

# 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	<b>AT LARGE</b>	Oct 09 – Sep 11	Present
CDR	Pollard	Anita	<b>BOP</b>	Oct 08 – Sep 11	Excused
CDR	Hogan	Lisa	<b>BOP</b>	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
LCDR	Thomas	Timothy	<b>BOP</b>	Oct 07 – Sep 10	Present
LCDR	Ridenour	Marilyn	<b>CDC</b>	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
LCDR	Krishnan	Malini	<b>CMS</b>	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
CDR	Hieber	Lysa	<b>DHS</b>	Oct 08 – Sep 11	Present
CDR	Bruce	Cox	<b>DHS</b>	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
CDR	Sweeney	Colleen	<b>FDA</b>	Oct 08 – Sep 11	Present
LCDR	Mei-Ying	Li	<b>FDA</b>	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Present
CAPT	Trent-Adams	Sylvia	<b>HRSA / NPAC Chair</b>	Oct 07 – Sep 10	Present
LCDR	Bartgis	Bryen	<b>IHS</b>	Oct 09 – Sep 12	Excused
CDR	Webb	Amy	<b>IHS</b>	Oct 08 – Sep 11	Present
CIV	Koyama	Kirk	<b>IHS</b>	Oct 08 – Sep 11	Present
CAPT	Orsega	Susan	<b>NIH</b>	Oct 07 – Sep 10	Excused
LCDR	Matlock	Ann Marie	<b>NIH</b>	Oct 07 – Sep 10	Present
CDR	Pryor	Thomas	<b>OS/PSC Chair Elect</b>	Oct 08 – Sep 11	Present
CDR	Haynes-Battle	Josefine	<b>SAMHSA</b>	Oct 07 – Sep 10	Present
CDR	Carter	Debbie	<b>USMS</b>	Oct 08 – Sep 11	Excused
EX-OFFICIO					
RADM	Romano	Carol	<b>NIH/CNO</b>	Oct 05 – Nov 09	Excused
CAPT	Poindexter	Michelle	<b>HRSA / Past Chair Elect</b>	Oct 07 – Sep 10	Present
LCDR	Brooks	Mary	<b>Executive Secretary</b>	Oct 09–Sep 10	Present
LCDR	Johnson	Anita	<b>Executive Sec-Elect</b>	Oct 09 – Sep 10	Present
LT	Hardin	Joshua	<b>COF Financial</b>	Mar 08 – Sep 10	Excused
LIASIONS					
CDR	Larkin	Sue	<b>Liaison, FedNA</b>		Present
OPEN			<b>Nurse Category CAM</b>		
CDR	Lambert	Mary	<b>COA Nurse Rep</b>		Excused
CDR	Collins	Amy	<b>Senior Nurse Mentoring</b>		Excused
CDR	McGuire	Moira	<b>Nurse History -Co-Chair</b>		Excused
CAPT	Borden	Cheryl	<b>Nurse History-Co-Chair</b>		Excused

<b>ATTENDANCE ROSTER</b>							
<b>BOP</b>							
<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
CDR	Anita	Pollard	BOP	LT	LaShawn	Gore	BOP
LT	Brian	Murphy	BOP	CDR	Lisa	Hogan	BOP
LTJG	Camille	Holland	BOP	LCDR	M Justine	Nixon	BOP
LT	Dan	Wagner	BOP	LT	Mitchel	Holliday	BOP
LCDR	Darlene	Brown	BOP	LT	Zeita	Bomani	BOP
LCDR	Tim	Thomas	BOP				
<b>CDC/ATSDR/NIOSH</b>							
<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
CAPT	Amy	Collins	CDC	LCDR	Fleetwood	Loustalot	CDC
LCDR	Amy	Valderrama	CDC	CDR	Kathryn	Dentinger	CDC
LT	Deborah	Forcht	CDC	LCDR	Marilyn	Ridenour	CDC
<b>CMS</b>							
<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
LCDR	Anitra	Johnson	CMS	LCDR	Maya	Gripper	CMS
CDR	Carrissa	Sanchez	CMS	LCDR	Michelle	Arena	CMS
CAPT	Linda	Murphy	CMS	LCDR	Pauline	Karikari-Martin	CMS
			CMS	CDR	Shirley	Thompson	CMS
<b>DHS/DIHS/ICE/USCG</b>							
<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
LCDR	Aileen	Renolayan	DIHS	LT	Kelly	Cricks	DIHS
LTJG	Alina	Avila	DIHS	CDR	Lysa	Hieber	DIHS
CDR	Bruce	Cox	DIHS	LCDR	Monique	Davis	DIHS
CDR	Cynthia	Nilsen-Mcardle	DIHS	LT	Patrick	Humphries	DIHS
CDR	Deanna	Smith	DIHS	LCDR	Rodger	Ballard	DIHS
LCDR	Karen	Dorse	DIHS	LCDR	William	Rekward	DIHS
CDR	Wanda	Suarez	DIHS				
<b>(AT LARGE) AHRQ/DOD/TMA/VA/EPA/USDA</b>							
<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
CMD	Veronica	Gordon	CMA	LT	Quinna	Coffey	DOTMA

