

# **OPAG Agenda**

## **For August 6, 2008 Meeting**

Call in information: Long distance dial 1-800-770-8251 x3975

At the prompt, dial 0179244

**Present:** Kim Lewandowski-Walker, Charles Jaworski (Chair), Larry Zobel (Secretary), CJ Thompson

**Absent:** Maricella Bonilla, Gay Nord, Mike Duenas

### **1. Call to Order**

**1.2 Minutes:** previous minutes approved as written and distributed

**1.3 Agenda**

### **2. Old Business**

**2.1 Rent ion pay/ Loan repayment:** N/R

**2.2 Medical Benefits- Tricare:** N/R

**2.3 Transformation:** no changes were presented at the COA meeting last month beyond those detailed in the widely-distributed e-mails we have all received

**2.4 Pay:** N/R

**2.5 Uniform Policy:** N/R

**2.6 Retirements** none since last meeting

**2.7 Civil Service Pay/ Title 38:** N/R

### **3. New Business**

**3.2 OPAG Membership/ By-Laws:** N/R

**3.3 OFRD report (CDR Zobel)** no changes since last meeting regarding deployment requirements, eye-specific equipment or pharmaceuticals, uniforms, or other operational details. No word about whether or not OFRD was able to find any OD's who secured permission to deploy on the humanitarian missions with the Navy.

**3.4 Eye Care Coordination Committee report (Dr Candreva) :** N/R

**3.5 I.H.S. Optometry Chief Clinical Consultant Report (Dr Candreva) :** N/R

**3.6 COA Liaison Report (Dr Clary)** Dawn Clary is now the Chair-elect of the COA for a 1-year term.

**3.7 HOS- PAC liaison report (CDR Nichols):** no optometrist sits on this committee any more.

**3.8 JOAG liaison report LCDR Flaitz :** N/R

**3.9 AFOS liaison report Cespon :** N/R

**3.10 AMSUS Liaison report CAPT Brown :** N/R

**3.11 PHS HOS PAC (CDR Bellware) :** N/R

**3.12 FDA Report (CDR Lewandowski-Walker):** many positions for various disciplines are open; FDA is actively hiring for them.

**3.13 CDC Optometry Report (Dr. Duenas) :** N/R

**3.14 GRPA Numbers (CAPT Jaworski):** agreement exists at HQ level that the new GPRA indicators Jaworski has come up with (detailed previously) are legitimate and valuable, but the general consensus at this time is to decrease, not increase, the number of GPRA indicators, so little movement on this front at this time.

- 3.15 Billet report ( Dr Candreva et al ) : N/R**
- 3.16 Discussion of OPAG goals, projects, etc: N/R**
- 3.17 Fullerton meeting report:** see last meeting's minutes
- 3.18 OPAG Funds discussion:** all funds OPAG had at one time were successfully used to purchase the plaques presented at Fullerton for the Kaplan and Hamilton Awards. OPAG now has no funds of its own, as required.

#### **4. Career Development / Promotions/ Awards**

CDR Brad Austin, Chair of the HSO-PAC, suggested that the OPAG present our awards at the COA meeting to broaden the recognition the recipients and our discipline receives. I mentioned to him our current practice of awarding the Kaplan and Hamilton Awards at Fullerton, but mention could be (and should be) made at the COA meeting as well, even if the recipient is absent. Currently, we only grant these Awards every other year, and present them at the Fullerton meeting. These Awards (and others—see last meeting's minutes for a list) could be granted annually and presented at Fullerton, Flagstaff (Navajo Area meeting), and/or COA depending on what the recipient plans to attend that year. No matter where the plaque is presented to the recipient, it would be good to at least mention the Award and the recipient at the COA meeting each year to keep the rest of the HSO category in the know about our officers and the achievements of our discipline. The OPAG membership voted and passed these ideas: the Kaplan and Hamilton Awards will be presented annually at whatever meeting the recipient plans to attend, and mention will be made at the COA meeting as well.

**4.2 Promotions:** none since last meeting

**4.3 Billets:** no news

**4.4 Assimilation:** no news

**4.5 Pay:** no news

**4.7 Positions:** See both Candreva's latest notice about available positions and the above note regarding the FDA hiring that is going on now. Will see if the FDA info can be included in Candreva's notice without making it cumbersome.

- 5. Communications:** no news
- 6. Long term projects (Jaworski):** include, for the time being, the GPRA indicators described above. As always, any IHS optometrist is welcome and encouraged to contact any OPAG member (the Chair or the Secretary would be ideal) with ideas about long-term project ideas, areas of interest or concern that are not receiving just attention, or questions and suggestions of any sort.
- 7. Meetings:** AAO in Anaheim in 10/08 (along with AFOS). Navajo Area meeting set for APR 24 & 25, 2009 in Flagstaff.
- 8. Action Items:** All optometrists are encouraged to review the criteria for the Kaplan and Hamilton Awards, as well as the others for which we are eligible, and submit nominations whenever they want to OPAG for consideration. Please do so! (Appended is the list distributed previously.)
- 9. Next OPAG meeting:** October 1, 2008, some time (10:00AM prevailing mountain time), same call-in numbers and procedure.

