

Nursing Professional Advisory Committee

U.S. Public Health Service

I. Introduction of Members in Attendance

N-PAC Voting Membership					
Rank	Last Name	First Name	Agency	Term	Attendance
CDR	Gordon	Veronica	AT LARGE	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
CAPT	Hogan	Lisa	BOP	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
CDR	Knight	Nicole	BOP	Oct 11 – Sep 14	Present
CDR	Armes	Shawn	BOP	Oct 10 – Sep 13	Excused
CDR	Ridenour	Marilyn	CDC	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
LCDR	Krishnan	Malini	CMS	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
LCDR	Egwim	Linda	DHS	Oct 11 – Sep 14	Present
CDR	Norberg	David	DHS	Oct 11 – Sep 14	Absent
LCDR	Brooks	Mary	FDA	Oct 11 – Sep 14	Present
CDR	Li	Mei-Ying	FDA	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
CDR	Chestnut	Wanda	HRSA	Oct 10 – Sep 13	Absent
CDR	Bartgis	Bryen	IHS	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
CDR	Webb	Amy	IHS	Oct 08 – Sep 11	Present
CDR	Cross	David	IHS	Oct 11 - Sep 14	Excused
LCDR	Mather	Judith	IHS	Oct 11 – Sep 14	Present
LCDR	Saligan	Leorey	NIH	Oct 10 – Sep 13	Present
LCDR	Wehrlen	Leslie	NIH	Oct 10 – Sep 13	Present
CAPT	Orsega	Susan	NIH/NPAC Chair	Oct 11 – Sep 12	Present
LT	McBryde	Stacey	OS	Oct 11 - Sep 14	Present
CDR	Haynes-Battle	Josefine	SAMHSA	Oct 10 – Sep 13	Present
CDR	Burns	Darin	USMS	Apr 10- Sep 13	Present
EX-OFFICIO					
RADM	Nessler	Kerry	HRSA/CNO	Nov 09– Sep 13	Present
CDR	Pryor	Thomas	HRSA / Past Chair	Oct 10 – Sep 11	Excused
CDR	Gordon	Veronica	Chair Elect	Oct 12 – Sep 13	Present
CDR	Hunter-Thomas	Serina	Executive Secretary	Oct 11 – Sep 12	Present
CDR	Reyes	Madelyn	Executive Sec-Elect	Oct 12 – Sep 13	Present
LCDR	Hardin	Joshua	Operations Liaison	Mar 08 – Sep 11	Present
LIASIONS					
CDR	Larkin	Sue	Liaison, FedNA	/	N/A
LCDR	Magnotta	David	Nurse Category CAM	/	N/A
CDR	Anita	Pollard	COA Nurse Representative	/	N/A
CAPT	Collins	Amy	Nurse Cat. Couns. Prog.	/	N/A
CDR	McGuire	Moira	Nurse History Co-Chair	/	N/A

CAPT	Elenberg	Kimberly	OFRD Rep		N/A
LCDR	Arceneaux	Janice	JOAG Rep		N/A

SUBCOMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS				
Rank	Last Name	First Name	Subcommittee	Attendance
CDR LCDR	Skelton Krishnan	Heather Malini	Awards	Excused
CDR LT	Webb McBryde	Amy Beth Stacey	Communications	Present
CDR CDR	Li Ridenour	Mei-Ying Marilyn	Career Development	Present
LCDR LCDR	Adams-McLean Wehrle	Allison Leslie	Events	Absent
CDR LCDR	Burns Saligan	Darin Leorey	Readiness and Response	Present
LCDR LCDR	Bevans Brooks	Margaret Mary	Resource Reach	Present
CDR CDR	Haynes-Battle Bartgis	Josephine Bryen	Recruitment	Present

II. Acceptance of Minutes

December General Meeting Minutes have been posted to the NPAC Website.

