  - Speed Mentoring (1115-1200 EST):
    - Talk to esteemed senior Scientist officers during our speed mentoring event. Each senior officer will be available to speak with 1 to 3 junior officers about career progression, Commissioned Corps or Agency-specific issues for 7 minutes. At the end of 7 minutes the facilitators will signal that junior officers should move to another table to meet a new senior officer.
    - Please RSVP for the Speed Mentoring event by sending an email to [aip4@cdc.gov](mailto:aip4@cdc.gov) or [hgi6@cdc.gov](mailto:hgi6@cdc.gov) by Friday, 8 May 2015.
  - Mentoring Lounge (1015-1200):
    - If you and your matched mentor/mentee are in attendance at the conference, please use this time and space to meet to discuss the objectives outlined in your mentoring agreement. Take this opportunity to review your future objectives and renew your mentoring agreement and hand it to members of the mentoring sub-committee before you walk out the door.
  - For New Officers (1015-1200):
    - If you're new to Commissioned Corps or this is your first USPHS Science and Training Symposium, let the facilitators know and we'll pair you with a fellow officer to help enhance your Symposium experience and introduce you to other officers.
  - Get Matched (1015-1200):
    - If you are interested in volunteering as a mentor or a mentee, please use this opportunity to complete an application to be matched and allow us to introduce you to Scientist officers in the room who are interested in a mentoring relationship. Perhaps you can find your match!
- Although you may attend any and all events during this SciPAC mentoring session without an RSVP, please help us plan in advance by sending an RSVP ([aip4@cdc.gov](mailto:aip4@cdc.gov) or [hgi6@cdc.gov](mailto:hgi6@cdc.gov)) and list the activities you would like to participate in.
- The mentoring subcommittee is still brainstorming ideas on how to spark specific professional development discussions between existing mentors/mentees. If you are interested in helping with this project or have any ideas on topics to develop please email LCDR Rossiter ([Lana.Rossiter@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Lana.Rossiter@fda.hhs.gov)).

**e) Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen

- There were no policy documents for the subcommittee to review in April.

**f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo

- Recruitment: There are no new updates. We are continuing to maintain a database of interested potential applicants for the next “open season” recruiting timeframe.
- Retention: We are working on the final formatting of the retention survey.
- Readiness: Current (15 April 2015) readiness statistics for the Scientist category are at 91%. Projected readiness (July 2015) will drop to ~58%. This drop-off is across all categories, but we will work to address the decrease. We will work with the “Cross Category Readiness Workgroup” to obtain more details on the readiness decreases, and work with individual officers to help them obtain, maintain and document basic readiness.
- Officer Vignettes: The May 2015 edition of the Scientist newsletter contains officer

- vignettes from the 2014-2015 Ebola Monrovia Medical Unit (MMU) missions.
- Healthy Scientists: We are currently recruiting for “mentors” for the healthy scientist initiatives. Please contact LCDR Anne Purfield for additional details ([aip4@cdc.gov](mailto:aip4@cdc.gov)).

**g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer

- No updates to report.

**h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- Journal Club Team (CDR Glover & LCDR Tyus):
  - Thank you to LT Shalon Irving gave a great talk on food insecurity and its potential impact on hypertension on 21 April 2015.
  - LT Jonetta Johnson will be speaking on Tuesday, 9 June 2015, 1200-1300 EST. The topic and article will be forthcoming. Call-in Number: 866-782-0573; Participant Passcode: 2214354
- Science and Practice Team (LCDRs Cunningham & Powell):
  - There will not be a presentation in May due to the upcoming COA Symposium.
  - The next presentation will be 21 July 2015 on the Ebola Response.
  - Presentations are planned for 15 September and 17 November 2015.
  - Call-in Number: 866-782-0573; Participant Passcode: 2214354
- Biography and Publications Team (CDR Sharma):
  - 2010-2013 bibliographies can be found at <http://usphs-scientist.org/bibliography/>
  - Please review the 2010-2013 SciPAC bibliographies for corrections.
    - o Email: [scipac.bibliography@gmail.com](mailto:scipac.bibliography@gmail.com) with “Bibliography edit requested” in the subject line.
  - To submit your work for the 2014 bibliography, email [scipac.bibliography@gmail.com](mailto:scipac.bibliography@gmail.com) with “2014 bibliography submission” in the subject line.
- Web Team (LCDR Parker):
  - Great work coordinating the posting of the bibliography.
- NPS team (LCDR Ko):
  - Completing commentary for the *American Journal of Public Health*.

**i) Visibility:** LCDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green

- The Scientist Newsletter has been released to be distributed on the listserv and will be posted onto the SciPAC website.

**j) Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram

- In April 2015, there were 1,749 visitors and 15,207 visits to the Scientist Category website.
- Since the last SciPAC call, the Website subcommittee has posted the biography for CDR James Kenney, the 2015 Scientist Responder of the Year, the Science subcommittee’s Bibliography collection for 2010-2013, and the April SciPAC call minutes.
- We want to thank all the subcommittees for their patience as we process their website change requests and resolve errors.
- Please continue to check out our website (<http://usphs-scientist.org>).
- Please continue to send feedback and website change requests to both CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) and CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)).

**8) Liaison Reports**

- COA: CAPT Sara Newman

- National COA Updates:
    - Frontline is now free to all members and non-members.
    - Creation of Public Health Caucus: See [publichealthcaucus.com](http://publichealthcaucus.com) (notice COA logo at bottom!).
      - On 9 April 2015, Congressman Rob Wittman (R-VA-1) and Congressman Gene Green (D-TX-29) announced the formation of a new, bipartisan Congressional Public Health Caucus in the House of Representatives. The caucus will serve as a formal group of members whose mission is to raise awareness of the importance of public health issues, and will provide educational opportunities for Members of Congress and their staff.
  - 2015 Commissioned Officers Foundation (COF) Annual Local Branch Leadership Workshop:
    - Scheduled on Monday, 18 May 2015 from 0800-1300 EST at the COF Symposium in Atlanta, GA.
  - COA Award Luncheon-COA Branch of Year:
    - There will be 2 COA Branches of Year (one large and one small).
    - This will be held on Wednesday, 20 May 2015 at 1200-1330 EST at the Symposium.
  - 2015 USPHS Joint Combined Social:
    - This will be held on Wednesday, 20 May 2015 at 2000-0000 at the Atlanta Event Center Opera.
    - Purchase your ticket online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/usphs-joint-combined-social-tickets-16264573778>
- JOAG: LCDR Qiao Bobo
    - JOAG General Meeting at the Symposium:
      - The Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG) cordially invites you to attend the May JOAG General Meeting, which will take place at the 2015 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium in Atlanta, GA. JOAG's outstanding members will be recognized during the meeting and the USPHS Chief Professional Officers will participate in a Q&A session with junior officers. Additionally, JOAG merchandise will be given away as door prizes!
        - DATE: Monday, 18 May 2015
        - TIME: 1230 – 1330 EST
        - LOCATION: Georgia State University (GSU) (University Center, 66 Courtland Street SE, Atlanta, GA 30303, Room UC 485)
          - NOTE: GSU is approximately ½ mile away from the Symposium location (10-15 minute walk). Hyperlinks to the campus map and student center maps have been included in the attached save the date flyer. Hover over the underlined words for further details.
          - Walking Directions (Google): head West towards Courtland Street NE, turn left onto Courtland Street NE, continue onto Courtland Street SE, and the destination will be on the left, next door to the University Bookstore ([link](#))
          - Room Location: [http://studentcenter.gsu.edu/files/2014/03/University-Center\\_4th-Floor.pdf](http://studentcenter.gsu.edu/files/2014/03/University-Center_4th-Floor.pdf)
          - Interactive Campus Map for GSU: <http://map.gsu.edu/#/>
    - Officer Room Share/Car Share Program for the 2015 USPHS Symposium:
      - JOAG has established the Officer Room Share/Car Share Program to assist junior officers with either (1) finding a roommate, which can help offset the cost of housing, either in a hotel or at a local officer's home or (2) finding an officer to share a ride with. The room share/car share program will help you get in touch with fellow officers who are looking to split the cost of a room, provide a room to a fellow officer at no cost, or share a ride.