N-PAC NOVEMBER 09 MINUTES (final)

FDA							
Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency
CDR	Brian	Cronenwett	FDA	CDR	LeeAnn	Bradford	FDA
CDR	Catherine	Berkhousen	FDA	CDR	Lori	Austin-Hansberry	FDA
LT	Christopher	Egelebo	FDA	CDR	Lucienne	Nelson	FDA
CDR	Claire	Karlson	FDA	LCDR	Meiying	Li	FDA
CDR	Colleen	Sweeny	FDA	LT	Melissa	Hulett	FDA
LT	Danielle	Pearson-Jackson	FDA	LCDR	Ruby	Lerner	FDA
LT	Dianna	Richards	FDA	LT	Stacey	McBryde	FDA
CDR	Janice	Adams-King	FDA	CDR	Stephanie	Mangigian	FDA
LT	Joshua	Hardin	FDA	LCDR	Tania	Schuppius	FDA
CDR	Katherine	Berkhousen	FDA	LCDR	Tania	Shuppius	FDA
CAPT	Kellie	Westerbuhr	FDA	LCDR	Thuy	Nguyen	FDA
CDR	Lauri	Bernato	FDA	LCDR	William	Boden	FDA
CDR	Amy	Anderson	FDA				
FOH/PSC							
Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency
CDR	Deborah	Healy	FOH				
LT	Kristen	Hardinn	FOH				
HRSA							
Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency
LCDR	Cindy	Adams	HRSA	CAPT	Kevin	Bartlett	HRSA
CDR	Gettie	Audain	HRSA	CDR	Martha	Culver	HRSA
CAPT	Annette	Wright	HRSA				
IHS							
Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency
CDR	Wendy	Blocker	IHS	CDR	Elvira	Mosely	IHS
CDR	Amy	Webb	IHS	CIV	Kirk	Koyama	IHS
LCDR	Ardis	Zah	IHS	LCDR	Lisa	Palucci	IHS
LT	Brandy	Martinez	IHS	LCDR	Marjorie	Delmar	IHS
CAPT	Carolyn	McKeown	IHS	CAPT	Regena	Dale	IHS
CAPT	Dolores	Atkinson	IHS	CDR	Wendy	Blocker	IHS
NIH							
Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency
CAPT	Diana	Walsh	NIH	LCDR	Reggie	Park	NIH

N-PAC NOVEMBER 09 MINUTES (final)

LCDR	Amy	Chi	NIH	LCDR	Sara	Anderson	NIH
LT	Latoya	Sewell	NIH	LCDR	Sophia	Russell	NIH
LCDR	Leslie	Wehrlen	NIH	CAPT	Susan	Orsega	NIH
LCDR	Linda	Ellison-Dejewski	NIH	LT	Tala	Rochelle	NIH
CDR	Michelle	Nehrebecky	NIH	CAPT	Victoria	Anderson	NIH
OS/OCCO/OSG/OPHS/ASPR							
Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency
LT	Nikkia	Powell	OCCO	CDR	Thomas	Pryor	OSG
CDR	Amanda	Richards	OS	LT	Sarah	Trinidad	PSC
CAPT	Cathy	Wasem	OS				
SAMHSA							
Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency
USMS/DOJ/NOAA							
Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency	Rank	First Name	Last Name	Agency
CAPT	Jane	Powers	NOAA	CDR	Rolly	Hanson	USMS
CDR	Rolly	Hanson	USMS	LCDR	Wanda	Chestnut	USMS

**II. Acceptance of Minutes**

**September and October 2009 minutes** were presented to the committee members for acceptance and approval. CAPT Vickie Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes as written and a second was made by CAPT Wright. The minutes were approved and will be sent to the Communications Point of Contact for posting to the N-PAC Website.

