

**Physician Assistant Professional Advisory Group
U.S. Public Health Service
Thursday, July 10, 2008
1830 – 2000 EST**

Attendance	Rank	Last Name	First Name	OPDIV
Present	LT	Branch	Tracy	OS
Present	CDR	Bonfiglio	Susan	BOP
Present	CDR	Hunter-Buskey	Robin	BOP
Present	CDR	Pelkey	Michelle	NOAA
Present	LCDR	Hager	Paul	IHS
Absent	LCDR	Zink	James	IHS
Present	LCDR	LaFleur	Phillip	BOP
Present	LT	Morris	Katherine	IHS
Present	LT	Bowens	Karla	BOP
Present	CDR	Buckser	Jeffery	NOAA
Absent	CDR	Cole	Gary	BOP
Present	LT	Carr	James	DHS
Present	LCDR	Chuley	Michael	DHS
Present	LTJG	Ruiz	Melinda	BOP
Present	LCDR	Wickard	Paul	BOP
Guests:				
Walden University: Montoya, Irene and Bullock, Darrell				
	LT	Carter	Alnissa	BOP
	LT	Witter	Lee	BOP
	LT	Goldstein	Dan	BOP

Call to order

Meeting called to order at 1830

Chair Report LT Branch

Thank you to CDR Pelkey and LT McKinnon for all of their work for the COF PAPAG Breakout session. The day was a great success. Our breakout session had officers from other disciplines attend due to the outstanding caliber of the topics. Thank you both!

HRSA is requesting 10 Physician Assistants from the D.C. Metro area to review NHSC Scholar/Loan Repayer applications. The review should occur in early August. Anticipate one to one and a half days for the review. Contact CDR Celia Gabrel cgabrel@hrsa.gov for more information.

Guest Presentation Walden University

Walden University Offers graduate level degree programs. All programs are 100% on-line. No classroom time required. They offer group discounts (this also applies to PHS Officers who

contact Darryl Bullock more than 5 PHS Officers enrolling in a semester will be eligible for the discount.)

Masters Programs

- *Public Health (this program was designed with assistance from RADM Ramano)
- *Clinical Research Administration
- *Healthcare Administration

Doctorate Programs

- *Public Health
 - Epidemiology
 - Community Health Promotion & Education
- *Health Services
 - Health Management & Policy
 - Health Promotion * & Communication Education
 - General Program

For more information about any of the graduate programs contact:
Darryl Bullock 866-492-5336 x2003 Darryl.bullock@walden.edu
Irene Montoya Irene.Montoya@walden.edu

Obtaining a graduate degree is one of the benchmarks for promotion to the ranks of O-5 and above.

Communications Subcommittee LT Morris, LT Carr

Monthly PAPAG Newsletter sent out to all PHS PA Officers.

Membership Subcommittee LCDR Buckser

Current PAPG membership at 14 with 2 rotating off on January 1, 2009. Five new nominees. Of the five new nominees, four of them are PA's at Butner FMC. The other is at HRSA in the Parklawn Building. There are three females and two males. Three are O-4's and two are O-3's.

Readiness Subcommittee CDR Cole

There are 27 officers not basic ready as of 30 June 2008. Contact is being made with officers to assist in correcting deficiencies.

Policy Subcommittee LCDR Bonfiglio

Anticipated completion remains 09/08 with presentation to the PAPAG at the September meeting and on the October agenda for approval with the HS PAC.

Awards Subcommittee CDR Pelkey, LCDR Wickard

PA of the Year was awarded to LCDR Rebecca Bunnell at the COA conference during HSO Category day.

A letter of encouragement will be sent to the other two candidates who were nominated but not selected.

Still working on getting list of awards from various agencies.

Ad Hoc COA Subcommittee CDR Pelkey

Conference completed. Breakout session went well, with several people from other disciplines attending the PA breakout session.

BOP Liaison LT Carter

Two new PA PHS Officers to Butner

DIHS Liaison CDR Cole

No Report

JOAG Liaison LCDR LaFleur

The big news was Admiral Shekar giving the transformation update on the May conference call. All the news was good. Every goal and index has been met or exceeded regarding recruiting new officers, basic readiness and streamlining various PHS processes to make different previously cumbersome activities much more smoothly.

Recruitment & Retention Subcommittee LCDR LaFleur

Recruitment and Retention Committee is stopping our research for new and different ways to recruit and retain and instead embrace the already existing and well thought out methods available from PAC, JOAG and PHS itself.

IHS Liaison Report LT Morris

No Report

Welcoming Subcommittee LT Bowens

We have one new officer: ESN Cari Ritter (BOP, FCI Florence). She was sent a welcome packet and follow up will be done accordingly.

Professional Development Subcommittee CDR Hunter-Buskey, LTJG Ruiz

Provided CME list (information that has been collected to date) to PAC for posting to PAC web site. Will send information to PAPAG Communications committee for posting to PAPAG web site. Plan to scan for additional free CME opportunities.

Continue efforts to match PA senior officers to junior officers as "buddies" to enhance interaction among PAs and provide leadership/mentorship. Will confirm contact information of PAs.

Adjournment: 1752

The next teleconference will be held Thursday, August 14, 2008 @ 2030 hrs EST.

The call-in number is 1-866-619-7571; Pass code number 427- 4208.

Meeting minutes prepared by LCDR Hager, PAPAG Secretary.