

Physician Assistant Professional Advisory Group
 U.S. Public Health Service
 Thursday, May 8, 2008
 1830 – 2000 EST

Attendance	Rank	Last Name	First Name	OPDIV
Present	LT	Branch	Tracy	OS
Present	LCDR	Bonfiglio	Susan	BOP
Present	CDR	Hunter-Buskey	Robin	BOP
Present	CDR	Pelkey	Michelle	NOAA
Present	LCDR	Hager	Paul	IHS
Present	LCDR	Zink	James	IHS
Absent	LCDR	LaFleur	Phillip	BOP
Present	LT	Morris	Katherine	IHS
Present	LT	Bowens	Karla	BOP
Present	CDR	Buckser	Jeffery	NOAA
Present	CDR	Cole	Gary	BOP
Absent	LT	Carr	James	DHS
Absent	LT	Chuley	Michael	DHS
Present	LTJG	Ruiz	Melinda	BOP
Present	LCDR	Wickard	Paul	BOP
Guests:				
	LT	Baughman	Todd	IHS
	LT	Burt	Brian	BOP
	LT	Hankes	Dan	DIHS

Call to order

Meeting called to order at 1833

Chair Report: LT Branch

1. USNS Mercy detachment #1 has been split into 2 legs Alpha and Bravo

Alpha 22 May – 14 June

Bravo 14 June – 03 July

2 PAs will be needed for each of the legs.

USNS Mercy detachment #2 03 July – 04 August needs 1 PA

USS Kearsarge detachment #2 12 September – 19 October needs 1 PA

Comment [DHHS1]:

2. Nine PAs are on the roster for the international deployments to date. Out of the 141 active duty PAs 81 have e-mail a response about why they were unable to deploy.

Comment [DHHS2]: ed

3. Recommendations have been made for revision of the PA appointment standards. The changes will include: 1) The commissioning of Associate Degreed PAs on a Temporary Provisional Status. They will be given a specific amount of time in which to complete the basic requirements for commissioning (bachelors degree). 2) Associate degrees PAs will receive T & E Credit of 6 months for every 12 months of employment as a PA prior to obtaining their basic required degree for commissioning (bachelors degree)

- 4) All Chairs and Committee members need to work on updating their Position Descriptions. This will include Agency Liaisons and AD Hoc Committees.
- 5) All PAPAG voting members are expected to actively participate in their respective committees.
- 6) All current PAPAG members are asked to speak with their colleagues and encourage them to join the PAPAG as a voting member or volunteer in the coming year.
- 7) The SG is enforcing the policy that PACs and PAG are no longer allowed to perform fundraising activities or to hold funds on behalf of the organization. As a result of this statement from the SG we will no longer seek the creation of a Treasure position.

Communications Subcommittee LT Morris, LT Carr

Weekly PAPAG Newsletter sent out to all PHS PA Officers.

Readiness Subcommittee CDR Cole

Two new PHS Physician Assistants were contacted and welcomed by letter regarding readiness requirements.

Initial contact with one very delinquent PA was made. There was some confusion over referral to the PAC. We will maintain control and encourage the Officer to meet the requirements.

Eagerly awaiting Basic Ready .xls to compare progress from 12/31/07.

Requested by PAPAG Chair to create a spreadsheet and track PA's across the agencies for 2008 deployment to USS Boxer, Kearsage, and USNS Mercy. Submitted with 16 responses. Chair was compelled by Flag to reach out to everyone and process more expeditiously with short suspense. PAPAG Chair will maintain spreadsheet and track responses to Deployment requests.

Professional Development Subcommittee CDR Hunter-Buskey, LTJG Ruiz

CME information is updated and available twenty four hours a day on the PAPAG Website
Notification sent out to nineteen Senior Officers

Membership Subcommittee LCDR Buckser

Sent out letters for call for nomination for PAPAG membership through the newsletter and cc bulletins.

Policy Subcommittee LCDR Bonfiglio

The Bylaws Subcommittee has had two meetings to date and are on target with the before mentioned timeline of August for presentation to the PAPAG for discussion and/or approval. Revisions have been addressed through Article IV, Section 9. The Bylaws Sections that were addressed in 2007 and voted on by the PAPAG in 2007 will be addressed as they come up in chronological order and either accepted or revised further. They had not been voted on by the HS PAC for approval in 2007 and therefore had not been incorporated into the current Bylaws.