**III. Chief Nurse Officer Report- RADM Kerry P. Nessler**

At her first PAC meeting as Chief Nurse Officer (CNO) RADM Nessler expressed how excited and humbled she was to accept the position, and looks forward to working with the NPAC. RADM Nessler lauded nurses as the best and the largest category in the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS), and acknowledged the many civil-service nurse colleagues within HHS as well.

***A Heart Full of Gratitude***

Prior to announcing her priorities and describing her first three weeks as CNO, RADM Nessler thanked RADM Bob Williams and acting Surgeon General (SG) Galson for her selection as CNO. Moreover, RADM Nessler thanked RADM Romano for her leadership and advocacy for nurses over the past four years, remarking that RADM Romano has been a stellar leader, and that all nurses in HHS is pleased that she remains as the Acting Chief of Staff and Director of the Office

of Reserve Affairs. RADM Nessler expressed gratitude for the smooth transition of command, and for the continued advice and mentoring RADM Romano provides.

RADM Nessler spoke of meeting VADM Regina Benjamin, who wants to be known as the America's doctor, recalled that the new SG preferred to be addressed as "Dr. Regina Benjamin" as it would make it easier for the public to understand who she is. RADM Nessler added that the new Vice Admiral understands and appreciates military and uniform service protocol, but on a day-to-day basis, she favors "Dr. Benjamin".

As CNO, RADM Nessler remains in her current position as Director of the Office of International Health Affairs and Commission Corps Affairs in HRSA. She expressed her thanks to Dr. Wakefield, HRSA Administrator and well respected nurse within the profession, for supporting her in this role.

RADM Nessler also thanked CAPT Michelle Poindexter and CAPT Sylvia Trent-Adams for their leadership of the Nurse category, past and present. Lastly, she thanked nurses overall, acknowledging that participation in the NPAC is an extracurricular activity that requires a lot of time and energy, in addition to a full time job. RADM Nessler shared that her schedule has not allowed her to attend many NPAC meetings over the past four to five years. Noticing that most participate via remotely during these meetings, she invited participants to attend in person so she can meet everyone individually. The meetings are every third Friday of the month from 1300-1500.

### ***CNO Priorities***

RADM Nessler reiterated her priorities as CNO, first announced during the Change of Command Ceremony on November 2, 2009. These are her initial priorities; she expects to work together to jointly create priorities for the future. Additionally, these might change and develop Dr. Regina Benjamin formulates the Surgeon General's priorities for the next few years.

#### ***1. Conduct Strategic Planning for Nurses***

As CNO, RADM Nessler seeks to rekindle nursing strategic planning efforts, develop goals and objectives in line with Surgeon General Dr. Regina Benjamin, and incorporate nurses in the healthcare reform efforts. The House and Senate have each passed respective versions of a healthcare reform; now they must converge to consolidate the two documents into one healthcare reform bill.

Nurses are one of the largest disciplines in healthcare. RADM Nessler stated it is important to examine the final healthcare reform legislation and identify the gaps. Gaps in the current healthcare system are apparent: over 47 million people are uninsured, and many more are underinsured. Healthcare reform is supposed to help to fill in the gaps and find the population that fall through the cracks. RADM Nessler emphasized that the Nursing profession needs to step up and help that population. Additionally, she emphasized the need to increase the number of nurses, especially nurses serving in underserved areas, such as the Indian Health Service, the Bureau of Prisons and in immigration health. RADM Nessler shared that Dr. Benjamin said she wants to double the size of the Commissioned Corps, which represents an opportunity to recruit more nurses.

*2. Use Evidence-Based Practices to Eliminate Health Disparities*

RADM Nessler called for nurses need to give voice to science and develop health programs and policies for nursing that integrates science evidence-based practices and the social determinants of health to eliminate our health disparities. She stated that for the first time in our country's history children face the possibility of a shorter lifespan than their parents do, adding that is not America's vision nor is America's history. She shared that in December 2008 the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released *HHS in the 21st Century Charting a New Course for a Healthier America*. The report called for HHS to better integrate science and evidence-based practice into its programs, policy, and decisions. As CNO, RADM Nessler stated nurses should consider this as they develop policies, whether related to the NPAC or any nursing initiative, science and evidence based best practices should be integrated into those policies.