III. Chief Nurse Officer Report – RADM Kerry Nessler

- Happy New Year everyone! I hope that each of you enjoyed the holiday season with your family and friends and are excited to start the New Year!
- RADM Lushniak provided us with his annual “State of the Corps Address” and highlighted a few of our accomplishments:
 - a. We have emerged out of the “Pause” and are now able to continue to commission new CAD. Backlog of about 1,200 applicants, including over 400 nurse applicants that are enthusiastically wanting to join the Corps.
 - b. G.I. Bill and transferability: Achieved parity with the other uniform services and were granted permission to transfer our benefits to eligible dependents.
 - c. With leadership from our SG, the National Prevention Council completed the National Prevention Strategy. This will assist us, as ambassadors of the SG, in putting prevention first.
 - d. Deemed the ‘state of the corps’ as “good”. Quote from Secretary Shinseki, “If you dislike change, you will dislike irrelevance even more”.
- Throughout 2011, the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) received overwhelming interest in career opportunities with the Commissioned Corps. DCCPR is currently working with

over 1,200 applicants in various stages of the application process. For comparison, our calls-to-active duty in any given year has been approximately 500. To manage the current volume of applications amidst organizational and process changes, DCCPR will focus their efforts on professions, groups and positions of identified need.

Beginning 1 Jan 2012 and until further notice the Commissioned Corps will only accept new application packets for the following professions and groups:

- Physicians and Dentists.
- CDC EIS candidates forwarded to USPHS from the Agency.
- IHS Pharmacy Residency candidates that have been forwarded from the Agency.
- USUHS candidates forwarded to USPHS from the program.
- DOD Wounded Warrior Initiative applicants (psychiatrists, psychologists, psychiatric nurse practitioners and licensed clinical social workers).
- Student programs (i.e. Jr. and Sr. COSTEP).

Please note that this is not a “pause” as DCCPR will continue with the Call to Active Duty Process, with the specific professions and groups previously mentioned having first priority.

- The Federal Nursing Service Council (FNSC) met yesterday, 19 February 2012, for our bi-monthly meeting. The Council is composed of the Chief Nurse Officers from the US Public Health Service, the US Air Force, US Army, US Navy, US Department of Veterans Affairs, the American Red Cross and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU). The meeting discussed and identified common nursing issues and challenges that exist within each service as well as the nursing profession. Processes and outcomes to tackle these issues/challenges have been recognized and leads/champions from each service have been selected. Three workgroups have been developed and PHS will be the lead for the “Influence and Collaboration” Workgroup. LT Stacy McBryde is our key resource as we develop a website for the FNSC. CAPTs Amy Anderson, Michelle Dunwoody, Susan Orsega and Sylvia Trent-Adams have volunteered to be the USPHS representatives for the other two workgroups (Role Clarification and Culture of Inquiry).
- The PHS Nursing All-Hands Meeting will take place on Thursday, 9 February 2012, 2:00pm – 4:00pm EST in the Parklawn Building. In addition to my update on the Nursing Strategic Plan, RADM Scott Giberson, Director, Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness (DCCPR) has agreed to provide a presentation on topics such as DCCPR policies, recent Commissioned Corps Application Process Change: Focus on Existing Applicant Pool, and other relevant topics. A few Nurse Officers who were recently deployed to assist with the Public Health Emergency in the Aberdeen area will also be sharing their experience during the deployment.
- The Federal Public Health Service Nurse Leadership Network meeting is scheduled to convene on Thursday, 9 February 2012, 8:00am – 12:30pm here at the Parklawn Building.

This group is comprised of all the chief nurses throughout PHS, including agencies with HHS and beyond. We will be addressing the ACA from the nursing perspective. Dr. Mary Wakefield, HRSA Administrator and Dr. Pat Grady, Direction NINR, NIH have been invited; and Dr. Clare Hastings, Chief Nurse of the NIH Clinical Center; Ms. Jeannie Miller, Deputy Director of Clinical Standards Group, CMS; Dr. Julie Sochalski, Director of the Division of Nursing, HRSA; CAPT Michelle Dunwoody, Chief Nurse BOP; CAPT Philip Jarres, Chief Nurse ICE; and CAPT Regena Dale, Acting Chief Nurse, IHS have accepted.