Note: *Officers on official government travel with their room paid by a travel order cannot benefit financially from sharing a room.*

- Steps to access the online tool:
  - To access the online tool click here:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/ccc?key=0Akhy3CsG18QadHg2Y3diZ24tR1VsbnpSOTJGUW92Unc&usp=sharing#gid=0> (You may need to access this link from a non-work computer due to some Agency network settings).
  - Once the link is open, click on the first empty cell under Column A.
  - Once the Column A cell is highlighted, click on the arrow to the right of the cell to pull up drop down options. From the drop down click on “Looking for a roommate” or “Have a room to share” to indicate your room need or “Looking for a car pool” or “Have a car to share”.
  - Enter your name, email address, phone number and other pertinent information listed on the spreadsheet. This information will be used by other officers to get in touch with you or vice versa.
  - Once you have identified a roommate or car pool, please remove your information from the spreadsheet.
  - If you have any questions or concerns, please contact LCDR Tricia Booker at [tricia.h.booker.mil@mail.mil](mailto:tricia.h.booker.mil@mail.mil).
- Volunteer sign-up to serve as JOAG representative at the Joint Marketplace and/or the JOAG Uniform Inspection Booth:
  - If you plan on attending the symposium and want a great way to meet other officers while serving the Corps, then consider volunteering to serve as one of our JOAG representatives for the Joint Marketplace and/or the JOAG Uniform Inspection Booth.
  - To sign up to volunteer for one of the available time slots, please click on the links below:
    - Joint Marketplace [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0B48ADAB2AA1FB6-joag/27037508](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0B48ADAB2AA1FB6-joag/27037508)
  - Join us to promote our unique JOAG merchandise to increase the visibility of our organization and foster esprit de corps. This will also give you an opportunity to share our JOAG mission, goals and how officers can get involved. Orientation call will be provided to all interested volunteers.
    - For more details about volunteering at the Joint Marketplace, please contact LCDR Dawn Montoya at [dmontoya@bop.gov](mailto:dmontoya@bop.gov).
  - JOAG Uniform Inspection Booth (UIB)  
[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0B48ADAB2AA1FB6-joag1/27037508](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0B48ADAB2AA1FB6-joag1/27037508)
    - Proud to wear the uniform? Do you want to help other officers feel confident they are meeting all current uniform regulations? Join this unique educational service we provide to ALL officers at our uniform inspection booth. Refresher training will be provided to all interested volunteers.
    - Please note: We seek a balance of male and female officer volunteers at each UIB shift.
    - The first JOAG Uniform Inspection Booth volunteer orientation will be held via teleconference on Friday, 1 May 2015 at 1000 EST. A subsequent orientation immediately prior to the Symposium will be scheduled for those who are not available for this first call and to give last minute-announcements for officers who were on the first call.
    - For more details about volunteering at the JOAG Uniform Inspection Booth, please contact LCDR Rachel Idowu at [rbi0@cdc.gov](mailto:rbi0@cdc.gov) or LT Beth Wittry at [xks5@cdc.gov](mailto:xks5@cdc.gov)

- If you are unable to access either one of the sign up links above, please contact LCDR Tricia Booker at [tricia\\_booker@yahoo.com](mailto:tricia_booker@yahoo.com)
    - All volunteers will receive a Thank You Letter from the JOAG Symposium Planning Committee for contributing their time.
  - Volunteer opportunity to serve dinner to homeless citizens:
    - The volunteer event will take place from 1730-2030 on 19 May 2015, at Safe House in Atlanta, GA. Volunteers will help staff recruit homeless people for dinner, serve a hot dinner to hungry individuals, and clean the facility.
    - This project is limited to 10 volunteers. This event is open to junior officers. If the maximum number of volunteers cannot be met with junior officers, then senior officers may volunteer.
    - If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please contact: LCDR June Germain (USPHS/JOAG), JOAG Public Health and Community Service Committee, National Prevention Strategy Subcommittee, 301-796-4024, [June.Germain@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:June.Germain@fda.hhs.gov)
    - SAFE HOUSE OUTREACH (Location: Safe House Outreach, 89 Ellis Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30303).
    - NOTE: This location is a two minute walk from the Sheraton Hotel, which is the site of the USPHS 2015 Scientific and Training Symposium.
    - Desired Attire: Blue PHS T-shirt, long pants, and closed-toe shoes. Long hair must be restrained.
  - The next Journeyman Speaker Series Seminar will be presented by CAPT Ross Spears on USPHS Awards on Friday 8 May 2015.
  - PSYPAG: CDR William Satterfield
    - The next PsyPAG meeting is scheduled for 3 June 2015 at 1200-1300EST. The dial-in information is the same as for the SciPAC calls.
- 9) Other Business, Questions, Comments**
- Nothing to report.
- 10) Closing Remarks: CDR Nisha Robbins**
- Nothing to report.

**NOTE: Next meeting Tuesday, 02 June 2015 @ 1200-1300 EST**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 02 June 2015  
1200–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573  
Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Yes            |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | No             |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Excused        |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Chair                         | Yes            |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Dobmeyer, Anne       | PSYPAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Newman, Sara         | COA Liaison  | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Yes            |

**Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers**

| <b>Rank</b> | <b>Participant</b>            | <b>Agency</b> | <b>Present</b> |
|-------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| RADM        | Mishoe, Helena                | NIH           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Avchen, Rachel                | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Barrett, Drue                 | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Benally, Christine J.         | IHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Brett, Kate                   | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Hu, Sally                     | NIH           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Lawrence, Theresa             | HHS           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Murry, Michael                | BOP           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Thoroughman, Doug             | CDC           | Yes            |
| CAPT        | Williams-Fleetwood, Sharon O. | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Abe, Karon                    | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Bennett, Marco                | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Chu, Dan-My T.                | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Davidson, Bryan               | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dee, Deborah                  | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Dobmeyer, Anne C.             | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Eaton, Danice                 | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Frazer, Nicole                | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Gardner, Tracie               | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Guo, Wei                      | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Kenney, James                 | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Streeter, Emily               | DoD           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Xu, Fei                       | FDA           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Yip, Fuyuen                   | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Zapata, Lauren B.             | CDC           | Yes            |
| CDR         | Zhang, Yi                     | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Barbour, Kamil                | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Calanan, Renee                | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Cunningham, Timothy           | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Demissie, Zewditu             | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Facey, Judy                   | EPA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Gaines, Joanna                | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Garnett, Theodore             | FDA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Green, Seth                   | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Halldin, Cara                 | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Kebker, Eric                  | DoD           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Ko, Jean                      | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Maddox, Charlene              | NIH           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Miller, Mark                  | EPA           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Nielsen, Carrie               | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | Odom, Erika                   | CDC           | Yes            |
| LCDR        | O'Neill, Eduardo              | CDC           | Yes            |

|      |                         |       |     |
|------|-------------------------|-------|-----|
| LCDR | Pamboukian, Ruiqing     | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Parks Brown, Sharyn     | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Perez, Cesar            | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Pulliam, Sara           | DoD   | Yes |
| LCDR | Purfield, Anne          | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Rossiter, Lana          | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Steele, Matthew         | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Tate, Jacqueline        | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Tyus, Nadra             | HRSA  | Yes |
| LCDR | Vagi, Sara              | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Walters, Maroya         | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Zhou, Eric              | NIH   | Yes |
| LT   | Bowen, Virginia         | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Cleck-Derenick, Jessica | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Halpin, Alison          | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Hickey, Andrew          | OHA   | Yes |
| LT   | Jarvis-Durham, Lisa     | CMS   | Yes |
| LT   | Jeisy Scott, Victoria   | NCIRD | Yes |
| LT   | Johnson, Jonetta        | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Kembi, Folasade         | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Leshin, Jonathan        | EPA   | Yes |
| LT   | Mathew, Shiny           | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Mells, Jamie            | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Merrill, Rebecca        | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Pesce, John             | NIH   | Yes |
| LT   | Scott, Colleen          | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Shumate, Alice          | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Slayton, Rachel B.      | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Thompson-Paul, Angela   | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Wilken, Jason           | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Zucco, Julia            | CMS   | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- Email LCDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- It was great seeing everyone at the USPHS Symposium last month!
- We are looking at ways to further integrate the Commissioned Corps across categories in the Surgeon General's (SG) office regarding policies and initiatives; I will let you know when specific needs arise for our Category.
- At the Symposium, it was announced that RADM Boris Lushniak will be retiring and RADM Sylvia Trent-Adams, the Chief Professional Officer (CPO) for the Nurse Category, will be serving as the new Deputy SG.
- There are no updates at this time on when Promotion Results will be announced.