*3. Promote the Intelligence of Prevention and Partnership*

RADM Nessler stated that nurses have the intelligence to counter emerging infectious diseases such as H1N1. She noted over 60% of the adults in America are overweight or obese; the U.S. is suffering an obesity epidemic. She cited the U.S. still ranks 27th in the world for infant mortality. Women's healthcare needs, HIV AIDS epidemic and Primary Health Care needs are other areas that deeply concern her, but she will wait to pursue these until the SG to announce her priorities. RADM Nessler underscored that the strength in the Commissioned Corps comes from partnerships with other organizations such as the American Nursing Association, Colleges of Nursing and other national organizations. President Obama and his Administration expect more inter-collaboration between U.S. agencies and departments. RADM Nessler expects nurses to be the frontline of these collaborations.

*4. Achieve 100% Readiness to Respond*

The CNO's goal for the category is to achieve 100% basic readiness, emphasizing that each officer must continue to strengthen their skills for prevention and response.

*5. Highlight the Value of International Nursing in Health Diplomacy.*

RADM Nessler cited another IOM study released in January 2009 that called for HHS and U.S. commitment to global health. The report described health as a high-value visible and concrete investment, and U.S. programs abroad have proven to both save lives and enhance U.S. credibility in the eyes of the world. RADM Nessler participates on the Global Advisory Committee for Nursing and Midwifery. As CNO she will also represent the U.S. on the biennial WHO Chief Nurse Meetings; the next meeting in 2010 in Geneva.

***A New PHS Nursing Tradition***

RADM Nessler stated she is open to hearing the NPAC's ideas and areas where gaps remain. She recognized it's been very busy but since the Change of Command (COC), but much progress has been made. During the November 2 ceremony, she and RADM Romano passed the nursing "lamp of knowledge". The lamp was purchased for the COC with the plan that it will become a part of PHS Nursing history. It has the PHS logo engraved on both sides, accompanied by a plaque with the names of every chief nurse. The lamp will be passed again in four years to the

next Chief Nurse. There is a poem that was written for the ceremony. RADM Nessler will send the poem and a welcome message on the listserv before Thanksgiving.

***First Few Weeks as CNO***

RADM Nessler attended the 137<sup>th</sup> meeting of the American Public Health Association was held the week of November 7 in Philadelphia. The conference theme was “Water and Public Health” so there was discussion of global issues and the effects on human health. RADM Nessler recounted highlights of the conference:

***APHA***

VADM. Regina Benjamin spoke at the opening ceremony where she relayed very personal stories about her time in her rural health clinic down in Alabama. VADM Benjamin’s life has affected many others in her community, and she has overcome many difficulties in order to serve her community. Her clinic burned down during Hurricane Katrina. They rebuilt that clinic and on New Years Eve, it burnt down again. Therefore, she had to rebuild that clinic again. One can imagine Dr. Benjamin on the front lines with working poor in Alabama - her patients and her community. RADM Nessler reflected that PHS has a gem in Dr. Regina Benjamin as Surgeon General.

The Assistant Secretary for Health, Dr. Kho, the Health Resources and Services Administration Administrator, Dr. Wakefield, and Indian Health Service Director, Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, spoke during the closing ceremonies.

Since the conference was related to water, the daughter of Jacques Cousteau, Celine Cousteau, was a closing speaker. Ms. Cousteau was an excellent keynote speaker, talking about waters in the world. She now goes to Guatemala where she provides primary care services.

***AMSUS***

The Conference of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS) was held the week of November 14<sup>th</sup> with the theme *Lewis and Clark and Federal Healthcare: Teams Charting New Frontiers*. It was well attended by the uniformed services: Army, Navy, Air Force, PHS, as well the VA. The conference centered around the new issues the services are facing, especially around wounded soldiers, emergency medical services, and help getting wounded warriors stateside from battle zones within four or five days. The PHS Day included wonderful presentations on topics from domestic violence to hearing-impaired issues. The category’s own CDR Maureen Cippel coordinated PHS Day for AMSUS.

Additionally, AMSUS has started three new awards this year: 1) the Rising Star; 2) the Lifetime Achievement Award; and 3) the Force Health Protection Award. Of the five nominated for the Lifetime Achievement Award, RADM. Robert Williams, Acting Deputy Surgeon General won. The Lifetime Achievement Award honors an individual who has made significant fundamental contributions to federal healthcare, through either a single transient or body of work, or they had been in leadership, clinical achievement, or mentorship and must have had a lasting impact on federal healthcare and demonstrated a lifetime commitment to advancing healthcare quality and efficiency.