I want to thank all of the subcommittee members for their valiant efforts as this is probably one of our most challenging projects this year in regards to time and commitment. Again thank you for all your hard work.

Recruitment & Retention Subcommittee LCDR LaFleur, LT Chuley

No Report

Welcoming Subcommittee LT Bowens

Welcoming Packet for new PA Officers has been updated one new PA Officer Appointment during month of April. Officer contacted and a Welcoming Packet sent.

Awards Subcommittee CDR Pelkey, LCDR Wickard

Comm. has received 3 nominations for PA of the Year as of 5/5/08.

Announcements will be going out via PAPAG list serve and JOAG list serve for other awards coming up in the future. Comm. is in process of finding out agency specific awards and will publish those via list serve also.

Ad Hoc COA Subcommittee CDR Pelkey

Four speakers have been selected and agreed to speak at PA breakout session on category day at COA conference. Exact time of presentations is still to be determined based on time of ADM Carmona's speech. We are expecting all presentations to be completed before the ADM speaks.

Am waiting to hear if HSO booth still needs volunteers and will issue request for volunteers via list serve once I know dates and times. I am following up with CDR Placide regarding poster board from last year's conference.

PHSAPA Subcommittee LTJG Ruiz, CDR Cole

April meeting- not a quorum but a good productive meeting led by Robin Hunter-Buskey, having just traveled to Oregon.

We discussed the AAPA/ HOD and the Dining out which PHS has organized this year.

PHSPA website has information regarding dining out. \$75.00 for a place setting or \$900.00 for a table. POC is LT Mark McKinnon.

JOAG Liaison LCDR LaFleur

No Report

IHS Liaison Report LT Baughman

Advances in Indian Medicine Conference was a success. Still tallying the total number of PAs in attendance. CDR Placide presented CME session on Joint Injections.

PA standard of practice is in active review stage by senior and junior IHS staff/Pas.

IHS will be recruiting at AAPA. IHS Job announcements should be forwarded to LT Baughman by May 20th

Collecting list of IHS student rotation sites.

IHS PAs are on list of providers to be considered as prescribers of Suboxone for opioid dependence.

IHS PAs are on list for Title 38 pay considerations.

IHS PA GS rating job description to be rewritten to allow for higher entry level pay which should help with PA recruitment.

BOP Liaison LT Carter, LT Williams

No Report

DIHS Liaison CDR Cole

Reorganization in DIHS is being implemented. Three DIHS HQ Staff are moving to new agencies.

PCS Moves need to be resolved. ICE has not funded DIHS for moves since they have taken over (May 2007) OCCO will not cut orders unless the CO is in the same geographic are. They hope to resolve this soon but admit they have already been waiting six months.

DIHS currently has about 270 positions available. I should know more on billeting at next meeting.

New Business: LT Burt

The 114th AMSUS Annual Meeting in 2008 will be "Building the Next Generation: Collaborative Partnerships for the Future." The dates are 9-14 November and is being held in San Antonio, Texas.

The PHS Commissioned Corps is in the Uniformed Service responsible for this year's agenda so we are hoping for a strong showing of officers.

The PA-C breakout is Sunday, 9 November from 12P-5p. We will be featuring a Corps Chiefs' Roundtable with the head physician assistants from each service discussing current issues relating to service PA's. We will also be providing three CME lectures. The topics are pandemic influenza, traumatic brain injury and the role of PA-C's in NOAA. We will cap the session off with a PA reception which will feature a memorial for fallen service PA's and to honor our two flag grade service PA-C's.

I am open to comments, concerns and suggestions relating to this event.

For further details, check out the website <http://www.amsus.org/convention/>

LCDR Susan Bonfiglio will be attending the Forward Thinking Retreat Conference at the COA Conference this year. Please forward and ideas to LCDR Susan Bonfiglio.

Meeting Adjourned at 2155

The next teleconference will be held Thursday, June 12, 2008 @ 2030 hrs EST.

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

Meeting minutes draft prepared by LCDR Hager, PAPAG Secretary.