- Two officers have reached out to me to learn more about the Officer Mid-level Course (OMC). The Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness (DCCPR) generate a list of officers eligible for this course, who are then contacted regarding their interest in attending it. People are selected based on their rank and years of service in the Corps.
- Congratulations again to all our Scientist award winners for this year!

### 3) **Report from the Chair:** CDR Nisha Robbins

- The call for Voting Members has been released! This year we have 7 open voting member slots; 6 of those are officers who may or may not apply for a second term. Please get your nomination packet in to CDR Matt Murphy by the end of the week (COB 5 June 2015).
- CDR Robbins wants to extend her heartfelt thanks to CDR Tony Satterfield and LCDR Robin Toblin along with their team for making Category Day such a great experience at the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium. Outstanding work!
- The PAC would like to welcome LCDR Eric Zhou in his role as the liaison for the Minority Officers Liaison Council (MOLC). We will be including information from MOLC in our minutes and LCDR Zhou will also brief the PAC as needed on important information.
- As of 1 June 2015, Medical Affairs, Compensation, and the Division of Systems Integration (DSI) will now be located at the Commissioned Corps Headquarters (CCHQ) main office in Rockville, MD. They have a new address: 1101 Wootton Parkway Rockville, MD 20852
  - CCHQ is now comprised of DCCPR (and all of its subdivisions) and DSI. Go to the CCMIS website for the organizational chart.
- Please remember to get your leave balance verified as the Direct Access Migration moves forward. Officers must verify their leave by 1 July 2015. Also, your Leave Maintenance Clerk (LMC) should have a hard-copy leave folder for you that is up to date.
- The PACs continue to work on a Social Media discussion and a checklist is being created that will ensure that the 9 HHS requirements are being met. Please remember to join the USPHS Scientists group on Facebook! It is a closed group, so just request addition. This is a site where Scientists can share information about the work we do, jobs, articles of interest, etcetera.

### 4) **Report from Vice Chair:** CDR Matthew Murphy

- A reminder was given that all SciPAC voting membership applications were due to CDR Matthew Murphy by Friday, 5 June 2015.

### 5) **Secretary: LCDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 88 Scientist Officers attend last month's SciPAC meeting.
- If you are having trouble receiving SciPAC listserv messages, please let me know. This seems to be an issue for several of our DoD officers, and is likely due to email encryption settings.
- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- As reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

### 6) **COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- The current SciPAC balance is \$1,297.63.

## 7) **Subcommittee Reports**

### a) **Awards:** CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson

- No updates to report.

### b) **Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie

- Officer Basic Course (OBC):
  - There was not an OBC in May.
  - There is an OBC in June, but the list of attendees has not been released yet, so we do not know if there are any scientists attending it at this time.
- Training workgroup:
  - There will be a presentation after an upcoming SciPAC call on the post 9/11 GI Bill. LT Andrew Hickey will facilitate this presentation.
- CV workgroup:
  - The workgroup is currently planning changes to the CV guidance based on new changes to the Scientist benchmarks.

### c) **Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: LCDR Robin Toblin

- Category Day 2015 was a huge success. Thank you to all of the individuals who participated in the planning and executions as well as to all of our presenters and panel discussants. I especially want to thank LCDR Robin Toblin for her assistance as co-chair.
- A survey was sent out via the listserv on 29 May 2015. If you attended Category Day, please take a moment to complete this survey and provide as much feedback as you can on how we can improve Category Day for next year.
- We should be receiving the photos with the SG at some point in the near future and I will share with the website team for posting to the SciPAC website and sharing on the Facebook page.
- Next year's symposium will be in Oklahoma City, OK.

### d) **Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France

- The inaugural Scientist Mentor of the Year award was awarded to CAPT Sara Newman at category day. Congratulations!
- The mentoring events at the symposium were very successful. The speed mentoring event included 5 senior officers (RADM Mishoe, CAPT Newman, CAPT Pamela Ching, CAPT Margaret Riggs, and CDR Matt Murphy) with 2-3 junior officers at each table with a total of 13 junior officers as participants. Additionally, there were 3 mentee applications, one completed mentorship agreement, and one new mentor volunteer made at the symposium. Thanks to LCDRs Anne Marie France and Anne Purfield for their efforts.
- One additional match was made after the symposium with 1 mentor and 2 mentee applications received after the symposium. The subcommittee is working on making matches for the new applicants. As always, we are still recruiting O-5 and O-6 officers to be mentors and encourage junior officers to reach out and request a mentor if desired. Interested officers should email [Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Jessica.Cole@fda.hhs.gov).

### e) **Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen

- The subcommittee has begun a new initiative in light of the lack of policy documents available for the subcommittee for review. The Policy Review subcommittee will begin providing SciPAC with summary reports of new and revised PHS Commissioned Corps policy

documents. These reports will include a bullet-point summary document as well as a short verbal report during the monthly SciPAC meetings.

- The subcommittee is currently revising its standard operating procedures (SOP) in order to develop a procedure to perform this new initiative and plans to begin providing summary reports in the coming months.

**f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo

- The RRR subcommittee is continuing to provide general guidance on joining USPHS, and the commissioning process to interested applicants who contact us.
- Interested applicants are being added to an applicant database; they will be contacted when the next scientist recruiting window opens.
- The Readiness and Deployment Operations Group (RedDOG) has not yet released the most recent readiness statistics.
- We are available to assist officers in obtaining, maintaining, or documenting basic readiness. Please contact us if you have questions or difficulties with basic readiness.
- RRR is a member of a “Cross Category Readiness Working Group” (CCRWG). On last week’s call, the CCRWG asked its representatives to compile a list of category-specific deployment skillsets (either skills that we as scientists bring to the deployment table, or skills that we think would be useful for scientists to have for their deployment roles). Please submit any suggested skills to CDR Frasca ([Dominic.frasca@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:Dominic.frasca@fda.hhs.gov)); he will compile the list for review and submission.

**g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer

- The subcommittee will be reviewing the SciPAC voting membership applications to select SciPAC voting members for the 2015-2018 cycle.

**h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CDR Ryan Novak

- Journal Club Team (CDR Glover & LCDR Tyus):
  - LT Jonetta Johnson will be speaking on Tuesday, 9 June 2015, 1200-1300 EST.
    - LT Johnson is an Epidemiologist in the Maternal and Infant Health Branch of the Division of Reproductive Health.
    - Topic will address Reproductive and Sexual Health priority of the National Prevention Strategy.
      - Article: “Between-Hospital Variation in Treatment and Outcomes in Extremely Preterm Infants”
    - You can also send questions for the presenter to LCDR Nadra Tyus ([nadra\\_tyus@hotmail.com](mailto:nadra_tyus@hotmail.com)) by COB Monday, 8 June 2015.
    - To join the meeting:
      - <https://hrsa.connectsolutions.com/r7fml8bxehm/>
      - Conference call information:
        - Call-in Number: 1-866-768-5238
        - Participant Passcode: 76235781
- Science and Practice Team (LCDRs Cunningham & Powell):
  - Next presentation will be on 21 July 2015; Topic: Ebola Response
  - Planning presentations for 15 September and 17 November 2015
    - Call-in Number: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573); Participant Passcode: 2214354
- Biography and Publications Team (CDR Sharma):
  - Submit your work for the 2014 bibliography by 1 July 2015
    - Email [scipac.bibliography@gmail.com](mailto:scipac.bibliography@gmail.com) with “2014 bibliography submission” in the

subject line

- 2010-2013 bibliographies at <http://usphs-scientist.org/bibliography/>
  - o Review the 2010-2013 SciPAC bibliographies for corrections.
    - Email: [scipac.bibliography@gmail.com](mailto:scipac.bibliography@gmail.com) with “Bibliography edit requested” in the subject line.
- NPS team (LCDR Ko):
  - Completing commentary for the *American Journal of Public Health*.