*Health Care Reform Impacts on the U.S. Public Health Service*

Health care reform is not yet finalized. The Senate proposal has three pieces that relate to the Commissioned Corps; these are still under discussion.

1. The bill proposes to eliminate the on cap on the Corps, where Section 202 of the department HHS appropriation act is amended by striking “not to exceed the 2800”. There was an initiative to discuss converting the entire Commissioned Corps to Regular status, thereby eliminating the Reserve component.
2. The bill also proposes establishment of a Ready Reserve Corps, where section 203 of the PHS Act is amended to read “the CC and the Ready Reserve Corps establish a Commissioned Corp Regular Corps and a Ready Reserve Corps for service in times of national emergencies”. The bill describes the Ready Reserve being appointed by the president.
3. Another potential change is that Regular officers would be appointed by the by the President without regard to civil service laws. RADM Nessler stated she is not clear of the intent behind this change, but the bill does say that Warrant Officers may be appointed to service for providing support the health and delivery of the service.

*Other Announcements*

*2010 is the International Year of the Nurse*

There will be a commemorative global service at the National Cathedral April 25, 4- 5 pm in celebration of the International Year of the Nurse. RADM Nessler invited those who are able to attend to do so.

*New Billet System*

RADM Nessler stated she will need assistance since the Nursing Category is among the first to adopt the new billet system in January. The new system will apply to clinical nurse billets, and therapist. Nurses are encouraged to speak with their supervisors, civilian and Commissioned Corps alike.

*FDA*

FDA is partnering with Arizona State University who is supporting nurses to get their Masters while in uniform. The program will entail a 1-2 year commitment, and an additional 4-year commitment to work for the FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. FDA seeks to on-board more nurses and officers in general. RADM Nessler recognized FDA for this initiative, as it will create Masters-level trained nurses. The new program is focused science, regulation, and safety.

*CNO Aide-de-Camp*

RADM Nessler is advertising and interviewing for an Aide de Camp, a junior officer to begin by January or February 1, 2010.

*CNO Award*

RADM Nessler awarded CDR Maureen Cippel with the CNO Award for her work with AMSUS.

*Closing*

She wished the NPAC a happy holiday, and thanked the category for their service. She looks forward to working with the category over the next four years.

**IV. COF Financial Report - LT Joshua Hardin**

Available funds \$4,640.47

**V. N-PAC Chair Report – CAPT Sylvia Trent-Adams**

Good afternoon everyone. Thank you all for joining the meeting today. This is my first NPAC General Meeting as NPAC Chair. I am excited and honored to have this opportunity to serve my fellow nurse colleagues and to also represent the PHS. I have to admit that this is bitter sweet, because as this is my first meeting, it is also the last meeting that we will have RADM Romano as our Chief Nurse. I want to publicly thank her for her dedication and commitment to nursing and to our country. She has made many contributions to the nurse category and Commissioned Corps during her tenure. We are larger and stronger today than ever before. Ma'am, I want you to know that you are truly an inspiration to everyone who has the opportunity to know you. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with you and I look forward to continuing to do so in the future. I wish you all the best in the next phase of your career. I would also like to thank CAPT Poindexter for all her hard work over the past year. She has done a fantastic job as NPAC Chair and I hope that I can follow in her footsteps. Ma'am you leave very big shoes to fill. Thank you for your support.

**Chief Nurse Change of Command Ceremony:**

The Office of the Surgeon General requests the pleasure of your company for the USPHS Chief Nurse Officer Change of Command Ceremony. RADM Carol Romano will transfer Command to RADM Kerry Paige Nesseler on November 2, 2009 at 1330. The ceremony will take place in Conference Rooms D and E of the Parklawn Building. A reception will immediately follow in Conference Rooms G and H. If you plan to attend please RSVP by October 23 to <http://www.hrsa.gov/rsvp.asp>.

**2009 Annual COER:**

The 2009 COER has been released and can be accessed from the Commissioned Corps Management Information System (CCMIS) Website at <http://dcp.psc.gov>. As you know the COER rating period extends from 1 October 2008 to 30 September 2009. All officers on extended active duty prior to 1 July 2009 are required to complete the 2009 Annual COER online.