- Billets Transformation - The category specific billets have closed for the category and we are in the final phase of submitting the billets to DCCPR. I am currently reviewing the billets to ensure consistencies across agencies. Once I provide concurrence, these billets will be submitted to DCCPR and entered in Direct Access. Due date is January 27, 2012. A special thank you to CAPT Amy Anderson and the Rapid Responder nurses for leading this very important effort.
- Global Health Awards - The Personnel Operations Memorandum (POM) for the Global Health Awards have been released. Please go to the CCMIS website and review the POMs to determine your eligibility.
- Women's Issue in the Commissioned Corps Advisory Board – The Women's Advisory Board is set to convene and the Board will seek to identify, analyze key issues that impact women in the Corps and develop and action plan to address the issues. RADM Sandra Kweder and CAPT Lane have been appointed Co-chairs for the advisory board.
- Utility Uniform – New utility uniforms for the PHS are being discussed. Currently, the woodland camouflage Battle Dress Uniform is the deployment uniform, but DOD no longer supports this uniform. A Uniform Advisory Committee was formed to make recommendations about a new utility uniform. The committee suggested that the PHS use the U.S. Coast Guard Operational Dress Uniform (ODU) as the utility uniform with the appropriate PHS insignia. If the Coast Guard uniform is approved, the uniforms will have a one year phase-in period.
- Basic Readiness Status from December 31, 2011. Preliminary data is showing the overall Corps at 90% Basic Ready. Unfortunately, the nurses did not reach the top 3 categories this time. Dental was #1, Therapist #2, and HSO #3. If you were deemed “not basic ready” by OFRD, believe this is in error, and can validate your records were submitted by Dec 31; please contact OFRD and confirm your status in the next week.

For your information (FYI):

IOM

The Institute of Medicine is joining HBO, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, and Kaiser Permanente in developing "The Weight of the Nation," a new national campaign tackling the obesity crisis.

The Weight of the Nation will shed new light on the facts and myths of this urgent public health issue and explore how obesity is impacting the nation and the health care system. This multipronged project will feature a series of four documentary films, a three-part HBO Family series, 14 bonus short films, a social media campaign, a companion book, and a nationwide community-based outreach campaign. The four-part documentary series will air 14-15 May 2012. The other facets of the initiative were developed with expert input from IOM as well as CDC and NIH.

In conjunction with the project, IOM will publish a new report funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that will review progress made so far to implement strategies to curb obesity and recommend selected actions aimed at accelerating progress in the near future. The report's recommendations will serve as scientifically grounded guidance to community groups, policymakers, and other concerned individuals and organizations seeking to implement obesity prevention strategies locally and at the national level.

Past studies by IOM and others have shown that obesity is not simply a failure of personal responsibility and combating it demands action at all levels" from the individual and the family, to communities, to the nation as a whole. IOM is also working with the collaborating organizations to develop action kits that will provide tools to help community-based groups take steps to prevent obesity. .

Commissioned Corps Nurse Officer Long-Term Training for Nurse Anesthesia

This is a short notice for Long-Term Training for Commissioned Corps Nurse Officers interested in long-term training to become Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. Commissioned Corps Nurses from any agency are eligible to apply. The Division of Nursing Services of the Indian Health Service will fund one admitted applicant to the Uniformed Services University, Graduated School of Nursing. Please forward to all tribally managed hospital facilities and Indian Health Services Hospitals and clinics and to all agencies of the Public Health Service who have clinical nurses. If you have questions, please reply by e-mail at bmfrost@anthc.org

Captain Buck Frost CRNA
Clinical Site Director
Alaska Native Medical Center
Uniformed Services University

Interagency Collaboration on Strengthening Health Infrastructure & Eliminating Health Disparities

On 7 February 2012, the Office of the Surgeon General will convene a one-day strategic planning conference designed to foster interagency collaboration and discuss innovative ways to eliminate health disparities while strengthening health infrastructure.

Upcoming Events:

21st Annual USPHS Nursing Recognition Day will be held on **4 May 2012** at Natcher Auditorium, NIH Campus, NIH Building 45, Bethesda, MD.

The 2nd Armed Forces Public Health Conference will be held on **1-8 June 2012** at the Town & Country Resort and Conference Center in San Diego, CA. The theme is "Partners in Prevention". Information about the conference can be found at the USAPHC Web site <https://usaphcapps.amedd.army.mil/afphc/>.

The 2012 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium will be held **19-21 June 2012** at the University of Maryland, College Park, in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. The theme for the conference is "**Prevention Strategies for a Healthy Nation: Building on the Basics of Public Health.**"

The 118th Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS) meeting is scheduled for **11-16 November 2012** in Phoenix, AZ.

IV. N- PAC Invited guest-speaker: RADM Deborah Parham Hopson, Associate Administrator, HRSA - HIV Ryan White Care Act/PEPFAR programs.