**i) Visibility:** LCDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green

- No updates to report.

**j) Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram

- In May 2015, there were 2,645 visitors and 19,158 visits to the Scientist Category website. This was a new record!
- Since the last SciPAC call, the Website subcommittee has posted the May SciPAC call minutes, latest edition (May 2015) of the Scientist Newsletter, and many of our Scientist Officer presentations from the PHS symposium.
- We encourage our Scientist presenters to send in a copy of your symposium presentation to the CDR William Satterfield ([william.a.satterfield.mil@mail.mil](mailto:william.a.satterfield.mil@mail.mil)) or the Category Day subcommittee.
- Please continue to check out our website (<http://usphs-scientist.org>).
- Please continue to send feedback and website change requests to both CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) and CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)).

**8) Liaison Reports**

- COA: CAPT Sara Newman
  - CDR Diana Elson has been elected to serve a 3 year term as the new voting Board Member of the national Commissioned Officers Association (COA) representing the SciPAC. Her term will begin in July 2015 and CAPT Newman (currently Chair of COA and completing her 2nd term) will remain on the board for one additional year as ex-officio. CDR Elson will begin providing the monthly COA liaison reports in August 2015.
  - The next in person COA Board Meeting will be the weekend of 11 September 2015 in Washington, DC. Please let CAPT Sara Newman know if you have issues you would like presented before the board ([saranewman55@gmail.com](mailto:saranewman55@gmail.com)).
- JOAG: LCDR Qiao Bobo
  - The next JOAG general meeting will take place next Friday 12 June 2015. All junior officers are welcome to participate. Call in: (626) 677-3000; Passcode: 210076
  - The next Journeyman Speaker Series Seminar will be presented by CAPT Martin Sanders on Promotion opinions; and how to write bullets and shape your CV for boards on Friday 10 July 2015 from 1300 to 1400 EST. Call in: 1-860-970-0300; Passcode: 6904646
- PSYPAG: CDR William Satterfield
  - The next PsyPAG meeting is scheduled for 3 June 2015 at 1200-1300 EST. The dial-in information is the same as for the SciPAC calls.

**9) Other Business, Questions, Comments**

- MOLC: LCDR Eric Zhou
  - I am the liaison for the PHS Minority Officers Liaison Council (MOLC). The MOLC is

comprised of the four Core Minority Advisory Groups (CMAGs).

- [American Indian/Alaska Native Commissioned Officers Advisory Committee \(AIANCOAC\)](#)
  - [Asian Pacific American Officers Committee \(APAOC\)](#)
  - [Black Commissioned Officers Advisory Group \(BCOAG\)](#)
  - [Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee \(HOAC\)](#)
- MOLC held the annual award ceremony at the 50<sup>th</sup> PHS Scientific and Training Symposium on 20 May 2015. VADM Antonia Novello, 14<sup>th</sup> US Surgeon General (SG) and the first woman and first Hispanic SG made a keynote speech. SG Vivek Murthy also congratulated the awardees on their achievement. Among 18 awardees, CDR Oguntomilade A. John and LCDR Qiao Bobo were recipients from BCOAG and APAOC, respectively. In addition, MOLC presented RADM Helen Mishoe a certificate for her outstanding contribution as a senior Advisor to MOLC on the SciPAC Career Day. Congratulations to all!
- Demographics report: MOLC is working on a new demographics report for PHS officers. Based on the report in 2011, about 40% of officers are part of a minority group in PHS, including about one third of the Scientist Category. We encourage our officers to actively support your own CMAG's activities.
- Webinar: Dr. J Nadine Gracia, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health and Director of the Office of Minority Health will present a talk on Moment of Opportunity: Reducing Health Disparities and Advancing Health Equity from 1300-1400 EST on Tuesday, 9 June 2015. Detailed information was sent out via the SciPAC Listserve.

**10) Closing Remarks: CDR Nisha Robbins**

- Nothing to report.

**NOTE:** Next meeting **Tuesday, 07 July 2015 @ 1200–1300 EST**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 07 July 2015  
1200–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573  
Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Excused        |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Excused        |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Chair                         | Excused        |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | PSYPAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Elson, Diana         | COA Liaison  | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Zhou, Eric           | MOLC Liaison   | Yes            |

### Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers

| Rank | Participant                  | Agency | Present |
|------|------------------------------|--------|---------|
| CAPT | Adekoya, Nelson              | CDC    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Benally, Christine J.        | IHS    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Crago, David                 | BOP    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Elson, Diana                 | ICE    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Hu, Sally                    | NIH    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Murry, Michael               | BOP    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Seo, Paul                    | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Bennett, Marco               | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Bhagwat, Aditya              | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Chu, Dan-My T.               | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Dee, Deborah                 | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Dobmeyer, Anne C.            | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Geissler, Aimee              | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne J. | NIH    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Highsmith, Keisher           | HRSA   | Yes     |
| CDR  | Jentes, Emily                | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Kenney, James                | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Pauli, Ingrid                | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Powell, Tracy                | HHS    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Streeter, Emily              | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Thomas, Jennifer Dolan       | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Yip, Fuyuen                  | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Zapata, Lauren B.            | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Barbour, Kamil               | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Bjork, Adam                  | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Blessington, Tyann           | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Cunningham, Timothy          | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Demissie, Zewditu            | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Edwards, Elizabeth           | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Gaines, Joanna               | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Garrett, Tiana               | DHS    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Green, Seth                  | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Halldin, Cara                | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Halpin, Alison               | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Hoffman, Kelsy               | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Hollis, NaTasha              | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Huang, David                 | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth    | ATSDR  | Yes     |
| LCDR | Kebker, Eric                 | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Ko, Jean                     | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Miller, Leigh Ann            | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Miller, Mark                 | EPA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Nichols, Erin                | CDC    | Yes     |

|      |                             |        |     |
|------|-----------------------------|--------|-----|
| LCDR | Nielsen, Carrie             | CDC    | Yes |
| LCDR | Odom, Erika                 | 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 | Perez, Cesar                | FDA    | Yes |
| LCDR | Perrine, Cria Gregory       | CDC    | Yes |
| LCDR | Phillips, Kenneth           | FDA    | Yes |
| LCDR | Pulliam, Sara               | DoD    | Yes |
| LCDR | Rossiter, Lana              | FDA    | Yes |
| LCDR | Sauber-Schatz, Erin K.      | CDC    | Yes |
| LCDR | Shumate, Alice              | CDC    | Yes |
| LCDR | Slayton, Rachel B.          | CDC    | Yes |
| LCDR | Steffen, Scott              | FDA    | Yes |
| LCDR | Tian, Nancy                 | ASPR   | Yes |
| LCDR | Tyus, Nadra                 | HRSA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Vagi, Sara                  | CDC    | Yes |
| LCDR | Walters, Matthew            | FDA    | Yes |
| LCDR | Wilken, Jason               | CDC    | Yes |
| LCDR | Yard, Ellen                 | CDC    | Yes |
| LCDR | Zucco, Julia                | CMS    | Yes |
| LT   | Benbassat, Danny            | SAMHSA | Yes |
| LT   | Bowen, Virginia             | CDC    | Yes |
| LT   | Cleck-Derenick, Jessica     | FDA    | Yes |
| LT   | Cross, Israel               | CMS    | Yes |
| LT   | Gieraltowski, Laura         | CDC    | Yes |
| LT   | Hudson, Gwendolyn           | ACF    | Yes |
| LT   | Johnson, Jonetta            | CDC    | Yes |
| LT   | Levine, Rebecca             | CDC    | Yes |
| LT   | Mells, Jamie                | CDC    | Yes |
| LT   | Merrill, Rebecca            | CDC    | Yes |
| LT   | Muniz Ortiz, Jorge          | USDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Soeters, Heidi              | CDC    | Yes |
| LT   | Thompson-Paul, Angela       | CDC    | Yes |
| LT   | Wilson-Frederick, Shondelle | HHS    | Yes |
| LT   | Wu, K. Geoffrey             | FDA    | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CAPT Nisha Robbins

- Email CDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- We are looking at ways to further integrate the Commissioned Corps across categories in the

Surgeon General's (SG) office regarding policies and initiatives; I will let you know when specific needs arise for our Category.