COER Deadlines:

COER made available to officers on October 7, 2009

COER is due to the Rater by October 21, 2009

COER is due to the Reviewing Official (RO) by November 4, 2009

COER is due to the Office of Commissioned Corps Operations (OCCO) by November 18, 2009

**Promotion Year 2010**

Reminders for those officers who are up for promotion in this promotion cycle:

- Remember to check CCMIS to determine if you are up for promotion
- Double check all readiness requirements for the December 2009 status run; maintain your readiness status

- Report of Medical History must be completed and Physical Exam must be up to date-completed within the last 5 years
- Check licensure status and certification if applicable
- Do not wait until the last minute to submit documents to your file; all documents must be submitted to your electronic OPF by December 31

### **Upcoming Promotion Ceremonies**

There are two upcoming promotion ceremonies honoring the accomplishments of PHS officers. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid will host a promotion ceremony on October 30, 2009 at 11:30 am at the CMS Headquarters in Baltimore, MD. The ceremony will be held in the CMS Auditorium.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will also host a promotion ceremony on October 23, 2009 from 10:00 to 11:30 am at 1 Cherry Choke Road, Rockville, MD in the Sugarloaf Conference Room.

### **AMSUS Conference**

The 115th Annual AMSUS Conference is quickly approaching. The conference will be held in St. Louis, Missouri at the America's Center Convention Center on November 14-19, 2009 ([www.amsus.org](http://www.amsus.org)).

It's October and the perfect time to consider nominating one of your PHS nurse colleagues for the 2010 Nurse Responder of the Year Award. Self-nominations are also acceptable.

The Nurse Responder of the Year Award, established in 2005, acknowledges active duty, retired, and Inactive Reserve Corps nurse officers in the US Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Corps who have made outstanding achievements and contributions in emergency preparedness and disaster response to national or international public health threats.

The award recipient will be selected using the following criteria:

- Career contributions to emergency preparedness and/or disaster response;
- Impact on public health preparedness and response within the past year (i.e. August 2008 - September 2009);
- Nursing skills and knowledge used to achieve significant accomplishments related to emergency response, preparedness, and disaster management;
- Publications and presentations in the public arena related to preparedness and response;
- Role and impact in deployments;
- Training and education applicable to preparedness and response; and
- Willingness to give credit to the PHS for deployment activities (i.e. wearing the uniform while deployed, crediting the PHS in presentations and publications).

The nominee must be one who is, at a minimum, OFRD basic qualified.

Nomination procedures: Nominations can be made via self-nomination or submission by a nominator. The nomination must be made in the form of a two-page (maximum), single-spaced,

12-font document with at least a one inch margin. The nominations should contain:

- The nominee's name, title, grade/rank, PHS number, HHS OPDIV/Agency, contact information and duty station address;
- The nominator's name, title, grade/rank, HHS OPDIV/Agency, contact information and signature;
- The narrative statement should provide a clear and concise description of how the nominee meets the award criteria, including a description of the nominee's significant contributions made in emergency preparedness and disaster response for national and international public health threats.

These nominations must be received by the NPAC Awards Subcommittee Co-Chair, CDR Anita Pollard ([Apollard@bop.gov](mailto:Apollard@bop.gov)), no later than Wednesday, October 14th, 2009.

The Nurse Responder of the Year Award consists of a plaque which is presented by the PHS Chief Nurse Officer during Nurse Category Day at the annual COF Scientific Symposium. Additionally, the Nurse Responder of the Year recipient will compete against other professional category nominees for the PHS-wide Commissioned Corps Responder of the Year Award.

### **Flu shots**

Please remember to get your annual seasonal flu shot. This vaccine is currently available at NNMC in the mist and injection form. The H1N1 vaccine is expected to be available later this month at NNMC as well. Make sure you also submit documentation to the Medical Affairs Branch and update your file in the OFRD database. The seasonal flu shot is a readiness requirement and must be completed by December 31.

### **CJ Reddy Conference**

CJ Reddy will be held October 19-22. An update will be provided later in the meeting today by CAPT Vickie Anderson on this training.

### **NPAC Sub-Committee Structure**

Over the past year, under the leadership of CAPT Poindexter, the NPAC examined the way in which we function. There were areas of overlap with sub-committee assignments and tasks. In an effort to improve efficiency, internal coordination, and reduce duplication within our sub-committees, we restructured some of the sub-committees. Currently the NPAC has seven sub-committees: Awards, Career Development, Communications, Resource REACH, Readiness and Response, Recruitment, and Events. There are also 2 special workgroups / taskforces: Nurse History and Senior Nurse Counseling. This information will be posted on the NPAC Website.