## Awards Available to IHS Optometrists

### OPAG Awards

- 1) The Lester Caplan Award is to recognize a PHS tribal direct hire or PHS civil service optometrist who has demonstrated exemplary work as evidenced by a specific accomplishment(s) toward the mission of the PHS. This award may be presented annually by the Optometry Professional Advisory Group (OPAG).
- 2) The Edward Hamilton Award is presented to a career USPHS Optometry Commissioned Officer who is recognized by his/her peers for outstanding work as evidenced by a specific accomplishment(s) toward the mission of the PHS. This award may be presented annually by the Optometry Professional Advisory Group (OPAG).

### AMSUS Award

- 3) The W. David Sullins, Jr. Award for Outstanding Service in Optometry (formerly the AMSUS Optometry Outstanding Service and Recognition Award) honors the first optometrist to attain the rank of Rear Admiral in the U.S. Naval Reserve. Criteria: Demonstration of outstanding leadership, dedication, and service to the profession of Optometry in achieving significant advances, credit, and respect to their person and the profession of Optometry. All nominees must be AMSUS members or eligible for membership.

### COA Awards

- 4) JD Lane Junior Investigator & Clinical Society Open Awards are presented by the COA to outstanding investigators for the most significant contributions in research and/or clinical health experience. Finalists will be selected on the basis of their written manuscripts and will be judged on originality, relevance of the topic to the mission of the PHS and/or the specific discipline, agency, program concerned and audience concerned, & the clarity of statement the issues & conclusion involved. The Clinical Society Open Award may go to any investigator, while the J.D. Lane Junior Investigator Award is awarded to an investigator for work conducted no more than four years following completion of training.
- 5) Responder of the Year Award is selected from nominations submitted to the COA from the Chief Professional Officers of each discipline for an officer who has made a significant one-time or career contributions that impact on public health preparedness and response, his role in deployments or training, education, and publication pertaining to preparedness and response, and his willingness to give credit to the U.S. Public Health Service for deployment activities.

### AFOS Awards

- 6) OD and Junior OD of the Year are offered by AFOS to members who display significant contributions to the advancement of AFOS and Optometry.
- 7) The Orion Award is the highest honor that AFOS can bestow, for the most significant contributions to the advancement of AFOS and Optometry.
- 8) The Reserve OD of the Year Award recognizes significant contributions to the advancement of AFOS and Optometry by an associate AFOS member who is not eligible to be an Active AFOS member.

#### AOA Awards

- 9) Recipients of the AOA Distinguished Service award are honored for unusually significant contributions to the profession of optometry.
- 10) The AOA Optometrist of the Year award recognizes a deserving individual doctor of optometry for performance of outstanding services on behalf of the profession and to the visual welfare of the public.
- 11) The AOA recognizes individuals who have been in active practice less than 10 years and demonstrate remarkable leadership skills when serving the profession, patients and their communities with the Young Optometrist of the Year award.

#### AAO Awards

- 12) The Essilor International Award recognizes an individual, individuals, or organizations for extraordinary international contributions to optometry or international eye care.
- 13) The Borish Award was established and conferred for the first time in 1996, to recognize an outstanding young researcher who has shown exceptional promise to conduct independent optometric research directly related to etiology, prevention, detection, diagnosis or management of clinical eye disorders.
- 14) The Garland W. Clay Award is presented to the author or authors of the manuscript published in *Optometry and Vision Science* that has been most widely cited in the world of scientific literature in the preceding five years.
- 15) The Eminent Service Award honors those persons who have rendered unusual service to the Academy.
- 16) The William Feinbloom Award is presented to an individual who has made a distinguished and significant contribution to clinical excellence, direct clinical advancement of visual and optometric service, and thus the visual enhancement of the public.
- 17) The Glenn A. Fry Lecture Award is given to recognize a distinguished scientist or clinician for his or her current research contributions by inviting the recipient to present a special paper at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Optometry.
- 18) The Michael G. Harris Family Award for Excellence in Optometric Education is presented by the American Optometric Foundation (AOF) to an optometric educator who has demonstrated ongoing and consistent excellence in the education of optometry students and/or the advancement of optometric education.
- 19) Honorary Fellowship and Life Fellowship recognize non-members and members (respectively) of the Academy for significant contributions to the science and art of optometry, or to the Academy.
- 20) The Carel C. Koch Memorial Medal Award is awarded to a person who has made outstanding contributions to the enhancement and development of relationships between optometry and other professions.
- 21) The Charles F. Prentice Medal Award is awarded to an outstanding scientist who has contributed significantly to the advancement of knowledge in the visual sciences.