- Congratulations to our newly promoted officers. For those of you who were not promoted, know that this was a very competitive process and many great officers did not meet this year's cut-off. Feel free to reach out to our senior officers for any helpful feedback or guidance moving forward or with specific questions about the benchmarks.
- Also congratulations to our newly selected SciPAC voting members.

**3) Report from the Chair: CAPT Nisha Robbins**

- Congratulations to all of our Scientists who were recently promoted. There were 30 up and 6 selected for Captain, 54 were up and 17 selected for Commander; lastly, we had 20 eligible for Lieutenant Commander and 15 were selected. Well done!
- Commissioned Corps Headquarters has released a new Commissioned Corps Decorations and Insignia Poster. This was last published in 1994; the new poster does not yet show the Ebola campaign and expeditionary attachment (EA), but those will be added when they are finalized. It can be printed from the CCMIS website.
- Congratulations to our newest Voting Members! The new voting members are: CDR Jen Adjemian; CDR Tony Satterfield; LCDR Seth Green; CDR Michael Smith; LCDR Anne Purfield; CDR Dominic Frasca; and CDR Jennifer Thomas.
- On 4 August 2015 from 1430 to 1600 EST, the CC Women's Issues Advisory Board (CCWIAB) will be hosting a leadership panel via webinar. The title is: "Positioning Yourself for Success." They do want RSVP by 30 July 2015 to Cynthia Henderson ([Cynthia.henderson@hhs.gov](mailto:Cynthia.henderson@hhs.gov)).
- The PAC Chair call last month focused on collaboration between the PACs and also a presentation from CDR Dunbar with recruitment. CDR Dunbar spoke of a new pilot project which is designed to add another layer of quality review to candidates for the Corps.

**4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Matthew Murphy**

- SciPAC voting members have been selected. Thank you to everyone who submitted a voting member application. If you have any questions please feel free to contact CDR Matt Murphy at [MMurphy@cdc.gov](mailto:MMurphy@cdc.gov).

**5) Secretary: CDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 93 Scientist Officers attend last month's SciPAC meeting.
- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email ([Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov](mailto:Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov)).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- As reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

**6) COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- Nothing to report.

**7) Subcommittee Reports**

**a) Awards: CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson**

- The Awards Subcommittee is currently revising its Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

and will be adding information on the Mentor of the Year Award.

- b) Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie
- OBC:
    - There is an OBC in July, but no scientists are attending it.
    - There was an OBC in June, but no scientists attended it.
  - Training workgroup:
    - There will be a presentation from Ms. Mary Boone, DCCPR, on the post 9/11 GI Bill after the August SciPAC meeting. LT Andrew Hickey will facilitate this presentation.
  - CV workgroup:
    - The workgroup is currently planning changes to the CV guidance based on new changes to the Scientist benchmarks (e.g., the addition of collateral duties as a separate benchmark). LCDR Demissie will provide CAPT Robbins with an update early next week on the workgroup's recommendations for what should be considered a collateral duty.
- c) Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: CDR Robin Toblin
- LCDR Eric Zhou is writing an article on the 2015 Category Day for the upcoming SciPAC Newsletter.
  - Letters of appreciation are being finalized for those who participated in planning and as speakers for Category Day.
  - A survey of Category Day attendees has been completed and the results will be analyzed and reported in the near future.
- d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France
- A total of 6 new matches have been made since 1 June 2015. There are still five pending requests, two of which have potential matches identified and are waiting on confirmation. At least one new O-6 officer is available as a match still. Any officers interested in being matched as a mentor or mentee can fill out the mentoring program application (<http://usphs-scientist.org/wp-content/uploads/mentoring-application.pdf>) and email it to LCDR Anne Marie France ([hgj6@cdc.gov](mailto:hgj6@cdc.gov)).
  - A survey for mentees has been developed and will be sent out by the end of the week. This survey will help identify room for improvement in the SciPAC mentoring program and allow us to better serve the category. This survey will not be sent out on the listserv but will be sent directly to officers who have had an active mentoring relationship now or in the past.
  - The Mentoring Guidebook has been revised and will be posted on the website soon.
  - LCDR Cole will be out of the country until 28 October 2015 and can be reached by email at [aoo8@cdc.gov](mailto:aoo8@cdc.gov) beginning on 24 July 2015. LCDR Anne Marie France will be providing updates at the upcoming SciPAC calls.
- e) Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen
- The SciPAC Policy Subcommittee has been very busy during the past month reviewing and updating the SOP, which now includes language regarding our new initiative to provide summaries of either new or updated policy documents that could impact the Scientist officers as well as updates to the workload and procedures for the Subcommittee.
  - The updated SOP was used as the framework for piloting the new changes to the APFT policy document.
    - CDR Wally and I would like to thank CDR Deborah Dee for leading the tremendous efforts of the pilot working group with 8 other officers that summarized all of the changes to the

APFT policy.

- Since there were so many changes to the APFT policy we are still developing the final package summarizing all of the changes to present to the SciPAC. Our plan is to send the final review out along with the next call's agenda so that it can be discussed during the August call, at which time we will highlight the major changes for the SciPAC.
- In addition, we would like to pursue other possible avenues for distribution of the reviews in the future, such as including them in the bulletins and including links on the SciPAC website so they can be accessed by as many officers as possible.

**f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo

- The Retention Survey has been open for the past two weeks, and will close at COB today (7 July 2015). To date, 111 responses have been received.
- Monthly Update for Healthy Scientists:
  - We continue to receive helpful feedback from Scientist officers and we are grateful for your suggestions. We are especially grateful to the officers, such as LCDR Elizabeth Irvin-Barnwell, LCDR Joanna Gaines and LCDR Tamara Henderson, who have volunteered recently to coordinate events.
  - If you would like to participate in a group fitness event or would like to recruit Scientist officers to join you in an activity, such as a Bollywood dance class, hike or healthy cooking class, that promotes a healthy lifestyle, contact a Healthy Scientist Group member listed in the bulletin and we'll be sure to include your activity in the monthly bulletin.
  - Also, our Fitness Buddy Mentoring program is getting off the ground. If you are interested in being paired with another Scientist officer who may help you meet your healthy lifestyle goals as well as provide an opportunity for a career mentoring relationship along the way, fill out the application attached to the July Bulletin and forward it to LT Israel Cross. His email is listed in the bulletin and will be included in today's meeting minutes ([Israel.Cross@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Israel.Cross@cms.hhs.gov)).

**g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer

- Thanks to the Rules and Membership Subcommittee for their work in reviewing and selecting our new SciPAC voting members.

**h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CAPT Ryan Novak

- Science and Practice Team (LCDRs Cunningham & Powell):
  - Next presentation will be on 21 July 2015 by LCDR Qiao Bobo
    - Topic: USPHS Ebola Response Mission - Monrovia Medical Unit at Camp Eason in Liberia
  - We are planning presentations for 15 September 2015 and 17 November 2015
    - Call-in Number: [866-782-0573](tel:866-782-0573); Participant Passcode: 2214354
- Journal Club Team (CDR Glover & LCDR Tyus):
  - LT Jonetta Johnson spoke on Tuesday, 9 June 2015, 1200-1300 EST.
    - Topic addressed Reproductive and Sexual Health priority of the National Prevention Strategy
  - LT Mike Lowe will be speaking on Tobacco-Free Living in August 2015
- Biography and Publications Team (CDR Sharma):
  - Needed to submit work for the 2014 bibliography by 1 July 2015
    - Email [scipac.bibliography@gmail.com](mailto:scipac.bibliography@gmail.com) with "2014 bibliography submission" in the subject line
  - 2010-2013 bibliographies are found at <http://usphs-scientist.org/bibliography/>
    - Review the 2010-2013 SciPAC bibliographies for corrections.