### **NPAC Retreat**

The NPAC Retreat will take place in January 2009. NPAC leadership will participate in a 1-day meeting to do strategic planning, review existing SOPs, and identify key activities/issues for the upcoming year.

## **VI. CURRENT PROJECTS**

a. End of FY planning – SAA/NPAC Recognition/Annual Reports –CAPT Trent-Adams  
There are still some outstanding reports please ensure these are completed and forwarded as soon as possible.

b. CJ Reddy Conference: CDR Moira McGuire/CAPT Victoria Anderson

CJ Reddy Committee

Chair: CDR Moira McGuire, CAPT Vickey Anderson (co-chair)

Committee: CDR Wanda Chestnut, CDR Sherry Secrist, LCDR Val Daniels

Dates: 10/18-10/22 Site: Hyatt Regency, Rosslyn VA

Attendees: 19

NIH: 6, BOP: 2, HRSA: 3, FDA: 3

Following weekly telephone conferences with the committee weekly, and information telephone conferences with the attendees, we are excited the conference is finally just days away!

This year includes an exciting agenda with prominent speakers, and multi-service break out sessions and focus groups intended on promoting leadership and professional development. CAPT Sylvia Trent-Adams and CAPT Michelle Poindexter are invited facilitators. This year marks the first year that all services are invited to the Army Award of Excellence Dinner.

## **VII. QUARTERLY VERBAL SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- I. a. Recruitment: CDR Josefine Haynes-Battle / CDR Thomas Pryor  
**FY 2009 (JAN-AUG 2009) Recruitment and Retention Sub-Committee Goals and Issues**

**Chair and Co-chair:** CDRs Thomas Pryor and Josefine Haynes-Battle

### **Working Groups and Task Leads:**

- Nurse Associate Recruiters Program (ARP) Workgroup- CAPT Beverly Dandridge- Lead
- Nurse Applicant Workgroup (NAW)- CAPT Maria Dinger
- Every Nurse is an Ambassador Campaign Workgroup (ENIAAC) – CDR Lysa Hieber, effective September 2009

**Members on Committee:** Approximately 130

### **Objectives of subcommittee:**

- Recruit new leadership for “Every Nurse is an Ambassador Campaign” (ENIAAC), targeting graduate and undergraduate programs.
- Develop strategic plan for ENIAAC to align with the vision and the reorganization of DCCR’s new ARP, pending implementation.

- Provide an opportunity for previous Associate Recruiters to continue their recruitment efforts through the ENIAAC.
- Communicate with 100% of Commissioned Corps nurse applicants to facilitate awareness of agency opportunities for employment. (NAW)
- Provide follow-up and assistance with the USPHS application process.
- Increase strength and numbers of Nurse Corps Officers (Goal: total of 2,000 by 2012)
- Develop selection criteria for Associate Recruiters/Associate Recruiter Leads (ARP)

**NAW Projects completed for FY 2009:**

- NAW's recruitment numbers have been on the rise and a lot of phone and email work with nurse candidates has been ongoing.
- CNO reports in June: Nurse category is over 1500, to include COSTEPS on board.
- NAW's membership is engaged and very participative
- Workgroup Task Lead continues to send CAD Chief Nurse letters
- A reference checklist accompanies these letters. The checklist and letter were recently updated per the CNO and the N-PAC Chair, CAPT Poindexter.

**NAW ongoing projects in FY 2009:**

- NAW continues to work closely with OCCO to establish a best practice for the relaying of candidate information from OCCO to the nurse applicant group
- Selection of the incoming Co-Task Leads for the NAW have been made.
- New orientation to this role will start in August, 2009
- Co-Task Lead elect, Tarah Somers who is currently managing the NAW database will be assisting with developing a more efficient process pending increased OCCO resources.