(Power point slide presentation will be available on the N-PAC website:
<http://phs-nurse.org/index.php/about-npac.html>)

V. Operations Liaison Report - LCDR Joshua Hardin

CW Funds = \$58,015.20

NPAC General Fund = \$5,142.43

VI. N-PAC Chair Report – CAPT Orsega

- I would like to include a special thank you to all those involved in last month's FDA road show. We will continue the "NPAC road shows" in the coming year. Stay tuned for more info which will be updated on a monthly basis. Next month's meeting will be at our usual location, HHS Parklawn building. If your agency is interested in hosting an NPAC meeting, please contact me.
- My continued strategy for the NPAC is one of "Renewal, Re-tool and Reinvigorate". I encourage all to come to the meeting. A special thank you to those who were able to come

in today to the EPCO room. It is an opportunity to meet everyone and network. Please spread the word about the NPAC meetings and bring a friend or nurse colleague and join us (face-to-face) or coordinate with others in your agency and reserve a room so everyone can be on one phone.

- A special welcome and thank you to RADM Deborah Parham Hopson who joined us today to share her work with HIV AIDS Bureau and Ryan White and PEPFAR programs. This is an excellent opportunity for the nurses to learn more about PHS nurse leaders and their work relevant to the category and advancing the health of the nation. In the next upcoming months, we will hear from more nurses as part of this collaborative effort between the NPAC leadership and Resource REACH subcommittee.
- Nursing Recognition Day will be on May 4, 2012 and Nurse Category Day as part of the COF will take place on June 21, 2012. More information will be forthcoming over the next few months.
- Nurse Category display board is nearly ready for review proofs and hopefully will be ready for use at the NRD and COF Category Day. Thanks to all who supported the development.
- Nurse Category 'Best Kept Secrets' document for use by the category and NPAC is also in the final stages. Thank you to the NPAC Recruitment Subcommittee.
- On behalf of the NPAC and the Career Development Mentoring Workgroup subcommittee, I would like to thank all nurse officers who live in Maryland, Virginia and DC who participated in a very important opportunity to provide mentoring to newly assigned USPHS nurses. The OBC open house is held at the Holiday Inn in Gaithersburg, MD. Interested officers should submit your contact information along with your CV to Commander Shawn Armes, sarmes@bop.gov.
- It's a new year and we'd really like to encourage increase attendance and networking among PHS Officers and civilian nurses. Be creative and if you have ideas for what you'd like to see this year-send them forward to your NPAC representatives or myself directly at 301-451-2484 or sorsega@niaid.nih.gov. I challenge each and every one of you and inspire creativity so we can take the NPAC to a new level of direction.

VII. Current N-PAC Projects:

a. PHS Nursing Recognition Day- 2012 Planning - Events Subcommittee

Please mark your calendars and consider joining us for the 21st Annual USPHS Nursing Recognition Day on Friday, May 4, 2012 at the Natcher Conference Center in Bethesda, Maryland. The theme of the conference is "*Nursing on the Forefront: United in Health*". This conference is focused on recognizing nurse leaders on the forefront advancing public health, and developing skill sets for future nurse leaders. Nurses will hear from invited speakers and awardee recipients representing diverse settings, united in meeting the public health needs of the nation.

Also, the Nursing Recognition Day Planning Committee is currently accepting abstracts for poster presentation at the 21st Annual USPHS Nursing Recognition Day. Abstracts should be sent electronically to CAPT Lisa Marunycz at lmarunycz@nih.gov by COB February 17, 2012. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance or non-acceptance by March 1, 2012.

Abstract submission criteria:

1. Abstracts should be no more than 250 words
2. All Abstracts must have a title
3. All authors must be listed
4. Topics must be of a public health nature

Additional details about the conference will be forthcoming soon. For additional questions please feel free to contact LCDRs Adams-McLean and Wehrlen via email at: allison.adams-mclean2@nih.gov or lwehrlen@nih.gov.

b. Mentoring Training Update - Career Development Subcommittee

Mentoring timeline:

Mentor webinar training February 2012

Call for additional mentors March-April 2012

Approval of additional mentors May 2012

Training of mentors June 2012 USPHS Scientific & Training Symposium

OBC Open House 1/12/2012 was comprised of 9 nurse volunteers, and 20 nurse officers (11 female, 9 male).

VIII. New Business – None

IX. Next Meeting – Friday, February 24, 2012