- Email: [scipac.bibliography@gmail.com](mailto:scipac.bibliography@gmail.com) with “Bibliography edit requested” in the subject line.
- National Prevention Strategy (NPS) team (LCDR Ko):
  - Completing commentary for the *American Journal of Public Health*.
  - NPS commentary and expect to have a polished one to share by the August SciPAC call.

**i) Visibility:** CDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green

- The next Newsletter is targeted for early August.
- We are accepting submissions for the next issue. Articles related to the symposium are particularly needed. Articles related to PACE activities are always welcome. Please submit to: [scipacnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:scipacnewsletter@gmail.com).
- We are currently making modifications to the Creed to post it onto the SciPAC website.
- Individual presentations are ongoing; we are collecting these for our End of Year Report.

**j) Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram

- Thank you to CDR Sram and other members of the Website Subcommittee for holding down the fort while I was on maternity leave. It was a busy few months with lots of website updates.
- In June 2015, there were 1,592 visitors and 17,545 visits to the Scientist Category website.
- Since the last SciPAC call, the Website subcommittee has posted the June SciPAC call minutes and the biography for LCDR Qiao Bobo, the 2015 Junior Scientist Award recipient. We are in the process of updating information for the Senior Scientist and Scientist Mentor award recipients.
- We have added new content on the Resources and Links page on the website. Please take a look at the webpage (<http://usphs-scientist.org/resources-and-links/>) and let us know if there is any additional information that should be included.
- Please continue to check out our website (<http://usphs-scientist.org>).
- Please continue to send feedback and website change requests to both CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) and CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)).

**8) Liaison Reports**

- COA: CAPT Diana Elson
  - COA reminds all officers that a Congressional Public Health Caucus has been established and to contact respective representatives to encourage them to join the Caucus; suggested messaging is provided on the COA website.
  - COA has been reviewing House and Senate versions of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to identify language that is not inclusive of PHS or that positively or negatively impacts PHS.
    - Some areas of concern include the following:
      - Proposed limits on BAH for married service members living in the same area
      - Proposed allowances for service Secretaries to permit access to Post-9/11GI Bill transferability
      - Proposed changes to retirement for officers entering service after 2017 or 2018
      - Protections for family members of officers that fall under the Uniform Code of Military Justice
      - Several other areas where the bills refer to Armed Services or Military
  - CAPT Sara Newman developed a tool to guide Benchmarks for COA Involvement, providing a framework for increasing leadership in COA to support promotion precepts; please see the June issue of Frontline, especially the table on page 19.

- JOAG: LCDR Qiao Bobo
  - I am pleased to announce that JOAG has selected 10 new voting members for the 2015-2017 term. Congratulations to LCDR Alice Shumate who will become a New JOAG Voting Member and the JOAG SciPAC Liaison.
  - I would also like to remind you that the next Journeyman Speaker Series Seminar will be presented by our very own CPO, CAPT Martin Sanders, this Friday, 10 July from 1300 to 1400 EST.
    - CAPT Sanders will talk about “Writing for effect: how to write bullets for awards, COERS, and CVs”. It should be very interesting and relevant. I hope you will join us.
    - The slides and call in info will be sent out through the SciPAC listserv today.
- PSYPAG: CDR William Satterfield
  - We have no new information to report.
  - The next PsyPAG meeting is scheduled for 5 August 2015 @ 1200 EST using the same dial-in information as the SciPAC call.

**9) Other Business, Questions, Comments**

- Minority Officers Liaison Council (MOLC): LCDR Eric Zhou
  - The MOLC is comprised of the four Core Minority Advisory Groups (CMAGs).
    - American Indian/Alaska Native Commissioned Officers Advisory Committee (AIANCOAC)
    - Asian Pacific American Officers Committee (APAOC)
    - Black Commissioned Officers Advisory Group (BCOAG)
    - Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee (HOAC)
  - The article on the 25th MOLC Awards Ceremony has just been posted electronically in the COA Frontline - June/July issue on page 12 and 18. The hard copies of this issue should be out shortly. The article highlighted each CMAG’s accomplishments in 2014 and listed all officers who received the MOLC Awards in 2015. Since the COA Frontline requires that only the COA member’s names can appear in the article, non-COA members were removed from the article by the editors.
  - The MOLC Unit Award and Special Assignment Award nomination package are due to the MOLC on 15 September and 15 October 2015, respectively. Officers who are interested in submitting the MOLC award nomination, please contact your own CMAG’s (APAOC, HOAC, BCOAG, AI/ANCOAC) leadership and note that the nomination package should be submitted to the MOLC leadership by above deadlines.

**10) Closing Remarks: CAPT Nisha Robbins**

- Nothing to report.

**NOTE: Next meeting Tuesday, 04 August 2015 @ 1200–1300 EST**



**Scientist Professional Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 04 August 2015  
1200–1300 (EDT)**

Toll-Free Number: 1-866-782-0573  
Pass code: 2214354

**Chief Scientist Officer and 2014/2015 SciPAC Voting Members and Liaisons**

| <b>Rank</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Present</b> |
|--|----------------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Voting Members, Executive Board</b> |                      |  |                |
| CAPT                                   | Sanders, Martin      | Chief Scientist Officer                                  | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Robbins, Nisha       | Chair  | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Murphy, Matthew      | Vice Chair; Rules & Membership Chair                     | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Adjemian, Jennifer   | Executive Secretary                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Breiding, Matthew    | COF Liaison  | Yes            |
| <b>Voting Members</b>                  |                      |  |                |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Co-Chair | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Bodart, Jennifer     | Awards Subcommittee Chair                                | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Boehmer, Tegan       | Website Subcommittee Chair                               | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Clayton, Mark        | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Excused        |
| LCDR                                   | Cole, Jessica        | Mentoring Subcommittee Chair                             | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Frasca, Dominic      | Recruitment, Retention & Readiness Subcommittee Chair    | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Goodie, Jeffrey      | Science Subcommittee Chair                               | Excused        |
| CAPT                                   | Novak, Ryan          | Science Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Rodgers, Loren       | Visibility Subcommittee Chair                            | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Sancho, Alfredo      | Subcommittee Member                                      | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | Category Day Subcommittee Chair                          | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Smith, Michael       | Career Development Subcommittee Chair                    | Excused        |
| CDR                                    | Sram, Jaqueline      | Website Subcommittee Co-Chair                            | Yes            |
| CDR                                    | Toblin, Robin        | Category Day Subcommittee Co-Chair                       | Yes            |
| Dr.                                    | Ulin, Brigette       | Civilian Representative                                  | No             |
| CDR                                    | Wally, Jeremy        | Policy Review Subcommittee Chair                         | Yes            |
| <b>Non-voting Liaisons</b>             |                      |  |                |
| CDR                                    | Satterfield, William | PSYPAG Liaison   | Yes            |
| CAPT                                   | Moffett, Daphne      | SciPAC Historian   | No             |
| CAPT                                   | Elson, Diana         | COA Liaison  | Yes            |
| LCDR                                   | Bobo, Qiao           | JOAG Liaison   | Yes            |

|      |            |              |     |
|------|------------|--------------|-----|
| LCDR | Zhou, Eric | MOLC Liaison | Yes |
|------|------------|--------------|-----|