**NAW outstanding projects:**

- Currently this Workgroup has only one Workgroup Lead so roles and responsibilities will need to be established for dual oversight responsibilities.
- Transition of NAW leadership

**AR Projects completed for 2009:**

- AR Task Lead, CAPT Dandridge, drafted and discussed primary Associate Recruiter Lead and Regional Associate Recruiter Lead responsibilities with N-PAC leadership. Associate Recruiter Lead selection criteria was also developed.
- Launch of new AR Program is pending

**ENIAAC Projects completed for 2009:**

- Co-chairs conducted several informational sessions on the ENIAAC since the beginning of the year to provide a general overview of the goals for this Workgroup
- Co-chairs communicated with more than 100 interested nurses to further explain goal of the ENIAAC

## N-PAC NOVEMBER 09 MINUTES (final)

- Co-chairs identified potentially interested individuals for specific tasks within ENIAAC (e.g. Facebook postings, Recruitment and Retention website POC etc.)
- Co-chairs developed a strategic plan for managing large workgroup
- Co-chairs developed ENIAAC roster
- Co-chairs and N-PAC leadership selected new ENIAAC Task lead and oriented her to role and responsibilities of position-effective September, 2009
- Co-chairs communicated with and successfully recruited more than 100 volunteers/members to the ENIAAC Workgroup.

### **ENIAAC outstanding projects:**

- Meet with new members, introduce new ENIAAC Task Lead to group, and start organizing members in different groups and assigning tasks

### **New/Proposed projects/issues to be considered for ENIAAC:**

- Revision of current ENIAAC memo dated July 17, 2008, once ENIAAC Lead assumes her new position
- Discuss goals and objectives for ENIAAC with N-PAC leadership
- Collaborate, if possible, with Career Development Sub-Committee on retention issues

\*\*\* Please note as of September 2009, the Recruitment and Retention Sub-Committee has been renamed to Recruitment Sub-Committee. "Retention" will now be addressed in the Career Development Sub-Committee under Mentoring.

#### **b. Readiness and Response: CAPT Susan Orsega/CDR George Gentile**

Don't let your guard down for meeting readiness standards and being prepared to support a disaster event. Make sure your readiness requirements are current. Review your status and readiness requirements at the ORFD Web site: <http://ccrf.hhs.gov/ccrf/>

Current Basic Readiness for the Nurse Category, Next Readiness Check September 30, 2009: As of June 30th Nursing Readiness numbers are 94%. OFRD will perform the next readiness check September 30, 2009. Please login to OFRD to check and update your personal information. Let's get this number to 100%!!

Flu Season: Seasonal Flu vaccine is now available and it is essential that all USPHS CC Officers get immunized by December 31, 2009! Once immunized, remember to login to OFRD, update your vaccination information and send flu vaccine documentation to Medical Affairs Branch (MAB).

Hot off the Press: Please join in on the September 18, 2009 NPAC meeting. RADM Canton will be presenting information regarding the legal aspects of volunteering and/or working to support flu vaccination programs.

Readiness and Response Nurse Survey information: The Evaluation and Analysis Workgroup is currently working in collaboration with the NPAC Research workgroup on a NPAC readiness and response survey of PHS nurse officers deployed in 2008. The survey will be hosted through

Survey Monkey. We look forward to participation by the NPAC and nurse officers on this exciting research survey project, and hope all will be involved. When this survey is available, nurses will be asked to participate through the NPAC listserv. Stay tuned!!

Field Medical Readiness Badge: Don't forget to work on the modules for the FMRB, <http://ccrf.hhs.gov/ccrf/training.htm>. This self-paced online program has a cornucopia of information related to nursing and medical practices in alternative care settings. If you have earned your FMRB already, stop by the program web site and review some of the new modules which have been added. Your OFRD database tracks your progress on completing the different modules required for attaining higher levels of readiness. Once completed, OFRD will automatically issue the FMRB. No application for receiving the badge is necessary.

Mark your calendar to attend the 2010 HHS Integrated Training Summit! The 2010 Integrated Medical, Public Health, Preparedness and Response Training Summit, scheduled May 12-14, 2010, in Nashville, TN, at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel. The topic for this coming year is "Learning, Preparing and Responding Together". Visit the Training Summit web site for additional information: <http://www.hhstrainingsummit.org/>

### **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a. FY 2010 Planning Efforts: CAPT Trent-Adams**

Any Officer who desires to provide a presentation, ideas / suggestions for future Lunch & Learn educational presentation to please contact CAPT Trent-Adams or LCDR Brooks. The NPAC would like to have approximately six months of presentations ready at any given time so your ideas and suggestions are very much appreciated.

This fiscal year NPAC Retreat will be held in January; exact TBD. Among many items on the agenda we will focus on updating the SOP.

### **IX. ROUND ROBIN- TABLE/PHONE**

There was a question from the field inquiring about additional training opportunities for mass causality and H1N1 scenarios. CDR Pryor stated more training is being considered by OFRD in spring 2010.