**Participation by Nonvoting Scientist Officers**

| Rank | Participant                  | Agency | Present |
|------|------------------------------|--------|---------|
| CAPT | Adekoya, Nelson              | CDC    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Barrett, Drue                | CDC    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Benally, Christine J.        | IHS    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Crago, David                 | BOP    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Daugherty, Jon               | FDA    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Elson, Diana                 | ICE    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Frazer, Nicole               | DoD    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Hu, Sally                    | NIH    | Yes     |
| CAPT | Lawrence, Theresa            | HHS    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Abe, Karon                   | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Bennett, Marco               | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Bhagwat, Aditya              | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Calanan, Renee               | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Chu, Dan-My T.               | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Daniels, Heidi               | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Davidson, Bryan              | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Dee, Deborah                 | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Goodrich-Doctor, Adrienne J. | NIH    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Guo, Wei                     | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Jentes, Emily                | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Kenney, James                | FDA    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Pauli, Ingrid                | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Sharma, Andrea               | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Stansberry, John             | NIH    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Streeter, Emily              | DoD    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Thomas, Jennifer Dolan       | CDC    | Yes     |
| CDR  | Yip, Fuyuen                  | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Demissie, Zewditu            | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | France, Anne Marie           | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Garnett, Theodore            | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Garrett, Tiana               | DHS    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Green, Seth                  | DoD    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Halpin, Alison               | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Hollis, NaTasha              | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Houston, Keisha              | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Huang, David                 | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Irvin-Barnwell, Elizabeth    | ATSDR  | Yes     |
| LCDR | Ko, Jean                     | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Lu, Xiaowu                   | FDA    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Nichols, Erin                | CDC    | Yes     |
| LCDR | Odom, Erika                  | CDC    | Yes     |

|      |                        |       |     |
|------|------------------------|-------|-----|
| LCDR | O'Neill, Eduardo       | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Parker, Erin           | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Parks Brown, Sharyn    | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Perez, Cesar           | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Phillips, Kenneth      | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Rossiter, Lana         | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Sauber-Schatz, Erin K. | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Shumate, Alice         | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Slayton, Rachel B.     | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Steffen, Scott         | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Tate, Jacqueline       | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Tyus, Nadra            | HRSA  | Yes |
| LCDR | Vagi, Sara             | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Walters, Matthew       | FDA   | Yes |
| LCDR | Wilken, Jason          | CDC   | Yes |
| LCDR | Zhou, Eric             | NIH   | Yes |
| LCDR | Zucco, Julia           | CMS   | Yes |
| LT   | Hoots, Brooke          | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Hudson, Gwendolyn      | ACF   | Yes |
| LT   | Jeisy Scott, Victoria  | NCIRD | Yes |
| LT   | Lucas, Neali           | FDA   | Yes |
| LT   | Mells, Jamie           | CDC   | Yes |
| LT   | Scott, Colleen         | CDC   | Yes |

**1) Call to Order and Welcome:** CAPT Nisha Robbins

- Email CDR Jennifer Adjemian (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.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 Martin Sanders

- For those of you who were in the bottom quartile for promotion, the counseling and retention board is coming up.
- There have not been any updates recently out of the Office of the Surgeon General (OSG); there will be a leadership meeting next week.
- Planning for RADM Lushniak's retirement ongoing, and will likely be held during the first week of September 2015.
- We are in the process of developing improved guidance on the CV summary sheet. This should be ready for distribution to the PAC prior to the next promotion cycle.
- There have been some recent meetings with the Special Pay Board, but no announcements to release at this time.

**3) Report from the Chair:** CAPT Nisha Robbins

- CAPT Robbins would like to extend her thanks and warm wishes to everyone in the PAC for the great year of work! We have accomplished many things including a revision to our Benchmarks, engaging in many visibility activities, changing the work done by the policy review subcommittee, and we will have new guidance coming out on our CV Summary Page. Thank you to the Chairs and Co-Chairs of the Scientist subcommittees for a job well done.

- Our incoming chair is CDR Matthew Murphy. CDR Murphy will be coordinating the next round of Chairs and Co-Chairs for the Scientist PAC among the voting members. If you have interest in a certain subcommittee, you can reach out to the new Chair and Co-Chairs when they are announced.
- We are in the process of accepting nominations for the next Executive Board. If you are a voting member interested in serving, please send in your nomination by Monday of next week.
- Please remember: if you are the Chair of subcommittee, CAPT Robbins needs your End of Year report by 22 August 2015. The list of ranks, names, and addresses for the end of year thank you letters was due last week.
- It was announced that we have a 5 year agreement with the US Postal Service to use the Bolger Center, an 83-acre 'retreat' where the Commissioned Corps will now hold the Officer Basic Course (OBC). In Potomac, Maryland, the Bolger Center will be the site of the September OBC.
- We continue to move forward with using Direct Access/Coast Guard system for our pay. This has been tested and is working well. The plan is to migrate to this pay system starting with January 2016 pay, after which we will get paid twice a month and officers will be able to login to their own pay account.

**4) Report from Vice Chair: CDR Matthew Murphy**

- We extend our thanks to CDR Robbins all of her work and effort as SciPAC Chair.

**5) Secretary: CDR Jennifer Adjemian**

- We had 93 Scientist Officers attend last month's SciPAC meeting.
- If you have any information on events or relevant messages that you wish to distribute to the SciPAC listserv, please email it to me along with any important details to include in the body of the email (Jennifer.adjemian@nih.gov).
- For today's call, please remember to email me your attendance using the subject line: "SciPAC Monthly Meeting Attendance".
- If you are providing a report on today's call, please also remember to email me a copy for the meeting minutes.
- As reminder, we have a conference line that is available to reserve for SciPAC-related meetings. If interested, please email me with your requested dates and times.

**6) COF Liaison: CDR Matt Breiding**

- Our SciPAC balance is \$1349.66.
- If you would like to purchase a coin or shirt, please email scipacmerchandise@gmail.com.

**7) Subcommittee Reports**

**a) Awards:** CDR Jennifer Bodart; Co-chair: CDR Bryan Davidson

- No updates to report.

**b) Career Development:** CDR Michael Smith; Co-Chairs: CDR Mark Clayton, LCDR Zewditu Demissie

- OBC:
  - OBC is not scheduled for August.
  - OBC was held in July, but no scientists were in attendance.
- Training workgroup:
  - There will be a presentation from Ms. Mary Boone, DCCPR, on the post 9/11 GI Bill after today's call. LT Andrew Hickey will facilitate this presentation.
- CV workgroup:

- The workgroup is currently developing guidance to complement the 2016 Scientist benchmarks.
  - Handbook workgroup:
    - The workgroup has revised the Uniforms and Promotion sections of the SciPAC Handbook and have submitted the documents to the Website Subcommittee for posting on the website. The Basic Readiness, Awards, and COER sections are currently undergoing revision and will be submitted for posting before the end of the operational year.
- c) Category Day:** CDR William Satterfield; Co-Chair: CDR Robin Toblin
- Thank you to all who completed the online evaluation for Category Day. The feedback provided good information that will help inform planning for the 2016 Category Day.
  - Feedback included recommendations with regard to including more opportunities for networking during the course of Category Day, including extending the time allotted to any future speed-networking events.
  - In addition, it was recommended allotted presentation time should be reserved for Category-specific information to be presented by the Chief Professional Officer and SciPAC Chair, and professional development topics (e.g., promotions/benchmarks, CV writing/content, etc...), and that a specific time slot (other than lunch) should be allotted for presentation of awards to avoid disruptions associated with the lunch service and Surgeon General walk-through/photographs.
- d) Mentoring:** LCDR Jessica Cole; Co-Chair: LCDR Anne Marie France
- A total of 2 new matches have been made since 1 July 2015. There are currently 6 pending requests, and we have added 3 new mentor volunteers. Any officers interested in being matched as a mentor or mentee can fill out the mentoring program application (<http://usphs-scientist.org/wp-content/uploads/mentoring-application.pdf>) and email it to LCDR Anne Marie France ([hgj6@cdc.gov](mailto:hgj6@cdc.gov)).
  - Our subcommittee recently conducted a survey of mentees in the SciPAC mentorship program. The survey focused on the experiences of mentees and what they want from a mentorship relationship. The survey was sent out to 48 officers who were current or past SciPAC mentees, first on 7 July 2015 and again on 20 July 2015, using a surveymonkey link for their response. The response rate was about 40%. Results are currently being analyzed. This survey will help identify room for improvement in the SciPAC mentoring program and allow us to better serve the category.
  - The revised Mentoring Guidebook has been finalized and will be sent out via the listserv and posted on the website soon.
  - LCDR Cole is out of the country until 28 October 2015 and can be reached by email at [ao08@cdc.gov](mailto:ao08@cdc.gov) beginning on 24 July 2015. LCDR Anne Marie France will be providing updates at the upcoming SciPAC calls.
- e) Policy Review:** CDR Jeremy Wally; Co-Chair: LCDR Carrie Nielsen
- Under its new initiative, the SciPAC Policy Subcommittee has created its first summary of a policy document: the Annual Physical Fitness Test (APFT)—Revised (POM 15-004). This document is a revision to the current APFT policy. It includes new scoring levels, a new required element (flexibility), new options added for cardiorespiratory endurance (elliptical and stationary bike), and a new choice added for core endurance (plank). The document also includes new procedures for medical waivers, criteria for the FMRB and options for evaluation of the APFT.
  - The summary of this policy document will be made available to the SciPAC membership. |

would like to thanks CDR Deborah Dee and the eight officers that worked on putting this summary together.

**f) Recruitment, Retention & Readiness (RRR):** CDR Dominic Frasca; Co-Chair: LCDR Qiao Bobo

- Recruiting: There is nothing to report at this time.
- Retention: Initial results are in; please see below for a quick summary. The Survey group is working to finish analyzing the results, and refine the survey, to reformulate it into a 10-question survey for additional data collection.
  - There was a total of 112 respondents (58% female and 42% male).
    - About 33% have a plan to separate or are considering separating
    - Epidemiologists are the largest group that are separating or considering separating (44%).
    - Those from the Atlanta Metro are the largest group that are separating or considering separating (45%), followed by DC Metro (29%).
    - Sample comments:
      - “It will be difficult for the USPHS to recruit and retain promising early-career scientists given the current T&E caps and other disincentives (especially compared to the physicians who lack scientific training but do the same job as scientists).”
      - “I’ve known excellent officers denied promotion year and year. Too much emphasis/importance on clinicians versus scientists.”
      - “I am concerned about Scientist roles and utilization in the Corps with the emphasis on clinical care.”
- Readiness: Current readiness (official readiness as of 1 July 2015) is 90.3%. The official quarterly readiness check for each quarter over the past year (July 2015 back to July 2014) is ~90%. During the months in between, readiness drops off precipitously. (A ‘projected’ readiness 1 October 2015 shows only 58% readiness. RRR urges all Scientists to check their status in Direct Access to ensure they meet basic readiness standards; we are, as always available to assist in achieving, maintaining or documenting basic readiness.

**g) Rules and Membership:** CDR Matthew Murphy; Co-Chair: CDR Tegan Boehmer

- No updates to report.

**h) Science:** CDR Jeffrey Goodie; Co-Chair: CAPT Ryan Novak

- Journal Club Team (CDR Glover & LCDR Tyus):
  - The next call will be on Tuesday, 18 August 2015, 1200-1300 EST.
    - Topic: “Healthy Eating” and “Active Living” Priorities of the National Prevention Strategy.
    - The speaker will be LT Michael Lowe.
    - The article will be “Combined diet and physical activity promotion programs to prevent type 2 diabetes among persons at increased risk: a systematic review for the Community Preventive Services Task Force” and will be distributed before meeting.
      - Adobe Connect Information will be sent on the listserv this week.
- Science and Practice Team (LCDRs Cunningham & CDR Powell):
  - A successful presentation was given on 21 July 2015 by LCDR Qiao Bobo
    - Topic: USPHS Ebola Response Mission - Monrovia Medical Unit at Camp Eason in Liberia.
    - We had over 25 participants on the call.
  - We are planning presentations for 15 September 2015 and 17 November 2015.
- Biography and Publications Team (CDR Sharma):
  - We are working to enter all the information.

- Please email the [scipac.bibliography@gmail.com](mailto:scipac.bibliography@gmail.com) with “2014 bibliography submission” in the subject line.
- 2010-2013 bibliographies are at <http://usphs-scientist.org/bibliography/>
  - Please review the 2010-2013 SciPAC bibliographies for corrections.
  - Email any edits to [scipac.bibliography@gmail.com](mailto:scipac.bibliography@gmail.com) with “Bibliography edit requested” in the subject line.
- **NPS team (LCDR Ko):**
  - Completing commentary for the *American Journal of Public Health*.

**i) Visibility:** CDR Loren Rodgers; Co-Chair: LCDR Seth Green

- The next newsletter is planned for this month. Personal photos and family updates are also requested for the newsletter. Please submit these to [scipacnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:scipacnewsletter@gmail.com).
- We would like to schedule SciPAC social events and will be working through the subcommittee to plan these.
- AMSUS update:
  - The 2015 AMSUS Annual Meeting will take place in San Antonio, TX from 1-4 December 2015. Registration opens in August.
  - Erin Nichols is our new AMSUS representative. There might be calls for volunteers, and we will relay more information as it becomes available.

**j) Website:** CDR Tegan Boehmer; Co-Chair: CDR Jacqueline Sram

- In July 2015, there were 10,900 visitors and 38,221 visits to the Scientist Category website. The number of visitors in July was 7 times higher than the monthly average of 1,500 over the past 10 months. Similarly, the number of visits in July was nearly 5 times higher than the monthly average of 7,700 over the past 10 months and double the number of visits in June 2015. We are not sure why this occurred and plan to investigate what might be driving the higher numbers for July.
- The July SciPAC call minutes were posted to the website.
- We are in the process of updating ranks of promoted officers, creating standalone pages for the Junior Scientist, Senior Scientist, and Scientist Mentor of the Year awards, and working with Visibility Subcommittee to display the Scientist Creed.
- A few members of the subcommittee met in July to discuss technical issues and display of photographs on the website and we hope to have that effort completed, at least for OBC graduation photos, by the end of August. Photos from other SciPAC events, such as Category Day, social activities, and promotion/retirement parties, will be collected for the website in the next operational year.
- The Website Subcommittee recommends that, as a standard of practice in the next SciPAC operational year, documents intended for distribution to Scientist Officers be uploaded to the Scientist Category website before they are distributed to the Scientist Category listserv. Once the file is uploaded, the email to the listserv could provide a hyperlink to the document on the website rather than include it as an attachment. This would provide dual benefits of saving storage space in officers’ email inboxes and increasing awareness and use of the Scientist Category website by officers.
- If subcommittee chairs have new content or documents for the Scientist website, including revised subcommittee SOPs, please submit the Website Change Request form (available at: <http://usphs-scientist.org/subcommittees/website/>) to CDR Tegan Boehmer ([tboehmer@cdc.gov](mailto:tboehmer@cdc.gov)) and CDR Jackie Sram ([jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:jacqueline.sram@fda.hhs.gov)).

**8) Liaison Reports**

- COA: CAPT Diana Elson
  - CAPT Craig Wilkins has begun his term as COA Board Chair; CAPT Wilkins is a 26-year member of COA and a past chair of the Board’s Legislation & Benefits Committee.
  - COA continues to ask its members to write to their Congressional representatives urging them to join the Congressional Public Health Caucus. Jim Currie plans to write an editorial about the formation of this Caucus for an upcoming issue of *Public Health Reports*.
  - On behalf of COA, Jim Currie sent a letter to the Acting ASH, Dr. Karen De Salvo, asking her to include \$5 million in her FY17 budget for training of commissioned corps officers; he also met with staff for Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA), a physician who serves on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions regarding the same issue. This is one of COA’s legislative priorities.
  
- JOAG: LCDR Qiao Bobo
  - JOAG has elected a New Executive Committee for the 2015-2016 operational year. These officers will take office on 1 October 2015.
    - Chair: LCDR Elizabeth Garza
    - Vice-Chair: LCDR Cara Halldin
    - Chair-Elect: LCDR Samantha Spindel
    - Secretary: LCDR Lindsay Hatch
    - Financial Liaison: LCDR David Huang
  - I would like to congratulate 2 scientist officers, LCDR Kara Halldin and LCDR David Huang, for being elected to the JOAG Executive Committee.
  - The next JOAG general meeting will take place next Friday 14 August 2015. All junior officers are welcome to participate. Call in: (626) 677-3000; Passcode: \*210076 (call in number is posted in the JOAG website and will also be included in the meeting minutes).
  
- PSYPAG: CDR William Satterfield
  - There are no new updates.
  - The next PsyPAG call is scheduled for 5 August 2015 @ 1200-1300 EST. The dial-in information is the same as for the SciPAC call.

**9) Other Business, Questions, Comments**

- Minority Officers Liaison Council (MOLC): LCDR Eric Zhou
  - No updates to report.

**10) Closing Remarks: CAPT Nisha Robbins**

- No updates to report.

**NOTE: Next meeting Tuesday, 01 September 2015 @ 1200–1300 EST**